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**Making all of Westmount your home**

Vol. LXVIII

Westmount, Quebec, Thursday, April 25, 1996

No. 17



Harry Mayerovitch takes some time out at his St. George's Place home.

Photo by CLIFF SKARSTEDT

## How architecture speaks to us all

*Author strives to give public more say in what we build*

By Michael Bourguignon  
*The Examiner*

*When a building simply shelters and protects, it speaks in prose; when it stirs us with hope or memories, it soars to poetry.* —Harry Mayerovitch

He doesn't hear voices in his head, but if he did, they would probably speak the words of skyscrapers, churches and apartment blocks.

To Harry Mayerovitch, that means the words of societies, of cultures and of people past and present. "A building is more than just functional," he says. "It tries to speak to us, to tell of who we are and what we are."

### His eighth book

The 86-year-old former architect, town planner and university professor shares his unique view of architecture in a new book, *How Architecture Speaks and Fashions our Lives*.

It's his eighth book—his second dealing with architecture—and one which he hopes will inspire people to become more aware of the reflections of ourselves in the structures we build.

"Shelter is one of the essentials for survival, along with food, sex and other activities," he says. "But shelter can be a combination of function and art. If a building does its job in the most efficient, appropriate and honest way, you automatically get beauty."

And how does a building do its job? By providing adequate shelter for the people and activities within, while also "expressing the highest hopes and potential of the community."

If it sounds as if Mayerovitch is ascribing too much importance or depth to architecture, consider how you feel when you walk past the archaic splendor of a cathedral or when you walk through the vast, imposing lobby of a grand hotel. The buildings are speaking to you, making you feel a certain way and telling you about the people who built them, and those who use them.

The mere fact that fewer churches are being built today, suggests Mayerovitch, is "an architectural expression of the changing attitudes toward religion." If he is trying to convince the public that buildings can and do speak and sing, Mayerovitch is

(See **BOOK**, page 12)

## City backs off on bylaw to control window displays

*Lack of community consensus cited by mayor*

By Michael Bourguignon  
*The Examiner*

A lack of community consensus on what to do about window displays some Westmounters consider offensive, has led city council to the conclusion that it's best to do nothing at all.

"As far as we're concerned, there has been a mixed reaction on the part of the citizenry, and the Westmount Municipal Association can't agree on what it wants to do," Mayor Peter Trent said. "Since the WMA is kind of the bell weather of the community, well..."

Council had asked the city's lawyers to look into the legal ramifications of creating a bylaw to address complaints about displays in the windows of Magnum Opus, a framing shop on Sherbrooke Street. Numerous residents have complained over the years about the nature of the displays, which some consider offensive and sometimes violent. But Trent said public opinion has been divided, and the legality of creating a bylaw to prevent the shop from mounting certain displays "is far from being crystal-clear."

WMA spokesman Stanley Baker said the consensus among mem-

(See **WINDOW**, page 11)

## Misunderstanding led to complaint about cleaner, 'Y' director says

*Recycled bottle blamed for swimmer's concern*

By Michael Bourguignon  
*The Examiner*

The sight of a maintenance worker cleaning the pool area with what appeared to be a corrosive substance shocked at least one member of the Westmount YMCA, but executive director Toni Braide said it was all a misunderstanding.

Côte St. Antoine resident Barbara Glassman recently became alarmed after spotting a worker wearing protective gloves while scrubbing the pool-side while the pool was in use.

The worker was using a sub-

stance, sprayed onto a sponge, from a bottle marked 'highly corrosive,' Glassman said in a letter to Braide, a copy of which was also forwarded to *THE EXAMINER*.

She said pool users have complained about skin rashes, sinus troubles and disintegrating swimwear.

"I resent the fact that people are cleaning at a time when I am paying to swim, and that they are using substances against which they themselves are protected, while swimmers are exposed

(See **BOTTLE**, page 12)

## Purse-snatchers on bikes reported

Here's a new one. Men riding bicycles snatched purses from several people walking along Greene Ave. last Thursday morning.

A woman who works at Salon Olivier said one of two men on bikes tried unsuccessfully to snatch her purse at 10 a.m. "They

(See **PURSE**, page 3)

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*Michael Lally*

*Westmount  
Community  
Calendar*

Westmount Calendar is a free listing of public events taking place within the city of Westmount. To have an event listed, send it to THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER, 210 Victoria Ave., Westmount, Que., H3Z 2M4. Fax: 484-6028. **Deadline is Monday noon.**

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  - f) respiratory disorders
  - g) nerve disorders
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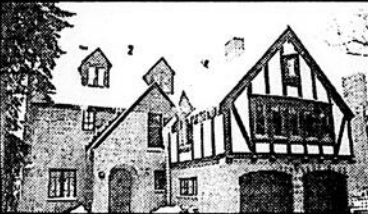
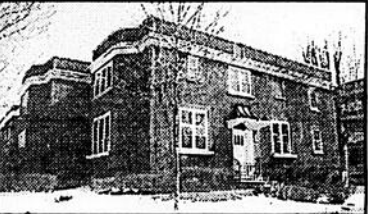
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**Thursday, April 25**  
Centre Greene presents Peggy Johnston-LeRoy "Parenting the New Teenager Workshop." Six weeks starting April 25, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Course fee. Register with Centre Greene, 931-6202.

**Contactivity Centre for Seniors** will be holding an Anniversary Tea on Thursday April 25 with radio host Melanie King as guest speaker at 2 p.m.; tea, sandwiches and dessert being served after. Tickets on sale at \$5.50 each. Contactivity Centre is located at 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West, corner of Lansdowne. For more information call 932-2326.

**Friday, April 26**  
**Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom** duplicate bridge every Friday, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 395 Elm Ave. Info.: Linda Schmaltz, 937-9944.


**Saturday, April 27**  
**St. Leon de Westmount Art Exhibition**, Saturday, April 27 from 2 to 6 p.m. and Sunday, April 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Works by Chantal Poulin, young Quebec artist from Ste. Beatrix, near Joliette, displayed at Salle St. Leon, 310 Clarke Ave., corner de Maisonneuve. Canvas reproductions available.

**Sunday, April 28**  
**St. Matthias' Choir of Men and Boys** will sing Choral Evensong April 28 at 4 p.m. Music by Sumsion, Leighton and Healey. Visitors welcome. **Lucienne Arel** performs organ recital at 5 p.m. Works by Alain, Bach, Buxtehude and more. Sherry reception following. Freewill offering. 131 Cote St. Antoine (corner Metcalfe) 933-4296.

**Sunday Concert Series** at St. Leon de Westmount Church presents St. Jean Baptiste Gregorian Choir, with organist Jacques Boucher, on Sunday, April 28 at 3 p.m. Ticket info: 935-4950.

**Westmount Lawn Bowling Club** spring meeting at Westmount Park United Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd., corner of Lansdowne Ave., on Sunday, April 28 at 2:15 p.m. Info: Jean Place, 481-9264.

(More CALENDAR, page 10)



*Westmount*

**INFORMATION**

**SÉANCES PUBLIQUES / PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Lundi le 6 mai 1996 / Monday 6th May 1996  
Séance régulière du Conseil - 20 h 00  
Regular Council meeting - 8:00 p.m.  
Hôtel de ville / City Hall  
4333 Sherbrooke  
Pour renseignements / For information 989-5318

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# Gunman robs Scotia Bank on Greene Ave.

## Discards 'rapper-style' jacket as he flees

By Michael Bourguignon  
The Examiner

A lone gunman robbed the Scotia Bank branch at Greene and Sherbrooke last Wednesday, discarding what police described as a 'rapper-style' black jacket as he fled.

Constable Francine Duval of Station 23 said a man walked into the bank around noon, showed a teller a pistol and obtained "a significant sum of money."

The robber was a white male aged about 25 years old, 5 ft. 5 in. tall and 145 pounds. He spoke English and, according to Const. Duval, was apparently courteous during the robbery.

"When he took the money, he said 'thank you very much.'" The man was wearing a purple, hooded sweater and a black, 'rapper-style' jacket, which police later found discarded in an alleyway south of Sherbrooke Street.



### Hearty volunteers

Hardworking volunteers from the Westmount Heart Club surround Mayor Peter Trent and fundraiser Georgette Maheu as they present a cheque for \$5,600 to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. The money was raised through fundraising in and around Westmount. Among the events on tap for the Heart & Stroke Foundation is a concert May 16 at 8 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral. The concert will feature world-renowned virtuoso of the viola da gamba, Jordi Savall. For tickets call 871-1551.

### St. George's student tops as international public-speaker

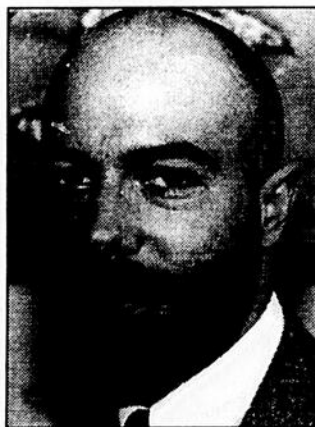
A St. George's School Grade 11 student has won first prize at the World Debating and Public Speaking Competition held recently at the 350-year-old Reading Blue Coat School in Sonning-on-Thames, England.

Ethan Tobman excelled by making it to the finals in the After-Dinner Speaking category, and then soared to the top, winning first prize in the Impromptu Speaker category, bringing that prestigious trophy back to St. George's. Attending the competition was St. George's teacher Liana Palko in her capacity as President of the Quebec Debating Association who, together with Jeff Scott, coached the debaters. Palko was especially pleased with Ethan's performance. "The Impromptu Speaking category is the most difficult of all," she said. More than 600 students from 13 countries participated in this internationally renowned event.



Ethan Tobman

### New reporter on staff



Michael Bourguignon

THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael Bourguignon to the position of Chief Reporter.

A native of New Brunswick, Michael worked as a reporter and columnist for Thomson Newspapers for four years before moving to Montreal in 1992.

He was most recently Chief Reporter of THE EXAMINER's sister paper, The Monitor.

### Purse snatchers rode bicycles

(Continued from page 1)

don't stop," she said. "They ride real fast and they snatch."

"They came from behind on bikes, so you don't hear anything."

It appears several purses were snatched, but then dropped. Police were called, according to the woman.

The surprised woman said it's something you don't expect in broad daylight. "At night you're careful. But in the daytime?"

The cyclist tried to pull away her purse, but she held on.

"These are grown men. They're not teens. They're big guys."

"He can collide with me, I guess, but I think that's the last thing he wants." There was no description of the cyclists.



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**Station 23  
police log**  
By MICHAEL BOURGUIGNON

**Ontario man's  
car stolen four  
hours after call  
to police station**

A visitor from Ontario received a cold welcome to Montreal Monday when his car was apparently tampered with and then, about four hours later, stolen.

The car was parked on Sherbrooke Street near Atwater Avenue. The first incident occurred between 11:10 and 11:50 in the morning, said Constable Francine Duval.

"He called and reported that the door handle on his car had been damaged," Const. Duval said.

"At three o'clock, the same man called to report his car stolen."

Police are looking for a 1994 Volkswagen Golf valued at \$16,000.

It was one of six vehicle-related thefts reported to Station 23 in the past week.

**Car stolen on Wood**

On Monday, a 1993 Nissan Altima was stolen on Wood Avenue, sometime between 11:45 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. The vehicle was valued at \$20,000.

Last Thursday, a thief or thieves broke into four vehicles, the first at 7:15 a.m.

An Alpine radio system, valued at \$600, was removed from a 1987 Plymouth Caravelle, after someone entered the vehicle through the driver's door. The vehicle was not damaged.

Sometime between 9 p.m. Wednesday and 8:30 a.m. Thursday, a 1995 Jeep Laredo was broken into on Sunnyside near Upper Belmont. A cellular telephone, a handful of compact discs and a pair of sunglasses were stolen. The total value of the merchandise was about \$300.

Between 8 a.m. and noon, a Dodge Caravan parked outside a home on Summit Circle was broken into and a \$500 cellular phone was removed.

Sometime between April 16 and last Thursday, someone stole a cellular phone from a 1995 Chrysler Cirrus on Anwoth Road. Const. Duval said the owner of the vehicle could not remember if the doors had been locked.

Over the weekend, a 1986 Volkswagen Golf was broken into, and a \$300 portable radio taken, on Roslyn Avenue near de Maisonneuve.

Police have no suspects in the thefts.

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**St. Andrew's-Dominion-Douglas  
United Church  
May Report**

The annual PASTORAL CARE LUNCHEON will be held to welcome spring on May 1. Some 50 guests, members of the congregation who are mostly shut-ins, and an equal number of volunteers to help will enjoy lunch, be entertained and then worship together. This year's attire calls for spring hats hair wreaths with ribbons and floral dresses.

Welcome to spring! At last.

Also helping to welcome the wonderful season of spring will be a Choral Concert on Saturday, May 4. Starting at 7:30, the concert will feature works by Franz Schubert and Giovanni Battista Pergolesi. Tickets are \$10.

Continuing through May will be the Yoga for Spring-Yoga for Renewal classes, an 8-week course led by Carolyn Cronk. Tuesday evenings at 7.

A major fund-raiser will be held Tuesday May 28 with the return of the popular MEN'S AUCTION & DINNER. A record turnout of over 150 last year is expected to be topped. So claims Bert Verbruggen, kitchen commander, and John Dawson, in charge of the auction.

