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## FIRED JANITOR GOES ON HUNGER STRIKE

### Local News

Martin C. Barry

**The janitor who recently joined tenants of a Westmount apartment building in their protest against deteriorating conditions has gone on a hunger strike after being fired last week.**

Stéphane Dubé, the janitor at 200 Kensington Ave., said he had tried for the past year to get the company that manages the building to make various repairs, as well as fix an emergency generator which is supposed to be in operating condition according to a Westmount bylaw.

As reported in last week's Examiner, a number of the building's tenants, fed up with the ongoing situation, finally decided to go to the media to protest such conditions as falling plaster and serious ventilation problems.

After Dubé learned he had been fired, he said that a building resident—not among those who were complaining—had reported him to management. On Monday, he could be seen picketing at the corner of Kensington Avenue and Ste. Catherine Street with a hand-held sign.

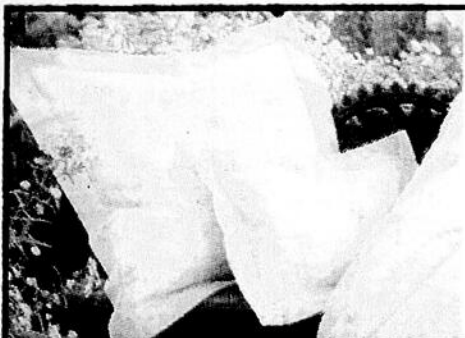
Dubé, 35, already quite worn down from the maintenance work on the building's more than 100 apartments, hadn't eaten for a day. Even though he was an employee, he has been paying \$800 per month to rent the 5 1/2-room apartment that he

occupies on the fifth floor with his wife and two children. According to the terms of his lease, he had to forfeit the apartment when his employment ceased—and has to be out by the first week of April.

(continued on page 2)



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(continued from page 1)

Borough Director Bruce St. Louis was unambiguous about Westmount's reaction to the building's state. "The city's position is pretty clear on this one: we're not satisfied with the progress at which things are being done and we've put the matter before the courts," he said.

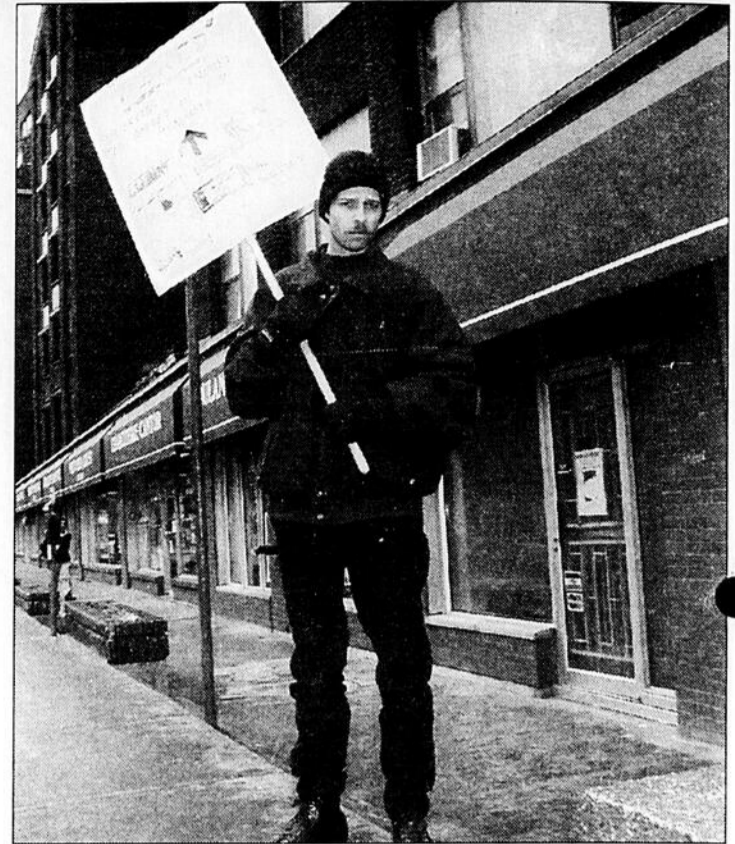
"It doesn't mean that we won't stop the pressure to get things corrected," St. Louis added. "Charges have been laid. As a consequence of that, city inspectors will continue to apply the pressure necessary to make sure that there is compliance."

St. Louis said that over the past few weeks, the borough administration had been edging closer to pressing charges for fire safety and maintenance violations against 200 Kensington's owners. However, since last year when Westmount was a municipality and similar charges were dealt with here, the legal process has changed.

"The way the process works now is that (the charges) have to be sent downtown, and they will decide which court they will be heard in - but they'll probably be heard in the main court downtown," said St. Louis.

As for Dubé, last week he said he was taking sides with the tenants to underscore their situation. On Monday, he said he decided to go on the hunger strike to draw attention to the plight of apartment building janitors who have no rights with their employers, the landlords.

"Every janitor in Montreal needs protection," Dubé said. "Every time you tell the truth to an inspector, the owner of the building will fire you if you tell too much. We are in a free country and they are not supposed to make you stop talking. That's why they fired me."



**Fired janitor Stéphane Dubé pickets on Ste. Catherine Street near Kensington.**

**Major renovations planned for 4300 de Maisonneuve**

**T**enants of 4300 de Maisonneuve were told their building will be undergoing a major facelift over the next 18 months, as plans for an extensive renovation project at one of Westmount's largest apartment

buildings were announced on Tuesday.

The news came from Danielle Paré, district manager of Realstar, the property manager for The 4300.

"Over the past two years we have been working closely with the Régie du bâtiment and the former City of Westmount to come up with a game plan to address life safety support systems," said Paré. "This is the first major renovation to the apartment complex in more than 40 years and will ensure that The 4300 remains one of Montreal's most prestigious addresses."

The major elements of the renovation program include a new two-storey central lobby that will anchor the property at mid-block and serve to unite the

two wings of the building. This new lobby will offer a canopy entrance, barrier-free access, a main concierge's desk, mail room and a foyer/library offering a vista onto the property's backyard garden terrace.

A new central fire alarm system, with a control panel located in the central lobby, will also be installed, as well as a central sprinkler system.

"The renovations, which will begin next month and are expected to be completed in the summer of 2003, will significantly improve the quality of life of 4300 residents," said Paré. "On each floor we will be redoing the common areas and elevator lobbies and

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# Sun shines down on local St. Patrick's Day revelers

Martin C. Barry

It would have been difficult to imagine a finer day for a St. Patrick's Parade in Montreal.

Last Sunday morning as pipers, bands, floats and marchers waited on René Lévesque Blvd. to start rounding the corner eastward down Ste. Catherine Street, the sun shone warmly on a group of Westmounters on a flatbed truck. It was the fourth year Westmount was entered in the St. Patrick's Parade—although the first year as a borough and not a city.

A logical question to ask somebody on St. Patrick's Day, one might suppose, is whether they're Irish. "My mother was born there," said Eileen St. Louis, wife of Borough Director Bruce St. Louis. "So I'm part Irish, I suppose." She agreed that the weather had rarely been more enjoyable for a March 17, while recalling a St. Patrick's Day about five years ago when the temperature went as high as 12 degrees and the sun was intense enough to cause sunburn.

"We've been on the float for a good number of years now and we have a ball," said Mrs. St. Louis. "It's always been a great time and a great day. The kids love it. There's lots of food, there's lots to drink. When we get into the thick of it we always have a great time—especially around McGill College Avenue."

Borough councillor John de Castell, a Celt by his Scottish ancestry, was dressed all in green for the occasion. "A good pagan celebration—that's what we need to have here," he said, suggesting that St. Patrick's feast may have had some non-Christian origins.

"We are incredibly fortunate to have such an amazingly beautiful day," said city councillor Karin Marks.



Borough councillor John de Castell aboard the Westmount float

"It's really nice to see so many Westmounters on the float. It's really important, especially this year, that we maintain our traditions and we carry them on and keep the sense of community that we've always had."

Columbia Avenue resident Jane White, eight months pregnant, was waiting for the flatbed truck to start moving. She agreed that her unborn child would probably enjoy the momentum. She said she had been to several other St. Patrick's Parades, mostly in Toronto, but agreed that Montreal's was larger and livelier.

# Stricter bylaw governs filming in Westmount

Martin C. Barry

The borough has adopted a bylaw that the former City passed last year to establish strict rules for filming movies in Westmount.

The Filming Permit Policy is based on Bylaw 1313 enacted Dec. 10 to regulate issuance, application and fees of permits, as well as traffic and parking control during film projects.

Council said at the time that it was implementing the policy in order to minimize inconveniences to residents, as well as to allow permit applicants to identify easily the important issues of the bylaw, while the administration outlined the residential nature of the Borough of Westmount.

Two categories of filming projects are recognized. The first, where there is no impact on traffic or parking and no disturbance to residents, but requiring a \$50 permit and a \$50 deposit nonetheless, involves professional still photo shoots with fewer than 20 personnel, as well as commercial filming with small crews of less than 10 persons.

The second category, requiring a \$500 permit and a \$15,000 deposit, involves all film and video productions where there may be traffic and or parking problems. Permits or fees are not required for projects undertaken by schools, nor for wedding photo sessions, non-profit projects and news interviews.

For Category II film projects, residents must be surveyed by a coordinator hired by the borough and accompanied by a representative from the filming company. A

second coordinator—whose \$40 per hour salary is supposed to be charged to the filming company and deducted from the initial deposit—must be on location to ensure respect of all conditions attached to the filming permit.

Other requirements stipulate that any municipal buildings used for film shoots will cost a minimum of \$3,000 per day. Westmount's parks and green spaces cost \$1,000 per day plus 10 cents per square foot. Parking spaces on the street go for \$18 a day, while entire streets can be rented for \$1,000 plus 10 cents a square foot per day. Category II projects require a minimum \$1,000,000 in civil liability insurance.

Since the policy came into effect, filming for at least one major feature film has taken place in Westmount. Scenes from Beyond Borders, starring Agelina Jolie and Clive Owen, were shot from morning until late evening in January on Windsor Avenue. Part of the street had to be closed for the day and Public Security and police were on the scene to direct traffic and manage curious onlookers.

According to documentation tabled at the borough council's March meeting, Westmount refunded all but \$500 of the \$15,000 deposit the filmmakers, Galafilm Production 2000, had left. Director General Bruce St. Louis said that on some film shoots in Westmount, the costs incurred by the borough aren't as steep as others.

"Some go very smoothly," he said. "With others, they make requests (for example) that we have to take down signs or we have to provide additional security."

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# Trent will bide his time before making any decisions

**Sidhartha Banerjee**

**R**ecently returned from a six-week sojourn in the south of England, former Westmount Mayor Peter Trent isn't about to make any rash decisions about his future.

Sounding refreshed and relaxed, Trent told The Examiner that he hasn't made any decisions about his immediate future, but that he's enjoying the time off and taking advantage of a little time for himself.

"I didn't go over there (England) to make up my mind about anything," Trent said from his home on Monday. "The idea was to come back and work things through and I haven't really decided what course of action to take. But I will still be committed to undoing the merger and certainly that's top-most in mind right now."

Trent remains mum on his political future and has been the subject of rumours for the past few months. According to a story in La Presse a few weeks ago, a rumoured meeting between backroom strategists for the provincial Liberals and the Montreal Island Citizen's Union at the Molson Centre came to the conclusion that for the betterment of this new megacity, Trent and other vocal anti-merger activists like former Montreal Urban Community chairman Vera Danyluk would not be welcomed to run for the Liberals and the promise to de-merge wouldn't be followed up.

