

‘Last hurdle’: No referendum for arena loan by-law

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Close to half the 114 residents who signed the city hall register August 17 on the arena/pool project either live close by, are critics of the project or are known to have been involved in other city issues.

But the number fell far short of the 500 required to force a referendum on the \$37-million loan by-law which is now deemed to be approved. It was the project’s “last hurdle,” Mayor Peter Trent said.

The numbers were even four fewer than those signing the register in 1993 on a \$7.5-million loan by-law to refurbish the Westmount Public Library.

Among the arena/pool signatories who have spoken out publicly over the years against the project’s size, cost or impact were Patrick Barnard, Marilyn Gillies, Peter Weldon, David Parsons, Jeffrey Freedman, Trudy Asch, Willem Westenberg and Paul Marriott.

Others included one-time mayoral candidate Allen Nutik and Anne Monty, who recently campaigned for more family swim time at the existing pool.

The loan by-law, adopted August 2, is now being sent to the Quebec Municipal Affairs ministry for its expected consent, according to city clerk Mario Gerbeau.

While this is somewhat procedural – especially when the government grant has already been approved – it is nevertheless required be- continued on p. 12

Westmount Park School vs. Wyatt Earp



Westmount Park’s two-week Bouncing Boys Back to Books pre-semester camp was in full swing on August 19. In a reading from *The Gunfighters*, 22 elementary school boys heard about Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday’s famous 1881 gunfight at the OK Corral. One boy was heard to exclaim afterwards, “I hate guns!” Recent readers include police constables Laperrière and Dandenault, and CFL player Brandon Caesar. Counsellors only, from left, back row: Jamal Spence, Lloyd Temple and Abakasanga Etang. Extreme right: Rachelle Weisman. Front row: Miss Drouin, Pamela Price and Dwayne Harris.

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Hot market, aging buildings raise permits to new level

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A hot real estate market and aging buildings are reported to have fuelled a rise in construction and renovation activity in Westmount last year as the city issued a record number of permits.

Breaking 1,000 for the first time ever, the year’s 1,033 building and plumbing permits increased 6 percent over the year before.

While the permits represented work estimated at \$48 million – seven percent lower than the \$51 million the previous year – it was still higher than any other year, according to figures released last

week by Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier.

One or two large projects can make a big difference in permit values, she said, while the growing number of permits continues an upward trend in repairs, upgrades and additions.

“If you consider that on average, buildings in Westmount were built in the 1920s, it’s almost normal to expect them to encounter foundation, drainage and masonry problems related to life expectancy,” she explained.

This was reflected in a number of permits, including \$2 million for masonry repair at continued on p. 6

Don’t Miss It

Westmount Scouting family campout in Westmount Park, Friday, August 27.

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Sustainability highlighted for Communities in Bloom Westmount showcased

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's work on sustainability, its master plan on parks and even the new arena/pool project were among the many items the city highlighted to Communities in Bloom judges visiting Westmount on August 16.

"They were quite impressed with the overall look of the city and the way people had fixed up their properties," said city horticulturist Claudette Savaria.

"They also commented on the effort the city had put into landscaping and the proactive approach we've taken in sustainable development with the 10 action items for this year," she added.

On a tour of the city, the judges were shown a number of projects including the experimental closing of Summit Circle, the new hybrid concept of tennis courts in Murray Park and the soccer fields in Westmount Park.

Held annually, the national competition covers a wide spectrum of areas that not only include landscaping and gardens but extend to environmental programs, community awareness and involvement of cit-

izens and the city itself, in improving the quality of life.

The city also featured its parks master plan and the new guide to parks.

At a tea event held so the judges could meet representatives of community groups and council members, Savaria said they were "especially impressed by the many groups participating such as St. John Ambulance."

In 2007, the last year Westmount entered the competition, the city earned the top, 5-bloom, rating.



Brightly coloured zinnias were a new touch this year to the petunias at the southwest entrance off Côte St. Antoine to Murray Park, where judges were shown the new hybrid tennis courts.

