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Westmount Profile subject Barbara Moore poses with her 1998 Mérite Municipal award. For full article see p. 14.

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Argyle raises funds for first time

The psychologists, social workers, counsellors and therapists who comprise the Argyle Institute may be Westmount's best-kept medical secret – and the secret just turned 25 years old.

Board president Carmela Mindel explained to the *Independent* that the Argyle was formed in Westmount (on Argyle Ave.) by six mental health professionals:

Homegrown Leticia Cox, Rhoda Cohen, Rita Shulman, therapy group's Sid Perzow, Andrea own 'Drive at 25' McElhone and Oscar Grossman. McElhone

and Grossman are still active. Its 100-plus associates currently help 1,200 clients a year, which includes 100 hours of counselling that they contribute to the institute free of charge.

Westmount roots

Despite its rapid growth, the Argyle has stayed close to its roots: a recent move brought the headquarters from an office building at *continued on p. 3*

jTeens wrap up successful first year



From left: front row, Rabbi Yossi Shanowitz, unidentified, Mayor Karin Marks, Dianne Richler and Myer Richler with some of Chabad Westmount's "jTeens" youth group. For more, turn to p. 6

'Walking Wednesdays' get kids ... walking

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Just in time for warmer weather, Westmount students are being urged to walk to-and-from school – at least on Wednesdays.

It's an idea called Walking Wednesdays / *Les Mercredis on Marche* being launched by the Community Life Committee of the Westmount Healthy City Project and given

a special kickoff last week over Earth Day.

"It's all about promoting a healthy lifestyle, reducing carbon emissions, and cutting down traffic congestion around schools," said Rosalind Davis, who is coordinating the initiative with Barbara Moore and Pat Dumais.

"The idea is to get students walking at least one day a week so they can be outside, de- *continued on p. 2*



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Roslyn takes on poverty



From left: Sierra Giustini, Jacob Lee Howse and Elizabeth Miechkota report on their fundraising.

Roslyn students Sierra Giustini and Elizabeth Miechkota wanted world poverty to end – and they weren't going to sit around waiting for it to happen.

They talked to their parents and their grade 3/4 teacher, Lysanne Abelardo. Three initiatives developed: rice donations, donations for malaria nets (called the "Net-working" campaign) and the sale of potted flowers.

Rice donations were done 20 grains at a time via the www.freerice.com website. The site works by contributing that amount of rice to the UN for each word successfully defined. The class has raised over 200,000 grains of rice in this way. The Net-working campaign worked via pledges for chores done and netted \$603.88 – enough for 60 malaria nets. The sale of potted flowers brought in another \$500 for Free the Children, an anti-child labour and poverty group.

Free the Children reciprocated by sending one of its ambassadors, world traveller and musician Gab Desmond, to Roslyn. Desmond shared his experiences at development projects in Africa with a large group of students on April 21.

Selwyn walking to Yukon

continued from p. 1

velop a sense of responsibility, gain exposure to the community and have a time for interacting with friends or parents accompanying them."

Pitching the idea to local schools, City Councillor Tom Thompson, who chairs the Healthy City Steering Committee, asked school heads to follow up on modes of travel to help evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

Davis has been working to obtain buy-in from teachers, concentrating first on the high school levels.

Selwyn launches challenge

And at Selwyn House, quick to embrace the project, physical education teacher Jean Pruneau has challenged students and teachers in all grades to participate by walking and cycling (equivalently) "to Yellowknife and Whitehorse."

The Walking Wednesdays concept fits well with a program the school held in the fall term to walk and cycle across Canada from Victoria to St. John's, a distance of 7,821 kilometers, which they achieved.

"So, when we heard about the city program," Pruneau said, "I thought this time let's walk to the territories."

While it's up to classroom teachers to promote the idea, he said, many already



Kyle Zitzmann, kindergarten student, walks to Selwyn.

walk or bike to school. Pruneau, a resident of Longueuil, cycles back and forth every day for a total of 50 km.

And receiving the buy-in from staff that Selwyn House seeks is exactly what the city is hoping for, Davis said.

Acknowledging that many Westmount schools are attended by students from other communities who may need drives, Davis said, "we're suggesting that they be dropped off so they can walk at least part of the way."

The program is based on the national Active & Safe Routes to School (www.go-green.ca).

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Argyle to raise funds

continued from p. 1

Elm to the former Readers' Digest building at Redfern Ave. and St. Catherine St. (215 Redfern Ave. #305, 514.931.5629, www.argyleinstitute.org).

Getting big hasn't created an unwieldy bureaucracy. Excluding a few honorariums, the institute has one paid employee.

Filling a gap

How does the Argyle fit into Quebec's health system? Mental health services are covered by Medicare, but waiting lists at CLSCs are long and therapy is limited to 25 visits or less. Private providers charge.

The Argyle is private, but charges on a

sliding scale (\$25 to \$75 per 50-minute session). In addition, a new program offers 12 free sessions to low-income families. In all cases, therapy continues for as long as needed. And clients are seen "in about a week." The institute is proud of its record and unique approach. "We fill a gap," explained Mindel.

The institute also acts as a post-graduate training centre for mental health professionals. There are two streams: one for marriage and family therapy, and another for individual psychotherapy training.

Fundraising

Due to demand that is increasing 10 percent each year, the Argyle is reaching out to the community and raising funds for the first time. Its "Healthy Minds / Healthy Community" campaign aims to raise \$200,000, \$63,000 of which has yet to be raised. A grant from CIBC helped get the campaign off to a good start.

Mindel foresees that fundraising will require more support staff, but 92 percent of funds raised are earmarked to go to the benefit of clients.

Given its track record in the community, that level of efficiency seems more than attainable.

Marianopolis swimmer to represent Canada at Beijing Olympics



Sister Françoise Boisvert giving Stephanie Horner a Marianopolis pin.

Marianopolis student Stephanie Horner has been chosen to represent Canada at the Olympics in Beijing this summer. "We will be cheering on this dedicated young woman," said Marianopolis director general Sister Françoise Boisvert.

Horner has qualified for the 400 freestyle (in which she is the Canadian

champion) and the 4 x 200-meter freestyle relay. "I might even swim a third, the 200 butterfly," she said.

Horner grew up in Beaconsfield and graduated from Dorval's Queen of Angels Academy in 2006. She will be attending top swimming school Auburn University in Alabama in the fall.



From left: president of the board Carmela Mindel and past president Dr. Maria Luisa Alehos with the group's new pamphlet.

Martin to cycle across Canada for muscular dystrophy

Westmounter Keith Martin is not letting his muscular dystrophy get in the way of a good cause.

He and four other university students will be riding across Canada beginning May 13. They are calling their effort "Moving Muscles." They will start in BC, where Martin is in his fourth year of engineering at the University of British Columbia, and be heading for St. John's, with a target of late July. They plan to ride 100 kilometers per day.

Martin was diagnosed with a variant of the disease in 2005. It mostly affects strength and control in his upper body, but also gives him a limp and a weaker lower body. The condition will continue to weaken his muscles over time. There is no cure. His type of muscular dystrophy does not shorten his life expectancy, although other types do.