Trent said both Liberal leader Jean Charest and Westmount MNA Jacques Chagnon were quick to deny the rumours and distance themselves from the remarks. Trent is still pinning his hopes on the Liberal promise to undo mergers if they are elected, and despite the rumours they are backing away from their promises he has been given assurances the promise still stands.

"You must understand when (Jean) Charest made the promise people said

he wouldn't hold it too, so there's nothing new about the skepticism on the part of the population—that began the moment he made it," Trent said.

As for Trent's political future, he said, anything remains possible.

"I haven't closed that door, however I'm not a party crasher," said Trent. "So I'm not going to crash the Liberal party, provincially or federally. "If they don't want me that's fine—I'm not going to force myself on people."

Trent remains unimpressed with the way the new megacity has been run thus far. "In my view this megacity can't work and short of getting some miracle worker from some other planet, I don't think anybody can make this work," Trent said, adding that the first mistake was to import the parliamentary style system in Quebec City to Montreal, aided further by Tremblay's experience in provincial politics and lack of municipal experience. Tremblay's addition of 73 staff members will also aid in making City Hall an inaccessible place for the average citizen, Trent said.

"All Tremblay knows is the party apparatus and the bureaucracy you find in Quebec City, but in my opinion it doesn't work at the municipal level," Trent said. "It's not just a question of the people in place, it's the structure, the nature of the beast that makes these cities ungovernable."

And those who will suffer the most are the average citizens who Trent would meet at the local grocery store while he would be shopping or walking down some street in Westmount—people who could call him at home if they needed something done. The distance between elected officials and the general public will increase as the mayor and elected official rely on the 73 aides more than those who got them elected in the first place.

"To penetrate that fortress you have to hire paid lobbyists to influence the direction of the megacity and the aver-

age citizen will never be able to (influence change)," Trent said.

Trent's concern is the fatal flaws in the megacity won't be obvious to the average citizen who will view them more as "teething pains" rather than real problems with the structure.

"I won't have to be as strident as I was last year, because what I was saying last year will become more and more evident," Trent said.

As for the state of the anti-merger movement right now, Trent agrees that it is quiet and may have lost some steam because the megacity has arrived and there has been little noticeable change.

"I think there is a certain degree of fatigue, but that doesn't mean to say people have accepted the merger," he said. "I never predicted the sky would fall in a year; I predicted the sky would fall over a period of time," Trent said, adding if the new mega Montreal got

worse, "it wouldn't take much for the anti-merger forces to be built up again."

Trent noted that another reason for the lack of enthusiasm within the anti-merger movement is that many of the former mayors who were brandishing their swords last year are now quiet—many of them now hold key positions within the megacity. And despite some people who wanted Trent to run for a position, watching many of the former mayors in action now he's happy he didn't run for a position.

"I didn't want anything to do with the new city at all, and for those who think that I could have gotten on the executive and made a difference, I don't believe that," Trent said. "The executive is there at the beck and call of the mayor and he can hire or fire them at will ... and I never could see myself in that position."

(continued on page 19)

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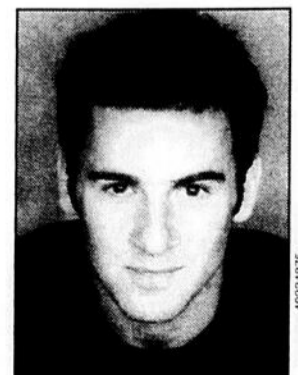
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# Westmount's architecture reflects a grand tradition

Mark London

This article is the first in a series about renovating and building in Westmount. First planned for last year, we waited until now to publish it in order to ensure that Westmount's zoning and design review process remained intact in the face of mergers, which it has. These issues remain a borough responsibility.

**E**ver wonder why Westmount looks so good? Well of course it is largely due to the fact that a century ago, when much of Westmount was built, people took the care to build fine quality homes and other buildings.

But in other nearby communities, similar buildings have been modified beyond recognition or demolished outright. And the construction of a few ugly or out-of-scale new buildings on a once-harmonious street has undermined the looks, and the property values, of the whole area. Walk around the blocks just east of Westmount for an illustration.

Westmount looks good in large part because citizens said they wanted to keep it that way. And Westmount responded with appropriate zoning regulations and a process of design review to make sure that building and renovation is of the highest standards and maintains the original character.

Zoning regulations dictate the uses, heights and setbacks of buildings. But you can't spell out good design in quantitative regulations. So, along with many similar communities throughout North America from Outremont to Charleston, South Carolina, Westmount uses a system of Architectural Design Review. Playing by the same design rules works for the mutual protection of everyone in a community.

In fact, Westmount was a Canadian pioneer when it comes to Architectural Design Review. Since 1906, applications for a building permit affecting the exterior of a building have been submitted for the approval of an Architectural and Planning Commission (called the Westmount Planning Advisory Committee or WPAC since the beginning of this year). Until recently, we had been doing this thanks to a special provision in our charter. In the 1990s, the Quebec government set up special legislation to permit architectural design review throughout Quebec and more and more communities are set-



ting up similar procedures. In fact, several have come to Westmount for advice since our system is seen as a model.

Our Planning Advisory Committee is made up of three independent Westmount architects or planners, currently Julia Gersovitz, Bruce Anderson and Phillip Bobrow (who is on temporary leave). Karin Marks, president of the Borough of Westmount and Joanne Poirier, head of Westmount's Urban Planning and Service to Business Department are also members. The person responsible for permits and construction, presently Stephen Elder, also attends meetings.

The PAC works hard to balance owners' desires to accommodate their building programme and satisfy their personal tastes on one hand, and maintain the character of existing buildings and streetscapes on the other.

I suspect that people tend to feel that the WPAC is too strict if they are applying for a permit, and that it is too permissive if their neighbour was allowed to do something that they don't like.

As will be described in future articles, building

and renovation proposals in Westmount receive careful scrutiny to ensure that they are up to Westmount's high standards. Nevertheless, Westmount prides itself on speedy and efficient service. In other jurisdictions with a similar process, it takes a legally-proscribed minimum of two to three months to go through all the procedures, even if the proposal is absolutely perfect. In Westmount, if your proposal is consistent with the bylaws and guidelines and is immediately approved, you can get your permit in only two to three weeks.

This new series of articles in the Westmount Examiner is designed to help citizens understand Westmount's system of Architectural Design Review, and why it is important to maintain not only the special character of our community but also Westmount's high property values. The articles aim to help Westmounters to navigate their way through the permit process, and to help them plan their renovations or new construction so that it enhances the character and value of their building and neighbourhood.

It will start with three articles explaining how Westmount deals with building permits (getting a permit, using the design guidelines and how Westmount deals with your application). Then, it will alternate between two types of topic:

- specific topics like replacing windows or installing satellite dishes; and
- discussions of the particular features of Westmount architecture.

For more information, visit Westmount's web site at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org) or come to the Westmount Borough Hall.

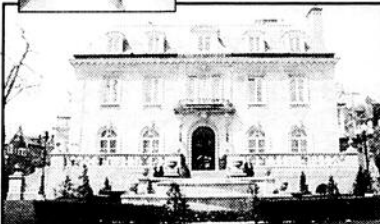

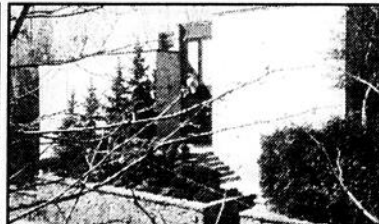
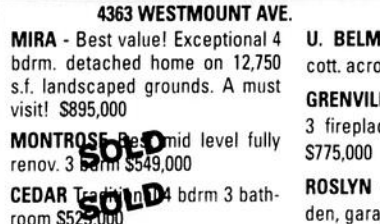
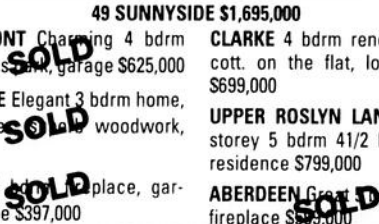






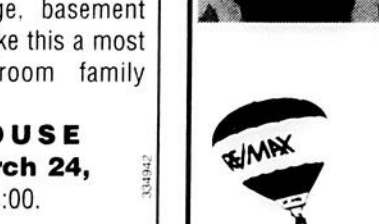
Mark London is a former chairman of the Architectural and Planning Commission.

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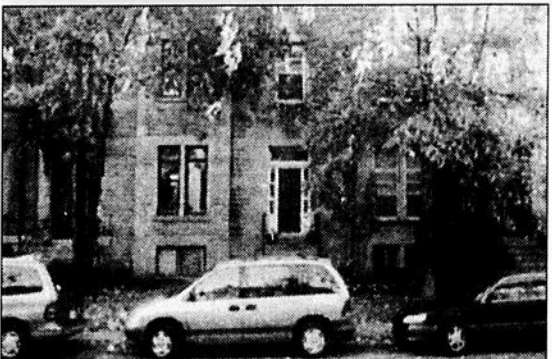
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**OPEN HOUSE**  
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# Liberals will be watching PQ closely

**T**he National Assembly began sitting last week with the MNA for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve as the new Speaker.

Yes, this is the same person who forced the mergers of Quebec municipalities, who suspended the rules of the National Assembly to force her bills through, and who allowed her legislation to be adopted with hundreds of amendments that had never been studied, let alone read, by members of the National Assembly.

**MNA**

Jacques Chagnon



This is someone who was a member of cabinet and who, overnight, becomes the protector of the rights of parliamentarians, of the institution and of neutrality. We shall see. All I can say at this point is that I remain very skeptical.

The beginning of the parliamentary session dealt with all kinds of questions related to lobbying by friends of the PQ regime in return for subsidies that the ministers gave them from public funds. As you can guess, the government refuses to hold a public enquiry. This issue will taint the government for a long time. When questions of integrity begin to eat away at a government, its credibility is slowly corrupted and it eventually implodes and disappears. This is the sorry show that we are observing right now.

In the health file, we have David Levine, a minister who refuses to run in the by-elections that are currently underway. In fact, there will be three by-elections and there are three other ridings that are unoccupied following the resignations of Jacques Brassard, David Cliche and Guy Chevrette. As far as I know, never has a cabinet member who did not sit in the National Assembly not taken advantage of a by-election to get himself elected as soon as possible.

Just put it down to PQ ethics. They show unyielding severity for any opponents, and yet they have the most lenient "laissez-faire" attitude for themselves. Both the PQ as a party and as a government are like wounded animals right now, baying, searching for a refuge or a safe harbour. They aren't too lucky - they're going to have us across the aisle from them every day between now and the end of June.

Right now, I think that any general election that may have been initially planned for the spring will now be held in the fall. Trailing by 10 to 12 points in opinion polls, Bernard Landry just doesn't know what to do.

He is being badly advised. One day he suggests amending the Loi sur les consultations populaires, in order to allow him to simultaneously hold a referendum and an election. This isn't a bad idea in and of itself, but not just before a general election. No one is being fooled as to the government's real intentions. They want to avoid at all costs that the government's record becomes the election's main focus. A referendum on transferring income tax points would be the perfect decoy to focus public opinion on another subject and neglect the main issue—the government's record.

