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THE WESTMOUNT
Examiner

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 AIR CANADA

Vol. LXIX

Thursday, April 24, 1997



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Photo by CLIFF SKARSTEDT

Rotary Club historian Haagen Kiefulf buffs up chrome on 1955 Mercury Monterey.

Rotary wheels in '55 Mercury

Car to be auctioned in fundraiser Friday

By SARAH MUSGRAVE

If you never had a chance to be a finalist on the Price is Right, you might want to head down to the Rotary Club of Westmount's annual auction this weekend to try your luck there. You won't hear Bob Barker announcing "a new car," but you will get to bid on an old one, and a very special one at that.

The big-ticket item worthy of a winning showcase is a navy blue 1955 Mercury four-door sedan, donated by a resident of Manoir Westmount.

Anonymous auto fan

"He is a bit of a car buff," James Griffin, past-president of the local Rotary Club explained. "He had it in storage for 10 years. Apparently it has just 55,000 miles on it, which is quite remarkable since it's been around for 42 years."

The Club has put headlining items like a grand piano and a Mercedes on the auction block in the past, but it is hoped that this vintage set of wheels will carry a modern price tag to help the organiza-

tion continue its many charitable projects. Last year the auction and garage sale brought in a total of \$20,000.

"One hundred cents of every dollar goes to charity," Griffin enthused.

The Rotary Club of Westmount was established in 1930. In addition to owning and operating the Manoir Westmount, the club has funded the Lifeline system for senior citizens living alone. By installing a responder button for emergencies, an elderly person experiencing difficulties can hook up instantly with services. The club has also helped camps, by providing lifesaving and sporting equipment, and donated a computer to the local teen drop-in centre last year.

The local club has also supported international student exchanges and ambassadorial scholarships across the world.

Preparations for the annual fundraiser started 12 months ago, according to Nadia Chidean who has worked on the garage sale committee along with Griffin. "We have a lot of furniture this year so it

(See ROTARY, page 14)

Unity motion pushed here

'Westmount Committee for Canadian Unity' meets May 1

By SARAH MUSGRAVE

It's here!

It was only a matter of time before a Canadian unity resolution, which has passed through other cities in the Montreal area, landed in the lap of local city councillors.

The leader of the Westmount Committee for Canadian Unity, Peter Margo, is spurring on residents to convince City Hall to petition Ottawa to ensure their city remains part of Canada.

Margo said he's confident there's enough support here to make the resolution pass. Confident enough to reserve the auditorium of Westmount High for 600 residents he expects will

turn out next Thursday night.

"It's happening everywhere and there will be more," Margo said, pointing to the examples of Hampstead, Côte St. Luc, Montreal West, and Pointe Claire among others. "Westmounters don't want to be left behind."

Margo, a former businessman who says his interest in anglophone rights predates Howard Galganov, started the Westmount movement about a month ago. The Severn Avenue resident said he has been surprised by the support and generosity of the residents he's spoken to so far.

Thursday's open meeting is a call to "overcome the inertia of Westmount City Council," and

(See UNITY, page 18)

Library to take 'closer look' at books policy

By SARAH MUSGRAVE

Library trustees will take a closer look at the rare book policy at their next meeting, Councillor Jim Wright said following a library committee meeting attended by members of the local municipal association.

"Policies evolve all the time," Wright said. "If it is decided that the rare book policy is to be changed, there is a procedure to follow. It is like changing a bylaw."

The current policy states that the library won't retain rare books unless they relate to the history of Westmount.

However, WMA member John Johnston, who spearheaded a protest against some of the library's current practices, said he

still wonders why no one can explain how major changes were made without anyone in the public being consulted.

"They are the trustees for us, for the public," he said. "People who run public institutions have to earn the trust of the citizens."

And he's still worried about the

(See BOOK, page 18)

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Community Bulletin Board...

Thursday, April 24

Dawson College Theatre Dept. presents Orpheus Descending, by Tennessee Williams, 8 p.m. at Dome Theatre, 3990 Notre Dame St. West, to May 4. Adults \$7.50. Students and seniors \$6. Previews \$5. 931-5000.

Friday, April 25

Rotary Club auction, Friday, April 25 at 7 p.m. at Westmount Arena, 4675 St. Catherine St. West (preview at 6 p.m.) Featured item is a 1955 Mercury. Followed by garage sale Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For info or to donate items, call 935-3344.

Spring and summer sale of used and nearly new clothing for the whole family, household items, picture frames, toys, games, books, luggage, etc., in parish hall, St. Léon de Westmount Church, 310 Clarke Ave. (corner de Maisonneuve Blvd.), Friday, April 25, 5 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds to church and its needs.

Saturday, April 26

Rotary Club garage sale, Saturday, April 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Westmount Arena, 4675 St. Catherine St. West. 935-3344.

Royal Montreal Regiment spring dance, Saturday, April 26 at 8:30 p.m. at 4625 St. Catherine St. West. To commemorate amalgamation of RMR with 712 Communication Squadron. Music by Retropolitan Orchestra and deejay. Tickets \$15. 496-2003.

Spring and summer sale, St. Léon de Westmount Church, 310 Clarke Ave. (corner de Maisonneuve Blvd.), Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds to church and its needs.

Sunday, April 27

Organist James Johnson of Florida performs recital at St. Matthias' Church, Côte St. Antoine and Metcalfe, Sunday, April 27 at 5 p.m. Works by Bach, Buxtehude, Clarke, Cornet, Franck and Grieg. Freewill offering. Visitors welcome. 933-4296.

Violin and organ concert, Sunday, April 27 at 2 p.m. at Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd., corner Lansdowne. Annie Parent, violin, Sofia Gentile, violin, Lenore Alford, organ. Works by Bach, Mozart, Alain. Freewill offering.

Aboriginal Rights Coalition director Ed Bianchi speaks on 'Our Responsibility to the First Nations,' Sunday, April 27, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., at Unitarian Church, 5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd. All welcome.

Westmount Youth Orchestra spring concert Sunday, April 27, 3 p.m. at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. Featuring blind violin soloist Qing Zheng. Tickets \$10 for adults, \$5 for students at door, or call 930-6305.

Monday, April 28

Westmount High School music department annual gala spring concert Monday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Admission \$2. 4350 St. Catherine St. West.

Tuesday, April 29

Entre Nous Seniors Group of Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom presents Mari Benveniste, accredited music therapist, on 'Music: Therapy or Magic,' Tuesday, April 29, at 395 Elm Ave. Noon brown bag lunch, 1 p.m. program. All welcome.

(See more listings, page 10)

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Énergie électrique (24 heures)	989-5201	Light & Power (24 hours)	

HEURES D'AFFAIRES: Services administratifs du lundi au vendredi: 8h30 à 16h30	BUSINESS HOURS: Administrative offices Monday to Friday: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
--	--

SÉANCE DU CONSEIL

Lundi le 5 mai 1997
Hôtel de ville - 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest
Séance régulière du Conseil - 20h00
Pour renseignements 989-5318

COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, 5th May 1997
City Hall - 4333 Sherbrooke West
Regular Council meeting - 8:00 pm
For information 989-5318

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In brief

City mulls 35 km/hour speed limit

Gentlemen, start your cruise control!

City Hall is considering setting a standard 35 kilometre per hour zone throughout Westmount.

As it stands, the speed limit is 40 kph—except on most hills, curves, school zones and some streets. The reduced 30 kph zones require a lot of advance and exit signage, according to the director of Public Security.

"It creates confusion for police officers and motorists," Richard McEnroe explained. "We want to simplify it to make it easier to enforce."

The 35 kph across the board speed limit was seen as a compromise solution. McEnroe is currently reviewing the idea with schools in the area, but he doesn't expect any changes until all other aspects of the proposal have been studied.

Free-tree fest finale Friday

Tomorrow, April 25, is the last day to apply for a maximum of two free trees from the City of Westmount. This year crab apple, lilac and linden varieties are available.

Residents should also start preparing their seedlings for the plant exchange, scheduled for May 14 and 15 at the arena. Residents can drop off their plants on the first day, and pick up choice greenery the next day.

"We decided to do it on two days so it wasn't a zoo in there!" City Councillor Cynthia Lulham said.

PSO injured at party on Rosemount

A routine call to a noisy party on Rosemount Avenue last weekend has left one Public Security officer out of commission.

After asking the host to tone it down at 2:25 a.m., PSO Rowan and PSO Payne proceeded downstairs. They were followed by a rowdy party-goer who allegedly threw himself at them, and the trio fell down a flight of stairs.

In the scramble, Rowan was injured and will be off duty this week. The suspect was arrested by MUC police shortly afterwards.

"We are called in to a lot of noisy parties," Public Security director Richard McEnroe said. "But this is the first time this has happened."



Photo by CLIFF SKARSTEDT

Parasol power

Hisako Watanabe, a resident of Hyogo, Japan, performs at a Japanese cultural evening held Tuesday night at Priory School on The Boulevard. Watanabe is a student-teacher at Priory who started in September and will finish her term in June.

Bequest to Study means new French scholarships

ECS also extends bilingual classes

A large bequest from The Study School's first staff member and French teacher has enabled the private girls school to establish two annual scholarships for excellence in French.

