

It's official — '91 tax break is 11%

It's now official. Westmount's 1991 tax rate has been set at \$1.28 per \$100 of property valuation, giving an 11-percent tax break from this year's rate of \$1.44, Mayor May Cutler announced yesterday.

The tax cut will require appropriation of about \$2.5 million of this year's anticipated surplus which auditors now estimate at about \$9 million, she said.

Savings will be \$610 for the average home, valued at \$380,939, resulting in a \$4,876 bill.

The new tax rate was established yesterday morning at a reported stormy emergency private meeting of council members after the mayor threatened to veto the 1991 budget and delay its passage Monday if a rate of \$1.20 were adopted as an-

nounced in council last week.

The lower rate would have provided too much of a tax cut and used up \$5 million of this year's anticipated

By LAUREEN SWEENEY
windfall surplus, she told THE EXAMINER.

"I'm against precipitous increases and decreases in the mill rate," she said in revealing council's compromise solution.

"The purpose of our decision was to try to keep people's tax bills on as even a keel as possible and fund
Continued on page 12

Examiner

Making all of Westmount your home

Vol. LXII, No. 50

Westmount, Quebec, Thursday, December 13, 1990

55¢

Unsigned PSO letter complains about hiring

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A plan to move two members of the Public Security Unit into the fire department to streamline the combined operation continues to be a thorny issue.

Public safety officers, who initially opposed the original plan to offer five firefighting vacancies to PSOs, this week protested the compromise solution to move only two, city officials said.

The latest complaint concerns the fact that two of six PSOs who applied for the two vacancies were told unofficially they had been selected before all had undergone physical testing, explained human resources director Gordon Black.

The protest was voiced in an unsigned letter to the city and members of council by the group's union, the Association of Westmount Public Safety Officers.

"The letter has been retracted," said human resources director Gordon Black. "We're going to meet with them and discuss it."

He said the letter, which was marked as being circulated to various members of the media, was an error in judgment by the newly-appointed union executive and now was not being made public.

Councillor Paul Fortin, who received a copy of the letter, said he intended to look into the matter.

Mr Black said the union had no business interfering with management's right to select candidates for the positions. He said the two recommended men had been told verbally by fire officials that they were recommended for the job before physical examinations had been carried out.

"They said they were promised physical fitness testing and we intend to carry out these tests," Mr Black said.

Usually the physicals are held prior to selection, he said. In the event the two recommended candidates did not pass the physicals, others would be considered, he said.

End of an era at Miss Westmount

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

FOR forty years there was a Shangri-La on Victoria avenue — a place Westmounters could go to escape a phoney-baloney world where appearances are often deemed more important than truths, where sincerity and kindness are rare commodities, where feeling comfortable is hard and laughing sometimes even harder.

For forty years there was a Miss Westmount restaurant where patrons found all those things thanks to one person, Shirley Polatshek-Blech, Westmount's wise-cracking Jewish mama of good cheer.

After tomorrow there will be nowhere to go because Shirley has sold Miss Westmount to another restaurateur. Mother is leaving.

"This was an extension of my home," Shirley said in an interview at Miss Westmount Tuesday. "Everyone had their seat. They felt like they were coming home here."

"I'm a people person. I love people." Well people love her too. And if you don't believe it all you have to do is ask them.

"We're sad to see her go because she is one of the few people who have a sense of humor, is courageous and has integrity," said Clara Leese, who has been going to Miss Westmount for 18 years.

"She's going to be missed," said Catherine Roy, another 18-year Miss Westmount regular. "She's someone we admire greatly."

"We're certainly going to miss you perking up the neighborhood," Ms Leese said.

"Maybe I'll do it from remote control," Shirley quipped.

Either with a joke, a wisecrack, or her



One of Shirley Polatshek-Blech's special loving customers, Daniel Daigneault, gives "mother" a farewell kiss.

famous signs, perking people up is what Shirley has done best for 40 years.

Her favorite famous comment is: "I'm a legend in my own mind."

And the signs seem to get better with time. One of her latest reads: "Welcome to the U.S.A.: We have George Bush. We also have Bob Hope, Johnny Cash and Stevie Wonder. Welcome to Canada: We have no

hope, no cash and no wonder, we have Brian Mulroney."

Another sign above the cash reads: "Someday my ship will come in... And with my luck I'll be at the airport."

Shirley and her family opened the restaurant Jan 21, 1951, when toast and coffee cost 20 cents and a ham sandwich 25 cents.

Continued on next page

Your home away from home...

RESTAURANT
La Transition

INSIDE...

- Giant Steps seeks zoning change of home..... 3
- Police log 9
- Fire calls 11
- Last minute shopping ideas..... 13
- Ville Marie struggling to fill Christmas baskets 19
- First Y swim team meet 30

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Next week's issue is last for 1990

Next week's holiday issue of THE EXAMINER will be published as usual on Thursday, with all normal deadlines in effect.

It will be the final issue of 1990, with no issue scheduled for the following Thursday, Dec 27. Publication will resume the following week but the issue will be a day late, appearing Friday, Jan 4. Deadlines for that issue all will be 24 hours later than usual.

Correspondents are asked to include news of activities up to and including Jan 5 in items submitted for next week's issue.

New TD outlet replacing two local branches

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

Two Westmount branches of the Toronto-Dominion Bank are closing in favor of an "ultra modern" larger branch to open at Greene avenue and de Maisonneuve boulevard in late March, a TD official confirmed last week.

The two branches which will close when the new branch opens are at 4117 Sherbrooke, corner of Elm avenue, and at 4335 St Catherine, corner of Redfern avenue.

Accounts and safety boxes will be transferred automatically to the new branch, said Raymond Keroack, the assistant general manager of financial services for the TD Bank in Quebec. Customers will retain the same account numbers and use the

same cheques, he said.

While some customers are bound to be disappointed about the closings, the TD Bank is "very excited about the move," Mr Keroack said. He declined to say how many customers will be affected.

"It will be a branch of the future," he said of the new location. "A unique concept in banking."

The new 495-square-metre (5,500-square-foot) branch costing more than \$1 million will be in the new five-storey building being constructed as an extension to an existing building at 1245-1255 Greene avenue.

The new branch will have two 24-hour banking machines, 18 to 20 em-

Continued on next page



CITY OF WESTMOUNT
VILLE DE WESTMOUNT
Official NOTICE BOARD
TABLEAU D'AFFICHAGE officiel

Next Scheduled City Council Meeting

Monday, December 17
8:00 pm Special Council (Budget)
8:30 pm Council

Date de la prochaine séance du conseil municipal

Le lundi 17 décembre
20h00 Séance spécial (Budget)
20h30 Séance

Householders are notified that there will be no garbage collection on:

Tuesday, December 25, 1990
and
Tuesday, January 1, 1991

Householders are notified that there will be no recycling collection on:

Wednesday, December 26, 1990
and
Wednesday, January 2, 1991

Les résidents sont avisés qu'il n'y aura aucune cueillette des ordures:
mardi, le 25 décembre 1990
et
mardi, le 1 janvier 1991

Les résidents sont avisés qu'il n'y aura aucune cueillette des matières recyclables:
mercredi, le 26 décembre 1990
et
mercredi, le 2 janvier 1991

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 Police (business calls), 21 Stanton St.280-2223

Other Times
 Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W.935-2066
 Municipal Yard, 14 Bethune St.935-8037
 Light Department, Glen Road935-8218
 Library935-8444
 Public Security Unit.935-1777

Lundi au vendredi 8h30 à 16h30
 Incendie (bureau d'affaires), 19, rue Stanton935-2456
 Cour municipale, 21, rue Stanton935-8531, local 351 or 352
 Police (bureau d'affaires), 21, rue Stanton280-2223

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 Voirie, 14, rue Bethune935-8037
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 Sécurité Publique935-1777

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WESTMOUNT
Community
Calendar

Today, Dec 13

Registration is under way for Greene Avenue Community Centre winter courses in fitness, martial arts, music, art, dance, second-language conversation classes and children's activities. Classes start Jan 7. 931-6202.

Art exhibit: Montreal Scenes, recent work by John Collins at Galerie Dan Delaney, 318 Victoria avenue, until Dec 21. 484-4691.

Art exhibit: Recent watercolor and oil paintings by former Westmounter Lou Charton on exhibit at Westmount Public Library ends tomorrow. 989-1240.

Library amnesty at Atwater Library for the month of December allows members to return overdue books with no questions asked.

Christmas concert at Place Alexis Nihon daily at lunchtime, 4 and 7 pm until Saturday.

Seniors' swim: At Westmount Y from 2 to 3:30 pm every Tuesday and Thursday. No charge for seniors, even if not Y members. 931-8046.

Storymakers aged nine to 11 have their final meeting today at Westmount Library from 4 to 5 pm.

Saturday, Dec 15

Crafts and bake sale at Westmount Baptist Church, Sherbrooke and Roslyn, from 1 to 4 pm. Guatemalan crafts for sale; proceeds go to community projects in that country.

Year-end concert: He is exalted, at Westmount Seventh Day Adventist Church, 571 Victoria avenue, at 7 pm. Featuring the Adult Church Choir, the Youth Choir, the Joybells and other guests. Freewill offering.

Samedi Greene presents a Christmas party from 10 to 11:30 am at Greene Avenue Community Centre, 1090 Greene avenue. Booths, games and fortune telling. \$1. Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult or babysitter.

Family film at 10 am at Cineplex Odeon, Place Alexis Nihon, is *Santa Claus: The Movie*. Price of admission is non-perishable food items to be donated to Sun Youth.

Overeaters Anonymous meets every Saturday at 3:30 pm at Westmount Baptist Church, 4755 Sherbrooke street. This is a non-smoking group. 499-3940.

Quiet evening: Rev Ian Stuchbery conducts an evening of meditation and recorded music from 7 to 9 pm at the Church of the Advent, 4119 de Maisonneuve boulevard at Wood avenue.

Sunday, Dec 16

Potluck dinner at Greene Avenue Community Centre from 5 to 8 pm. Everyone is invited to bring a dish. Santa will attend and give a surprise present to children. 931-6202.

Adult Prisoners of Childhood, a support group based on the therapeutic approach of Alice Miller and the 12 steps adapted from AA, meets at 7 pm every Sunday in the basement of Westmount Baptist Church, 4755 Sherbrooke street. \$1 per person to cover room rental. Newcomers welcome at 6:45 pm. 937-4392.

Cocaine Anonymous meets every Sunday from 2 to 3:30 pm at Greene Avenue Community Centre, 1090 Greene avenue. 931-6202.

Monday, Dec 17

Dec 17: Filmstrip night at Westmount Library's children's department presents *Frog* at 6:30 pm. All welcome. 935-8531 ext 229.

Tuesday, Dec 18

Adult Children of Alcoholics meets every week at 8 pm in the basement of Westmount Baptist Church, 4755 Sherbrooke street west at Roslyn. 636-9820. Use the parking lot side door.

Wednesday, Dec 19

Story hour: Today and every Wednesday, a 20-minute story hour for two and three-year-olds, followed by a 20-minute storytime for children four to six years old and, after that, 20 minutes of story-telling in French. Readings begin at 10:30 am and 3 pm at Westmount Library.

Miss Westmount changing . . .

Continued from page one

Her father ran the cash, Shirley made the sandwiches and her mother cooked.

The first customers who ordered ham sandwiches couldn't figure out why they couldn't get butter on them. Shirley's mother didn't want to put it on because it's not kosher. Her mother was retired "unwillingly" at 70.

"Hey, mister! He's writing an article. Tell him something about me," Shirley orders a customer.

"Vous êtes formidable!" the man says.

"You have a kibbitz for everybody?"

"Hey Peter! Do I have a kibbitz for everybody?" Shirley asks a man eating the counter.

"Of course," he answers.

"I have told more jokes than there are stars in the universe," Shirley points out.

The guy at the counter happens to be Peter Painchaud, the manager of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce across the street. Mr Painchaud was enamored with Shirley the first week he started going to Miss Westmount.

One day he was sitting at the counter eating his meal and someone wanted to discuss business with him. Shirley came to the rescue.

"Don't bother him. This is his lunch," Shirley reportedly told the patron. Mr Painchaud has been coming ever since.

Media star

Shirley is has become a media star of sorts for her opposition to Quebec's sign law which prohibits the use of English on commercial signs.

"I always felt people should operate according to their own way," she said. "The bottom line is is the cash register determines the language spoken."

"These laws were created to please themselves (politicians), not to please people."

Richard "Yogi" Atherton, a Westmount city employee and 25-year Miss Westmount regular, said Shirley is very opinionated.

"One thing about her is her honesty. She sticks to her guns. She has what you call guts," Mr Atherton said. "She tells it like it is and if you don't like it it's too bad."

"And that's the truth," Shirley said. "Thanks Yogi. I'll pay you later."

Besides being a keen political observer and sometimes activist and restaurateur, Shirley says she's also been a doctor, a psychiatrist and a matchmaker to her customers.

"I fix people up."

Ring, Ring.

"I'm in a hurry. I'm going to be in THE EXAMINER."

Click.

It was her husband Hersh. She calls him her friend, her adviser, her

right-hand man and the most gentle human being in the world. She likes him.

She has a 31-year-old daughter in Toronto, Julie. She didn't want to take over Miss Westmount, saying she could never follow in her mother's footsteps.

Shirley sold the restaurant to Johnny Ciampella and family. He's worked in the area for years and Shirley says he a good egg. But it won't be the same, Shirley said.

"It's going to be a business."

"I've been coming here for the last 12 years," Sarah Bloom interjected as she was eating her lunch. "Not because this is a restaurant but because she's a friend. And that's the truth."

"I come to kibbitz with her. She makes my day."

Tears say it all

Doris McLean has worked at Miss Westmount as a waitress for 20 years.

"How do you feel about Shirley leaving?"

She bolts to the back to cry. It's the real McCoy.

"Hey Shirley, I think I made Doris cry."

"Don't worry. She'll be OK."

Doris returns, wiping her reddened, moist eyes. "It's very emotional. But I'm sure I'll be happy with the new owner," she says.

Shirley knows everything.

F.L. Langlois, 82, has been a customer for 40 years. Shirley used to let him smoke his cigar in the restaurant. Not anymore. He threw it away before coming in on this day.

Like other loyal customers, he was sad to see Shirley go but knew she had to.

"I think she's had enough," Mr Langlois said. "She's worked very hard."

Shirley, at 58, is retiring for health reasons. She's been working since she was 14.

Daniel Daigneault, the Victoria avenue Steinberg's head cashier, was called by Doris.

"He's special," Shirley said when Mr Daigneault arrived. "He's like my son," she said putting her arm around his shoulders.

"I'm going to miss her because I've felt like family here," Mr Daigneault said. He's been coming for 22 years, since he was 15 years old.

"She is a warm person. She made me feel so comfortable, so welcome all the time. She's a warm person."

"Nothing will ever be the same in the place . . . She's been like a mother to me."

"It's with a heavy heart I say au revoir, until we meet again," Shirley said. "To those I befriended, I shed a tear; to those I offended, I apologize."

"Did I make your day?" Shirley asks the reporter as he leaves.

"Yeah."

She smiles.

New TD branch opens . . .

Continued from page one

ployees, and be open longer hours than the two closing branches.

The new branch will be open from 9:30 am to 6 pm on weekdays, until 8 pm on Thursdays and from 9 am to 3 pm on Saturdays, Mr Keroack said.

The bank will also have a different type of teller known as a customer service officer. They will be able to offer more services than a conventional teller, and will be able to handle a variety of transactions. For example, a customer will now be able to buy a Canada Savings Bond at the wicket.

Other experts, including investment specialists, will be on staff at the branch, Mr Keroack said.

He also expects lineups — "the biggest complaint of consumers today" — to be shorter in the new branch.

"This kind of office should speed up service."

A \$750,000 construction permit for alterations was issued by the City of Westmount Dec 3 to 119088 Canada Inc. Westmount developer David Schatia, a partner in that company, declined to comment.

Mr Keroack said the TD Bank has been trying to open a branch on Greene avenue for two years. They originally wanted to open in Château Westmount on the corner of St Catherine street but the condominium project was zoned strictly for retail outlets.

The TD Bank signed a long-term lease, Mr Keroack said, but declined to give the details.

The bank wanted to open on Greene avenue because it is a focal point of Westmount — a village-type area where people shop and rendezvous, he said.



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THE WESTMOUNT *Examiner*

Thursday, December 13, 1990 - 3

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Giant Steps school seeks zoning change to bring overflow into house

Giant Steps school is seeking a zoning change to allow an overflow of students into a home its director is renting on Sherbrooke street.

A letter requesting the change has been sent to Mayor May Cutler. However, the news does not look good for the school, which helps educate and integrate children with autism or motor function problems.

"There is no plan whatsoever in Westmount to upzone anything," said Mrs Cutler. "I would never bring the request to committee."

But it appears as though committee is exactly where the matter is headed. Mrs Cutler passed the request on to operations manager Bruce St Louis "for answering." He, in turn, gave it to director of building and planning Joanne Poirier. She said she will present the request at the city's next planning committee meeting in January.

The committee will form a recommendation. If the recommendation is to approve the zoning change, it then goes to the Architectural and

Planning Commission for its opinion.

But, before that, Ms Poirier must receive a letter by the building's owner supporting the zoning change. A renter cannot unilaterally go ahead with revising the site's designated use. She has not yet received that letter of support.

Touchy issue

The question of upzoning in Westmount is a touchy one, with a long and bitter history.

It sparked the mayor's own candidacy in 1987 when she tried but failed to upzone her building on Sherbrooke street at Mount Stephen avenue to accommodate her publishing house.

"Westmount is hated by anyone who wants a single thing to suit them, but wants the rest not changed," said the mayor. "This goes on all the time. They want a thing in their backyard, but don't want a neighbor to build one in theirs."

Homes on Sherbrooke can be transformed into very specific professional offices, according to city by-laws, such as for dentistry. The city is trying, whenever possible, to downzone those professional offices back to residential, she added.

Institutional zoning, which the school would require, is one of the hardest to achieve.

"It's much, much harder to get institutional zoning" than commercial, said Mrs Cutler. "There's parking, and all sorts of things" to con-

By ALISON RAMSEY

sider. There is also the matter of fire safety, and myriad regulations the home must comply with before the fire department's seal of approval is affixed. For instance, sprinklers would have to be installed throughout.

Children attending Giant Steps were using the home in September and October until the city received a complaint. The fire inspector was sent to investigate, and director Darlene Berringer — who lives in the upper floor of the home — was told to stop the practice.

She said the home was rented in a desperate move to accommodate the students. Westmount Park, with a growing population, reclaimed two classrooms being used by Giant Steps in September 1989, after giving one year's notice.

According to school commissioner and Westmount councillor Joan Rothman, Giant Steps began by moving into Westmount Park School without proper approval by the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal.

For two years, Giant Steps "secretly" — with Mrs Rothman's knowledge and support — ran classes in the school. The board suspected the subterfuge, and was close on its heels, when the government came through

with funding from the social affairs ministry.

Giant Steps expanded from its original four rooms since.

At one point fairly early on, said Mrs Rothman, the government offered Giant Steps a school, "but she likes to be in a school where kids can be integrated. I agree with her."

Also, the available school was not in the city and "I think she wanted a school in Westmount," she added.

Giant Steps is not alone in this respect. Mrs Rothman said she receives a constant stream of requests from people who want to open day care centres and schools all over the city. Westmount is a desired location.

Few sites

But there are few sites correctly zoned. According to Mrs Rothman, Ms Berringer did find one spot with suitable zoning in Westmount on St Catherine street. Ms Poirier said she received a letter asking if a location on St Catherine street was suitable, but it was never followed up.

For Ms Berringer's part, she says Giant Steps is a school with children from all over the island and off island, and that she requires a central location, such as Westmount.

Though Mrs Rothman says Ms Berringer has everything on her side, in terms of empathy for the school and its good work, she should have taken legal recourse before renting the home and using it for overflow.