A few days later, the new minister, Jean-Pierre Charbonneau, the so-called "reformer" of democratic institutions, announced that the Premier should be elected by universal suffrage and should become a President. Landry approved of this idea. Three days later, not wanting to be outdone, Bernard Landry announced peremptorily that we need to change our currency and that it is most urgent that we adopt the U.S. dollar.

Three political "balloons" went up within three days. Jean Charest found this quite funny as he tried to pick up all the pieces of this political jigsaw puzzle. He jokingly suggested that Bernard Landry was probably dreaming of becoming the President of the United States. Watch out George Bush!

I'm sure that the best is yet to come!

Jacques Chagnon is the Liberal MNA for Westmount-St. Louis.



## A FEW LINES ABOUT LINES

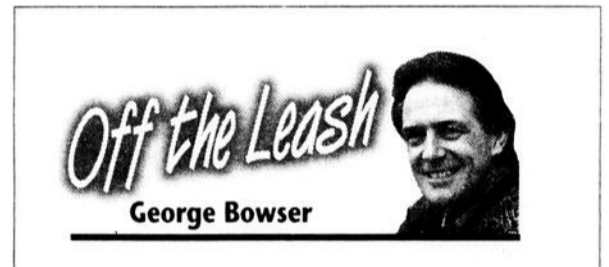
**A**s a person of British origin, I am very sensitive to the etiquette of the line-up, or the 'queue' as they call it in England. The British can correctly identify the start point of a line, even when there is only one person present. You have to, or you don't get served.

Lines are often treated as commercial opportunities, because people in a line are easy prey for hawkers, sideshows, and concessions. This was clearly the plan at the Salon de la Maison, the home show at the Olympic Stadium, which was essentially one very long, slow-moving line to the exit.

As soon as we went through the turnstile we joined thousands of others, all being herded docilely past the displays as we searched in vain for signs of the wide open spaces of an actual exhibition. By the time we realized that the line-up was the show, it was too late. We were trapped in line, with only one way out. At the home show, they don't want you to go home.

The line-up for the washrooms at the Molson Centre is similar. The facility is designed for beer input, not output, and you have to struggle past an awful lot of beverage and food concessions before you get to where the used beer goes. It takes more than the allotted ten minutes to shuffle through the crowds to and from the porcelain, and it's worse if you've had to wait your turn behind a middle-aged guy with a slow stream or if, like me, you are one. You would think that a building built by a brewery would be kinder to a man with a full bladder.

The line for players at a shinny hockey game is better organized. You get on the bench at one end, and get off at the other to play. If you can't figure out which end is which, an occupant will



happily advise you. And nobody tries to sell you a pretzel.

Line etiquette in Montreal stores is spotty. If you are waiting at a busy checkout and another cash opens up, chances are that the spot will be grabbed by the last person to join the line. In England such an offender would be loudly rebuked by the other customers, but in Montreal we say nothing.

It's just as bad on the roads. If you have to slow down unexpectedly because the driver in front of you wants to park, or double-park, you would expect to be able to drive around the stopped vehicle. Not a chance! As the first person in line, you will first have to wait until all the cars behind you have gone by.

While lining up with the other cars at an exit ramp, don't bother leaving the proper distance between your car and the next - this is an invitation for some ill-mannered lout to jump in at the last moment and cut you off.

At times like that, you long to be able to give the rude driver a piece of your mind, but be warned - there's a long line for that, too.

George Bowser is one half of the musical comedy duo Bowser & Blue.

**The Westmount Examiner**  
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*The Westmount*  
**Examiner**

**AN IN-DEPTH LOOK  
AT SOME OF THE REGION'S  
FINEST BUSINESSES AND SERVICES**

# Les Entreprises IB: We build your dream

Is it your dream to add a new balcony, sunroom, porch or veranda to your Westmount home you love so much? Does that veranda just need some tender loving care?

No matter how simple or extensive that job may be, Ian Butzphal and his professional staff can do it.

Since 1995, IB Enterprises has been putting a smile on the faces of Westmount homeowners, armed with the experience necessary to make the job last for years to come.

Ian began in the construction industry at age 17 as a mason. "In eight years as a mason I laid millions of bricks," Ian remembers.

When Ian was up for a new challenge, he progressed to perfecting dry wall techniques. At this point, he decided to make the most use of his growing repertoire of skills and enter the construction and renovation business.

Only excellent reviews have followed him. Ian and his professional staff have successfully completed several important renovations according to client specifications in Westmount. An entire sunroom was designed, constructed, and thoughtfully finished on the interior. "I really enjoyed redoing the support beams and seeing the structure restored to the way it was always meant to be," Ian beamed.

The basement of the house was another sore point. Years of neglect had taken its toll: crumbling concrete and unfinished floors were all there was to be seen. On top of everything, there was no descending staircase to the basement. "We finished the whole basement to the last detail and put in a nice new, quality staircase, which was a great convenience. It was a great job, our client loved it, and it was very rewarding," he commented with an ear-to-ear grin.

But that was not the end of the project: the house still needed a new roof to eliminate the cause of those pesky leaks that kept discolouring the ceiling. "A roof job is always a good idea once a leak is spotted," Ian explained. "If a roof is not properly looked after and maintained, it can lead to some more serious problems in the near future."

Once all the projects on the house were finished, the owner was thrilled.

"He was ecstatic," Ian said. Not only that, but he decided to recommend IB Enterprises to every homeowner he knew, in and around Westmount.

A semi-detached home in Westmount was another beneficiary of Ian's skill and construction know-how, proving once again that no job is out of reach.

"We completely redesigned the exterior of the home, topping it off with a stucco curve over the entrance," Ian said.

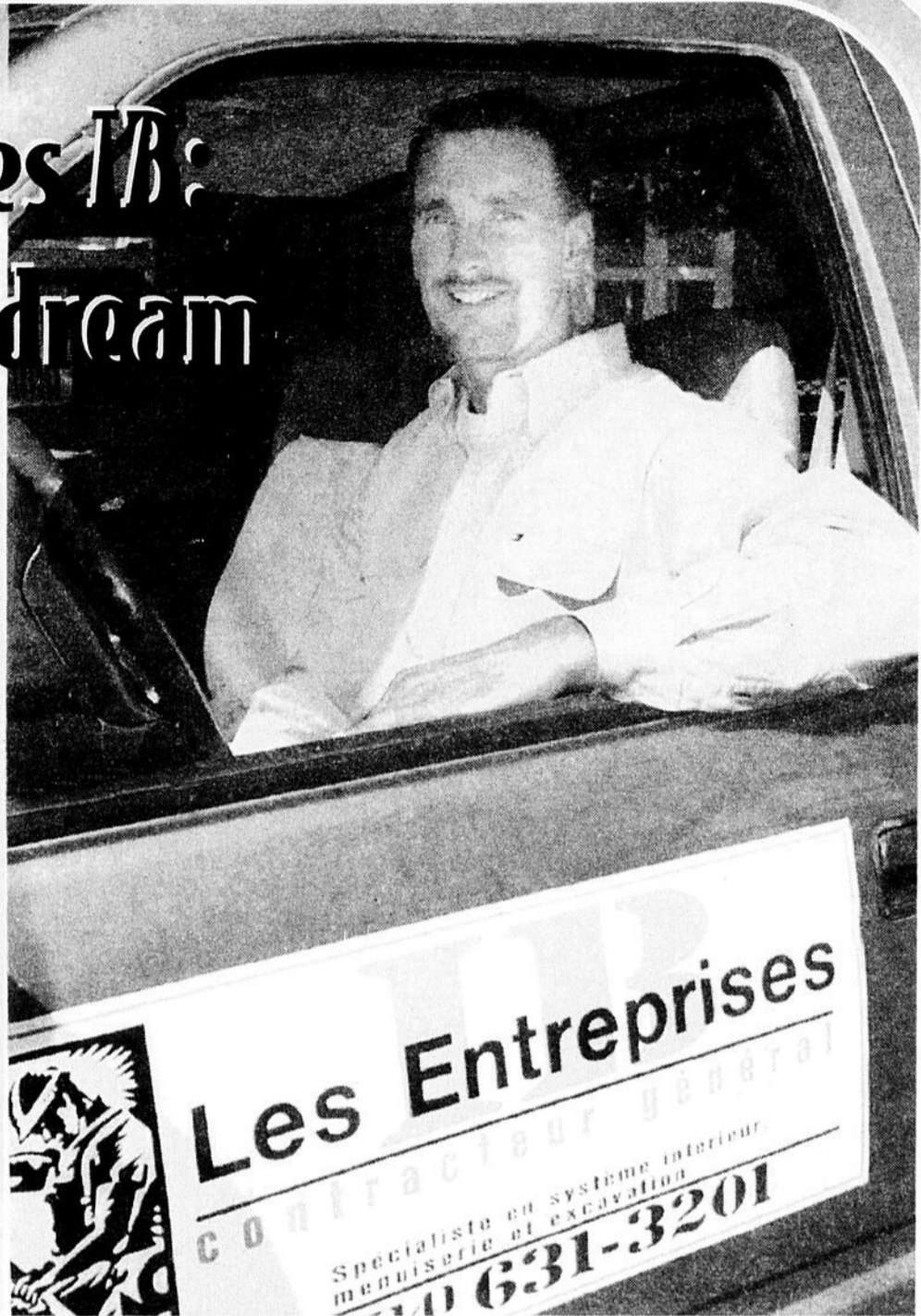
In addition to the exterior facelift, Ian and his team also installed a new balcony railing, revamped the sunroom facing the backyard including re-insulating it for all-season use, and changing all the windows to ones of superior quality aluminum.

What about adding a second floor to your cozy bungalow? Ian's the one to do it. "Extensions are great for a house you love," he said. "With a well-built extension you don't have to sell your house and buy another you can keep what you love and just make it better."

No contractor knows better than Ian that a home in Westmount isn't just a house, it's a comfort, a convenience, and a way of life. Does your home live up to your high expectations? Make sure of it by consulting with IB Enterprises, the renovation specialists.

Fully licensed with the Quebec Construction board, Ian Butzphal does both commercial and residential work when he's not rock climbing or skydiving on weekends, two of his passions for extreme sports.

Westmount has already warmly welcomed Ian and his professional staff, so why not let your home get the care it deserves? Just keep a lookout for IB Enterprises green half-ton truck and be sure to flag him down!



**Les Entreprises IB**  
**General Contractor**  
**RBQ 8248-5822-36**  
**2175 Campbell Avenue, Suite 18**  
**Dorval, QC**  
**H9P 1L2**  
**Tel: (514) 631-3201**  
**Fax: (514) 631-6771**

# Martin Rouleau

## A Player in Westmount Real Estate

“It’s my passion” that’s how Martin Rouleau describes his profession. At 31, he is quickly becoming a player in Westmount Real Estate. Rouleau speaks enthusiastically about his relationships with both buyers and vendors. “I’ve been there - I bought my first home after searching virtually every Westmount street”. Today his name can be found on “FOR SALE” signs on those same streets.

“I knew what I wanted, and I wasn’t willing to compromise,” says Martin about his Cote St Antoine Turn-of-the-century Victorian. These days he conducts the search with the same intensity for others. What’s his secret?

“I match homes to people. When I tour a new listing, I imagine which of my clients fit the property. Most of the time it works. For vendors I apply that same strategy in reverse.”