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Centre Greene says good-bye to Johansson



After 11 years at Centre Greene, executive director Anna Johansson (left) is honoured with a farewell party on August 19. Long-time board member Erica Bloom (right) presented Johansson with a Dora the Explorer cake, which she chose because Johansson is so adventurous and she speaks Spanish like Dora. Johansson leaves in early September for Inuvik, N.W.T. where she will work for a dog sledding tour company. Her mother Ann Johansson from Knowlton, and cousin Arthur Grafftey are also in the photo. Wesley McCoy is the centre's incoming executive director.

Photo: Joanne Penhale

Communities in Bloom tea at The Gallery, Aug. 16



From left, the city of Westmount horticulturist Claudette Savaria, Communities in Bloom visiting judge Jim Baird, Mayor Peter Trent, visiting judge Dave Hilton and Westmount Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier. Hilton judged Westmount in 2007. Baird was judging the city for the first time, but had been to Montreal previously to visit his son, who lives here.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Neighbours divided over MUHC construction site noise

By MARTIN C. BARRY

An official at the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) said they are working towards a solution for a noise problem caused by excavation and loading operations at the Glen Yards site, which has left some nearby Westmount residents fuming with disgust.

A few homeowners on York St. and Prince Albert Ave., a short distance from the future superhospital campus, are annoyed because of persistent noise coming from the site, especially at night.

The author of an unsigned letter delivered to the *Independent* and other media

outlets last week claimed he or she had "little or no sleep" on the nights of August 16 and 17.

"Construction at the Glen Campus, adjacent to the city of Westmount, continued last night until well past midnight with an energetic fervour that doesn't even take place during the day," stated the letter.

"In our beds, we had to listen to the banging, crashing, and loud smashing of yellow caterpillar plows as they dug and loaded earth into metal trucks at midnight, accompanied by the loud incessant beep, beep, beep of backup

warning signals on their plentiful trucks."

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York Ave. Wanda Potrykus points in the direction of the MUHC site, where the noise is coming from.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OFF-LEASH TIME THREATENS SUMMIT RESERVE

Perhaps the dog owners wanting more off-leash time might rethink this entitlement, and advocate for the maintenance that would assure the preservation of these woods.

Bequeathed in perpetuity by McGill, this forest is a nature reserve. Off-leash is a privilege not accorded in Montreal parks.

The pathways keep getting wider and more numerous, bald areas are expanding, and the municipal maintenance that used to go on 10, 15 years ago is today virtually absent. And this in spite of repeated pleas at city council meetings (we published an on-line brochure) and repeated promises by the administration to rectify the spoliation.

Off-leash dogs thrash the undergrowth, and this is a cause for concern. The flora used to be more varied. The degradation promotes invasive, uniform cover. This is detrimental to birds.

It's often like a dog jamboree at the intersections; dogs get frisky, their owners frantically yelling.

Daytime, the vegetation needs to thrive untrammelled. Off-leash times shouldn't be increased. And not "all day" until the ground is frozen – December 1.

If we want this treasure for future generations, then we must take action.

A community corvée would accomplish

much (as on Mt. Royal), raking back the gravel onto the pathways and chinking the broken edges that precipitate erosion, and similar chores.

Wood chips from felling aren't being raked up, retarding regeneration. Under-raced fresh gravel dumped on pathways gets washed downhill.

If you want to receive our action plan (the same principles used on Mt. Royal) call me at 514.939.5670 or email me at supermolto@sympatico.ca. And let's think of doing a corvée on a Saturday in the fall. Friends of Summit Woods?

And yes I have two dogs that like running off-leash. For the moment, we have the Summit Circle promenade.

JOHN FRETZ, LANSDOWNE AVE.

GOODBYE FROM DEPARTING CENTRE GREENE DIRECTOR

To Centre Greene, its board of directors, staff, volunteers, friends, neighbours and community:

Centre Greene has been very good to me over the years, and I am truly grateful. It has given me the stability and support I needed to raise a great kid. It has provided me with good friends from all the ages and stages, those from Tumbling Tots to seniors' lunches. It has provided me with many opportunities to study and develop professionally and grow personally.