"I personally think she could accommodate classes inside the house," said Mrs Rothman. Later she

added that the fire inspectors, admittedly extremely diligent, are right in upholding the law that disallows such use.

"She'll have to cap her school," said Mrs Rothman.

Mrs Rothman noted that it was ironic classes on the ground floor of a home is not permitted while Giant Steps is located on the third floor of Westmount Park School.

"I do think it's going to be an ongoing saga," she said.

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School tax bill due Monday

Don't forget to budget in your school tax bill during the holiday spending this year. The bill is due Monday, just one week before Christmas.

The bills, distributed by the Island School Council, were delayed when municipalities protested a large increase because of provincial funding cuts.

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ATWATER

Thanks for the memories

as of December 15, 1990

Shirley Polatshek-Blech and Family

wish to announce they are leaving

Miss Westmount

Thank you for a wonderful 40 years

THE WESTMOUNT Examiner

Making all of Westmount your home

Published every Thursday by
Publications Dumont (1988) Inc.



155 Hillside Avenue, Westmount, PQ
H3Z 2Y8

Publisher & Editor: Don Sancton

Director of Advertising: Louise Wolman

News Editor: Alison Ramsey Staff Reporters: Laureen Sweeney, Charles Abramovici

Typeset by Adcomp Inc., Westmount
Printed by Richelieu Roto-Litho Inc., St. Jean sur Richelieu, Quebec
Second class mail registration number 1760

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Subscriptions of less than one year, 55 cents per copy plus \$2 handling.
Fifty-five cents a copy. Outside Canada, additional \$60.00 a year.

4 - Vol. LXII, No. 50,
Thursday, December 13, 1990



Editorial and Circulation
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Display and Classified Advertising
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our Mayor
Her Worship May Cutler
says...



A few home truths

I AM unalterably opposed to the return of our surplus of \$10 million directly to the taxpayers of Westmount in the form of rebate or in a drastic reduction in the mill rate for 1991.

Here's why.

The myth has gone around that Westmounters are overtaxed. Nothing is farther from the truth. Last year we had the lowest taxes of all 28 cities in the MUC (with the exception of Senneville, a country town without even a central sewage system or sidewalks; snow is simply pushed aside from the roadways. At that, Senneville was only nine points lower in its mill rate than Westmount's \$1.44).

If you lived in Montreal, say on the opposite side of a street where Westmount's borders end, last year you would have paid \$2.53 per \$100 value in taxes. That's 76 percent higher taxes than in Westmount.

Even Outremont, often touted as being cheaper run than Westmount, was three points higher and their services to citizens fall very far short indeed of what we get in Westmount.

Our lowest taxes are combined with incredible services.

We enjoy more free recreational activities than any other sister city, probably than any other city in the whole of North America.

Look hard before you'll find another city with free tennis, free swimming, free summer and winter festivals, six free outdoor rinks, free children's hockey and a host of other free activities for the kiddies.

Look hard before you'll find such clean streets where the snow is taken away, not just pushed aside or shot up on lawns; where the garbage collection is discreet; where so many parks are kept up with such loving care; where dog owners have areas to let their dogs run free, where so many magnificent old trees — we have one for every two residents — are cared for.

Does any other city have public security officers as polite and caring? Or city hall employees as graciously helpful?

And what other city of 20,000 inhabitants can boast a library with so many books? Or its own greenhouses? Or a public hall that is a lasting monument?

Need I go on?

Yes, this year we have an incredible surplus: \$10 million.

But it is not because our citizens have been over-taxed. Half of it is a windfall and non-recurrent, coming from several years of past taxes on large condominiums that have just come on the roll.

\$2 million comes from our electricity department, yet we pay not one penny more for our electricity than we would pay if we lived outside Westmount. We even get better service, quicker repairs and watchful balance

be his motivation. But even little can be important.

The dean probably had the best of reasons, to him, for continued suppression of the letter. Perhaps he believed that the families, friends, fellow students and others might be spared further distress.

However, censorship for whatever motive is rarely justified in a free society.

This society in particular has been groping for the true reason, if any, behind the massacre. No one has a monopoly on the truth. We find it particularly strange that an academic would wish continued suppression of the central document, whatever its value.

There are too many people around who, some perhaps unwittingly, would promote ignorance by suppression. Governments at all levels are riddled with self-appointed censors of what others should be given the opportunity, if they wish, to see, to read, to examine, to study, to aid in making up their own minds.

It may be a long time before it is known who copied and saw to it that Marc Lepine's tortured litany at last became public. We suspect, however, it is someone who agrees that suppression, for any reason, is an unworthy practice in any free society.

We Say

Do-not-hit list

THE City of Westmount has not put the problem of how to control demolition behind it with its out-of-court settlement of the case of 22 Summit Circle.

Councillor Peter Trent's inelegant remark to our reporter last week that the city's demolition policy was "ass-backwards" betrayed his own concern. And he should know; he is on the demolition committee, along with Councillors Sally Aitken and Rhoda Vineberg.

Mr Trent seemed to feel that the main problem was procedural: before a permit to demolish a building will be considered, the drill now is that its proposed replacement must be given the nod of the city's Architectural and Planning Commission. We think the trouble is more fundamental than that. It comes down, in our view, to the rights of property owners.

However high-minded the purpose of legislation, there is ample precedent for striking it down if a citizen is caused to suffer, be damaged, incur loss or otherwise be disadvantaged. We believe Westmount's demolition by-law has, when applied, inherently such effect.

The city's purpose is to prevent the destruction of properties deemed to have "heritage" value — in itself a fuzzy qualification. What is one person's idea of worth keeping can be another's eyesore.

Perhaps it is flattering to an owner to learn that he or she owns a "heritage property," however well or ill founded the definition. But the time comes that he wishes to make changes (to him improvements, to others desecrations); or to tear it down and put something else up in its stead (to him enhancement of the land and community, to others wilful destruction); or merely to sell, when he discovers a "heritage" place is not more valuable but, rather, actually is reduced in fetching price because potential buyers realize there will be hassles if they, in turn, attempt to improve the asset.

Clearly, "heritage" owners have an inherent grievance under the kind of legislation by

which Westmount is attempting for whatever reason to preserve the past. It is unlike other local by-laws such as zoning: An area may be zoned, affecting all the properties in the zone uniformly, to maintain a community-set standard of conformity. "Heritage," on the other hand, singles out property owners for discrimination purely on the basis of subjective judgments of others, no matter how "expert."

When Mr Trent calls for revision of demolition policy he is, in essence and rightly so, questioning the heritage policy, the *raison d'être* for controlling demolitions in the first place.

There is no reason why a municipality should discriminate between property owners in this way. Rather, a policy which asserts that it is in the public interest that certain buildings be kept as they are should be accompanied by appropriate measures for publicly financing such status.

Obviously, this could be very expensive since it implies that if the public authority deems certain structures should be preserved then they become a public responsibility, not a private one. The city or some agency should be prepared to buy — expropriating if need be — such places and administer their subsequent use.

This could be very costly. Other claims on the public purse well may have higher priority. In any event, the list of "heritage" properties almost certainly would be trimmed of marginal claims for preservation in the interest of keeping the potential liability within bounds.

We say that Westmount had good intentions when it embarked on the present course. The 22 Summit Circle case was lost because, among other reasons, the city attempted to apply its demolition law retroactively; a good try which didn't work.

Even so, the owners of any property on the city's "do-not-hit" list still have a case.

The city's heritage policy needs an urgent second look.

Suppression of truth

MIDST the painful reminiscences during the past first anniversary week of the mass murder of 14 young women at the nearby Université de Montréal campus there were all sorts of disturbing currents.

The main issues relating to feminism, anti-feminism, abuse, etc, along with the trauma of the shootings themselves, have been widely explored.

A lesser thread which we take up here is the view of the dean of the engineering school, where the tragedy occurred, that the letter left by the young assassin should not have been published.

A copy of it, suppressed for nearly a year by the authorities, reached and was printed in *La Presse* a few weeks ago.

It was a rambling tirade. It contributed little to what already was understood to

ing of loads to reduce outages.

Nearly another \$1 million comes from extra business tax revenue.

And so on.

The argument goes that homeowners in Westmount are so overtaxed some of us might not be able to stay in our homes. Taxes have gone up because the value of our houses has increased. If we can't hold on to our houses in Westmount, would we be better able to hold onto them in Montreal? There we would be paying more taxes on a house valued at \$200,000 than we pay in Westmount on a house valued at \$300,000.

Those of us who own houses in Westmount probably made the best investment of our lives. We have increased our capital investment and enjoyed the best living conditions available anywhere for ourselves and our families.

In spite of this, I and the other members of council have been trying to tighten up the running of the city so that it will be even more efficient. We've done a lot so far. One of our next major efforts will be to control the MUC budget, which has gone up an average of six percent a year since 1987 and will go up seven percent in 1991. *Noblesse oblige*, maybe. But if Westmount can stop that runaway, we will have performed a service for everyone in the MUC.

So it's time we stopped poor-mouthing and be grateful.

What, then, should we do with this surplus?

We should be putting it aside for the tax increases we can expect starting in 1992 when everything will be re-evaluated for the coming three years. We seem headed into difficult times. Should we not be preparing for them? I am against precipitous tax increases or decreases. We should plan for as much stability as possible over the next four years and reserve funds for that.

We should be putting as much of the windfall \$5 million into our library building fund. Our first library was built out of a windfall. That too could have been given back to the taxpayers nearly a century ago. But thanks to the thoughtfulness of those who ran the city then, we have inherited the architectural gem that is the original library.

It is sadly in disrepair and has been desecrated with tasteless add-ons; it needs our loving attention and our money. How much better to use our surplus for it than to float loan by-laws that will increase taxes for 10 or 20 years thereafter.

The years 1994-95 will be the 100th anniversary of the naming of Westmount. Should we not do something to show our appreciation for all that has been given us by leaving something in return?

This is what I intend, as mayor, to fight for and I am begging my council to go along.

our M.P.
David Berger
says...



Anti-bilingualism

"THE obligation to share one's cultural space with a foreign language is always a personal defeat or a state of weakness. If Adolf Hitler had won the war in 1945, Paris would be bilingual: French and German," said Quebec author Yves Beauchemin before the Bélanger-Campeau Commission.

It is hard to figure out what Yves Beauchemin was getting at. Presumably he was trying to compare the presence of English in Quebec to what would have occurred if Nazi Germany had defeated the French and German had been imposed by the victor on a vanquished population. Such an analogy is insidious and ludicrous.

The balance of Beauchemin's submission, as one can detect from the first sentence quoted above, consisted of a diatribe against bilingualism.

Mr Beauchemin can sleep in peace at nights knowing that unilingualism is alive and well in Canada.

Last week I took my two-year-old son and my three-year-old daughter to a performance by Suzanne Pinel. She is better known to kids as Marie Soleil. Her act includes a dog, Fergus, and a clown named Samuel.

Marie Soleil sings and speaks in French only. Fergus the dog sings and speaks in English only. The clown Samuel does not speak at all. He represents those young kids (and adults) who, when learning to speak another language, are too shy to express themselves.

Yves Beauchemin can sleep in peace. Unilingualism is alive and well in Canada.



Forty-five Years Ago
December 14, 1945

Lead story: "Two holdups of local stores were attempted last week, both by teen-aged boys. Two youths tried to hold up a Westmount store with a toy gun. . . Another holdup was staged by three youths just over the Westmount border in N.D.G., and although the young bandits got away, they took with them only \$2.42."
"Although money is still trickling in, T.D. Lewis, chairman of the Westmount Division of the Y Financial Campaign, reports his division went over the top with \$4,959, or 108.3% of their objective."

Thirty-five Years Ago
December 16, 1955

Fire Chief William Cobb asked that the space at the top of page one be made available for a fire safety story which outlined seasonal fire hazards such as: "Christmas trees not properly looked after. Defective electrical appliances. Gift wrappings allowed to pile up and constitute a fire hazard." Safety measures were also given: "If at all possible, obtain a treated fire-retarded Christmas Tree. Place tree in a pail of coal or sand and keep full of water. Sand or coal will keep tree upright. Examine the Christmas lights for frayed wires, loose or bare wiring. Dispose of the tree as soon as possible after the Holidays. Keep front and rear gallery clear of snow all winter long, as it is a secondary means of exit in case of a fire."

Twenty-five Years Ago
December 17, 1965

Tea Time Topics: Christmas menus in other lands. "Jamaicans, under sunny blue skies, enjoy lobster curry, yams and fried plantain. . . A German Christmas dinner usually consists of chicken soup, duck or goose with apple stuffing and red cabbage boiled with apples, vinegar and salt. They complete their meal with chocolate pudding and pears. To the Christian Japanese, Christmas dinner means sukiyaki, boiled octopus and rice cakes." Ad: "To All Housewives: We are glad to announce that the services of charwomen are now available. Also housekeepers, cooks and couples."

Ten Years Ago
December 18, 1980

Headline: "1981 budget hits homeowners. Tax increase about 12% despite credit scheme." Story: "Westmount homeowners will take the brunt of municipal tax increases in 1981 and the hikes will be made to seem even worse by the inclusion of water tax in the regular municipal tax bill. . . The tax rate has been set at \$2.60 per \$100 valuation. . . Westmount expects to reap a profit of more than \$1 million from its light and power department next year, money which will be used for general operating expenses, thus easing the overall property tax burden."

One Year Ago
December 14, 1989

"In a 4-2 split decision, Westmount city council has refused the owner of the 90-year-old house at 22 Summit Circle permission to demolish the structure and build a modern house in its place. Council was voting on the appeal launched by owner Annie Kenane of the demolition committee decision that denied her a permit to demolish the wooden house classified in the city's architectural heritage study released last year. . . 'When I agreed to sit on the demolition committee it was with the firm understanding that the demolition by-law would protect properties like 22 Summit Circle. If the demolition by-law can't protect 22 Summit Circle, I don't know what it can protect,' Mrs (Sally) Aitken said."



FERG GADZALA
WESTMOUNT EXAMINER

You Say

Motorist was entrapped by surprise new sign

I am writing this letter for the benefit of those who are unaware of a new traffic regulation prohibiting left-hand turns from eastbound St Catherine street onto Olivier avenue.

I received a rude shock last Friday morning (Dec 7) when I attempted that left turn and landed in a massive police trap.

I know there is no excuse for not noticing a traffic sign, but it was so new, and I had been out of the country for two weeks, so I missed the announcement of this change, if one had been made.

This turn has been on my regular beat for several years, and I made it through sheer force of habit without observing the new sign.

I imagine my companions in this bit of misery didn't notice it either, as motorists reacted with a great deal of confusion and consternation.

Tickets were being handed out instead of warnings, which would have been every bit as effective without causing widespread resentment.

Why almost the entire fleet of police cars from the Westmount station had to be deployed in this exercise boggles the mind. It was an extremely and unnecessarily heavy-handed approach.

In a brilliant bit of timing, the police managed to carry out this operation just as a major job of snow clearing was going on along lower Kensington, which completely blocked the street, making it impossible to turn left there, the last legal turn before Wood, so cars were forced to turn onto Olivier.

I feel the only decent and honorable course of action from the police department would be to cancel the tickets issued that day.

Where new regulations are suddenly sprung on the community, a month of warning tickets instead of heavy fines would be much more reasonable and fair.

Helgi Soutar

3 Hudson avenue
WESTMOUNT PQ H3Y 1Y6

Resident not convinced about business tax losses

In your Nov 22 story in which it was announced that the earlier forecasts of a \$5 million surplus might actually be doubled, Councillor Peter Trent was quoted thus, "We are richer than we thought but it underlies what I have been saying about sloppy budgeting. I don't know what you call it when it's this far out." Sloppy budgeting — what a generous euphemism indeed!

Your Nov 29 editorial, "On with it, Mr Trent" was right on in noting that the "windfall" revenues could have been foreseen.

It was not reported in THE EXAMINER that at the Nov 5 council meeting I contested the accuracy of some of the figures referred to in your Oct 4 story titled "City claims no cash lost from Château Maisonneuve in occupancy permit mix-up." I also informed council that I had not been given access to the relevant valuation rolls and that I still maintain my remarks about the lost millions of uncollected business taxes because of non-enforcement of the city by-laws requiring occupancy permits.

Since then, despite my access application of Nov 8, I was not given the business tax valuation rolls for the '70s starting from the year 1972-73 and for which only I was given the roll but with the information I sought missing therefrom. In fact, for these rolls, I was told first that they could not be located, then that they had not had time to look for them. All this delay for valuation rolls that must have been used by the finance department for Mr Trent to prepare his review noted above.

While the idea of a tax break is certainly welcomed by Westmount taxpayers, how much more of a break could there have been if the city had done its job better? Thus while I recognize and appreciate Councillor Trent's talents, I do not find his references in his letter last week to, for one, the severance package given to the last director-general funny, as he was the chair of the committee that determined that deal. Thus the joke is on us, the citizens of Westmount.

R.H. Ferahian

4998 de Maisonneuve boulevard
WESTMOUNT PQ H3Z 1N2

UN body's opinion on Bill 178 long overdue

It is about time that Canada was on the hot seat at the United Nations Human Rights Committee. The Quebec government and the federal government have operated as if they were not subject to any international justice.

After their three-day meeting with Canadian representatives (Oct 22 to 24), the Human Rights Committee unanimously and severely criticized the notwithstanding clause of the Charter of Rights which allowed Quebec to impose Bill 178 banning languages other than French on commercial signs, a ban which had been ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

The committee's complaints hit at the heart of Quebec's language law and indicate how the committee is going to rule when the complaint against Bill 178 by Gordon McIntyre of Huntingdon comes up for review. It means that the committee will decide that Canada and Quebec have violated the Covenant of Civil and Political Rights and will have to answer to the United Nations.

Claude Ryan, the Quebec minister now responsible for the French-only law, has commented that the committee doesn't know what is going on here. I believe they do, and have responded to the petition that supported Mr McIntyre's complaint, signed by some of the 10,000 people that have to exist under these unjust and racist laws of Quebec.

Maurice J. King

2311 Rockburn road
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Christmas Seals
are a hug
on every card



THE LUNG ASSOCIATION

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I Say!

INTELLIGENCE is quickness to apprehend as distinct from ability, which is capacity to act wisely on the thing apprehended.

—Alfred North Whitehead

Local courts deemed constitutional; Westmount may add night sittings

It's full steam ahead again for Westmount court cases since the Supreme Court last week ruled Quebec's municipal court system was indeed constitutional.

This week, Westmount court clerks were busy scheduling 79 criminal actions as well as 243 traffic and by-law offences delayed pending the decision.

The ruling also meant city hall inspectors could pick up where they left off in referring cases for court action without regarding the work as a possible exercise in futility.

Though many cases proceeded through court as usual where all parties agreed, Westmount Municipal Court sat only 61 times in 1990 compared with 80 last year as a result of the challenge, said court clerk René Daoust.

The Supreme Court of Canada's ruling Dec 5 ended the three-year challenge to the impartiality of part-time judges who work in the courts of 103 smaller Quebec municipalities and lifted their uneasiness.

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Numerous municipal judges and court workers travelled to Ottawa to hear the ruling first hand, said Mr Daoust, who has worked in courts for 33 years. "It was that important to them," he stated.

Ironically, Westmount's staff was unable to go because its court was in session the day its future was being decided.

Not surprised

Was Mr Daoust surprised by the decision of the highest court?

"Not at all," he said. "Not when you consider the mess that would have been created by cancelling the work of 103 municipal courts."

But Westmount's assistant court clerk Alan Kulaga expected the Supreme Court to rule against the court system since three levels of court already had done so.

Their disagreement proved one thing, they said.

"You can never predict how the Supreme Court will decide."

Only three municipal courts in Quebec were not threatened by the challenge since their judges are fulltime magistrates with full jurisdiction. These are Montreal, Quebec City and Laval.

All other municipal judges have distinct power to hear only summary conviction cases such as those involving impaired driving, assault or theft under \$1,000 in addition to traffic and other by-law offences.

