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Music-Man magic!

The Performing Arts Department of St. George's School of Montreal chose to present as this year's annual musical production the critically acclaimed Broadway classic *The Music Man*. All five shows were performed beyond capacity crowds. Bob Bachelor, serving as producer and director for his 12th St. George's production, worked with a cast of 36 students – 25 from the high school and 11 from the elementary. They were joined by four adult performers, eight student crew and an additional production team composed of staff and parent volunteers. "All of the kids were incredible to work with and I am really proud of them," said Bachelor. Since its establishment in 1930, St. George's has gained notice for having one of the city's finest performing arts programs. Photo credit: Nicholas Pogue

WMA supports new arena proposal

A brand new proposal for the Westmount arena/pool complex, copies of which were mailed out to all Westmount residents last week, has won the approval of the Westmount Municipal Association board of directors, WMA president Jean-Pierre Picard announced on Monday night.

The latest version of the proposed project, which has gone through several overhauls during the past two years, features two NHL-sized rinks placed underground on the present site of the pool, near de Maisonneuve

Boulevard. The tennis courts would be placed above the rinks, and the pool would be moved to the current site of the arena. A significant expanse of new green space would run along Ste. Catherine Street and up Lansdowne Avenue.

According to the City of Westmount, the cost for this new project remains at approximately \$37 million, with government grants and various community-based funding initiatives taking care of up to \$25 million of the total bill. "This cost translates into an additional \$200 a year in taxes for the average

single-family dwelling," Mayor Peter Trent told residents in announcing this proposal.

The WMA pointed out that the new project addresses several of the main concerns raised by residents over the previous proposals, among them the visual impact of the large arena building, which has been significantly reduced by placing the rinks underground.

It was also stated that green space will not only be preserved but more than one acre will be created in these plans.

Continued on page 3

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Marilynn Vanderstaay
Around Westmount

In an effort to raise awareness about

Healthy City hosts breakfast meetings on environment

how Westmounters can make lifestyle changes in their homes and participate in environmentally friendly projects, the Healthy City Project has been holding a



series of breakfast meetings throughout April featuring guest speakers on environmental issues.

The breakfasts started off on April 8 with Joshua Wolfe, director of sustainable development for the City of Westmount, who discussed home energy savings and other actions for 2010. Last week, Marci Babineau and Clarisse Thomasset from the Permaculture guild discussed permaculture, what it is and why it is so important to cities.

Today, Nigel Roulet, professor at the McGill School of Environmental Studies was scheduled to discuss 'Post-Copenhagen Cities: What Westmount can do to fight climate change.'

Next Thursday, April 29, Paul Grenier, a member of the Westmount Planning Advisory Committee, will discuss 'Westmount Houses: Dos and Don'ts.' That meeting takes place at 8:15 a.m. in Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W. For more information, phone 514-486-7723.nator

A taste of Africa

On May 7 and 8, a truly historic event will take place in Africa. Five hundred grandmothers from across sub-Saharan Africa will come together in Swaziland for the first international Grandmothers' Gathering on the continent. On May 8 up to 2,000 grandmothers will hold a solidarity march in the capital city of Manzini, to call for support and action the world over to support them as they struggle at the frontlines of the AIDS pandemic to create a hopeful future for their families.

In Montreal on April 23, the Grannies for Good are sponsoring a fundraiser to support the Grandmothers' campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. An evening of food, storytelling and African dancing will take place on Friday, April 23 from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 5035 De Maisonneuve West. A moving video of the courageous grandmothers will be screened. In order to raise funds in addition to the \$25 admission fee, a silent auction will be held throughout the evening. Tickets are available at the door for \$25. Phone Joanne at 514-482-9023 or Nancy at 514-4787-4050 for more information.

Wrap party for Digital Literacy Project

This year the Atwater Library Digital Literacy Project has been hosting media workshops for youth. Many young people referred to the program have participated in projects that include creating videos for posting on the Internet, digital photography and Photoshop, blogging, and website design. On Monday, April 26 at 4 p.m. the library is hosting a wrap party to showcase the new-media productions made this term. The public is invited. The Atwater Library is located at 1200 Atwater Ave. For more information, phone 514-935-7344.

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Thursday, April 29 at 12:30 pm

Award-winning writer Eric Soblin discusses his bestselling book *The Cello Suites: J.S. Bach, Pablo Casals, and the Search for a Baroque Masterpiece*, accompanied by Montreal Symphony Orchestra principal cellist Brian Manker.

Wednesday, May 5 at 12:30 pm

Métis sound artist Moe Clark, the first *Leonard Cohen Poet-in-Residence* at Westmount High School, performs her work and discusses her career.

Wednesday, May 12 at 12:30 pm

Historian Neil Cameron gives a talk entitled "From Isaac Newton to Climategate".

Thursday, May 20 at 12:30 pm

Myriam Cloutier, Director of Heritage Programs at Mount Royal Cemetery, gives a talk about the cemetery's history and the famous people buried there.