It's provided me with a sense of be-

longing, a sense of meaning and purpose and, more than anything else, it has given me a community.

While I am sad that I won't be a part of Centre Greene's daily operations anymore, I hope I will continue to be part of its community always. I am confident that its board of directors and loyal staff will continue to do what is best for the centre and its people. In the 21st century, gentle, kind and sincere places like Centre Greene are indeed very rare.

We need to protect our Centre Greene, celebrate it and ensure that it continues to enhance the lives of its community members. It certainly has enhanced mine!

Thank you Centre Greene!

ANNA-SOFIA JOHANSSON, OUTGOING CENTRE GREENE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

4300, THE NEXT ANIMAL HOUSE?



The 4300 de Maisonneuve has a new resident. He/she seems to like second-floor balconies in the west wing and on the construction canopies. He/she sleeps in that general vicinity too.

My apologies about the filthy state of the windows. They have not been cleaned since the construction work began back in pre-historic times.

JOHN CORRIGAN, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

'4300' CLUB ADDS A MEMBER

Join the club Mrs. Halperin! ("4300 reno bothers neighbours", July 13, p. 4). We too live nearby the 4300 and are beyond bothered indeed!

We moved into our home in June 2008 and have known nothing other than constant noise, traffic, dust and flying brick shards.

We even had freshly repaired asphalt permanently marked by Denis Thompson truck tires.

We are unable to open our windows for fear of dust infiltration, and are resigned to having dirty windows and vehicles.

Most importantly, we are unable to sit outside and enjoy our own property due to the Saharan-like sandstorms.

This is NOT the quiet lifestyle we hoped for and bought into.

If I were to do construction, I would never imagine inconveniencing my neighbours to this degree. What a shame!

PASCALE DELHAYE, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

WATCH OUT FOR SCOUTS SCAM

It has come to the attention of the local Scout group that one or more youth have been posing as members of a Westmount Scouting group in order to collect money from residents.

The first time was apparently to raise funds for a trip to Africa. More recently a resident on Grosvenor Ave. handed over money as a deposit for registration. This came to light when she contacted Scouts through the legitimate web site to actually register her child only to find out she had been bilked.

The first incidents occurred in the spring along Grosvenor, and in the last few weeks there have been reports on Victoria Ave. of French speaking youth around 13 years old asking for money for Haiti.

We would like to inform the public that Scouts do not solicit registrations door to door. A registration period for the Westmount Scouting year will take place at Westmount Park Church on Thursday, August 26 from 6 pm to 8 pm. Thereafter, parents can call the contact numbers on www.scoutswestmount.ca or attend a regular meeting.

Annually, in late April or early May, Scouts do knock on doors for their annual event in Westmount Park, but they are always in full uniform accompanied by an adult with a letter of permission from the city.

Scouts are very happy to accept donations for which a tax receipt will be issued. If in doubt please call the Quebec Council Office at 514.334.3004 or check the web site listed above.

Scouting in Westmount has been around for 100 years, and the support of the community has always been very strong. It would be a shame for that confi-

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Clarification

In "Welcome to Westmount," p. 20 of the July 6 issue, we wrote that "'refuse' should only be put out on pick-up day between 7 and 8 am, so you don't miss the collectors."

In response to a reader's query, to clarify, the by-law (884) dealing with garbage collection differentiates between garbage contained in a bin and garbage contained in a plastic bag. It is the latter that must only be placed outside on the day of collection, whereas a garbage can and/or moveable storage bin can be deposited for collection the day prior to the day of collection but no earlier.

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We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please "redline" them instead of resending the whole letter. Email any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com.

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Letters...

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dence to be lost as a result of dishonest representation.

If a resident suspects someone to be part of this scam please call Westmount Public Security or the police at Station 12. They are aware of the problem and will be on the lookout for the culprits.

VIRGINIA ELLIOTT, SCOUTS CANADA, AREA COMMISSIONER, STONEY POINT AND HILLSIDE AVE. RESIDENT

WESTMOUNTERS, WATCH YOUR WASTE!