Westmount maintained a fulltime magistrate until the retirement of Judge E.J. McManamy in 1978, Mr Daoust explained. It was just prior to his retirement that Westmount also gave up its night court sessions.



Revelling in the new lease on life given to municipal courts are Westmount court clerks Alan Kulaga, left, and René Daoust, who has worked in the court system for 32 years.

Plans to reinstate some night court sittings will be considered in

the new year in accordance with recent Quebec legislation adopted but not yet in force, Mr Daoust said.

Challenge made here

One of the initial challenges to the impartiality of judges was raised in Westmount by lawyer Christian Desrosiers on May 13, 1987, in his defence of an impaired driving case. Similar challenges were made simultaneously in other municipalities.

The municipal court has two part-time judges, A. Keith Ham and William P. Shaw. Both maintain law practices.

The majority of the court cases involve shoplifting at the M store in Place Alexis Nihon, traffic offences and by-law violations. The court system is considered particularly important to the city since it becomes the only mode of enforcing fire safety, building and sanitary regulations.

Mr Daoust said most court workers were eagerly awaiting the written decision of the Supreme Court setting forth its reasons. Last Wednesday's judgment came from the bench from Chief Justice Antonio Lamer.

Street crime and holdups mark pre-holiday week

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Robbers held up a bank, the Reddy Memorial Hospital and two pedestrians in Westmount last week as the Christmas shopping season moved into high gear.

Witnesses at the hospital holdup were reported to have been called to identify a suspect in a line-up but it was not known at press time yesterday if anyone was charged.

The holdup occurred Monday, Dec 3, about 3:40 pm when a man walked up to the glassed-in business office near the front door and began shaking his fists at a woman employee inside threatening, "I'll kill you!"

The woman phoned for security personnel but abandoned the office through a back way when no assistance arrived. The robber forced open the door and helped himself to an undisclosed amount of cash before leaving.

In another robbery the same day, a Westmount woman was slightly injured when robbed of her purse and her drycleaning outside 4251 St Catherine street near Olivier avenue.

According to police, a female suspect clutched onto the victim feigning sickness as she was leaving Bon Ton cleaners about 9:50 am. She then tugged the purse and cleaning bag away from the victim. The purse spilled some of its contents on the ground. The suspect escaped in a car, believed to be a dark blue Buick driven by a man.

The pair, who were seen by three witnesses, abandoned the bag and dry cleaning which were found intact in front of 15 Ingleside avenue. A car licence was recorded and the holdup is under investigation. The victim was identified as a 41-year-old Westmount resident.

The next afternoon about 1:15, a young man approached a teller at the Bank of Montreal in Place Alexis Nihon handing her a piece of paper on which was written "Holdup." He then said in French he wanted only \$20 bills and displayed part of a

revolver inside his coat. He was given an unknown amount of cash and fled into the mall.

In an aborted holdup last Thursday, a suspect reportedly tried to steal a microwave oven from a man walking along Clondeboye avenue, police said. He finally ran off when the victim began yelling.

The incident occurred about 5 pm as the 64-year-old resident of Prospect street was carrying the item home in a box. When the suspect initially tapped him on the back with a hard object telling him to drop the box, he thought it was a joke. Repeated demands convinced him the suspect meant business so he began to yell for help. No weapons were seen by the victim.

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Real Estate

By Reg Morden

TESTS ON IMPROVING PROPERTY

Owners of vacant land are often confronted with the problem of whether or not to improve it. Should a person who owns land being leased as a parking lot build an office building on it? Before starting to make such an investment, a few economic principles should be considered.

It's not a good idea to put more money in a property than the prospective income from it will support. Three criteria are usually used to determine the amount of investment income that should be realized. First, there is the matter of invested capital. It should all be returned throughout the useful life of the improvement. Secondly, the income should pay interest on the total investment on a similar level with the risk. Thirdly, all costs of operation of the property should be covered in the income.

These same principles and criteria can be applied when deciding whether or not to put more capital into improvements that are already on the land. The key question to ask about improving vacant land or adding to improvements is: "Will it add more value to the property?"

The Joyous Season

Most of us take the upcoming holiday season in stride. Good food, lots of parties, and special presents. Truly this is a festive time of the year. However, not everyone is so lucky or as blessed. Tragically, there are thousands of Montrealers who will never experience the celebrating that the majority of us take for granted. These unfortunates must rely on others for things as basic as food. The Sun Youth Organization has an ongoing Christmas program of support. This year, there are more families dependent than ever before. Now is the time to unleash your holiday spirit and share your good fortune. A basket to receive your donations for Sun Youth is now available at our office. Foodstuffs, particularly meat and fish, are anxiously sought after. New toys are also welcome and if wrapped, please mark by age and sex. We will guarantee delivery for distribution to the needy in time for Christmas. A very sincere "thank you" in advance on behalf of the recipients.

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CLSC will be open more days and longer hours under new health act

The local community health clinic expects to provide extended health and social care and be open longer hours when the provincial government's health reforms are enacted.

"The CLSC will be asked to provide first line (health care) services," said the executive director of the CLSC Metro, Marie Beauchamp.

The CLSC, based at de Maisonneuve and Guy, serves the Westmount area. There is also a branch at 300 Victoria avenue in Westmount.

Ms Beauchamp said while it was too early to be specific, she expects that the CLSC will be open longer hours and more days. Now it's open five days a week from 8 am to 8 pm. The Westmount branch is open only three days a week.

She also expects home care services for seniors and handicapped to be increased which includes home-maker, nursing and counselling services.

Ms Beauchamp says it's cheaper and often better to treat someone at home instead of putting them in an institution.

Provincial Health Minister Marc-Yvan Côté announced major reforms to Quebec's health network on Friday. He said CLSCs (Centres Locaux

de Services Communautaires), would be given a bigger budget, more doctors and social services.

The CLSC Metro had a budget of \$4,928,913 last year.

Another announced change would be charging \$5 to people who use emergency wards unnecessarily.

Would help hospitals

Réjean Plante, director general of Westmount's Reddy Memorial Hospital, said the proposed change would take some pressure off hospitals.

"It pushes people to use CLSC services and clinics unless it's a real emergency," he said. "Not everyone in the hospital needs hospital services."

It is unclear how the fee would be collected and for what specific reasons, and has received criticism from other sectors.

Provincial reforms also call for more doctors to work at hospitals and CLSCs. Mr Plante says this will make it easier for his hospital to recruit doctors who sometimes believe it is more lucrative to work in a private clinic. He said it can be difficult to find doctors to work in emergency or intensive care at his hospital.

Joanne Grosman, the director of Contactivity, a Westmount group for seniors, said many seniors groups are concerned about the proposed changes, especially one that requires seniors to pay a portion of their prescription drugs, which are now free.

Ms Grosman did say keeping

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

CLSCs open more days and longer hours was a good idea.

Westmount Councillor Sally Aitken, who sits on the CLSC Metro's board of directors, said that Quebec's health system needs changing.

"A rationalization of services is in order," she said.

Mrs Aitken doesn't believe that English health and social services in Westmount would be threatened because of the announced changes.

Some have argued that because many services handled by Ville Marie Social Services Centre, an English institution, will be transferred to CLSCs and other institutions,

Democracy in action

Westmounter Joan Fraser, *The Gazette* editorial page editor, is part of a four-member team in a course on democracy being offered at Marymount Academy in January, February and March.

The other three members are John Humphrey, co-author of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Graeme Decarie, chairman of Concordia University's history department, and A. R. Riggs, head of North American Studies and American History at McGill University.

The cost for the four-week course (one session per week) is \$25. It is organized by the Centre for Democracy and Human Rights, affiliated with My Brother's Keeper.

Mr Humphrey will speak on forms of constitution, Mr Decarie talks about what is participatory democracy, Mr Riggs addresses famous writings on democracy and Ms Fraser discusses how you can make a difference in creating and maintaining a democracy.

To register, or for more information, call 932-3267.

there might be a problem getting served in English.

Mrs Aitken said that has never a problem at the fully bilingual CLSC Metro. She also says the Westmount branch functions primarily in English. The important thing is to provide service in the language of the customer, whether that be

French, English or Chinese, Ms Aitken said.

Ms Beauchamp agreed, pointing out that the CLSC Metro has been bilingual for 12 years.

"We would not stop providing English services," she said.

Westmount MNA Richard Holden could not be reached for comment.



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WESTMOUNT

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ADDRESS: _____
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DATE OF EMISSION: _____

doing what?

- The following building permits were issued at Westmount city hall recently:
- Dec 3**
320 Redfern: for A. Roussos by François Guilbault, kitchen renovations, \$12,000;
1255 Greene: for 119078 Canada Inc (The Toronto-Dominion Bank) by contractor yet to be determined, alterations, \$750,000;
 - Dec 4**
4039 Tupper: for Reddy Memorial Hospital by Plomberie Riopel and Gagnon, install three plumbing fixtures, \$4,000;
 - Dec 5**
128 Arlington: for Dr Lorne Wiseman by contractor yet to be determined, interior renovations, \$50,000;
 - Dec 6**
120 Arlington: for J. Stoddart and C. Demers by contractor yet to be determined, exterior renovations, \$10,000;
4331 Montrose: for Dr R. Munz by McHenry Plumbing, gas fireplace, \$450;
50 Hillside: for Centre St Marguerite by Plomberie Moderne, ten fixtures, \$5,000;
 - Dec 7**
3040 Sherbrooke: for Dawson College by Beauchamp, Dalli and Collin, 14 fixtures (temporary gas connections), \$3,000.



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1991 budget kicks off council

First major snowstorm cost city \$200,000

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

Two separate council meetings take place back-to-back Monday starting at 8 pm with the presentation of Westmount's 1991 operating and capital expenditures budgets.

The budget session will end with a public question period devoted only to budget matters.

A second meeting to consider regular business will then open with the customary question period followed by the following agenda items:

- Statements of financial interests of city council members;
- City council expenses;
- Adoption of 1991 interest rates on overdue accounts;
- List of accounts for the month ending Nov 30, 1990;
- Purchase of 28 decorative street lighting poles with lights for Arygle and Metcalfe avenues;
- Purchase of \$5,000 speed washer extractor for firefighters' bunker suits;
- Purchase of special lights for Westmount Park; and
- Cadastral operation to allow for an extension to 4326 Westmount avenue.

It cost Westmount more than \$200,000 to clean up the 17 centimetres of snow that blanketed the city during the storm Monday last week, Westmount's public works chief confirmed Tuesday.

That might seem like a lot of money for someone who just has a driveway to clear, Fred Caluori said, but for the city of Westmount it's a normal cost for cleaning up a snowstorm.

The cost would have been even higher, about \$8,000 more, if loading operations had extended into Saturday because of added overtime expenses, Mr Caluori said.

He admitted that snow clearing operations got off to a slow start. The reasons included heavy wet snow which was difficult to clear; long line-ups at the Concorde Bridge where trucks unload the snow into the St Lawrence river; many truckers were new to the Westmount area; and one snowblower broke down for one hour because of a transmission oil leak.

By 7 pm on Friday, all snow loading was finished, Mr Caluori said. In Westmount, the public works department is not allowed to load snow after 10 pm. Other municipalities load at night.

The cost of the snow clearing operations for the snowstorm break down to \$44,200 for regular-hour labor for about 50 city employees,

\$20,900 for overtime labor, \$34,900 for city equipment (the city rents it to itself to calculate the costs), \$12,900 for hired equipment, \$66,000 for about 50 hired dump trucks and \$21,200 for 509 tonnes of salt used.

Joyriders from Hull arrested in laneway

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A joy-ride in a stolen car ended abruptly Saturday when three Ottawa youths were arrested single-handed in Westmount by a police officer here. Two were to be charged in the incident.

Two of the trio, aged 16 and 19, had previous records and were put in detention. A third 14-year-old was released unconditionally.

The three were spotted driving a 1987 Volkswagen Jetta by local Montreal Urban Community police sergeant Robert Boulé who was patrolling alone near St Catherine street and Atwater avenue about 12:40 pm.

"I noticed the car had a broken vent window and started to put (the licence) into my car computer," he told THE EXAMINER. "I imagine they saw me because they tried to move very fast through the Tupper lane."

The car was going too fast when it exited the lane on to Greene avenue north of Dorchester boulevard, striking a low wall on the west side of the street at RCMP headquarters, he said.

"They left it there and ran across St Catherine street to the rear of the Cumberland pharmacy."

He said he found them hiding behind the buildings where he was able to keep them cornered until backup arrived.

"The car had been stolen in Hull that day," said the 38-year-old sergeant. "They were on a joy-ride."

A brown substance believed to be hashish was recovered on the 19-year-old suspect. He was charged with drug possession as well as possession of a stolen car, police said. He was also wanted on a warrant in connection with three cases involving stolen goods in the Hull-Ottawa region.

The driver of the car, the 16-year-old, was also charged with possession of a stolen car, police said.

Electrical connectors to start a car also were recovered.

The car was reported to have sustained up to \$500 damage to the front end.



Terry Woroniak trims Patrick Blue's "fresh pine bow tie."

Photo by CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

Pine people dressing up

Deep in the bowels of the Westmount wreath factory, the entrepreneurial elves of Christmas Expressions are busy manufacturing this year's supply of pine goodies.

And this year, their third in business, Westmounters Patrick Blue, Charles Alexander and former Westmounter Terry Woroniak will be selling two new products besides their mainstay — handmade wreaths.

This year there's also the gingerbread houses and, get ready for this, fresh pine bow ties.

That's right, natural fresh pine bow ties. The ties, which sell for \$15,

will be worn by Ritz-Carlton employees at this year's New Year's eve bash, the entrepreneurs say.

The jolly threesome will sell their wares in Westmount on weekends in front of the Old Post Office on Greene avenue. They all have other full-time jobs.

They donate \$1 of every wreath sold to The Missing Children's Network. Wreaths range in price from \$15 to \$25.

Most of the greenery comes from the Eastern Townships while pine cones used as wreath decoration come from Oka, Vermont, and as far away as Mount Washington.



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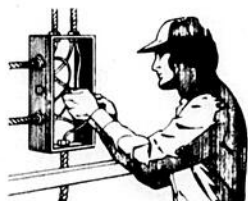


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STATION 23 LOG

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The following are some items from the files of Montreal Urban Community police Station 23, which covers Westmount:

It's curtains for forgetful cop cash

A man who hid \$360 in the lining of some drapes forgot to take it out before sending them to a local cleaner last week, police said. When he picked them up on Wednesday, the money was gone.

The victim, a 54-year-old retired police officer from local Montreal Urban Community police Station 23, immediately reported the disappearance of the cash as theft. He said the money was in an envelope.

Police said they did not want to disclose the name of the dry cleaners since it was not determined how the cash had vanished. Maybe someone cleaned the curtains out earlier, it was suggested. The officer lives on the south shore.

VCR absconded

Someone reportedly broke into an apartment at 4300 de Maisonneuve boulevard Sunday shortly after the resident's purse was stolen downtown, police said. A key was believed to have been used to gain entry. Jewelry and a video machine were stolen between 2:30 and 3:15 pm.

Dawson site raided

Numerous tools were discovered missing from the Dawson College construction site at 4021 de Maisonneuve boulevard Friday morning, police report. Locks had been broken on two tool boxes. Among the stolen items were electric saws, drills and sanders as well as extension cords.

Christmas cheer-io

Somewhere a thief has a well-stocked liquor cupboard for the holidays while a Westmount resident has none.

Fifteen bottles along with a pendant were reported stolen from an apartment at 4278 Sherbrooke street Wednesday last week, police said. The missing booze included rye, gin, vodka, cognac, Grand Marnier and brandy. The place was broken into through the front door between 9 am and 7:30 pm.

Pitstop problem

A car was stolen Saturday outside 46 Surrey Gardens when the driver went inside the residence for two minutes leaving the car door open, police said. It was not known if the 1986 Volkswagen Golf had been left with the engine running. It was valued at \$6,500 and contained boots, books and personal papers. It was reportedly stolen between 4:48 and 5 pm. It belongs to a 27-year-old man living on Queen Mary road.

Brick thrown

Someone threw a brick into the window of a car parked Sunday afternoon at Greene avenue and Prospect street, police said. Reason for the vandalism was not known. The 1985 Plymouth sustained about \$400 damage.

Bus, car collide

A bus and a car sustained less than \$500 damage each when they collided at noon Monday last week on Sherbrooke street near Strathcona avenue, police report. The bus was pulling away from the curb westbound when the accident occurred. The car, a 1987 Ford, was driven by a 27-year-old Montreal woman.

Break-in at Belair

Money disappeared from the Belair travel agency Monday morning, Dec 3, police said. Though no signs of forced entry were found, marks were noticed on the front door the next day. The break-in was believed to have occurred between 8:10 and 11:30 am.

Three plant pots, two pair scissors and a-a-a-a window

Gardening supplies were reportedly stolen from the Westmount Florist shop on Victoria avenue sometime Monday night, according to police. The incident was discovered at 7 am Tuesday. Six plants, three pots and two pairs of scissors disappeared after the suspect gained entry by a grilled window at the rear, causing \$300 damage.

Guards threatened

A 30-year-old Montreal man was charged with assault and uttering death threats against two security guards at Place Alexis Nihon Monday last week, police said.

The incident followed a discussion over an undisclosed matter between the suspect and the agent at the M store about 7:35 pm. The suspect followed the agent and his partner to the Pik Nik concession for a coffee. A shoving match ensued and the suspect was pinned to the ground. Montreal Urban Community police were called to arrest the man. After investigation at local Station 23, he was transferred downtown to headquarters.

Charges requested in conjugal assault

A Westmount man was arrested early Monday after his wife suffered a four-inch cut in her forehead during a family dispute at their home, police said. The man was reported to have minor cuts on the back of his head and ear.

Police said they had requested that charges be laid against the 43-year-old man who was detained and sent downtown to headquarters. In cases of conjugal violence, said Const Gaston Bernier, suspects are generally freed only under conditions set by the court.

He said police and other emergency personnel were called to the home about 1:21 am when the woman's husband called 911. A pressure bandage was applied before arrival

of Urgences Santé but the woman refused transport to hospital. It was believed she would go on her own.

The fight was reported to have occurred over family matters during which the 47-year-old woman was hit in the face inflicting the cut and a nose bleed.

Mack rams tree

A city tree was no match for a trailer truck from Proviso which backed into it Tuesday last week on Braeside Place, according to police reports. The Mack truck was unscathed but the tree sustained up to \$500 damage. The accident took place about 4:30 pm outside The Study.

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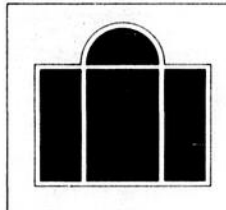
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Street numbers now standing out

Westmount residents appear to have taken steps to improve the visibility of their civic numbers over the past four years, according to public security officials.

A follow-up campaign by the security unit last month revealed only 211 address deficiencies compared

with 1,131 recorded when the city was checked in late 1986 and early 1987, said director Richard McEnroe.

"We're pleased people seem to have made recommended changes," he explained.

The address check was launched to help emergency personnel find civic

numbers more quickly. One of the prime concerns was the lack of numbers on back doors opening onto laneways. Other problems included numbers hidden by foliage as well as those that were either too small or not standing out against the background.

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Sofa fire at Plaza Tower evicts 53-year-old woman

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two Plaza Tower security guards were taken to hospital suffering smoke inhalation last Thursday after a cigarette ignited a sofa chair in an apartment on the 20th floor, fire officials said. The fire, which was quickly put out, caused \$900 damage.

The two guards were advised to leave the smoky hallway but refused, according to public safety officers. Both were identified by Montreal Urban Community police as aged 24.

Firefighters found the apartment and hallway at 4000 de Maisonneuve filled with smoke on their arrival shortly after 8:19 pm, fire officials said. A fire hose from the standpipe was already laid into the apartment where the guards had been fighting the fire. The work was finished off by firefighters who reported the fire out by 8:30 pm.

A smoke detector in the apartment was activated by the fire, according to fire investigator Barry Coates, who said the building's alarm system "worked the way it was supposed to."