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*House Talk*  
the latest on real estate!  
by Sylvie Lafrenière

**Below \$300,000 in Westmount (and adj.)**

Across from Westmount park on Melville, three-bedroom townhouse with 2-car garage, lots of charm and light, hardwood floors. You won't find another one like this in this price range. \$239,000.

On Trafalgar, a paradise away from it all! Very private. Home built on several levels, right against the mountain. Assessed over \$350,000 but asking only \$268,000. Fully loaded four-bedroom home on Côte des neiges, needing a little TLC. Super price bank repo, guaranteed low taxes, vacant. \$285,000.

Very bright home on Somerville, in the heart of Victoria Village. Sparkling bright with new windows, fireplace, and sundeck overlooking mature garden. You'll never need the car again!! \$292,000.

Nestled against the mountain in a quiet area: Upper Trafalgar. Realistically priced at \$295,000

Detached home on Victoria, across from Chesterfield. Freshly painted, bright and well maintained. Deep private garden, parking. A true to visit, and even greater pleasure to own!! \$299,000.

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**1094 Greene First** ad!! Right across from Staynor Park, wonderfully bright home with high ceilings, 3 skylights, 5 bedrooms/office, and 2 garages!! \$267,000

**107 Blenheim Place** On a quiet cul-de-sac, the perfect family home!! Four bedrooms, lovely garden, professionally finished basement. Well planned living. PS the sand box stays!! \$219,000.

**5129 Côte St. Antoine** Lovely woodwork and leaded glass in this Lambert-built home. Fireplaces, large reception rooms, finished basement, level garden, garage, parking for 5 cars!! \$369,000.

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# Examiner contributors nominated for awards

Photo, column, cartoon, sports story in running

THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER has received four nominations in the 1996 Quebec Community Newspaper Association awards.

Photographer Cliff Skarstedt was nominated for best feature photo for his shot of two Westmount youngsters playing Ping-Pong at the Westmount Arena. Skarstedt also received two nominations for his work for the West Island-based Chronicle newspaper.

EXAMINER sports writer Bob Oliver has been nominated for a feature story on local hockey player Anne-Marie Bismuth.

Cartoonist Ferg Gadzala was nominated for a cartoon featuring a singing Mayor Peter Trent suggesting he should receive a full-time salary.

Former EXAMINER columnist Kathleen Hugessen was nominated for her piece on police luring several Westmount High School students to participate in a police line-up.

The two nominees for best overall newspaper are The Chronicle, covering the West Island, and the Eastern Townships weekly The Stanstead Journal.

The QCNA represents 31 English-language and bilingual community newspapers in Quebec. The winners will be announced at the association's annual convention in Orford in May.

## Mark this down: CLSC course being offered on forgetfulness

CLSC Metro-Westmount Service located at 300 Victoria Ave. is offering a course, Dealing with Memory Changes, to help seniors facing normal forgetfulness as they grow older.

It will be held on four consecutive Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. to noon beginning May 15.

The program is open to the residents of Westmount and downtown and is free of charge. One must register in advance.

Call nurse Cheryl Jackson at 487-4670.



# Real Estate

By Reg Morden

## PRESENTATION OF THE OFFER

You will probably hear first by telephone that a written offer has come in on your property. Because offers must be presented immediately, you might even be notified while out of town. This is a good reason to keep your agent apprised of your whereabouts if you are of the traveling kind.

Most homeowners react by immediately asking how much the buyers are prepared to pay. However, if there are several minor provisions or a major one included in the offer, don't be put off if the agent would prefer to set up a time and place to discuss the offer with you personally and explain the details and financial elements. What may sound extremely good or bad over the phone may look a lot different when explained on paper.

If several offers come in, it is best to consider all at the same time. The first one signed by would-be buyers does not have any precedence. As long as you have not acted on any offer, you are free to consider all of them and respond to whichever one you choose.

## CONDO CORNER

**DOWNTOWN**  
Lambert Closse - \$89,000 - Top floor, sunny one bedroom, includes one parking. Perfect pied à terre.

**DOWNTOWN**  
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Sunny 3 bedroom condo, close to all amenities, western exposure, 6th floor.

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**WESTMOUNT ADJ.**  
Northcliffe \$104,000 Bright upper duplex, hardwood floors fireplace - close to metro and shopping.

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RE/MAX Westmount Inc.  
Chartered Real Estate Broker  
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Thinking of buying or selling? I'd be pleased to hear from you.

# Westmount Homes of Spring '96



Lynda Taylor  
Affiliated Real Estate Agent

**Aberdeen Ave.** - Impeccable top location 4-bedroom family home in absolutely move-in condition, x-hall plan 2 car garage, A/C. \$555,000.

**Montrose Ave.** - Charming Victorian stone in most desirable location, 4 bedrooms, garden, parking. \$285,000.

**Clarke Ave.** - Classic spacious family home. 4+1 bedrooms, exquisite woodwork, 3 OFP's, garage, garden. \$399,000.

**Rental; Cedar Ave.** - Renovated detached 6 bedrooms. Spacious entertaining rooms. Elaborate woodwork. Central air. Garage. \$3800 p/month.

For more information or for a free no obligation price opinion on the market value of your property



Please Call Bus: **934-1818**  
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**Grosvenor Ave.** - Rare opportunity 2 story 4 bedroom condo in sunny and spacious parking, sundeck. \$199,000.

**Aberdeen Ave.** - Elegant stone detached in most prestigious location. State of the art renovations. Exquisite detail. \$895,000.

**Roslyn Ave.** - Westmount Adj. Spacious 3 bedroom beautifully renovated ground floor den, huge garden. \$419,000.

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## THINKING OF SELLING?

My clients are looking for a 5 bedroom home (preferably with a view) in the \$600,000 range in Westmount, for the end of August. Please call me in confidence if you are thinking of selling.

**OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2:00-4:00 AT 490 STRATHCONA**

This is a detached renovated 5+bedroom home, library, rec. room, garage. Price just reduced to \$539,000, really worth a visit.

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**933-9459**  
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# THE WESTMOUNT *Examiner*



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Page 6 - Vol. LXVIII, No. 17 Thursday, April 25, 1996

## Lessons to be learned from Canadiens

### *Doing business in English, French keeps fans loyal*

For people still feeling in a bit of post-referendum slump, or whatever you want to call it at this point, three things might help them out: some warmer weather, some trouble for the PQ, or a few victories by *Les Glorieux*, the Montreal Canadiens, who are now deadlocked with the New York Rangers in the first round of the NHL playoffs.

Even if you are not a hockey fan, it's difficult to keep from getting caught up in Stanley Cup fever at this time of year. A big win on the ice could bring a great boost for the city and its citizens.

And besides, as a letter-writer pointed out last week, if the Habs were to win it all (not that likely, unfortunately — we have a young team, but inexperienced) the celebrations would start down by the Molson Centre instead of at the old Forum next to Westmount. Even if the revelers smashed windows and flipped buses, at least they would be starting down at 'The Big M,' and perhaps heading down to Old Montreal from there.

Whether the Canadiens win or lose on the ice, Quebec politicians might take some lessons from the Montreal Canadiens Hockey Club and how it conducts itself off the ice, so to speak.

#### Game's stars

Not only is it considered to be the most successful professional sports franchise in history. What's just as important about the club is that it shows due respect for the people who buy the tickets and pay the salaries. Specifically, the team conducts itself in both of Canada's official languages, something that stood out at ceremonies marking the closing of the old Forum and the move to the new "Centre Molson Centre." Announcements and programs are available in both English and French. The game's stars ("Le troisieme étoile, the third star, Larry Robinson!") are introduced in both languages. O Canada is in both languages.

Why? To reflect the true nature of the city, and to show some respect for the fans — the paying customers. It is one of the things that makes the Canadiens a class act.

Too bad the same can't be said for The Bay, Eaton's (make that 'Eaton') and some

of the other big chains with stores in Montreal, which don't show the same respect for their customers by posting signs in English as well as in French. The Zeller's and Canadian Tire stores in Alexis Nihon are among the culprits, which is surprising when you consider the area they have to tap into for potential customers.

A recent demonstration at the Fairview Shopping Centre on the West Island was intended to get stores to put up English signs in addition to the French, something that is legal, and something that would show a huge segment of their clientele the respect they deserve.

Whether the demonstration has had any effect it is not yet clear. But let's hope it does.

Putting up additional signs in English, Flemish, Gaelic or Romansch will in no way harm a French-speaking person's access to signs or service in his own language. It simply offers service to others, too. And what's wrong with that?

In Europe, retail products and food items are typically labelled in English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Portugese, and so on. All of them right there on the same label, or in the same instruction booklet. It's the way it should be.

We've all heard the story — call it a legend — about the French-speaking person who went down to Eaton's 30 years ago and couldn't get served in French, right here in Montreal. No, it was not right. But to put English-speaking Quebecers in the same predicament, to completely turn the tables, as if to somehow pay them back for the way things were three decades ago, is not right either.

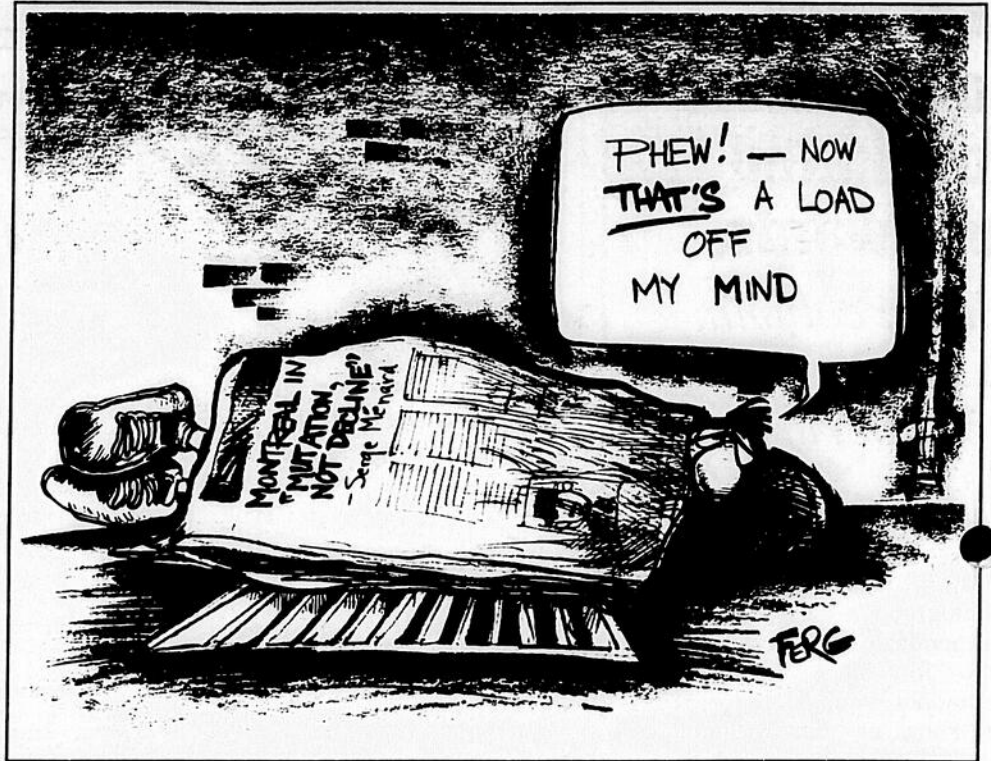
Two wrongs don't make a right. Especially when the law allows indoor bilingual signs. It simply creates another situation in which one group is getting the shaft, courtesy of some large and uncaring retailers. It's understandable that people get fed up.

If these larger retailers want to keep their customers, they could learn a few things from the Canadiens, who will hold on to their loyal fans through good seasons and bad, in part because they treat those fans with respect.

— Bernie O'Neill

#### Letters are welcome

Letters are welcome and every effort will be made to print them, space permitting. Letters must be signed and bear the writer's address and daytime telephone number. Write to: The Editor, 210 Victoria Ave., Westmount, Que., H3Z 2M4, or send a fax to 484-6028.



## You Say

### Does Minister for Montreal have what it takes?

Has Serge Ménard now become a geneticist? During the current PQ mandate, Ménard has been transformed, in a very brief space of time, from Minister of Security to Minister of Montreal. Has this transformation resulted from Bouchard's Magic Wand Politics or Ménard's Genetic Mutation?

Alas, should not ministers responsible for specific portfolios possess highly special-

ized and educated expertise in their areas of work? It is high time for the public to demand accountability for the quality, credentials and actual productive work and accomplishments of our government servants, irrespective of their partisanship. We pay their way.

**Jack Rothstein**  
Sherbrooke St. West  
WESTMOUNT

### Bicycle stands are needed at public library

It is wonderful that the YMCA should have a new parking lot. As a toddler's mom, it's very hard to explain where the trees went, and why, in this day and age, asphalt is still king. As a regular library-goer, however, I trust the city of Westmount and the

library itself will remember to provide for other forms of transportation. Where are the bicycle stands, please, Mr. Mayor?

**Louise Vidicaire**  
Metcalfe Ave.  
WESTMOUNT

## Canada's evolving immigration policy

As you know, I have just returned from a mission to Asia which brought me to New Delhi and Hong Kong. India and Hong Kong are the largest sources of immigrants to Canada.

The most important aspects of this mission were to see our operations in the field, to follow up on the Prime Minister's Team Canada Trade mission, and to convey important messages about Canada's evolving immigration policy.

In New Delhi, I met with India's Foreign Affairs Minister, senior government officials, and civil rights organizations' leaders. Also, I spoke at a lunch of the Indo-Canadian Club.