Rouleau has business experience beyond his years. He applied his Bachelor of Commerce from Concordia University right out of school. “I went to work in the family business, my parents were my bosses – they had high expectations.” M. and Mme. Rouleau had established a successful business in the electrical domain. Four years ago they sold to an American electrical giant and were looking for a property in the Eastern Townships. Martin took on the challenge and hasn’t looked back. “I made the match first time out, and friends in the field said I was a natural.” With the company sold, Martin had a choice to make. Stay on, or apply his knowledge from the business world to his “passion”.



Among his clients is television personality Leslie Roberts. The former CFCF and Global news anchor recently moved to Toronto. Martin sold the same home he had sought out for Roberts a few years earlier. “I told Martin what I wanted and he found it. When it came time to sell, he found me a buyer the same day”, said Roberts.

Westmounter Valerie Laidley-Price is among Martin’s biggest fans. “When I sell a property I will absolutely call Martin.”

Laidley-Price says she would recommend Martin to all her clients, adding “He’s found his niche, I can understand why he is so successful. When you love what you do it’s not work, that best describes Martin.”

Top interior designers Scott Yetman and Daniel Brisset have both bought and sold their homes from Martin, and several high profile Montreal business executives are among his current client list seeking homes. Rouleau admits to being a workaholic. “Who says there are only 40 hours in a work week,” says Martin parked outside the prestigious “Acadia” waiting to show a condo, palm pilot in hand. “I apply my parent’s old fashioned work ethic. Keep the customer happy. The fact I do it in a job I love is that much better.”

On the current Westmount real estate market, Rouleau says we still haven’t peaked. “It’s the perfect market. Vendors are getting top dollar and buyers can take advantage of great interest rates. And with the North American economy continuing to improve, I don’t see any sign of a future slow down.”

# Martin Rouleau

Affiliated real estate agent, B.Comm.

Groupe Sutton Centre Ouest

## 933-5800

## MISS EDGAR'S AND MISS CRAMP'S SCHOOL



### What has made your school so attractive to so many parents over the last 92 years?

Founded in 1909 and located in Westmount, ECS is an independent English-language day school for girls. The college preparatory program is designed to encourage critical thinking skills and independent thought, and provides a strong foundation in language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, drama, music, and art. Information technology is integrated into all aspects of the curriculum. Advanced math and science courses are offered at the Grade 11 level, and Leadership and Character Education is a compulsory course for all girls in Grades 9, 10, and 11. The study of French begins in our Junior School immersion program; Français langue maternelle courses are offered from Grades 6 to 11. Girls participate in numerous co-curricular activities, including a comprehensive athletics program, vocal and instrumental music, drama, as well as community service and a wide variety of clubs. And now with bursaries—up to 75% of tuition—and scholarships offered from Grades 6 to 11, and busing available from the West Island, our school is more attractive than ever to families!

### How can people find out more about ECS?

They might want to begin by exploring our website at [www.ecs.qc.ca](http://www.ecs.qc.ca) and then phone the school to arrange for a personal tour. When they visit, they'll discover first-hand that ECS is a home away from home for students and staff, and that it's a place where students discover how to take responsibility for their own learning.



MISS EDGAR'S AND MISS CRAMP'S SCHOOL

525 MOUNT PLEASANT AVENUE  
WESTMOUNT, QUEBEC, H3Y 3H6

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[www.ecs.qc.ca](http://www.ecs.qc.ca)

## GRETTA HASHEMI



*Gretta holding her favorite lavender.*

### New at the Aromaflex Institute Hot Stone Massage Therapy

**G**retta Hashemi's primary goal is to assist people to find new approaches to combat stress in their everyday lives. Renowned for her excellent work with the essential oil of lavender, Gretta uses a combination of reflexology and ayurvedic / aromatherapy massage therapy to treat her clients. In keeping with her holistic belief and values, she now offers at the Aromaflex Institute a NEW stress-reduction treatment, which she has labeled "the aromaflex hot stone massage therapy".

Hot stone therapy has been part of the eastern healing discipline for thousands of years. It is believed that these basalt and sedimentary stones are filled with vitality and energy, relaxing the body at its deepest level, removing blockages, reducing stress and inducing a feeling of well-being, harmony and balance.

At the Aromaflex Institute, Gretta uses smooth, flat, fragrantly oiled water heated stones and combines it with traditional massage techniques and reflexology to melt muscle pains and tension. Therefore, she uses both the stones and her hands to apply gentle but deep massage strokes to sore muscles. Gretta also places the stones on strategic points on the body - even tiny ones between the toes.

"It's very relaxing", says Gretta, who also adds that her Aromaflex hot stone massage therapy is customized for each individual client's needs. Sessions range from 60 to 90 minutes. Gretta has spent 20 years working, researching, teaching, writing and appearing at the lecture circuit throughout Canada, as well as radio and television talk shows. For all these accomplishments she is thankful to her mother, Pari Hashemi, whose care and love gave her the strength to find her lifelong dream and name it the Aromaflex Institute, located at 4935 Queen Mary Road, suite 101, Montreal, Que. H3W 1X4.

For more information on Aromaflex Hot Stone  
Massage Therapy, contact Gretta at:

**TEL: (514) 735-2311**

**FAX: (514) 341-1755**

*Gretta's essential oil of lavender available in Westmount at:*

*Mounir Boutros Pharmacy*

*5008 Sherbrooke St. West*

*Westmount, Que. H3Z 1H4*

*Tel: (514) 486-7373*

*Celebrate! Celebrate!*

**The holidays are here... One after the other.**

**Happy Passover & Easter to all!**

*Gretta Hashemi, Tahirih Inc.*

## THE PLACE KENSINGTON COMMUNITY



**S**eniors looking for a community to move into where they will meet like-minded people and have a variety of interesting activities—and still have opportunities to give back to the community—are finding all of that and more at Place Kensington.

“Creating a sense of community is very important to both residents and staff,” says Executive Director Sylvie Zagury. “Together they have succeeded in making Place Kensington one large family.”

One of the ways the staff and residents have co-created that community life is by developing a very complete social life where residents can interact and be entertained. Some of those activities are initiatives of program coordinators Doreen Friedman and Enza Fabile. Classical and other music concerts are offered at least once a month, and twice weekly more intimate musical events including singalongs feature music the residents enjoy most. Recently a billiards club was formed. An active Bridge club is very popular with both men and women. Interesting speakers present lectures on a variety of subjects, including politics, travel, health and current events.

Many of the activities are resident-driven. Some of the innovative programs include a watercolour class and a knitting club, each of which have given back to the community with benefit events. While creating arts and crafts in a variety of mediums, residents not only have the opportunity to socialize, but also to stimulate memory and other mental tasks.

To help encourage physical fitness, exercise classes at various levels are offered three times a week. Aquafit classes are available at the onsite swimming pool.

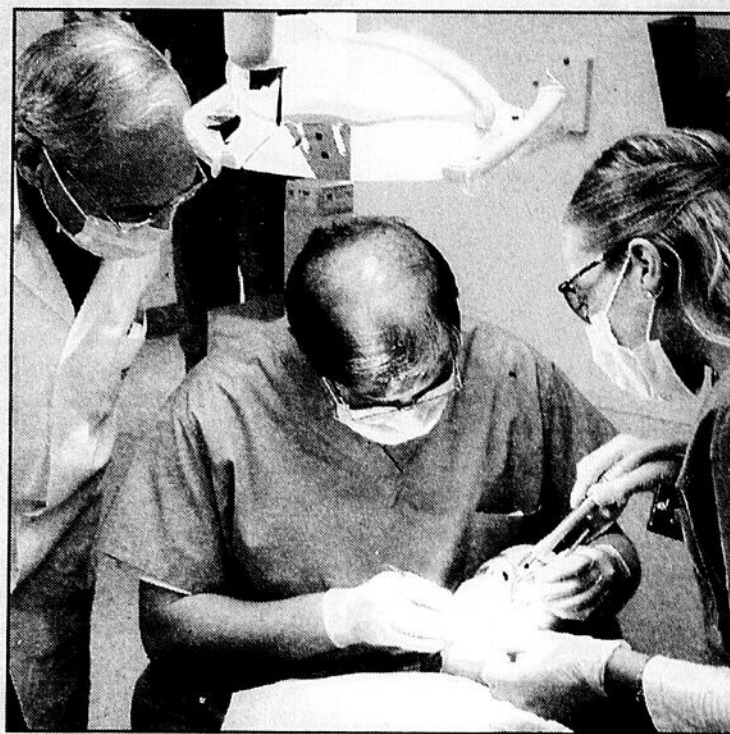
One of the most inspiring aspects about Place Kensington is the ‘assisted living’ opportunity. “Residents don’t feel threatened they will have to leave their home if their health starts to deteriorate,” says Zagury. “Couples who have been together for their whole adult lives aren’t separated. Staff works with residents to stay in touch with other family members and often know the names of grandchildren. In Place Kensington our mandate is to achieve a healthy and happy life.”

### Place Kensington

4430 St. Catherine West,  
Montreal, Qc.

(514) 935-1212

## THE QUEEN ELIZABETH ORAL HEALTH CENTRE



**W**hen doctors Antonio Mirarchi, Norman Miller and Charles Rawas opened the Queen Elizabeth Oral Health Centre three years ago, their objective was clear.

As a private practice affiliated with the McGill University Faculty of Dentistry—one of the finest on the continent—they wanted to create a badly-needed dental residency program and at the same time provide quality dental care to those who often can least afford it—the large senior population in Montreal’s west end and those on social assistance.

The result is the first accredited dental residency program in Canada in a community-based center. It is a win-win situation for the school and the community. The full service residency program provides excellent dental care by highly-trained dental residents for 75 per cent of the suggested fee guide (QDSA) and gives the residents the opportunity to work in a neighbourhood setting.

The Oral Health Centre Residency Program offers all the expected services that a private practice dentist offers including cleaning, preventative care and dental work. Since the McGill Faculty of Dentistry has done a lot of research in geriatric dentistry and its specific health challenges, seniors in the community will benefit from the residents’ specific knowledge.

Six times a year the Centre works in conjunction with Chez mes Amis, a local organization dedicated to caring for those with financial challenges, to provide free dental clinics to residents on fixed incomes.

Some of the future plans for the Oral Health Center include an on-the-road dental clinic that will provide on-site dental care at neighbourhood senior homes and private homes for seniors who are unable to get to the Center.

The Oral Health Center is wheelchair accessible and offers 24-hour emergency service.

### The Queen Elizabeth Oral Health Center

2110 Marlowe Avenue, Suite 244  
Montreal, Qc.

(514) 369-1999

# Tidan Group's La Closerie

## is an Urban Eden downtown

**T**idan Group, one of Montreal's premier property owners and managers for more than 30 years, is building the first large-scale luxury condominium project the city has seen in more than a decade.

La Closerie, centrally located at 1700 René Lévesque Boulevard near Guy St. and the historic Shaughnessy Village, is a 16-storey tower within walking distance of restaurants, museums, night spots, shopping and offices, offering one of the most complete amenities package in downtown Montréal.

Mike Yuval and Jack Sofer, Tidan's principal owners, saw a need for a project like La Closerie, with condo buyers searching for a home close to all the action, but just on the fringe of the city core.

"Tidan is known for their quality management and first class buildings - whether it be an office building or residential complex, which are both their specialties, in the core of the city," said Bill Reim, president of SLF Realty Corp., the project's developer. Although the La Closerie condo prices have been kept affordable, the units are very upscale.