Named in honour of Marcelle Gaudion, who taught French for 43 years, the two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded annually to girls who demonstrate exceptional abilities in oral and written French in Grades 4 to 6.

Gaudion was appointed by The Study's founder, Margaret Gascoigne, in 1915, the year the

school was established.

A recent \$225,000 gift from the Gaudion estate enabled The Study, located on The Boulevard, to broaden access to its bilingual programme, started in 1990.

Meanwhile, another independent girls school, Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's, will introduce a bilingual Grade 1 class in the fall.

The class will take new students and those who started off in the school's bilingual kindergarten, soon to be completing its first year at the Mount Pleasant Avenue school.

Asbestos worries hit home for local family

By SARAH MUSGRAVE

While the protective services building on Stanton Street undergoes the removal of asbestos this month, one resident who lives a few blocks away is ruminating on her own problems a lot closer to home.

Crumbling plaster dust in the basement last year led to the unnerving discovery that the walls of her house, built circa 1916, contained asbestos fibres.

"My 3-year-old son was down

there playing with a toy truck, gouging out the wall with the prongs," the mother of two, who prefers to remain anonymous, recalls. "A contractor doing work at the house at the time said the dust looked strange, so we had it checked out and it turned to contain 3 per cent asbestos fibre."

Worried about the health risks, the family decided they weren't taking any chances. They spent a total of \$15,000 to remove the ceiling in the furnace room, hiring a professional abatement

crew to set up a containment field around the basement area, sectioned off with plastic baffles. The workers even stopped to shower in the exit hallway before disposing of the suits worn during the work.

"Maybe we'll find out we flew off the handle," she said. "Or maybe there was a reason for all the precautions. There is a lack of knowledge out there about this and what safety precautions to follow."

She said she hadn't thought

about the issue until it was pointed out to her that some of the piping in the basement was wrapped in asbestos insulation. Later tests on a dining room wall gave a 5 per cent reading. Air quality tests have revealed a minimal amount of the fibre.

Older homes may contain amounts of asbestos in the plaster, according to Jacques Dunnigan, a retired toxicologist with the Asbestos Institute in Montreal. It was also common

(See FIBRES, page 13)

Local resident wins PC nomination in Saskatchewan riding

By BERNIE O'NEILL

A Westmounter will carry the banner for the Conservative Party in the next election in former prime minister John Diefenbaker's old stomping grounds in Saskatchewan.

Brian Fripp, who owns a home on Elm Avenue but has business interests in the West and is also a Saskatchewan resident, won the Conservative nomination for the federal riding of Prince Albert at a convention earlier this month.



Brian Fripp

Married to Molly

Fripp is married to former Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School headmistress Molly Fripp.

"We may only see each other weekends and holidays, but we are very much a family," Brian Fripp said in a telephone interview from British Columbia, where he was on business.

Why hasn't Mrs. Fripp moved

out to Saskatchewan, too? "My wife will move anywhere, so long as it's Westmount," he said.

After many years as a Conservative Party member, Fripp said he's running for the Conservatives now because he feels Jean Charest has a good chance of winning the next election. As for his own prospects in Prince Albert, Fripp said he has a "reasonable chance" of winning.

The current MP is a Liberal.

Saskatchewan always has a pretty strong NDP vote, too, Fripp noted.

Fripp is president and owner of Fripp Fibre Forms of Tisdale, Saskatchewan.

He has owned the company since 1983. It manufactures moulded pulp products for the apple and egg industry and employs between 35 and 40 people. About 150 tonnes of waste paper is used per week, collected from many local communities, including Saskatoon and Regina.

Fripp came to Montreal in 1970 to work for Dominion Textile.

Roslyn student wins contest

Kaidi Zhou of Roslyn School is one of four children whose artwork was selected to be reproduced as Christmas cards to help raise funds for the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Kaidi's drawing, entitled Santa's Village, won a city-wide competition organized by the hospital auxiliary. Kaidi, who is in Grade 3, is to be presented with a commemorative plaque this week by the chairman of the Christmas card campaign, Gillian Yanow.

Competition for next year's Christmas cards is already under way. A copy of the campaign entry form can be picked up from the Tiny Tim Boutique at the Montreal Children's Hospital, 2300 Tupper St.



Kaidi Zhou holds winning artwork.

Police files

By DAVID GOLDBERG

Bronze angel takes flight

A security video camera in an antique shop caught a clumsy thief who stole a bronze statue last Friday morning.

The thief broke into Coach House Antiques at 1325 Greene Ave. just before 8 a.m. on April 18. He used his right leg to push up against the front door, finally breaking the door's window.

Once inside, the man broke several china dishes and the top of a cabinet, causing \$2,000 damage.

He then took the bronze statue.

A store employee described the statue as a bare-breasted female angel with small wings, wearing only a skirt. Her left arm is raised and is holding a bouquet of flowers, while her right arm is at her side holding a basket. She is bare-foot and her head is turned slightly to the right.

The 24-inch statue is by artist Auguste Moreau. The employee was not able to estimate its value.

Lock big victim in break-in

Police have few clues in the case of a robber who broke into the A.L. Van Houtte café at 4126 St. Catherine St. last Sunday evening.

A building security agent noticed the lock on the store's front door had been removed with pliers. The agent then called police. The break-in occurred sometime between 6:45 and 7:30

p.m. April 20 after the store had closed. The robber disabled the store's alarm by breaking the alarm box. He then searched the store and stole a small amount of money before leaving.

Police say there was \$100 worth of damage to the store's lock, and \$75 worth of damage to the alarm box.

Thief gearing up for sports

A robber with a penchant for outdoor activities broke the hinges off two locker doors in a Sherbrooke Street apartment building.

The break-in happened sometime between 6 p.m. April 17 and 3:30 p.m. on April 19.

"He removed the hinges from the first door and searched through the boxes inside," Const. Lise Bergeron said.

Objects were strewn on the floor outside. The thief took two tennis racquets from the first locker.

The robber then took the hinges off the second locker, and stole a 21-speed black-and-white polka dotted Diamondback Topanga mountain bike.

The value of the tennis racquets, one of them a Wilson, is \$200. The value of the bicycle is around \$500.



House Talk

the latest on real estate!

by Sylvie Lafrenière

En primeur cette semaine...

67 Columbia dans le bas Westmount près de Greene et du shopping. Bien entretenue, 4 chambres + bureau, sous-sol fini, cuisine moderne, terrasse, 2 stationnements. 229,000\$.

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5325 Doherty. Sur rue paisible, maison mignonne avec grand terrain privé. Votre couple devient famille? C'est la maison qu'il vous faut! 129,000\$.

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PUBLIC MEETING

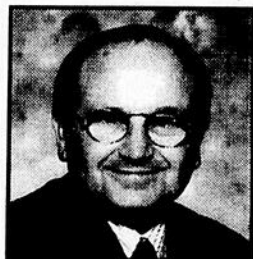
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DAWSON

Arts briefs

Drama tells tale of doctor

The annual production of Westmount's own drama group, Dramatis Personae, will be Molière's comedy 'A Doctor in Spite of Himself,' being staged May 1 to 3 at 8 p.m. at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St.

The play has been translated from French by the group's director, Nat Bernstein.

Bernstein says he chose the play, which chronicles the antics of a reluctant doctor hired to help a reluctant bride regain her speech, because it deals with contemporary themes.

Audiences will recognize members of the cast, who successfully performed in Under Milkwood, Lysistrata and Dickens Revisited over the last three years.

Admission is by donation.

Fennario play at Victoria Hall

A unique staging of the David Fennario play Gargoyles is set to take place May 10 at Victoria Hall to be filmed as part of a documentary on the play.

Some 250 tickets at \$15 each will be available at Nick's Restaurant, Double Hook, Café Gourmet, Folklore I, Video Westmount and the Westmount Library.

For more information, call Kathleen Duncan at 989-9752.

Espace Trois hosts McCall

Argyle Avenue resident Anne McCall is the featured artist in the monthly exhibit at Espace Trois, at the Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts.

The exhibit is titled 'Grasses—Les herbes,' and consists of graphite drawings, silkscreen prints, acrylic paintings and collagraphs of a variety of grasslands, created since 1979.

The artist has recently returned from her third trip to Australia, which has had an influence on her work.

McCall was elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in 1981. She teaches silkscreen printing at the centre.

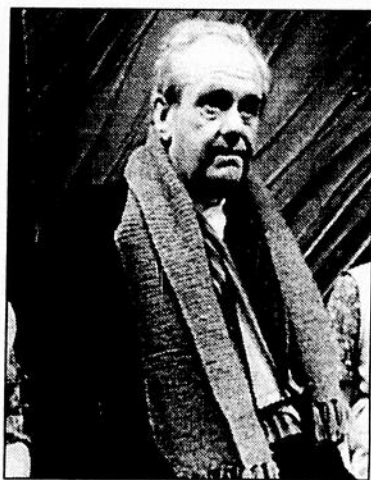
A vernissage takes place Thursday, May 8 from 5 to 9 p.m., 5170 Côte St. Catherine Rd. Info: Doreen Lindsay, 932-6688.

