

Next steps revealed as arena/pool vote continues

Process could move quickly

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council could move as quickly as its meeting May 3 to take the next steps in advancing the proposal to build an underground arena and outdoor pool complex, the *Independent* has learned.

As residents continue to vote and comment on the concept by mail and internet, the city is preparing a resolution to accept the \$20-million infrastructure grant and launch the lengthy loan by-law process.

"If we receive a clear indication – a green light – that citizens generally approve of our proposal, we would hope to proceed with both these items at our meeting May 3," Mayor Peter Trent explained.

While results are being tabulated by the Ipsos Canada polling firm as they are received, he said "I would love to reveal them, but it would not be fair to those who have not yet voted."

The city has not officially accepted the government grant offer received in Sep-

tember. This was delayed to give the new council time to develop a new project proposal it believed would be more generally accepted by taxpayers than the two previous ones.

Since the loan by-law process involves a number of legal steps over several weeks, Trent said it was important to start it as soon as possible. This involves adoption of a draft by-law leading up to the signing of a register and, if needed, a referendum. "We would also like to hold a public consultation meeting to receive more input," Trent said.

The proposal for a \$37-million project was outlined in an information package mailed April 13 to all Hydro Westmount addresses (see also April 13, p. 1). Residents were asked to state whether or not they generally approved of the plan. If so, the city would proceed to accept the grant and develop the plans further.

To explore possible partnership with the project

Selwyn House weighs in on arena/pool plan

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Selwyn House School has thrown its weight behind the city's new arena/pool proposal and is urging its alumni, parents of students and their friends and neighbours to endorse the plan as being a major benefit to the community and the school.

The two new ice surfaces would allow the school to focus much of its hockey time in Westmount rather than bussing its



Kids, and their parents, enjoy pizza at the Westmount Sports and Recreation's semi-annual awards night April 21 for the 2009-2010 sports season, as Councillor Victor Drury does his serving duty. Mayor Peter Trent was also in attendance. See p. 5 and 19 for more coverage.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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teams elsewhere, as stated in an email letter April 21 to some 2,000 parents, graduates and friends of the school from headmaster Hal Hannaford and athletic director Steve Mitchell.

"We will continue to discuss with the city ways to develop our partnership with this project," they write.

While the letter does not mention potential financial support that might be

continued on p. 22

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New building code meeting attracts only one

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Adoption of Westmount's new building code appears to be a *fait accompli* after only one member of the public without a professional reason to do so attended a consultation meeting on the draft law April 21.

The city's new by-law incorporates updated versions of the Quebec Construction Code, Chapter 1 – Building (2008) and the National Building Code of Canada (2005) and their subsequent amendments, explained Urban Planning commissioner Cynthia Lulham.

It also includes some modifications such as the revision of some definitions and changes in cross-referencing within the written presentation.

The by-law also maintains the city's own conditions in some areas, explained Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier. Some of these exceptions from the national and provincial codes are residential sprinkler system requirements, provision for eight-inch masonry construction and allowing for the cantilevering of "oriel" windows.

As lone attendee Gerald Glass of Metcalfe Ave. reiterated during the question period, there were no major changes and only a few minor ones to ease administrative use and help in the regular updating of the two major codes.

The by-law is now expected to be adopted with or without changes by the city council.

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WMA 'generally supports' newest arena proposal

BY ISAAC OLSON

The Westmount Municipal Association's (WMA) board of directors unanimously voted to "generally support" the newest arena/pool proposal while, at the same time, encouraging residents to reply to the city-issued questionnaire.

"I personally believe that the current proposal really addresses most of the issues that were raised in the past," said WMA president Jean-Pierre Picard during the April 19 board meeting.

Picard said the cost to taxpayers will be the same whether or not the project goes through because, after the government grant and the mayor's fundraising, the \$12-million projected expense would otherwise need to be spent on repairing the current infrastructure.

During the meeting, each board member weighed in on the project's newest proposal and, while there was much positive support, there was also some trepidation about a few project details and about the city's decision process.

A few board members expressed con-



Members of WMA board discuss arena proposal, April 19, in the Westmount Public Library.

cerns about endorsing Westmount projects.

"I absolutely do not think the WMA should take a stand on any city project," said board member Marilyn Gillies during a post-meeting interview. "We should be there to keep an eye on the process."

The public statement, which was sent to over 400 email accounts, including WMA members, Mayor Peter Trent and the media, outlines answers to citizen concerns, ranging from limiting encroachment on the park to the lessened visual

impact. It describes the mayor's \$5-million fundraising target as "realistic" and warns that the infrastructure grants will be lost if the project doesn't move forward.

"The decision to go ahead with this project or abandon it along with the \$20-million grant is now in the citizens' hands," it states. "We encourage every household to reply to the questionnaire received in the mail, since a final decision will be based on your feedback to the council."

\$8.3 million in loan by-laws unopposed

Not a soul turned out at city hall April 21 to register opposition to three city loan by-laws totalling \$8.3 million.

At the closing of registration, assistant city clerk Nancy Gagnon formally announced the results, paving the way for the city council's adoption of the by-laws, expected at the May 3 meeting.

These cover \$7.5 million for roadway construction, refurbishing of water mains and rehabilitation of sewers, as well as \$650,000 for upgrading the Hydro Westmount network and \$80,000 for landscaping of parks and green spaces (see story April 13, p. 4).

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Gavin Ross (1934-2010)

A talent for camaraderie and a genius for helping

BY DAVID PRICE

Gavin Ross had at least two successful careers: firstly in insurance and secondly as a development officer for McGill University's Graduates' Society. But some readers of the *Independent* will know him only for an amateur vocation he practised in his last years: Westmount memoirist.

In four articles and one photo Q&A (see box), he recalled his early years in the Westmount of the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s – a world that is both familiar and very foreign to today's residents. There was a Westmount school board then that included well-attended schools called King's and Queen's, and a large vacant lot at Sherbrooke and Mt. Stephen. But many buildings, including Gavin's childhood home on Sherbrooke and his nursery school on Strathcona, were already here.

After growing up in Westmount and attending Roslyn and Westmount High, Gavin moved to downtown Montreal and, in his final years, Knowlton. He died April 17 at the Montreal General Hospital. He

never married and is survived by his brother, Alan, and four nephews.

One aspect of Gavin's personality came through loud and clear in his writing: his affection for friends and family – and his skill at keeping in touch in a sincere and interested way.

As in real life, he was always quick to find a kind word to say. In an article about his fellow Westmount High alumnus, he concluded: "Such is Leonard Cohen – from a different angle. A thoroughly nice guy!"

Gavin was definitely a *bon vivant*, in both the material, eat-drink-be-merry way and as a good friend who worked to help people when he could. In the second sense, he "lived well" by helping others. While executive director of the Graduates' Society, he made it his business to network with both graduates – his main vocation – and current students. On the student front, for instance, he helped people in their late teens and early twenties navigate the minefields of fundraising, including advice and help to jazz musicians, hockey players and debaters.



Gavin Ross

Photo: McGill Athletics

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Gavin had many interests, including the Whiff of Grape speaking club, which he co-founded in 1958, and all things Irish, which he pursued over many trips to Ireland.

He was "Uncle Gavin" to many of his friends' children – and over a dozen of them were his godchildren, evidence that his friends held him in high esteem. His friends even named a tongue-in-cheek award (the Ross Trophy "for being a good guy") after him. Like many things in his life, it was humorous in origin – all the while containing a serious meaning. Wouldn't the world be a better place if we were all good guys like Gavin?

The *Independent* extends condolences to his family.

Gavin Ross remembers

"Roslyn School quiz", May 6, 2008, p. 17
"Classmate sees Leonard Cohen from a different angle", May 26, 2009, p. 20
"School days – Part I: It's elementary", July 14, 2009, p. 20
"Part 2", August 18, 2009, p. 20
"Part 3", September 1, 2009, p. 19

Earth Day breakfast for Healthy City

BY ERIN STROPE

Some 30 people got up early to attend the Earth Day edition of the Healthy City Project's breakfast speaker series April 22. The speaker was McGill geography professor Nigel Roulet, a member of the Global Environment and Climate Change Centre who contributed to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report on the world's climate.