La Closerie has been developed with a vision for a new way of living at the centre of Canada's most cosmopolitan city. The result is what could be called an Urban Eden - an innovative concept that brings the changing seasons to your downtown doorstep. Nearby and within the complex are parks and gardens that give La Closerie its unique character.

La Closerie is within three minutes walking distance of Ste. Catherine St., yet far enough to escape the noise. La Closerie's neighbours include the gardens of the Grey Nuns convent, the Canadian Centre for Architecture, the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts, and the new E-Commerce Centre. Le Nouvel Hotel, also developed by Tidan, is conveniently located next door.

No premium condominium tower in downtown Montréal offers more for less. A covered circular driveway off René Lévesque leads to La Closerie. There's a landscaped, gated garden at the back, as well as a private rooftop terrace and gardens overlooking the city. A uni-



formed doorman is there to greet you and to make concierge service available.

Each residence, conceived with meticulous attention to detail and an appreciation for fine workmanship and materials, includes master bedroom with wall-to-wall carpeting throughout, luxury bathroom, walk-in closet, second full bathroom, wood floors in most other rooms, granite counter tops and acoustically-engineered construction and installations for quality soundproofing.

La Closerie has unparalleled views of Montréal's urban and natural sides: the downtown skyline, the St. Lawrence River - and, of course, Mount Royal. Westmounters may find La Closerie's apartments especially suited to their needs.

Comfort and size have been designed for persons coming out of larger homes. Amenities like large kitchens and bathrooms, usually available in only high-end Westmount homes, have been made standard in all La Closerie units.

"When they come in here, they're not stepping down," says Bruce Vineberg, president of Vicon Construction which is managing the construction. "They're getting a much better lifestyle when they're moving in here."

Esti Jedeikin and Karen Karpman of ReMax Westmount Inc. are acting as exclusive brokers for the project.

"Because there has been no building downtown of anything luxurious or large in years, and because we are a new building, you can have your choice of apartment size, elevation and views," said Jedeikin, pointing out the advantage of purchasing a condo in a brand new building.

"In other buildings you're limited to one or two condos that are for sale in any given building at any given time," she said. "Here you can really pick and choose and you don't have to renovate."

Attractive pre-construction pricing for apartments from 800 to 3,500 square feet ranges from the low \$200,000's to \$1,800,000 and includes parking and sales taxes.



**1700 René Levesque Blvd. West**  
**Corner St. Mathieu**  
**For more information**  
**931-9069**

# MEDISPA JOUVENCE: THE SCIENCE OF CREATING BEAUTIFUL SKIN



*Lori Docker performing laser hair removal*

**Y**ou can tell in an instant that Lorie Docker loves her work. After shifting career gears six years ago, the 40-year-old dynamo behind Medispa Jouvence has finally reached the pinnacle of her professional life, and it shows.

"This is a second career for me," said Lorie, who is a medical esthetician and director of medical aesthetics at Medispa Jouvence. In her first career journey, armed with a B.A. in English, Lorie tried her hand as a technical writer for the Bank of Canada, wrote speeches and public relations in the deputy Prime Minister's office under Sheila Copps, and was a teacher of English as a second language in Seoul, Korea. But a deep yearning to work with people led Lorie into the field of esthetics and skin care.

"As much as I loved my writing job, I always felt that I wanted to own my own business. When I came back six years ago, I did a lot of research and it always came back to the spa industry." That's when she went back to school and discovered her love of esthetics and the science of correcting damaged skin. Her forte was in skin histology, which led her down the road to the medical side of being an esthetician.

"A medical esthetician works with a dermatologist or a plastic surgeon and that means all the treatments and products and services are of medical grade," she said.

What that translates into for customers is professional care provided by plastic surgeon Dr. Arie Benchetrit, who supplies services such as plastic surgery, collagen injections, and Botox, and non-invasive skin treatments with creams, lotions and mechanical exfoliations provided by Lorie.

According to Lorie, there are a number of common skin conditions, such as sun damage, active acne or acne scarring, or the fine lines of aging that can be safely and effectively corrected through a choice of treatments at Medispa Jouvence.

Microdermabrasion is a technique used to treat thick, sun-damaged skin and fine lines on the face. As well, the tech-



*Left to right: Lori Docker, Director, Medical Aesthetics; Marie Foccone, Supervisor, Laser hair removal*

nique can be used to lighten and bleach hyper-pigmentation. Treatment involves the use of a machine that employs mechanical exfoliation, a sodium chloride crystal that is sprayed across the face.

Does it hurt? Not a bit.

"It feels a bit like a cat's tongue licking your face," said Lorie.

"There is absolutely no pain. After the first treatment, the skin is soft to touch and after three or four treatments, there is a visible improvement."

Another treatment is called Obagi, which was developed by Dr. Obagi in California. Obagi is extremely effective at treating active acne, scarring and pigmentation and is convenient because all the care is done at home.

"In my opinion, I have not worked with any other product as effective as Obagi. It's a number of products and creams a person uses at home, but we see the patient every week for three to four weeks to make sure everything is going well."

A Glycolic Peel, which uses the chemical AHA (alpha-hydroxyacid, derived from the sugar cane), is typically used on skin that needs a light exfoliation. The result is a silky, smooth skin.

"We call it the lunchtime peel because a client is in and out in 10 minutes," explained Lorie.

Finally, Medispa Jouvence offers laser hair removal. According to Lorie, only the strictest safety standards are followed to ensure that every client is properly treated.

Medispa opens for business March 14 and is located in the Westmount Medical Centre, 5025 Sherbrooke Street, room 104. Although treatments are not covered by insurance or Medicare, financing is available.

While excellent results are always the goal at Medispa, customer satisfaction and comfort remain the number one concern.

"A huge part of what we do is education and prevention, and home care," said Lorie.

"If a client follows certain rules, the results can be permanent."

**For more information,  
call Lorie Docker  
at 369-SKIN (7546)**

## SPA MADEMOISELLE SOPHIE: A BREAK IN THE RUSH... JUST WAITING FOR YOU



**N**estled right in the heart of Westmount, on Greene Avenue, Mademoiselle Sophie SPA de Ville offers a highly personalized treatment concept, very different from the "factory spa" approach used by some competitors.

Seated in the relaxed and contemporary atmosphere of her spa, owner Sophie Decarie explained, "Our staff feels that it is really essential for them to make the most of their clients' precious time. Depending on their time availability, they'll either invite their client to relax with a cup of tea as they peruse the latest fashion magazines, or they may serve them one of their strong espressos so they can resume the rhythms of their day. They tune their services to their clients needs."

Mademoiselle Sophie uses the exclusive DARPIN products created by the renowned Parisien dermatologist Pierre Darphin. Darphin and his highly-specialized team of chemists, dermatologists and beauty therapists have perfected the exploitation of the synergistic and specific qualities of BOTANICAL AROMAS, PLANT EXTRACTS and ACTIVE SKIN TREATMENTS to develop the original, made-to-measure concept: THE HAUTE COUTURE PROGRAM.

The spa tailor makes all their treatments based on the individual needs of the client and the techniques taught at l'Institute Darphin de la Place Vendôme in Paris.

- Among these highly specialized treatments Mademoiselle Sophie offers:
- The Intensive Anti-Aging Treatment
- The Haute Couture Fundamental Lifting
- The Pre and Post-Plastic Surgery Treatments
- The Post-Laser/Surgical Peeling Treatment
- Holiday and Sun Preparation Treatment
- The Aromatic Gentle Exfoliating Treatment
- The Aromalift Body Firming Treatment
- The Body Profil Slimming Treatment
- The Leg Relaxing Treatment

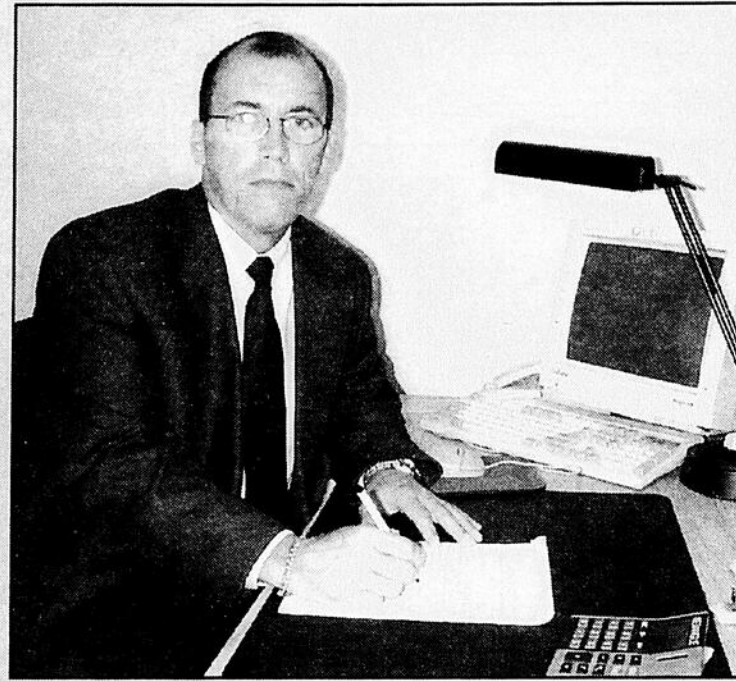
Also very much in vogue and in demand, are their services of: Eyelash Permanenting and dyeing - without danger to the eyes because the acidity of the ammonia is replaced by lactose.

Electrolysis—they are members of The Association of Electrolysis of Québec.

Hair Removal with the ND:YAG Laser technique—this treatment guarantees a permanent removal of hair, not just a reduction. This is the only laser capable of treating blond hair as well as dark skin.

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## LTC HEALTHCARE



**L**TC Healthcare Services has built its reputation on caring, personalized service. Whether it is in your home, in your retirement residence or during your hospital stay, LTC Healthcare has a team of professional health care workers that will positively impact your life.

Montrealers have been turning to LTC Healthcare Services because LTC understands the need to maintain autonomy, respect, dignity and comfort.

Gerald James, president of LTC Healthcare Services, has handpicked a staff of registered nurses, nursing assistants, orderlies, attendants and companions committed to compassionate care.

Dr. Michael Churchill-Smith of the Montreal General Hospital highly recommends LTC. "I've entrusted many of my patients and some of my family members to LTC because I know they will be well treated," he said.

Be it bedside assistance, postoperative care, help with rehabilitation, geriatric assistance or palliative support, our dedicated LTC family can make a difference in your life.

Recent funding cutbacks have shortened hospital stays and CLSC home care services for Montrealers. LTC is available to provide that additional service wherever and whenever it is needed. The knowledge that our skilled staff is on hand to promote your well-being allows you to focus solely on a speedy recovery.

LTC recognizes that our elderly sometimes don't receive the personalized care they deserve. LTC believes that the psychological well-being of individuals is paramount. To maintain quality of life and combat loneliness, LTC provides a social support system for elderly individuals. LTC's companions will visit you or your loved one at home, at your retirement residence or during your hospital stay and provide a friendly ear.

At LTC, we take great pride in offering support to palliative care patients and their families. Recognizing the need for dignity and independence, LTC offers a holistic approach with nursing care in the quiet of one's home.

Day or night, any question or concern you may have about yourself or a loved one will always be answered. Our LTC commitment to you is 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Call for a free in-home assessment.