Actor, teacher Hill does Bard on CD

By MARILYNN VANDERSTAY

Westmounter Harry Hill's CV reads like a who's who of the theatre. In a career that has taken him over two continents he has been an actor, director, professor, published writer, and a recently published compact disc narrator. And now he is about to debut as a cartoon character!

Hill knew that he was called to the theatre when he was just six years old growing up in Scotland. He remembers after giving a recitation at a wedding that it just felt, well, "necessary." He took no formal acting lessons. Instead he found his training in life's experiences, which is what he says acting is all about. He developed his voice in the local church choir where he cultivated other inval-



Hill in Lughnasa at Centaur.

able acting skills of team work, rhythm and learning to think "in" with other people. He developed an appreciation of the arts by reading, visiting art galleries, attending plays and concerts, and of people by watching all kinds going about living.

A visit to Expo 67 made such an impact on him that he moved to Canada in 1970. A stay on the West Coast led to his first acting role as the lead in the CBC radio production of the Anatomist. "I walked into CBC and told them I wanted to do this and they just happened to be auditioning for the play." After that his acting took off, and led him to theatre roles in Vancouver, Victoria and Edmonton, and Montreal, where he played parts such as Felix in Neil Simon's The Odd Couple, and Claudius in Hamlet. A variety of parts in television and movies opposite notables such as Donald Sutherland have rounded out his acting career.

Today Hill balances his acting with his teaching at Concordia University where he is a professor

in the English Language and Literature program. He continues to act whenever and wherever possible. This last year has seen two interesting new venues in his career.

In January 1996, he and partner Paul Hawkins were surfing the Net when they found a site that featured a recently discovered poem by William Shakespeare. At Hawkins's insistence, Hill started to read the 700-line funeral eulogy over and over. The result of that discovery was the first recorded version of the poem entitled A Funeral Elegy. Concordia University helped publish the compact disc which Hawkins, an English teacher at Dawson College, produced. They took the CD to the World's Shakespeare Conference in Los Angeles last summer where, of course, it was received with rave reviews. The CD is available at selected music stores and at the university bookstore. And by mail order, which is another job that Hill has taken on administering.

More recently he was approached by a company in Montreal to dub in the voice of Mortimer in a new cartoon being produced for the Family Channel and HBO. The series, which was animated in France, is based on the Belgian book series Blake and Mortimer. Hill is creating the voice of Mortimer to sound like the person Mortimer looks like. Blake is a detective with Scotland Yard and Mortimer is his Scottish Egyptologist friend who assists Blake in solving mysteries. Hill, who has done much dubbing in the past, is finding the experience of being a cartoon character most interesting. "I got to know who my character is by reading the books and seeing the cartoons. I saw his house, his furnishings, and what he ate and developed my character on that."

Hill and Hawkins spend hours surfing the Internet and have developed friendships with different theatre groups that go far beyond the Net. Last year a theatre director from New Zealand visited them on a trip to Canada.

Last Christmas Hill had an opportunity to visit the Royal Netherlands Theatre in Delft, Holland through the connections of a theatre friend they met also on the Net.

The highlight of that visit was attending a soiree where Hill accompanied the singers on the piano, including an opera singer. "It was awfully nice singing, laughing and drinking tea and eating Dutch treats," he remembers.

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Real Estate

By Reg Morden

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EDITORIAL

Leaf blowers too loud

There is something almost indescribable about the sound of a leaf blower revving its small engine anywhere within, say, a quarter mile of the spot on which you are standing. Put it in the same league as dentist's drill, fingernails across a chalkboard, smoke detector bleating immediately above your head, or '57 Chevy minus its muffler cornering you in your garage. Only it's worse than that. In fact it's very much like the sound of a chainsaw—although perhaps a little less frightening, when you consider how you might react if a man in a hockey mask and bib overalls were to suddenly leap out from behind a hedge wielding a leaf blower.

"No, please! Not the leaf blower. Not the LEAF BLOWER-RRRR!!!!" you scream, raising your arms and covering your ears as you promptly go insane. The Texas Leaf-Blower Massacre.

It makes you wonder why the guy using the leaf blower gets to wear the high-tech earmuffs. Ear protection should be standard issue for everyone else standing within 1,000 feet of a leaf blower in use. This includes babies down for their naps.

All this is to say that, in case you haven't heard one, a leaf blower can be very loud, in a very unpleasant sort of way. Definitely louder than a rake.

That's why it was surprising, even for the editor, to read in our story last week ("Gardeners rake city hall over leaf-blower limits") that some professional gardeners, with the aid of a lawyer, have got a whopping 500 signatures on a petition asking that the City allow them to use leaf blowers during weekdays 9 to 5 throughout the summer. This would be right around the time you're quietly working in your garden, or sitting on your porch on your holidays, sipping lemonade, enjoying the sweet sounds of the chirping birds and the laughter of the children. And the revving of the leaf blowers?

Perhaps the people who hire the gardeners are all at work from 9 to 5 and so it wouldn't bother them. Fair enough. But it seems unlikely that if their gardeners can do the work in half the time with a leaf blower they are suddenly going to charge half the price. More like they're going to try to take on twice the customers. So it's difficult to see how anyone but the gardeners will benefit.

The gardeners argue that Westmount has to keep up with the times, catch up with the new technology. It's too bad they didn't come up with a "leaf sucker"—a vacuum cleaner for your lawn. It might have been a little quieter.

Until then, one wonders if anyone will ever get used to the leaf blower. For one thing, it's like watching a gardener with a jetpack strapped to his back. You keep expecting (or hoping, depending on your noise tolerance threshold) that he will fly away. Not to mention all the dust and soil that seems to get stirred up near sidewalks and walkways. Nevertheless the gardeners argue that the conventional rake is not just painstakingly slow but it can "damage lawns." How the lowly blade of grass has stood up against the rake all these centuries we can only guess.

—Bernie O'Neill



FROM THE MAIL BAG



Riding deserves MP here year-round

To the editor:

Your April 17 issue contains a sure sign that an election is in the air. Mrs. Robillard is finally turning up in the riding, gracing several balls with her presence. It's too bad that she was not here when we were promised she would be during the Referendum of 1995. Maybe since, as a provincial minister, she voted for the Referendum Act, affirming Quebec's right to self-determination, her absence then was not surprising.

I have serious doubts about whether she will be here any more frequently if we make the mistake of electing her again on the apparent election day of June 2. Certainly, if there is another Referendum she is not the person to represent our interests. Jean Charest is. Moreover, even without a Referendum, doesn't Westmount deserve an MP who works in and with

the community year-round, election or not? We certainly do need an MP whose contribution to the riding is to list the balls she has been to.

Mrs. Robillard had better anticipate what is coming her way in the next few weeks. She may be surprised by the result.

Joan Winsor
De Maisonneuve Blvd.
WESTMOUNT

FROM THE MAIL BAG



Eyeing new constitution in year 2000

To the editor:

Here is food for thought on the coming election. As you see former Westmount federal candidates do fade away but they write, write, and write!

This election must be about the political process which is creating high unemployment, racial nationalism and neglect of just aboriginal rights, all of which threaten our national existence.

Our constitution was enlightened in 1867 and helped create modern Canada. Now it is the main cause for our state of crisis.

Concerned citizens believing in the primacy of individual rights and support for group rights must offer direction and take responsibility for this new constitution.

To enshrine the individual before the political party in the process of politics, let the Order of Canada be appointed to consult the public and to produce the new constitution for Canada Day 2000.

A government of the people would ask approval for the process. A 66 per cent and two thirds majority would be established for approval.

Also votes would be counted by constituencies, as in a federal election, to help show regional trends. All constitutional change would require the two thirds overall majority and the approval of at least a similar number of constituencies.

The individuality of Canada and its provinces must start in the process and be expressed as patriotism.

Richard Gaunt
Church St.
POINTE CLAIRE

Battle of Britain veterans sought

To the editor:

We recently opened a Canadian chapter of the Battle of Britain Society and seek your help in locating any relations or friends of the brave Canadian airmen of Westmount who fought so heroically in that epic air battle 57 years ago.

They were Fighter Ace, Squadron Leader George Christie, DFC & Bar; Group Captain Vaughan Corbett, DFC; Flight Lieutenant George Hyde; and Wing Commander Arthur Nesbitt, OBE, DFC.

If any of your readers are relatives or were friends of the above, we would ask them to contact our Canadian secretary, Colin Musson, PO Box 310, Cookstown, Ont., L0L 1L0 (tel: 705-458-9554).

Bill Bond
Norfolk
ENGLAND

THE WESTMOUNT
Examiner

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Old News

(from the examiner archives)



Fifteen years ago

April 22, 1982

CONSTITUTION PAPER FROM HERE: The proclamation of the Constitution Act of 1982, bringing home the British North America Act, was printed on paper handmade by St. Armand Paper Mill, the small paper firm owned by David Carruthers of Stayner Street. The federal government had wanted something Canadian-made, and since he is virtually the only handmade paper manufacturer in Canada, the order was a natural for him.

Twenty-five years ago

April 27, 1972

WRITERS CO-OP FORMED: A group of lower Westmount writers and literature bugs disillusioned with the world of commercial publishing have taken a step which eventually they believe may bring dramatic changes to traditional publishing methods. They've formed a writers co-op, developed cheap methods of printing and have gone into the publishing business with the purpose of giving unpublished and unknown writers a chance of getting their own work into print.