Martin took up cycling seriously after his diagnosis.

When asked the inevitable question about whether Canadians like Terry Fox, Steve Fonyo and Rick Hansen inspired his

project, Martin spoke carefully. "I have been inspired by them in everyday life, but I don't like to draw comparisons – especially with Terry Fox, for whom I have a great fondness and an admiration for his courage.

"They are not the reason for our trip. [Our trip is about] my friends, having fun, and making a difference."

Moving Muscles has received a lot of corporate support for its efforts, including help from Bombardier; Specialized; McLean Budden; Colby, Monet, Demers, Delage, and Crevier; McKinnon Metals; London X-Ray Associates; Richelieu Legwear; MacDougall Investment Counsel; MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier; Reitmans; CN and Goldberg Jewellers.

Individuals can support the group in two ways. Its website, www.movingmusclesride.ca, is set up for donations. Or, donations can be mailed to Muscular Dystrophy Canada (Moving Muscles Ride), c/o Erin Townsley-Smith, 7th floor, 1401 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V6H 1H6.



Keith Martin.



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Madvac purchase creates a \$64,000 question

BY KATHLEEN DUNCAN
COUNCILLOR, CITY OF WESTMOUNT

At the city council meeting held on March 31, I voted against the purchase of a replacement Madvac, an outdoor vacuum litter collector that runs on diesel fuel.

Only one company makes and distributes these machines in North America and they cost \$64,703.43 each (before taxes).

I voted against the purchase for two reasons.

In the first place, I believe the decision was premature. Instead of simply accepting to replace the previous Madvac, I believe we should have been looking first at alternatives. One of those would be to use manual street cleaners. If this approach cleaned up Manhattan, why not Westmount? Environmental concerns being what they are today, it is important that we look at a range of possibilities.

Secondly, is this in keeping with council's new initiatives toward developing and fostering a sustainable community? To that end, members and staff have devoted time and energy, sought the advice of experts and begun receiving the input of community groups to help us develop a mission statement and policies to work towards achieving that goal.

Westmount a green leader

As a rule, our council and administration go to great lengths to ensure our pur-

chases and policies reflect green objectives. Westmount has a reputation as a leader in green initiatives such as our pesticide by-law, the anti-idling by-law and the kitchen waste program we are now phasing in.

Unfortunately, technology can't always keep pace with our ambitions and the



One of Westmount's current Madvacs.

Madvac is one of those examples. As director general Bruce St. Louis explained, an electric version could not provide the necessary strength to suck up the garbage.

Interestingly, one can't help but notice how much litter already remains in water-soaked gutters, between parked cars and the curb and other areas which the Madvac's hose seems unable to access. So this is not only an issue of sustainability but of efficiency.

Why do we need to buy another Madvac when we could clean our streets by sweeping manually? That is the \$64,000 question.

Cleaning the streets by whatever method is seasonal, lasting about six months. The greatest amount of litter comes in the commercial and adjacent areas and along arterial roads, which is generally where our Madvac machines work.

Role for merchants?

Several merchants already clean in front of their establishments. In fact, it was the merchants who came to city council just over a year ago, asking us if they could participate in the city's recycling program.

If all Westmount merchants bought in to picking up litter in front of their own establishments, this would reduce the amount of it, also preventing it from flying into adjacent residential areas. It is every bit as much in their interest as that of residents to contribute to a clean community.

There are other advantages to adopting greener means to clean our streets other than the bottom line. Manual sweepers can go where vacuums can't, would therefore do a more thorough job and create less noise.

A cleaner city means less crime, vandalism and graffiti. More eyes on the community are equally valuable in preventing delinquency.

One cost-effective solution might be to have students during the summer sweeping the streets. As well, since most summer students employed by the city are residents, this work could instill a sense of civic pride.

While it was stated in council that

using the Madvac was the most economical route to cleaning our streets, it would be a worthwhile exercise to do a cost analysis comparing the two approaches.

Even if such a study proved the vacuum to be more financially viable, sustainable practices, like any new program, do initially cost more money, just as our curbside recycling program did.

I feel a particular responsibility in this matter considering a fair amount of the litter generated comes from part of my ward 4 on the north side of Sherbrooke.

In order to get the entire community onside, council not only has to serve as a model, but more importantly, we must consistently back sustainable choices and if we can't, we should provide reasons.

If we say we are going to be a sustainable community, then let us take action that supports that. Let's put our money where our mouth is.

Editor's note: Two of the six city councillors who voted for the Madvac purchase were offered the opportunity to explain their point of view, but declined.

New procedure for Westmount camp registration

Unlike previous years, residents' registration for Westmount's summer camp sessions takes place *once*, on Wednesday, April 30 from 6 pm to 8 pm. A valid Medicare card number is required. Non-residents may register their children on the Friday prior to the camp session start date, but call first to check for availability.

For more information (including CIT info) and guidelines, go to www.westmount.org.

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Letters to the editor

HEALTHY BOOK = HEALTHY CITY?

I have just finished reading a new Canadian book entitled *Cancer – 101 Solutions to a Preventable Epidemic* (available at the Westmount Public Library) by Liz Armstrong, Guy Dauncey and Anne Wordsworth and want to recommend it to your readers. It describes the causes of various cancers, but focuses mainly on those caused by the environment and urges that much more effort be spent on prevention, rather than looking for cures.

This ties in with the work being done by the Westmount Healthy City Project,

which has a sub-committee on the environment. There is no doubt that our environment is highly polluted and getting worse each day. Here are things we can all do to try to make it better.

DUNCAN SHADDICK
CLARKE AVE.

WESTMOUNT GETS 'SOMETHING RELEVANT'

Congratulations on producing a really interesting, readable paper. Finally, Westmount gets something relevant. Well done!

SARA COLBY
SHERBROOKE ST.

Civic Alert

Why not an arena comparable to the library?

BY DON WEDGE



There was wide approval for the Saturday afternoon consultation the city organized to hear residents' ideas for the arena/pool renewal. The dialogue should not stop, however.

It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to define a vital part of the city's future. The first session's ideas should be elaborated on. City hall has asked for continuing input.

What I heard, both at the consultation and in subsequent discussions with Westmounters, was that for many the horizon was restricted to a better version of what we have now.

"It's falling down, so let's build a new one!" – "One rink isn't enough, so let's have two!"

If that approach translates to the solution, then we will be shortchanging the next generation.

The emphasis I heard was on correcting current shortcomings rather than envisioning what may be needed in 10 or 20 years. Tastes change. Baseball is not as popular as it used to be. Where did the curling rinks go?

Besides I heard little from the people who do physical things in Victoria Hall that might be better suited to a gymnasium. And, if a gym is provided, should it be big enough to include some audience seating for competitive basketball?

What kind of gym?

Of course, hockey rinks can house both indoor six-a-side soccer and basketball.

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There were experimental seasons of both at the old Forum two decades ago. That would not suit the strong voices for more hockey!