Complaints were reported from the 23rd floor from residents saying the alarm had rung only briefly and

then shut off. An intercom communication subsequently told tenants all was in order.

"The pre-alarm rang but there was no need for a general alarm," said Lieut Coates. He said the general alarm is activated by firefighters on arrival at the building if it is to be evacuated.

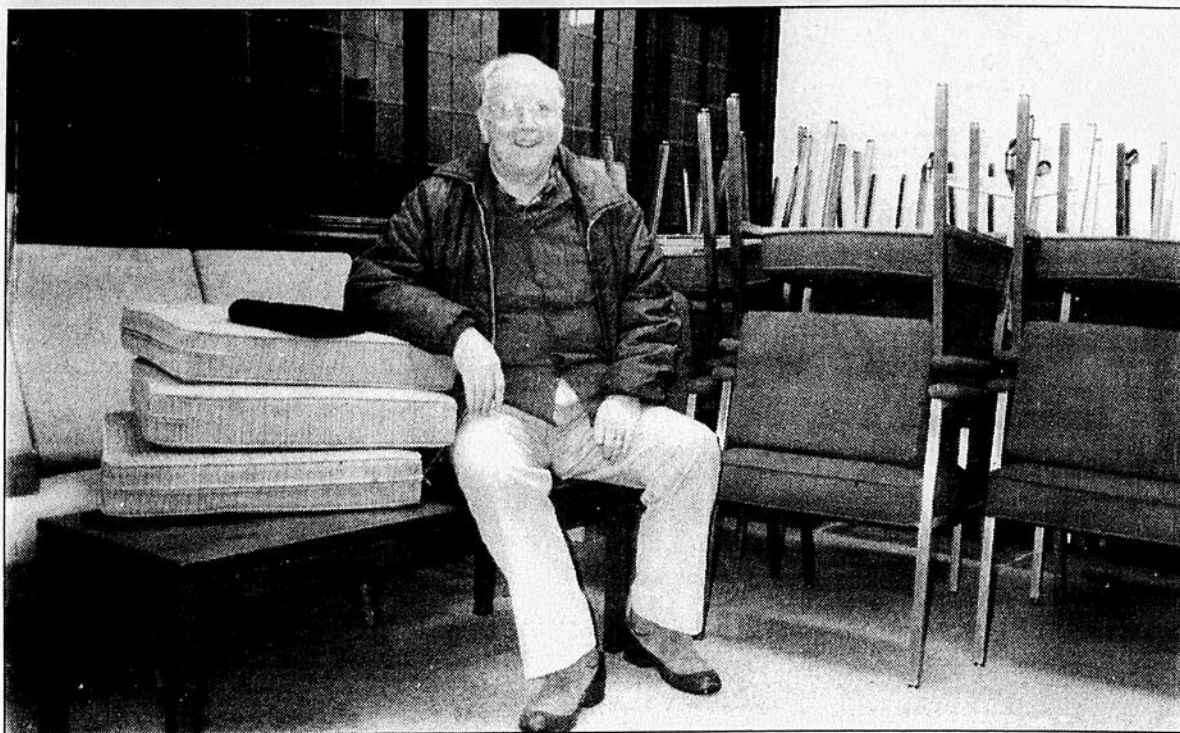
A pre-taped message was played over the intercom stating firemen were investigating, he said. "There are different tapes depending on the situation."

The fire was small and probably would not even have activated sprinklers had they been installed, Lieut Coates explained. The building is being retro-fitted with an automatic sprinkler system.

Fire damage of \$900 was confined to the chair, a mattress and carpet. The apartment sustained an unestimated amount of smoke damage, fire officials said. The tenant, a 53-year-old woman, was forced to seek shelter with a relative, police said.

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A blessed moving day



On Saturday, Rev Ralph Watson was inundated with boxes and furniture as the United Church Regional Office moved into Westmount Park United Church. The office was to be closed Monday, but open Tuesday for regular business.

Photo by ALISON RAMSEY

Westmount Y to maintain prices despite GST

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

The Westmount YMCA, fearing the GST would render its fees too expensive, will not increase its

prices in January when the seven percent tax is expected to become applicable, the local Y's director said last week.

Technically, the cost of a yearly single adult membership will drop from \$450 to \$420, but when the 7 percent tax is added, the cost works out to \$449.40. Without a price drop, the GST would have resulted in a \$481.50 fee.

The maximum yearly membership fee for a family dropped to \$1,165 from \$1,250, but will work out to \$1,246.55 with the GST. If the old price had been retained, that fee would have risen to \$1,337.50.

"We felt the GST on top of the price of membership would make it very expensive for the average person," director Toni Braide said Friday.

The local Y's 15-member board of directors voted Nov 26 to absorb the cost of the seven percent federal tax and maintain dues at their present level.

Ms Braide said the move was not taken because the Y has been losing members. She said membership is "good" at its present level of 2,440. Membership was 2,794 in May.

The Westmount Y's former direc-

tor, Hope Korytko, told THE EXAMINER last spring that the Y would have 3,000 members by May. There were 2,100 at the beginning of the year.

What is important, Ms Braide said, is that annual membership is stable. There are 1,699 annual members, down from May's total of 1,968. She said that the retention rate for annual members is at 71 percent.

"These are hard times and everybody is feeling the pinch," she said.

In an effort to boost membership, the Y will now be offering three-month memberships costing \$135 for adults, plus GST (\$144.45). Previously there were three-month deals which could only be renewed annually. Between September and November 350 people have chosen that option.

"That made us realize that people like more flexibility," Ms Braide said.

Ms Braide said she is happy with membership and will now concentrate on finding out what the community's needs are.

Among the contemplated programs is one to recruit volunteers from high schools. Volunteers get a free membership for a work commitment.

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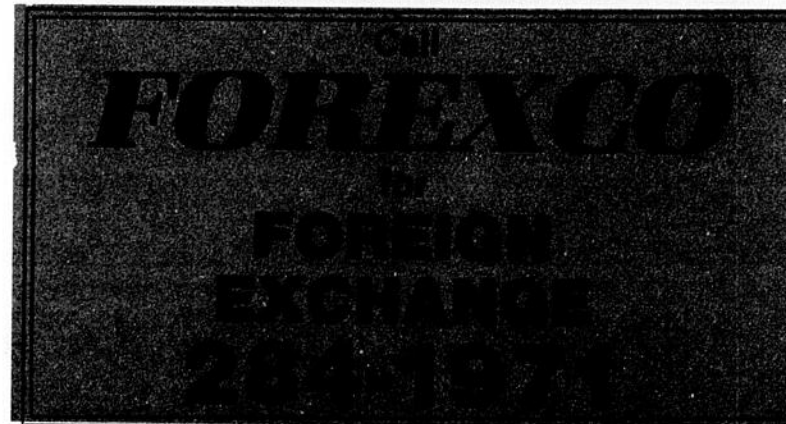
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Lack of proper permits reaps homeowner fines

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A local homeowner was fined \$1,906 for failing to obtain required renovation permits and for carrying out non-conforming work on a back porch, in one of five recent rulings obtained by city inspectors in Westmount Municipal Court.

Court documents show Denis Roy, whose case dates back to the summer of 1989, faced some 27 counts recorded day-by-day concerning alterations to the kitchen and building of an enclosed porch at the rear of the home at 41 Stayner street.

The accused, who changed his plea from not guilty to guilty, was fined \$100 on each of 14 counts for \$1,400 along with a suspended sentence on 13 others. Court costs amounted to a total of \$327.

Inspectors said the foundation of the verandah was built of wrong

materials and was too big, creating an illegal view on the neighbor.

The case was delayed for a time at request of the accused to allow him time to comply, during which time an architect was hired. At the time of sentencing by the court, Nov 27, work was reported as incomplete but permits had been obtained.

In a separate sentence the same day, Mr Roy received an additional \$100 fine after pleading guilty to another charge of failing to obtain a building permit and was assessed \$79 in costs.

In a case taken by the city under its maintenance by-law, Tipomobil Anstalt, owners of the apartment complex at 4300 de Maisonneuve boulevard, were ordered to pay a \$300 fine plus \$22 costs for failing to prevent unauthorized entry to the side door on Redfern avenue. At the time of sentencing, inspectors said the problem of unlocked doors still existed.

In two other cases, two homeowners were fined for failing to maintain the outside steps of their premises in a safe condition, dating back to March 1990.

One, Jacqueline Pinsonnaux, was ordered to pay a \$150 fine plus \$26 in costs regarding stairs at 485 Victoria avenue. Required repairs were reported to have been made by time of sentencing. Another, D. O'Brien of 6135 Sherbrooke street, was fined \$100 with \$83 in court costs for failing to fix steps of a triplex at 478-480-482 Wood avenue.

Installation of a solid canopy between the back door of a house and its garage at 9 de Casson road resulted in a fine of \$200 and \$46 in costs for Mrs M. Rochefort-Ville-neuve. The work contravened the city's zoning by-law which requires an uncovered space be maintained between house and garage, inspectors explained. The court action dates back to July 18, 1988, though the date of hearing was listed as Oct 23, 1990.

Paccini sign ripped down

A 19-year-old Town of Mount Royal man was arrested by public safety officers Friday at 3:05 am for allegedly tearing down a metal sign at Paccini's restaurant, 4056 St Catherine street, according to police.

He was released without charges after agreeing to pay for the damage, according to public security reports.

The young man was spotted walking along St Catherine with two companions by public security officer Greg Cockerell who stopped to question them about the damage.

One of the group reportedly admitted to the damage and was detained.

Police said the case was not done "by the book" and the suspect should have been arrested before questioning if charges were to have been laid. Damage was estimated at \$75.



Where were they going?

The following calls were answered by the Westmount Fire Brigade during the past week:

Dec 4

- 2:14 pm: 580 Roslyn, defective smoke detector;
- 2:31 pm: 52 Academy, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc cancelled at 2:36 pm, smoke detector activated by plumber soldering;
- 10:13 pm: Rear of 649 Grosvenor, sparking electric wires;

Dec 5

- 8:38 am: Aberdeen, north of The Boulevard, smell of gas from base of two light standards, referred to gas crews;
- 10:03 am: 515 Roslyn, first responder unit for medical assistance;
- 1:07 pm: 1 de Casson, smoke detector activated by dust from workers;
- 4:45 pm: 5795 Caldwell, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 4:53 pm;
- 6:04 pm: 400 Lansdowne, first responder unit for medical assistance;
- 8:32 pm: Rear of 52 Rosemount, Bell Canada wires down;
- 11:34 pm: 369 Clarke, apt 2, odor of burnt food from cleaning of oven;

Dec 6

- 1:02 am: 4476 de Maisonneuve, overloaded circuit breaker from portable heater;
- 11:43 am: 1 Westmount Square, first responder unit for medical assistance;
- 8:19 pm: 4000 de Maisonneuve, apt 2007, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled respectively at 9:17 pm and 9:35 pm, fire in apartment (see story page 10);

Dec 7

- 12:42 am: 360 Selby, first responder unit for medical assistance;
- 11:18 am: 5805 Côte St Luc road, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Hampstead cancelled at 11:20 am;
- 12:45 pm: 52 Academy, complaint concerning dusty corridors;

Dec 8

- 12:59 pm: 1238 Greene, first responder unit for medical assistance;
- 5:12 pm: 1346 Greene, smoke detector activated by dust from sweeping;

Dec 9

- 10:45 am: 395 Elm, Temple Emanu-El Beth Shalom, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 10:58 am, smell of gas from pilot light going out;
- 4:20 pm: King George Park, first responder unit for medical assistance;
- 5:22 pm: 4998 de Maisonneuve, apt 910, code 3 automatic mutual aid cancelled at 5:29 pm, burnt food;
- 11:05 pm: 5 St George's Place, burnt food;

Dec 10

- 1:22 am: 418 Wood, first responder unit;
- 11:01 pm: 4675 St Catherine, arena, first responder unit for medical assistance to man with injured shoulder;

Dec 11

- 3:55 am: 3033 Sherbrooke, first responder unit for medical assistance;
- 7:12 am: 4039 Tupper, Reddy Memorial Hospital, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 7:18 am, smoke detector activated by Bunsen burner.

Centennial gives \$16,000 to telethon

Students from Centennial Academy recently presented a cheque for \$16,000 to the Telethon of Stars. This is the fourth year that funds have been raised for the telethon.

To date, more than \$40,000 has been given by Centennial students to fund research into children's diseases at Montreal Children's and Ste Justine's hospitals.

Three firms fined for faulty flyers

Three firms distributing advertising flyers and free newspapers in Westmount were fined and charged costs for a total of \$4,958 in Westmount Municipal Court on Nov 27 and Dec 4, court officials report.

They had been charged with improper distribution by failing to comply with the city's by-law requiring such items to be pushed completely through the door or left out of sight from the street.

M.P.M. Media, which distributed flyers for such firms as Proviso and Pharmaprix, was fined \$50 plus court costs on each of 31 cases in sentence rendered by Judge William Shaw on Dec 4. These totalled \$1,550 in fines and \$548 in costs for a combined total of \$2,098.

Also fined on 38 cases was Media Distribution, a division of Québecor which delivered for

Steinberg, Jean Coutu and The Suburban among others. It was ordered to pay a grand total of \$2,566 in fines and costs for 38 separate cases. These consisted of \$1,900 in fines and \$666 in court costs.

The distribution cases had been postponed for several months pending an amendment which eased sentencing conditions in the city's circular by-law 1032. M.P.M. Media had pleaded not guilty but changed its plea to guilty after the amendment change, meaning lengthy trials were not required, said René Daoust, clerk of court.

Also on Dec 4, Distribution Rapi-Port Inc, was found guilty by default in three cases and ordered to pay \$150 in fines and \$144 in costs also in contravention of by-law 1032.

Patient returned to hospital

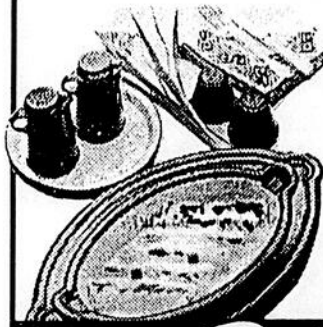
A disoriented patient was returned to the Montreal General Hospital Friday afternoon when found by public safety officers at Sherbrooke and Kitchener, police said.

He was wearing a bathrobe, slippers and hospital bracelet.

Police identified him as a 63-year-old suffering brain damage from alcohol abuse.

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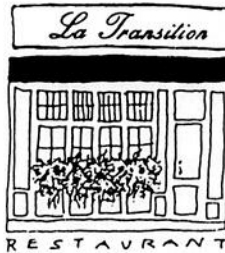
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WMA approves city tax plan

The Westmount Municipal Association approves the city's decision to reduce the mill rate by 11 percent.

WMA president Thomas Thompson wrote a letter to council asking for a reduction of seven to 10 percent in 1991 and a similar reduction in 1992.

He wrote asking that the surplus be used to "cover the costs of the most sought after improvements to services — either library, roads or other development incentives to improve Westmount without a loan burden and high debt payments."

Furthermore, the WMA wants Westmount to "maintain the highest possible reserve to cover unexpected budget pressure from the Montreal Urban Community and the Quebec government."

At a directors' meeting Monday, the WMA also reviewed its environmental policies it plans to submit to city hall.

The WMA is also backing efforts by WMA members Kim Hong and Wade Allen to form a Westmount tenants' association. There is now no active tenants' right group for all of Westmount's tenants, 56 percent of the population. Individual buildings have their own groups. Tenants' rights activist Jerry Jacobs is also helping to organize the tenants' group.

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These donations will be delivered on a weekly basis to SUN YOUTH during the month of December.

CELEBRATE TCHAIKOVSKY



2:30pm

December 16

ROGER NORRINGTON, *conductor*
GUY FOUQUET, *cello*

HAYDN: *Symphony No. 49, "La Passione"*
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Children 15 years old and under will get a 50% reduction on the price of tickets when accompanied by a parent.

Tickets: \$17, \$13, \$8

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DE MONTRÉAL CHARLES DUTOIT**

Atwater library thank-you



The day-long open house at the Atwater library, to thank its fundraisers and donors, drew a crowd of about 50 on Thursday noon. Westmount Mayor May Cutler pointed to its fine example of private organizations offering public services at their own initiative. She said a long-awaited decision on whether the city will help fund the library, and how much will be pledged, should be public Monday.

TAX...

continued from page one

major projects," she said.

The mayor, strongly backed by Councillor Paul Fortin, favors retaining more of the surplus to cushion hard times and avoid borrowing for proposed major renovations of the library. She supported an earlier plan for a mill rate of \$1.35.

Councillor Peter Trent, who chairs council's finance and administration committee, said the exact allocation of the 1990 surplus has not yet been determined.

He said the city would be tabling a \$10-million capital expenditures program for 1991, however. This is almost double the \$5.6 million 1990 program.

Though the various positions of all councillors were not known at press time yesterday, Joan Rothman last week called for the lowest possible mill rate, saying the city's surplus must return directly to citizens.

Mr Fortin, who had been out-of-town for yesterday's meeting, told THE EXAMINER from Toronto that he supported the mayor's desire to keep the mill rate low over four years

rather than having it dip sharply once.

He also approved using some of the money to finance renovations to the library. "I think it's a great idea," he said.

"Returning taxes is not the way to go," he explained. "This money should be used to build a better Westmount. This money doesn't belong to anyone. It comes from new condos. It's not a matter of overtaxing. It's not a ripoff."

Rolland Benard, president of the Westmount Finance Action Committee, wants all the surplus returned as a rebate by the end of this year.

But the Westmount Municipal Association has consistently stated at council meetings that the surplus must be kept to balance taxes in the next few years, while keeping expenses low (see separate story).

Westmount is expected to have an

even greater proportion of the shared costs of the Montreal Urban Community.

The tax rate compromise was resolved by council "after a big fight and a lot of threats from me," Mayor Cutler said. "I got an extra \$2 million into the reserve."

She said she was specially concerned by uncontrolled escalating costs in the Montreal Urban Community. Westmount's share is expected to increase disproportionately. (For more on the mayor's position, see her column, page four.)

The MUC's billion-dollar budget was presented to suburban mayors Tuesday night revealing a 7.1 percent increase of \$64 million.

Westmount is expected to reduce its own expenditures when the new budget is tabled at 8 pm Monday in the council chamber.

CARE FOR:

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- the depressed
- the mentally-ill
- retarded adults
- the handicapped
- transients
- the unemployed
- the unemployable
- runaways
- the unloved
- the unlovely
- alcoholics
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- the dying

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- mailing address

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It's time to wrap up shopping with ideas from area merchants

Victoriana is everywhere this year. If you can believe what you see in Westmount shops, Christmas trees this year will be dripping with lace and bows, clever copies of antique Santas, elaborate glass ornaments and dimpled cherubs.

Gifts will be wrapped in lacy white and pink, tied with lace, or — from the environmentally conscious — gorgeous reusable paper bags, again with Victorian decorations.

But what will go under the tree and into the bags? We took a look in several local shops for the unusual, the non-specific, the inexpensive and the wildly extravagant.

There are many of us who are congenitally incapable of walking past Pier I, 4823 Sherbrooke street west, home of unusual gifts and a bewildering array of decorations. Right now, this is the place to buy anything in brass, from simple candle holders to elaborate boxes and enameled bowls, since the store is offering 20 percent off on all brass.

For a special lady, take a look at beautiful enameled wooden jewelry boxes in a range of sizes and prices.

At Victoire-Victorine, 4859 Sherbrooke street, there is a similar richness of choice for those who are looking for small (in size as well as price) gifts. Stocking stuffers abound, and many of the tiny things ostensibly made for children would equally delight many grownups.

Victoire-Victorine is the home of what has to be the world's most beautiful doll carriage, a vision in white wicker and lace. At \$275 it is the dream gift for indulgent grandparents to buy.

While I was in this shop, my attention was drawn to a tiny girl who was happily ensconced in an old-fashioned pedal car we had them at our



This intricate doll carriage is available at Victoire-Victorine.

house more than 40 years ago) blowing the horn. Both small boys and girls would be delighted by this gift at \$235.