Thirty-five years ago

April 13, 1962

CITY ORDERS TEAR GAS: Three hundred and 50 dollars will be spent to acquire new tear gas equipment for Westmount police, council decided Monday night. The equipment will replace existing tear gas bombs. Councillors wondered why the replacement was found necessary—and were told that all police have for the moment is a few tear gas grenades dating back 25 years. Alderman Ouimet wanted to know if anyone had any ideas on what to do with the old bombs. "I have some ideas but they might not be acceptable," said another alderman to the laughter of the council.

Forty-five years ago

April 25, 1952

FLORAL CLOCK STILL FAMOUS: Westmount no longer owns the only floral clock in Canada but come June 1 the famous time piece will be as big and beautiful as ever. Many people want to know what makes the Westmount clock tick and does it keep accurate time? "It's just a matter of motor gears and spindles operating under the ground," explains E. J. Anderson, Park Superintendent. "The gears," he adds, "are from an old Ford car."

Fifty-five years ago

April 23, 1942

HUFF AND PUFF: The boxing class of St. Leo's Academy is sponsoring a boxing smoker tomorrow is St. Leo's School Hall. The purpose of the smoker is to raise funds to purchase comforts for the former pupils of St. Leo's who are now serving in the Armed Forces. There will be 14 bouts in all, 30 rounds of boxing, the first of which will start at 8:15 p.m.

Two principles defended in schools saga

Friends and electors have contacted me to express their misgivings about the approach taken by the government on the issue of linguistic school boards. Indeed, when it comes to the protection of minority rights the PQ's credibility rates somewhere below zero. Our own party's credibility is perceived more like a lesser evil than an fool-proof insurance policy. In fact, even I bear some of these suspicions.

Since my experience in this area qualifies as expertise (president of the second largest school board in Quebec, president of the *Fédération des Commissions Scolaires du Québec*, Minister of Education), I feel an obligation to discuss this problem with you and in the clearest fashion possible.

First of all, we have been talking about linguistic school boards for 25 years. Every minister ended up hitting a wall when dealing with this issue, except Claude Ryan, who managed to get Bill 107 adopted, a bill which allowed the creation of linguistic school boards. Mr. Ryan based his efforts on a legal opinion later referred to the Supreme Court. The conclusion was that we could change our confessional school system into a linguistic one while respecting Article 93 of the BNA Act, which protects the right of Protestants and Catholics in Montreal and Quebec City to have their own school boards, as well other "dissidents" elsewhere in Quebec.

Therein lies the first source of illusion for a portion of our anglophone population, which equates the provisions of Section 93 of the Canadian Constitution to a language right. It is nothing of the sort. Moreover, while it may have been

MNA
Jacques
Chagnon



true that in the past we could easily equate anglophone and Protestant, it is no longer the case. Nearly 40 per cent of the student body of the PSBGM (the largest Protestant school board in Quebec) is francophone.

The actual section of the Constitution which protects the rights of minorities with respect to schooling rights is Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (part of the Constitution since 1982). To this you say the government of Quebec does not recognize the Constitution of 1982! Nevertheless, legally, Quebec is bound by that Constitution and, as such, by Section 23.

We want to establish linguistic school boards to finally allow the English community to control the destiny of its schooling system. We promised as much in our last electoral campaign; not the PQ, which voted against Bill 107. When we see them with their motion today, it makes one wonder. This is why we amended their resolution in the National Assembly by adding the following paragraph: "WHEREAS in so doing the National Assembly of Quebec reaffirms the established rights of the English community of Quebec. More specifically, whereas Quebecers whose children are admissible in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Charter of the French Language have the right to enroll them in English schools

under the management and control of this community, pursuant to the enabling Act, and which are financed through public funds."

The PQ felt constrained to accept it. Most judicial experts reckon that any interpretation of this motion will have to take into consideration the intent set out by our amendment.

We also would have preferred a parliamentary commission be held on this subject and expressed this wish on at least three occasions. Nevertheless, our problem remained a political one. From the moment federal and provincial ministers reached an agreement, we could hardly oppose them without appearing to go against "evolution," in this case, linguistic school boards.

I confess we also wondered about the substance of this agreement. There was the fear that deletion of the first four paragraphs of Section 93 risked triggering the intervention of other provinces, which would transform a bilateral constitutional modification into a multilateral one with a greatly reduced chance of success. If by the actions of other provinces it should become impossible to effect the modification to the Constitution, we can easily imagine the PQ and the Bloc yet again decrying the impossibility of effecting any changes whatsoever to the Constitution.

To conclude, two principles were defended. First, the capacity to transform our school system from a confessional system to a linguistic one. And second, the defence of the rights of the English minority. I believe we did achieve these goals, even though the process itself (no parliamentary commissions) is inexcusable.

Getting a bead on art form making revival

Research on the bead revival that's overtaking North America opens a Pandora's box. The books are endless. The images and illustrations are luscious. The explanations for our fascination with beads are encyclopaedic. They stretch the gamut from theories of adornment and decoration to heavy treatises on the spiritual and psychological meaning of beads. Whichever you buy, it's hard to argue against the enduring significance of beads and the art of bead-making. For 40,000 years humans have been fashioning ornaments and images. Today, we're still making beads, wearing beads, and questing after their symbolic meaning.

"Now this bead," notes Ruth Shine, local bead expert, who's been in the business for over 20 years, "was worn by the women in West Africa. They used to attach it to their shawls. When the night winds swept the desert plains, the rhythmic sound of the moving beads would lull the children to sleep."

Ruth Shine is a walking encyclopedia of the stories, rituals, myths and history of beads. She gets a little riled up when you talk about beads as mere decoration. For her, they represent a visual history of civilization.

Today, in the west, bead societies proliferate. People find in the act of beading an avenue for personal and artistic expression. They also find an avenue for relaxation—bead therapy as some call it. And you needn't do it alone, though you can. Beading circles (talking circles) are gain-

Victoria
Leblanc



ing popularity. You'd be surprised who you find at a bead gathering. From psychotherapists to accountants to gardeners.

What happens in the west, eventually happens in the east. In Montreal, more and more people are making beads, stringing beads or collecting them. Now we call it "wearable art" and some creations truly are. Equally, we're still trying to understand the bead's symbolic significance.

Our English word 'bead' comes from the old Anglo Saxon 'bede' meaning prayer (biddan: to pray). Rosaries of all religions are chains of beads, able to be 'told' or counted in the dark. The rosary, connected with the rose garden in Persia, is supposed to have originated in India from the god Shiva and then spread east to China and Japan and north to Tibet. Buddhists, Hindus, Mohammedans and Christians alike all use this mnemonic aid to "pray without ceasing."

And, where the religious significance means little, people still use beads as fidgets to help concentrate their thoughts.

There's even a theory that the traditional circular shape of the bead holds such a peculiar and persistent fascination for the

human psyche because it recalls the child's first focus of awareness on the mother's eyes; the shape of the bead maintains a strong hypnotic attraction deep in our psychology. How's that for an archetypal interpretation of the bead!

What's helped fuel the bead craze is polymere clay—Fimo. Most people think of fimo as an expensive kids' playdough but artists of renown are using this new plastic clay for everything from major installations to molding human body parts. The modeling compound can be manipulated into every imaginable shape. It can also be made to look like almost any material.

In ancient times, the most desired beads were those made from variegated stones. Enthusiasts can now use Fimo to imitate these precious granite and agate beads.

This spring the Visual Arts Centre is responding to this beading enthusiasm with a number of workshops and lectures. We've invited some of the best known contemporary artists in the field. From May 3 to 6, Kate Fowle, well known glass bead artist, will give a workshop to teach students the exquisite Venetian glass bead-making techniques. Glass-blown beads hold a special fascination for their transparent beauty. And, Jamey Allen, one of the key pioneers of polymer clay in North America, renowned as much for his historical knowledge of beads as for his own artistic creations, will be at the Centre from April 25 to 29 for lectures and workshops on Fimo.

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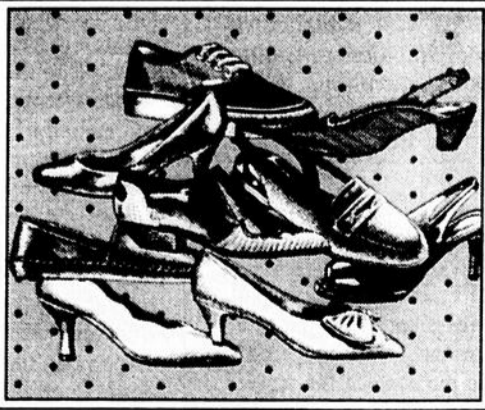


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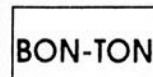
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Roslyn parents make difference

Popular afterschool programs round out education

With Quebec schools facing government cutbacks, parent involvement becomes more important than ever, and Roslyn School is no exception.

"There have always been activities at Roslyn. Even back in the '60s they used to go skiing at Murray Hill Park after school," explains Cathy de Courcy-Ireland, who puts in many volunteer hours, especially running extracurricular activities. "The activities have become an integral part of school enrichment."