The call for skateboarding space does not go away. However challenging for the city administration, there is a need and the new arena might be the one facility to take care of it.

On the other hand, most speakers I heard felt interest in the Teen Centre should be nurtured. Its location in the arena seemed a positive. A good case was made for a room that young adults could use for activities; it might also be used by coaches for educational purposes.

Perhaps residents' limited ambitions were due to the lack of prep time – most citizens got only eight days' warning.

Both the Westmount Municipal Association and the Healthy City Project's Environment section held emergency sessions to develop positions. I didn't hear of anything of user groups getting together to shape presentations.

An interesting sidelight on the recent decision to exclude citizens' participation in the public recordings of council meetings was that city staff at the Saturday event used pocket recorders! Participants were asked if they objected to being recorded and, as far as I know, no one did – they were obviously tools to help the scribes.

Specially bought by the new communications department, these little machines can be a great help to ensure accurate recording and I sometimes use one myself in preparing these articles.

City staff – uniformed in beige sports shirts – enthusiastically noted the suggestions and comments. Also listening in at each table throughout the afternoon were Mayor Marks and several councillors.

Also at each table WMA directors were taking notes. They will be made available on the association's web site www.wma-amw.org.

The WMA board decided to make its own public record following their experi-

ence of a year ago when they made a complex submission over the artificial turf, seeking the studies of the anticipated demand.

Occasionally, the shadow of the projected \$43 million debt brought on by the forced merger reduced expectations. Clearly it is going to weigh with council.

Nevertheless, I mused about adding to the basic replacement of the arena and pool that city hall may have in mind. Suppose we set out to get a building that would serve a range of recreation activities as well as our multi-faceted library caters to its users' information, educational and

leisure needs.

I assumed a \$10 million budget increment. My back-of-the-envelope calculation showed that over 20 years, that would actually cost with interest about \$20 million or \$1,000 per person, \$50 per person per year or an average of \$200 per family.

It is worth thinking about! Why not an arena which satisfies its clients' needs as well as the library does and something we could be just as proud of?

Speak out now or the opportunity will be lost!

Civic activist Don Wedge's e-mail address is calert@web.net.

Selwyn students venture into business



From left: Stephen Albers, Justin Leopold, Denis Smirnov, Mark Haichin and economics (senior social studies) teacher Mark Watson.

The Selwyn House School senior economics class hosted its seventh annual New Ventures Fair on April 10.

The fair was a culmination of a major research project that the students had been working on for several months. They developed theoretical business plans and were judged by parents and alumni. Each team manned a kiosk that represented its company.

The themes were varied and included tutoring services for students, babysitting services, a café, a carpet recycling com-

pany and a fashion company.

The challenge was to convince the judges to invest.

The third place award, for most viable business, went to "Technicians on the Go", an in-home technical assistance for Westmount residents. Second place, for best business plan, went to "St. Viateur Bagel & Café", a franchise of the famous brand for Toronto.

First place for best business was awarded to "Black Cell", fashion designs for the punk, Goth and heavy metal crowd.

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Opinion

Let citizens know what is intended for arena and pool

BY PATRICK BARNARD,
WESTMOUNT RESIDENT

The public consultation of April 12 on the city's Arena/Pool Renewal Project was a good step, with mayor, council and Sports and Recreation staff seeking citizen feedback about the development of the southwest corner of Westmount Park. While all participants agreed they want good recreational facilities, opinion at the meeting was divided, with a large group of people raising critical questions about the project's scale, the preservation of existing greenspace, traffic congestion and debt.

Plan in place?

The main problem with the forum, however, was that the city administration has a plan in place, one sufficiently advanced for Westmount to have already filed a submission for funding from the provincial government. Unfortunately, though, most citizens do not know about this planning.

During the forum, David Parsons of Academy Rd., as well as several other residents, asked the director of Recreation and other officials the same question: "Given your intention to have two hockey surfaces, you must already have an idea of how this project is physically laid out. Tell us these details, please, so we can make appropriate comments."

This very reasonable request was deflected, with administrators saying they

only wished to listen to what citizens want, and that they were **not** there in Victoria Hall to explicitly state **what the administration wants**. However, director general Bruce St. Louis did promise Parsons a copy of the official Westmount submission; indeed, 10 days later the director general released that document, a re-worked feasibility study the city has on file.

David Parsons and I have been going to every council meeting for more than a year, and here is our picture of recent planning. Since 2004, the core group at city hall - the mayor, director general and council - have been discussing the "Master Plan" for Westmount Park and appropriations have been made under that rubric, although no single document, it is said, articulates the full plan.

Three elements were considered: synthetic turf fields; the need for two hockey surfaces; a new pool. In regard to the fields particularly, the former head of Public Works, Fred Caluori, told me: "Recreation was driving the whole process." The idea had been to create an integrated, state-of-the-art sports complex, with artificial fields - a "newly created sports area" (Marc Fauteux, consultant, 2006) - costing approximately \$26 million. When the decision was made to proceed piecemeal, with announcement of the "intention" in October 2006 to install synthetic turf, an outcry arose from citizens, and council finally decided, in a December 2007 appropriation, to refurbish

the fields with natural grass. However, the other elements of the "Master Plan" remain very much in place.

The updated feasibility study, just released, makes it clear that two hockey surfaces, on the site of the present arena, has been the basic demand of the city all along. However, the consulting architect warns that exactly the kind of critical issues raised by citizens on April 12 will make the building of an imposing sport-



The rink today.

splex on the Lansdowne/St. Catherine corner very challenging. Plans for such a major renewal may, in fact, be desired by taxpayers - but they should know about them immediately, especially if a fast-track is opened for work to begin in April 2009.

What critics said

Critics at the forum urged the city to respect the "imprint" of the park, existing facilities, and surrounding neighbourhood. Many participants said that a massive project would require the city to consider alternative sites for at least some of the components envisaged. The city's debt

load already stands at more than \$20 million dollars, and is slated to rise to \$43 million. Even with funding from other levels of government, a very large project will add at least 25 percent to the debt, unless a new tax is sought. To build properly on the present site obviously requires a modest scale.

If the mayor wants something more ambitious, she should say so clearly, and think practically about putting the menu of facilities in several alternative sites. The rigidity with which these counter-suggestions were met on April 12, suggests that the city is clinging to its still unexplained "vision."

Despite the past year's deep controversy over public planning, the discussion has been good because Westmount stands at a crossroads as a result of increasing urbanization. Just recently, I have gained access to the correspondence from The Olmsted Brothers in Massachusetts to the Park Committee of Westmount in 1899, which discusses the then existing sport facilities of this multi-purpose, open, public space.

The Olmsted advice stresses the "landscape effect" in a "small park." And "other features," the letter insists, "should be so contrived to interfere with the landscape in the least possible degree," since "glaring infringements of this rule are readily noticed and condemned by any one who has the least good taste." Now, a century later, we must avoid such glaring infringements to preserve the quality of life that is this city's heritage.