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TEL: (514) 486-5207**

## IVAN GARABEDIAN REAL ESTATE AGENT



**I**van Garabedian values trust above all else: "When a property is good, I say it's good; when it isn't, I say stay away!"

Having recently joined the RE/MAX Westmount team, Mr. Garabedian is helping clients buy and sell residential real estate in Westmount and NDG as well as income properties in Westmount, NDG, downtown and Old Montreal. Mr. Garabedian brings his previous experience as a financial analyst as well as 27 years of family experience in Montreal real estate to the RE/MAX team.

Mr. Garabedian's commitment to his clients is twofold: to get results and build productive, long-term professional relationships. "Whether it's a cottage, duplex, multiplex or commercial space, I listen to what my clients want and I help them get it," he says. When it comes to residential properties, Mr. Garabedian will work to find you the property you want, and make sure you avoid the ones you don't. What I care about most is building a relationship of trust with my clients."

When asked about what he likes about his profession, he says "aside from protecting and promoting the interests of my clients, the one activity I enjoy most is conducting open houses. This is the perfect opportunity to promote the homes I sell and meet new people from a variety of backgrounds."

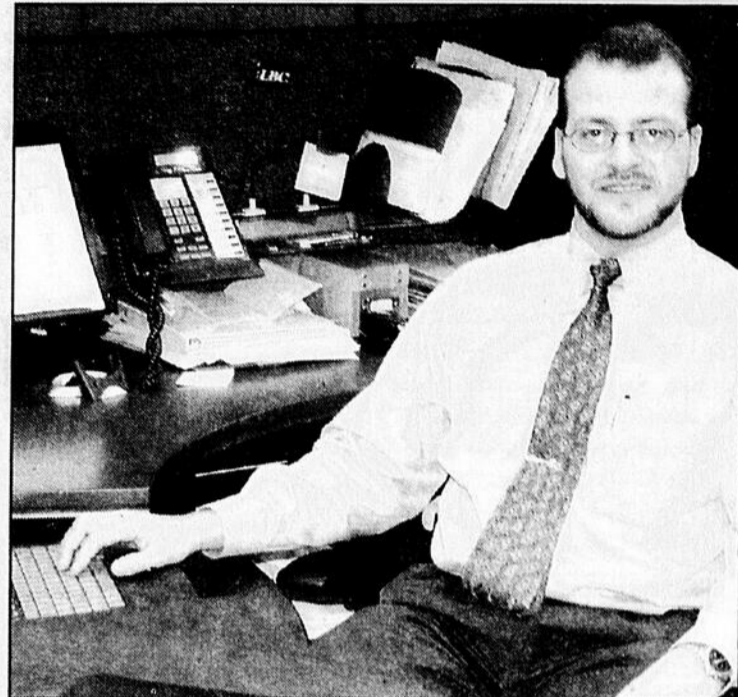
When dealing with income properties Mr. Garabedian brings something special to the table, personal experience handling large international portfolios as a financial analyst. He speaks the language of the investor and knows how to assess risks - both invaluable qualities when buying real estate as an investment. "Real estate has and will always be one of the principle wealth building vehicles an investor will have at his or her disposition. My mission is to identify and convey opportunities, be they residential or income properties."



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FAX (514) 933-5024

## INFO-TECH MONTREAL COMPUTER CONSULTANTS



**J**ames Hutchinson knows how to make computers communicate and work together: he's been doing it professionally for six years. With plenty of experience at two of Montreal's leading computer integration consulting firms under his belt, Mr. Hutchinson is the driving force behind Info-Tech Montreal—an independent consulting firm dedicated to offering personalized, top-quality Information Technology services at an affordable rate.

Info-Tech will help equip your business with the tools necessary to provide overall better performance and to ensure your entire computer system works as efficiently, effectively and safely as it possibly can.

What are the benefits of going with Info-Tech? The highest quality service provided with individual, hands-on attention.

"That's why we started this business," says Mr. Hutchinson, "We realized we could provide the same quality consulting on our own as the big firms do, but with better service." By hiring Info-Tech you'll be getting a professional information-technology consultant with experience in major municipal networking projects and today's cutting edge technology.

Info-Tech's specialists are fully-certified by Novell and Microsoft as systems engineers.

Basically, Info-Tech offers your business the best of both worlds: An experienced, professional systems engineer without the added cost of hiring a full-time IT worker or the uncertainty of contracting an inexperienced consultant: "We've done this before, and we have a good methodology for doing it right. I want our clients to think of us as their IT director, but at a fraction the cost of a full-time, in-house one," says Mr. Hutchinson.

Info-Tech is an independent firm, with no obligations to major hardware or software distributors; meaning they're free to find you the absolute best products to suit your needs. "We're not affiliated with any other companies," says Mr. Hutchinson, "so we won't push software or hardware on you. Instead, we'll find you the best deal out there."

Whether you're looking to install a new network for your business, or upgrade/maintain your current system, Info-Tech offers exactly what you need: Better service at a better price. "Quite simply, we promise more!" says Mr. Hutchinson "That's what it's all about."

## INFO-TECH

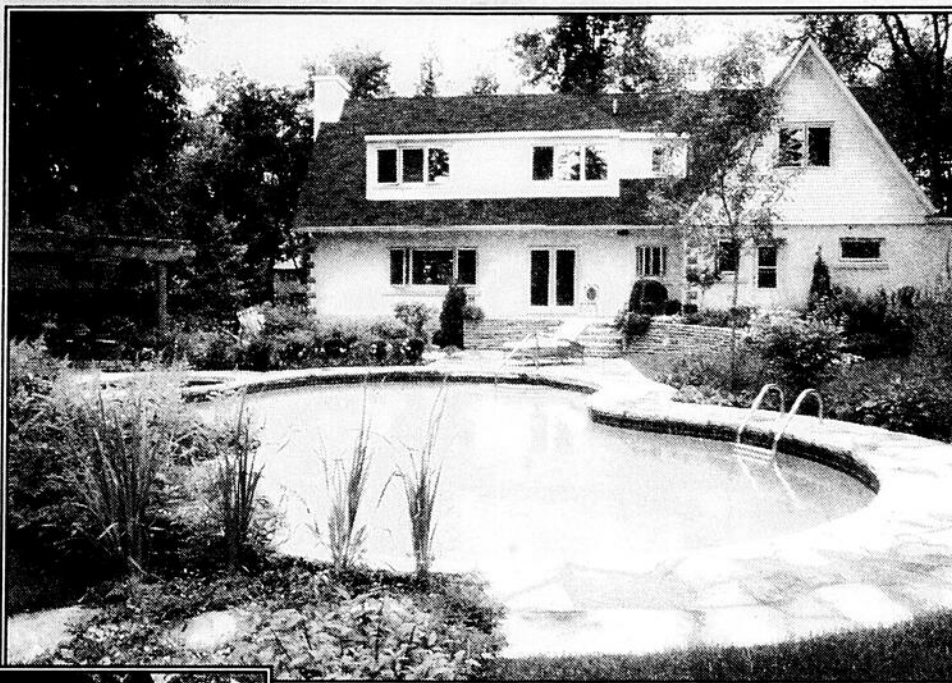
TEL: (514) 634-INFO (4636)  
INFO@INFOTECHMONTREAL.COM

# DACCORDWEBSTER DESIGN

**Y**outh and Experience, Art and Function: They all come together at DaccordWebsterDesign, one of Montreal's leading residential landscape architecture firms. Anyone wanting to increase the beauty and value of a home should look no further than these experienced and talented professionals. The landscape architects at DaccordWebsterDesign bring considerable knowledge of exterior design to bear on a wide variety of landscaping projects. From sculpture gardens to stone terraces and wrought-iron gates, DaccordWebsterDesign has the taste, experience and resources to see your project through from the earliest planning to continued maintenance.

Few companies anywhere can boast of the kind of pedigree DaccordWebster brings to Montreal. The recently-named firm is the result of a merger between the Daccord companies of Hudson and Stuart Webster & Associates of Montreal. The Daccord family has been in the landscaping business 55 years, with Claude Daccord taking over for his father Emile in the mid-1960s. Since then Claude, educated at Michigan State University, has headed countless design projects, beginning with a dozen pavilions at Expo 67. The new year marked the official merger of Daccord Landscape Ltd. with Stuart Webster & Associates. With five years expe-

DaccordWebsterDesign is essentially a team of designers who pride themselves on good aesthetics and customer service. "We do surveys, site analysis, and we sit down with the client every step of the way," says Webster. This last point is key. Aside from Webster's classical training in art history and garden design, they also include the award-winning expertise of



Richard Lepage, head of Daccord's design team since 1992, and the outstanding experience of Claude Daccord, who has been in the business for over 50 years. But along with this level of talent comes a dedication to satisfying the client: "We'll bounce ideas off each other," says Webster of the all-important client-designer relationship, "we'd like you to be involved in the process."

rience working on his own landscaping projects, Stuart Webster brings a youthful vigour to the firm. Webster took a degree in Art History from Princeton University before turning, partly from the influence of his English mother, to horticulture and landscape design. "We've really come up with a good mix," says Webster. "Basically we can offer a depth of skill and experience that's pretty tough to match."

The results you get from a DaccordWebster project are equally impressive. Many of Westmount's most distinctive exteriors are the product of architectural minds now at work in the partnership. "I like to think of a garden or landscape as an outdoor room," says Webster, "it's a place to sit, relax and spend time." To help achieve their stunning result, the architects stress the use of natural and hand-crafted elements. "We pride ourselves on our natural stonework and real, hand-forged wrought iron," says Webster. "When you use these natural elements, as opposed to prefabricated materials, it makes all the difference in the world to the look and feel of your property: it has a greater presence."



Once the design process is completed, Daccord and Webster can provide their own teams to carry the project through to completion. "The fact that we can see you through to the end really sets us apart," says Webster. "It's also why a lot of our clients become friends." And it's a relationship that's built to last, since they also offer a Horticultural Maintenance service. "As long as you're living there, we'll be around to make sure you're happy with the work we've done," says Webster.

**DaccordWebster Design**

(514) 876-0178

e-mail: [info@daccordwebsterdesign.com](mailto:info@daccordwebsterdesign.com)

# Les Alignements Desjardins celebrating 30 years of quality car care

**S**tephane and Marc Desjardins know a lot about cars.

At the ages of 39 and 38, respectively, the Desjardins brothers have a lifetime of experience behind them. From the time they were teenagers, the two spent every Saturday morning at Les Alignements Desjardins, the company started 30 years ago by their dad, André. From sweeping the floors to attending to customers, Stephane and Marc learned every aspect of a business that has sent hundreds of satisfied customers rolling home in mechanically sound cars equipped with new tires.

Les Alignements Desjardins, located at 2220 Benny, corner de Maisonneuve in NDG, is a friendly, family-run business that prides itself on quality service and customer care. Along with Stephane, who is the company tire expert, and Marc, a certified mechanic who acts as technical advisor and oversees a staff of 14, mom Louise completes the close-knit circle working part time in the office.

There are obvious advantages to doing business with a family-run operation. From the moment one walks through the doors, there is a sense of hustle and bustle, a feeling that the staff know what they are doing and that they are genuinely interested helping a customer. With two distinct areas of service, a staff advisor will take the time to listen to a client in order to decide on a course of action.