In his introduction, Tom Thompson of the Healthy City Project stated that one of the most confusing aspects of trying to make a difference environmentally is knowing which experts to believe. "There are several different contending realities, and it can be difficult to interpret contentious material. [Roulet] is qualified to give us a stronger perspective."

In fact, Roulet's insider knowledge of the scientific community was a highlight of his lecture. He discussed the criticism of the 2007 IPCC report, explaining the origins of the contentious material, and criticizing the press and the public for paying more attention to these issues than to the bulk of the report, whose integrity he considers uncompromised.

Roulet noted the coincidence of his lecture taking place on Earth Day, but contended that focusing on the environment one day out of the year is not enough. Although he acknowledged the power of a holiday like Earth Day to raise awareness of environmental issues, he expressed concern that "we see ourselves as separate from the planet's systems," leading to uneven environmental activism in the average person.

When he served as director of the McGill School of Environment, Roulet



Nigel Roulet says that community-level environmentalism is the best way to effect global change.

said he hoped that a separate "environment" faculty would quickly become redundant, as all areas of study began to incorporate environmental awareness into their curricula.

Likewise, he expressed the opinion that advocating for environmental awareness on a national and international level has proven ineffective, and that the best way to effect real change was by taking small actions on a local level and letting those actions add up.

The final breakfast speaker lecture will take place in Victoria Hall on Thursday, April 29 at 8:15 am. The subject is "Energy conservation advice for Westmount houses – do's and don'ts." Doors open at 8 am, and coffee and pastries will be served. The meetings are free and open to all.

Hydro-Quebec and Hydro Westmount team up



BY RALPH THOMPSON

Hydro-Quebec teamed up with sister electricity provider Hydro Westmount April 19 at Centre Greene to launch the Westmount Energy Wise Home Diagnostic campaign.

Westmounters will soon receive a questionnaire, by mail, that prompts the collection of information on energy saving measures, energy costs related to heating and appliances and cost-saving strategies.

Hydro's road show came complete with a community relations consultant,

Claude Rocray, Hydro-Quebec head of Community Relations and Special Projects said "to achieve the full potential of energy efficiency, we are counting on the motivation of the public and its elected officials." Mayor Peter Trent sits at the head table with an attentive gallery in foreground.

Hydro's own photographer and a flotilla of media.

City councillors Victor Drury and Theodora Samiotis attended the announcement, along with Mayor Peter Trent, who gave a short speech supporting the initiative.

For every completed questionnaire Hydro-Quebec receives back before October 18, it will donate \$30 (or \$35 if it's completed online) to the city of Westmount. This money will be used to improve access to Centre Greene for people with reduced mobility.

Westmount's goal is to collect \$36,718 from the project. Questions regarding the Energy Wise program can be directed to Hydro Westmount at 514.925.1414.

Eight-year-old Yonje Rhee proudly holds her trophy awarded for being one of the most improved skaters at the spring-time sports banquet at Victoria Hall on April 21. Rhee, her sister and parents moved to Westmount from South Korea in 2007. Her mother, Jayoung Kim, said "this award gave [her] great confidence in skating. She would like to be a figure skater like Vancouver 2010 winter Olympic gold medal winner [Kim Yu-Na]." Kim also congratulated the young athletes and said that "Victoria Hall was full of passion for sports and the wonderful efforts of all the players. Everyone enjoyed the banquet."

See p. 19 for the other sports awards winners.

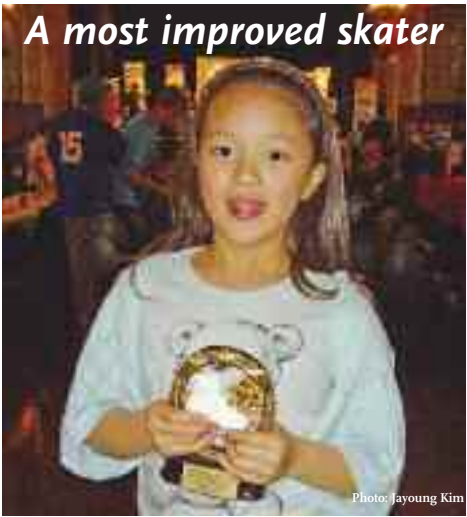


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR – ARENA, ARENA, ARENA!

CON: PROBLEMS COULD SURFACE BY GOING UNDERGROUND

As a parent of a young family that uses the arena and pool year-round, I have long been a supporter of the project to replace Westmount's aging and inadequate arena/pool facility, but I cannot support council's latest proposal to relocate the pool to the south end of the site and move the ice surfaces underground.

The essence of the Westmount pool – its charm, intimacy, serenity and privacy – will be lost forever if we relocate it to the busy, smog-filled, noisy intersection of St. Catherine and Lansdowne under the direct gaze of hundreds of windows from the adjacent condos and apartments.

As far as I can tell, the sole purpose of relocating the pool is to minimize the impact of construction on the hockey season, with no regard for the impact of losing our pool for two years* only to have it then moved to a busy intersection.

Summers in Canada are short – children should be swimming outdoors, not playing hockey indoors (or underground). And though it may seem like a novel solution to move the rinks underground, bury-

ing a difficult issue usually results in bigger problems down the road.

I challenge you to find a single underground structure in Montreal that is not plagued by problems related to moisture, mold, corrosion, ventilation and lighting.

Council members need to represent their constituents by exercising judgment and leadership. They were not elected to find the path of least resistance by governing by plebiscite. Yes, build a new arena and pool facility, but don't sweep the arena problem under the (grass) carpet for future generations to deal with.

FRANK ARLINGTON, ARLINGTON AVE.

** Editor's note: It is our understanding that only one season of pool use will be lost. If construction starts in fall 2010, the pool will be closed for summer 2011, but open by summer 2012.*

PRO: BUT CONSIDER ROOF THAT COULD HEAT AND COOL

Bravo to the mayor and council. Congratulations on the arena concept. I trust you will be equally creative and vigilant in achieving its execution.

I do have a suggestion. Drop the roof line of the pavilion down to the level of the tennis courts. This would open up the uninterrupted view from de Maisonneuve to the Glen tunnel. In conjunction, it would also drop the swimming pool deck elevation by approximately the same amount.

When the citizens could afford it, you could construct a triple glazed movable roof and use the heat transfer energy from rink cooling to heat the pool waters and the surrounding air, thus extending the pool's summer considerably.

ANTHONY MANN, GROSVENOR AVE.

CON: ARE WE ROLLING IN DOUGH THESE DAYS?

A two-rink, green-roofed, underground arena complex. Wow – we really must be



rolling in dough these days. Make no mistake, folks, this project will be a public atrocity!

Peter Trent's "radical new approach" is just the same old accounting trick. Take a \$20-million government infrastructure grant and pretend it doesn't count in the tally. Then take \$5-million token money – if that – from a few private school "investors" and pretend the whole thing will all only end up costing the public \$12 million. Bravo!

Calculating the yearly infrastructure costs of the proposed facility is simple: \$37 million over the next, say, 40 years is about \$1 million/year for infrastructure. And hang on, we haven't added the operating costs yet.

That would surely amount to a lot more than what we're spending now, even with a few coffees being sold at the snack bar.

So I have some questions for Mayor Trent. Are we really fully prepared to charge private institutions the full amount for the use of our deluxe indoor rinks?

And that \$37 million – the true cost of the project – will it be properly tendered, with proper transparency, to the most diligent sub-contractors, or will it be tendered using a series of "submarine" engineering studies, and under a cloak of secrecy?

And I have a question for fellow Westmount constituents, too.

We've had a few months now to ponder

the benefits of another grandiose project: the fenced-in field on the south side of Westmount Park (see photo). It's beautiful and green and completely inaccessible to the public. I walk by it every day and have never touched its pristine turf. The padlocks keeping me out are enormous. On top of that, the field's raised turf regularly floods the adjacent public access areas.

My question is: why are we continuing to vote for such an insult to our community?