I walk over the Westmount hill down Victoria Ave. every day, to and from work. This has given me ample opportunity to see what Westmounters put out as garbage.

Every time I feel so sad that so much good stuff is being wasted. I have seen the following:

- a room divider screen (not badly broken – I took it home and with some glue fixed it up)
- paintings (one of them is now decorating our office)
- nice boxes and tins (I've picked up a few)

- beautiful woven baskets
- books
- textbooks (think of the poor undergrad who could have saved a good \$500)
- electronics (perhaps repairable)
- furniture (I've picked up a solid wood chair that was left out in the rain, and some in-closet shelves)
- miscellaneous (e.g. I picked up a dish drying rack)

Please remind Westmounters not to be so wasteful! People like me pick up some of it, but so much is left behind and disappears into garbage trucks.

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Summit dog-run users getting political

A petition asking for signatures supporting a proposal to city hall for a special \$30 summit dog license is circulating around Summit Park. The petition proposes that the license would be in addition to the regular municipal dog license and would allow for off-leash summit access all day on weekdays and on week-

ends before 11 am and after 4 pm.

Currently, dogs may run off-leash accompanied by keepers all day between December 1 and April 14. They must then be leashed at all times during the bird migratory period, usually April 15 to June 15. From June 16 until December 1, dogs must be leashed between 9 am and 6 pm.

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The only new construction start in 2009 was this house at 310 Côte St. Antoine for work estimated at \$1 million. It replaces a bungalow.



The largest permit in 2009 issued for work on a single-family dwelling was for additions to this house at 3 Murray Ave. (\$1.6 million). The work is ongoing.

New sales generate building permits

continued from p. 1

the large apartment complex at 4300 de Maisonneuve and close to \$2 million in window replacement and similar upgrades at schools and assembly buildings.

Work requiring permits to maintain and enlarge one- and two-family dwellings reached \$30 million last year. Many of the projects involved additions as well as interior upgrades related to the recent purchase of houses.

“Each time I see a ‘for sale’ sign, I know

the permits will follow,” Poirier said. And the housing market remained strong in 2009.

“It’s almost a standard thing for people to do the kitchen and bathroom, then go on to interior stripping, and then come back to get a permit to install a pool.”

The concern with maintaining buildings – and doing the work right – has been a longstanding commitment by most homeowners in Westmount, she explained.

One highlight of the permits issued for family homes in 2009 was a permit for \$1 million in plumbing for the continuing project to restore and enlarge the Bronfman home at 15 Belvedere Rd. Another related to \$750,000 for landscaping the property.

Work in other categories included \$6.3 million in permits related to apartments and condos, \$5.2 million to commercial establishments, almost \$3 million for schools and assembly buildings and \$1.7 million for government buildings.

Only one new construction start was reported in 2009, a \$1-million house at 310 Côte St. Antoine. Two other permits were issued on a renewal basis to complete new homes at 3 Summit Rd. and 20 Summit Circle.

How permits were vetted

The Urban Planning department’s Board of Inspections receives and initially vets all permit requests, checking for code and zoning compliance.

Once approved, building projects involving exterior work are then reviewed by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) for adherence to the city’s building and renovation guidelines. Those it recommends must be approved by council before a permit can be issued.

During 2009, the Board of Inspections dealt with 1,236 projects for interior and exterior work. These included 816 new items (up from 764 the previous year) and 420 resubmissions. As well, 106 occupancy applications were received as well as 28 requests for tree cutting.

At 40 meetings of the PAC, a total of 411 projects were approved and three rejected.

City inspectors also carried out a total of 6,878 inspections during the year and issued 293 notices to correct defects. At year end, the city had 22 court cases pending concerning non-compliance with building or zoning violations.

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Underdog

MARY LAMEY



Broady Photo: Eleven Eleven Animal Rescue

All Broady wanted was a chance to play. Locked in a cage at the dog pound, this 8-pound Chihuahua-dachshund mix had no toys and no one to play with. It wasn't long before the under-stimulated pooch turned sullen. He wasn't cut out for life in the pen.