Mayor recognizes jTeens

BY SCOTT FRENCH

For photo see p. 1

Mayor Karin Marks was welcomed as the guest of honour at the first annual jTeens awards held at the Mashaal family residence on April 15. jTeens is a multi-faith community volunteer organization for teens. Jewish community centre Chabad of Westmount (4444 St. Catherine St.) serves as its parent organization.

Mayor Marks, along with jTeens president Jonathan Mashaal, handed out certificates recognizing the volunteer efforts of all its members in the Westmount community this year.

The event was opened with a few words from Mashaal and spokesman Adrian Malka, as well as speeches from rabbis Asher Hecht and Yossi Shanowitz. "You're on a good road here and it's always good to

see kids doing what you do," the mayor encouraged.

"My wife [Dianne] and I felt very strongly the future is the young people," jTeens sponsor Myer Richler said.

A slideshow presented the jTeens projects throughout the year, which included donating and distributing 300 toys at the Montreal Children's Hospital, donating and lighting the menorah at the Château Westmount seniors' residence during Hanukkah, as well as preparing and sending packages to Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan.

jTeens member Alex Aronoff, 13, explained that giving to sick children "felt very rewarding."

The group has grown from five members in December to 30 currently. It will continue next year.

Manoir recognizes 10-year volunteer



Simona Buth, leisure supervisor, Manoir Westmount, presents Westmount resident Barbara Warner a plaque recognizing her 10 years of volunteering at the Manoir during the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Tea on April 23.



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Contactivity birthday parties



Valerie Aitken (left), pictured with friends Carol Morency and Jeanette Collinson. Aitken, who was among the several birthday celebrants at Contactivity's April luncheon, facetiously explained that her April 1 birthday made her an "April fool," but "people don't forget it."

Contactivity had a lot to celebrate last April 17. It held its usual lunch for those with an in-month birthday. Simultaneously, the seniors' centre itself celebrated its 36th anniversary. The good news didn't end there. Program coordinator Consuelo Guy made her visit back after suffering a stroke.

Clandeboyers oppose Batshaw traffic; Batshaw never received complaints



All traffic to the Batshaw lot (left) must turn this narrow, blind corner (right).

Some residents of Clandeboye have had enough traffic – in their backyards, that is.

Houses and apartment buildings on the east side of Clandeboye Ave. and the west side of Weredale Park share their L-shaped back lane with the parking lot of the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres (the head office of which is located on Weredale Park). The lot holds approximately 60 cars. The only access to the parking lot is via the lane's opening on the east side of Clandeboye, just south of Dorchester Blvd.

Resident Sheila Murphy explained to the *Independent* that enough was enough. Residents have a hard time using their backyard parking pads and mini-traffic jams happen at rush hours.

The Batshaw building used to be a boys' residence and was turned into office building. And traffic just keeps going up. The

lack of assigned parking places creates an incentive for motorists to arrive early and turns some drivers into quick return-trip users when they don't find a space. This winter's large snowfalls made things especially bad and "civility vanished," according to Murphy. Lunchtime exits and re-entrances don't help matters.

Murphy and neighbours see two possible solutions. The first would be an entrance/exit to the parking lot from Weredale Park or Atwater Ave. The second – less popular with neighbours – would be maintaining the lane like a city road, which it seems to have become.

Batshaw responds

When contacted by the *Independent*, Batshaw spokesman Claire Roy was surprised by the whole issue, "We have not had any complaints from Public Security

Atwater Library Open House

The Atwater Library and Computer Centre's open house and "Community Happy Hour" on April 17 were well attended and served to highlight the library's many services, including hosting websites for community organizations; computer courses for a wide range of abilities and interests; and partnering with local high schools Westmount High and James Lyng to give workshops in new media such as blogging, audio, video and digital photos.

The library is open six days a week and always open to new members.

Executive director Lynn Verge explained to the *Independent* that the library serves communities in and outside of Westmount and is supported by both the city of Westmount and the city of Montreal. She went on to add her voice to the chorus of people in Westmount who will miss Westmount's retiring director general Bruce St. Louis.



Board members Hugh McGuire (left) and Mark Gallop with executive director Lynn Verge.

The Contrarian

Recycling: After Part One and Two, comes "Tree"

Why is there so much trash in the streets of Westmount? Littering is not the major contributor. The vast majority comes from recycling that has been swept up by the wind. And the solution is so simple.

Meet the Contra-Ventus, a new anti-trash-in-the-wind device. It is a piece of Canadian hardwood, spray-painted so the recycling contractors see that it should not be picked up. It holds down recycling. It has been tested – right here in Westmount – and found to be successful.

or our neighbours. We've been here for many years and we comply with the law." She pointed out that speeding was almost impossible given the speed bumps and the state of the alley, and that employees try to act "properly."

She also said that the Batshaw had not looked at opening a new entrance to the parking lot via Weredale Park or Atwater.

Councillor John de Castell has been consulted by residents about their concerns, but chose not to comment.

This edition of *The Contrarian* was written by non-activist David Price. If his co-residents really like living with recycling all over their lawns, he'll go along – but there is a better way.



The Contra-Ventus poses for a photo.

Salon Sophie
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The Inventory:

Condos for sale and brokered rentals in Westmount

The Inventory is content provided by the Independent, and is compiled from public sources and parties that contact us. To find a brokered property's listing agent and information, please go to MLS.ca. In addition, both listing agents and agents working with buyers have more information available to them on a private network. If you are a real estate agent or private seller whose property has been overlooked, please write to us at indie@westmountindependent.com.

Condos/duplexes for sale

\$179,000 3237 St. Antoine St.
 \$209,000 Address unavailable
 \$219,000 3239 St. Antoine St.
 \$279,000 376 Redfern Ave. #2
 \$289,000 376 Redfern Ave. #4
 \$294,600 Address unavailable
 \$299,000 300 Lansdowne #14
 \$319,000 376 Redfern Ave. #25
 \$329,000 376 Redfern Ave. #9
 \$339,000 376 Redfern Ave. #19
 \$339,000 4444 Sherbrooke St. W. #403*
 \$344,500 2 Westmount Square #601
 \$349,000 3235 St. Antoine
 \$359,000 466 Victoria Ave.
 \$359,000 2 Westmount Square #401
 \$360,000 3 Westmount Square #315
 \$369,000 435 Grosvenor Ave. #5
 \$369,000 Address unavailable
 \$389,000 Address unavailable
 \$389,000 421 Victoria Ave.
 \$396,000 43 Bruce Ave.
 \$399,000 205 Victoria #103
 \$399,000 4444 Sherbrooke St. #502

\$419,000 468 Victoria Ave.
 \$449,000 205 Victoria Ave. #303
 \$469,000 Address unavailable
 \$469,000 343 Clarke Ave. #4
 \$470,400 Address unavailable
 \$489,000 200 Lansdowne Ave. #503
 \$489,000 Address unavailable
 \$494,000 Address unavailable
 \$498,000 Address unavailable
 \$499,000 Address unavailable
 \$519,000 439 Grosvenor #17
 \$525,000 437 Grosvenor #7
 \$529,000 439 Grosvenor #14
 \$538,800 Address unavailable
 \$545,000 4856 St. Catherine St. W.
 \$561,900 Address unavailable
 \$569,000 3 Church Hill
 \$571,100 Address unavailable
 \$579,000 54 Thornhill lower
 \$599,000 2 Westmount Square #1203
 \$629,000 376 Redfern #6
 \$637,000 4175 St. Catherine St. #301
 \$639,000 466 Argyle Ave.
 \$650,000 Address unavailable