Montreal wind chimes

Dilemme, 4863 Sherbrooke street, imports items from around the world. But the elegant and functional wind chimes they are selling from \$30 to \$49 are made right here in Montreal.

They have a stocking stuffer in an earring holder at \$8.50. This holder is one of those "Why didn't I think of that?" gadgets — a simple piece of colored rigid foam that can be fastened to the wall with pins or a glue strip. Both post and hook earrings can be easily inserted.

This store has the gift for the person who has everything — a carving in elephant teak wood, measuring about one metre square, of two elephants with their mahouts on their backs, moving logs. The work by an unnamed artisan is as detailed as the most finicky could wish and the price tag on this unique decoration is \$4,700.

For the more practical, Westmount Stationery, 4887 Sherbrooke, is selling that symbol of yuppidom, the Filofax pocket organizer, at reduced prices, ranging from \$120 to \$240.

Calendia, 4866 Sherbrooke, is the place to go to find a gift for the romantic woman on your list. And most of it is on sale. There are trimmed sweaters at 50 percent off, accessories of Northumbria lace, pomanders covered in tiny pink dried rosebuds (\$15), shoe bags in satin or velvet, even a lace hankie (\$15).

At 364 Victoria avenue, Heritage

By JANET COUTTS

Asiatic has some tree ornaments that would make charming package decorations that you are not likely to see elsewhere. They range from a tiny filigree Santa, sled and reindeer at \$4.80 to crocheted angels with wooden heads at \$1.20 each. An unusual gift in this shop is a new jade teaset of tiny carved rooster pot, thimble-sized cups and tray, for \$265.

Dozens of wreaths

At Fushia, 361 Victoria avenue, there are dozens of small wreaths, returning to the Victorian atmosphere, to choose for yourself or to give as gifts. The prices range from \$16.50 to \$30.

An elegant gift for a business person's desk or a homebody's den is a folding double marquetry picture frame from Thailand at \$46.95.

Fushia also has small decorative tin boxes containing a lump of coal for bad boys and girls at \$2.95.

Even the Quebec Liquor Corporation has gifts for every pocketbook and every taste. For example, an attractive gift box contains a bottle of sake from Japan, a small ceramic container for heating the wine and three matching cups — all for under \$20.

The Kitchen Warehouse at 357 Victoria has all kinds of nifty things for the cook. One amusing and attractive gift idea is a timer that goes from one minute to one hour disguised as an egg, an onion or a garlic, at \$19.98.

Ask at Double Hook what are their bestsellers for Christmas, and you get inundated with suggestions. Besides the perennial favorite, cookbooks, there's *The Canadian Gardener* by Marjorie Harris. For those who love autobiography, there are Timothy Findlay's *Inside Memory* and Eugene Forsey's *Life From the Fringe*. Also selling well are Mordecai Richler's *Broadsides*, *Trudeau and our Times* by Christina McCall and Stephen Clarkson and *Remembrance of Grandeur* by Margaret W. Westley.

Among the more expensive books are *Chronicle of Canada* and Michael Drummond's coffee table book, *Montreal*.

Grandparents are buying Hurtig's *Junior Encyclopedia of Canada* and the top-selling children's books (though there are dozens more doing nearly as well) is *Grandma and the Pirates* by Phoebe Gilman.

Families that can't keep a pet can find realistic stuffed animals, including domestic breeds of dogs and cats, at Crisma, 1230 Greene avenue. These animals don't need to be walked or groomed, but they cost about as much as the real thing. One

large floppy dog who barks once his batteries are installed, costs \$350, though smaller toys are much less.

This shop has a battery-powered nail dryer in the shape of a pink seashell for \$12.99.

At Art & Image, 4152 St Catherine street, you can have a color photo printed on a T-shirt for \$19.95 or a sweatshirt for \$24.95.

A similar keepsake is available at a "Unik" kiosk in Place Alexis Nihon, where you can have a photo transferred to a coffee mug for \$15.

Still don't know what to buy your loved ones? The only way to go is gift certificates.

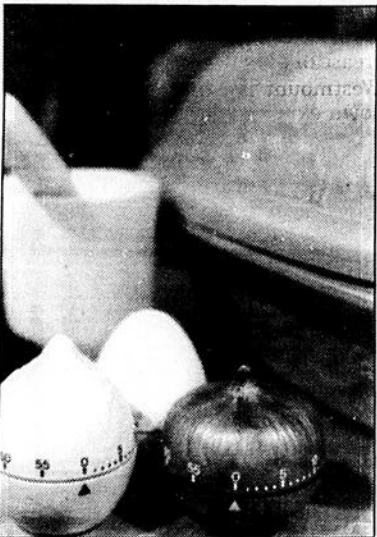
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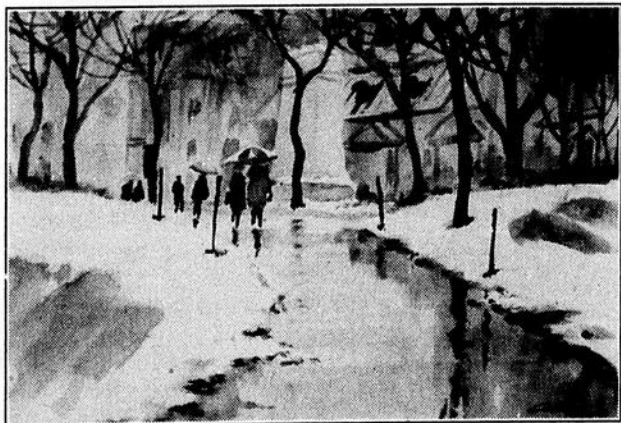
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These disguised timers are available at the Kitchen Warehouse.

John Collins

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Judaic textiles on display

The library-museum of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, 450 Kensington Avenue, is displaying 30 pieces of Judaic textiles on loan from Montrealers — matzoh cloths, circumcision gowns, clothes made for doweries.

The exhibit was curated by Terry Lightman and is open from Monday to Thursday from 1:30 to 5 pm and Sunday from 9 am to noon starting Dec 16, and will be on view for the next three months. For information call 937-9471.



A Golden Opportunity from Canada Trust!

The Canada Trust Greene Avenue branch is now celebrating its renovations with a major promotional campaign. Following the "Win Gold" contest, Mr. Denis Mantel, Manager, is remitting two 1/4-ounce Maple Leaf gold coins to the winner, Ms. Heather Bailey of Westmount. Among different promotions, Westmount branch customers can benefit of bonus interest, rate discounts and account opening gifts until December 22, 1990.



Canada Trust

1326 Greene Avenue, Westmount

Gallery X revisited

The 11 artists of Gallery X, established this fall when the artists took over an empty building across from Vendôme Métro station to show their work, are holding a show called *Gallery X visits St-Armand Paper Mill*.

Westmounters David Carruthers, Terry Coady and Rob Galbraith are members of the group.

The vernissage for the show is Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 pm and the show continues to Dec 21.

The paper mill is at 950 Ottawa street, near Peel.

For information call 484-9615 or 487-5155.

Westmounter, 69, writes first book, wins prize, and gets it published

By JANET COUTTS

Westmounter Simone Grenier-Bibeau wrote her first novel, entered it in a literary contest, won first place, had the novel published, and is working on the idea for her second novel.

The only thing she's not absolutely pleased about is that she didn't write a novel sooner. "I always liked writing," she says, "but I never dared try a book before."

Mme Bibeau is 69 1/2 years old, and her novel, *Une histoire personnelle*, published by Quinze, won the Prix Angéline Berthiaume-Du Tremblay in the Concours Littéraire la Plume d'Argent.

Mme Bibeau has been lionized since her book won recognition. She attended the Salon du Livre this year, autographing copies of her book. She has appeared on a number of local television shows and was interviewed on Radio-Canada. "Interviews are harder than writing a book," she says, "but I am getting better at it."

Mme Bibeau's previous writing experience has been as a correspondent for small newspapers in northern Quebec and writing stories for Christmas contests. "I lived in the U.S. for a time and didn't want to lose my French. So every year I entered the contest for a Christmas story in the Abitibi newspaper.

"I never came first; I came second, though."

She was inspired to write *Une histoire personnelle* when her brother brought her a newspaper clipping about the contest, open to writers 60 and over.

Her story tells of the first four seasons spent in the Abitibi region by a young woman who has moved to the wilderness.

Based in history

It is based in Canadian history. During the '30s, people were encouraged to open up the Abitibi region by homesteading. Some who went there were from cities and knew nothing



Simone Grenier-Bibeau with minister of state for seniors Monique Vézina.

about country living or farming.

"My father was a Franco-American who lived in Massachusetts. He was tempted and he and two of his brothers went. They cleared the land, but it was during the Depression. They couldn't sell their wood, and it was very difficult.

"When I wrote the story, I thought of one of my aunts who was from the big city and didn't know how to milk a cow. She had to learn everything. But I put a lot of imagination into what happened."

It is Mme Bibeau's wish that her book will sell well enough to justify being translated into English. "They say there are 6,000,000 (franco-phones), but only a handful read books," she says.

As for her second novel, Mme Bibeau says it will be set in Montreal in 1990. She is planning it in her head before committing it to paper.

Mme Bibeau is not eligible to enter the Plume d'Argent contest again for three years, but it is open to all Canadian citizens and permanent

residents of Canada over 60. Books can be of any genre, but must be written in French.

The rules of the contest are available from Centre Berthiaume-Du Tremblay, 1474 Fleury street east, Montreal H2C 1S1. Deadline for submissions is Jan 31. For information call 382-0310.

A guide to architect Archibald

The crowning achievement of architect John S. Archibald's career was the design in 1929 of the house for mining executive Noah Timmins on Belvedere Place. He also designed the Masonic Memorial Temple at Sherbrooke and St Marc streets and Baron Byng High School.

A guide, *John S. Archibald and His Associates: Guide to the archive*, has been published by Blackader-Lauterman Library of Architecture, McGill University.

The guide is the fourth in a series of inventories produced by the library to help architectural historians, architects, students and researchers have easier access to McGill collections.

Some other Westmount buildings designed by Archibald were homes for Charles Manhire and Thomas Lynch on Grosvenor Avenue. For more information call 398-4742.



STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

Bonds Women's Division to honor Mitch Garfinkle

State of Israel Bonds Montreal Women's Division will honor Mitchel Garfinkle for his outstanding humanitarian accomplishments announced Rosalind Goodman, Women's Division Chairperson.

The Bond campaign in honor of Mitchel Garfinkle will culminate in a city-wide tribute dinner to be held at the Shaar Hashomayim Congregation on Thursday, May 2, 1991.

"We are delighted to pay tribute to an outstanding Montrealer who has been actively involved in a myriad of humanitarian endeavors," said Rosalind Goodman.

Mitch, as he is affectionately known to his friends and colleagues, has been involved with many Israeli-based and charitable institutions in Montreal. Having headed the Young Professionals Division of Combined Jewish Appeal, he became the organization's Associate Chairman in 1970. He held this position until 1974. Also, Mitch has been involved with Hineni, "I am here" since its inception.

Mitch Garfinkle has been the recipient of many awards, among them the Barkoff Leadership Award, 1961, Bronze Medal Maccabiah Games, 1973, and for the past 11 years has been the club champion at Elmridge Gold and Country Club.

A Baal Tikkiah at Temple Emanu-el Beth Shalom, Mitch Garfinkle has been actively involved in Jewish heritage affairs and also leading groups on the American Jewish Heritage through Eastern Europe.

Mitch is married to Shirley and has three children, Gail Rosenbloom married to Jimmy Garfinkle, Joanne Garfinkle married to Lorne Bassel and David Garfinkle, and a grandson Alex and granddaughter Lindsay. He also has three step-grandchildren, Steven, Howard and Jordan.

State of Israel Bonds Women's Division has been at the forefront of Israel's quest for economic strength through the State of Israel Bonds program. Since 1951, the State of Israel



Sybil Finkelstein

Bond program has provided productive capital for the development of Israel's industrial and economic infrastructure.

A State of Israel Bond is a financial investment in the State of Israel, and every working day, Bond dollars provide the nation's treasury with approximately U.S. \$3 million. The funds are channelled directly into the nation's Development Budget and are focused on the ultimate achievement of self-sufficiency.

Bonds serve to strengthen Israel's economy and play an integral part in the financing of a wide variety of projects: national roads and highways, shipping and port facilities, farming and irrigation systems, power plants and energy resources, high technology research and construction of new housing.

Food drive for mentally ill

The Friendship Volunteer Association Inc., a non-profit organization offering services to those with severe and chronic mental health problems, is organizing food baskets for their clients.

Non-perishable food can be brought to the group's office, 1550 de Maisonneuve boulevard west, room 430, between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm until Dec 19 or call 934-0354 ext 250.

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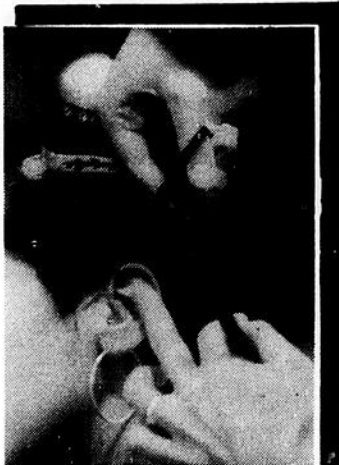
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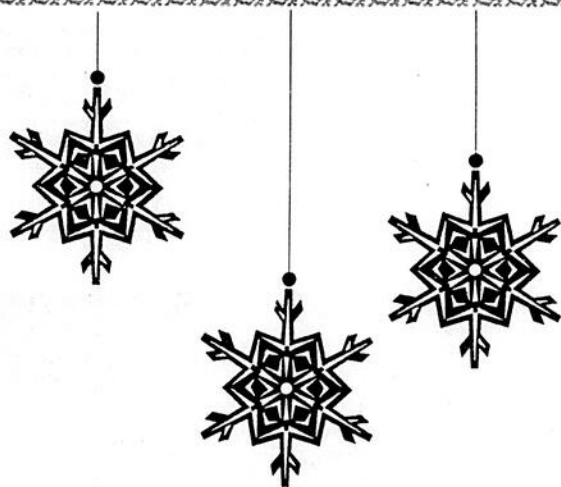
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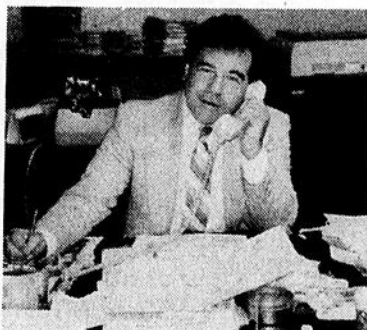
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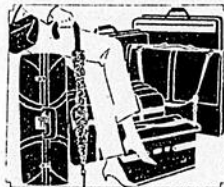
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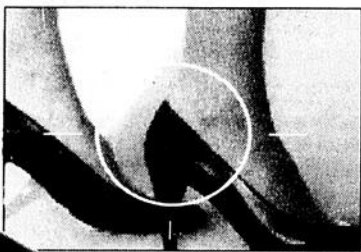
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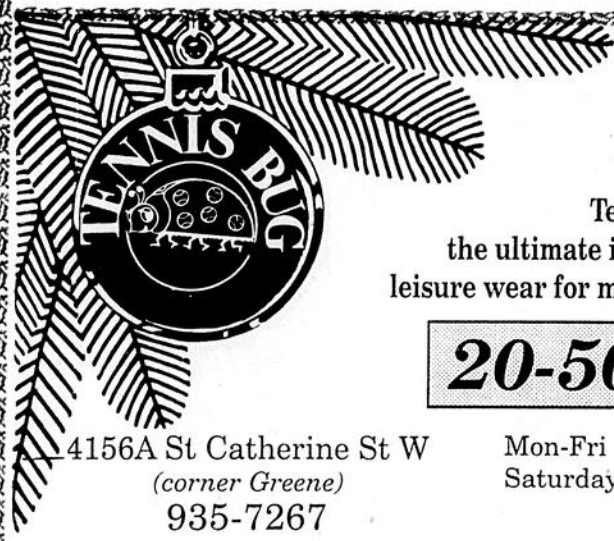
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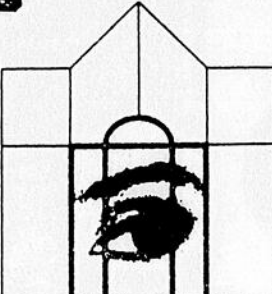
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THE WESTMOUNT Examiner

19 - Thursday, December 13, 1990

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Ville Marie struggling to fill clients' Christmas baskets

By ALISON RAMSEY

On Friday, the children of St Andrew's preschool on Hillside avenue donated new toys to Ville Marie Social Services clients for distribution this Christmas.

The toys were stacked up at one end of the gym and the children formed a sprawling semi-circle facing them and the Ville Marie Foundation representative, Mary Shore.

When Ms Shore asked the children why they had brought in gifts and for whom, there was no hesitation.

"For poor children." "They don't have any toys." "They don't have any

money." "They don't have any food."

Well, they have food, Ms Shore cut in, adding later that some of the families they help do need food, but she did not want to place that load on the children at St Andrew's.

The children were not daunted by the fact that families did have food.

"They don't have any hats!" one yelled. "They don't have any money!"

The room was clearly getting slightly out of Ms Shore's control.

"That's right," she tried to say over the chorus of suggestions. "They don't have any money."

"They could learn to get some money," one child piped up.

Ms Shore ignored that comment.

A great many of Ville Marie's clients live below the poverty line, she said later. "Poverty has a great deal to do with dragging families down. Our main aim is to keep families together."

Christmas baskets are made up by the foundation because Ville Marie, as a government-funded agency, cannot fundraise. Usually, a social worker will bring the baskets along during routine visits. Not all recipients are that welcoming of help; many have been referred to Ville Marie without seeking aid themselves, Ms Shore explained.

The foundation appeal, which began last week, is for \$100,000; about \$26,000 has been raised so far in a mailing to current and past donors.



Each teacher at St Andrew's on Friday chose one student to bring up a gift for Ville Marie clients, accepted by Mary Shore. They are, left to right, Martin Brosseau, Joanna Rubin, Arnold Engel and Steve Lee.

Police seek more food for baskets

Is it hard times? Or are there too many food depots in Westmount this Christmas?

These questions are being asked this week by police at local Montreal Urban Community Station 23 who are concerned about the lack of response to their annual food drive for Christmas baskets to the needy.

A special plea for food was issued Monday for Westmounters to help fill the food boxes at the station which usually are overflowing with less than two weeks until Christmas.

The collection received one boost this week when a cash donation of \$125 was given to organizer Const Gilles Gauthier by Westmount city hall employees.

Items collected in the drive at 21 Stanton street go to two churches and a school in St Henri. These are Union United Church, St Zotique and the Polyvalente St Henri.

Most Westmount charity recipients are elderly

By SCOTT INNISS

The number of families listed this year on the Charity Donor Index of the Volunteer Bureau of Montreal will likely top last year's figure of

26,000, said its co-ordinator this week.

"We'll be close to that again," said Robert Duranleau. He said there are already 20,000 names of individuals and families on the index.

Mr Duranleau cautioned that his figures do not reflect overall statistics for Montreal, since only 135 of 350 charitable agencies in the area use his bureau's list.

The index is a checkpoint service for charities which collect money or food for the hungry at Christmas time. Its 32 volunteers, working with a budget of less than \$7,000, check individual and families' names who have applied to charities to make sure they do not receive duplicate services from others. It is sponsored by Centraide.

Mr Duranleau said "no more than 100" families from Westmount are on the list as recipients. He added most of them are elderly; most requests come from the Westmount branch of CLSC Metro or the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Mr Duranleau says he finds 10 percent of individuals or families listed are "duplicators" or people who request charity from more than one organization. He wishes more charities would use his bureau's service, in order to spread the charity around to more people who need it. He emphasizes, though, he is not performing a "police" function.