Everything changed when Eleven Eleven Animal Rescue sprung him in June. These days, Underdog Broady is a new dog who lives to play soccer and toss the squeaky toy around in his foster home.

"He's a very toy-driven dog," said Caroline Ross of Eleven Eleven. "He loves to toss his toys to people and wait for them to throw them back. He's very deliberate about choosing who he'll throw to."

Originally, his rescuers thought he was a youngster, but the vet who neutered him quickly discerned that Broady, pronounced Brodie, is fully 6 years old. He's long and tubular like a weiner dog with a Chi-

huahua's ears and face.

"He's still quite spunky and would do really well in a house with teenagers. He'd play soccer as long as they'd let him," said Ross. "I could also see him doing obstacle courses."

Because of his size and temperament, a home with small children is not recommended. He's fine with cats and other dogs. Broady has had all his vaccinations and is fully housetrained.

Is sporty Broady the dog you've been waiting for? Find out more about him by contacting caroline@elevenelevenanimal-rescue.org or 514.845.0001. Check out other underdogs by visiting www.underdogclub.org. You can also call 1.877.43.DOGGY or email info@underdogclub.org. Why not foster a mutt in need? Donations are gratefully accepted.





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Meet the real Jesse



The photo that ran with the column on Jesse (last week) was erroneous. Above is the correct photo of Jesse, the pit bull underdog written about in "Jesse, too sensitive for pound," August 17, p. 8.

Photo: Nicole Leger.



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Comin' Up

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

Westmount Scouting Centennial Family Campout in Westmount Park, rain or shine. 6 pm Friday to 10 am sharp Saturday. Bring your own tent, sleeping gear, flashlight, etc. Info: contact your Scout leader.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

Centre Greene after-school program resumes. Full-time, part-time and pedagogical day programs. Info: www.centregreene.org or 514.931.6202.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Family film afternoon for ages 6 and up at the Westmount Public Library, 4 pm. Free. For info on film, contact the Adult Circulation Desk at 514.989.5299.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

George Wall gives a presentation on the **Shakespeare plays** on the 2011 Stratford Festival playbill, Atwater Library at 12:30 pm. Info: beth@atwaterlibrary.ca or 514.935.7344.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Chess and Scrabble Club meets in the Westmount Room of the Westmount Pub-

lic Library from 4 pm to 9 pm. All welcome.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

• **Council meeting** at city hall, 8 pm.

Community choirs

• **Harmonia Westmount**, a women's community choir, is holding its annual auditions for new members, August 17, 24 and 31. Experienced and inexperienced singers welcome. Info: harmoniawestmount@gmail.com or 514.762.0216 to make an appointment.

• Auditions for new choristers for **Anima musica** take place August 31 and September 7. This is a mixed voice community choir under the direction of Geneviève Boulanger. Rehearsals take place Tuesday evenings in NDG. The Christmas concert is at Mountainside United in Westmount. Info: 514.489.1552 or www.animamusica.org.

• Auditions for youth choir **Chœur des enfants** de Montreal takes place September 8 and 9. Four choirs from ages 5 to 18, including boys whose voices have changed. Info: 450.458.7129 or www.choeurdesenfantsdemontreal.com.

Ragweed goes in green bin, not your own compost

Heat, sun and rain have created a bumper crop of ragweed this summer – to the chagrin of hay-fever sufferers. "The plants are very strong and plentiful, and now in bloom," said city horticulturist Claudette Savaria. She asks that residents check their gardens and yards, pull out the weed by the roots and dispose of it in the green bin. Only commercial composting produces enough heat to destroy the seeds.

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Nesbitt chairs Windsor Ball fundraiser for McCord Museum



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The Windsor Ball, the fundraiser for the McCord Museum, took place May 27, appropriately, at Le Windsor on Peel St.

Event chair and Westmounter **Elise Nesbitt**, attending with husband **Graham**, was assisted by committee members and Westmounters **Vanessa Laframboise**, **Louise Chagnon-Buchheit**, **Heidi Luber Teller**, **Sandra Alber-Chaloub**, **Bettina Terfloth**, **Sylvie Chagnon**, **Judith Webster**, **Cynthia Carsley** and **Cynthia Gordon**, along with **Nathalie LeClair**, **Charles Flicker**, **Gregoire Baillargeon** and **Nancy Wells**.