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Hydro energy program benefits Centre Greene

A 12-metre access ramp and wash-room facilities for people with reduced mobility may soon be installed at Centre Greene as the result of a new energy conservation program currently being promoted by Hydro-Québec and the City of Westmount.

The announcement was made Monday morning at Centre Greene, where Mayor Peter Trent and representatives of Hydro-Québec and Hydro Westmount launched the Energy Wise home diagnostic campaign.

Under this program, all Westmount residents will be asked to fill out a questionnaire regarding their electricity consumption and will receive in return a personalized report with recommendations on how they can conserve energy. Hydro-Québec will donate \$35 to Centre Greene for each questionnaire submitted online, or \$30 if it is filled out on paper.

"This is a very important project," said Centre Greene president Peter Marcovitz. "A lot of good will come of this; it's a wonderful thing."

Claude Rocray, Hydro-Québec's regional head of community relations, encouraged all residents to participate in the plan, pointing out the two-pronged benefit of saving energy and supporting Centre Greene. "The funding for the community is directly linked to the number of reports submitted," she said. "We strongly encourage citizens to participate in this program."

Addressing a small audience that included city councillors Theodora Samiotis and Victor Drury, as well as Director General Duncan Campbell, Trent said he was



Mayor Peter Trent announces new energy home diagnostic program last Monday at Centre Greene — the beneficiary of funds raised through the initiative.

"delighted with the regional and community approach chosen by Hydro-Québec" in helping Centre Greene improve its facilities for those with reduced mobility. "I encourage everyone to send in their report," he said. "Let's make this happen!"

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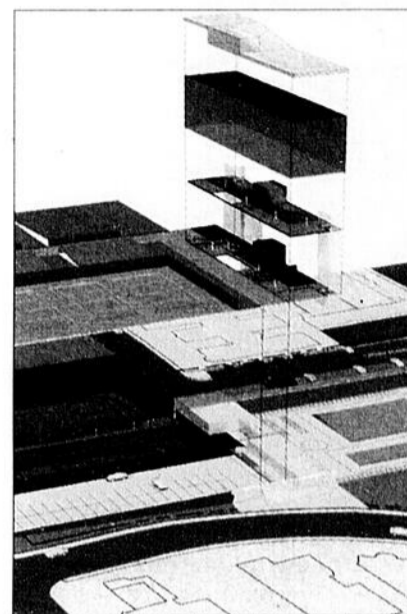
WMA supports new arena proposal

Continued from page 1

Another reason the WMA gave for supporting this project is the time-sensitivity of a major portion of the funding. "Should the citizens decide against this project, it will be scrapped; as a result we will forego the \$20 million infrastructure grant," the board stated this week. "We will eventually, sooner rather than later, have to spend a similar amount — \$12- to \$15 million — to repair and upgrade existing facilities and end up with a much inferior facility/asset."

Trent is urging residents to examine the current set of plans and fill out the questionnaire included in the mail-out. "We shall only proceed with your support," he said.

The WMA board also encourages a strong showing of public opinion on the proposal. "The decision to go ahead with this project or abandon it along with the \$20 million grant is now in the citizens' hands," they stated. "We encourage every household to reply to the questionnaire received in the mail, since a final decision will be



based on your feedback to Council."

The new arena plans and all accompanying documents can also be found on the City's website at www.westmount.org. More information can also be obtained by calling 514-989-5240.

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OPINION

Real action is needed in the Catholic Church

One need not be a Catholic to be concerned with the sexual abuse crisis plaguing the Catholic Church at the moment. The time for symbolic acts is long gone and the axe needs to fall on those responsible, if faith in this institution is ever to be restored.

With allegations of cover-ups reaching all the way to Pope Benedict himself, public apologies are no longer enough. While some people may claim that the Church has already done penance by paying out large legal settlements to victims and their families, many would argue that hardly constitutes real retribution.

Being forced into a corner and having mounting evidence prove that you are both morally and legally in the wrong does not make you sorry. It just makes you someone who has been forced to reluctantly admit your guilt. To make matters worse, many bishops responsible for the shuffling around of abusive priests, have long since died, and never had to face any consequences at all.

Even those who did face the music were never properly dealt with.

Bernard Cardinal Law, the archbishop of Boston, resigned, but how real was his punishment? He still serves as chief priest at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome and sits on the Vatican's Congregation of Bishops.

If the Catholic Church is truly serious about persecuting those who committed sexual abuse they need to start doing something more than shuffling priests around.

Sexual abusers in the church have to be dealt with the exact same way any criminal would be dealt with - prosecuted to the full extent of the law. If not, the church will continue to lose any moral high ground it may still have with its parishioners around the world.

The recent evidence that has surfaced linking Pope Benedict (Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger at the time) to actions that were aimed at protecting the church's image from any scandal rather than protecting the children who were being molested by pedophile priests is gut-wrenching. And yet, what does the church do? It issues inane statements finally forgiving the Beatles for their amoral ways! Good to see it has its priorities straight.

Children were raped and molested for years on end by the very same spiritual leaders who were supposed to protect them and yet no real contrition is found. It's criminal, but it's also the worst kind of evil that steps were ever taken to cover up such abominable behaviour.