The Volunteer Bureau of Montreal has compiled the list for the past 22 years. The list has been in existence since 1920.

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Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Seniors Say

Getting poetry into print

I got into print early in life and published poetry in *The Monitor* at the age of 10. A few years later I was publishing in the "big-time" dailies, *The Montreal Star* and *The Gazette*. These newspapers were a positive influence on practising poets — a source of encouragement through publication of their works.

The Montreal Star, in particular, was a wonderful showcase of bud-

ding poetic talent. I remember sharing the editorial page with highly respected poets Margaret Furness MacLeod, Bluebell Phillips and Dorothy Corbett Gentleman (all Westmounters).

The Canadian Authors Association also encouraged writers and held a yearly contest for poets. The legendary Alice Lighthall of Westmount, longtime president of the local chapter, lent an ear and a helping hand to many an aspiring writer. The *Poetry Yearbook* featured writers imbued with the shaping spirit of lyricism such as Leo Cox, Doreen Adams and Dorothy Sproule.

Years ago the local newspapers had a homey atmosphere and even the editors were accessible. I was privileged to drop in on Andrew Colard, who always commented on a line of poetry that pleased him. While in his office at *The Gazette*, I met Harold Roche, a courtly gentleman of the old school, another poet friend of the editor made welcome.

A few years back I published a letter in *The Montreal Star* decrying

the imminent loss of the referendum, which was about to be abolished by the provincial Liberal government. Eileen Kerr of *The Gazette* called and asked for permission to reprint.

One can hardly imagine this happening in today's world where *The Montreal Star* is defunct and only one newspaper holds a monopoly. A one-daily newspaper town, like a one-horse town, wears blinkers and runs on one track of thought and opinion.

Nowadays, even the letters to the editor column becomes a closed shop. This is a tragedy that silences a large part of the population, which should be vocal and allowed to air their opinions. A bigoted letters to the editor policy clamps a lid on freedom of speech in its purest form.

— **Mona Elaine Adilman**
Snowdon

Editor's note: We are on the lookout for submissions by seniors on any topic or experience, past and present. Maximum length is three typed, double-spaced pages. Please include full name and phone number for verification. Send to THE EXAMINER, Seniors Say, 155 Hillside avenue, Westmount H3Z 2Y8 or fax it to 932-5700.

Contactivity Christmas tonight

Contactivity Centre will hold its Christmas feast tonight at 6 pm. The cost is \$6.50 and the dinner is limited to members.

Those attending will bring a small wrapped gift for a child. Each person will receive a gift from Santa to open. They can then keep the gift for a child in their family, or donate it for distribution to an underprivileged child.

Volunteers are needed to set the tables at 10:30 am. For information call 932-3433 or 932-2326.

This year's bazaar at Contactivity Centre has been deemed a success. It raised \$4,532.55, the most ever.

Community achievement award goes to Westmount's Zittler

Westmounter Sheila Zittler has received the Council of Jewish Federations' Endowment Achievement Award.

Every year Jewish Federations throughout Canada and the U.S. nominate the people they consider to be the most creative and productive in assisting the endowment program of their federations. The council then presents the award to the one person in each community that its Endowment Development Department considers best fit its criteria.

Ms Zittler served as president of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Montreal for 1989-1990 and as chair of the JFC Allocations Committee.

Cited among the reasons for the award is her recommendation of several innovative programs to stimulate community interest in JFC as well as the development of its first marketing committee.

The Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Montreal is a program established to attract funds through endowments and bequests to benefit the Jewish community. Earned income provides seed money to agencies and organizations for innovative social programs.

Ms Zittler says, "The credit for starting programs goes to the allocations committee as a whole, but the president gets the credit. But she can only be as good as the persons she works with."

Money went to such projects as Hope and Cope for cancer patients, an audiologist at Montreal Children's Hospital, research on schizophrenia among adults, non-sectarian conferences on various topics and funding for foreign students.

"We fund programs without traditional funding. We have no hands-on administrative role, though we re-



SHEILA ZITTRER

view each project carefully and expect feedback later."

Marketing is essential to charitable groups today, Ms Zittler feels. "There are lots of places where people can make donations or bequests. To get them to contribute to your group, you must market your project."

"People have to understand why you think your group is the best place for their money. It's like Eaton's versus The Bay when they are both selling coats."

Her marketing committee produces a bulletin for various contributors. "It's a permanent way to guarantee their interest. Their investment in the community will be perpetuated in a manner that is relevant to the times."

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Holiday horticulture



The Westmount Diggers and Weeders decorated a Christmas tree in Westmount Library Monday morning, before opening. Anne Mathieson and Maggie Williams, left and right, are aided by Sue Burpee, top, and Martha Fielding.

Photo by VALERIE TETLEY

Holiday party, supper at Greene avenue centre

There will be a community potluck holiday supper and party at Greene Avenue Community Centre, 1090 Greene avenue, Sunday from 5 to 8 pm. Santa will attend with a surprise for each child.

Dancers from the classes of Sheila Lawrence and Ora Kozloff will entertain. Partygoers are asked to bring one main dish or salad or dessert, plus drinks for the family. Admission is a non-perishable food or toy to be donated to St Stephen's Church nearby. No one will be turned away if they do not bring food.

The Samedi Greene program for children of all ages from 10 to 11:30 am will be a Christmas Party this week. There will be games, a fortune teller and midway booths.

The Samedi Greene program is suspended for the holiday season, but resumes Jan 12 with *Adventure in Giggle-land*, a song and puppet revue with the Funny Face Trio.

Admission to these activities is \$1 and children under six must be accompanied. For more information call 931-6202.

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Christmas for shut-ins

St Andrew's-Dominion-Douglas Church held a shut-in Christmas dinner Sunday evening for 75 elderly and handicapped guests. Volunteers picked them up and drove them home at the end of the evening, which came only after they had been joyously fêted.

A turkey dinner with all the fixings was served and cleaned up by Gina Fitchett and Mickey Graham. Raconteur Philip Johnston was aided by eight-year-old Luke Slinger. Lib Neufeld and Arthur Turner played piano while everyone sang carols.

Other performers included Ruth Brown, Alexandra Fitchett, Frances and Elizabeth Vincente and the Blacksmith Sound Band.

Santa, assisted by John Lehnert, handed out loot bags to each guest.

The Westmount Examiner, Thursday, December 13, 1990 - 21

Christmas bird count Saturday

Anyone with bird feeders in their yard can participate in the 91st Christmas bird count for the American Birding Association to be held this Saturday, Dec 15.

All they have to do is count the numbers of birds — house sparrows, goldfinches, western house finches, mourning doves, cardinals and others they see that day — in their yard

and phone in these numbers and the total number of species to 481-4817 in the late afternoon. The results can also be mailed to 659 Victoria avenue, Westmount, H3Y 2R8. Please include your address so the location of the feeder will be known.

The results will be printed in the December issue of the association's magazine next year.

Guatemalan crafts sale Saturday

A sale of holiday baked goods and traditional Guatemalan crafts will be held Saturday from 1 to 4 pm at Westmount Baptist Church, corner of Sherbrooke street and Roslyn avenue.

The co-host of the sale is Cause Canada, a Montreal-based Third World development organization.

The traditional folkloric crafts are made by women artisans in Guatemala. Proceeds of their sale will go directly to sponsor community development projects in that country.

Free coffee and tea will be served with baked goods. For information call 861-5692.

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Henry Finkel named Man of the Year

Westmounter Henry Finkel, past-president of Arts Westmount and

Candles and carols Friday

Part of the Christmas tradition for many Montrealers is the candlelight carol service at St George's Church on Place du Canada, 1101 Stanley street.

The event will be Friday at 5:30 pm. The choir and congregation will be singing in aid of the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Familiar carols in French and English will be sung and the entire freewill offering from the congregation will go to the hospital. For information call 866-7113.

member of Westmount's Arts and Culture Committee, was elected Man of the Year by the international Society of Plastics Engineers, Quebec Section, at its meeting Dec 4.

Mr Finkel has been involved in the design of plastic products for many years and is co-chair of the society's special interest group on design.

The award was granted in recognition of Mr Finkel's service to the society for the past six years on its international council, guiding the group's development to its present 35,000-plus membership.

His duties included attending meetings all across North America and Europe. Mr Finkel is currently hospitalized, so a bedside presentation was made. He is expected to return home next week.



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Aloha Santa!



Westmount seniors were treated to a Hawaiian evening, with an appearance by Mr and Mrs Claus, at Victoria Hall Friday night. Westmount High students donned exotic garb to help serve. Reg Russe (far left) is waited on by Bobby Lee Karttunen while Sharron Keyes takes care of Eddie Dedual.

Photo by VALERIE TETLEY

Quiet evening at the Advent

Rev Ian Stuchbery will offer an opportunity to escape from the pre-holiday rush and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, this Saturday from 7 to 9 pm.

Fr Stuchbery will conduct a quiet evening of meditation and recorded music at Church of the Advent, 4110 de Maisonneuve boulevard at Wood avenue.

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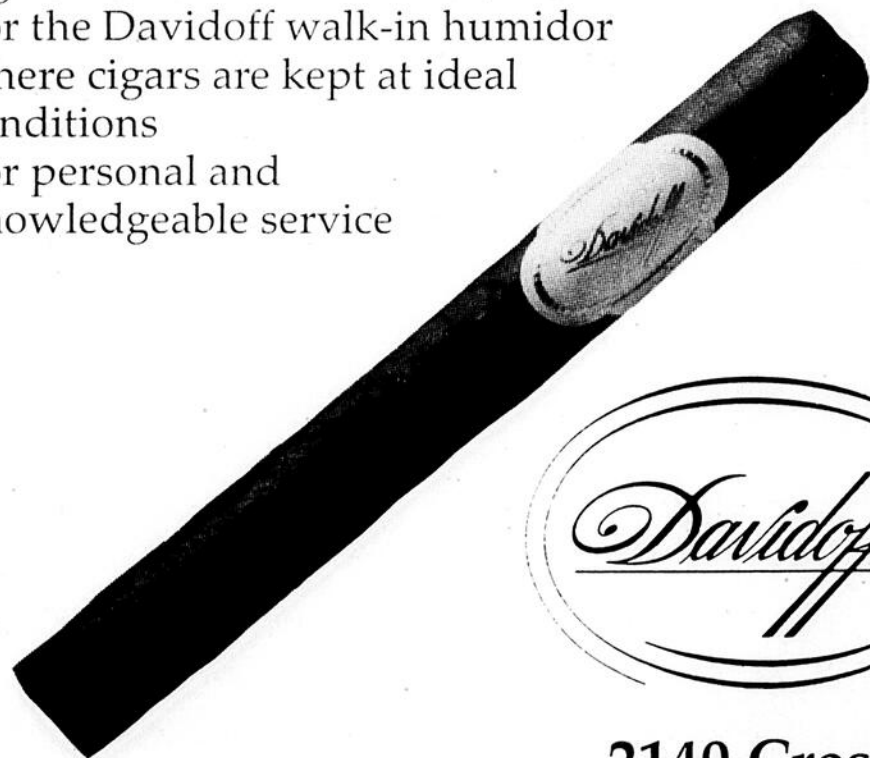


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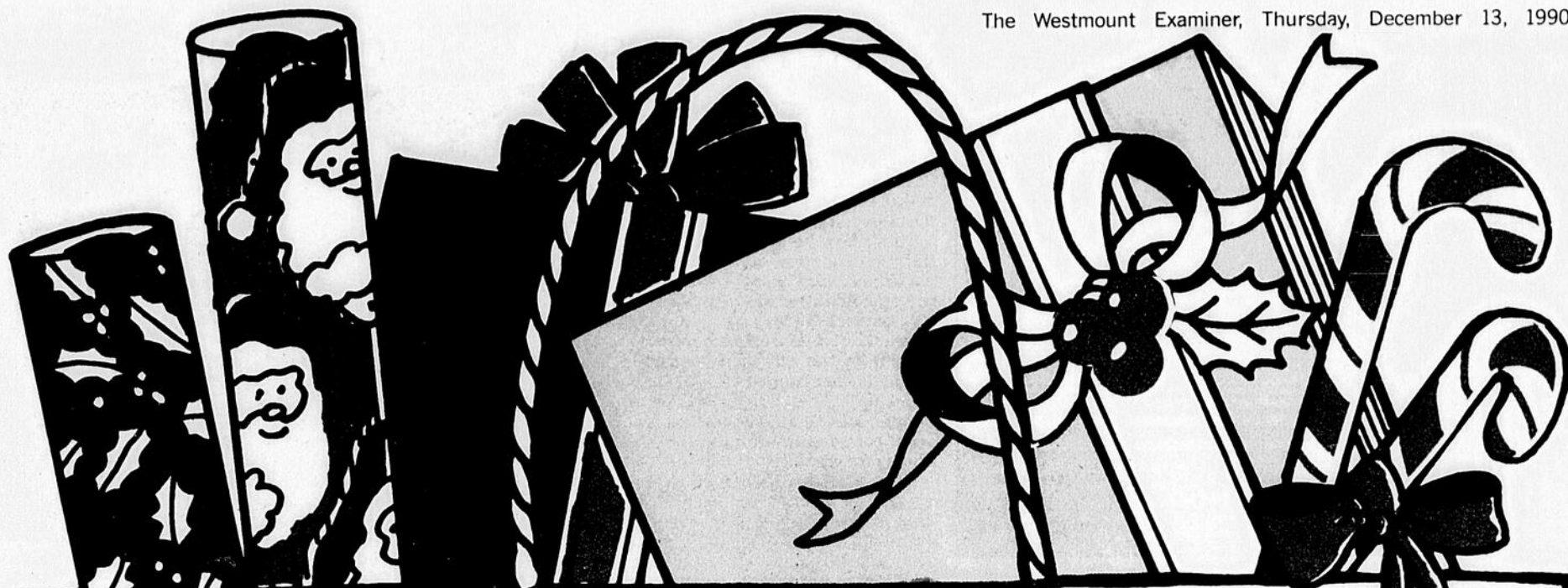
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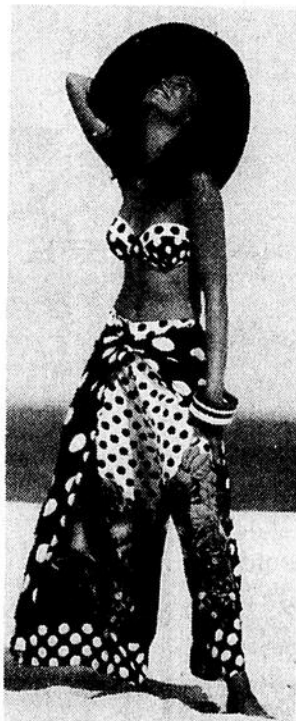
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OPEN SUNDAY, DEC. 23

Santa wows Westmount kids

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Santa's really pretty cool. He may travel secretly by sleigh on Christmas Eve, but when it comes to making a party on time he chooses the most reliable way, a fire truck.

That's how he arrived at Victoria Hall Sunday afternoon to preside at the annual city party for children and grandchildren of Westmount employees. And he was a hit from the moment he walked into the room.

Some of the 125 youngsters who sat on his knee tugged at his beard or gazed up in his face in wide-eyed wonder. But there were others who were completely unfazed by the whole performance.

Two-month-old Veronica Pascarella, grand-daughter of recently retired public works employee Ronald Brambell, simply slept through the whole Santa routine while Jill Hickson, three months, kept drinking from her bottle right up until the last moment when mother Diane Holding placed her on Santa's lap.

A magic show, lots of food and nice presents from Santa completed the event which was a real family affair. Santa Claus bore a similarity to Ferdinand Gauthier, uncle of fire department dispatcher Claudette Gauthier, while Mrs Claus looked a lot like Dora George, wife of clerk Percy George.

Prizes for the best tree decorations were presented by party organizer Beverly Adams-Coskun to David and Christina Camia, Natalie and Carolyn Di Mambro, and Melissa Gavin.



Party guests mob Santa as he walks into Victoria Hall after riding to town in a fire truck.



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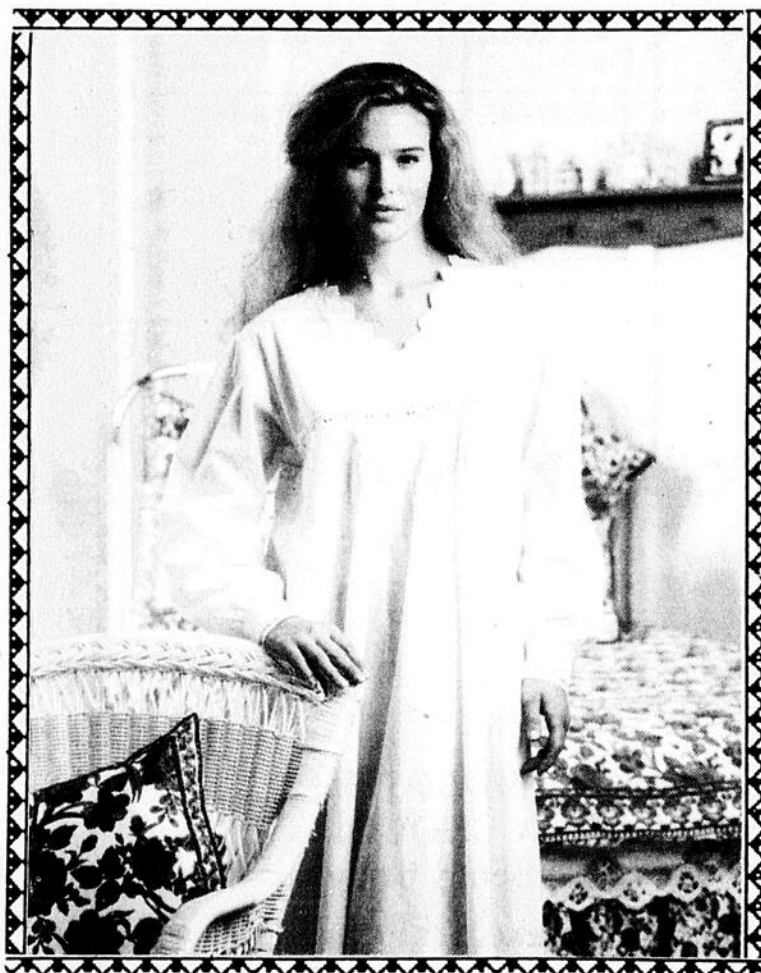
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La Cache is a bedtime story



Once upon a time, not so long ago, beautifully detailed nighties like these could be had only for love (if your grandmother made it for you). Now, like a dream come true, these pure cotton nighties are part of the bedtime collection at La Cache. Pin-tucked and hand crocheted with scalloped neckline and lacy cuffs, these cool cotton nighties are a heart-warming item for holiday gift giving. Exclusively at La Cache... where you'll shop happily ever after.

OPEN Every Sunday till Christmas

Shown: Karinna nightie, \$78.00
Background: Persian bleached blue linens
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Volunteers with cars are sought

Volunteers with cars are being sought to transport the elderly and infirm to and from medical appointments. If you can help, call Volunteer Services at Baron de Hirsch Institute, 485-1112, ext 311.

COMING EVENTS
ÉVÉNEMENTS

Notices for this column should be sent in writing to: Coming Events, 155 Hillside Avenue, Westmount H3Z 2Y8. Text should be accompanied by payment of \$7.00 for maximum of 50 words. Only announcements of specific events sponsored by non-profit groups permitted in this column.

Christmas Concert

The Montreal Inter-Hospital Choir are having their Christmas concert, with proceeds going to the Montreal Children's Hospital. Saturday, December 15th, 7 pm, at Trinity Memorial Church, 5200 Sherbrooke St West, corner of Decarie. Tickets are \$5.00 & \$10.00 available at the door, or M. Gawler 933-4801, H. Willett 488-7578, S. Cahill 843-3146. Everyone welcome.

Christmas STUDIO SALE

Silk - Velvet - Fake Fur
Hats - Handpainted
Scarves, Leggings, Silk
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FRIDAY, DEC 14th, 5-9
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This Christmas make sure your youngsters are wearing the very best.