Children from kindergarten through Grade 6 may participate. About 300 of the school's population of 600 children are enrolled in at least one session of the 25 courses.

A number of activities are offered at lunchtime, to accommodate children who are bused. There is computer, art, science, various dance classes, film animation, and of course more energetic pursuits such as soccer, T-ball, gymnastics and basketball.

The cost of the courses covers the materials and a stipend for the teachers, according to Ireland. One area where the Home and School Association has spent some money is on computer hardware and software. This equipment does double duty: lunch and after-school courses are offered every day, and regular classes take turns using the computer lab dur-



Sculpture teacher Laura Santini's class gets right into it.

ing school hours. Much of the gym equipment has also been supplied by Home and School fundraising.

A recent visit to a sculpture class found a group of children perched on picnic tables in the basement, in a space euphemistically called the Conference Area. Under the watchful eye of teacher and Roslyn parent Laura Santini, students were carving soapstone, painting animals they made from clay, and finishing up paper maché models.

Santini is a full-time sculptor,

one of whose works, Venus and the Cage, can be seen at Château Westmount Square. "We are lucky to have her as a teacher," De Courcy-Ireland says. "The kids are so keen, they never seem to stay home sick on Tuesdays."

The feeling, apparently, is mutual. Santini enjoys introducing the children to the properties of each different material, such as wood, soapstone, clay and plaster. "Young children prefer to work in three dimensions. There is nothing that is flat in reality, so it is more natural to them."

Masters swimmers burning up the pool

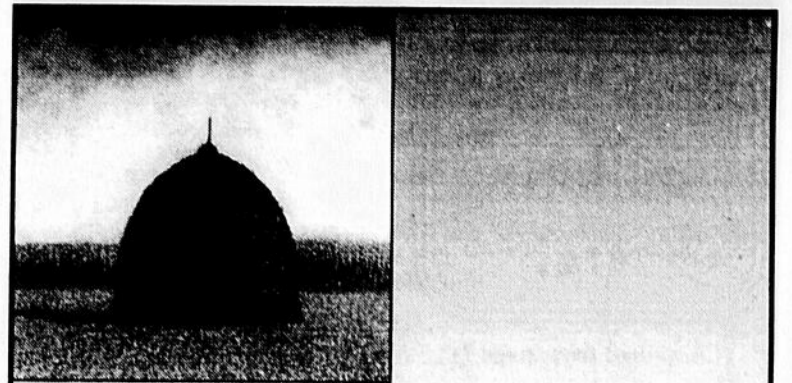
A new and stronger YMCA Westmount Master Swim team has emerged this year, thanks to coach Ovidiu Boteanu. The team has already participated in three swim meets this season and has placed fourth out of 27 teams in the Montreal area. Westmount, coming out of nowhere, is beating perennially strong teams like Pointe Claire and McGill Masters.

Of the 60 members in the Westmount YMCA team, 15 compete. They are led by Gary Gallon, who set six provincial records in

the men's 50- to 54-year age group. The records are in the 50-metre butterfly, 100-metre fly, 100-metre individual medley (all four strokes), and in the 100-metre freestyle. Also leading the team effort is Sylvie Lepine, who has taken 12 first places over the last three swim meets and set a new provincial record in the women's 45- to 49-year 200-metre individual medley. At the last swim meet March 14-15 in Dollard, the Westmount "160 years and over" mixed (men and women: com-

bined ages must add up to 60 years or more) relay team came in first place. Members of the relay team were Peter McAuslan (of McAuslan Breweries), Céleste Johnston, Sylvie Lépine, and Gary Gallon.

The team is preparing to participate in the Provincial Masters Swimming Championships, this weekend in Quebec City. More than 50 teams across Quebec plan to send more than 500 swimmers to compete between the ages of 24 and 84.



YUJI YOKOYAMA

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Community Bulletin Board...

(Continued from page 2)

Wednesday, April 30

Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School presents Dr. Norman Henchey, emeritus professor of education at McGill. Topic: 'Is technology challenging the role of the school?' Wednesday, April 30, 7:30 to 9 p.m., 525 Mt. Pleasant Ave. Public invited.

Thursday, May 1

Westmount Committee for Canadian Unity public citizens meeting for Westmounters, in Westmount High School auditorium, 4350 St. Catherine St. West, Thursday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. 937-3117.

Dramatis Personae, Westmount's own drama group, presents Molière comedy 'A Doctor in Spite of Himself,' May 1, 2 and 3 in the Lodge Room of Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. West, at 8 p.m. Translated by the group's director, Nat Bernstein. Admission by donation.

Saturday, May 3

Chorale Nouvelle de Montréal presents Ein Deutsches Requiem and Begräbnisgesang on Saturday, May 3 at 8 p.m. at Westmount Baptist Church, Sherbrooke and Roslyn. Tickets \$12 and \$9. 486-3669.

Sunday, May 4

Scouts, Westmount district, holding a Scout-a-thon Sunday, May 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Westmount Park. Youngsters will walk, bike, rollerblade or skateboard around park to raise money for Scouts and for Dans La Rue. Scouts will be going door-to-door to collect donations.

Thursday, May 8

Shaar Hashomayim Leisure Institute's annual Open Gate Gala, an evening of duplicate and rubber bridge, takes place Thursday, May 8 at 6 p.m. at the Shaar, 425 Metcalfe Ave. Buffet supper, door prizes, trophies. Valet parking available. Proceeds to Open Gate project, which offers frail and isolated seniors a weekly "day out" with a hot lunch and stimulating crafts and games. Tickets \$36 for donors, \$50 for sponsors. Reservations: Elsa Hoffman, 489-3372, or Mavis Solloway, 486-0458.

Protecting Mount Royal subject of talk by Peter Howlett, co-founder and president of Friends of the Mountain, Thursday, May 8, at 7 p.m. at Westmount Public Library, as part of Westmount Historical Association spring lecture series. Entry \$10 (\$5 for members). 933-5372.

Saturday, May 10

Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School rummage sale, Saturday, May 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 525 Mount Pleasant Ave. Also Mother's Day table. Donations accepted May 9 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. 935-6620. **Rummage and Bake Sale** at Church of the Advent, corner Wood and de Maisonneuve, Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Clothing, furniture, books, jewellery, toys, fresh-baked goods. 933-0626.

Buying a classified ad in The Examiner is easy. Just call 630-6300

Upcoming

Sign up for CLSC Métro Westmount Service programs, Heart Health, starting May 7 and running four Wednesday afternoons from 2:30 to 4 p.m.; and Parents of Adolescents, beginning May 8 and running six consecutive Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. Info: Nancy Grant, 934-0354, ext. 100.

Dawson College Alumni Assoc. golf tournament at Rawdon. Open to male and female golfers at all levels. Info: John Davidson, 931-8731, ext. 1205.

Ongoing

Montreal Camera Club meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. Slide shows, competitions, workshops. Visitors welcome. 497-1777.

Westmount Toastmasters meets every Thursday at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. Call 937-5938.

Contactivity Centre runs Telecheck service for seniors living alone. A cheerful volunteer to check in with you each weekday morning by telephone. Cost \$10 per year (\$5 for members). Info: Doreen, 932-2326.

Entraide Bénévole Métro is offering a service to help seniors with their groceries. Be accompanied by volunteers on board a minibus that takes you to and from a supermarket. Info: 939-9575.

'Beyond the Borders'

GRAND association, which lobbies for grandparents' rights to have access to their grandchildren, meets next Wednesday, April 30 at L'Union Française, 429 Viger Avenue East (corner Béri), 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. To confirm attendance, call 846-0574.

Montreal Children's Library hosting special morning sessions at Women's 'Y' to introduce youngsters

to joys of nursery rhymes, to June 18. Coffee, drinks and snacks at 10:30 a.m. followed by hour-long program 11 a.m. to noon. No charge. Info: Molly Walsh, 931-2304.

Concordia Theatre Dept. presents *Into the Woods*, by Stephen Sondheim, to May 4 at D.B. Clarke Theatre, Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. 848-4742.

Women's Art Society of Montreal studio group holds annual spring exhibition at Fraser-Hickson Library, 4855 Kensington Ave., N.D.G., to April 24. All welcome. 489-5301.

Through My Eyes... A Farewell Exhibition, past and recent works by Elaine Steels at the Arts Club, 1840 Sherbrooke St. West. Vernissage April 25, 5 to 9 p.m., show continues April 26-27, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Songs from the British Isles, Adrienne Savoie soprano, Michel Beauchamp guitar, Sunday May 4 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Jean Baptiste Church, 4230 Drolet St., corner Rachel. Tickets \$15, \$10 students and seniors. 253-9474.

Gordon and Nancy Lorimer will give slide show of trip to South America following annual general meeting of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds, Monday, May 5 at 8 p.m., Fraser-Hickson Library, 4855 Kensington Ave., N.D.G.