\$654,000 376 Redfern #23*
 \$659,000 512 Prince Albert Ave.
 \$739,000 4104 Dorchester Blvd.
 \$795,000 Address unavailable
 \$825,000 468 Argyle Ave.
 \$1,375,000 4175 St. Catherine St. W. #1402
 \$1,575,000 1 Wood Ave. #1205
 \$1,699,000 227 Clarke Ave.*
 \$1,950,000 4545 Sherbrooke St.**
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\$695 Address unavailable
 \$710 Address unavailable
 \$710 Address unavailable
 \$720 Address unavailable
 \$750 499 Elm #5
 \$795 200 Kensington Ave. #514
 \$875 200 Kensington Ave. #518
 \$910 Address unavailable
 \$925 447 Prince Albert Ave. #4
 \$965 Address unavailable
 \$1,000 200 Kensington Ave. #618
 \$1,215 140 Irvine Ave.
 \$1,220 201 Metcalfe Ave. #327
 \$1,300 Address unavailable
 \$1,395 4462 St. Catherine St. W. #2
 \$1,400 201 Metcalfe Ave. #403
 \$1,400 Address unavailable
 \$1,600 Address unavailable
 \$1,700 376 Redfern #17
 \$1,750 340 Olivier
 \$1,800 88 Columbia Ave.
 \$1,800 Address unavailable
 \$1,900 4326 Sherbrooke St. #28
 \$1,910 4800 de Maisonneuve Blvd.
 \$1,975 Address unavailable
 \$2,000 or \$339,000 4444 Sherbrooke St. W. #403**
 \$2,000 4328 Sherbrooke St. #26
 \$2,100 Address unavailable
 \$2,200 58 Arlington
 \$2,250 Address unavailable
 \$2,300 295 Victoria Ave. #101
 \$2,500 Address unavailable
 \$2,500 400 Kensington Ave. #301
 \$2,525 200 Kensington Ave. #802

\$2,600 4548 St. Catherine St.
 \$2,650 4175 St. Catherine St. W. #401
 \$2,750 4855 de Maisonneuve Blvd. #501
 \$2,800 254 Metcalfe #a
 \$2,900 4654 St. Catherine St. W.
 \$2,950 4214 de Maisonneuve Blvd. #02
 \$3,000 447 Prince Albert Ave. #1.
 \$3,000 17 Church Hill
 \$3,000 447 Prince Albert #1
 \$3,500 Address unavailable
 \$3,500 343 Clarke Ave. #6
 \$3,900 19 Winchester Ave.
 \$4,200 388 Grosvenor Ave.
 \$4,950 4175 St. Catherine St. W. #1402
 \$5,000 Address unavailable
 \$5,000 200 Kensington Ave. #1000 PH
 \$5,750 611 Lansdowne Ave.
 \$6,000 or \$654,000 376 Redfern #23**
 \$6,300 456 Mountain
 \$6,700 or \$2,200,000 Address unavailable**
 \$8,950 or \$1,699,000 227 Clarke Ave.**
 \$11,000 Address unavailable
 \$12,000 680 Victoria Ave.
 \$12,000 4760 The Boulevard
 \$12,500 Address unavailable
 \$15,000 3657 The Boulevard
 *Dollar figure is rent per month unless stated.
 **Also for sale. Second amount is asking sale price.

BUILDING PROJECTS: WHAT'S PERMITTED

The following work permits for external new construction, alterations and landscaping were approved by Westmount city council at meets March 31 and April 16.

27 **Bellevue**: to alter and raise the roof structure to render the attic habitable;
 1364 **Greene**: to install a sign;
 11 **Douglas**: to install a fence;
 658 **Belmont**: to replace windows and modify terraces;
 480 **Strathcona**: to make an opening and replace some windows;
 4820 **de Maisonneuve**: to replace front stairs, resurface the driveway and do some landscaping;
 519 **Victoria**: to replace some windows;
 496 **Wood**: to replace some windows and a door;
 6 **Sunnyside**: to install a pool, pool house and landscaping;
 36 **Summit Circle**: landscaping to include cut-

ting of spruce trees provided those on city property are retained; also to cut one specific spruce tree;

19 **Lansdowne Ridge**: to build a solarium at the rear;
 651 **Roslyn**: to build an extension;
 322 **Elm**: to extend a balcony and replace some windows;
 50-52 **Columbia**: to replace some windows and rear siding;
 14 **Surrey Gardens**: to install a pool and fence and to do some landscaping;
 10 **Surrey Gardens**: to install a pool and fence and do some landscaping;
 4504-4506 **St. Catherine**: to replace some windows;
 632 **Grosvenor**: to make new openings and install windows and doors;
 638 **Belmont**: to modify the rear deck;
 120 **Côte St. Antoine**: to do some landscaping.

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Westmount Art Scene

In case you missed it: West End Gallery highlighted Jewish artists

BY HEATHER BLACK

The West End Gallery recently presented an exhibition of the works of well-known Montreal artists Jack Beder, Alexander Bercovitch, Sam Borenstein, Ghitta Caiserman-Roth, Eric Goldberg, Sylvia Lefkowitz, Harry Mayerovitch, Louis Muhlstock, Ernst Neumann and Moe Reinblatt. Known as the avant-garde artists of their time, these painters are remembered for their unique perceptions and distinctive techniques.

The West End Gallery and the Millman family have represented many of the artists — some like Louis Muhlstock for over 60 years. Rose Millman founded the Dominion Gallery in 1941 (subsequently sold) before establishing the West End Gallery in 1948.

New style

Of this group, Jack Beder, Sam Borenstein and Louis Muhlstock painted Quebec countryside or Montreal streetscapes. Others like Alexander Bercovitch, Moe Reinblatt and Harry Mayerovitch are known for their intimate portraits. Like

Mayerovitch, Ghitta Caiserman-Roth was a stylistic innovator who experimented with form and texture. Her painting of a figure next to a table with ornate crystal is an interesting study of graphic form.

Artist Alexander Bercovitch, the eldest of the group, was an art instructor to many. Both he and Eric Goldberg were members of the Eastern Group of Painters — a Montreal artists' collective founded in 1938 to encourage art based on imagination, intuition and spontaneity.

Colourist Sam Borenstein was one of the most innovative of his time, but relatively unknown. A. Y. Jackson once commented to Florence Millman that Borenstein was “the most unappreciated artist” of the day. Two paintings in the exhibit, a red house and another of a white barn set against lush green grass, reflect his trademark style — a sophisticated and often lively use of colour.