There is no substitute for quality. From tiny tot, to toddler to ten year olds, Le coin des enfants carries the very best names in children's clothing from the top designers worldwide. Names like Absorba, Claweux, Chicco, Petit Boy, Rainett and Jean Bourget and others are available almost exclusively at Le coin des enfants.

Do Christmas up in style and outfit the youngsters on your list at Le coin des enfants.

Le coin des enfants

Because your child deserves the very best.
1369 Green Avenue, Westmount

The smiling face behind Old Shoes for Poor Souls

In the sunny yellow living room, on thick, creamy carpet edged with tendrils of green, everything is in its proper place.

This is the Westmount home of Morrie Cohen, who is equally at home at the Red Roof and Old Brewery Mission.

Every so often these worlds bump up against each other, as they did one day as Mr Cohen was walking out the Ritz Carlton hotel with another businessman. A homeless man called out "Hello, Mr Cohen!" The businessman quizzed him, "How do you know this guy?"

Well, he knows a lot of them. It started about eight years ago, when he drove past four homeless men near Berri street. It was February. He stopped, walked over and saw that not one of them had shoes. They said they were going to Red Roof.

The name was unfamiliar, and finding Red Roof became a personal quest.

"Two weeks later, I went looking for street people."

They knew the Red Roof. It wasn't a bar, or a restaurant. It was the red roof of St John the Evangelist Church, where a soup kitchen operated below.

"I walked in there and had a rude awakening," said Mr Cohen. "The day I walked in, there were probably 65 people there. I asked who was in charge."

He asked what was most needed and got the answer he should have expected — shoes.

Thus began Old Shoes for Poor Souls.



Morrie Cohen dresses just like this when he visits men's shelters. They know him and he has never encountered trouble.

Started deliveries

Mr Cohen wrote a letter to several friends, saying there was a big need for shoes and clothes for men. The parcels started coming in. Mr Cohen's business, Annabelle and Caroline cosmetics, necessitates a truck, which he used to deliver the goods. Then people began bringing women's and children's clothes.

Now Mr Cohen has a network of shelters for men and women he delivers to. And the stuff keeps coming. He just delivered one batch and,

"if I get six bags of stuff, I'll go tomorrow."

The focus has broadened, but Mr Cohen knows a catchy name when he hears it and Old Shoes for Poor Souls remains.

This is one of Mr Cohen's low-profile good works. He is also president of Israel Cancer Research in Canada, where money raised goes to research scientists who work in Isra-

el, and was recently honored for his years of work for Centennial Academy, the N.D.G. private school.

"Part of our religion is charity," he said. "When a person dies, you say Kaddish, you pledge acts of charity to your father, mother. It's instilled. I just enjoy it. There's no effort."

He prides himself on his openness. "I answer the phone. If I'm not busy, I'll talk to anyone."

His experiences are being passed on, as lessons, to his son David, now in university.

He once brought David and one of his friends to make a delivery to one mission on his list.

"A few people were outside. I asked them, 'Could you help unload?' Sure, they said. I wanted to point out something. I asked if they had change for \$10... They didn't. I said, 'Well, how much do you have between you?' Ten cents. They (the children) will never forget that."

Mr Cohen holds the government responsible for the social ills that

Mission seeks funds for homeless men

Welcome Hall Mission on St Antoine street is holding its annual December fundraising campaign until Dec 26.

Each year the 100-year-old mission distributes \$600,000 worth of food and clothing to 5,000 families and individuals. About 70,000 meals and 15,000 overnight stays are provided for homeless men.

Services and material assistance

are given without charge to those in need, irrespective of color, race or religion.

The mission depends on the donations of concerned individuals; funding means it can continue its work.

Donations can be sent to PO Box 894, Station A, Montreal H3C 2V8. Receipts will be issued for income tax purposes. For information call 935-6395.

put people on the street. Foreign aid is all very well, he said, but not when it interferes with looking after your own.

"These are people that have lost their spirit. They don't live, they exist."

He carries a pocketful of loonies when he makes his frequent visits to the men's shelters.

"They don't know who I am. Mr Cohen? I could be Mr anyone."

He remembered the impact of one man who, on receipt of that small bit of change, said, "You're the only person who gave me something for

At your leisure
by Alison Ramsey

nothing. You gave it. I didn't ask and you didn't give us a speech."

"What can they do without money? Nothing," he said.

"The street people are getting younger," he noted. Not everyone likes to see what Mr Cohen can show.

He has taken some friends to visit the missions.

"They won't go back."

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FROM CALIFORNIA ROMAINE Size 24 or BOSTON LETTUCE 59¢ ea.	LAKE ST-JOHN'S MEAT TOURTIERES 4 ⁹⁹ ea. <i>700 gr</i>	FRESH PORK SPARE RIBS 1 ⁴⁹ lb. <i>Regular cut or Chinese style</i>	FARM HOUSE DOUBLE CRUSTY BREAD 1 ⁴⁹ ea. <i>White or whole wheat</i>

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Veuillez ne pas tarder à placer votre annonce.

Date de tombée: Annonces encadrées: les mardis à 16h00, Petites annonces: les mercredis à 10h00.

Classified ads may be placed in weekly newspapers across Canada. Call for details.
Une annonce classée peut être placée dans les hebdomadaires à travers le Canada. Appelez pour informations.

Accounts may be paid by telephone by Visa or MasterCard or by cash or cheque at the Westmount Examiner office, 155 Hillside Avenue, Westmount, the Town of Mount Royal Weekly Post office, 233 Dunbar Avenue, Town of Mount Royal, or at any branch on the Island of Montreal of The Royal Bank of Canada or the Bank of Montreal. Advertising not paid in advance of publication is subject to a \$2.00 billing charge. Advance payments without invoice cannot be accepted by banks but may be paid at either of the above newspaper offices.

Les comptes peuvent se régler par téléphone grâce aux cartes Visa et MasterCard, ainsi que par chèque ou en argent comptant aux bureaux du Westmount Examiner: 155, avenue Hillside, Westmount, ou du Courrier de Ville Mont-Royal: 233, avenue Dunbar, Ville Mont-Royal; ou encore à n'importe quelle branche de la Banque Royale du Canada ou de la Banque de Montréal de l'île de Montréal. Toute annonce qui n'est pas acquittée avant la date de parution est sujette à des frais de facturation de 2,00\$. Les paiements réglés à l'avance mais sans facture ne seront pas acceptés à la banque. Ils pourront, par contre, être effectués à l'un des bureaux ci-haut mentionnés.

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- 113 Stores to Let / Magasins à louer
- 114 Stores Wanted / Magasins demandés
- 115 Apartments to Let / Appartements à louer
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- 117 Condos for Sale / Condos à vendre
- 118 Condos to Let / Condos à louer
- 119 Sublets / A sous-louer
- 120 Houses to Let / Maisons à louer
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- 130 Garages Wanted / Garages demandés
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- 134 Senior Citizens' Residences / Résidence pour personnes âgées
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SHERBROOKE street, Westmount, corner Prince Albert. 1400 sq. ft. available. Excellent visibility, both on Sherbrooke & Prince Albert. Full lease hold improvements. Information 849-9161, 488-8656 evenings. Sam.

201

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206

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BILINGUAL experienced lady wanted to babysit baby 5 days a week. References needed. Please call 935-1995.

207

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300

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306

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À VENDRE

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Dec. 10th through the 23rd... **20-50% off**

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Christies
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Ready in 20 days
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15 litres of
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308

WANTED TO PURCHASE
ON DEMANDE

306

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15% OFF

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308

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Dans La Rue seeks visibility and funds to feed street kids

In stark black and white, posters around Montreal proclaim "Westmount girl for sale" and "Jeune garçon de Laval à louer."

The "Westmount girl" pictured, her eyes touched up to simulate imminent tears, is a model. Her "life history," an alcoholic father who booted her out of the house in a drunken rage at age 13, is a compilation.

The story, however, does apply to many street kids, according to Father Emmett Johns, who runs Dans La Rue. The poster solicits funds for Dans La Rue, which brings a van carrying hot food to kids living on the streets.

The Westmount reference "is probably something to do with arousing interest and to catch attention," said Father Johns.

The Westmount firm which created the ads, free of charge, is Marlowe Communications Inc. Its president, Ray Coulombe, said the company put up 8,000 of the posters this year, 3,000 more than last.

In conjunction with the posters, a direct mailing of flyers went to homes in Montreal's outlying areas, such as Westmount and Laval.

Contrast stressed

Sensitizing suburbanites to street kids is part of why the two cities were used in the fundraising campaign, said Mr Coulombe. Another reason is "we want to stress the contrast of where they come from. Westmount was picked as a symbol of that socio-economic group."

"The life history is a carbon copy,"

By ALISON RAMSEY

said Mr Coulombe, of any one of dozens of street kids.

Mr Coulombe tried to use real street kids in the campaign, but was thwarted. The young actors and their parents were made fully aware of the campaign, and were enthusiastic.

"Apparently a lot of high school kids are very aware," said Mr Coulombe. "Large donations come through combined high school efforts."

One line on the poster is blacked out. It asks for a van, which was given to the non-profit group by the downtown Rotary Club recently. This year, posters have better visibility, said Father Johns of St Kevin's Church on Côte des Neiges. Last year, "they didn't last very long; they were soon covered up by someone."

But, despite having secured better locations for its posters, fundraising for Dans La Rue is slow going this year, he said, slower than last year.

Competing with large non-profit organizations, which have hefty fundraising budgets and experienced workers is tough, said Mr Coulombe. He has been elected to the board of directors for Dans La Rue, and said next year's campaign will be as large as the two previous years combined.

Four employees

Dans La Rue has four paid employees, including Father Johns, but will soon be pared down to three, after one employee leaves but is not replaced. Though feeding the 60-odd

youths each night is its primary focus, Dans La Rue also provides underwear and tights for the kids.

All told, with food coming to \$350 a week, gas at \$75 and underwear running about \$50 weekly, the tab totals about \$475 each week to provide the service. Though hoping one day to establish a shelter for kids, with the help of other interested groups, Dans La Rue has no funds saved for that purpose. Current expenses are difficult enough to keep up with.

"It's a frightening challenge," said Father Johns of the shelter. "It's a very expensive project."

Operating expenses of one shelter in Montreal, open nine months a year and with 45 beds, is \$300,000, he said. The laundry bill alone comes to \$20,000.

For now, he is concentrating on the current need of street kids for food, and is preparing for a Christmas dinner at 2 pm on Dec 25 at a church hall downtown.

Father Johns is so busy trying to keep ahead of the food and clothing requirements, plus arranging for volunteers, he has not yet managed to plug into wholesalers who could help make the money go further.

It took months to find the right person, and the right price, for bulk orders of hot chocolate, which he distributes from the van, he said. He pays about \$10 for each pair of leotards, retail price.

"I have little time to pursue the other aspects," he said. "It's coming slowly."

WESTMOUNT GIRL FOR SALE.

Although her father's a successful businessman, he's a hard drinker with a nasty temper. He kicked her out of the house in a drunken rage. She was only 13 years old. She sleeps in alleys, under expressways and in Metro stations. She'll say yes to any man or woman for money to buy fast food. In the winter months, she'll submit to anything to be able to stay in a warm bed overnight. She's one of thousands of Montreal's lost children. No one knows how many there are because there's no official recognition that they exist. Until a year ago, there was no one to help them. Since then, Father Johns or "Pops" as he's become known to the streetkids, has been giving them food. What Father Johns really needs is a safe haven for this terrified streetkid. She knows she has a friend in "Pops". Now she needs no-nonsense help. She doesn't need religion, judgements or attitudes. She needs your generosity of spirit, your contributions and your respect. These streetkids need their first break. Help Father Johns bring these children from the shadows. Be brave and give from your pocket. Give now.

DANS LA RUE

Please send donations to: DANS LA RUE, 5600 Côte des Neiges, Montréal H3T 1Z1 Tel: 733-9719.

This and another poster, headed "Laval boy for rent," are plastered around Montreal to help raise funds for street kid project Dans La Rue.



Beyond Westmount's Borders

A random sampler of things to see or do in the bigger city surrounding us

By JANET COUTTS

Yuletide concerts

Tonight at 8 pm the Montreal Chamber Orchestra will give a free concert at Redpath Hall, 3461 McTavish street. Soloist Jens Lindemann will perform Hummel's Concerto for Trumpet. Wanda Kaluzny conducts. 271-3301... The Lakeshore Chamber Music Society presents the Orpheus Singers in a gala concert at 8 pm Friday at Union Church, 24 Maple avenue, Ste Anne de Bellevue. The choir will premiere a specially commissioned Christmas work by Jacques Faubert. 457-9655 after 6 pm... The Yellow Door Tabernacle Choir, under the direction of Linda Morrison, will perform a concert at 8 pm Friday and Saturday at Channing Hall, 3415 Simpson at Sherbrooke street. They will repeat their concert Sunday at 8:30 pm at Claudio's, 124 St Paul street east in Old Montreal. Tickets for both concerts are on sale at the door. 272-615... Ensemble vocal Musica Viva, conducted by Geneviève Boulanger presents Fantaisie de Noël at Pollack Hall, 555 Sherbrooke street west at 8 pm Saturday. Tickets are \$12. 845-1700... The Montreal Jubilation Gospel Choir's Celebration '90 Saturday concert is sold out, so a special performance has been added Sunday at 8 pm at St James United Church, 463 Ste Catherine street west. 630-6840.

More Christmas music

The St Lawrence Choir, under the direction of Iwan Edwards, will present its Christmas concert Sunday at 3 pm at St Anges Church, 1400 St Joseph boulevard, Lachine. Also participating will be the St Lawrence Choir's youth choir, Cantare, directed by Mary Jane Puiui and the

FACE choir, also directed by Mr Edwards. 483-6922... The Orchestre Métropolitain under the direction of François Dompierre, will give its Christmas concert at 8 pm Tuesday at St Jean Baptiste Church, Rachel and Henri-Julien. Tickets, \$25, are available at Place des Arts box office. Proceeds from the evening go to Fondation Mira. 598-0870.

At the theatres

Sheridan's *The Rivals* plays for free at 8 pm until Saturday, with an added 2 pm performance Saturday, at Monument National, 1182 St Lawrence boulevard... At John Abbott College in Ste Anne de Bellevue, students are presenting *Story Theatre*, an adaptation of fairy tales with modern music by Paul Sills. There is a 2 pm matinée Friday, and the final presentation is Saturday at 8 pm. 457-6610... The British farce *Run for Your Wife* continues at Centaur Theatre until Sunday. Call for times. 288-3161... Athol Fugard's *My Children! My Africa!* will have its final Montreal performance at Centaur Sunday, before it tours Canada. If you still haven't seen this, do your best to get there. 288-3161.

Peruvian wool ménagerie

Galerie Elena Lee Verre d'Art usually shows art glass, but from Saturday to Dec 23, the gallery at 1518 Sherbrooke street west is holding an expo-sale of Peruvian crafts. Ms Lee was inspired by a show of Peruvian work last year at Place des Arts, and went to Lima to find high quality crafts. She found sweaters, sock and hats; carpets and bedspreads and bright sashes. While in Peru she heard of the work of Montrealer

Jean-Louis Lebel, who has started to take care of the abandoned children of the Plaza de Armas. The gallery will be open every day, including Sundays, from 11 am to 6 pm for the duration of this exhibition, and all proceeds will go to Lebel's project called Centre for the Integration of Abandoned Minors. 932-3896.

Christmas flowers

The Montreal Botanical Garden, 4101 Sherbrooke street east, is showing *Fêtes en fleurs, Fleurs en fête* at the main greenhouse. This is a wonderful place to go to slow down from the round of Christmas parties, and to take out-of-town visitors. While you're there, check out some of the other displays, such as the insectarium, the tea ceremony in the Japanese pavilion or the bonsai collection.

Old-style dancing

The Société pour la promotion de la danse traditionnelle québécoise is organizing a Christmas event Saturday at 8:30 pm at Centre Champagnat, 5017 St Hubert street. Les Outaouais, a folkloric ensemble, will provide the musicians and caller. Refreshments will be served at the end of the evening, and everyone is invited to join in. 598-8295.

Christmas trees

For the seventh consecutive year, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts is decked with Christmas trees decorated with some 20 groups and associations. Various ethnic groups - Ukrainian, Swiss, Greek and others - have decorated trees according to native custom, often using hand-made ornaments. The display continues until Jan 6.

Steinberg laser centre opening soon

The Montreal General Hospital announced the establishment of the Helen & Sam Steinberg Family Foundation Laser Centre on Tuesday.

The centre, the first of its kind in Canada, will include laser equipment used to, among other things, treat malignant tumors, manage extensive gastrointestinal malignancies and bladder tumors and the removal of vascular tumors of the skin.

Mr Steinberg's three daughters - Mitzi Dobrin, Marilyn Cobrin and Evelyn Alexander - were present to hand over a \$1 million cheque towards the centre. The area has been designated and some equipment is now in use, but there is more equipment to be bought and the centre will not be fully operational until about March, according to a hospital official.

Discussions leading to the establishment of the centre have been ongoing for months between the Steinbergs, Dr Phil Gold, physician-in-chief, and Dr Bruce Williams, director of plastic surgery. Both doctors are Westmounters.

The Steinberg Foundation is a benefactor, and has agreed to continue supporting the centre. The bulk of the money is to buy new laser equipment. The centre will be used for both treatment and research, said Dr Williams, and includes a library, conference area as well as patient treatment area.

Two exciting aspects of the centre, said Dr Williams, and the equipment it will house, is the capability to use a process that removes tumor cells but preserves normal tissue, and removing tumors in areas that tend to bleed under normal surgery, such as the bronchial tubes.

Surgery using lasers cauterizes blood vessels as it removes the tumor.

Leadership '91 AJCS program accepting applications

Two leadership development programs organized by Allied Jewish Community Services' Young Adult Division recently graduated more than 60 people.

The first program is an initiation into community leadership. The second provides graduates of the first program with more issue-oriented skill development.

Hands-on experience is the hallmark of the transition from one level to the next.

Each program runs 10 months, with monthly meetings. Westmounter Nancy Cleman chairs the Young Adult Division of AJCS. The leadership program is in its third year, and is currently accepting applications for the 1991 program. Space is limited. For information call 345-2637.

First attempt to fundraise a huge success

Organizers of the benefit for Jerusalem Foundation of Canada had hoped to sell 300 seats at Place des Arts for the Nov 24 performance by Batsheva Dance Company. Instead, more than 500 seats were sold.

The first fundraising function of the New Leadership Group of the foundation has therefore been rated a great success.

The entertainment was followed by a reception sponsored by Westmounters Andrea and Charles Bronfman.

The funds raised by ticket sales and ads in a program booklet will provide a park in an under-developed neighborhood in Jerusalem.

Account of Mohawk crisis stunningly photographed but lacks depth

The events at Kanesatake and Kahnawake during the long hot summer of 1990 kept Canadians glued to their televisions, radios and newspapers for two months, anxiously awaiting the latest news on a pressure-cooker situation that threatened to explode in violence.

The images — Mohawk warriors in Camouflage fatigues looking down the barrels of assault rifles at khaki lines of Canadian infantry and armor — were the stuff of *Life* magazine photo spreads from some distant land of war.

Only it was happening right here.

It isn't surprising that an event of the magnitude and drama of the Mohawk crisis has spawned a book just out. *This Land is Our Land: the Mohawk revolt at Oka* contains news text by Westmounter Craig MacLaine, historical sketches by Michael Baxendale, and is illustrated by Westmount photographer Robert Galbraith.

This Land is Our Land is a straightforward account of the events at Kanesatake, from the erection of the first barricade across a side road leading from Highway 344 in March, to the final disengagement of the Warriors on Sept 26.

The day-to-day round of confrontation and negotiation at the barricades is documented in a direct, spare style, presented in the form of daily dispatches from the front lines. Indeed, this reflects the manner in which *This Land is Our Land* was written.