McCord’s president and CEO **Suzanne Sauvage**, and board chair **Line Rivard** greeted guests with Elise, in an azure gown designed by **Jean-Ives Querry** and Westmounter **David Barrington**.

US ambassador **David Jacobson** was patron of honour of the elegant eve. (Fun fact: both he and the architect of the original Windsor, **William Boyington (1818-1898)**, hail from Chicago.) US consul general **Lee McClenny** also attended with his wife **Katherine Latimer**.

Co-chairs were “les frères Molson” –

Justin Molson (unable to attend) and Westmounters **Andrew Molson** (with **Helen Antoniou**) and brother **Geoff** (with his wife **Kate**). The beer served was a Molson product – Molson M.

Other Westmounters included **Claire and Stuart Webster**, **Cornelia Molson** (with **Charles Lapointe**), **Ana and Javier Planas**, **Julia and Stephen Reitman**, **Lorna Telfer** and **Peter O’Brien**, **Chantal Marquis** and



Westmounters **Aird and Malcolm Nesbitt** flank **Nicholas Laframboise** as door openers.

Marc Culver, **Nicole Small** and **Charles Porteous**, **Karma** and **John Hallward**, and **Caroline Price** with her dad **Miles**, a former Montrealer who flew in from New York.



Sonia and George Hanna.

After noshing on **Dansereau’s** delights, the dancing continued until the wee hours. Monies raised support the McCord’s exhibitions, conservation initiatives and ongoing programs.

Correction

In the Social Notes column of August 17 (“Penny Echenberg and team chair glam Goodman gala”), it should have read that **Marla Shapiro** is married to **Robert Berger**. The *Independent* apologizes for the error.



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Westmounters **Line Rivard** and **Elise Nesbitt**, and **Suzanne Sauvage**.

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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Bureaux administratifs – Horaire d’été

Du 7 juin au 10 septembre, les bureaux administratifs de la Ville seront ouverts du lundi au jeudi de 8 h à 16 h 30 et le vendredi de 8 h à 13 h. Entre le 13 juin et le 5 septembre, la bibliothèque sera fermée le dimanche. Info : 514 989-5200. 🌿



BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Club du cinéma d’été

Avez-vous une passion pour le cinéma? Alors notre club de film d’été est tout à fait pour vous ! Joignez-vous à nous tous les mercredis du mois d’août à 14 h pour regarder d’excellents films et ensuite en discuter. Brendan Kelly, chroniqueur artistique pour le journal The Gazette viendra parler du film *Espions* le mercredi 25 août. Âge 13+. Info : 514 989-5386.

Club de lecture vacances - Livre-toi à l’art de lire!

Tout au long de l’été, la Section des enfants de la Bibliothèque proposera une série d’activités conçues pour inciter les enfants à la lecture. Demandez votre trousse au comptoir des enfants; il y aura des prix fantastiques à gagner. Info: 514 989-5229.

Club de lecture vacances : la fête !

Ceux et celles qui ont participé au club de lecture peuvent venir chercher un billet gratuit au comptoir des enfants. La fête se tiendra le samedi, 11 septembre à 14 h. Vous devez vous inscrire à l’avance. Info : 514 989-5229.

Club d’échecs et de Scrabble

Aimez-vous jouer aux échecs ou au Scrabble? La prochaine rencontre du club aura lieu le 3 septembre à 16 h. Nous sommes toujours à la recherche de nouveaux joueurs. Info : 514 989-5386. 🌿



SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Pour rapporter un graffiti

Pour rapporter un graffiti, veuillez nous contacter par téléphone au 514 989-5222, par le Web au www.westmount.org/contactus ou par courriel à graffiti@westmount.org. Photos acceptées. Info : 514 989-5222. 🌿

DATES À RETENIR

Les 3 et 10 septembre à 16 h

Club d’échecs et de Scrabble
Bibliothèque

Le 7 septembre à 20 h

Séance du conseil
Hôtel de ville

Le 14 septembre à 19 h

Club de lecture anglaise
Bibliothèque



TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Accès réduit au tunnel Bethune du 2 août au 17 septembre 2010

Du lundi au vendredi de 15 h à 23 h 30 :
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Veuillez vous référer à ce nouvel horaire avant toute visite ou au moment de déposer des matières recyclables au dépôt de la Ville. Info : 514 989-5311.