Social realism

While the quality of execution speaks for itself, the artists' choice of subject reflects their time. Street scenes and parks painted by Jack Beder reflect Montreal ar-

chitecture in the 1930s and 40s. Louis Muhlstock also painted quiet alleys and backyards. However his depiction of empty rooms in abandoned buildings or those marginalized by society — patients in Montreal hospitals and factory or dockyard workers — capture the bleak poverty of the Depression.

A time of high unemployment and worker exploitation, these were the years of socialism, communism and the reactionary Padlock Law; of Krystalnacht, rising fascism and World War II. And many artists were involved politically. In 1940, architect Harry Mayerovitch wrote of “unfortunates who are forced to live under sub-standard conditions... Housing can't wait for peace.”

As an artist, Mayerovitch drew sensitive portraits of the poor or peasants and — in constructivist-style posters — experimented with “art in the service of socialism.” Portraitist Moe Reinblatt served as a Canadian war artist stationed in England.

Local legacy

As young, contemporary artists of their time, they reflect and portray an important

period in Quebec social history. Art innovators, they are the subject of the current Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec exhibit and of curator Esther Trépanier's new book *Jewish Painters of Montreal: Witenesses of Their Time, 1930-1948*.

The exhibit also highlighted the West End Gallery's rich history and the important contribution of the Millman family to Montreal's artistic community both yesterday and today.

Marianopolis performs

Marianopolis College is hosting a free spring recital on Thursday, May 1 at 7:30 pm in the Art Deco Auditorium (4873 Westmount Ave.). Performing are Stefano Degano, Alessandria DiNardo, Philippe Giguère, Melissa Herman, Alberto Santos, Olivier Scheffer, MengJie Xiong, Geneviève Dompierre-Smith, Emilie Ellis, Sydney Warshaw, Léa Weillbrenner-Lebeau, Xin Gao, Rosa Lannes, Macleod Truesdale, Chris Haggart, Anne Côté, Cheryl Falconar, Daniel Miguez, Evelyne Arsenault Cooper, Aline Homzy and Professor Gwendolyn Smith.



My Cup of Tea employee Ian Lu pours a “cuppa” for Westmounter Liz Yardley.

Kenny Hui, the owner of two tea shops in Chinatown, decided to open a tea shop on Victoria Ave., “because 30 percent of my clientele is from Westmount.” My Cup of Tea (344A Victoria Ave., 514.498.8880) opened on April 5.

Hui was born in Hong Kong and is the son of two Chinese doctors. He has learned that the taste of medications is bitter and that “tea tastes good and prevents illness. Like vegetables, fresh is better.”

All of the tea at the new store is fresh and seasonal; different varieties are sold depending on what is growing in China at the time.

Hui and his business partner, Winnie Lau, who is running the Westmount store, felt that “Westmounters want something fresh.” Blooming tea is the specialty, which is a dried flower that “blooms” in hot water. Lovely to look at, tasty and aromatic. Free tea tastings are available.

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Thank you,

David Price, Editor & Publisher – *Westmount Independent*

The Westmount Parent

Summer is coming! Start making plans



BY ANNIKA MELANSON

Mademoiselle Pinki will host three weeks of summer camp for girls this year. The camp activities are in French, but counselors are bilingual. Each week, 12 girls will work on a theatre performance, which parents will attend on the last day of the session. The camp hours are from 9 am to 5 pm. The cost is \$135 per week. Three sessions will be offered:

- July 7 to 11 (5 to 7 years)
 - July 14 to 18 (5 to 7 years)
 - July 28 to August 1 (8 to 12 years)
- (Mademoiselle Pinki, 4779 Sherbrooke St., 514.931.7465, www.mademoisellepink.com)

Breakfast with the Bears at The Ecomuseum

The Ecomuseum (21,125 St. Anne Rd.,

514.457.9449, www.ecomuseum.ca) is an educational wildlife park in St. Anne de Bellevue with over 90 species of wildlife in their natural habitat. The black bears that live at the Ecomuseum hibernated a little longer than usual this year, but they are finally showing signs of stirring, which tells us that spring is finally here. Breakfast with the Bears is a great way to learn all about bears, while enjoying a delicious continental breakfast. After a presentation is concluded on May 25 from 8 to 10:30 am, everyone will head out into the zoo with the Curator for Mammals and Birds who will escort participants through the bears' sleeping quarters and into their enclosure to hide some tasty treats.

After everyone is safely out of the enclosure, the bears will be invited to hunt for the hidden treats while the participants observe their antics. The cost for the activity is \$15 for adults, \$10 for children and \$13 for seniors, with a \$2 discount for members. Reservations are required since

spaces are limited. The activity is in French on May 25 and for the two breakfasts scheduled for June 14 and 15 the activity will be in English and French respectively.

Workshops about children with special needs

The Donald Berman Yaldei Developmental Centre is hosting a workshop series entitled "Don't Lose Precious Time While You Wait: Workshops to Help You & Your Special Needs Child" on evenings in May and June. The nine workshops, which can be taken individually or as a series, provide parents with techniques that they can use at home to enhance your child's development. The workshops will take place at 8 pm at the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex (2100 Marlowe, 5th floor). The next one is "Brain Stimulation Methos de Jong; A Unique Approach to the Treatment of Learning, Behavioral & Developmental Issues." The cost is \$30



The Sunday Discovery workshops at the Redpath Museum (859 Sherbrooke St. West, 514.398.4086, www.mcgill.ca/redpath) have come to an end, but will begin again in the fall. Pictured is Westmounter Audra Kruszewski experimenting with a clay volcano in the museum's lab.

per workshop. For a complete list of dates as well as a registration form, visit www.yaldei.org or call Ayala Conway at 514.279.3666 ext. 250.

Looking to market an energy-producing device

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

The technology can power a car, a computer or even a heart – and for life, he says. Sherbrooke St. resident Leon Stiller is convinced that his free-energy generator is an invention whose time has come.

"I have something that can change the face of the world," he says, sifting through a stack of correspondence, documentation and analyses dating back many years in his efforts to market it.

Launching into an explanation of highly technical data, Stiller calls the energy-producing device "a life-long energy source" that works by springs and requires no battery, fuel or other commonly used energy source.

Over two decades, Stiller has been wooing NASA and various scientific and government departments and industries in the US and Canada, asking them take a serious look at the device which he is reluctant to patent.

And in many cases, however, the response has been promising – just so long as he patents it first. And therein lies a key issue for Stiller.

The octogenarian, whose family machine company in Bucharest, Romania, was taken over by the communists after World War II, has been doggedly opposed to seeking a patent, fearing the theft of his

idea during the patenting process.

Instead – and to set various skeptics straight – he is offering to open the sealed device in the presence of witnesses "to demonstrate it has no energy source within as some people claim," he says.

A comment on McGill letterhead states: "I will grant you your apparatus appears to generate energy... It would appear that there is some way of storing energy inside the box. If that is not so, then I have no explanation for what I see."

Stiller, who grew up in Romania and

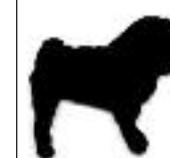


Leon Stiller display his generator.

came to Canada in 1967 via Israel and Europe, re-established his machine shop at 7200 Alexandre St. near Jean Talon. "We built engines of all kinds and had contracts with railways and the automotive industry."