Messrs Baxendale and MacLaine began collecting information on the crisis almost from day one. They set out to document it, as journalists, while it was happening, to be presented as a book when the situation was resolved.

Unfortunately this is the book's main weakness, for it does not really provide any more information than was available from newspapers at the time. Admittedly, the purpose of *This Land is Our Land* is not to provide analysis but to present an account of the events of last summer.

The book fares somewhat better in its "Historical Sketches" on some of the stand-off's major issues and people involved. The sections featuring



Military policeman inspects razor wire barrier.

comments by Mohawk artist, writer and ideologue Louis Hall are informative and bristle with the intensity of the man's intelligence. The comments of other activists, notably the women, shed some light on the history of the struggle that culminated this summer at the barricades.

These short sections, however, are almost exclusively from the point of view of the Mohawks. The authors might have given the other side more attention. Of the 21 sketches, only three focus on the military, and none on the police or politicians involved.

In spite of the authors' claims of objectivity, they definitely come out on the side of the Mohawks. This in itself is not a bad thing. However, their habit of constantly characteris-

ing the Warriors as "steadfast" and "determined" does the Mohawks no favor. The issues and the personalities at work here are far more complex than simply the noble, steadfast warrior facing the might of the state.

Nevertheless, *This Land is Our Land* is worth a look if only for the photographs. Mr Galbraith's pictures, many of which are in color, crystallize the tension of the stand-off perfectly. The action shots, some grainy and taken in poor light, distill the terror and, yes, the excitement of the conflict.

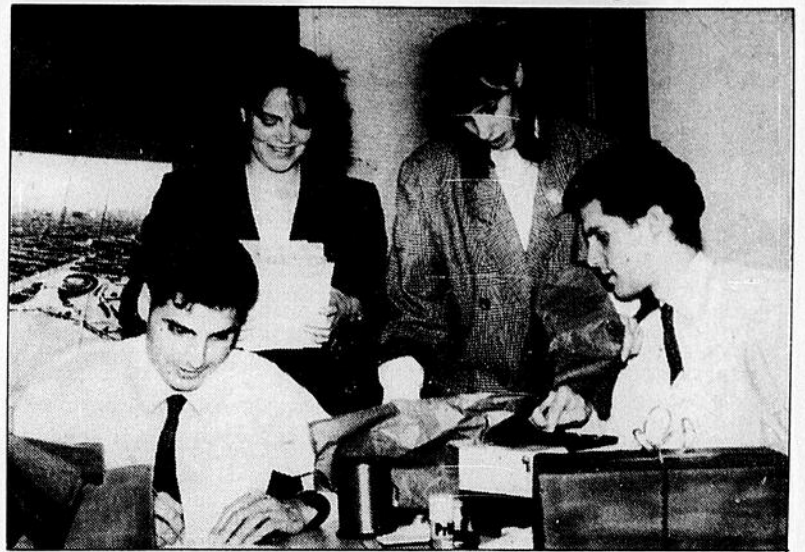
Two photos in particular, one of riot police crouching behind their shields in Châteauguay, and the other of a military policeman inspecting a roll of razor wire, are reminiscent of Robert Capa's photos of the Spanish Revolution and the Second World War.

This Land is Our Land is visually stunning, but the narrative is incomplete. All the same it is an important first step toward a greater understanding of the events of the summer of 1990. Perhaps this book will signal the beginning of a constructive dialogue on the issues which provoked this summer's crisis.

Craig MacLaine and Michael S. Baxendale, *This Land is Our Land: The Mohawk revolt at Oka*, with photographs by Robert J. Galbraith, Optimum Publishing International, 121 pp.

— Matthew Friedman

Preparing for extravaganza



The committee organizing the annual Gazette Christmas Extravaganza is hard at work preparing for the benefit in aid of underprivileged children. The party at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, takes place Friday, Dec 21 at 9 pm. Tickets at the door are \$30 per person, \$25 in advance. They are available at Birks, Phillips Square. Entertainment is provided by MCJ & Cool G, as well as a laser show. Admission includes a chance to win a trip for two to Paris. The committee is, left to right, Robert Veza, Louise Kierans, Brenda Reid and Philippe Trudeau. For more information, call 393-9500. Photo by VALERIE TETLEY

Minority view at meeting Sunday

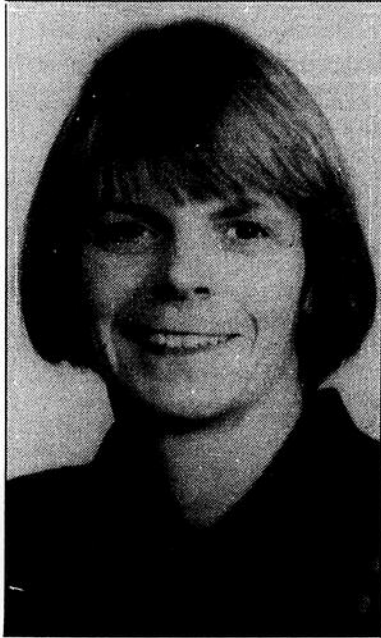
The Congress of Black Women of Canada and The Chinese Canadian National Council will hold a public information meeting Sunday from 3 to 6 pm at the Negro Community Centre, 2035 Coursol street, near Georges Vanier Métro.

Topic of the meeting is *Singled out by law for unequal treatment*. This is

a coalition-building event celebrating the 10th anniversary of both groups.

Simultaneous translation will be provided. A similar event will take place in Vancouver. For information call 932-1107.

CBC sing-in this Sunday being screened at Christmas



ESTELLE HOPMEYER

Hopmeyer named to women's AJCS

Westmounter Estelle Hopmeyer, a social worker and lecturer at McGill University's school of social work, has been named organization consultant for the Women's Federation of Allied Jewish Community Services. Her task will be to establish skill-building workshops and other organizational activities.

Her position and that of program consultant, filled by Frances Levy, replace scholar in residence Norma Joseph.

The 11th annual CBC Radio Christmas sing-in takes place on Sunday at 3 pm at the Church of St Andrew and St Paul at Sherbrooke and Bishop streets. The doors to the church open at 2 pm.

Families are invited to join with the choir and sing Christmas carols. Admission to the sing-in is free and no tickets are required. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. A freewill offering will be collected during the sing-in and Chez Doris will receive the proceeds.

Radio Noon host Louise Penny will host the event.

The sing-in will be recorded for national broadcast on both CBC radio and television. *Arts National* will broadcast the sing-in at 8 pm on Friday, Dec 21. It will also be broadcast on the Canadian Forces Network from Lahr, Germany on Christmas Day. CBC-6 will screen the sing-in at 11 pm on Dec 24 and there will be a repeat broadcast at 9 am on Christmas morning.

The sing-in will feature the choir of the church accompanied by members of the Philharmonia Brass Ensemble led by Alain Trudel. The organist is John Stephenson and the conductor is Patrick Wedd.

The program includes seasonal selections, congregational carols and brass music by Gabrieli.




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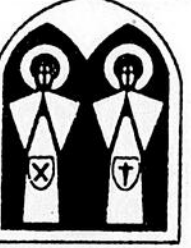


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**SUNDAY AT 11 AM
WHITE GIFT SUNDAY**
Sermon:
GOD'S GIFT BEYOND WORDS
The Minister
3 pm CBC CHRISTMAS SING-IN
Wednesday at 5:30 pm Advent Chapel Service

Church School, Crèche and Nursery
J.S.S. Armour, Minister
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Sunday, December 16
Advent III

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Said
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Sung
Church school and nursery facilities

During the week, the Holy Eucharist
will be celebrated on:

Wednesday, December 19
11:15 am

Thursday, Dec 21, 12:10 pm
St Thomas the Apostle

Rector: The Rev. Eric Dungan
Organist and Director of Church Music:
Mr Henry Abley

SYNAGOGUES

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Sabbath Services
Sabbath Eve: Mincha Kabbalat 4:00 pm
Sabbath Day: 8:40 am in the Main Synagogue
Sabbath Twilight: 4:20 pm

Daily Services

Mornings:
Sunday, December 16, 8:30 am
Mon-Tues, Dec 17 & 18, 7:15 am
(Rosh Chodesh)
Wed, Dec 19, 7:20 am
Evenings: Sun-Thurs, Dec 16-20, 4:20 pm

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Monika Tkaczewski, Organist

Sunday
December 16
Service at 11 am

ALL ARE WELCOME

Recreation survey results being made public in January

The results of a recently completed recreation telephone survey will be released some time in January, just before a public consultation meeting on the issue is scheduled, recreation and culture director Bob Aiken said Friday.

The telephone survey of 375 Westmount residents is part of a \$39,500 user/facilities study being conducted for the city by Oliver Mangione McCalla and Associates Limited. The study is to assess the recreation needs of Westmount until the year 2000.

It will investigate what kind of service people want and/or are willing to pay for and look at what facilities the city will need. At least \$10,000 of the study has been budgeted to look at the future use of

Victoria Hall. The study will also look at the possibilities of charging user fees for recreation programs.

A raucous public meeting held last month by the city and the authors of the study was severely criticized by residents because the questions of the telephone survey were released without prior public or community group consultation.

Mr Aiken would like to release the results of the telephone survey to the public before the second consultation meeting so that citizens can have an indication which direction the study is taking.

He said the consultants are still tabulating the results of the telephone survey. There will be a third public forum before a final report is submitted to the city.

St George's wins debate

St George's School of Montreal won awards for best debating team and best individual at the Quebec Student Debating Association bilingual tournament on Dec 5.

The tournament, held at West Island College, involved eight teams, or 26 students from Grade 8 to 11 from private and public schools in Montreal.

The winners of the best debating team trophy were Richard Bloomberg, Pablo Elizondo, Amanda Heisler and Daniel Notkin.

Mr Bloomberg also won the trophy for best individual debater. This means he is eligible to compete in the national seminar on debating in Winnipeg in the spring.

The resolution debated was: "Surrogate mothers have no claim on the fetuses that they carry."

St George's School was responsi-

ble for re-introducing bilingual debating to the league in 1988 and has consistently won trophies for best debating team and best individual.

PALS party Wednesday

PALS, the Shaar Hashomayim afternoon school, will hold its annual Hanukkah party Wednesday at 4:45 pm at 450 Kensington avenue.

Children from kindergarten through grade 6 and their parents are welcome to join the celebration. Dreidels and refreshments will be provided. For information call 937-9471.

First Y swim team meet racks up personal bests

The Westmount Y swim team, established this fall by volunteers Pilar Avrith and Dee Dobby, had its first swim meet Dec 7 with Montreal West.

Westmount's 19-member team was smaller and less experienced than the competition, but still acquitted itself well. Many members did their fastest times of the season.

The eights and up took first place in girls' medley and free relays. The team was Aisha Weaver, Ashley Govan, Natasha Avrith and Katrina Hucale for the medley, with Jennifer Errunza replacing Hucale in the relay.

Govan came second in girls' backstroke and fourth in free and fly.

Weaver came third in freestyle and fly and fifth in backstroke.

Avrith and Hucale came fifth in free.

The same age group won the boys' medley and free relays with Ben Spencer, Thibault Davet, Timothy

Dobby and Jason Deare. Dobby also won the boys' free, came second in boys' backstroke and fly and third in breaststroke.

Davet won boys' backstroke and fly, as well as taking second place in boys' freestyle and breaststroke.

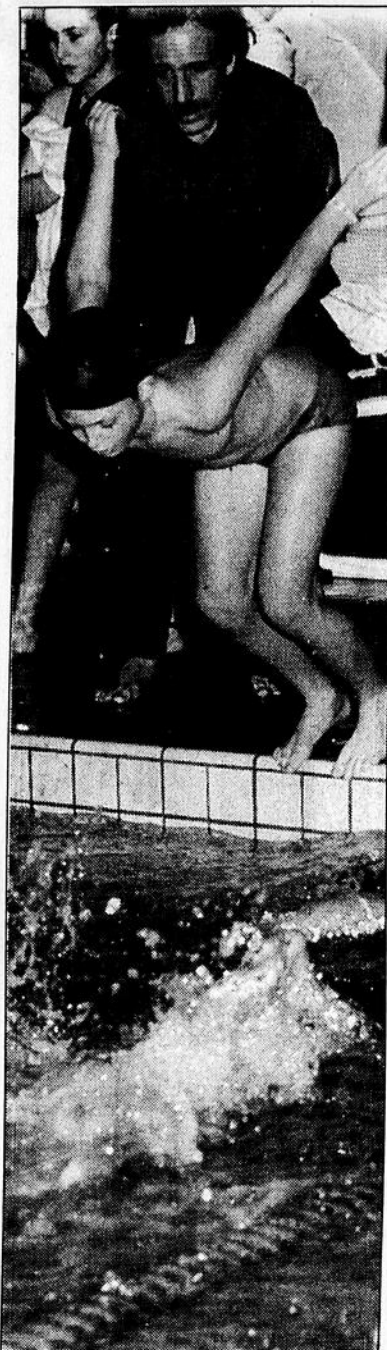
Spencer came third in free, back and fly.

Deare came fourth in breaststroke and fifth in freestyle.

The Westmount team came second in the 9 and up boys' medley relay and third in the free relay with Tal Pinchersky, Luc Davet, Aaron Shragge and James Govan. Davet took third in breaststroke and fifth in free.

Govan came fourth in free, breast, back and fly.

Third place went to Westmount nine and up girls in medley and free relays with Eve Lefebvre, Erin Ducheneau, Sara LeClerc and Hayley Scott.



Eric Shragge, volunteer coach and father of competing swimmer Aaron, watches for good form at the Y's first swim meet.

Photo by OWEN EGAN



James Govan, left, and Luc Davet of the new Westmount Y swim team preen after completing one of their races at their first meet Friday.

Photo by OWEN EGAN

Y country camp registration on

This summer's YM-YWHA country camp, co-ed resident camp of the Montreal Jewish Community Centre in the Laurentians, will begin June 27.

The camp program is aimed at offering something to every family and child, with special programs including a starter camp Aug 2 to 15 for children in Grade 1 to 3.

There is also a specialty camp featuring a week's experience in one chosen sports activity.

Program activities include tennis, swimming, sailing, windsurfing, canoeing, hiking, arts and crafts, sports clinics, a family weekend and many more sports.

For registration or more information call 737-6551.

Dear Santa:

Canada Post Corporation is helping Santa Claus to answer letters, and they are promoting literacy at the same time. Santa's letter says in part, "Lots of children have asked for books this year... My sack is already heavy with animal stories, adventures and fairy tales... It is my wish that all children know the joy that comes from reading and writing."

Last year, 9,000 post office employees answered 735,000 letters from across Canada during their coffee and lunch breaks.

Santa invites all his little friends to send him a beautiful drawing or a nice letter and to make sure the envelope is stamped with the return address and postal code on it.

On Dec 6 a Santa letter-writing program was held at Ste Justine Hospital. Santa came by and collected drawings and letters and gave the youngsters bags of surprises.

The address is Santa Claus, North Pole, H0H 0H0.

Check hockey face masks and helmets thoroughly

It's all in the head. That's why Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada is reminding parents and sportsters everywhere of the importance of hockey helmets and face masks.

An information bulletin states that a consumer should always look for the Canadian Standards Association seal before buying those products.

Furthermore, consumers should, according to the information bulletin:

- Get rid of cracked or damaged helmets and face masks on which the clear plastic has been scratched.
- Choose a mask to fit the helmet. Never puncture or alter the helmet or face mask since modifications could weaken their impact resistance.
- Make sure the helmet fits and adjust it properly.
- Always make sure the helmet is not missing any screws and that they are

securely fastened.

• Wear a face mask, helmet and neck protection every time you play hockey. It's the law.

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Selwyn House tournament starts Saturday

Selwyn House Association will hold its fifth annual varsity high school hockey tournament at Verdun Auditorium Dec 19 and 20. The event will have a championship/consoli-

dation format, involving eight teams from schools in the U.S., Ontario and Montreal, as well as their coaches, friends, families and other supporters.

The aim of the tournament is to offer the opportunity for schools and their students from many different regions to meet in a competitive setting and to encourage teams to return each year.

The Selwyn House School senior hockey team, comprising students from Grade 9, 10 and 11, will take part.

Team members are: Dylan Adair, Robbie Boeckh, Derke Bradeen, Richard Brooks, Chris Browne, Luke Carsley, Gregory Charlap, Daniel Flanders, Tim Fleischer, Willie Goldman, Matthew Kerner, Paul La-Perrière, Fabio Moscatelli, Brian Sandford, Peter Seguin, Dylan Smith, Alexis Sparling, Mark Spence, Anthony Vassiliou and Robert Worsoff.

Selwyn House has reached the finals twice, in 1986 and 1988, but loses out to other teams because of Quebec's school system which draws its 17-year-old players on to CEGEP, according to tournament director Steve Mitchell.

The Selwyn-hosted tournament is faithfully attended because visiting teams are treated well, he said, with a raffle, going-home trinkets and such.

This year, bantam teams will take to the tournament ice for the first time, on Verdun Auditorium's secondary rink, the Annex.

HOCKEY STANDINGS

Following are the standings in the Westmount municipal hockey leagues as of Saturday, December 8, 1990:

	GP	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
NOVICE							
Guards	11	8	2	1	65	41	17
Canadiens	11	7	2	2	59	38	16
Dragons	12	3	8	1	47	70	7
Bears	12	3	9	0	57	79	6
ATOM							
Canucks	11	9	0	2	58	28	20
Canadiens	12	5	6	1	40	39	11
Penguins	12	3	7	2	32	52	8
Nordiques	11	2	6	3	33	49	7
PEEWEE							
Scouts	7	5	2	0	51	33	10
Capitals	6	3	2	1	37	40	7
Canadiens	6	2	4	0	32	44	4
Seals	5	1	3	1	31	34	3
SENIOR A							
Wanderers	12	11	1	0	64	14	22
Stars	11	5	5	1	29	33	11
Flames	11	5	5	1	31	38	11
Sabres	11	3	7	1	22	49	7
Bruins	11	2	8	1	26	38	5
SENIOR B							
Fathers	10	6	3	1	38	26	13
Hawks	11	6	4	1	36	26	13
Oilers	10	6	4	0	37	31	12
Devils	9	5	4	0	27	21	10
Kings	11	4	6	1	33	47	9
Flyers	9	3	5	1	20	26	7
Aces	10	2	6	2	21	35	6

Dramatic peewee play

By WARREN VALDMANIS

The Seals and Capitals skated to a hard-fought 6-6 tie Monday in Westmount peewee hockey action.

Centre Liam Mayes spearheaded the Seals offensive onslaught in the opening period. Though Capital forwards Mark Vineberg and Casey Kerr combined for the first goal of the game before two minutes had elapsed, the Seals dominated the first 15 minutes.

Feisty winger Jonathan Stubbs tied the game up less than a minute later and offered inspiration to his fellow teammates. Before the final siren sounded, a spectacular goal by Seal winger Nick Aubin and two by Liam Mayes (who had a hand in the other two goals as well) were added

to the Seals inventory.

These goals were counterbalanced only by a clever manoeuvre by winger Tal Pinchevsky that resulted in a second Capital goal, making the score 5-2 Seals by the first intermission.

The second period saw a reversal of roles. The Capital offence began throwing its weight around in more successful ways. Ricky Mezey, a stalwart defenceman, supplemented the Capital attack with several solo end-to-end rushes, two of which resulted in unassisted goals. Winger "The Hammer" Majaraj also scored a brilliant goal when he outfoxed Seal goalie Noah Bloom with a quick wrist shot from the low slot.

After a fourth goal by Mayes early in the third period, putting the Seals up 6-5, onlookers witnessed a dramatic and controversial ending.

The Capitals had been knocking on the Seals' door for several minutes before Maharaj got a tying goal worthy of the Peewee Hockey Hall of Fame with only 26 seconds remaining. This came right after Mayes missed an open net by inches on a clearing attempt.

Then, as the seconds ticked away, a scramble in front of the Capital net was called by referee Matthew Bell one second before the puck slid behind the goalie.

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