If it's tires they want, Stephane or a qualified advisor will step in and carefully assess the needs and requirements of the customer to determine which tire to recommend. Important factors to consider when choosing the correct tire are the make of the car, the person's driving habits, how long they intend on keeping the car and which brand of tire is currently being used. A Desjardins professional will make a suggestion of one or two brands best suited for the customer. With an inventory of approximately 1000 tires, the work can usually be done right away.



To keep up-to-date on the latest tire technology, Stephane, as a member of Uni-Pneus, a co-op of like-minded business people who share industry information, regularly travels to various tire-manufacturers to review the product lines. As well, with its brand new 12,000-square-foot warehouse, Desjardins offers clients a large selection of tires from a wide variety of manufacturers.

"We keep certain brands in stock, but we can get almost anything," said Stephane. And, once the sale is completed, Desjardins will store winter or summer tires for a small fee.

Not interested in tires but want to know what that dingy noise is in your engine? Marc and his staff will find out what it is and fix it.

"When Marc joined the company in '83, we decided we would expand our services

to include general mechanics," explained Stephane adding that whether it's engine work, suspension, brakes or mufflers, the expert staff at Desjardins will provide an estimate of what needs to be done and will not proceed without the authorization of the client. As well, if there is a lot of work needed, a priority list will be drawn up, allowing the client to decide what to do, and when.

For both Stephane and Marc, keeping customers satisfied is their number one concern. Their hands-on, personal approach to doing business keeps customers coming back.

"We have second and third generation clients," said Stephane.

"We give a personalized service. Our employees identify with us. They have been here a long time and are very conscientious. They take pride in their work and I think that gives us a certain stability."

Last year, Desjardins decided to give back to the community by sponsoring the NDG soccer league.

"For every oil change, we gave \$1 to soccer. We raised \$2,000," said Stephane proudly.

**Les Alignements Desjardins**  
2220 Benny, at de Maisonneuve  
**489-8245**

# WESTMOUNT AUTO OFFERS UNIQUE SERVICE

Pick-up and delivery for car repairs • Shuttle service available

**W**estmount Auto has an outstanding reputation for being one of the most reliable service stations in the city—and now it also offers an extra service that most other garages don't.

The staff of Westmount Auto offers a pick-up and shuttle service for clients whose vehicles come in for repairs. Never again will you have to worry about how you're going to get to the office or back home when you bring your car into Westmount Auto.

The way it works is simple—once your car is left in the Westmount Auto garage, you will be driven to work and later

picked up by a staff member when your car is ready.

"This is just an extra service that we provide for our clients, and it's very convenient for them," says owner David Ostfan. "It's all part of the service we provide here at Westmount Auto."

Mr. Ostfan says he has always offered this shuttle service to clients, but ever since he started advertising it, word has gotten around and it has really taken off.

"Now people see it and they ask for it," he says.

Westmount Auto's shuttle service is offered all day long on weekdays, says Mr. Ostfan. "Just come in and ask us about it!"



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## Renovations at 4300

(continued from page 2)

installing new carpeting and wall coverings in the corridors. In addition we will be re-landscaping the green spaces in the front and rear of the building."

The renovation program builds on improvements to The 4300 that have been made over the last two years. These include improved lighting in the garage, the re-paving of the entrance, landscaping, the cleaning of the ventilation ducts, the replacement of air conditioners in the west wing and the installation of a new generator as well as washers and dryers in the two laundry rooms.

Paré pointed out that Realstar has taken steps to minimize the disruption of residents during construction on the 320-unit building on de Maisonneuve Boulevard between Clarke and Redfern avenues. "Construction work will only take place between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., and there will be no work on weekends and holidays," Paré said. "In addition, we are setting up rooms in both wings where residents can go to relax, watch TV and enjoy a cup of coffee."

Westmounter Ken London is The 4300's architect. Evidence of his firm's work is found all over Montreal including The United Nations ICAO World Headquarters, the design work for the renovation and restoration of Le Windsor, a major upgrade of the lobby and critical systems at Place Ville Marie and the Ritz Carlton and the renovation and expansion of Holt Renfrew. Residential projects include the upgrading of the Linton Building, and the renovation and construction of an underground parking at the Acadia.

## Trent bides his time

(continued from page 4)

Trent will now continue to work behind the scenes and take on less of a public profile for now. He enjoys having time to himself and has been catching up on his reading and staying in contact with the former Westmount councillors

as well as current borough president Karin Marks.

But being out of the spotlight suits Westmount's former mayor just fine.

"I don't know if I enjoyed the spotlight as much as I enjoyed my job, and being in the spotlight I felt was my job," Trent said. "I must say dealing with the media was the trickiest part of being mayor, but I don't think I really miss it that much.

"Right now I'm pretty relaxed and I'm glad I made the decision I made and I still feel upset about what happened to Westmount. That's one thing that'll never go away. The wanton destruction of Westmount is what really galls me. It's like destroying a 127-year-old building that was still well run, and it's that waste that bothers me today and will always bother me."

# Continuum of Care



Le Waldorf provides a unique retirement living experience. Designed to provide a "Continuum of Care" – the residents at Le Waldorf experience the best of health care at all levels. Whether a senior is fully independent or requires assistance with daily needs the staff is there to give support and medical care. Most importantly, if your health needs change, the level of support and care is there to meet those changes.

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# Westmounters celebrate the spirit of their own community

## Around Westmount

Marilynn Vanderstey



**O**ne of the most special qualities of Westmount is and has always been the spirit of community that prevails in its restaurants, schools, library, meeting centers, businesses and homes. Communities with the large community share this common spirit and recently several of them have celebrated their community with special events and awards.

### Celebrating community

Students at Akiva School in Shaar Hashomayim celebrated community with a concert and exposition recently. The children from pre-kindergarten to grade six demonstrated their understanding and love for their community with a breath-taking exhibition of community themes including professionals in their neighbourhoods, dreams for the global community and the Jewish community itself. Principal Cooki Levy explained that each of the exhibits reflected not only what the children had learned during integrated studies about community, but also how they had learned through all the different styles including auditory, visual, verbal, written and technology.

### Safety in the community

Montreal author and director of the White Tiger Group Paul Henry Danylewich gave a timely workshop to a group of senior girls at the Study last week. The program's main focus is to empower the girls with personal safety resources to recognize and escape from various forms of violence both on the street and in relationships.

### Community meets business in developing new skills

The 2nd Westmount Cubs enjoyed a savory part of their community recently with a cooking (and tasting) class with Chef Max Pompili at La Cucina Kitchenware Store and Cooking School on Victoria Avenue. Decked in aprons and armed with interest and a good appetite, a dozen Cubs set themselves up as close to Max's stove as they could get. While they were at it, they compared vocabulary in English, French, Italian and even Hindu and Arabic.

### Community beyond Westmount's borders

Residents of the senior residence Fulford House received a special Valentine's treat from the Westmount community last month with a visit from grade four students from The Study. After presenting an entertaining performance, the students gave each resident a hand crafted Valentine bookmark...

### Checkmate

Community schools participated in a pre-provincial Quebec Association

of Independent Schools Chess Tournament at the Priory School this month. Selwyn House students went home with the lion's share of medals followed by the Priory and Lower Canada College. Other participating schools included St. George's, Notre Dame de Sion and Weston School. Medalists in each grade category will go on to the provincial championships, which will be held next month.

### Remembering community heritage

The Priory School celebrated their community with its annual Heritage Fair that promotes a greater Canadian awareness and identity. Students from kindergarten to grade six participated in the cross-curricular activity. Three projects will be included in the Montreal Regional Heritage Fair at the McCord Museum on May 6...

### Green thumbs up

The Westmount Horticultural Association is always encouraging its members with interesting speakers to make the community a more beautiful place with interesting lawns and gardens. This month their speaker, Doug Insley, past dean of students and director of athletics at Sir George Williams University, gave an informative talk that encouraged WHA members to think spring and try new plants in the gardens. The WHA invites guests from the Westmount community and beyond to join them at the monthly meetings at the Westmount Public Library. For more information contact Lee at 487-2245.

### Community giving and receiving

The St. Margaret's Community consists of two groups of people: the residents who have their programs and the Day Centre Program where seniors from the Westmount Community get together for a day out with a lunch and special activity. This month the entire St. Margaret's community celebrated with giving and receiving awards. The Day Centre Program and its leaders were recognized with the 'Forget Me Not' award from the Alzheimer's Society of Montreal in recognition of its proactive art program for participants who suffer with Alzheimer's disease. Linda Fowler Robillard developed the program as a way to give those who suffer with the inability to communicate a means of expressing themselves. "Generally Alzheimer's sufferers have severe memory problems and can't express themselves. As a result they spend most of their time alone, even in a group," said Robillard. "Since they cannot express their emotions either, they become frustrated and often aggressive. I thought that if I could find a way for the to express themselves they might become more peaceful." The result is a delightful collection of art and some very happy, peaceful seniors. Later the same day, residents of the Westmount senior home participated in the 2002 Winter Olympics at St. Margaret's. A stimulating and fun program including a wheel chair race and skills games was enjoyed by many of the residents who later received awards for their wins and participation.

Coordinator Maureen Lafrenière is only one of the Westmount residents who participate in the St. Lawrence Choir. The 110-voice choral ensemble, considered one of Canada's finest choirs, gave a rare performance in Westmount at St. Léon de Westmount Church last month. Directed by Iwan Edwards, the choir has been broadcast live throughout Canada and the United States and Europe. They perform regularly with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and are the largest component of the MSO Chorus. Next month they will be performing an extraordinary project. The choir will perform the St. Matthew Passion in its entirety at Saint Jean Baptiste Church on April 14. The last work by Johann Sebastian Bach is a mammoth production that takes two performances to complete. For information log onto <http://www.choeur.qc.ca>.

### Westmount's historical community

In recognition of this spirit of community, the Westmount Historical Association's spring series 'Westmount Our City' lectures four talks that detail what makes living and working in Westmount so special. "The Spirit of Westmount will be the first presentation in the series and will be held this evening at the Westmount Public Library. The agenda is an intensive one with members of the WHA sharing their involvements with some of the city's social issues. For information call 932-0104 or log onto [www.westmounthistorical.org](http://www.westmounthistorical.org).

## Batshaw seeks foster homes for three children

Batshaw Foster Homes for Children is currently looking for foster homes for the following young people:

Alexie, 14, is bubbly, even-tempered and respectful. Young for her age, she sometimes reverts to baby talk or feigning illness for attention. She needs a nurturing, loving foster family.

Allan, 8, charms you with his smile, chatty personality and vivid imagination. He is involved in play therapy to help him cope with his reality. Allan needs to be the youngest in a forever foster family.

Matt, 15, is a personable, likable young man with intellectual delays. He attends a special school where he excels musically, playing in the school band. As he can be impulsive and easily influenced, he would benefit from guidance and structure in a two-parent foster family, and from the opportunity to work with his hands, or learn a skill he can use in the future.

For more information, please call Batshaw Foster Homes for Children at (514) 932-7061, local 473, or drop in between 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at 6 Weredale Park, Westmount.

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Community choral group performs in Westmount  
Westmount Community Events

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# SOME QUESTIONS FOR JACQUES CHAGNON

*Will Westmount's MNA be reappointed on Monday?*

**Kathleen Duncan**

**Can anything be more important for Westmounters than the demerger issue?**

We have been annexed into mega-Montreal as part of one of the most undemocratic laws ever enacted by the Quebec government. Modern trends for consultative decision-making before municipal mergers, now the law across Europe, were conveniently ignored.