ANDY FRACIONI, ST. CATHERINE ST.

Editor's note: I've already been accused last week of hurting the arena project and, with what I am about to write, I will probably – paradoxically – also be accused of being the city's "mouthpiece." Nevertheless, without taking an overall position on the arena/pool proposal, I don't think you are being fair to the city's idea.

Firstly, the \$37-million expenditure will likely have a benefit of longer than 40 years. Even if the building is completely shot by that time (which probably won't happen with proper maintenance), the two-rink hole will still be there in 40 years ready to use (net of building destruction costs and assuming the rinks, or some facilities, stay underground).

Also, I don't think that \$5 million on a \$37-million project (13.5 percent) is "token"! I don't know the exact deal that the schools may make in terms of percentage of hours acquired (and I don't think anyone does), but in principle renting them daytime hours during the week that are unuseable by the city and unsellable to other third parties seems like the basis for a solid win-win situation in that particular regard.

To answer your question regarding the tender process, I spoke to Mayor Peter Trent. He pointed out that there would be many steps before any tender, including signing the federal/provincial grant agreement, passing a loan by-law and detailing the project's specifications. He did say that any eventual process would likely be a normal one (i.e. bidders will quote on a given set of specifications and the lowest bid will be chosen), although Westmount may – subject to Quebec municipal law – have the opportunity to use a new process being worked out by the city of Montreal. The "Montreal" process does not reveal the budget of the project to the bidders and makes use of an independent evaluator to benchmark bids that are received. (Although Westmount's overall budget for the project – \$37 million – is public, the precise budget of the building portion is not.)

The "Montreal" process is not such a leap from existing Westmount practice. Trent explained that Westmount used the services of

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More arena/pool project letters

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continued from p. 6

an independent evaluator for the library renovation some 20 years ago and in fact already has three outside estimates in hand for the arena project.

He concluded by saying, “If there’s a better way, I’m prepared to look at it.”
– DP

PRO: POM RESIDENT ON ARENA: GO FOR IT!

Bravo to the city for coming up with much better plans for pool/rink complex.

As I look over my balcony from the POM building, I am heartened to know that the dog run, with its trees and surrounding park, will be saved from the axe.

The additional park to be added along St. Catherine St. hiding the pool, has won me over for the whole project. My only concern is tall lighting at the pool, which I hope will lowered out of sight from our residence. Hopefully, the noise of happy kids will be muffled by tall hedges planted around the pool area.

Congrats to the new Westmount council for its hard work in trying to save green-space and please the community. Let’s go for it!

RICHARD ROCHESTER, ST. CATHERINE ST.

GRIDLOCK ON LANSDOWNE?

Although the latest proposal for the arena/pool does address some shortcomings of the previous plan, particularly from an aesthetic perspective, it gives rise to new concerns. Most notable is the spectre of traffic congestion and unacceptable levels of noise and exhaust that are sure to result from situating the main “entrance pavilion” as well as the only entry/exit to the underground parking garage on Lansdowne Ave. – halfway up a hill and in the middle of a curve that surely qualify this short block as the worst possible gateway.

Whether intentionally or through oversight, the voluminous proposal distributed last week contains incomplete and misleading information under the heading of “What about traffic? Will there enough parking?” While acknowledging that experts have calculated the project could generate an increase of up to 52 cars an hour during rush hour, the proposal goes on to state that “...in fact, their study concludes that the project ‘will maintain the current traffic conditions in the area’.”

A careful reading of the conclusions of the Technical Traffic Study, available on the city’s website, tells a different story. What it actually states is that the impact “on St. Catherine St. W.” currently in the

order of 1,200 vehicles per hour “would be negligible.” The following paragraph, from which the quote that appears in the proposal was excerpted, states that: “In light of the foregoing, an analysis of future traffic conditions on St. Catherine St. W. between Lansdowne Ave. and Metcalfe Ave. indicates that the traffic resulting from the arena project will allow current traffic conditions to be maintained.” There again, the key words left out of the proposal are “on St. Catherine St.”

The experts project that vehicles arriving and departing the new arena during the afternoon rush hour (4:45 to 5:45 pm), would decrease by 17 compared to current levels, from 101 to 84. However, vehicular traffic accessing the arena via Lansdowne would go from zero to 69 – that’s well over a car every minute. One needn’t be a traffic engineer to see that this is a recipe for gridlock.

Perhaps the plans could be amended to have the garage entrance on de Maisonneuve, which would cause less of a bottleneck. I urge Mayor Peter Trent and his council to take a closer look at a proposal that could result in traffic chaos.

JOYCE FAUGHNAN, LANSDOWNE AVE.

PRO: DON’T BE SWAYED

The arena/pool project, I believe, is of crucial importance, and we should not be adversely swayed by letters to the editor, some of which are negative innuendoes that do not enhance the welfare of Westmount citizens. I refer to two letters which appeared in your newspaper last week.

Patrick Barnard stated that “It is a familiar Quebec story” and we should “increase the baseline of any estimated cost by at least 50 percent to get the real, final amount.” I would remind him that the Westmount library project was completed on schedule and, as promised by the then mayor Peter Trent, within budget.

Larry Klepper stated that “Sadly, the mayor and his ... council couldn’t give up the pork-barrel dollars offered by Quebec.” Firstly, it was not “offered” by Quebec. Rather, it was two years of diligent work by former mayor Karin Marks that “extracted” these funds from Ottawa (Conservatives) and Quebec (Liberals). Secondly, it is high time that Westmount taxpayers received at least some consideration for a century of zillions of tax dollars provided to Ottawa and Quebec.

To obtain a \$37-million ecologically friendly project for the sum of \$12 million provides our present citizens and our future generations with a facility that will improve their health and attract young families to Westmount. As citizens, we

should be thankful for the incredible results obtained by former mayor Marks and for the business acumen and integrity of Mayor Trent to deliver, once again, a project within budget.

It is my hope that citizens of this great city will promptly return their ballots to the pollster, hopefully without delay.

BRAM GORDON, HUDSON AVE.

WEDGE WEIGHS IN

But for my latest illness, I would have contributed at least one column on the arena/pool renewal.

They are most ingenious proposals, solving many problems and even adding green space!

However, they are aimed mainly at the ice demographic. The growing non-skating needs are largely ignored.

This may result in a missed opportunity.

DON WEDGE, GROSVENOR AVE.

PRO: CARPE DIEM

It has been more than 10 years in the making and now Westmount is to decide on a project for a new recreational complex. It is an exceptional, perfect storm combination of efforts and events that has given birth to this project:

Firstly, the \$20-million grant obtained by former mayor Karin Marks, an unprecedented feat that has enabled Westmount to provide this community and its future generations with a state-of-the-art eco-friendly and showcase facility at one third of its price.

Secondly, the design will be a model for future community centres, and after much massaging, more than addresses the concerns relating to parking, green space, traffic etc.

Thirdly, the net operating costs will contribute to reducing the capital costs to what is estimated at \$200 per household per year. This is less than what it would have cost per household to patch up the existing obsolete facilities.

Fourthly, those who are concerned with the overall capital costs should remember that this is an initial envelope, usually on the generous side and likely to be tightened in the bidding process. Having lived through the library renovation and the electrical substation/bowling green projects, I have full confidence in Westmount’s ability to deliver this project on budget, on time and with the highest standards of quality.

I reviewed the proposal, and I am still incredulous to see what we will be getting for our money; it almost feels like getting a first-class round-the-world plane ticket

on air miles!

Above all, for ourselves, our children and grandchildren, I am thankful to mayors Marks and Trent, to former and present council members, to the Recreation department and all the Westmount staff, as well as all those who contributed in any manner, for this exceptional opportunity.

It is time to give them our full support and make Westmount proud.

NICOLAS MATOSSIAN, DE LAVIGNE RD.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT

FUR ADS NEGATE ANIMAL COLUMNS

Rarely have I missed an edition of the *Independent* since I moved to Westmount two years ago. On the whole, I find the weekly publication very informative, interesting, and full of regular columns that are beneficial to the community. This is why I am particularly dismayed at your decision to sell advertising space to the fur industry.