Both in my discussions and speech, I presented Canada's priorities for economic immigrants and increased trade with India. Notwithstanding that family reunification remains an important part of our immigration strategy, I informed them of the on-going process to strengthen family class sponsorship, to change our immigration criteria with a focus on high professional and language skills and to redesign our business immigration program to better meet our economic goals.

In 1997, Hong Kong, currently a British Territory, will be returned to the People's Republic of China as a 'Special Administrative Region' (S.A.R.).

This impending transfer of sovereignty continues to fuel a sense of uncertainty.

## Our MP Lucienne Robillard says...



In my discussion with the Governor of Hong Kong, Mr. Christopher Patten, and with senior government officials, and at a speech I made before the Canada Chamber of Commerce, I spoke of our on-going process to change Canada's immigration policy, but I also addressed the issue of 1997.

I assured them that Canada is committed to supporting Hong Kong during the period of transition leading up to 1997 and beyond to help ensure long-term viability and stability. Our objectives are to ensure Hong Kong's autonomy and to maintain the rule of law.

We also want to secure appropriate status for Canadians who choose to live in the S.A.R., and to maintain the integrity of our immigration program vis-à-vis Hong Kong.

Canada wishes that it will be business as usual and we are confident it will.

While in Hong Kong, I also had the honour of officially opening the Canadian Education Centre, and visiting the Canadian International School.

Finally, I would like to tell my constituents, and in particular those who are Chinese Canadian, that I felt very welcomed in Hong Kong and was warmly received by its people.

## Muc-king around the island?

In last Saturday's *La Presse*, the new Minister of Municipal Affairs, Rémy Trudel, floated the idea of expanding the Montreal Urban Community's territory to include Laval and Longueuil. Although I had met with him the day before, he did not mention such an idea. What he did tell me, though, is that he is less enamoured over amalgamations of cities on the Island of Montreal than his predecessor. Which is excellent news.

But expand the MUC? The reaction of Laval came fast: "no way!" Mayor Vaillancourt even pointed out that some Montreal Island politicians would like to see its role reduced. (Thanks for thinking of me, Gilles.) At least we'll have a chance to discuss the whole issue at a workshop retreat on "decentralization" called by the minister for the 23rd and 24th of May.

Before I give you my views on the matter, some history might help.

The legislation that gave shape and substance to the MUC and defined its powers was hurriedly cobbled together in less than two months after the notorious Montreal police strike of October 7, 1969. It was this

strike and its generous settlement that caused the city of Montreal to convince Quebec to ram through legislation that would so radically change our local municipal scene.

The MUC was born of Montreal's desperate need to get bailed out of its parlous financial state. The MUC was not created through consultation, consensus-building, or careful planning. In fact, given the changed political climate, the MUC could never have been imposed today in the abrupt and cavalier way it was done twenty-five years ago. Or at least, one hopes!

In 1982, under strong pressure from the Conference of Suburban Mayors, Quebec agreed to a major overhaul of the way the MUC was governed. We got parity with Montreal on the MUC Executive Committee, a double-majority vote in the Council, and other improvements.

Now, the initial indigestion caused by the swallowing up of local services by the MUC has mostly gone away. But some discomfort remains. While we got an effective remedy in 1982 to Montreal's overbearing power, no real change has been made in the

## Our Mayor Peter F. Trent says...



MUC's make-up since it was born. In fact, the MUC has picked up some new responsibilities over the years.

I have always felt that some MUC services would be better handled by local municipalities. Some should be regionalized. The assumptions and conditions that led to the MUC being so hastily knocked together have surely changed.

To be fair, the chair of the MUC's Executive Committee, Vera Danyluk, has also proposed that the MUC take a hard look at itself.

And she has managed to get its spending really under control. But whenever a public organization such as the MUC looks at itself, it usually does not contemplate doing anything too radical. Grooming is OK, but not major surgery.

More on the MUC next week.

The Westmount Examiner

## EXAMINING THE FILES

55 years ago  
April 24, 1941

**BATTLE FOR FREEDOM:** "In commemoration of St. George's Day, yesterday, the City of Westmount sent the following cable to the Lord Mayor of London, expressing admiration for the British people in their battle for freedom. The cable read: On this St. George's Day, the mayor, aldermen and citizens of Westmount, Quebec, express their admiration of the courage and endurance of the people of Britain in their battle for freedom. May God sustain all of you in your noble cause and bring to our Empire an early victory and a lasting peace to the world."

45 years ago  
April 27, 1951

**GREENE GREENER:** "It was learned from Westmount City Hall authorities today, that the many times mooted plan to widen Greene Avenue, between Dorchester and St. Catherine Streets, is scheduled to go ahead this year. The street at this point has created something of a bottleneck as from curb to curb it only measures 26 feet. It is proposed to widen this section to 38 feet. The street line has already been homologated on the west side which means that some of the buildings will have to be expropriated. The width of Greene Avenue from the intersection of St. Catherine to Sherbrooke is 45 feet from curb to curb with another 5 feet on each side for sidewalks, consequently there will be slight curve at St. Catherine and Greene."

35 years ago  
April 28, 1961

**HAIR TODAY, GONE TOMORROW:** "This week sees the end of an institution when the Westmount Barber Shop at Elm and St. Catherine closes and Harry Fitch and Harvey Meloche move their business to Roxboro after 34 years in the city. 'We hate to go after so many years,' said Harry Fitch. 'The district here is changing and the rents are all going way up, too high for us.'"

25 years ago  
April 22, 1971

**AGAINST THC:** "The Westmount Action Committee's anti-Trans Canada Highway fashion parade met with a fantastic response, said WAC president David Carruthers. Anti-highway balloons and buttons were sold and over 700 signatures were gathered in two hours on Sunday on Mount Royal. 'The Stop the Highway buttons sold like hotcakes,' said Sally Hoof, 138 Abbott Ave., a member of the committee."

15 years ago  
April 23, 1981

**FURRIER SHOPS DAUBED:** Windows and doors of three furriers on Sherbrooke Street in the area of Claremont Avenue were spray-painted with red slogans sometime between Thursday and Saturday, police said. The messages read 'murderers,' 'fur means paint,' and 'EALF,' police said, suggesting the mischief had been done by someone against the killing of animals for furs. A black liquid plastic had also been put into the lock of one establishment.

— Bernie O'Neill

## Teacher, performer says music is for everyone

### Angela Knock is in tune with her students

If you jog the hills of Westmount or are at the local YMCA with any regularity, you will see her working out. Don't be fooled, though. Angela Knock may be a fitness buff by preference but she is a musician and teacher by profession.

Perhaps then a few musical metaphors might be appropriate to describe this talented Westmounter. Firstly, she comes from a musical family background — call that her bass clef. Her mother, like Angela herself, is a professional musician and educator. Quality musical instruments were part of their home environment.

#### Students of all ages

Moving up from the bass clef, Knock's treble clef is her teaching; filled with notes — students — of all ages and all capabilities (sharps and flats). And if notes build upon each other to create chords, then Angela began building her professional musical career with a Bachelor of Music in music education and obtained a Master of Music in flute performance.

She also earned a Music for Children certificate and expanded her research in music education by studying the Kodaly concept with Hungarian specialists. As well, she instructs other teachers and is in demand as a guest lecturer, adjudicator and musical education consultant throughout Canada.

She recently accepted an invitation to be the recorder clinician at the National Orff Conference in Winnipeg in May 1998.

Knock is on staff at the McGill Conservatory of Music, where she has taught Music for Children, recorder and flute (private and group lessons).

In her 'private practice,' her students range in age from 7 to 80, from musically-inclined to musically-gifted, who learn flute, recorder or piano — or a combination of some or all of these.

"Some people think that the recorder is just a 'preparatory instrument,'" she muses, "but you can move on to soprano, alto, tenor and bass recorders, or the trans-

verse flute very easily. The recorder can definitely be a performance vehicle in itself." She believes, instead of discarding one instrument for another, in adding to it, in building on the skills and knowledge the student has already acquired.

"Participating actively in music making — alone or in ensemble — should be a part of everyone's artistic experience," she says simply, with her trademark enthusiasm. "Such an experience stimulates the mind and provides not only a sense of accomplishment, but also a positive use of leisure time."

She can also turn a simple lesson into a mini jam session because, unlike many



teachers, she often accompanies her students during a lesson on the flute, different recorders, the guitar, the piano, the harpsichord or one of several percussion instruments she has acquired over the years.

Her enthusiasm for working with students of all ability levels is the driving force behind her involvement in CAMMAC, a musical camp in the Laurentians which draws music lovers together over the summer to take courses and make music in a friendly and non-competitive setting. This

## Character Sketches

By SHARON BISHIN

year she will return as a recorder instructor. Knock has some definite thoughts on the subject of practicing.

"Parents," she laughs, "often react with concern if their child misses a day of practice on their instrument, and though I certainly endorse trying to practice every day so that it becomes part of a routine, there should be a relaxed attitude about the whole concept."

#### Disliked practice

Even though she has received numerous awards and scholarships over the years, she remembers disliking the demand of regular practice when she was young, but a sense of satisfaction came to her in time once she had mastered basic technical skills.

"One of the most important things to consider when embarking on music study is finding the right teacher," cautions Knock. "Take your time, shop around, make sure there is a match of personalities and philosophies."

Knock's own students are particularly devoted, pledging to "study with her forever," explaining that her lessons make them "feel" and "dream" the music. Besides those esoteric qualities, though, Knock packs her lessons with concrete learning techniques, refined over 25 years.

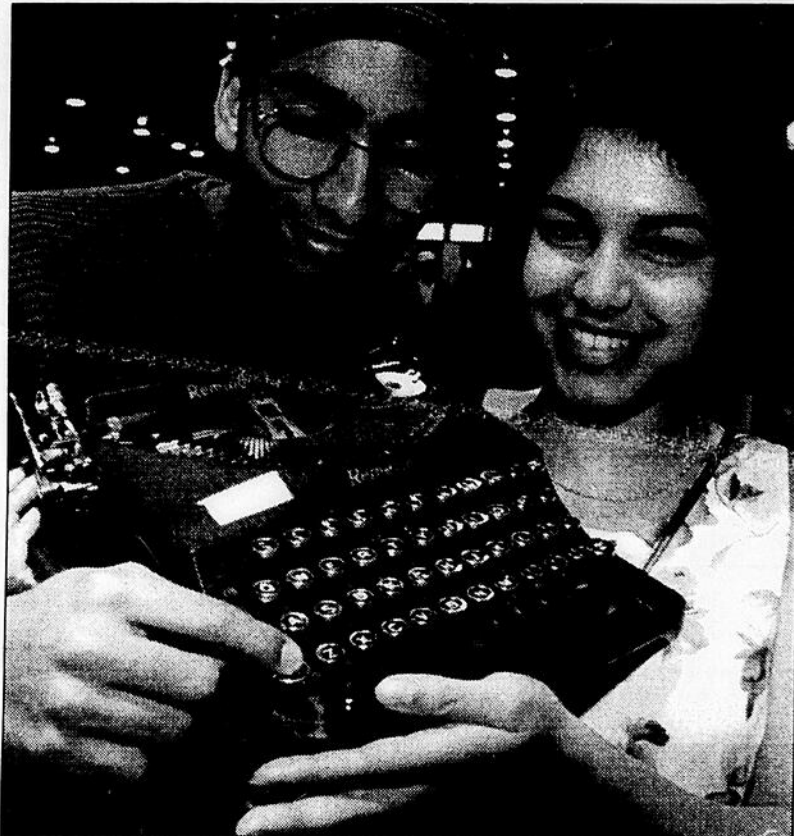
There is ear training, history, composition, improvisation, learning about the beat, notes, and music reading skills, all reinforced by many handouts and much well-deserved praise, always adapted to the individual.

"But," she agrees, "music is a bit like therapy." At least one of her patients — oops, students — will agree. "Angela," that particular student recently attested, "for me, music is the best therapy of all!"

### Rotary weekend

Residents came out for the Westmount Rotary Club's annual garage sale and auction on the weekend to raise money for the club's many charitable initiatives. At right, Pierre Wilson carries off a 'baroque' engraving purchased Saturday morning. Below, McGill student Sujata Mahidhara and boyfriend Ali Africa Wala try out a manual typewriter at the garage sale at the Westmount Arena. The students finally purchased the machine for \$7.

Photos by CLIFF SKARSTEDT



### Paterson lauded for volunteering

As Westmounters celebrate this year's efforts by volunteers during Volunteers Week, they should note that Westmounter Alex Paterson, chancellor of Bishop's University and former chair of the Board of Governors of the Council for the Advancement of Support of Education (CASE) for his exemplary voluntary contribution to education and community service.

The Distinguished Friend of Education Award is the highest honour presented by this professional association based in Washington, D.C. Paterson, who holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bishop's and a law degree from McGill, was chair of the McGill University Hospital Centre, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Council for Canadian Unity.

His community leadership has included roles as president of the Corporation of Bishop's University, president of the Mackay Centre and chairman of the Brome Lake Theatre.

## 50-year-old Visual Arts Centre plans to reach out to community

By Michael Bourguignon  
*The Examiner*

The Westmount Visual Arts Centre gracefully hit the half-century mark last Thursday, and its directors are looking ahead to an equally graceful future.

"I think we serve a vital function in the community, and the new directions we are undertaking will only strengthen that valuable contribution," said Virginia McClure, a founding member of the Centre and a well-known Montreal artist.