Let's get those guilty of these heinous acts - and those responsible for any cover-ups - in front of a court of law. It's time for some real penance. In real penitentiaries.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Something worth whining about

I am constantly amazed by the issues that cause controversy among the educated, civic minded and affluent residents of Westmount. First there was the year long outcry concerning Astroturf, the aesthetic uproars concerning modifications to residential property, the arena project and now the new noise restrictions.

While upper Westmounters whine about the hum of their neighbours' air-conditioning compressors and the occasional barking dog, we residents of lower Westmount suffer through the ear-splitting roar of gigantic diesel engines as commuter trains race by at ever increasing speed and frequency with larger and larger equipment. For years the city has done little to support local residents in their Kalkkaesque struggle with CNN, the STUM and the City of Montreal to reduce speeds, weld or replace the aging tracks or install sound barriers (as have been successfully deployed in other local communities and in cities around the world). The pleas and petitions of dozens of local residents groups

are gathering dust in the city archives and a half-hearted attempt at a test sound barrier was promptly abandoned after nearly 10 years of study and discussion.

The noise and vibrations are a real danger to both health and property, yet we have little support from City Council or from other more loftily lodged residents. How can we discuss the placement of tennis courts and hockey rinks when our homes and health continue to be at risk? When will Westmount and our fellow citizens come to our aid?

Rodney Landi
Prospect Street

Wild West...mount!

On Wednesday, April 14, City trucks washed down de Maisonneuve Boulevard in the early morning. As I exited my house at 7:35 a.m. and headed towards the sidewalk, I was almost sideswiped by two "cyclists" heading eastward at breakneck speed ...on the sidewalk, because de Maisonneuve was wet. And when I returned home from work that night, I had

the pleasure of observing, over a three-block run, a speedy cyclist followed by someone on a motor scooter on the bike path heading east, oblivious to stop signs one street corner after another. Wild West...mount indeed. Something needs to be done...now.

Don Taddeo

How to reach Westmount Citizens for Safe Cycling

Dear Editor,

I am a member of the Westmount Citizens for Safe Cycling... thanks very much for publishing our petition in your last edition Page 2. We made a mistake in our e-mail address which was given and printed as WCSC@gmail.com. Would you be able to print the correct one in your next issue?

Our actual email address is: wsc2010@gmail.com

Best Regards,
Irwin Edelstein

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Publisher: Denis Therrien
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Commercial classified ad sales representative: Richard Gervais 514-363-5656, ext. 235
Sales coordinator: Irene Burda, Talia D'Costa
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Bureau chief: Toula Foscolos
Journalist: Wayne Larsen
Graphic Design: Innograf West-Island
Production Manager: Robert Bourcier

Contributors: Stanley Baker, Marilyn Smith Carsley, Andy Dodge, Bram Eissenthal, Ferg Gadzala, Matthew Surridge, Marilyn Vanderstaay, Robert N. Wilkins
Regional Manager: Stephane Vinet
Printed by: Imprimeries Transcontinental 2003 inc. Transmag Division
Distribution: Transcontinental Media inc. Publi-sac Western Montreal
Published by: Transcontinental Medias G.P. www.transcontinentalmedia.com
President: Nathalie Larivière



Student initiative raises money for MUHC

Yanni Metrakos is a take-charge kind of guy.

A Grade 7 student at Selwyn House School, Yanni is the son of Dr. Peter Metrakos, division chief of the multi-organ transplant team at the McGill University Health Centre. For the second year in a row, Yanni has donated money to Celebration of Life, an organization that raises funds to purchase patient-care equipment for the hospital's transplant wards.

On his last birthday Yanni asked his friends and family to make donations to Celebration of Life, in lieu of gifts. He raised \$1,050 for the cause.

"This year I decided I wanted to get my school involved, too," he says.

Acting on his own initiative, Yanni purchased chocolate eggs and an Easter gift basket and held a raffle for the gift basket and a guess-the-number-of-eggs-in-the-jar contest at school. With classmates Thomas Woodfine-MacPherson, Adam Borshan, Ricky Lopez, and Brendon Ribeiro-Dorrington helping out, his project raises \$646 for the Foundation.

On April 10, Yanni attended the annual dinner-dance of the Celebration of Life



Yanni Metrakos with his Easter gift basket.

Foundation, which benefits the Organ Transplant Patients' Committee of the Royal Victoria Hospital, and presented his donation to Rosa Shields, a multi-organ transplant recipient who founded Celebration of Life 12 years ago.



Notaries

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LET'S EAT

:: District Catering :: Catering to people's culinary desires

- Toula Foscolos -

When Asher Adler sold *Java U*, the company he founded 14 years ago, he needed a new challenge. That new challenge, however, was not going to be too far removed from what he's always done best; providing people with a memorable culinary experience. And so, in the spring of 2007 *District Catering* was launched.