I wonder if it is not lost on other readers how sadly ironic it is when a fur ad appears directly below the weekly Underdog segment contributed by a dog [rescue] organization. This blatant sell-out to the fur industry negates all the good work the *Independent* does for animals. The regular columns Underdog and 9 Lives promote selflessness and caring towards companion animals, which help the *Independent* convey a sense of pride in Westmount and service to the wider community.

Unfortunately, these fur ads undermine the strong standing of your paper by promoting attitudes of ignorance or even indifference to the unimaginable suffering animals endure at the hands of the fur industry in the name of vanity.

GEOFF DONALDSON, METCALFE AVE.




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Lac Manitou
WONDERFUL
WATERFRONT
mls 8336149 | **\$2,450,000**



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**THE SPRING MARKET IS BLOOMING
ARE YOU READY TO LIST?**

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SOLD	361-363 Grosvenor	Asked \$899,000
SOLD	431 Mt.Pleasant	Asked \$959,000
SOLD	461 Mt.Pleasant	Asked \$899,000
SOLD	22 Sherbrooke E.	Asked \$295,000
SOLD	30 Thornhill	Asked \$1,100,000
SOLD	477 Victoria	Asked \$689,000
SOLD	527 Victoria	Asked \$760,000
SOLD	41 Windsor	Asked \$510,000

Please see this issue's PROFUSION REALTY insert for more properties

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www.sPCA.ca

Melon



9 Lives
LYZANNE

I know you would have helped too. Melon was found injured, likely hit by a car, by an animal lover who called Gerdy and asked for help. Of course, this brave fellow was taken immediately to their vet and nursed back to health. Melon now gets around on three legs, as his injured leg could not be saved and was amputated. He was such a brave fellow, and in no time *continued on p. 21*



Melon

Old Montreal

Historic 9-room auberge – \$3,450,000



Over 80% occupancy
owner-occupied 3-floor loft
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Possibility of a second commercial entrance:
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Royal LePage Heritage
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Melanie Dubois
Horizon Montréal Ltd
Chartered Real Estate Broker
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Hoare has bookseller's insight for local authors

By ERIN STROPES

Greene Ave. bookstore owner Nicholas Hoare proved to be a popular draw at the Canadian Authors Association (CAA) meeting April 12, packing the meeting room at the Thomas More Institute on Atwater with more than 25 participants.

"We are in an industry which is in profound trouble," said Hoare early in his talk. This set the tone for a meeting marked by concern among the assembled authors that online megastores and electronic books stand to further diminish the market for Canadiana and works by local authors.

Despite the sombre tone, Hoare expressed optimism about the future of independent bookstores and the local authors they support, saying that quality control and community involvement create an environment that online shopping

can never match. "We sell books not by the ton, but by singles," he said, explaining that this allows his stores to ensure the high quality of every title they keep in stock, whether it be a bestseller or a tiny run of a poetry book.

Hoare also cited events like the March 11 launch of *Soldiers of the Queen: The Canadian Grenadier Guards of Montreal 1859 – 2009*, which drew a crowd of serving soldiers, veterans and other notables, as a reason why local bookstores will always have a place in the community. "People stayed and browsed all evening – you can't do that on Amazon!"

After the event, Ken Kalman, president of the Montreal chapter of the CAA, expressed appreciation for Hoare's participation. "The amount he knows about this industry is just incredible: it's like getting to read one page out of a book filled with experience."



From left: Canadian Authors Association chapter president Ken Kalman talks about the book business with Nicholas Hoare.

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Albert H. Robinson | 8.5 x 10.5"

Go play in Terni memorial tourney



The hard shot clocked by radar during the skills competition.

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Sixty hockey players at the Senior A level from Westmount and elsewhere came together April 8 to 10 to play the game they love in memory of late teammate and friend Mike Terni. It took place at the Westmount arena.

“We made his memory live,” said John Issenman who organized the event with Kippy Wiegand, Rod Lieder and Joshua

Beitel. “It was amazing to see how many people turned out from across town.”

The Terni memorial tournament was held on the approach of the first anniversary of Terni’s death April 26, 2009, in Las Vegas from a hockey game he had been playing during a business trip. He was 40.

Along with round-robin games and a skills competition, it included vignettes and recollections of his life (see story, April 6, p. 3).

One of the skills – hard shot – was made possible when recreation officials obtained a radar gun to measure the shooting. “We all think we’re so amazing,” Issenman said. “Then we’re humbled by the radar gun.”

Among those attending the weekend events were Terni’s parents, his widow and children. An undisclosed amount, described as “substantial,” was also raised for a memorial fund set up for the education of his two young daughters.

Westmount summer sports preview



Off-Sidel
NOAH SIDEL

As always, the city of Westmount will be offering a host of excellent activities to its residents for the spring and summer season.

The following is a look at what’s going on this year:

“Westmount offers various spring and summer programs for children and adults. For children, we offer soccer, baseball, lacrosse, rugby, and tee ball, while for adults we offer soccer and softball,” said Westmount Recreation sports coordinator Andrew Maislin.

“All activities are offered for both males and females. We also offer tennis lessons for adults and children starting in May and running until September. Registration for that will be on April 28 from 6 to 8 pm.

“That covers outdoor activities, but we also have activities that take place at Victoria Hall.”

For info on those activities, please con-

tact the Recreation department at 514.989.5200.

While registration has passed for most of the community sports programs, Maislin said not all is lost for those who are a little behind.

“Registration has already taken place, but if space is available we will take anyone up until the activities begin,” he said.

“The costs vary depending on the activity, and I would refer everyone to our website and recreation book for info on that.”

Soccer

Men’s soccer gets underway on May 4 and runs through till June 17, while the women are divided into two groups. Women aged 17-24 will play on Mondays at 7 pm, starting on May 4 and running through June 14, while women aged 25 plus will have a two-week instructional period starting May 5, with the season running through June 14.

“This is a service offered as a skill-improving activity. We at Westmount Sports and Recreation do not only want women to play sports, but also to teach the sports to those who are interested,” Maislin said. “We do not do this for the men’s league, how-

continued on p. 15



Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount

PROJET ARÉNA-PISCINE | ARENA/POOL PROJECT

Vous avez reçu la proposition pour le projet aréna-piscine ?

Veuillez nous retourner rapidement votre questionnaire dûment rempli par la poste. Vous pouvez également y répondre en cliquant sur **www.westmount.org** et en utilisant le code **NIP** inscrit sur le questionnaire.

Votre opinion est importante pour nous.

Si vous ne l’avez pas reçu, veuillez-nous le laisser savoir s’il-vous-plaît en téléphonant au **514-989-5240**

Have you received the Arena/Pool proposal?

If so, please fill in your questionnaire and mail it back to us promptly. You can also fill it in online at **www.westmount.org**, using the **PIN** number included on the questionnaire

Your opinion is important to us.

If you have not received the information package, please let us know by calling **514-989-5240**



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Westmount

Improve access for people with reduced mobility at the Greene Community Centre.

Install a 12-metre access ramp for wheelchairs and build an accessible restroom facility for people with reduced mobility.

Fill out the attached questionnaire or do it online at **wegowiththeflow.com/35**.