"Hopefully, our future will be as nice as our past, even better."

McClure, who admitted to feeling like a mother whose daughter had just turned 50, said she would like to see the Centre take on more programs like the one it offers to people with learning disabilities, and higher enrollment for daytime programs.

Although it can already boast "thousands of dollars in beauty," according to fundraising president Yves Guerard, a 50th anniversary fundraising campaign will be under-

taken to allow the Centre to realize its goals.

These include forging new links with community organizations, introducing a new diploma program in September 1997, bringing in specialized programs, renovating the garage to accommodate more students and programs, and installing an elevator.

The Westmount Visual Arts Centre, through its dedication to the fine and applied arts, has been serving the community for five decades, since its humble beginnings as a circle of ceramists known as the Potters' Club.

For 25 years, the club taught ceramics out of basements and rented spaces around Victoria Avenue.

As it began to draw more and more from the larger Montreal artistic community, the club expanded into a full-fledged art centre in 1971.

Since its inception, the Centre has taught 25,000 students, and today, annual registration exceeds 3,500.

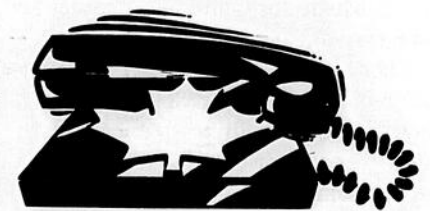


President Ruth Shine, founding member Virginia McClure and Director Victoria Leblanc discuss the future of the Westmount Visual Arts Centre.

## Questions about the new harmonized federal/provincial value-added sales tax...

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TDD : 1-800-465-7735**



Department of Finance  
Canada

Ministère des Finances  
Canada

Canada



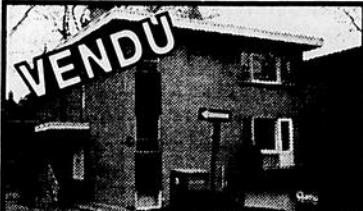
**WESTMOUNT ADJ.:** Extra large stone cottage, 5 bdrms., master bedroom with ensuite, very bright home, 2+2 bath, lovely garden (large enough for a pool), garage, asking \$372,500 and still negotiable, 4990 Glencairn, in Circle road area.



**NDG:** 4347 Draper, upper condo, 7 1/2, garage, completely renovated with class, woodwork, hard wood floor, finish room in bsmt., asking \$159,000 for 1700 square feet. A must see.



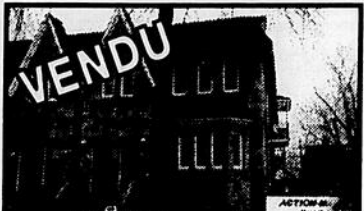
**NDG:** 4515-17 Melrose, duplex with bachelor and garage and garden. Great revenu, new furnace, low cost heating, kitchen and bathroom renovated, must sell, \$229,000.



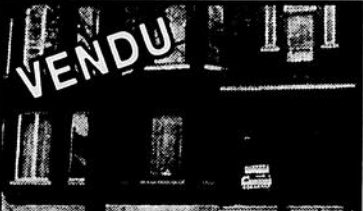
**NDG:** Extra large cottage, 5 bdrms., 1 1/2 bath, bsmt. with separate door, garage, corner lot, freshly painted, beautiful floors. Asking \$189,000. 3595 Westmore. A must see!



**NDG:** Triplex avec \$25,000 de revenu! Beaucoup d'amélioration, 6-7-6 pièces, boiseries, réduit \$179,000. 2304-06-08 Melrose.



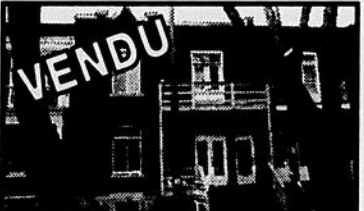
**NDG:** 4856-58 Harvard, duplex, facade en pierre double garage, 2 x 6 1/2, boiseries, plancher bois franc, sous-sol fini, grande maison pour ranger tous vos trésors! On demande \$209,000.



**NDG:** 2222-24-24A Oxford, renové de A @ Z, double occupation plus bachelor, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 3 1/2. Prix: \$144,900. La voir c'est la vouloir.



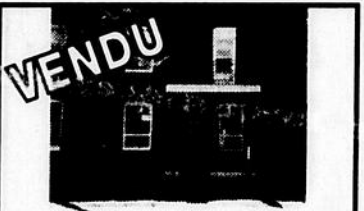
**NDG:** Condo avec garage, 5 1/2, vendeur quitte le pays, doit vendre réduit: \$99,000. Rez-de-chaussée, 2 chambres à coucher. 4076 Decarie.



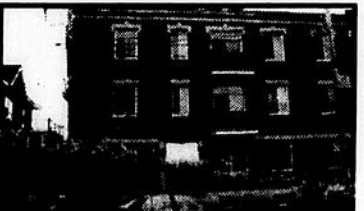
**NDG:** 2142-44 Old Orchard, duplex with finish bsmt., new windows, new elect. mostly copper, extra large patio plus garden and parking, asking \$169,000, walking to metro, store, school, park.



**NDG:** 2209-11 Harvard, joli petit duplex réduit à \$99,000 pour vente rapide, le rez-de-chaussée libre à l'acheteur est renové, jardin cloture.



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



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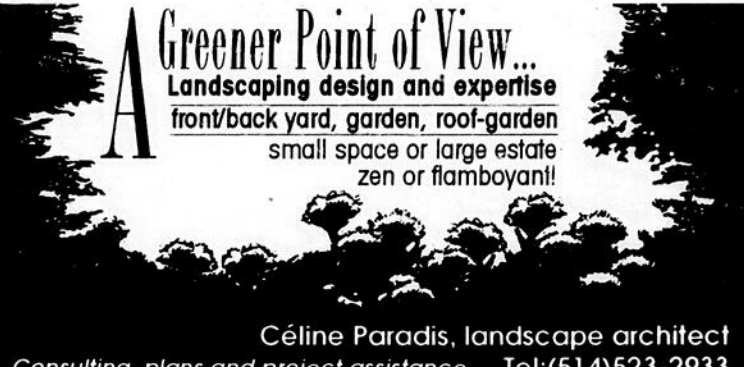
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**Community calendar**

(Continued from page 2)

**Monday, April 29**  
**Evening Bridge** open to all Westmount residents every Monday evening in Victoria Hall, 8-10:30 p.m. Info.: Mike Deegan, 989-5353.

**Sisterhood of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim** presents annual fundraiser 'The Elegant Table: Exquisite Tablesettings,' on Monday, April 29 at the Shaar, 450 Kensington Ave. Tea 1 to 5 p.m. Cocktails 5 to 8 p.m. Donations of \$25, \$50, \$75 earn tax-deductible receipt. To reserve a place call Cathy Rabinovitch at 937-9471, ext. 139.

**Wednesday, May 1**  
**Westmount Walkers Group** meets at 8 a.m. Wednesdays. For info., call Merida Perry at 931-8101.

**Thursday, May 2**  
**Book Fair** at Selwyn House School, May 2 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., May 3 from 8 a.m. to noon. In support of Books for Belize Project run by library.  
**Student Film Fest** at St. George's School, 3100 The Boulevard, May 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. Films produced, acted and filmed by students, from experimental, documentary to fictional narrative. Tickets \$4 in advance, \$5 at door. 937-9289.

**Friday, May 3**  
**Spring and Summer Bazaar** at St. Leon de Westmount Church, 310 Clarke Ave., corner de Maisonneuve. Friday, May 3 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, May 4 from 9 a.m. to noon. Large selection of clothing, picture frames, books, garden accessories, luggage and bags, and more.

**Saturday, May 4**  
**Black Watch** presentation of Breath of Scotland concert at Westmount High School on May 4 at 8 p.m. Info and tickets: 685-0858.

**Thursday, May 9**  
**Open Gate Gala Fundraiser**, an evening of supper and bridge, on Thursday, May 9 at 6 p.m. at Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue. Proceeds to support Open Gate, a weekly day-out program that meets special needs of frail and isolated elderly with transportation, painting and handicrafts, bridge, bingo, hot lunch. Gala tickets: Mavis Solloway at 486-0458 or Elsa Hoffman at 489-3372.

**Saturday, May 11**  
**Spring Rummage and Bake Sale**, Church of the Advent, corner de Maisonneuve and Wood, opposite Dawson College, Saturday, May 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Clothing, furniture, books, jewellery, toys and fresh-baked goods.  
**Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School Rummage Sale**, Saturday, May 11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donations accepted May 10 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Info: 935-6620.

## Annual adult student exhibitions on at VAC

The Annual Adult Student Exhibition presents works by students of the Visual Arts Centre

### Contactivity tea

The Contactivity Centre for Seniors will be holding an anniversary tea on Thursday, April 25, with radio host Melanie King as guest speaker. The talk will begin at 2 p.m. with tea, sandwiches and dessert served after. Tickets are now on sale at \$5.50 each. Contactivity Centre is located at 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd.

## Window bylaw dropped by city

(Continued from page 1) bers of the association is to oppose censorship of any kind. "If people object to it, they should simply not patronize the store," he said, citing WMA policy.

His own belief is that many Westmounters find the displays offensive, and their feelings should be taken into account. As recently as last month, the store displayed a life-sized, realistic dummy pinned under the front wheels of an automobile.

It prompted a call to Westmount's First Responder Unit, Station 23 police and Westmount Public Security, when the dummy was placed for a time on the sidewalk outside the store.

Passersby had mistaken it for a heart-attack victim or unconscious drunk.

"I just wish the guy would respect the community more," said Landsdowne Avenue resident Laura Buchanan.

Buchanan, who said she appreciates some of the store's less shocking displays, nevertheless becomes concerned when the displays depict violence against women.

"I find a lot of the stuff he does quite amusing," she said. But as a parent, Buchanan added, she worries the displays sometimes depict issues she doesn't yet want to have to explain to her young children.

However, she was not surprised to learn of council's decision.

"It's not a black and white issue," she said. "I think it's a question of degrees of sensibility."

Worst of all, said Buchanan, all the debate over the windows at Magnum Opus has resulted in little more than free publicity for the store.

"We're sort of playing right into his hands," she said.

Magnum Opus owner Sidney Menkes has steered clear of discussing the controversy his store has caused.

When contacted Monday, he told THE EXAMINER he was "extremely pleased" with council's decision. After thanking the reporter for calling, he said he had a client to serve, and then hung up.

until April 28. There will be art works from all departments: fine and applied arts, ceramic, stained glass, jewellery and more. It provides students with an opportunity to show in a gallery and is an experience encouraging them to pursue creative endeavours. This exhibition allows friends and family of the students, and also the public, to appreciate student's

work and discover the many art forms taught at the Visual Arts Centre.

Gallery hours: Monday to Thursday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday: closed The McClure Gallery at the Visual Arts Centre is funded in part by the Arts Council of the MUC, private donations and supporting artists.

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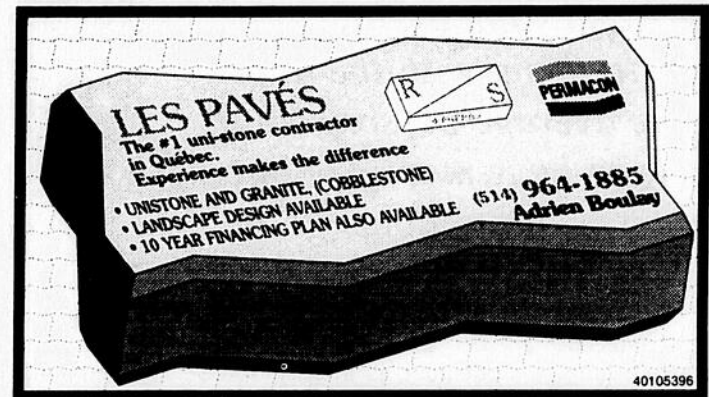
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## Arts Club spring exhibition and sale

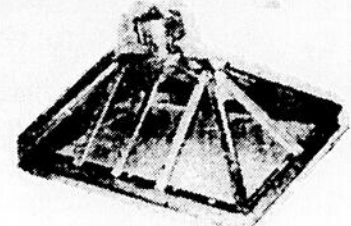
The Arts Club invites the public to its juried Spring Exhibition and Sale from Thursday, April 25 to Saturday, May 4 at 1840 Sherbrooke St. West. The vernissage is on Wednesday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m., where one can meet many of the artists whose works are on display. Exhibition hours: Tuesday to Thursday: 12-6 p.m. Friday: 12-8 p.m. Saturday, Sunday: 11-5 p.m.

The Arts Club Exhibition, a tradition of the club since 1912, consists of a juried show of members' paintings. The Arts Club provides artists with the opportunity to show and sell their works as well as meet the public. For further information, contact Nick Bogdanos at 331-9051 or leave a message at the Arts Club at 933-6405.



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## Book contains some 300 illustrations by the author

(Continued from page 1)  
 trying even harder to convince us to join the chorus. "The general public has no input, aside from bylaws saying what you can and can't build," he says. "Often, the public even thinks it has no right to say much. I'm trying to help people to understand what architecture means to them, with the hope that the average person would be able to have more say into what types of buildings go up in a city."

*"I'm trying to help people to understand what architecture means to them, with the hope that the average person would be able to have more say into what types of buildings go up in a city."*

*How Architecture Speaks*, published by Robert Davies Publishing in Outremont, is a witty, sometimes humorous exploration of architecture and how it affects our lives.