"I come from a family where food was always very important," Asher tells us. "Through catering, you don't just provide a menu, you relate to people, you provide an atmosphere, and you become part of their celebration. Big celebrations involving food are always about marking something important in our lives. My mission is to make sure that people have a great time and remember the event."

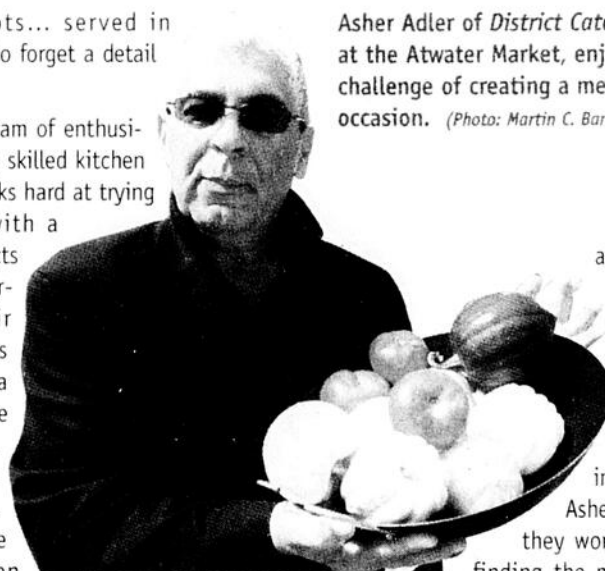
During a recent soiree that Asher organized for a team of doctors, the highlight of the evening

was jello shots... served in syringes! Hard to forget a detail like that.

Along with a team of enthusiastic and highly skilled kitchen staff, Asher works hard at trying to come up with a menu that reflects the client's personality, their expectations and, usually, a particular theme for the event. Asher makes it a point of meeting with the client in person and seeing what they have in mind, as opposed to giving them a standardized menu to choose from.

"Many people have certain food restrictions or, on the contrary, have a certain type of food that they love and want to be incorporated in the menu," he explains. "I like to please them and make sure that they get what they want and have a good time. I'm a big believer that, if you don't love what you're doing, then you shouldn't do it."

District Catering offers full catering and bar service for corporate and private functions



Asher Adler of *District Catering*, seen here at the Atwater Market, enjoys the challenge of creating a menu for any occasion. (Photo: Martin C. Barry).

and every occasion. Lunches, business meetings, cocktail parties at home, sit down dinners, and galas; nothing is off limits to Asher and his staff and they work hard at always finding the most creative and exciting way to present their food and ensure their clients have a memorable event.

"We certainly have repeat customers," says Asher with obvious pride, "and I think that has a lot to do with me being involved 100% with every single step of the process. I enjoy meeting with clients, planning the menu and acting as host during the event, ensuring that everything runs smoothly. Catering can certainly be a challenge; you have to be ready for anything to possibly go wrong, but I thrive on that."

A quick glance at the mouth-watering menu items, personal-

ly created and served by *District Catering* for their various clients, clearly indicate variety and innovation. Steamed vegetarian dumplings, Maine style crab cakes with a mango aioli, homemade chicken snitzel with drizzling lemon, grilled smoked honey glazed mesquite chicken, salmon tartar, Pomodoro al forno with warmed goat cheese, Parisian bistro style lamb chops, chicken roulade with fungi risotto are but some of the items offered.

"What's important to remember is that catering shouldn't be an outlandishly expensive affair," Asher concludes. "It really depends on your menu and what you want. Be upfront with your caterer about your budget and help him help you plan a memorable and successful event. At the end of the day, I want my client to be satisfied and entertained; to be a guest at their own party."

For all inquiries, Asher Adler can be reached at 514-726-4595. *District Catering's* website www.districtcatering.com.

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- Asher Adler and the District Catering team

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The hypocrisy behind Bill 94



Toula FOSCOLOS
 toula.foscolos@transcontinental.ca
TOULA'S 'TAKE'

Few issues have managed to stump me as much as the recent proposed legislation that seeks to ban the niqab from Quebec government offices, the education system and health care. While the overwhelming majority of Quebecers seem to support Bill 94, I have gone back and forth on the issue and still find myself ambivalent about many of its points, least of all the two main principles the Quebec government seems to pretend the bill will defend: gender equality and secular public institutions.

Even though there are only a handful of niqab-wearing Muslim women in Montreal, I am amazed that the issue has managed to create such a visceral reaction in so many. Most Quebecers automatically associate the niqab with backwardness and gender inequality. They argue that its presence promotes a visible barrier between these women and the rest of us and is reminiscent of a time when religion played a predominant role in people's lives.

What bothers me about this is that, by passing such a law, Quebec is chauvinistically claiming that we, as a province, have

already achieved gender equality and now seek to enforce it with immigrants coming here. With, you know... the ones who "don't know any better." To say that reeks of paternalism is an understatement. Gender-based violence and poverty are still real issues here, and preventing a handful of women (seeking an education, no less) from wearing a niqab does nothing to rectify that reality. It may feel like a victory, but it's a hollow one: let's not pat ourselves on the back just yet.