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EDGEHILL | WESTMOUNT **PRICE UPON REQUEST**
First time offered in 37 years! Phenomenal 3-storey home; perched high overlooking the city & resting on 16,376 sq.ft.! A rarity for Westmount, this 5 bdrm architectural masterpiece features all the amenities one could want, incl. fabulous southern views, this elegant home is perfect for the growing family. A visit is a must for even the most discerning buyer.
JILL & JOAN PREVOST **514.591.0804**

INTRODUCING



DOWNTOWN | PANORAMIC VIEWS
Prestigious building | Spacious and sunny corner apartment offering totally unobstructed panoramic views. Exclusive location, North-east corner of the 1200 de Maisonneuve West tower. Completely renovated high-end designs, finishings and materials. Large 3 bedrooms, private terrace, 24/7 security, 2 garages, pool, gym. MLS 8324227
ANNE-MARIE TURCOTTE **514.591.9712**



LE 1200 | DOWNTOWN
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WILLIAM O'BRIEN **514.909.6761**



83 ACRES ESTATE | SAINTE-ADÈLE **\$8,500,000**
This exclusive residence, spacious and luxurious, has been constructed with exceptional quality materials including cut stone, copper and slate. Gourmet kitchen, home automation, radiant flooring, 5 car garage. Also on the property, guest's chalet with a spa and separate garage with a luxury loft. MLS 8247813

MICHEL DAVIDSON **514.239.7399**

INTRODUCING



MAGNIFICENT VILLA | 3781 THE BOULEVARD **\$3,900,000**
Luxurious Mediterranean-inspired villa perched high atop the Boulevard in Westmount. This most gracious residence sets itself apart by its architecture and by its refined interiors that have been immaculately preserved and enhanced by modern conveniences. An elegant, spacious and truly distinctive home for those seeking the very best.
JOSEPH MONTANARO **514.660.3050**



DOWNTOWN LUXURY CONDO **\$995,000**
Stunning most-coveted corner (South/East) with spectacular sunrises & unobstructed views. Steps to upscale shopping, restaurants, museums & universities. Spacious, sunny & upgraded condo with a large balcony is sure to please the most discriminating buyers.
SACHA BROSEAU **514.924.6229**
MAUREEN BROSEAU **514.935.4597**

INTRODUCING



HUDSON VALLEYS **\$2,450,000**
Stately residence located on the exclusive Oxford Crescent. The grounds to the rear back onto Golf Land, that overlooks the Falcon Golf Course below. Provides grandly proportioned and extensive family accommodation throughout its approximately 6,700 sq. ft. of living space. Has recently undergone extensive renovations & landscaping. MLS 8334391
CYRILLE GIRARD **514.582.2810**

INTRODUCING



ESTATE LAC MANITOU | IVRY SUR LE LAC **\$4,300,000**
Remarkable waterfront estate of 7,000 sq. ft. on 18 acres. Featuring panoramic views, impeccable landscaping, boathouse, pool & spa and a truly magical ride-on railroad track which tours around the property. MLS 8321386

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INTRODUCING



SPECTACULAR GARDEN | WESTMOUNT **\$2,495,000**
Superior custom built bungalow, set well back from the street. The Sunny open floor plan leads to the exceptional landscaped lot of over 12, 800 sq. ft. & offers a 2 tiered terraced private garden & a secluded patio of generous proportions. Many features, including quality built-ins & a unique fireplace, have stood the test of time.
LIZA KAUFMAN **514.232.5932**



2068 VENDOME | WESTMOUNT ADJ **\$839,000**
This semi-detached family home with 4+1 bedrooms and finished basement is located on a very desirable area steps from Westmount shopping in Victoria village, upcoming MUHC health complex. Additional features are the large windows beautiful hardwood floors, large exterior balcony, preserved original details and exterior tandem parking for 3 cars.
ANNE BEN-AMI **514.726.3037**



308 PINETREE CRES | BEAconsfield **\$2,400,000**
Spacious classic executive 4 bdrm waterfront residence on quiet crescent in much desired area of Beaconsfield. Impeccably decorated and perfectly maintained home. Very large landscaped lot. Panoramic views of Lake St. Louis. Privacy is assured. MLS 8336989

PETER ALOVISI **514.915.0876**



ESTEREL | LAC MASSON **\$1,975,000**
Stunning lakefront property featuring over 80,000 sq. ft. of land on which lies a private tennis court overlooking sought after Lac Masson. Beautiful open concept allows for great entertaining. Take a dip in the pool or a stroll through the lush garden along an elevated wooden path. MLS 8185746

JILL SHPRITSER **514.691.0800**



WESTMOUNT **\$1,995,000**
Executive stone cottage with great curb appeal. Ideal for family living & entertaining. Located steps from schools, parks & walking distance to Victoria Village shopping area. Classic charm, leaded windows, open concept kitchen/ family room, terrace, landscaped garden, wood floors, & more! MLS 8308028
SACHA BROSEAU **514.924.6229**
MAUREEN BROSEAU **514.935.4597**

INTRODUCING



LE CRYSTAL | DOWNTOWN **\$799,000**
Lovely unit in the prestigious Crystal de la Montagne, all you need for a nice pied-à-terre in the city; 1071 sq. ft, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and living room offering an exceptionnal view of the city. MLS 8341032

LOUISE LATREILLE **514.577.2009**



BAIE D'URFÉ | WATERFRONT **\$2,750,000**
Magnificent waterfront property with over 60,000 sq.ft. on very desirable street called Gay Cedars in Baie d'Urfé. Gracious home with 6 bedrooms and five bathrooms. Panoramic water views. MLS 8213124

ANNIE LACHANCE **514.349.3907**

INTRODUCING



MODERN COUNTRY IN OKA **\$959,000**
Stunning & truly unique home on 2.4 acres of land with views of Lake of Two Mountains and nature at your doorstep; access to Montreal is easy. This gem was custom built with the finest of materials. Designer kitchen featured in magazine, 2-sided stone fireplace, in wall sound system, 4 bdms, 3+1 baths, wine cellar, 600 sq ft workshop or office with sep. entrance & much more!
BRIAN MITCHELL **514.869.6251**



No. 1 WOOD
A wonderful opportunity. Superb layout, 2, 550 baths, 2 balconies, g

DIANE OLIVE



OLD MONTREAL
Luxurious 1500+ sq ft, 10" ceilings, walnut floors, microwave, washer/dryer, Dame Cathedral. MLS 8301032
COLIN WORMAN
CHARMAINE V



SPECTACULAR WATERFRONT
Magnificent waterfront property built from A-Z and designed to features huge entertaining area with exit to terrace to show. MLS 833087
DINO CAFAR



LAKE SACACOMIE
Magnificent and unique property on 15 acres of land. modate up to 15 people. Known Sacacomie location.
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3 RUE WESTMOUNT SQUARE # 613 \$799,000
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Bright and sunny, underground access to metro, medical clinic and Greene av.
facilities include; swimming pool, sauna, gym, Rooftop terrace!



WICKSTEED | TOWN OF MONT-ROYAL \$979,000
Charming 4+1 bedroom, woodwork and many updates. Centrally located near
schools and town center. Pool size lot, spacious rooms and finished basement.
Must see! MLS 8319602



EXQUISITE BROWNSTONE | OLD MONTREAL \$3,850,000
Rare and unique brownstone home in the heart of Old Montreal. This historical
home features 12,812 sq. ft. of living space and a commercial space of 2,300
sq. ft. on street level. Recently renovated with a European flair, rooftop terrace
with exceptional panoramic views. Very bright, spacious charming, and luxurious.
Perfect for intergenerational. MLS 8324229



WESTMOUNT ADJ. | CIRCLE ROAD \$1,389,000
Renovated detached cottage ideally located within walking distance of
Westmount, Snowdon and Hampstead. Perfect for couple or small family.