Containing some 300 of Mayerovitch's own illustrations, it conveys its message as much in pictures as in words.

"I tried to use the simplest language possible, to avoid getting into all the professional architect's jargon," he says. "I'm told it's a very easy read."

Derek Drummond, director of the McGill School of Architecture, has known Mayerovitch for the better part of 40 years. He recently had the opportunity to leaf through his former colleague's latest work.

"It's a good piece of work," he said. "It's amusing but also informative, and it explains things very clearly. He's always had the ability to do that."

Drummond said Mayerovitch still haunts the School of Architecture, and regularly attends Wednesday drawing classes.

"People half his age have half his energy," he said. Mayor Peter Trent has known Mayerovitch for a somewhat shorter time, from his later days on the city's architectural and planning commission.

"I've known Harry since '83. He constantly amazes me by his multifarious activities and interests," he said, adding the term 'Renaissance man' would not necessarily be misplaced on Mayerovitch.

Having published books of drawings, verses, political cartoons, poetry and prose, the St. George's Place resident intends to continue writing, painting and drawing, and working on his first children's book.

Retired from his private architectural practice since 1990, he gets ideas from time to time, he says, and depends on his impulses to set him off in his next creative direction.

## Bottle being re-used to hold cleaner

(Continued from page 1)  
 without any warning," Glassman wrote.

"What are they using when swimmers are not present?"

In a letter dated April 10, Braide assured Glassman her concern was based on a simple misunderstanding.

The bottle in question had been recycled, but still bore a warning against corrosion.

"It was unfortunate and understandably confusing that the bottle being used to hold the cleaner was previously used for another substance," she said.

"We buy our pool cleaner by the five-gallon container, and we recycle our plastic bottles to put the diluted cleaner in."

Braide said she has asked maintenance staff to buy new spray bottles for use in member service areas in the future. As for the gloves, she said, the worker could easily have cleaned without them.

In an interview with THE EXAMINER, Braide said the cleaning solution, which was being used to clean the 'scum-line' of

the pool where body oils collect, has been determined to cause no risk to pool users.

"They give you all the breakdown," she said. "There is no problem with absorption by the skin, but you can't swallow it. Basically what the warning tells me is that if my maintenance man splashes it in his eyes, he should rinse his eyes."

She added the solution, an industrial preparation purchased from VTO Produits et Équipements Sanitaires, is significantly diluted before being poured into a bottle for use, at a ratio of 50 parts water to one part solvent.

Since the pool has a capacity of 23,000 gallons, she went on to explain, you can do the math to figure out the ratio of solvent in the pool water would be no more than one part per 1,150,000.

"If you dilute it by 50 and then again by 23,000, it's almost a drop in the ocean," she said.

Braide admitted there have been problems with the pool water in the past, but said few swimmers have complained since the 'Y' installed an automatic chlorinator about a year ago.

Notes dropped into the suggestion box indicate some have noticed an improvement.

"We've had negative feedback in the past, but we are getting positive feedback, too," she said.

In addition, chlorine and pH levels are posted every day, and the water's chemical balance is checked at least every four hours.

Though happy with Braide's quick reaction to her complaint, Glassman remains concerned.

"I would be interested to know how well the bottles are rinsed out, and where the gloves had been before," she said.

Nonetheless, she acknowledged recent improvements, but added, "I don't think I was wrong to complain."

# Selling? Now's the time to call Brian!


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**Springfield Ave.**  
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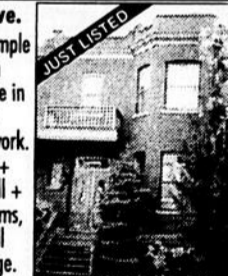
**Westmount Ave.**  
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## Westmounter wins debate

A Westmount youth was part of a Marianopolis College duo that won the Montreal Bar Association Debate.

Westmounter Paul Heisler and Notre Dame de Grâce teammate Fatima Kakkar triumphed over Stanislas in debating the topic, Would justice be better served with an increase in police powers?

The debate is to be televised on Videotron cable television.

The winners also receive a cash prize of \$1,000 each.

The students had one month to prepare their arguments and had to be ready to argue for either side in both official languages.

The panel of judges included lawyers and a Montreal Urban Community police force official.

In the past seven years, Marianopolis has won the trophy four times and has finished in second place twice.

# Mother's Day Contest

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- 6 What word is misspelled in our ad?
- 7 Our piano bar has music from what years?
- 8 Our party room can accomodate how many people?
- 9 How much is the mother's day special?
- 10 What country does the art originate from?

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# Author looks back at real-life Montreal murder mystery

*Book details 'O.J.' trial of the 1920s*

By Andre Demers  
Examiner Special

Jean Monet: father, husband, tax and corporate lawyer, can now add author to his list of credits.

His new book, *The Cassock and the Crown*, is about the Delorme Trial. At the time, it was dubbed the trial of the century. In 1922, Father Delorme, a Roman Catholic priest, was accused of murdering his brother. In light of overwhelming circumstantial evidence, four trials were needed before a verdict was reached — a verdict that still leaves many questions unanswered. Monet's grandfather, Dominique Monet, was the presiding judge at the first trial.

Monet stands in his spacious 29th floor corner-office, looking over the city he calls home. A sprawling map of the world is dwarfed by the breathtaking view. At one end, the mountain, the cross and its budding trees; at the other, Old Montreal, the St. Lawrence and on a clear day, the Townships. "I'm a true-blue Montrealer," he says with a grin.

## Exposed to two solitudes

Born in St. Jean-sur-Richelieu, Monet grew up in predominantly French surroundings until his parents decided to expose their children to the so-called two solitudes of Montreal. They moved to Chesterfield Avenue in Westmount.

In 1964, Monet moved back to Montreal after studying in Ottawa and found a home of his own in Westmount.

Today, Monet divides his time between his Mount Pleasant Avenue home and another in Florida.

Going into law seemed like "the natural thing to do." Monet's father and grandfather were lawyers and judges. Dominique Monet died in 1923, shortly after the harrowing Delorme trial. "He started becoming a figure after I started studying law... I would've loved to have met him."

It was in 1957 that a young Monet came across several boxes containing files, depositions and reports on the Delorme Trial. Since then, writing the story



Westmount lawyer and writer Jean Monet spent years on book. Photo by ANDRE DEMERS

has been an ongoing task, whether he was just thinking about it or laboriously researching the Montreal Justice Archives. The serious research only began in the early 1980s. That is when "it started fitting into my schedule, the purpose crystallized."

During his research, he was startled to discover how many witnesses there were. At the time, an eye witness was more reliable than physical evidence. Forensics was only beginning to emerge as a science accepted by the court, and the Delorme trial was a forensic expert's dream come true.

In 1993, Monet's "real-life murder mystery" was published in French. The English version will be on (See **AUTHOR**, page 20)

## KNOW YOUR WESTMOUNT

By Nancy Dunton



## Stayner Park not always green space

**O**n the site of the old Hallowell estate, three streets — Stayner, Prospect and Clandeboye — form a self-contained neighbourhood.

The railway tracks and the two busy streets, Greene and Dorchester, separate and define the area. At the heart of the neighbourhood is Stayner Park, a green space that looks as though it has never been anything else.

Twenty-six years ago, however, the site was that of the former French Methodist Institute, a school that had been built in 1899. The site was converted into a park, following the efforts of the people in the neighbourhood in 1970.

The area, like other neighbourhoods in Lower Westmount, enjoyed a renaissance in the '70s, as the houses were bought and renovated. Fortunately, much of the architectural detail of the 1890s has been retained and preserved.

## Built by speculators

Most of these houses were builders' architecture, built by builder-speculators. Whole blocks of houses were built at a time, Stayner in 1893, Clandeboye in 1894.

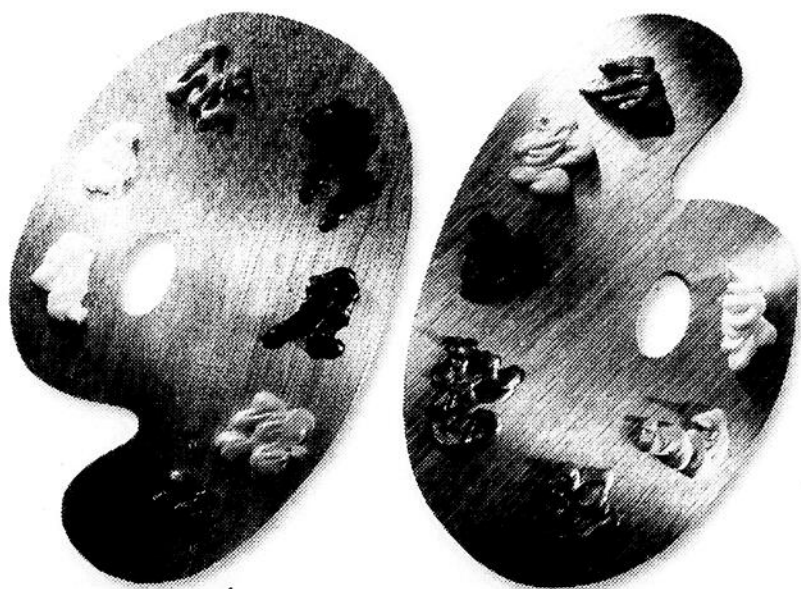
One architect, J.H. McDuff, is credited with a series of houses on Clandeboye, where he was both architect and builder.

Stone is the dominant material — Montreal limestone — used both simply and fancifully. Pierrefonds, the house at the foot of Clandeboye, exemplifies the Victorian love of the picturesque.

The rough-cut stone castellated house makes romantic allusions to medieval architecture, with its battlements and towers.

The neighbourhood has the look and feel of a village around a green, a separate entity within the larger city.

Les  
**FEMMEUSES**



**10th Anniversary**

A unique exhibition of art by women

*For two days each spring,  
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Since 1986, some 248 women artists have taken part in the "Les Femmeuses" exhibition and sale. The 1996 edition brings together 170 of them.

*Join the celebration!*

**Saturday, April 27, from noon to 6 p.m.**

**Sunday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Pratt & Whitney Canada

1000 Marie-Victorin Blvd., Longueuil

Information: (514) 647-3929. **FREE ADMISSION**

Complimentary shuttle service between the Longueuil Métro and the exhibition

*Les Femmeuses* is an initiative of Pratt & Whitney Canada with proceeds going to shelters for women and children who are victims of family violence.

**PRATT & WHITNEY CANADA**

# FOCUS *on business*

**Meet the people doing business in your community and throughout Montreal. They are part of what makes our city a great place in which to live, work and learn.**

- Preferential Services
- Laurentide Aviation
- Camp Nominingue
- Olga Lichtner
- Atelier Guillory
- Kells Academy
- Kids Westmount
- David Sklivas & Associates
- Cheryl Gaudet
- Weston School
- Private Investors
- Ackermann Jewellers
- Axion Physio Therapy
- Re/Max Westmount - Reg Morden and Sylvie Lafrenière
- Clinique Podiatrique Familiale

## **Pamela Erskine Preferential Services**



Pamela Erskine loves our fair city. So much so, that instead of taking a generous transfer offer from Citibank where she'd worked for the past five years, she quit, stayed put, and through her Metcalfe office created Preferential Services, a consumer-savings program that offers Westmounters generous discounts on a large variety of goods and services from a growing number of local merchants.

"I really enjoy the quality of Westmount life and I love living here," said Erskine, who is owner, secretary, computer programmer, government liaison, and chief cook and bottle washer in her one-woman entrepreneurial operation. "Preferential Services was created specifically for members of the Westmount community; to bring consumers and retailers together for the benefit of the entire community."

Preferential Service's win-win policy offers the consumer a \$100 membership (and card) that can be used for discounts up to 30% on a wide variety of household goods and services from local participating retail outlets. Erskine also throws in a 50% discount off the first year's membership fee, and a full money-back guarantee for the first six months of membership. All members are placed on a confidential mailing list. "The merchants win by making sales, having the opportunity to develop loyal clientele and secure future sales," says Erskine.

Local charities, including Breast Cancer Foundation, Sun Youth and the MacKay Centre, benefit from Preferential Services, which offers a donation equal to 5% of the member's annual fee.

Already Erskine has over 40 retail merchants participating and the list is growing. "It's so easy to save with us," said an effervescent Erskine. "Everybody's happy, and the Westmount consumer isn't annoyed by any inconveniences. Just present the membership card at the cash."

**Pamela Erskine Preferential Services 939-7209**

## **John Scholefield Laurentide Aviation**



If you'd ever dreamed of flying with the eagles or playing hide-and-seek with the clouds, or if you've ever had a burning desire to get a recreational, private or commercial pilot's license, John Scholefield, owner of Laurentide Aviation in Les Cedres, says the time is now. "Business in the commercial airlines is good right now. Last year 9,000 new pilots were hired by U.S. airlines alone, and the forecast for 1996 is even higher. Anyone from the age of 15 or 16 (you have to be tall enough to reach the foot pedals) dreaming of a career as a pilot, now's the time to start."

Laurentide Aviation, the oldest commercial flying school in Canada, was founded by John's father Jack after he retired from the RCAF in 1946. Today, Laurentide produces out between 150 and 200 licensed pilots each year and in the past 50 years has produced close to 600 graduates to Air Canada and hundreds of other international airlines.