As for Quebec's staunch commitment to secularism, it's inconsistent and hypocritical to say the least. One can hardly demand that visible symbols of one's faith are limited and/or removed from public places, as is being attempted to legislate with Bill 94, while a gigantic cross still looms over the City of Montreal and a

cross hangs on the walls of the National Assembly. If we want to preach secularism, it should be all or nothing. Don't just purge *some* religious symbols, while protecting others because *yours* are deemed acceptable.

Should that young immigrant taking government-sponsored French classes have requested all these unreasonable accommodations be made for her sake? Absolutely not. We should all enjoy the freedom to practice our own religious beliefs, but that freedom should end when it infringes on someone else's freedom. But, if the niqab does not

infringe on the rights of others, and does not create any problems of identification, security and communication, than a person should be allowed to wear it. Why should we be making a judgment call on someone else's choices based on *our* cultural beliefs and prejudices – religious or otherwise?

At the end of the day, is the niqab a blatant practice of gender inequality (as

many unequivocally believe) or a mere exercise of choice? Is the niqab really a security issue (the exact reason touted for the necessity of Bill 94 to be legislated), or does it simply offend our Western sensibilities? And if so, are we prepared to pass a law that simply allows us to navigate uncomfortable issues the way we would a cafeteria; picking and choosing what we want, ignoring what we don't.



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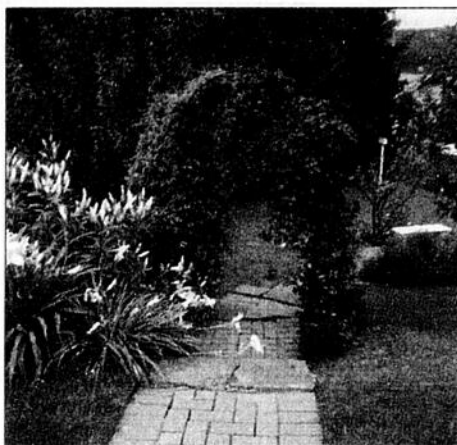
HOME *Life*

A pathway to your... heaven, with useful yet beautiful structures

Landscaping is much more than plants. Structures and different constructions will also bring variety and beauty to your surroundings. These structures will also be useful yet must also be esthetically pleasing to the eye. Before going out to buy any garden structures or ornaments, make a list of all the elements you would like to add to your outdoors. Take size and budget into consideration, since they are an important part of your plans. Usually, you should plan for basic elements such as driveway, paths, low walls, fencing, sheds, patio, terrace, pool or spa.

When planning your landscaping, paths should have a prominent place. They are the links between the different elements, between the front and the back, to your front door and sidewalk; to different activity zones, to a relaxing oasis, to your patio... these important links warrant a special attention.

You can choose the traditional cobblestone to

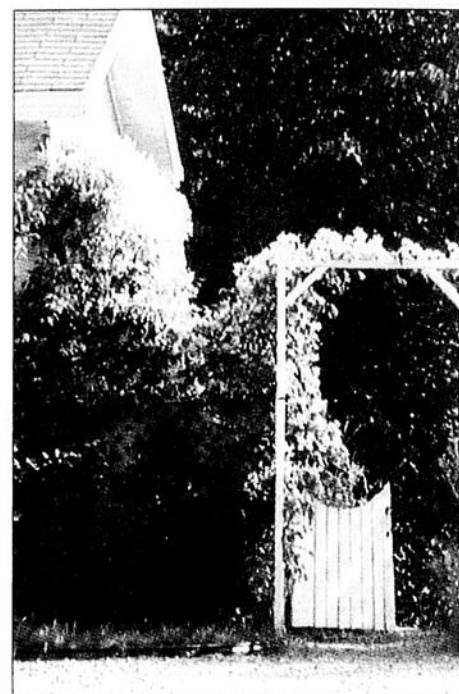


An arbor with climbing vines and a small bench are the focal points along this stone and brick-covered path.

give your path a classic look. You may also personalize and individualize each path by adding complements and original pieces throughout the path design.

Irregular shapes of paving stones will add an original and casual look. A path made of fieldstones, with twist and turns, can lead to specific areas for a countrified quality. A path strewn with mulch will quiet and deaden everyone's steps and offer an original yet inexpensive pathway. Footsteps may be built with treated wood or flat stones and direct the stroller to points of interest and havens throughout your garden. Paths covered with small round pebbles will reduce maintenance to a minimum while providing the relaxed atmosphere often sought.

You can also add some interesting structures to your garden. Paths may lead to a small wooden bridge that will cross over your water garden or a stream. Benches may be strewn throughout your garden and along your paths to provide respite and rest for strollers. Consider adding structures with climbing plants to indicate new zones and areas of interest. Other structures can be added to your list as part of your overall landscaping. Trellises are very popular and affordable and will help support many climbing vines or help define an intimate and private oasis in your garden. An arbor is a smart addition to all flower gardens. This door, often covered by a trellis, is the welcoming door into your outdoors or



A trellis will insure privacy with its arbor for climbing vines and its door for access to your dream garden.

may serve as a transition between the front and the back of your property. The pergola can provide a space of tranquility, a refuge for the wary and weary! This structure is ideal for any climbing plant and will provide the often-needed shade in summer. Your garden lodge will provide a peaceful oasis in your landscaping. It is often an imposing structure that will take up notable space in your garden. For families with children, a playground, with swings, rings, trampoline, slide, playhouses...will be very appreciated.