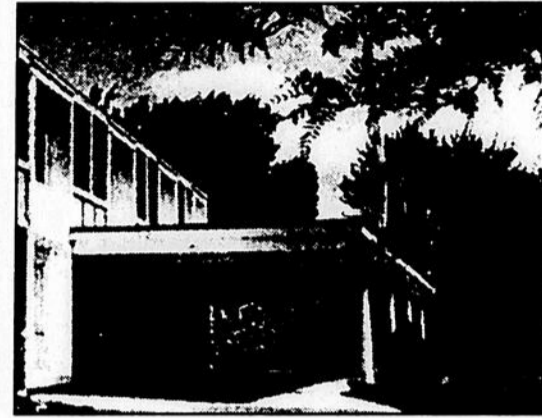
Grenfell Association of Montreal dinner and annual general meeting at MAAA, 2070 Peel, May 6 at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker, Dr. Peter J. Roberts, former executive director of Grenfell Regional Health Services, Newfoundland. Tickets: 697-1825.

Espace Trois, at Saidye Bronfman Centre, 5170 Côte St. Catherine St. West., presents exhibit by Westmount artist Ann McCall, RCA, titled 'Grasses-Les herbes', graphite drawings, silkscreen prints, acrylic paintings and collographs. Vernissage

Thursday, May 8, from 5 to 9 p.m. **Writers Association for Romance and Mainstream** presents book reviewer Brian Demchinsky, lawyer and columnist Barbara Noetzel, and communications consultant Elaine Creighton, Saturday, May 10, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Days Inn, 1005 Guy.

Admission \$15, students and seniors \$10, members \$5. 468-5410. 'Podroast,' farewell event for Centaur Theatre founder Maurice Podbrey, Monday, May 12 at Centaur Theatre, as fundraiser for Centaur. 288-3161.

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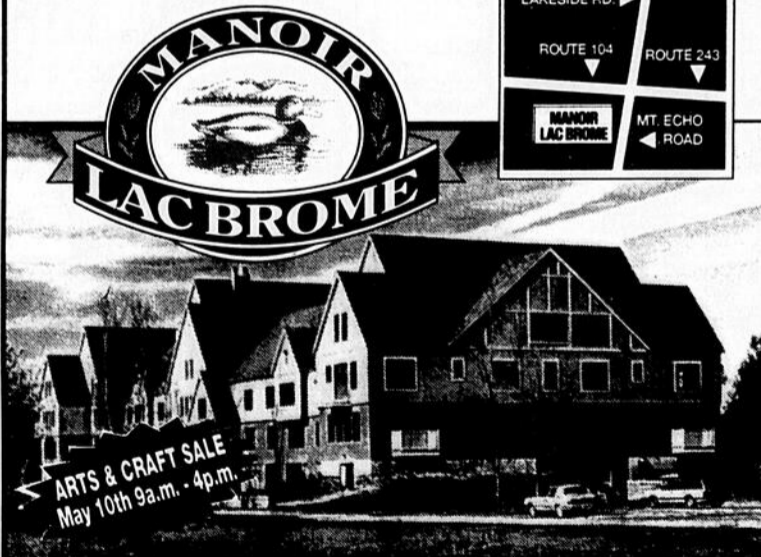
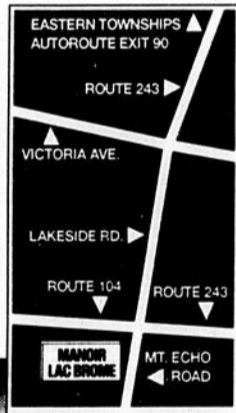
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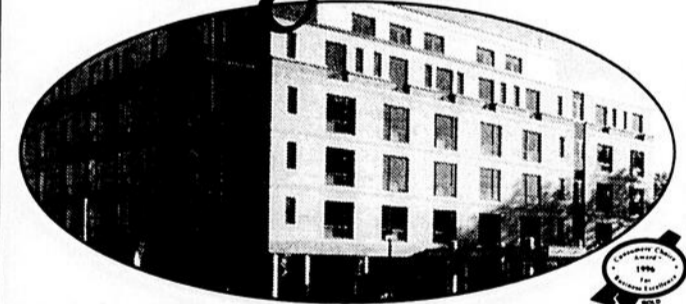
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Monday, April 14

1:35 p.m. 4000 de Maisonneuve: 69-year-old man with chest pains, breathing problems; taken to hospital.
 9:40 p.m. 210 Victoria: Burglar alarm.

Tuesday, April 15

4:50 a.m. 494 Wood: Broken water pipe; Montreal Waterworks attended; water mopped up by firemen.
 6:17 a.m. 10 Rosemount: Major water leak in furnace room when pipe broke; pumps used to remove water; Gaz Metropolitan shut off gas, power also turned off; took 5 hours to remove all water.
 1:28 p.m. 309 Melville: Smoke detector activated due to burnt food.
 5:33 p.m. 10 Rosemount: Bathtub in apartment above overflowed through light fixture.
 6:35 p.m. 4001 de Maisonneuve: Cancelled en route.
 6:39 p.m. 4998 de Maisonneuve: Plastic cover melted when left on burner; baking soda put out fire.
 7:13 p.m. 100 Hillside: Cancelled.

Wednesday, April 16

6:07 a.m. Wood and St. Catherine: Cancelled en route.
 7:35 a.m. 225 Olivier: 78-year-old woman weak and dizzy.
 1:20 p.m. 4000 de Maisonneuve: possible medication overdose.
 3:45 p.m. Front of 4010 Tupper: Car leaking gas.

Thursday, April 17

4:08 a.m. 220 Olivier: 83-year-old man fell, suffered no injuries.
 11:00 a.m. 4010 Tupper: 46-year-old woman with chest pains.
 12:13 p.m. 345 Victoria: 48-year-old man with pain to left side of body.
 1:29 p.m. 326 Wood: Smoke detector activated by someone sawing wood.
 3:31 p.m. 1222 Greene: 46-year-old woman complaining of dizziness; refused transport to hospital.
 4:19 p.m. 4000 de Maisonneuve: Woman with medical problems; taken to Jean Talon Hospital.
 11:44 p.m. 53 Oakland: Cancelled en route.

Friday, April 18

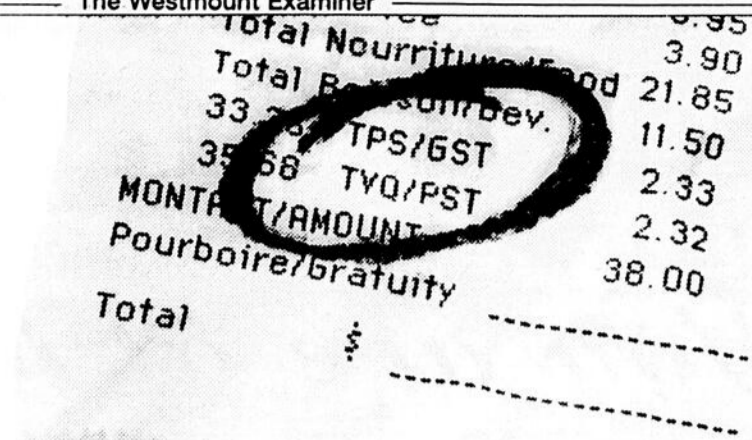
9:17 a.m. 450 Kensington: Smoke detector activated by basement stove.
 2:47 p.m. 200 Kensington: False alarm.
 6:10 p.m. 17 Melbourne: Smoke detector activated by food cooking.
 7:18 p.m. Rear of 481 Victoria: Wire sparking due to weather conditions.
 9:35 p.m. 4998 de Maisonneuve: man who fell from building later pronounced dead.
 9:43 p.m. 4895 de Maisonneuve: Cancelled en route.
 11:11 p.m. 376 Victoria: Alarm activated due to breaker that was tripped.

Saturday, April 19

1:10 p.m. 216 Redfern: 25-year-old man complaining of nausea.
 1:35 p.m. 1090 Greene: Small amount of water leaking in through roof in building.
 2:08 p.m. Front of 4333 St. Catherine: Gas leak.

Sunday, April 20

7:56 a.m. 363 Clarke: Water oozing through cracks of foundation.
 12:35 p.m. Front 411 Roslyn: 60-year-old man intoxicated, minor laceration to forehead; taken to hospital.
 11:35 p.m. Rear 4350 St. Catherine: Heat dryer in washroom flaring up.



LET'S SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

THE FACTS ABOUT HARMONIZING THE QST AND THE GST

In its latest budget, the government of Quebec demands \$2 billion in compensation from the federal government for harmonizing the QST with the GST. However, the Quebec government hasn't experienced losses in sales tax revenues that would qualify the province for assistance under the set formula.

On the contrary, since harmonizing the QST with the GST in 1990, the Quebec government's sales tax revenues have been higher every year than before harmonization. **Here are the revenue numbers from the Quebec government's own public accounts:**

QUEBEC SALES TAX REVENUES	
YEAR	REVENUES
1989-90	\$5.1 billion
1990-91*	\$5.4 billion
1991-92	\$6.2 billion
1992-93	\$6.0 billion
1993-94	\$5.5 billion
1994-95	\$5.4 billion
1995-96	\$5.6 billion

(source: Public Accounts, Government of Quebec)
 *Year of harmonization

In light of these numbers, is it reasonable for the Quebec government to demand federal compensation?

You be the judge.

Canada

Fibres were used for their strong, flexible and fire-proof qualities

(Continued from page 3) practice to use it as a thickener in patching mixes and joint compounds until the mid-1970s. But this low level exposure is not considered a health hazard, he said.