In response to a family member's illness, he moved to Florida, where he began his lengthy correspondence with NASA, academic researchers and others. "I was in Florida when I finished my invention after 26 years," he explained.

Returning to Montreal in 1984, Stiller bought and sold residential and commercial property, devoting much time to trying to market his invention.



Max and his owner, Liz, would like to tell our friends and

neighbours that he is mostly recovered from his injuries and is in "good cheer" again. We thank you for your care and concern over the months. Particular thanks go to the veterinarians who saved his life. rock on Maxie

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9 Lives

BY LYZANNE

Augusta is a cream tortie point Himalayan, about 10 months old, who came to Animal Adoption Montreal with a dislocated hip, after being found by some guardian angels.



Her injury is more than likely a result of jumping from an apartment building. She has bounced back 100 percent. Except



Augusta

for the scar, you would never know that she has had surgery. She is very pretty, playful and quite affectionate. Now she needs a new home... preferably one that will assure us that she not be allowed to test her flying skills again!

Bibi is a two-month-old chestnut or chocolate oriental with the most beautiful green eyes. His mum was a seal point siamese and his dad an oriental. He was born in the care of Animal Adoption Montreal after they saved his mum from a hoarding situation where there were 81 Siamese cats!

Bibi was the sole survivor born from a litter of six kittens. He loves the attention of other cats and enjoys his people very much. He has been living in a loving foster home after a very sad beginning. A purr machine, very playful and extremely cute!



Bibi

If you would like to find out more about Augusta and Bibi, please contact Maggie Shuter at Animal Adoption Montreal (formerly Canadian Pet Rescue Services). Their telephone number is 514.839.2070. She works with amazing volunteers and their organization is funded solely by donations. Also refer to their website for more information. www.aam.petfinder.com.

July 1 is coming:

Don't Move Without Your Pet!

Artwork by Laura S. Cohendet.

A new perspective?



Westmounter Reford MacDougall (left) was among the invitees at the April 10 Crescent St. launch of *Perspectives*, the Fraser Institute's first French-language magazine. The institute's Quebec and francophonie director, Tasha Kheiriddin (right), has a Westmount connection, too. She is a graduate of The Study and a recent Wood Ave. resident. She now lives just east of city limits.

WMA AGM

The Westmount Municipal Association will hold its annual general meeting on Monday, May 5 at 7 pm at Victoria Hall.

Dr. Arthur Porter, the director-general and CEO of the McGill University Health Centre will be the guest speaker. Barbara Moore will be presented with this year's Derek Walker Volunteer Citizen of the Year Award (see p. 14 for a profile of Moore).

Selwyn court case still pending

The judge hearing the proposed settlement of the alleged Selwyn House School sex-abuse cases met with the parties on April 25 and has taken the matter under advisement. The allegations stem from teachers who have not been at the school for well over a decade.

The proposed settlement puts a \$5 million cap on the school's payments and contains no admission of fact or liability by the school.

In an email to the Selwyn community, headmaster William Mitchell wrote that a ruling is expected in "a few weeks."

Indies abroad



From left: Heather Black, Ted Sancton, David Price, Kristin McNeill, Lyzanne, Laureen Sweeney and Beth Hudson (book-keeper).



From left: Aurel Guillory, Doreen Lindsay and Don Wedge.

On April 17 – the first real day of warm weather – the *Westmount Independent* gang decided to explore the area west of Westmount, and got as far as the first bar,

Crossroads. As far as is currently known, the April 21 bomb scare at the same establishment was unconnected to their earlier presence.

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David Price, *Editor & Publisher*

Westmount Profile: Barbara Moore

Wins WMA honour

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

"Walking the talk" may have become a buzz phrase of late, but it's what Barbara Moore has been doing over more than five decades of community service.

Not only is she one of Westmount's pan-ultimate volunteers and community leaders, but her contributions typically include new initiatives and programs to improve quality of life, particularly in areas of safety, accessibility and health.

"It gives me a great deal of satisfaction," she says, in explaining the value of service to "see a need and get into it."

And for her particular contributions over the years, Moore has been selected by the Westmount Municipal Association as its 2008 winner of the Derek Walker award for volunteerism.

The award will be presented May 5 at the WMA's annual general meeting at Victoria Hall.

A retired financial administrator, Moore is currently the long-time chair of the Healthy City Project's Community Life Committee, and is a former city council-

lor, public safety commissioner and chair of the Westmount Public Library board.

She also chaired the first school committee of Westmount High and the advisory council of the Westmount Y.

She has served as a vice-president of the WMA, president of the St. James Literary Society, a member of the board of the CLSC Guy Metro and in many capacities at Mountainside United Church (formerly St. Andrew's-Dominion-Douglas-Erskine American), where she is also a trustee.

Honoured by Quebec

Her service was recognized by the province in 1998 when she was named as the 1998 winner for the entire Montreal region of Quebec's *Mérite Municipal* award for volunteerism and community leadership. (Photo of award p. 1).

She was also awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002.

In nominating her for the provincial award, the city's submission stated at the time: "This outstanding community leader has been involved in so many pertinent community projects over the last 35 years



that one can truly say her impact has made a difference in (Westmount's) well-being."

It adds: "She has earned the respect of the community and of city officials for her competence, the thoroughness of her research and her ability to speak out frankly and tactfully."

Moore is the founder and organizer of Westmount's Smart Living Days and the Safe Walk Audit, a neighbourhood street-safe project. Both were singled out as models for implementation in other communities.

But one of the achievements of which she is most proud is a comprehensive project to compile a survey of the accessibility of public buildings in Westmount.

Westmount's library has always played a special role in her family. Her late husband, Herbert Moore, was a trustee for many years and its chairman before her. Interestingly, he was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal.

In fact, volunteerism and community service were family values in which both believed. "If we were ever home together on the same evening, our kids wondered what was wrong," she says breaking into a wide smile.

A Westmount family

Mother of four - Robin, Lynn, Wendy and Geoffrey, all raised in Westmount - Moore is now a proud grandmother of eight, ranging in age from 3 to 24. Last year, granddaughter Sarah Moore "became the fourth generation of our family to graduate from McGill," she says. Lynn was once Westmount's "Miss Fire Prevention" for an annual city parade.

A native Montrealer, Moore herself grew up in Westmount from the age of 14 and graduated from Westmount High.

She initially entered McGill to become a social worker. "But after one course in economics, I realized that's where my interests lay and I loaded on the economics courses. I should have taken commerce." She also holds a diploma in institutional administration from Concordia.

From the time she was her fraternity treasurer at university, she has been involved in keeping the books for many organizations. A treasurer for two different periods for Mountainside Church, she also served as the treasurer for the Junior League of Montreal.

Moore attributes her training in leadership to her fraternity (Alpha Gamma Delta) and the Junior League. "That gave me the confidence to start doing things."

After graduating from McGill, she worked for seven years at Rolls Royce in accounting before taking time out from her career to raise her family.