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If you already have a pool or spa, or are thinking of purchasing one and having it installed, be sure to consult a professional who will be able to advise you on the purchase and the upkeep of all the necessary equipment. Swimming pool

technicians will consider your needs, your wishes, the space you have at your disposal and the layout of the backyard where the pool will be installed.

Maintaining water quality also requires careful attention. The swimming pool technician can advise you on the upkeep of your pool or spa and offer you a complete range of products which will ensure that your family and friends can enjoy a safe aquatic environment. Spas require special care due to the temperature of the water, which can encourage the proliferation of bacteria. Thanks to quality products sold by swimming pool technicians and the advice they can give you, you'll be able to spend a worry-free summer in your spa.

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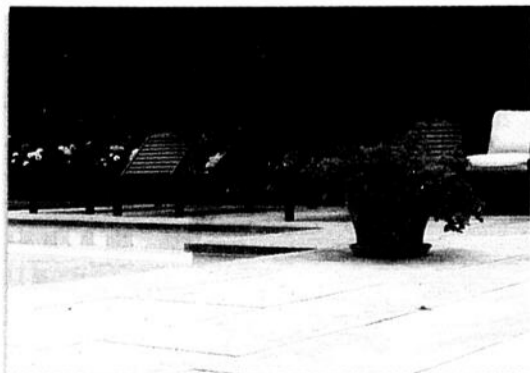
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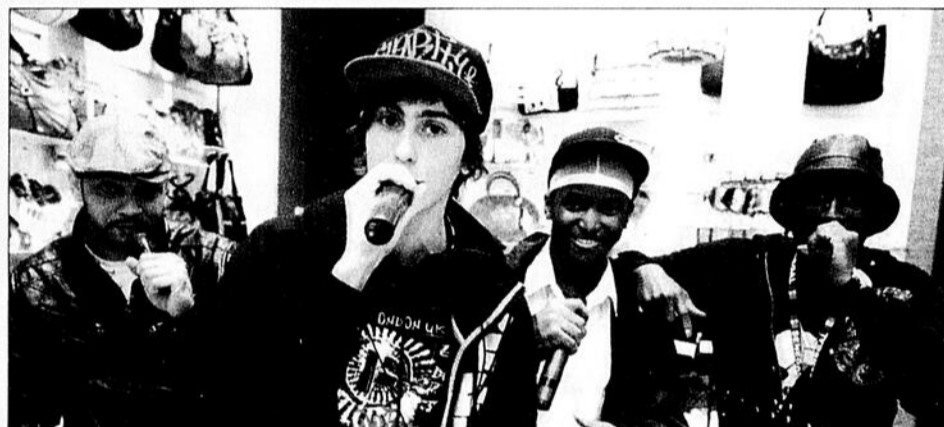
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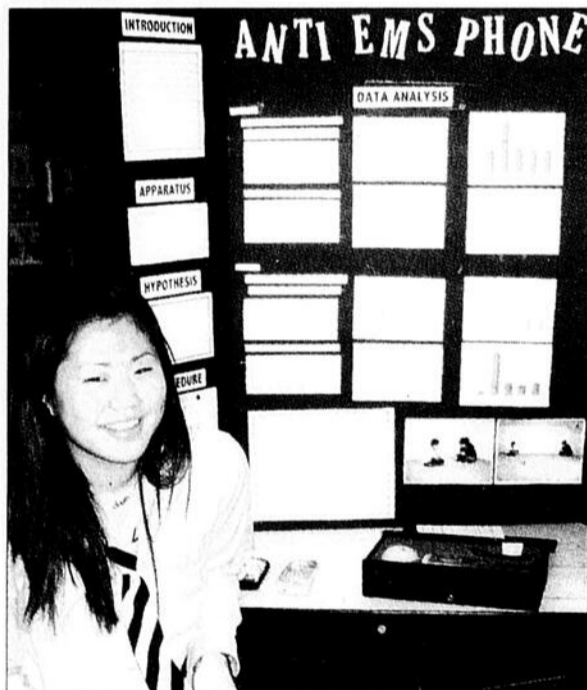


Quebec hip hop pioneers, Dubmatique, perform alongside two LOVE youth (Clarity and Extraordinaire Beats) at the Little Burgundy Shoe Store on Ste-Catherine Street. They were promoting COUP DE C(H)OEUR, a benefit concert for LOVE (Leave Out Violence) taking place this Saturday April 24 at the Eglise Saint Jean Baptiste, 309 Rachel East, Montreal. Tickets are available online at Littleburgundyshoes.com