"It's always been a family business and we're proud of our personalized service," says Scholefield. "Our facilities have recently been expanded and improved, and we have 15 of the most competent staff instructors anywhere." Equipped with 18 aircraft of either the Cessna and Piper variety, Laurentide became the first flying school in Canada to have the latest Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) instrument in all its aircraft. Scholefield also owns a \$100,000 state-of-the-art video simulator for "on ground" instruction for advanced trainees.

"Everyone (male and female) starts by getting their recreational permit," says Scholefield. "From there, they can advance to private and commercial licenses. It's a nice way to make a living. Commercial airline pilots make up to \$240,000 a year these days." For those who just want to take to the air, Laurentide offers airplane rides by qualified instructors.

**Laurentide Aviation Aeroport Les Cedres (near Dorion) 875-6669**

# on business FOCUS

## Olga Lichtner Denturologist

Over the past two decades, Olga Lichtner's business has grown steadily — mainly from word of mouth.

Olga's clientele has stayed with her as much for her personable nature and friendly ear as for her skill as a respected denturologist.

"I'm a bit of a psychologist. People say they feel like they're coming to see a friend," says Olga, a member of the Order and Association of Denturologists of Quebec. She has received many letters and telephone calls from grateful customers who have received a touch of personal advice along with their new look.

"The rewarding thing is when you make a change in somebody's life," Olga explains. "When you make them look 10 years younger, it really lifts their spirits."

As a result, she has many repeat customers, and has even made dentures for entire families. Area dentists tend to recommend her to their patients as well.

Perhaps her only regret is that the quality of her work prevents her from seeing her regular patients more often.

"When it comes to dentures, you don't have to go back every year," she explains. "Sometimes, you don't see people again for five or 10 years."

Olga believes in fulfilling her patients' needs to the best of her abilities, using the most advanced skills and technology.

She can't promise miracles, just the best service — in several languages: English, French, Hungarian, Russian, Slovak, Czech and Spanish.

**Olga Lichtner d.d. 5294 Prince of Wales 482-1409**



## Aurélien Guillory Interior Designer

"There are a lot of things you can do to improve the look of commercial and residential spaces," says interior designer Aurélien Guillory. "But as I advocate to students in my lectures, there are four factors that will determine your unique home or office: colour, lighting, pattern and texture." And Aurélien Guillory knows those four things inside out.

If it's "haute couture" you're looking for, Atelier Aurélien is the place to go. If it's simply "prêt-à-porter" that you're after, Atelier Aurélien is also the place. "With haute couture, everything is done for our client," says Guillory, a local commercial and residential designer working out of his Sherbrooke Street office for the past 26 years. "It includes interviewing, planning, budgeting, scale drawings, coordinating suppliers and estimates, supervising handling and construction, and shopping for just about everything. With prêt-à-porter, we act as the brains to provide design solutions for our clients. We come in, give ideas and sketches and refer them to the best possible sources, who we feel do the best work."

Along with 30 years of experience in custom interior design, Guillory has a degree in clinical psychology and fine arts. His company became a member of the Quebec Design Society (QDS) in 1976. He also is an author who currently lectures at the Saidye Bronfman School of Fine Arts, and teaches restaurant design at Concordia.

While some might hesitate to call on Guillory because they feel he would be too expensive, from many past experiences he says he actually saves them money. "The right colour costs the same as the wrong colour," he notes. "While many people may decorate a couple of times in their lifetime, I've been doing it everyday for 30 years."

**Atelier Guillory 2068 Sherbrooke St. West 932-8141**



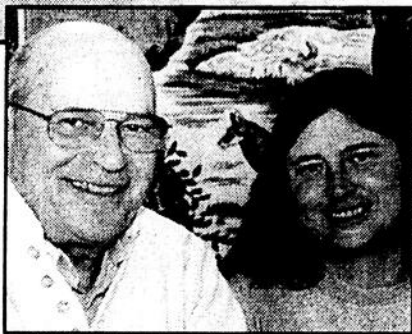
## Peter & Shannon Van Wagner Camp Nomingue

Tradition. That's the key to Camp Nomingue's continuing success. For over 70 summers, Camp Nomingue has welcomed thousands of boys to its beautiful site on the shores of Petit Lac Nomingue, 200 kilometres north of Montreal. And there's always been a Van Wagner there to greet the boys on arrival. Shannon Van Wagner, the camp's director, is the third generation of Van Wagners to operate the camp, taking over from her father, Peter, in 1990. The camp hasn't changed all that much from the days when Shannon's grandfather, F.M. Van Wagner, founded it. "The way my grandfather and dad did things has permeated my way of thinking," says Shannon. "I believe in it."

Camp Nomingue is all about living in and loving the wilderness. Boys sleep in tents overlooking the lake. Canoe tripping is at the heart of Camp Nomingue. Cedar-strip and canvas canoes, used for tripping, are built on the premises. The camp sends out 65 trips each year to Parc Papineau Labelle and Parc La Verendrye to travel through pristine wilderness country. The emphasis is on fun, adventure and self-reliance in a safe, sensible atmosphere. Windsurfing, tennis, kayaking and theatre are a few of the programs taught by topnotch instructors.

Campers benefit from a staff of mature counsellors, many of whom spent their childhood summers at Nomingue. Great role models for the campers, the counsellors encourage the boys to share in the communal atmosphere of the place. It's this friendly and familiar environment that brings campers and counsellors back to the camp every summer. "In a changing world, Nomingue is a tradition that endures," Shannon concludes.

**Camp Nomingue 455-4447**



## Irene Woods Kells Academy

"Mankind owes to the child the best it has to give." That declaration, engraved on a plaque somewhere inside the United Nations building, has been the inspiration and key to success for Kells Academy and its founder-director, Irene Woods, for the past 18 years. Originally founded as the Westmount Learning Centre in 1978, Kells Academy expanded into Temple Emanuel on Elm St., where it stayed until 1990. From that location, the school's current site at 6865 de Maisonneuve is nestled between N.D.G. Park and Concordia's Loyola campus. While Kells proudly boasts a myriad of alumni success stories, already this year 10 graduating students of '94-95 have made the collegial dean's list, exclusively for college students with a 90-plus average.

"As a teacher in the public schools I realized not every student fits into the system," said Woods, who along with principal Elaine Brooks oversees 200 students and 24 staff members from Grades 1 through 12. "I felt that in smaller tutorial groups these individuals would be given a chance to realize their needs and dreams. Our 8-1 student-teacher ratio gives students the personal touch they need."

Recently Kells expanded, forming the first Grade 12 class in the school's existence. Woods developed the concept to try and "create a place" for students going on to further their education in Ontario or the United States where only Grade 12, and not Cegep, is required. In the past few years more and more immigrant students — attracted by the intense French-English programs — have enrolled at Kells.

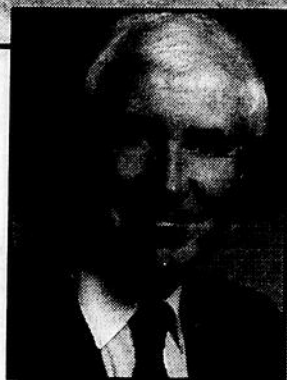
"We make every attempt to accommodate students in their learning styles, needs and goals. And they respond to it. When a student's accomplishments are recognized, a willingness to learn is the result."

**Kells Academy 6865 de Maisonneuve Blvd. 485-8565**



# on business FOCUS

## Jim Heywood Principal Weston School



Jim Heywood takes great pride in the accomplishments of the students of Weston School. Established in 1917, Weston's philosophy of tailoring teaching styles to each individual child's learning styles was an exact match for his own personal views on teaching. A former teacher and principal in the public school system, Heywood has been at the helm of Weston for the past six years.

"I believe that this individualized approach builds on children's abilities," he says. "Understanding that each student has a different learning style, we try to adjust our teaching to match their individual needs."

In addition to its academic program and the integration of new technologies into the curriculum, Weston also encourages non-academic activities such as art, photography, sports and outdoor education. "These additional programs add to the student's overall knowledge and help develop a sense of success," says Heywood.

The 9-1 student-teacher ratio at Weston is among the lowest in Montreal. This helps teachers achieve another of the school's goals: emphasis on individualizing instruction, the importance of learning to work in a team effort with others and developing social skills that will help them excel in their personal and professional lives.

Above all, Heywood strives to build and maintain a "family atmosphere" at Weston.

"We see ourselves as a family of different ethnic communities working together with the end result being a sound education and a better understanding of today's pluralistic society."

**Weston School, 5460 Connaught, Montreal, 488-9191**

## Sheryl Gaudet Marriage and family therapist



Times have changed considerably in the past 20 years, and so have we and the way we view relationships.

"These are fascinating times for relationships," says Sheryl Gaudet, a marriage and family therapist for the past 10 years. "With more women in the work force, contraception and the shift away from religion, being a couple and a family is more difficult.

There's more and more separation and divorce, so people obviously need help."

That's where Sheryl comes in, offering a proactive approach to psychotherapy that brings about positive results in the lives of couples and families experiencing relational difficulties.

She also counsels clients suffering from compulsive behaviour, and is often called upon to 'debrief' people who have gone through a traumatic experience—such as bank tellers shaken up after a holdup.

She holds a Master's Degree in Clinical Social Work from McGill University, is vice-president of the Association des Psycho-thérapeutes conjugaux et familiaux du Québec, and a member of the Ordre des travailleurs sociaux du Québec.

As such, Sheryl keeps her finger firmly on the pulse of new developments in her field.

But there's more to life than just work for this NDG resident.

Sheryl enjoys walking and reading, and enjoys a number of social and cultural interests — not to mention nurturing her own relationships.

**4872 Mariette, Montreal Tel.: 483-4424**

## David Sklivas David Sklivas & Assoc.



While many older people may be conscientiously saving and investing for their retirement, many don't realize how much the tax man will cut in to their hard-earned savings and investments if the money is passed on to their children. It can be as much as 53 per cent. Financial adviser David Sklivas works to reduce the amount going to Revenue Canada to as low as 15 per cent and conserve the value of your funds.

Sklivas specializes in retirement and estate planning. "Basically we're trying to help people attain their goals, be it to amass assets or transfer assets to the next generation in the most tax advantaged way," Sklivas said he finds it amazing that when it comes to their money, people don't have a long-term financial plan. Sklivas helps them draft a game plan, and then helps them stick to it. "I like to look at myself as a coach. I put together a plan, make recommendations, get behind the client and help them meet their goals."

Potential clients are welcome to get on the mailing list to receive a copy of Sklivas's Financial Forum newsletter every second month. The most recent issue offers tips on estate planning, mortgages, insurance for your RRSP or RRIF, and leveraging your investments.

Sklivas recently started his own Web page.

Age 37, Sklivas has been in the financial services since 1979. He is a member of several investment and financial planning associations, and is continuing his education with the Chartered Life Underwriters Association of Canada.

When away from work, Sklivas likes to head out on the field with the Westmount Green Sox slo-pitch squad, the perennial senior league champs. Sklivas is married and has two sons, Ben, 2, and Ryan, eight months.

**David Sklivas & Assoc., 5 Place Ville Marie, Suite 1537, 875-6077**

## Evelyn Wajcer K.I.D.S. Daycare and Day Camp



Getting youngsters off on the right foot by fostering self-confidence and a desire to learn — that's the vision director Evelyn Wajcer brings to K.I.D.S. Westmount daycare, now entering its eighth year.

K.I.D.S. offers both full- and part-time placements to youngsters from 18 months to 6 years of age and follows the PSBGM kindergarten program.

K.I.D.S. also runs a summer Day Camp, based on the old-fashioned concept of having fun, where kids are the focus. It meets a need expressed by parents who want to maximize their children's potential without stressing them.

Research shows that by the time a child is 3 it's important for him or her to socialize regularly. At K.I.D.S. the child builds self-confidence and learns about dealing with others, preparing him for the grade-school years and beyond.

The idea of K.I.D.S. began when Evelyn was searching for daycare for her own children. She notes that the centre has an open-door policy when it comes to parental access. There are phones in every room. A parent can call in anytime to see how their child is doing. There is also a monthly newsletter and regular meetings of parents and staff. A daily report is filled out for each child to keep parents informed.

Evelyn who herself has been teaching for over 25 years, points out that her staff is trained and capable, with several pursuing masters degrees in the field. They instill a sense of creativity in the children that will last as they grow.

"Foster creativity and a joy of learning," says Evelyn "and you have children who are going to do well as adults. They're ready, keen and eager for what the world has to offer."

**K.I.D.S. 4467 St. Catherine St. 939-1103**

# on business FOCUS

## Robert Ackermann Jeweller/Goldsmith

A little-known gem tucked away in a multi-storey building on Greene Ave., the offices, showroom and studio of jeweller and goldsmith Robert Ackermann offer a unique look at an ancient art meeting 20th century technology. "It's a real goldsmith's shop in the oldest sense of the word," says Ackermann. The fifth-floor premises feature everything from the most modern of computers to the oldest tools in jeweller's trade, including rolling mills, forges, and ring mandrels.



With these tools, every piece of jewellery is designed and created by hand in his studio, which is just one of the things that sets Ackermann apart from the mass-producers of jewellery selling to the large chains. Ackermann's business is divided into three main areas. First there are one-of-a-kind pieces he designs and produces. Second are small series items that typically can be adapted by choice of colours or stones. "These are our bread and butter." Finally there are the custom orders. Prices range from \$175 all the way up to \$17,000. Ackermann's work is worth a look for anyone who wants something beautiful and unique, and which is expected to keep its value.

"We are bringing back what people go to Europe and Japan to buy, but of course with our own style," Ackermann says. "If our style is appreciated, then there might be something we have to offer."