Since the turn of the century the strong, flexible and fire-proof qualities of the mineral fibres made asbestos popular as a building and insulating material. The health effects of asbestos, proven to cause asbestosis—fibrous scarring of the lungs—lung cancer and cancer of the abdominal wall, came to light in the 1970s. By then, many public buildings in North America had been sprayed with asbestos for fire-proofing and it had been used as a component in acoustic tiling in many schools. Once installed, it does not degenerate spontaneously and it only becomes a health hazard when the fibres are airborne and are inhaled, as a result of damage.

THE EXAMINER could not locate an official report on its use in plaster, although present-day packaging for gyprock compounds clearly states that the mixture is "asbestos free."

"Just because it is there it is not necessarily a problem," Dunnigan said. "It's like knowing what you

keep under your kitchen sink. If people use common sense the risk is minuscule."

That means avoiding creating dust when doing repairs, by wetting the surface area with a mister. Dry sweeping and vacuuming to clean up after repairs is out, because the fibres are so tiny that they can pass through the filter and become airborne.

When it comes to remodeling and renovations, homeowners should be careful, however. A Harvard University study in 1989 suggests that the removal of building materials containing asbestos can actually make the levels higher than they were before.

There should be guidelines for household repairs, the Westmount resident said. She's concerned that many homeowners are unaware of the risks, particularly in older residential communities. "The house is constantly shifting, and new cracks are appearing," she pointed out. She is also concerned because she is required to disclose the presence of asbestos in her house upon resale.

It's difficult to estimate how widespread it is in Westmount because there is very little research on the domestic application of asbestos, according to the City's director-general, Bruce St. Louis. "In domestic settings it is in relatively minor concentrations, and if it is properly sealed with the proper paint there should be no risk," he said. "But there's only one way to tell, and that's have the lab come in and test."

In response to the resident's concerns, St. Louis said he has asked the same professionals who consulted on the protective services

building to provide an overview on the use of asbestos in domestic situations.

An Ontario study in 1991 determined that there was a "broad con-

sensus among scientific and regulatory authorities that intact and undisturbed asbestos-containing materials in general do not present a health risk." The Asbestos

Institute recommends that a professional hired to assess the need for corrective action not be associated with an asbestos correction firm, to avoid conflict of interest.

Correction

A story last week on the enumeration in Westmount said the local enumeration office hoped to have contacted 45 per cent of eligible voters in the door-to-door visits. In fact the office had hoped to contact 45,000 eligible voters, out of a total estimate of 56,000. THE EXAMINER regrets the error.

Police investigate death at highrise

Police are waiting for an autopsy report before they officially rule on the death of a man who fell from a highrise apartment building on de Maisonneuve Boulevard last Friday night.

The man, age 30, plunged from a friend's apartment on the 16th floor of the building on the corner of Claremont Avenue, just a block away from his home in N.D.G.

"Detectives are waiting for the autopsy report" before they rule whether it was suicide or an acci-

dent, officer Lise Bergeron of Station 12 said.

According to the police report, there were people in the apartment when the man fell but they didn't realize he was missing. The man was sighted by a passer-by, who called police to inform them that a transient person had collapsed on the street. Paramedics from the Westmount Fire Department responded to the call.

A funeral was held Tuesday at the Church of St. Columba.

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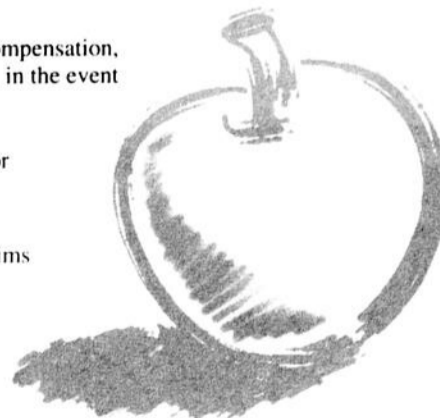
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Comedian Elliott to laugh it up at MGH fundraiser

The Montreal General Hospital will feature musician and comedian Lorne Elliott at its Spring for Cancer '97 benefit evening, Thursday, May 1 at Concordia University's downtown campus.

Cocktails at 6 p.m. in Hingston Hall, show at 8 p.m. in concert hall.

Tickets are \$100 per person and are available from Belmont Avenue resident Heather Faith at 484-7244.

Proceeds go to the VOP (Volunteers for Oncology Patients) at the Montreal General Hospital.

Rotary event this weekend

(Continued from page 1)
took a lot of effort to get everything moved in here," she said, indicating the piles of donations waiting to be set out on display tables in the arena.

The storage facilities, one at the Manoir and another in a space in the Salvation Army building, were filled to overflowing last week.

"We have a little more than usual this year," Griffin said.

"People are cleaning out their basements and coming across little treasures that will make it into the auction."

Last year, hundreds of people were lined up three hours before the doors opened, proving that one person's cast-off might be a diamond in the rough to someone else.

"Some of the pieces are perfect for people starting out who don't have a lot of money to furnish an

apartment," Griffin said. Other items will definitely be impulse buys as visitors descend on tables holding a selection of knick-knacks, kitchen supplies, electrical appliances, carpets and other items.

Bargain hunters will be able to refuel on site at Café Mooch, so called "because we mooch all this stuff," Griffin said.

Rotary Club volunteers will pick up items right up to the last minute.

The City lends the use of the Westmount Arena at 4675 St. Catherine West free of charge for the two-day extravaganza.

The auction will take place tomorrow, April 25 at 7 p.m., with a preview at 6 p.m. The gargantuan garage sale will be held on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on the sale, call 935-3344.



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Clarke house fit into surroundings

By the end of the 17th century the terrain of the little mountain and its surroundings had been surveyed and the farm lands distributed.

Two major concession roads ran from east to west through the territory, Côte St. Antoine Road at mid-level on the mountain, and the Upper Lachine Road further south (Notre Dame and St. Jacques streets today). Both wound their way to the western tip of the island, providing a land passage from Montreal, bypassing the rapids which made this part of the St. Lawrence River unnavigable.

The fur trade was still an active commerce. When Indians landed at the western end of the island with their canoeloads of furs, they continued by the overland route along the Côte Road to bring them to Place Royale in Montreal for sale or barter at the

Know Your Westmount
By Aline Gubbay



yearly fur fairs first organized by Samuel de Champlain in 1611.

Farmlands were laid out between two major roadways, in long straight lines running down the hillside, with a common boundary roughly where St. Catherine Street runs today.

At the foot of the mountain was a lake—Lac St. Pierre, or Lac aux Loutres (Otter Lake). In winter, after the land had been cleared, the tree trunks were gathered, taken down to the lake and lashed together. When the ice melted in the spring, the lumber

was floated through a short inlet to the St. Lawrence River and rafted along the shore to Montreal for sale.

In summer, farm produce was carried east along the Côte St. Antoine Road by horse-drawn wagons, past the Sulpician fort and on down to the harbourfront at Montreal.

With the end of the French regime in 1760, English-speaking immigrants began to arrive. First to settle was Simon Clarke, a fur trader, member of a loosely linked organization of merchants in the fur trade, the North West Company. Most members were Scots—McTavish, Mackenzie, McGill, Frobisher, McGilvray among others. All owned houses in the old city by the harbour, where business was conducted up and down the streets close to Place Royale. As their fortunes grew, members built country houses up the slopes of Mount Royal and further west around the little mountain. Some of these country properties were surprisingly opulent but Clarke's house, though spacious and comfortable, fitted readily into its rural surroundings.

The house stood at the point on the Côte St. Antoine Road (at the corner of present-day Clarke Avenue) where Indians travelling east with their merchandise destined for Montreal, would welcome a stopping place to rest.



House of Anne and Simon Clarke, first English settlers on 'the little mountain.' House stood at the corner of Clarke Avenue and Sherbrooke Street.

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1st Prize: Win A Dinner Out With Mom!
(Max 4 persons - Value of \$100)

2nd Prize: \$100 Certificate for Health & Fitness

3rd Prize: One of 10 cookbooks by Jean Paré of "Company's Coming" cookbooks

Rules: Just enter the contest, correctly answer the six following questions, one for each box, and with your name, address and phone number, send to, or stop by:
The Westmount Examiner - Mother's Day Contest.
210 Victoria Ave., Westmount H3Z 2M4

Winners will be announced in the May 8 edition.

Deadline for entries Tuesday May 6th, 2 p.m.

The questions are:

- 1 What is our speciality?
- 2 What type of breakfasts do we specialize in?
- 3 What new style cuisine are we serving?
- 4 At what fitness club can you get exclusive private one-on-one training?
- 5 Name two of our great gift items?
- 6 How many hours are we open each day?

The correct answers are:

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____

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Unity resolution pushed

(Continued from page 1)
Margo said he is well aware that the results won't be welcomed with open arms. A resident who brought the issue up at a recent council meeting was told that it is not a municipal responsibility.

it's antagonistic. It will only exacerbate the situation."

However, Margo doesn't see anything antagonistic about passing a unity resolution in Westmount. The more citizenry speaks out through their elected officials the better the chances that the next referendum won't be a pushover, he contended.