Congratulations



The team at Claude Daccord & associates won second place in the category De la matière au naturel during the 31st gala contest of landscape design by l'Association des Paysagistes Professionnels du Québec on February 17th. The winning project Convier la nature en ville was conceived by Antonin Beaupré & Geneviève Gosselin. Pictured here are Luce Daigneault, Geneviève Gosselin, Claude Daccord & Diane Allie. www.claudedaccord.com



Honorable mention

Congratulations Soojin Kil. The 2010 Bell Science Fair jury members of Kells Academy gave Soojin Kil an honorable mention for her project named "Anti-EMS Phone". Kells Academy will hold its open house this Saturday, April 24th. For more info, please visit www.kells.ca

Two Neighbourhood Gems



The Atwater Library and Computer Centre hosted an Open House on April 15. The Westmount Examiner was there and ran into Beth Symansky (left), Project Coordinator for the Atwater Library and Laura Damecour (right) Elderly Project Coordinator for The Yellow Door. The Yellow Door launched the Elderly Project in 1972 and runs volunteer services including, friendly visiting, accompaniments and errands, teaching seniors how to use a computer, and a weekly social club. For more information on the Atwater Library visit www.atwaterlibrary.com or call 514-935-7344. For more information regarding The Yellow Door visit www.yellowdoor.org or call 514-845-2600.



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CEOs are executive league champs!



The 2010 Westmount Executive League hockey champion CEOs are: (back row, from left) Jim West, Chris Kuflik, Anthony Zitzman, Greg Menzies, Murray Horner, and Michael Denham. Front row (from left) are Dave Stenason, Bruce Maxwell, Andrew Kerklaan, Doug Buchanan, Jonathan Goldbloom and Alan Pinchuk. Missing are Peter McGibbon, Erik Moisan, Jack Siemiatycki, Jim Stein and Joel Segal.

The Westmount arena was buzzing with excitement last Monday, April 12, as executive hockey league action provided a real thriller for its championship game.

Sparked by Michael Denham's two goals and the stellar goaltending of Doug Buchanan, the CEOs ended up

defeating the CAs by a score of 2-1 to take the league title. Buchanan's shutout bid was quashed by Peter Smale, who scored the lone goal for the CAs. The CEOs, who were undefeated during the playoffs, also were the regular season champions.

St. George's Dragons breathe fire



Just two years after advancing to Division I basketball in the GMAA school leagues, the St. George's Dragons closed their 2009-2010 season by reaching the finals with Katimavik Public School. Katimavik won the title by a close score of

54-43, but given the small size of St. George's Grade 6 classes – only 17 boys in all – getting this far was an impressive achievement.

"I credit their incredible performance to their heart, and the way we teach at St. George's, says coach Mike O'Conner. Frankly, I can't believe how motivated my kids were. We had practices at 7 am. Before school started, they'd be waiting outside the door in the cold to get into practice."

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Hop over to the Segal for some laughs

Rumour has it that the Segal Centre for Performing Arts has another hit on its hands with Mary Chase's Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy, *Harvey*, one of the longest running shows in Broadway history, making its appearance on our local stage.

Directed by Diane Leblanc, this timeless piece about the lovable Elwood P. Dowd and his friend Harvey the 'pooka', a six-foot-six invisible rabbit," had the audience

in tears during a preview performance.

When Elwood (RH Thomson) introduces Harvey at a high-society party, his status-obsessed sister Veta (Nora McLellan) is mortified and decides to have him committed to spare her family further embarrassment. But things do not go according to plan. Elwood and Harvey spark pandemonium and the medical establishment's definition of 'normal' is turned totally upside down.

"Harvey is a powerful tonic for the spirit," added artistic director Bryna Wasserman, who, it should be added, will be receiving the Mlotek Prize for Yiddish and Yiddish Culture for her outstanding commitment to Yiddish culture at a special award ceremony at Lincoln Center's

Frederick P. Rose Hall on May 2.

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Dawson players go witch hunting

Members of Dawson College's Professional Theatre Program are back with another classic play this month — *The Crucible*.

Winston Sutton directs Arthur Miller's chilling indictment of 1950s McCarthyism, which re-tells the true story of the 1692 Salem witch hunts. The gripping tale of Puritan piety, bigotry and deceit follows a group of young girls whose trial for witchcraft has tragic consequences for a small town in colonial Massachusetts.

Performances run from April 22 to 24 and April 28 to May 1 at 8 p.m. in Dawson's New Theatre, 2000 Atwater Ave.

Admission is \$12 for adults, \$8 for students and seniors. For more information, call the box office at 514-931-5000 between 6 and 8 p.m. on weekdays and between 1 and 5 p.m. on Saturdays. Photo: Diane Moon



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Learning through play

From the moment we are born, we begin to learn. By playing, children discover new ways of growing and developing. In fact, playing is the first stage of learning for children—first at home, then at school. Through playing, children have to rely on their intelligence and creativity.

In kindergarten, children are exposed to new experiences that help them better understand the world around them. "Playing" takes on various forms, such as re-enacting a TV show, pretending to be historical figures or the men and women who are part of their daily lives. These games help children learn how to share ideas and deal with confrontation. These types of activities also teach them how to negotiate and resolve problems—skills that are necessary for living in society.