Canadian born, Ackermann grew up in Switzerland and apprenticed with Trudel Jewellers in Zurich, which has an international reputation for its contemporary design and impeccable quality.

Ackermann is a teacher at the Ecole de Joaillerie et de Metaux d'Art de Montreal (one of his students is now a designer at Birks). He also is a founding member of the Comité St-Laurent, an association of five fine goldsmiths working together to reach clients worldwide.

**Robert Ackermann 939-5651 (By Appointment Only)**

## Axion Physiotherapy Clinic

When Western medicine can't cure what is ailing them, many Montrealers turn to the ways of the Chinese and Dr. Jet «Xiao Ru He» at Axion



Physiotherapy Clinic, conveniently located on Victoria Ave. in Westmount.

The staff includes Chinese medicine doctors practicing their special brand of physiotherapy, massage therapy and acupuncture. They have a track record for solving nagging, often debilitating physical problems like chronic lower-back pain, "frozen shoulder," knee problems and the like. Even allergies or children's bed-wetting can be treated. "I have a very good team," says Dr. Xiao Ru He. "People trust us, we help them, and we get more clients."

Dr. Xiao Ru He describes a typical case of a person who sometimes may require long term physiotherapy treatment. When they come to Axion Clinic they could require shorter term treatment. "Many are coming here because it's the last alternative," Dr. Xiao Ru He says. Some are referred by their doctors. Others have had accidents, in their cars or at work, and benefit through massage and physiotherapy. Clients often are eligible for coverage under Blue Cross or CSST. Still others who can be helped by the Axion Clinic team are young athletes with knee injuries, often torn tendons. Instead of surgery, Dr. Xiao Ru He's massage method allows the healing to begin on its own. "I use my hands to work the tendons."

There is also a heavy Westmount clientele for massage therapy, Dr. Xiao Ru He notes. "They work hard, and then they come here for a massage." Is there anybody she can't help? "Very few," she says with a smile.

**Axion Physiotherapy Clinic 376 Victoria Ave. 369-8445**

## Angela Pagliuca Private Investors Management

Thinking about how you'll retire comfortably? Interested in setting up a trust fund for your kids? More and more, Canadians are turning toward mutual fund dealers with their investment dollars. And one of the firms they are turning to in Montreal is Private Investors Management Inc., a growing firm with offices in major centres across Canada. Its parent company is Dundee Bancorp, a public company traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange. "We're finding more and more that people are investing in the marketplace," says Angela Pagliuca, branch manager of the Montreal office. "Canada is really catching up vis-a-vis the U.S." Managing \$60 million in assets out of its Montreal office alone, Private Investors Management is mainly a mutual fund dealer, but also sells bonds, coupons and government bonds. "The mutual fund industry allows everyone to participate because they're buying a product that allows them to gauge risk."



A growing part of the business is financial counselling. The company's client base is made up of those who have a long-term view toward investing in the marketplace. Whether they be seasoned or novice investors, "We make sure they fully understand the investment and the risks associated," says Pagliuca, an MBA in Finance with 11 years' experience in the investment business. "First off we always arrange a meeting," says Pagliuca. "Investors want to see and know the person they're dealing with." Next will be written recommendations and asset mix based on the investor's acceptable risk level, knowledge of the market, time horizon and investment objectives. After that, clients are kept informed with a quarterly newsletter called 'The Leading Edge,' plus a monthly market brief.

**Private Investors Management 1010 Sherbrooke West 284-1863**

## Reg Morden and Sylvie Lafrenière RE/MAX Westmount

When real estate agents Reg Morden and Sylvie Lafrenière teamed up in January, Westmount homeowners were being offered an all-star, two-for-one service package from one of the most dynamic RE/MAX duos on the continent. They spell success S-O-L-D, and they do it often.



Before their merger, Lafrenière and Morden had individual sales volumes within the top 3 per cent of all RE/MAX agents in North America. They combine 27 years of service and more than \$100 million in sales. For the past nine and ten years respectively, Morden and Lafrenière have been serving the Westmount population from their RE/MAX headquarters on Greene Avenue.

Their decision to join forces was simply to combine their strengths while offering a better, personalized community service. "We're a good team," says Lafrenière, mother with two infant children. "We can offer our clients the best of both our attributes. We both have experience, we cover the male/female, French/English matter, and we have an international network. We cover all the corners." "And she's young and I'm old," quips Morden, a father of three grown children.

While the real estate market is currently on a down trend, in four short months the tireless twosome are approaching \$5 million in sales from their portfolio of homes which range from \$89,000 to \$1.8 million. "The most satisfying part of this business is helping people in our local community" said Morden, who keeps a scrapbook of letters from satisfied clients. "We just want Westmount to know that we're regular, honest, hardworking people who have the clients' best interest at heart."

**Reg Morden & Sylvie Lafrenière RE/MAX Westmount 933-6781**

# on business FOCUS

## Dr. Bluma Girzon Clinique Podiatrique Familiale

The weather may not be the best of indicators, but the calendar clearly tells us spring is here. For doctor of podiatric medicine, Bluma Girzon, that means it's 'spring tune-up time.'

"This is the time of year when people take off their boots after a long winter and suddenly realize they have feet," says Dr. Girzon, a graduate of New York's College of Podiatric Medicine and former chief resident at the Bergen Pines Hospital in New Jersey.

She came to Canada from her native Lithuania in 1973, at the age of 12. She studied Cégep here in Montreal, and then attended McGill University, before going on to continue her studies in the United States.

She obtained her doctorate of podiatric medicine and in 1991, returned to practice at the Westmount Medical Building, where she stayed until last November. She then went on to set up her own clinic, the Clinique Podiatrique Familiale Foot Care at 4880 Sherbrooke, where she practices medicine and surgery of the foot.

She is also an elected official of the Quebec Order of Podiatrists, and can be heard on CIQC radio every Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m.

Whether on her show or in her clinic, Dr. Girzon is always anxious to debunk whatever myths or misunderstandings may exist about the practice of podiatry.

The care of the foot, she says, is an integral part of overall health care, a simple fact of which far too many people are unaware.

"I like to think of it as dentistry upside down," she says with a smile. "If you have foot pain, you don't think twice — you go to a podiatrist."

Common foot problems range from corns and calluses to problems with the toenails, foot injuries or fungus infections, with many ailments in between and beyond.

What most people don't know, says Dr. Girzon, is that these problems can — and always should — be treated by a podiatrist.

Like the famous chart of the evolution of the human race, foot problems can be traced from birth through old age.

"Some children are born with marked

in-toe or out-toe foot position, casting and surgery is not always necessary," she explains, by way of introduction to the use of orthotics is another feature of her profession — which are custom-made devices worn inside the shoe to control the way the foot functions.

Teenagers participating in individual or team sports, are prone to sports injuries and skin conditions such as ingrown toenails, warts and athlete's foot, which may require treatment by a podiatrist.

In adulthood, improperly-fitted shoes can aggravate all kinds of foot problems. (Shoes only aggravate problems, Dr. Girzon pointedly remarks, they do not cause them.)

As the body ages, the wear and tear of life's experience begins to show on the feet... The need for podiatrists continues throughout the life cycle.

In the case of diabetics, particular foot problems may occur that require podiatric treatment on a regular basis, as often as every two or three months.

"In each stage of life, the feet are important," says Dr. Girzon, adding, "Just like when you buy a car, you have to change the tires."

The foot, with its 26 bones and more than 30 ligaments, can even be the source of pain elsewhere in the body. Dr. Girzon is therefore trained to sometimes look above the ankle to find the source of the problem below.

"I am not only trained to look just at the foot, but to look at the expression in the foot of what is happening in the body," she explains.

"If the knee hurts, for instance, the problem may not necessarily be the knee. It could be an imbalance of muscle groups in the foot."

If the problem is poor circulation in the legs, Dr. Girzon is also trained to look for and find the telltale signs, such as thinning of skin on the legs or deformed discolored toe-nails.

In short, not only is there more to the practice of podiatric medicine than examining feet, there's a lot more to it than meets the eye. That's a lesson a young Bluma Girzon learned years ago while working in the Sloan Kettering cancer centre in New York city, she accidentally stumbled on a career in podiatry, and the rest is history.

"I had decided I wanted to save the world from cancer," she recalls. "One day the director of the centre told me I should go into podiatry... I didn't even know

what podiatry was!"

The director offered an introduction, and she soon discovered the connection between podiatry and sports medicine, a field of medicine that had always interested her. As a doctor of podiatric medicine, she has consulted for the New York and Boston marathons.

She also found podiatry to offer a few other attractions.

She had found her vocation, but retained her concern over cancer, which had taken



Dr. Bluma Girzon

the life of both of her parents after they had suffered other hardships.

"I was one of the Russian refuseniks, part of that historical generation that was not allowed to leave ex-Russia," Dr. Girzon explains. "In 1972, there was a big migration, and my parents decided there would be a better life for me in the West, but my father was a scientist and they would not let us leave."

They were finally allowed to leave the country the following year, and although the clutches of Communism could no longer reach her parents, illness did.

Dr. Girzon has recently completed a children's book, *The Toe That Didn't Fit in the Shoe*, which she hopes to publish to raise funds to fight children's cancer.

The book was illustrated by children in her daughter's pre-kindergarten class. Entertaining but educational, it is intended to gently teach children while alerting parents to the importance of paying close attention to their children's foot problems.

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# Young broadcaster earning raves and awards

By Michael Bourguignon  
*The Examiner*

If you subscribe to CF Cable and you tuned into last year's Cointrick on Sunday and Wednesday nights, you've seen her. She was the show's 16-year-old co-host, a young Oprah-in-training who happens to be a lot more than just a fresh young face. Westmount resident Erin Duchesneau believes life is without limits, a philosophy that has earned her a handful of achievement awards and has made her determined to take advantage of every opportunity that comes along.



Erin Duchesneau believes life is without limits, a philosophy that has earned her achievement awards.

Photo by MICHAEL BOURGUIGNON

Her c.v. reflects her philosophy: camp counsellor, member of Youth in Action, working with intellectually-challenged adults, dancing, riding, canoeing, swimming, wind-surfing, sailing, skiing.

**Also musician, gymnast**

She also sings and plays piano, cello and flute, has won awards in competitive gymnastics, and last year completed her training to become a National Lifeguard.

Her television show ran for 12 weeks, but the plug was pulled on a second season when the show's host and producer, Veronica Elizabeth Low, left for Toronto.

But Erin's pitching a new show, Girl Talk, and even if that falls through, she has plenty of other activities on her plate to keep her busy.

"I enjoy discovering new things," says the Grade 10 FACE High School student.

One thing she has discovered is the praise of community leaders and organizations.

Last Thursday, the Montreal Island School Council presented her the Women of Merit award in Education (student category). She has also won a Canadian Association of Principals (CAP) Student Leadership Award and is a finalist among PSBGM students for the Montreal Board of Trade's Outstanding Student Award, in the arts category.

The winner of that award will be announced early next month.

Surprisingly, Erin takes it all in stride, and is quick to credit her

successes to her mother, Claire Duchesneau.

"I'm where I am today because of my mother," she said.

"She's always encouraged me to do what I want to do. If I told her I wanted to try wind-surfing or whatever, she encouraged me."

Claire Duchesneau has tried her

*"As a producer, I could not have chosen a better co-host... She is articulate, camera savvy, confident, generous and a leader in every sense of the term."*

best to instill in her daughter the same strength of character and values that she herself draws upon as a working single parent.

It would seem Erin's only problem is her modesty.

"I'm always putting her awards out," said Duchesneau. "Then she takes them down."

When it came to Erin's burgeoning broadcast career, her mother, a social worker in the immuno-deficiency unit of the Royal Victoria Hospital, was equally supportive.

"Some shows are better than others," Erin said. "If I was having a

bad show, she'd be there to talk to me about it and remind me that it's not the end of the world."

Erin's producer and co-host on Cointrick, Veronica Low, found in Erin the qualities of a good broadcaster.

"As a producer, I could not have chosen a better co-host than Erin," she says. "She is articulate, camera savvy, confident, generous and a leader in every sense of the term — she does not shy away from any challenge."

Richard Walker, principal of FACE school, describes Erin as a leader who prompted her school to observe a minute of silence last Dec. 6 to remember the 1989 massacre of 14 women at Ecole Polytechnique, and helped influence a change in policy at the school regarding fashion shows.

"When Erin has an idea about something she's noticed, she will talk to the people around her — peers, teachers, principal — while she gathers information and decides what to do next. She has a strong sense of what needs to be done to make this world a better place."

But Erin insists she's not all that different from other students her age.

She just happens to believe that life is meant for living. If that happens to earn her some attention and recognition, it just makes it easier to pursue her dreams, such as becoming a broadcaster, or maybe a lawyer.

"You gotta dream," she said.

## Author finished French, English manuscripts at same time

(Continued from page 14)  
bookshelves this week.

Even though both manuscripts were finished at the same time, Monet wanted the French version printed first. "It's a Montreal story, part of its culture."

While the publishers are quick to emphasize it, Monet is less excited about making comparisons to the O.J. Simpson trial. However, he concedes, "There are a hell of a lot of similarities," including the timeliness of the novel's release.

"In both cases it was an institution on trial, not an individual." He credits Canada with not being as "celebrity-driven" as the U.S., even though the Delorme Trial

was a media circus. Today's equivalent, Monet speculates, would be the Bernardo trial, where the judge took the necessary measures to halt the media frenzy.