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FADIA RASSI

514.923.9280

KAREN ROSSY

514.963.6311



\$795,000
te of the art kitchen,
; cooktop, dishwasher,
etc. Steps from Notre



REDPATH LOFTS | LACHINE CANAL \$789,000
The most spectacular views of the city and Mont-Royal 13 foot ceilings
1,512 sq. ft. of exotic African hardwood flooring, Private elevator. Designer
kitchen, Fireplace, Complete gym, Heated salt water pool, 2 indoor parking
spaces, 24 hour security, MLS 8311012



NUN'S ISLAND \$745,000
Club-Marin III. Enjoy spectacular views from this 3 bedroom condo. Among the
extras: 2 garages, indoor & outdoor pools, wine cellar, gym, tennis, squash,
doorman. MLS 8261056



DOWNTOWN ADJ. | TROPIQUES NORD \$699,000
Estate sale, 2+1 bedrooms, 2,440 sq. ft. corner condo with southwest exposure.
Huge entertainment area Including a 15' x 31' terrasse overlooking a lush
Tropical garden with lagoon shaped pool and waterfall. Oak floors, fireplace,
2 car indoor parking, 24 hr doorman. MLS 8268065



PLATEAU MONT-ROYAL \$565,000
Stunning 1,430 sq. ft. unit on the third and top floor with 2 balconies and
a large terrace in the back. Exclusive use of the roof for an optional rooftop
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gance. This residence
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ENCHANTING PARK-LIKE SETTING \$3,875,000
Majestic custom-built bi-generation stone residence nestled into a prime
wooded area adjacent to Mont-St-Bruno national park. The English Manor
style, offering 8,595 sq. ft. of exquisite living space, is sited on a 60,000+
sq. ft. lot providing complete privacy. MLS 8160581



WATERFRONT PROPERTY | VILLE DE LÉRY \$1,195,000
Charming residence on Lac St-Louis located only 28 km from Montreal. Offers
fully landscaped grounds, bright panoramic view of the lake, open living room,
cathedral ceiling, dining room with gas fireplace. Two car garage with large
workshop. 9 car parking. Ideal setting for entertaining with family and friends.
MLS 8292593



DOMAINES DE LA RIVE-SUD | BROSSARD \$529,000
Beautiful land in the prestigious Domaines de la Rive Sud project. One of the
last lands available in front of the lake. Close to the DIX-30 shopping area.
MLS 8266537



RUE DU PHARE | FABREVILLE (LAVAL) \$475,000
This sumptuous 'one of a kind' condo has been built with the finest materials
& offers unparalleled luxury & quality of life; gourmet kitchen with light
wood cabinetry & granite counters, 3 way fireplace in a spacious solarium,
mezzanine, balcony, rooftop terrace, indoor & outdoor parking & elevator
service. MLS 8231092

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g cabin can accom-
modate internationally



BARKMERE \$795,000
Best spot on Barklake with easy road access! 4.4 acres and 300 feet of
pristine shoreline. Spa on wrap around deck, 5 bedroom house with panoramic
views. Double garage. Great for all outdoor activities, possibility for motor boats
and waterskiing. Priced to sell.



LAKEFRONT, LAC MERCIER | MT-TREMBLANT \$675,000+TAXS
Large 3 acre lot located directly on the shores of Lac Mercier one of the
rare navigable lakes in Mont-tremblant. The land is flat for easy access &
building. Only a 15 min walk on "P'tit train du Nord" bike path to reach
Tremblant Village. New lot, rare opportunity.



ST-ANTOINE-DE-TILLY \$905,000
Nestled on a cliff, this prestigious estate offers spectacular views on the St.
Lawrence River and the opposite shore. This recent four bedroom property
sits on a large landscaped ground of 174,000 sf with professional grade
tennis court and summer pavilion. Only 20 minutes from Quebec City. MLS
8261683



WESTMOUNT EXCLUSIVE \$3,295,000
Exquisite stone residence beautifully renovated offering large open spaces
bode well for entertaining. The backyard will take your breath away with its
landscaped pool. A true oasis!

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Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Early this March, Youth Employment Services (YES) held its first ART EXPO, "Art to Go. To See. To Buy," an event showcasing 45 visual and performance artists whose work was chosen by a jury. Youth

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Dr. Manish Khanna, Medical Director

Employment Services (YES) offers entrepreneurship assistance in English for people of all ages. Westmounters on the organization's advisory council are **Herschel Segal, Guy Laframboise, Peter Johnson, Hilary Radley, Bob Walsh, Andy**

Nulman and Peter McAuslan, along with **Lionel Blanshay, Rob Braide, Charles Crawford, John Dobson, Scott Conrod, Philip O'Brien and Timothy Leyne**.

The featured pieces included paintings, sculpture, photography and crafts. Attendees were able to view and purchase the art, as well as take in five musical and theatrical performances. Held at the Musée Juste pour rire, the artistic occasion was open to the public and free. Posters all over town attracted a jammed-packed audience of over 1,000 people.

The VIP cocktail, catered by St. Lawrence Blvd.'s hot Bijou Resto-Lounge, was hosted by **Ann Lang** from CBC



Westmounter Peter McAuslan, Iris Unger and YES president John Aylen.

Radio One and was sponsored by Canadian Heritage. Iris Unger, YES executive director, greeted guests with YES president John Aylen.

Westmounters **Andy Nulman and Peter McAuslan** presented astute and amusing anecdotes about their entrepreneurial moments. The two "success stories" also commented on why they support the arts and the importance of art to any community.



Ann Lang

Photo: Howard Kay



Bijou's Garo T and Elena Kirina on either side of Westmount lawyer Nancy Cleman.



Westmounters Andy and Lynn Nulman, and Harvey Cohen.

Photo: Howard Kay

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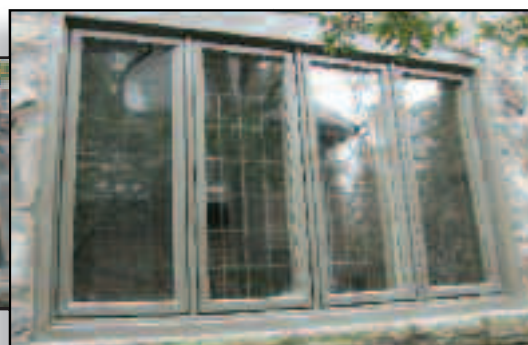
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Summer sports in Westmount

.....
continued from p. 10

ever, as they prefer playing games rather than learn.”

Kids' sports

Children's baseball runs from early May through mid-June, with both house and inter-city divisions. While the house division plays only at the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) behind Westmount High School, the travelling teams take on opponents both at home and in Dollard, Hampstead, TMR and Montreal West. The older competitive kids play their home games at Côte St. Luc's Pierre Elliot Trudeau Park.

The boys' and girls' soccer programs both start on May 3 and run through June 19. Kids born from 1994 all the way through to 2005 are eligible.

Short season

The short season in both activities is to allow for kids from the area to play sports, but also experience other things over the summer.

“The majority of the population of Westmount goes away for the summer; a large group go to [day] camp in town and

others go away to sleep-away camps. The rest of the population takes this opportunity to go on vacation. As a result we are unable to maintain the team sport activities at the level of participation that would be necessary,” Maislin said. “It's always nice to find a balance between activities as well. By pausing some activities, it allows individuals to explore other activities.”

For more info, please call 514.989.5200 or visit www.westmount.org.

*You can always reach me at
noahsidel@gmail.com.*

Tipline

Rewards of \$250 will be awarded for tips regarding crime, mischief or intended crimes in Westmount that lead to arrests, until the fund is exhausted.

Please contact the *Independent* with your information.

See story “\$1,000 donated for crime-fighting fund,” March 30, p. 6, for details.

Tipline will run any reward-for-information notices being offered by residents, whether as part of the fund mentioned above or directly.

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Temple celebrates milestone

By VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmount has a historic moment in its midst. The Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom is celebrating its centennial as the first synagogue in Westmount.

The current space was occupied in 1910, although in the 1950s part of the property was rebuilt due to a fire.

Board member Jewel Lowenstein is lending her organizational skills to this prestigious gala. The Lowenstein family has been members of the Temple for over 50 years. Her husband Paul's father joined after serving with the Canadian Armed Forces.

Lowenstein is chairing the fundraising gala to be held on Thursday, May 6 at the temple. The event will be "elegant and fun! Black tie is optional," she explained. The gala committee has planned a full

evening honouring all past presidents as well as the current one, Brian Grant. Cocktails start at 6 pm with a silent fine wine and art auction, followed by a tribute ceremony with Rabbi Leigh Lerner.


Canadian operatic tenor Joseph Kaiser will be performing during the evening. Kaiser has been the cantorial soloist at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom several times in between his work at Chicago Lyric Opera, Salzburg Festival and other international venues.

Former Westmount mayors May Cutler and Karin Marks, as well as current Mayor Peter Trent, will attend.

During the tribute, a video will profile the chronology and history of the temple, which was initially established in 1882 in downtown Montreal before moving into Westmount.