At this stage of learning, children spend time playing with crayons, paper, glue and scissors. These simple tools allow them to express and develop their creativity—all within a context of having fun.

Learning through play also helps children learn the rules that guide their actions. Soccer, hockey and card games are just a few examples of games with rules. These activities help children to develop better self-control and to gradually become better able to set and achieve objectives within a given set of rules.

Children learn quickly through playing, so give them lots of time and space to do so. Playing allows them to discover their strengths and weaknesses all by themselves. It also helps them develop the necessary problem-solving skills they'll need to succeed at school and in life.



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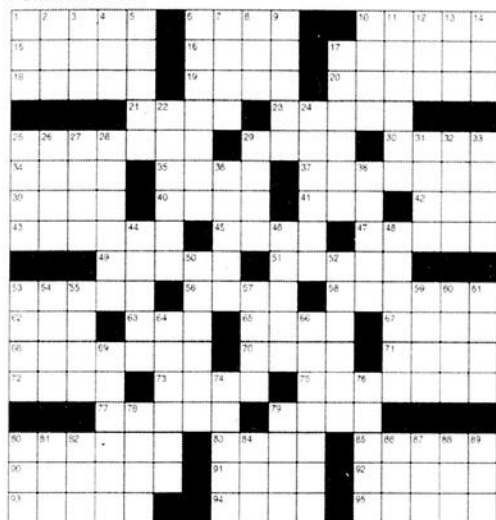
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CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 504



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- 14. Beret, e.g.
- 17. Free
- 22. Over-door support beam
- 24. Burger garnish
- 25. Certain mollusk
- 26. Company symbol
- 27. Way off
- 28. Layers
- 29. Promotion
- 31. Dealer's car
- 32. Movement forward
- 33. Crosscurrent
- 36. Washer cycle
- 38. Bake eggs
- 44. Rodeo rope
- 46. Love affair
- 48. Farm machine
- 50. Cheerful
- 52. Lizard
- 53. Nautical shout
- 54. Lullaby
- 55. In order to avoid
- 57. Corset feature
- 59. Hayseed
- 60. 43,560 square feet
- 61. Handle roughly
- 64. Sophisticated
- 66. Bear witness
- 69. Break
- 74. Chin hair
- 76. Alternate
- 78. Naked
- 79. Covered walk
- 80. Felix, e.g.
- 81. Bar beverage
- 82. Georgia's neighbor; abbr.
- 84. Neither rhyme ___ reason
- 86. Roe
- 87. Clever remark
- 88. ___ out (make do)
- 89. Bro., for one

ACROSS

- 1. Wild animal
- 6. Card game
- 10. Grate
- 15. Sonar's cousin
- 16. Dividing preposition
- 17. Japanese entertainer
- 18. Mountain ridge
- 19. Moose or caribou
- 20. Boris Becker's equipment
- 21. Large quantity
- 23. Barren
- 25. Serving as a model
- 29. Owl's sound
- 30. Trim
- 34. Raised bed
- 35. Not one
- 37. Delude
- 39. Food additive
- 40. Expedition
- 41. Cigarette residue
- 42. Central
- 43. Disposition
- 45. Shipshape
- 47. Sarcasm
- 49. Anklebone
- 51. Watered silk
- 53. Volume of charts
- 56. Money, in Chile
- 58. Cracker type
- 62. Tinge
- 63. Pinch hitter
- 65. Ballerina's short skirt
- 67. Type size
- 68. At the beach
- 70. Location
- 71. Very light beige
- 72. Abominable Snowman
- 73. Pamper
- 75. Swimmer's breathing tube
- 77. Let up
- 79. RBI or ERA
- 80. Beach cover-up
- 83. Opposer
- 85. Baseball hit
- 90. Charm
- 91. Hit the ___ (get mad)
- 92. Summon
- 93. Puff the coil
- 94. Cart
- 95. Honey badger

DOWN

- 1. Car protector
- 2. Auricle
- 3. Citrus quencher
- 4. Positioned
- 5. Hair lock
- 6. Motorcycle attachment
- 7. Understood
- 8. Gulped down
- 9. Body
- 10. Transmission part
- 11. Five-cent coin
- 12. Request
- 13. Feminine pronoun

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 504



SUDOKU

PUZZLE NO. 240

					2	3		
9		8					2	1
	3		8				9	7
	9		7	5			3	
	8				9			
				8		2	4	
1			5			8		
7							5	
		5		6		9	1	4

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 240

4	1	6	7	9	3	5	7	8
3	5	9	8	1	2	6	7	4
2	7	8	4	6	5	3	9	1
6	4	2	3	8	1	7	5	9
5	9	7	6	2	4	1	8	3
8	3	1	9	5	7	2	6	4
7	6	5	1	4	8	9	3	2
4	2	1	5	3	9	8	6	7
3	8	6	2	7	4	9	1	5

HOW TO PLAY:

Fill-in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: you must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column or 3x3 box.

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