Three months after the election, the horrors of megadom are being seen almost daily in the city's newspapers, French and English. Meantime, megamayor Tremblay's supporters went to a Molson Center hockey game to learn from Liberal backroom generals that there would be no demergers on Montreal island (although those in Saguenay's marginal ridings would be allowed). Jean Charest struggles to keep it on the rails.

Where is our MNA in all this? He knows how strongly Westmounters feel about demergers yet he has taken less than a front-line position in any of the fights to support us, at least if we follow his recent articles in this newspaper.

The Liberal position is the same as in October 2000, Jacques Chagnon told the Westmount Examiner last month, ignoring the Molson Center diversion. Annexed cities will still get an opportunity to have a referendum.

But will the financial conditions be stacked so that only a few of the annexed cities will be able to afford to regain their independent status? Presumably, that is what the Liberal generals meant.

How has our MNA reacted to this apparent duplicity? Not at all if his published comments record his actions. Since the mega-city election,

what has been his contribution to Liberal policy on the demergers and other civic matters?

What does he mean by demerger? Will we really get our fire fighters back? These are real issues and we would like to know his approach.

Perhaps even more important is his position across the whole riding, much of which is outside annexed Westmount. What policy is he developing to enlist the support there for democratic municipal reform?

How about the new boroughs, who are enjoying their first steps towards local autonomy? Will the Liberals offer them the same opportunity to govern themselves as the annexed cities? Lots of questions, and our MNA should be part of the answers.

We would feel better if his party had

a serious solution to the debt of the old city of Montreal. How will this be apportioned among the new boroughs? Will NDG pay the same as Rosemont on a population basis or according to property values? This is a tough question. The people of both districts had little say in how Jean Drapeau and his successors built the debt.

This is not a direct Westmount matter, unless the Quebec government decides the only easy solution is for "rich Westmount" to subsidize one or both!

Clearly Westmounters have regional responsibilities for the police, public transport, air quality and the rest which have been shared for 31 years. But why should we be the only ones expected to bail out Montreal when Laval and the other outer suburbs are

excused meaningful contributions?

These are real issues that our MNA (and to an extent our MP) should face all the time. But it is especially important this week as, on Monday evening, those who hold Liberal membership are going to be asked by the party leaders to re-appoint Jacques Chagnon unopposed as the candidate for Westmount.

Does he deserve such an easy renewed passage?

Not if his visible support of our municipal aspirations is the test.

*Kathleen Duncan is president of the Westmount Municipal Association. WMA directors at their meeting this week endorsed her sentiments.*

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# Bulletin Board

Deadline for submissions is Monday at noon preceding the next publication. No exceptions. Submissions may be edited or omitted for space.

## Thursday, March 21

The Westmount Historical Association's Spring Lecture Series begins with 'The Spirit of Westmount', featuring various members of the WHA speaking about the Westmount community at 7 p.m. in the Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke W. Free for WHA members, \$5 for non-members at the door. Info: 925-1404.

Book Fair of French books for children and adults at École St. Léon de Westmount, 360 Clarke Ave., from 3:30 to 9 p.m. Profits will help replenish the school's library. Info: (514) 596-5720.

## Friday, March 22

The Westmount Public Library presents a fun-filled evening guaranteed to test your word power! Join other board game enthusiasts in the Westmount Room for an evening of Boggle, Anagram and Scrabble from 7 to 9 p.m. All welcome. Info: 989-5386.

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom celebrates Jewish Women's History Week by honouring Linda Kislowicz at 8:15 p.m. 395 Elm Ave. Info: 937-3575.

## Saturday, March 23

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom celebrates Jewish Women's History Week with a healing service at 10 a.m., followed by lunch and the film 'Women of the Wall.' Reserve for \$7 lunch with Freda at 932-2177.

## Sunday, March 24

Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 395 Elm Ave., presents McGill sociology professor Morton Weinfeld, who will discuss his new book about Canadian Jews, 'Like Everyone Else... But Different.' Breakfast at 9:30 a.m., program at 10 a.m. Open to all, free of charge. Info: 937-3575.

St. Matthias' Church, 10 Church Hill, presents "The Crucifixion" by John Stainer at 4 p.m. Sung by the Choirs of St. Matthias' Church. Scott Hargraves, tenor; Jonathan Carle, baritone; Colin Langille, organ. Directed by Peter Hawkins. Info: 933-4295.

CLSC MÉTRO

## AVIS

Veuillez prendre note que la prochaine réunion du conseil d'administration du CLSC MÉTRO se tiendra:

MARDI LE 26 MARS 2002  
À 17 HEURES  
AU 1801 BOUL. DE MAISONNEUVE OUEST  
MONTREAL (QUEBEC)  
AUX SALLES DE REUNIONS DU 5<sup>E</sup> ÉTAGE

POUR TOUTE INFORMATION ADDITIONNELLE  
N'HÉSITEZ PAS À COMMUNIQUER AVEC

Monsieur GARY FURLONG, directeur général  
au 934-0354

## NOTICE

Please note that the next meeting of the Board of Directors of the CLSC MÉTRO will be held:

TUESDAY, MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2002  
AT 5 p.m.  
AT 1801 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD WEST  
MONTREAL (QUEBEC)  
MEETING ROOMS, 5<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL

Mr. Gary Furlong  
at 934-0354

40334805

## Monday, March 25

The Royal Commonwealth Society of Montreal presents guest speaker Dr. Roderick MacLeod, who will give a talk and slide presentation on the Mount Royal Cemetery at 7 p.m. in the Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke. Refreshments will be served; all welcome. Info: 937-8321.

## Ongoing

The McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria Ave., presents recent work by Ludmila Armata, through March 30. Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info: 488-9558.

CHSLD St. Margaret is in emergency need of volunteers to feed elderly residents. 50 Hillside Ave. Please contact Carol Hutton at 932-3630 ext. 3018.

Centre Greene is currently accepting donations of used books, videos and CDs for a fundraising sale to be held April 5. All proceeds will go towards enhancing Centre Green's programs and services. 1090 Greene Ave. Info: 931-6202.

Quebec Writers' Federation begins its spring series of 8-week evening workshops in fiction, screenwriting, travel writing, documentary film writing, memoir, writing for performance and feature writing (starting dates vary). \$170 per course, \$150 for QWF members. Also Saturday workshops in fiction (\$100) and marketing yourself as a freelance writer (\$80). 1200 Atwater. For registration and course descriptions, call 933-0878.

Chateau Westmount: Anyone wishing to do volunteer work with the elderly is asked to contact Millie

Karpman at 369-3000. Wonderful opportunity for students; win-win situation for seniors.

Duplicate Bridge: The Shaar Hashomayim Duplicate Bridge Club meets every Tuesday for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and bridge at 12:30 p.m., 450 Kensington Ave. \$7.50 per person. Free valet parking. Money raised goes to Sisterhood's Meals on Wheels program. Info: Barbara at 938-1405.

Talmud Study Session at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 395 Elm Ave., every Saturday at 9:15 a.m. Rabbi Leigh Lerner and Rabbi Elina Bykova take turns teaching contemporary Talmud classes. Info: 937-3575.

Westmount Toastmasters Club meets each Thursday at 7 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Learn to speak in public with confidence. We welcome guests. Info: 367-5986.

Overeaters Anonymous, a non-profit self-help group welcomes anyone who wants to stop overeating. Weekly meetings at the Westmount YMCA' 4585 Sherbrooke, on Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. Info: 488-1812.

The Rotary Club of Westmount meets each Wednesday at Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke, at 12:30 p.m.

The Montreal Camera Club meets each Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve, entrance at rear. Slide shows, competitions and workshops. Visitors welcome. Info: (514) 637-2767.

The Atwater Library Book Sale Room, 1200 Atwater, is open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m. Quality used books at reasonable prices. Info: 935-7344.

The Westmount Youth Orchestra rehearses every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Victoria Hall with conductor Mark Simons. Everybody who likes to see an orchestra rehearsing is welcome to drop in between 12 and 1. Young musicians who would like to join are invited to call Francoise at 485-3521 or Agnes at 486-2813 for more information.

Westmount Healthy City Project: Have a health problem? Consult the

health data base in the Westmount Public Library.

The St. Matthias' Church Choir of Men and Boys is recruiting boys aged 7 to 12 who would like to learn to sing, earn pocket money and participate in organized activities, including trips. For information, please call Peter Hawkins, director of music, at 933-4295/6.

Mary's Recovery, a non-profit bilingual self-help group for people seeking help in dealing with fear, anger, stress, depression, anxiety, panic attacks and phobias meet every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 485-2194.

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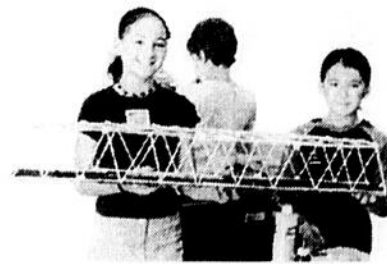
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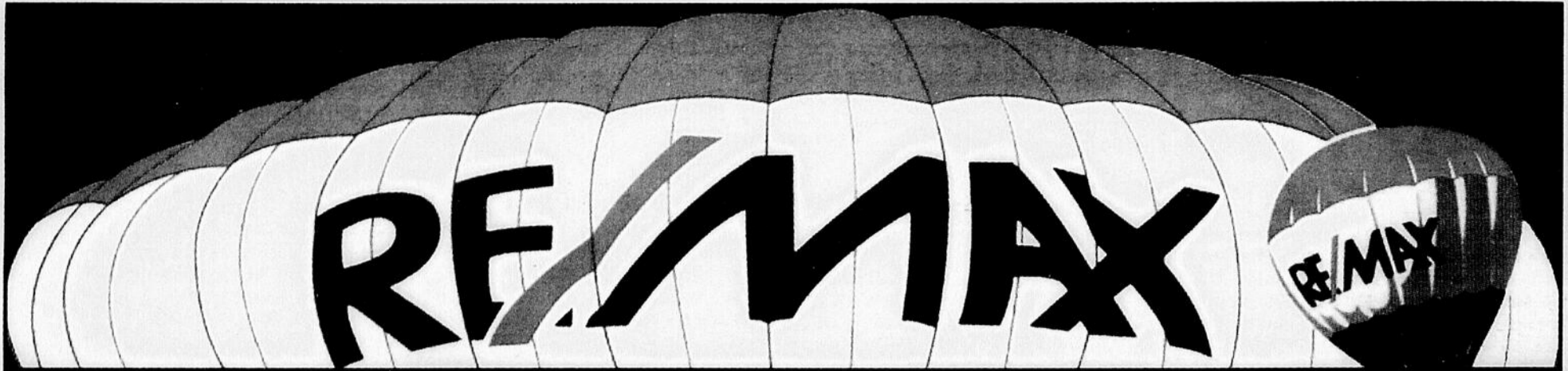


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**ONE OF A KIND \$859,000**

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**N.D.G.**

**5171 BELMORE:** Det. cottage on quiet street. Top floor with loft bedroom. Bsmt semifin. with 2 bdrms. Plenty of land for expansion. \$179,000.

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**4661-63-65 ST EMILIE:** Duplex 3 x 4 1/2, new kitchens & new bathrms. Asking \$99,000.

**ST-HENRI**

**2525 COURSOL:** First floor condo! 2 bdrms, 1 renov. bathroom, dining room, renov. kit., terrace & parking. Asking \$139,000.

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