

— Your Local —

West Island Journal

Île aux Tourtes bridge in the news

Don't forget that clocks "fall"
back this weekend!

Vol. 9 No. 39, November 3, 2011 I paint objects as I think them, not as I see them. Pablo Picasso



Mural, mural on the wall...

Decorative artists celebrate 25 years in show at the Centre Culturel de Pierrefonds

PHOTO BY JAMES ARMSTRONG

For the past 25 years, decorative painters on and off the Island of Montreal have been collaborating to produce an annual sale of their work to the general public that benefits local causes and charities. Part of the proceeds from this year's sale to be held at the Centre Culturel de Pierrefonds will be donated to The Tim Horton Children's Foundation. The sale begins this Friday, November 4 and ends Sunday, November 6 at the Centre Culturel de Pierrefonds, 13850, boul. Gouin, Pierrefonds. Some of the Guild's artists are shown in front of their mural for Kirkland Library. The artists are from left to right: Debbie Goldsmith, Heather McBain, Valerie Cole, Lucte Lupien and Ayn Pidwill. Missing from the photo is Francine Roy. See page 3 for more.

THE PAGE THREE STORY

Montreal Area Decorative Painters Guild celebrates 25 years

Benefactor this year will be The Tim Horton's Children's Foundation

James Armstrong

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In the past, the members of the Guild have supported the Breast Cancer Foundation, West Island Palliative Care, Literacy Unlimited, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the West Island.

The organization has approximately 60 members who meet on a monthly basis September through June to work together on a variety of projects and attend to Guild business.

In recent years, Guild members have volunteered many hours and brush strokes to projects such as the indoor and outdoor murals at Montreal Children's Hospital and the indoor mural in the Kirkland Public Library.

Members produce painted pieces of wood, canvas, glass, leather, fabric, tin and paper with incredible atten-

tion to detail. Local member, Cynthia Fournier knows the intricacies of painting glass.

"Part of the proceeds from this year's sale to be held at the Centre Culturel de Pierrefonds will be donated to The Tim Horton Children's Foundation."

"It requires special paints and brushes," she said, "And 24 hours of drying time between layers of paint. If the most recent layer isn't dry enough before starting the next layer, the paint lifts off the piece." The final firing or baking process in the oven can also prove fatal as pieces have been known to crack or shatter. Fournier also paints on wood and has produced a colourful wall cabinet for this year's sale.

Longtime member and past president of the Guild, Debbie Goldsmith, is currently working on a canvas portraying tulips. In the end, the yellow flowers will become blushing red harbingers of spring. Goldsmith explained



PHOTO BY JAMIS ARMSTRONG

Decorative artist Debbie Goldsmith at work.

that the monthly meetings provide a place to exchange tips on technique and ideas for projects.

"It's about the fun of working and spending time together," she said. "We also sponsor workshops and seminars where new techniques of painting are presented by artists skilled in a particular area."

Decorative painting has its roots in folk art painting of the past including

tole painting, which refers to painting on tin surfaces. Contemporary decorative painting is a teachable art form, according to the Guild's website. If you are interested in joining the Guild, please visit their website www.madp.ca for more information.

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