During the sit-down dinner, renowned oenophile Nick Hamilton will comment on the wine pairings. A dance exhibition will showcase vignettes of dancing through the ages, from tango to waltz, and salsa to swing – demonstrated by Westmount Studios. The evening is themed on architecture. Tickets are \$225, and \$360 for patrons. For information, call 514.937.3575.

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Senior's luncheon at Centre Greene, 12:15 pm, 1090 Greene Ave. Cost: \$5. Register: 514.931.6202.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

- **Wagner and Friends'** vernissage, 434 Claremont Ave., 6 to 9 pm; Friday, April 30, 4 to 9 pm; Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2, 1 to 6 pm; Monday, May 3 (by appointment only), 4 to 9 pm. Info: 514.484.1974.
- Exhibition of **Pamela Stewart's** paintings and figurines "Faces and Forms" at the Gallery at Victoria Hall, from April 29 to May 21.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

- St Henri **Rug Hookers'** rug show, 4 pm to 9 pm, at the St. Zotique Community Centre, 75 Georges Étienne Cartier until May 8. For future visiting hours or to arrange for group or individual visits: tapishooke@gmail.com.
- **TGIF** at Centre Greene: dinner and games for **ages 5 to 12 years**, from 6 to 8:30 pm. Cost: \$12 per child or \$90 for the season. Info: www.centregreene.org or 514.931.6202.

SATURDAY, MAY 1

- **Mozart Requiem** presented by The Stewart Hall Singers under director Paul Jabara at Mountainside United Church, 4000 The Boulevard, 7:30 pm. Tickets at door: \$20 adults, \$15 students and seniors. Info: 514.697.8884.
- **Orpheus Singers** in a concert of music about events in Italian history and culture, from early 15th to mid 19th century, 8 pm, St. Matthias Church. Cost: Adults \$18; seniors and students: \$10 (\$2 more, each

at the door.) Info: 514.846.8464.

SUNDAY, MAY 2

- Tribute concert to tenor **Richard Tucker**, at the Shaar Hashomayim with Cantor Gideon Zelermyer and tenor Joseph Kaisler. Patrons' reserved Seats: \$72; general admission \$36. Info: 514.937.9471.
- **Jane's Walk** in Westmount, organized by the Westmount Historical Association, goes from Victoria Hall to city hall along Sherbrooke St. and returns along Côte St. Antoine. Reserve: doreenlindsay@videotron.ca.

MONDAY, MAY 3

- **Council meeting** at city hall, 8 pm.
- The Women's Canadian Club of Montreal presents speaker **Judith Woodsworth**, 12:30 pm at The Unitarian Church, 5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd. Free for members; \$10 for visitors. Info: 514.932.4005.

TUESDAY MAY 4

ArtNow speakers: photographer Jackie Cytrynbaum, artist Sharon Sutherland and printmaker Ann McCall. Westmount Public Library, 7pm. Free.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

Métis sound artist **Môe Clark** performs her work and discusses her career at the Atwater Library, 12:30 pm. Free, donations invited. Info: tmayhew@atwaterlibrary.ca or 514.935.7344.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

The Thomas More Institute presents an interview with **Laura Tusa Ilea** on Hannah Arendt, 7 to 9 pm. First of a four-part series on "Beginnings – the power and the promise." 3405 Atwater. Cost \$10. Reserve, call 514.935.9585.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Warren Allmand speaks at Marianopolis, 4 to 5:30 pm, in the auditorium, 4873 Westmount Ave. on "Democracy, Human Rights and Terrorism." All welcome. RSVP: 514.931.8792 ext. 258.

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EMSB salutes parent volunteers

Themed "It's Your Day," the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Evening on April 21. This year's Volunteers of Distinction are Scott and Cindy Day. Though the family doesn't live in Westmount, the couple is active in their children's Westmount schools. Scott currently serves as chairman for the Central Parents' Committee (CPC) and Region 3's Parents' Committee. Cindy is the chair of the Westmount High School Governing Board.

From left: Westmount High's vice principals Joanna Genovezos and Steven Erdelyi, Westmount Park's principal Christina Delaney, Scott Day, Cindy Day, EMSB Parent Commissioner Angie Bertone, EMSB Chairman Angela Mancini and EMSB commissioner Ginette Sauvé-Frankel.

Photo: Pierre Bourgault.



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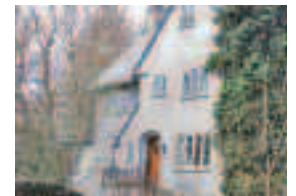
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St. George's gets busy packaging and baking for the underdogs



Members of the Underdog Club from St. George's School gathered together on April 15 to assemble donated dog supplies – that they collected individually from well-wishers as well as picking up goods dropped off at Bark & Fitz – into attractive baskets to be given to the Westmount-based Underdog Club. The club will distribute the packages to the rescues it supports, including Gerdy's Rescue and Adoptions and Sophie's Dog Adoption. Also included in the baskets were homemade dog biscuits that the students baked themselves, using a recipe from Nine Lives' columnist Lyzanne (find the recipe in the February 9 issue, p. 16.)

Photo: Sherri Bloom

Guessing games for a good cause



A Selwyn House School grade seven student, Yanni Metrakos, left, poses with classmates, from left, Thomas Woodfine-MacPherson, Adam Borshan, Ricky Lopez and Brendon Ribeiro-Dorrington. Led by Metrakos, the students hosted a raffle for an Easter gift basket and guess-the-number-of-eggs-in-the-jar contest to generate \$646 for Celebration of Life, an organization that raises funds to purchase patient-care equipment for the Royal Victoria Hospital transplant wards. The money was presented to the organization's founder during its annual dinner and dance on April 10. Metrakos, the son of McGill University Health Centre's division chief of the multi-organ transplant team, already raised \$1,050 for the cause when he asked friends and family to make donations in lieu of birthday gifts.

Photo: Selwyn House School

From Fräuleins to felines



Photo: Trafalgar School

Above: Several Trafalgar students living in Westmount will be appearing in the upcoming senior play, "The Visit," scheduled to be performed at the school on April 29 and 30 at 7 pm. The play is a "tragi-comedy" by Swiss playwright Friedrich Dürrenmatt. Tickets, selling for \$10 for adults and \$5 for students 12 and under, will be available at the door. From left: Claire Kelly, Tai Mackenzie, Olivia Guthertz, David Pelletier (director), Zoe Freedman and Beatrice Scharf-Pierzchala.

Left: Thirty high school students from The Study performed "Cats" before a sold-out audience on April 22, drawing standing ovations from the estimated 200 audience members packed into the school's theatre. The award-winning musical was performed as this year's senior school drama production, and it proved to be just as big of a hit in Westmount as it was on Broadway. From left: Taylor Nayman, Christelle Beauboeuf, Asli Buyukkurt and Elizabeth Ohrlein.



Photo: The Study

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Winners of spring sports awards banquet

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Junior: Yila Ma, Miriam Paterson, Yonje Rhee, Shogo Sakai.

Senior Skating: Aurelia Mir-Orefice, Laetitia Mir-Orefice, Helen Bitz and Ophelie Salice.

Powerskating: Adam Wolfe, Jamie Dannenbaum.

Indoor soccer

Girl's indoor soccer Sportsmanship Award:

Michelle Dorey – Orange Team; Eva Phaneuf – Yellow Team; Amelia O'Connor – Blue Team, Cecilia Mueller-Judson – Green Team

Boy's indoor soccer Sportsmanship Award: Jeremy Szpiro.

Hockey

Midget inter-city sportsmanship awards: Reilly O'Connor, Michael Abramson.

Midget inter-city Most Improved Player

Awards: Aidan Meltzer, Mark Corriveau.

Peewee "A" inter-city Predators: EHL season winners, EHL playoff winners, Île Bizard tournament champions.

Peewee inter-city Sportsmanship Awards: Scott Dennis, Emmanuel Elie.

Peewee inter-city Most Improved Player Awards: Aidan Walter, Scott Zidle.

Bantam house league champions:

Leafs coaches: Ed Imbeault, Jeff Nador.