As for the outcome, the file has been officially closed.

The trial itself was "cleverly dealt with by the clergy," explains Monet. They wanted the whole affair to go away. At the University of Ottawa, run by the clergy, "if Delorme's name was spoken, you were disciplined... his name was not even put on the tombstone."

"The cultural climate was such that the general population of Montreal would have trouble finding a priest could commit such an

act... they were judging their confessor."

Now that the book is finished, Monet has taken up golf.

Although he admits the book never would have been written if he had no family connection, he now calls the whole experience a "time-consuming but wondrous work."

"I wanted to leave a momento behind for the family," says Monet.

*The Cassock and the Crown is available from McGill-Queen's University Press. La Soutanne et la Couronne is published by Les Editions Du Tre-carre and was released in 1993.*

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# Stained glass creations capture Study school's sound of music



Celina Nahanni (left), Laura Petty, and Chloe Barnabé, at inauguration of stained-glass windows last week at The Study. Photo by MICHAEL BOURGUIGNON

By Michael Bourguignon  
The Examiner

The girls of The Study have been using the Ruth Pease de Villafranca music room every day for the past year and a half, but there has always been something missing.

That is until recently, when the room acquired three stained-glass windows, each designed by a student.

"We've had many classes and a few events in this room, but we felt it had never been properly inaugurated," said Headmistress Eve Marshall.

"What better way to do so than with these spectacular stained-glass windows?"

The windows were unveiled at an April 17 musical soirée.

Each illuminates an archway in the oval music room, and each was intended to invoke the student's feelings about what the room means to them.

"They really give it life," said Chloe

Barnabé, Grade 10, whose landscape motif adorns one of the windows. "When it's bright, they reflect all kinds of light. It makes it so much homier and friendlier."

Look to your right and you'll see the bright yellow flowers of Laura Petty's window, a design the Grade 10 student described as "happy, joyful and free."

### Crafted by father

You would be forgiven for thinking the third window is a little special. Celina Nahanni, Grade 8, incorporated the figure of a girl into her window's nature scene—but you have to look for it.

All three windows were actually crafted by Ron Ternoway, president of Verrerie d'Art Classique and father of Heather, Grade 10, and Sarah, a '93 graduate of The Study. It was his idea to install the stained glass, but he claimed to have had higher inspiration. "The windows seemed to say,

"Please, sir, fill us with stained glass," he said. "I conveyed their wishes to Ms. Marshall."

A competition was launched to design the windows, and 65 of The Study's 100-odd senior students participated. Under the guidance of art teacher Mary Milligan, they set out to design windows that would reflect the joy of singing in the music room.

A panel of judges chose the three winning designs, which were inaugurated, appropriately enough, to the sounds of a musical recital in the de Villafranca music room.

Equally appropriate were the performances of Katherine Kostiuk, of the class of '96; Christine Kostiuk, of the class of 2000; and Jill de Villafranca, former chairman of the board of The Study.

They are all descendants of Ruth Pease de Villafranca, whose family's generosity made construction of the music room possible.

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## Girls' night out

Carleigh Carter from Ottawa (left) and her new friends Sophie Cowan and Jennifer Butt are all smiles in anticipation of their night out with their fellow Brownie members. The girls were treated to a sleepover in the Arctic environment of the Biodome. The youngsters from Ottawa and their Westmount hosts also shared a dinner together and took a ride on the Metro, among other highlights. The local girls are led by Brownie leader Janet Wilson, a doctor at the Reddy Memorial Hospital.

Photo by PHIL CARPENTER

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## Saliba wins rhythmic event at provincials

**By Bob Oliver**  
*Examiner Special*

Gaylee Saliba is a triathlete, but you won't find her swimming, biking or jogging at any triathlon competition. Her three sports are skating, dance and rhythmic gymnastics, and the diminutive young Westmounter excels in all three.

At the Provincial Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships held over the weekend at Centre Etienne Desmarteau, Saliba, competing for the Questo Club, finished first in the club, rope and ribbon events and came a close second in the hoop to become the overall AA champion at the junior level. By taking top honours, she was among 23 gymnasts and 5 groups who qualified for the Eastern Championships, May 2-5 in Toronto. To go with the win and being selected to the provincial team, Saliba also took home an extremely coveted prize — the Fouad Saliba trophy — donated by her father. "It was a special moment when she received the award, especially after missing winning my trophy at the (lower) level IV," said Saliba's mother who donated the Myrna Saliba Trophy for that category. "I had tears in my eyes."

"I was so proud to present my trophy to her," said Saliba's dad, Fouad. "She worked so hard and she really deserved it."

Westmount resident and Questo teammate Margaret Gales also qualified for a trip to Toronto with a 9th place AA finish in the novice level IV category. Ninety gymnasts from seven different clubs participated at the provincial s.

Before Saliba's conquest at the provincial meet, she represented the Questo Club at the Memorial 78 international meet in Bulgaria in March. Saliba had an admirable outing overseas, placing 12th in rope, 13th in hoop and 15th in ribbon among 31 competitors at her level. Seventeen clubs and 10 countries, including Russia, Bulgaria, Khazastan, Germany, France, Greece and Italy, took part in the international event.

Which of the three sports is her favorite? "Dancing's okay and it's easy and I've skated for a year now and it's fun, but gymnastics is the one (sport) I do the best in, and it's the one sport that will get me somewhere someday, so I'll have to say gymnastics."

## Girls gear up for provincial gymnastics meet

**By Bob Oliver**  
*Examiner Special*

More than 300 male and female participants from all over Quebec, ranging in age from nine to 20, will be taking the Gadbois Gymnastic Club by storm this weekend as they prepare for the Quebec Artistique Gymnastique Provincial Championships. But interested local fans will be keeping a close watch on two athletes in particular: Westmount's Lindsay Woods and Leah Blank.

"This is Lindsay's first year in competition at this level so it's dif-

ficult to say how she'll do overall," said Gadbois coach Denise Bouchard, who along with co-coach Rony Jackson has guided her charges to more than 200 medals at five regular meets held this season. "I do know that her best apparatus is the floor exercise and I believe there's a good chance she'll medal in that event. The judges love her. She's always smiling."

The effervescent 9-year-old Grade 4 student started slowly in her first three meets at the mous-tique level, but gaining momen-

tum and showing steady improvement as the meets went on, captured the gold in the floor exercises at the final two regular-season meets.

"I'm very excited about competing at the provincials," said Woods shortly after a practice session held early this week. "I'll do my best and I'll be extremely happy if I get a medal."

**Hopes on Blank**

While coaches Bouchard and Jackson have high hopes Woods will leave the three-day competition with at least one medal, they're banking on Blank to finish the competitions with several.

"Leah's chances of winning the Novice III overall individual title are very good. She's won four out of the five (regular) meets in the Montreal region this year and I know we're a lot stronger (at this level) than outside teams from the Sherbrooke and Quebec City areas.

"Her main competition should come from (Gadbois teammate) Stephanie Carle. In fact, we're hoping they finish one-two this weekend."

At local meets this season, Carle finished second to Blank in four of the five competitions. The one meet that Blank finished in the runnerup spot, Carle took top honours.

"I've already competed with a lot

of the girls who are going to be at the provincial meet this weekend," said Blank, an 11-year-old Grade 6 student who has amassed a grand total of 22 medals (mostly gold) at local meets this season and is currently ranked No. 1 in the province in her category. "But I'm not sure what the competition will be like from girls outside the Montreal area. I'll do my best and hopefully I'll get a medal."

The three-day meet at Montreal's Gadbois Arena (5485 Chemin de la Cote St. Paul) begins with open ceremonies on Friday at 6 p.m. and runs until Sunday afternoon. It's the first time in 15 years Gadbois has hosted the event and in this, the club's 20th anniversary year, coaches Bouchard and Jackson expect a banner crowd and a lot of positive results from their athletes.

Blank will compete Friday night at 6:20 and again on Saturday night at 6. Woods will make her provincial debut on Saturday afternoon at 1:30 and will complete the second leg of her competitions Sunday afternoon at 2:15.

It is also the first time in the history of the provincial championships boys and girls will compete at the same venue.

Refreshments will be served at the cite, parking is free, and tickets at the door will be sold at \$6 a session and \$25 for a three-day pass.



**Summit cleanup**

Three members of the Westmount Dog Owners Association executive, Bridget Blackader, Francie Montgomery and Beryl Parker, join forces at the Summit at the start of the WDOA's recent spring cleanup. The stoop and scoop campaign ran for a week. Dog walkers should note that regulations compelling dogs to be on leash at all times on the Summit during the birds nesting season took effect April 15 and last until June 15.

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# They told us what they really thought...

Only 2 visited by researchers merit good rating in survey

FRANÇOIS SHALOM  
THE GAZETTE

Only two of 18 Quebec car dealerships studied for sales practices received a good rating, says a survey commissioned by the federal government and released yesterday by the Automobile Protection Association.

The researchers, posing as casual shoppers, also found four dealerships to be adequate. Of the rest, six got marginal passes and six were outright

The survey, done for the Consumer Affairs at Industry Canada, was conducted by a young researcher in search of a compact car. They also found "clear" and "adequate" ratings.

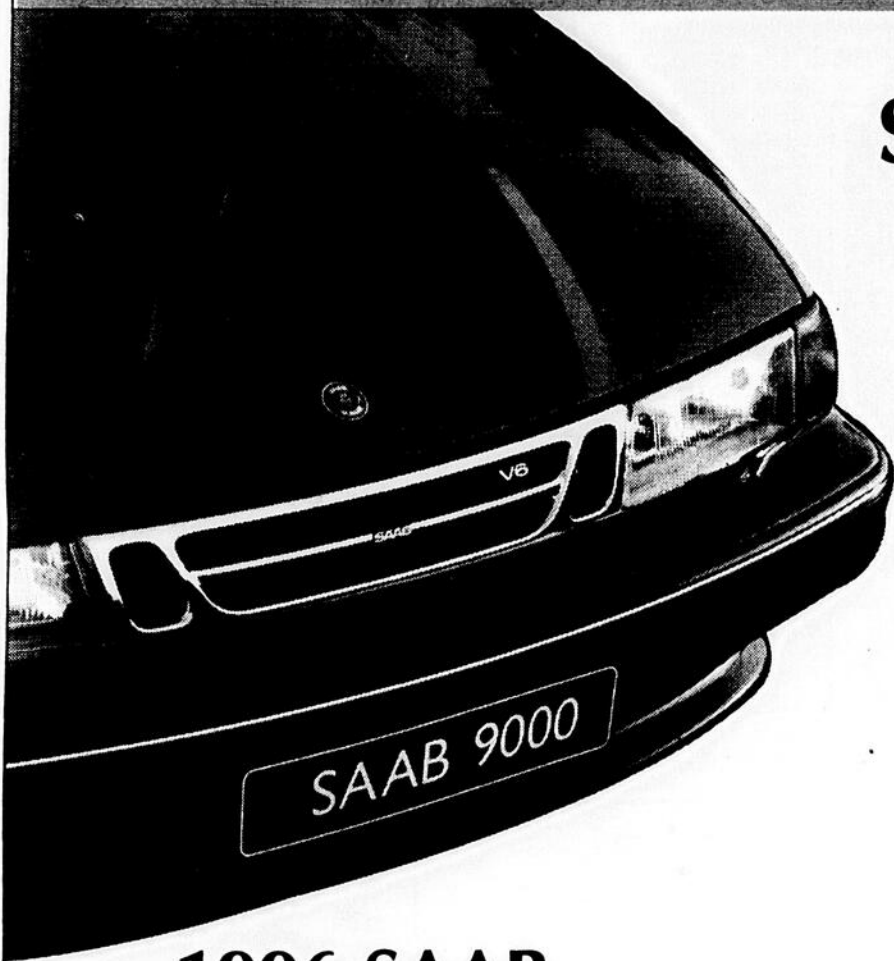
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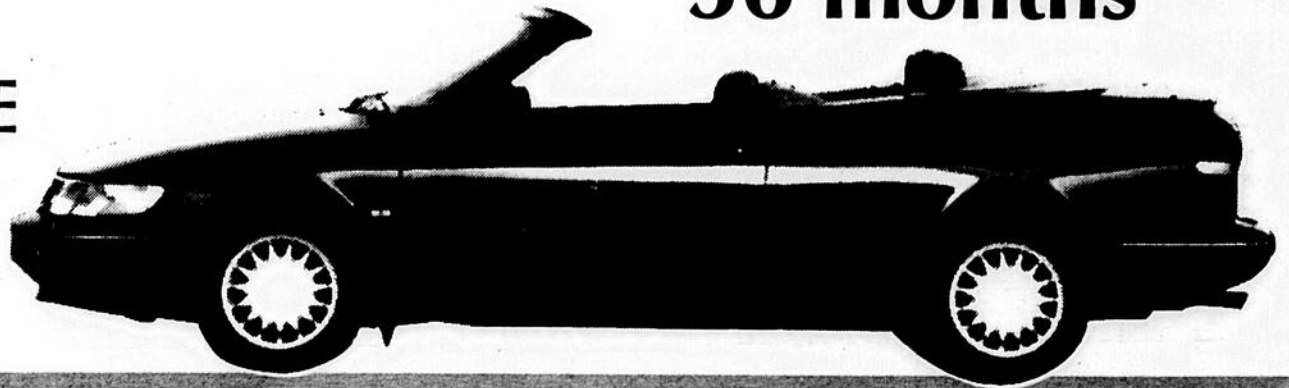
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