When Moore returned to the workplace in 1977, it was to the Mackay Centre, retiring 10 years later as its financial administrator.

Pounded the pavement

When recruited to run for district 4 in the municipal election of 1999, Moore diligently pounded the pavement, calling on every door. It not only resulted in a landslide victory, but also made a lasting impression on constituents.

An avid tennis player, Moore is also a long-time participant in aquafit classes at the Westmount Y.

But at the heart of her activities lies her work with Healthy Cities, and the latest projects of her committee: Walking Wednesdays (the new walk-to-school program) and the upcoming "Smart Living Day/La vie en vert" slated for fall.



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Wine: What's In Store...

How to impress a wine geek

BY CAROLA PRICE



My brother always amazes me with his choices in wine. Sometimes I think he buys a bottle for the label alone, and other times I sit and sip something that brings me back to the country of origin, or at least to long arduous nights sipping with fellow students during my sommelier certification. The thing I love most about Spanish wine is that it's all about the wine inside and rarely about the label.

The hunt

Much like its people, Spanish wines have an understated elegance and are relatively unadorned, leaving the drinker with little information on the label. One may have to search the internet for information on a Spanish wine they have recently tried.

The country can be divided into three large areas: North, Central and South. Within these areas there are smaller ones. In the north, the regions best known in the Quebec market are Navarra, Rioja, Penedes, Rueda, Ribera del Duero and the ultra-hip Priorat. Central regions include Almansa, Valencia, Alicante, Jumilla, Yecla and Utiel-Requena. The Southern region is the place for sherry and, while I love it, I realize that I may be drinking alone here (unless someone's granny comes over). Sherry's home is Jerez and can be found on our shelves in varying levels of sweetness.

Simply good wine

My advice here is that Spanish wine is definitely meant for food. Reds and whites match beautifully with cheeses, fish, poultry, beef and veal and the delicious grilled

lamb sausages we were having our red with the other night.

Blés, Crianza, Valencia. SAQ#: 10856427. \$14.95

Made of Monastrell and Cabernet Sauvignon, this dry red is meant for starting the evening off. While it has a medium body and some tannin, I paired it with salmon, caramelized onions and lemon risotto. It matches pasta dishes and will make a good summer sipper.

SAQ available at press time: Westmount Sq., Victoria Ave., 155 Atwater, Atwater Market.

Mas Igneus FA 206, Priorat. SAQ#: 10358671. \$28.65

This is a dark and complex red with lots of spicy and wood overtones in the mouth with a caramel and fruit compote finish. Tannin and body from Cabernet and Syrah show here, but the native grape flavours dominate.

Don't be put off by the sediment. This wine is a good candidate for decanting and cellaring.

Match with lamb, beef and richer cheeses and poultry in sauces made from wine or stewed fruit.

SAQ available at press time: 155 Atwater, Atwater Market.

Marques de Riscal Limousin Reserva, Rueda. SAQ#: 00424432. \$16.65

This does not taste like your average white wine. The grape is native to Spain and its rich golden amber colour may be in question. The taste of honey, almonds and wood is great for food and sipping on a balmy evening. Pair it with medium-bodied cheeses and BBQ fish or herb crusted roasted pork.

SAQ available at press time: 155 Atwater, Victoria.

Latin not just for mottos at Selwyn



From left: Brigitte Robidoux and Hélène Lauzon.

Photo by Isaac Olson.

Potential bidders examine the silent auction merchandise at Selwyn House School's Latin Nights Centennial Gala. Opening bids on the student photo montages started at \$1,000 and were just one of the many things up for auction on April 17.

Held on campus, the Latin-themed event included cocktails, dinner, silent and live auctions, a Latin marketplace and dancing to the sounds of a live band. Hal

Hannaford, slated to be the new Selwyn House headmaster in January 2009, served as auctioneer. The event benefited the school's endowment while, at the same time, five percent of proceeds were donated to three local charities.

Beneficiaries included: Le centre hospitalier universitaire mère-enfant (CHU) Sainte-Justine, the Montreal Children's Hospital and the Gainey Foundation.

Happy Pets of Westmount



It is a sad fact that there are many pets up for adoption. Through the efforts of Fern Breslaw of Underdog and Lyzanne of 9 Lives, we've tried to place a few of them with Westmount owners. But there's another

Lyzanne & Suyeung

whole other story out there! Westmount is full of happy pets. We thought we'd devote some space to that fact.

If you have a happy pet to tell us about, please call!

Laura & Taz



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Westmount. Near Montrose – Your dream house! Enjoy the light and views from every level of this well maintained 5 bedrooms elegant extra spacious 2 story semi detached. with ground floor den, sunroom, garage and garden. **Asking \$1,300,000**

Virtual tour at www.mcguiganpepin.com/1427564



Westmount. Spacious s/d house in A1 location – the flat- steps from Westmount Park, and every amenity Ten-foot ceilings with ornate moldings, skylight, newer windows, playroom. 4+1 bedrooms, large kitchen with dinette. Parking for 3 cars. Ideal family house. **Asking \$999,000**

Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1410550



Westmount. Minty-built A/C townhouse in 'mint' condition. Not ready for a condo? Here's a perfect downsizer in prime location on the flat. Luxurious and affordable with every comfort and convenience. 3 bdrm, 2 f/p, 2 car integrated garage. **Asking: \$875,000**

Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1432521



Westmount. Beautiful duplex in lower Westmount, steps to Greene Ave. In both units 3 bedrooms, finished basements, independent parking, outdoor area and balconies. Upper unit has been upgraded. Stone walls, wood floor. Occupancy as per leases. **Asking \$679,000**

Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1342727



Westmount. Set in an elegant row of charming Victorian townhouses (1898), steps from Greene. Four bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 powder room, 11-ft ceilings, new oak floors. Fin. basement, prize-winning private fenced garden, pkg. **Asking \$598,000**

Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1399557



Westmount. Bright English style cottage renovated with taste, on quiet cul de sac, 3 bedrooms, MBDR+++ , wood floor, fire place, playroom, bedroom + bathroom in basement. Extended kitchen w/dinette, pkg for one car. **Asking \$575,000**

Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1395608



Le Sud Ouest. Great loft with wall to wall windows with city views. 11-ft ceilings, originals beams, brick wall. Huge windows on this corner unit, over looking the canal, bike path, walk to Old Mtl, downtown. Garage, gym locker. **Asking \$299,000**

Photos: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1407510



Notre Dame de Grâce. Rare find! Architecturally interesting 50's gem! Quality renovated very bright, contemporary 3 bdr + den, deluxe custom kitchen. This unique, efficient home sits on a 5000 sf lot/mature per. gdn, great street, schools, parks and commuter train. **Asking \$442,000**

Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1413003



Notre Dame de Grâce. Clean and bright lower co-op. Two bedrooms, open living room/dining room, eat-in kitchen, finished renovated basement, wood work, gorgeous garden, garage. Close to all services, transportation, and residential neighbourhood. **Asking \$289,000**

Virtual tour: www.mcguiganpepin.com/1421719

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