Leafs players: Baniel Benaroch, Alex Carmel, Pierre-Marc Charpentier, Daniel Epstein, Olivier Jean-Levesque, Adam Karpman, Sam Keleny, Noah Korne, Charles Laframboise, Nicholas Laframboise, Yahya Mahrach, Charles Marcil, Olivier Mofford, Jeffrey Morris, Daniel Rachmatov, Marcelo Valenca.

Bantam house league Sportsmanship

Awards: Maksim Johnston, David Green, Noah Korne.

Bantam house league Most Improved Player Award: Adam Black.

Bantam inter-city Sportsmanship Award: Nicholas Jonas.

Bantam inter-city Most Improved Player Award: Jesse Gordon.

Peewee house league champions:

Scouts coaches: Eric Leblanc, Chi Hang, Alex Danko.

Scouts players: Edouard Colas, Ethan Hang, Christopher Jones, Henry Jones, James Kastner, Jacob Krane-Paul, Benjamin Lazare, Alexis Leblanc, Jacob Lee-Howes, Dani Maaz, Patrick Mierins-Bourque, Julien Mofford, Cedrik Moore, Sebastien Quinn, Christopher Taylor.

Peewee house league Sportsmanship Awards: Sebastien Quinn, Alexandre Jamin, Joshua Kreisman, Vincent Guan.

Peewee house league Most Improved Player Award: Jeremy Roy.

Atom house league champion:

Stars coaches: Jean-Yves Nantel, Laurent Dion.

Stars players: Louis Begin, Hugh Durnford-Dionne, Keon Eskandari-Azin, Ryan Garber, Tomas Kaufman, Max Mashaal, Philippe Miller, Nicolas Nantel, Ariel Rosen, Jake Star, Jemas Sugden, Alexander Zagalski.

Atom house league Sportsmanship Awards: Felix Simard, Jordan Sager, Nicolas Nantel, Paul Commier.

Atom house league Most Improved Player Award: Patrick Koper.

Atom "A" inter-city Wings: EHL Season Champions, EHL Playoff Champions

Atom "B" inter-city Predators: EHL Season Champions, EHL Playoff Champions, Lac St. Louis Regionals.

Atom inter-city Sportsmanship Awards: Shayne Tessler, Lucas Clarke.

Atom inter-city Most Improved Player Awards: Evan Yatrou, Maxim Bunimovich.

Novice house league champions:

Guards coaches: Paolo Santini, Phil Lalonde, Aaron Fraser.

Guards players: Spencer Beloff, Diego Castillo, Joseph Chalhoub, Nicholas Christoffersen, Carl Dedeyan, Maximillian Fong, Veronica Fong, Vincent Fournier, Gabriel Fraser, William Hamilton, Markus Kivisikk, Sebastien Lalonde, Kieran Markland, Ryan Santini, Emma Westenberg.

Novice house league Sportsmanship

Awards: William Hamilton, Luca Goldig, Carl Heidemann, Eric Chamandy.

Novice house league Most Improved Player Award: Aidan Price-Gallagher.

Novice inter-city Sportsmanship Award: Justin Goodman.

Novice inter-city Most Improved Player Award: Kieran Hamilton.

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Sancton and Wedge: community service

continued from p. 2

John W. Sancton – Founder of Manoir Westmount and a president of the Rotary Club of Westmount, journalist and **Westmount Examiner** publisher John W. Sancton pursued community service until his death in 2004.

A licenced lay reader for the Anglican Church, he continued on many Rotary committees and served on the board of the Westmount Municipal Association. He also was a member of a police community consultation group called Partners Advisory Committee, of the Westmount Historical Association, the city's anti- merger movement and the Canadian Community Newspapers Association.

Don Wedge – Don Wedge worked in a number of fields before retiring in his sixties from business life. Since then he has been active in opposing incinerator plans and forced municipal mergers as well as participating on environmental task forces and in public municipal and regional bodies. He served on the board of the Seniors of Westmount Action Group, 2000 Transport Quebec and STOP and continues with the Westmount Municipal Association and the Healthy City Project. He also writes his Civic Alert column for the *Westmount Independent*.

RBC doles out free advice and optimism

Westmount resident Marta Bunge gets investment advice and a couple of cookies from John Archer, investment advisor for RBC Dominion Securities Inc. Robert Spicer, financial planner and mutual fund representative for RBC was also available to assist visitors. RBC offered free financial planning and investment advice, April 22, at its Westmount Square branch. "The public are understandably cautious," said Archer "but we are in an enviable position in Canada. Our banks are better regulated than the USA and other countries. We have oil and other valuable resources in high demand by countries like India and China, we have a stable banking system and a stable government. These are all positives for investors."



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Children's Library brings story time to Oral School for the Deaf



Children's librarian Elizabeth Macdonnell says goodbye to the nursery students at the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf after storytime on April 15.

BY ERIN STROPES

When the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf (MOSD) was located in NDG 15 years ago, the teachers would walk to the Montreal Children's Library (then located nearby on St. Jacques) with their students each week to have story time with the children's librarian.

The three and four-year-old nursery students with hearing impairments all have cochlear implants, which enhance their ability to hear.

After about five years, though, according to nursery program coordinator Lee Heffernan, "Molly [Walsh, former head librarian of the Montreal Children's Library] realized that our kids absolutely loved being read to, but that it was difficult for them to concentrate with all the other noise and kids running around. So she offered to bring story time to us."

Ten years later, Montreal children's librarian for the Atwater branch, Elizabeth Macdonnell, continues the tradition. Since shortly after the MOSD nursery moved to Westmount in 2005, Macdonnell has been making weekly visits to entertain the school's youngest students with songs, puppets and stories. She is the third children's librarian to make these visits, taking over from former head librarian Robin Sales.

Macdonnell wears a microphone to amplify her voice, and tries to use lots of gestures and facial expressions to clearly convey the tone of the story. Otherwise, she says, it's just like reading to any other group of children.

"[The Oral School students] are honestly one of my most enthusiastic audi-

ences," said Macdonnell, who is also a member of the Montreal Storytellers Guild. "I find myself becoming louder and more animated just in response to their excitement."

About a dozen students were gathered for story time April 15, including both students with hearing impairments and "reverse integration" students with normal hearing. They listened attentively to several stories, sang and danced along with activities and frequently proclaimed that each new story was their "favourite."

"For some of these kids, this is their first exposure to the world of books," said Heffernan, "and we're so grateful for the kindness of Elizabeth and the Children's Library. Being read to is a treasure."

The MOSD also maintains integration classes for kindergarten and elementary school students at Westmount Park School.

More on Melon

continued from p. 8

he was moving around just fine on his three legs. In fact he can run quite a streak now!

He is a very healthy indoor cat, is neutered and had all his vaccines renewed as well. Melon is a young Morris-type cat, a sweet and charming orange-striped marmalade kittie! He has gone through a lot in his short life, and we look forward to a very affectionate new family for him.

For more information on Melon, please call Gerdy on her pager at 514.203.9180 or email her at info@gerdysrescue.

Your neighbour, Lyzanne

Selwyn: arena’s ‘best tenant’

continued from p.1

forthcoming from the school in this partnership, Hannaford told the *Independent* that “if anyone was to make a substantial contribution there has to be a give-back,” such as a long-term commitment.

No negotiations are underway in this respect, he said.

The school has “a really good relationship with the city,” and Hannaford said he told director general Duncan Campbell (a Selwyn House “Old Boy”), the school wanted to do something to support the project as being good for the community.

While many people may never use arenas, he pointed out, “they’re good for Canadian communities.”

The school of 550 students is currently the arena’s best tenant, he said, and pays rent for its use of it. “We’re not in the business of donating money,” he said, and had

not been officially asked.

In a recent city mailing to all residents, Mayor Peter Trent explained the city hopes to raise \$5 million of the \$37-million facility from foundations, schools and individuals.

“We are also quite confident to get funding from the schools that use the arena,” he explained. “It’s only fair they chip in.”

The Selwyn letter asks recipients to “actively suggest” to others that support of the project is important. It also underlines the need to return the questionnaire.




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Photo: Contactivity.

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