"Other city councils that were adamantly against the resolution, like in Dollard des Ormeaux, have turned 360 degrees when they saw the citizen support," Margo said.

He said he knows all eyes are on Westmount. At once cosmopolitan and conservative, resolution by Westmount would be a feather in the cap of the unity movement.

People should realize that the real point of the resolution is partition not unity, Mayor Trent commented.

The Westmount unity committee did not develop without some help. Through the umbrella of the Coalition of Community Groups, citizens in each city are contacted to organize a local "grass roots" committee, according to Anthony Housefather, a Hampstead city councillor who has been very vocal in the federalist fight. Although it's a citizens' movement, members of the coalition are there to provide assistance and technical support.

"I understand frustrated anglos—and I'm one of them—venting their spleen. But we have to ask ourselves if partition is realistic. Does anyone seriously think we can remain in Canada if the city that surrounds us on all sides would be a different country? Would Murray's Restaurant become Checkpoint Charlie? Would we ask Dawson students riding the metro through town to show their passports?"

"I think it's important for municipalities to be entering the debate," Housefather said. "People are dispirited. They see the houses for sale, they see the government of Quebec know there will be consequences to separation."

Besides, Trent added, passing the resolution will only make things worse for Westmount with the threat of amalgamation looming over the 28 municipalities. The real threat is that Westmount will be swallowed up by Montreal, and that is where he is focusing his energies.

The public meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on May 1 at the Westmount High School auditorium, 4350 St. Catherine St. West.

"It's just asking for people to take a closer look at this little island surrounded by Montreal," he said. "Of course

Books sent to other libraries

(Continued from page 1)
fate of the many books which won't be dealt with by the rare books policy.

a breakdown in communication is the reason for the all the controversy about the local library.

"Perhaps 'rare' is the wrong term to use because it suggests a monetary value," he added. "There are many books of interest to Westmounters that aren't necessarily rare."

"The bottom line is to keep the lines of communication open. Residents should feel free to come and see the library administration," Wright commented.

He said he would still like to see a list of the books which have been donated to McGill library.

Johnston agreed that dialogue was important. However, while he categorized the meeting as "useful," he said there are still major differences in opinion about the discarding of books.

Library director Caroline Thibodeau pointed out that books sent to other libraries are kept in public circulation, whereas if they were sold to residents they would become one person's property.

"Westmount likes to think of its library as the jewel in its crown but if it gives away jewels that crown will lose some of its shine," he said.

The historical association has been granted permission to look over the books slated for new homes before they are sent away.

The library has come under criticism from residents for several weeks, following revelations that many old and historical books were being given away from the original estimate of 1,000 boxes of stacked in the basement following the \$7.5-million expansion in 1995.

Thibodeau said she has not yet met with representatives from the association, but it's unlikely any of the books put aside by the WHA will find their way back onto library shelves. "They can keep them if they want to. But this is not a procedure for reconsideration," she said.

Wright said he did not know why the changes that led to the current practice of discarding old books from the library's historical collection were not made public. In future changes to library policy will be made public, he promised.

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SPORTS

All in the family

Another McDougall wins Pound award at McGill

By Bob Oliver

It's becoming a family tradition. For the second time in its five-year history a member of Westmount's McDougall family has won McGill University's prestigious Richard Pound Award.

The award is given to a graduating student who best exemplifies proficiency and leadership in athletics. It is named in honour of local resident Dick Pound, a former McGill and Olympic swimmer and current vice-president of the International Olympic Committee.

The award was handed to Reid McDougall, 22, at last week's McGill Athletic Awards banquet.

Reid's brother Todd, a former McGill basketball star, won the award in 1995.

"It caught me completely flat-footed," exclaimed McDougall, a Bachelor of Science graduate who spent his first two years on the school's ski team and the last three years on the rugby team.

"Two years ago I cheered Todd on when he won it and now I'm the recipient. It's a tremendous honour."

McDougall beat out nominees Peter Pound (no relation to Dick), a member of the track and field team and hockey player Martin Routhier.

Chaired sports council

McDougall's accolades include being chairman of the McGill Intercollegiate Sports Council, a member of the McGill Athletic Board, and a member of the Students Athletic Council.

As a two-time all-star, and president and captain of the McGill rugby team, McDougall was an integral part of the team's operations. The team is not funded by the university, but nevertheless has made trips to tournaments in Spain and the Bahamas the last two years. McDougall also helped



Reid McDougall (left), assistant co-coach Dan Benoit and John McDougall following C.S. Gresham Cup rugby game.

organize the McGill Winter Snow 7's rugby tournament, donating proceeds to the McGill Sexual Assault Centre.

"Reid is truly deserving of the award," said McGill communications officer Earl Zukerman.

"He sits on so many committees, he's an extremely dedicated worker, a great athlete, a good student leader and an affable gentleman who's liked by everyone. He's a fine example of a student for which the award is intended."

Ironically, McDougall helped change the format of the annual McGill Athletic Awards banquet.

"It was formerly held at the downtown Delta Hotel where students were confined to a relatively expensive sit-down dinner," McDougall said.

"This year we had a buffet dinner at the gorgeous on-campus Redpath Hall and drew more athletes than we have in the past. It was less expensive, more efficient and we had a lot more fun. After the dinner and award presentations the athletes were free to mingle with one another."

Dick Pound was on hand at Redpath Hall to personally present his award to McDougall.

McDougall's parents, Doug and Sally, who have twice been made proud, take little credit for their sons' success.

"Reid doesn't do these things for the rewards," said Doug McDougall. "He works hard, enjoys what he's doing and awards like this one just fall into place. We're extremely proud of Reid and all our boys."

Reid is the third of four boys who include Todd, 26, John, 24, and Peter, 19. He says the family is tight-knit, they always help each other and they learn from one another.

Younger brother Peter enrolled in McGill this year as a biology student and joined the ski team. Next semester he plans on becoming a member of the MISC committee.

Reid McDougall plans on doing post-graduate studies in Environmental Science. Following that, he'll pursue a Masters program in Alberta.

Gayton named Vanier Athlete of the Year

Local resident Chris Gayton was named Vanier College's Male Athlete of the Year at the school's annual awards banquet last week.

Gayton was the League Special Teams Player of the Year in the Cegep 'AAA' loop this past season. He set league-season highs with a 63-yard punt return and a 76-yard dash from the line of scrimmage which both went for touchdowns in the same game.

Gayton led the league in punt-return yardage and paced the Cheetahs in rushing yardage. He is the all-time punt return yardage leader at Vanier

College and is No. 6 in the history of the league.

Gayton has graduated with a degree in pure and applied science and has received a full scholarship to the University of Kentucky, where he will switch to defence for the Wildcats.

Gayton is a product of Selwyn House School and was Vanier's leading rusher this past season with 478 yards, leading scorer with six touchdowns, as well as the league leader in punt return yardage, returning 29 punts for 263 yards.

Gayton has been compared favourably with Montreal Alouette player Michael Soles.

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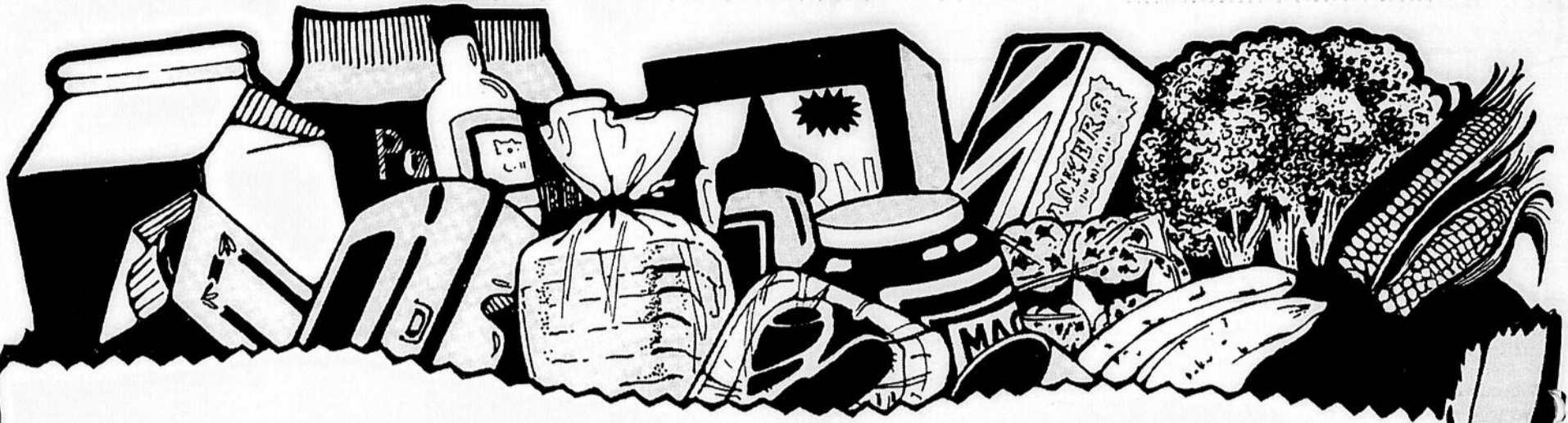
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