SPORTS ET LOISIRS

Inscriptions : activités automne-hiver

Les résidents peuvent se présenter à l’aréna de Westmount selon l’horaire suivant:

- les lundis, mardis et le jeudi 23, 24, 26, 30 et 31 août de 9 h à 16 h 30 ;
- les mercredi 25 août et 1^{er} septembre de 12 h à 20 h ;
- le vendredi 27 août de 9 h à 13 h.

Les inscriptions pour les non-résidents débiteront le jeudi 2 septembre à 9 h à l’Aréna. Info : 514 989-5353.

Fermeture de la piscine extérieure

Veuillez noter que la piscine de Westmount fermera le lundi 6 septembre. À partir du 30 août, la piscine sera ouverte tous les jours de 11 h à 19 h. Info : 514 989-5324. 🌿



CITY HALL

Administrative offices – Summer hours

From June 7 until September 10, all administrative offices of the City will be open Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Between June 13 and September 5, the Westmount Library will be closed Sundays. Info: 514 989-5200. 🌿



LIBRARY

Summer Film Club

Do you have a passion for film? If so, our Summer Film Club is for you! Join us every Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m. to view an outstanding film and then discuss it afterwards. Brendan Kelly, entertainment columnist for The Montreal Gazette, will be our guest reviewer for the film *Espions* on Wednesday, August 25. For ages 13+. Info: 514 989-5386.

Summer Reading Club - The Art of Reading

Throughout the summer months, the Library’s Children’s Department will host a number of events designed to inspire kids to read. Ask for your Summer Club Kit at the Children’s Desk this summer – you’ll earn great prizes! Info: 514 989-5229.

Summer Reading Club closing party!

Summer reading club participants may pick up a free ticket at the Children’s Desk for the party, which will be held on Saturday, September 11 at 2 p.m. Registration is required. Info: 514 989-5229

Chess and Scrabble Club

Do you enjoy playing chess or Scrabble? Our club will meet on Friday, September 3. Drop by for a friendly game as we look forward to meeting new players. Info: 514 989-5386. 🌿



PUBLIC SECURITY

To report graffiti

To report graffiti, please contact us by phone at 514 989-5222, through the Web site at www.westmount.org/contactus or by email at graffiti@westmount.org. Photographs are accepted. Info: 514 989-5222. 🌿

DATEBOOK

September 3 & 10 - 4 p.m.

Chess and Scrabble Club
Library

September 7 - 8 p.m.

Council Meeting
City Hall

September 14 - 7 p.m.

English Book Club
Library



PUBLIC WORKS

Limited access to Bethune tunnel August 2 to September 17, 2010

Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.:
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Please refer to this schedule before visiting the offices or delivering recyclable materials to the City’s central depot. Info: 514 989-5311.



SPORTS AND RECREATION

Registration for fall / winter activities

Residents may register at the Westmount Arena according to the following schedule:

- Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays August 23, 24, 26, 30 & 31 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.;
- Wednesday, August 25 and September 1 from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.;
- Friday, August 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Registration for non-residents begins Thursday, September 2 at 9 a.m. at the Arena. Info: 514 989-5353.

Closing of the outdoor pool

Please note that the Westmount Pool will close on Monday, September 6 and that from August 30, the pool will be open daily between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Info: 514 989-5324. 🌿

www.westmount.org
info : 514 989-5200

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Arena's register attracts neighbours, dissenters

continued from p. 1

fore the city can spend more than five percent of the loan by-law, he explained. This would amount to some \$1.8 million.

Had the go-ahead

Although the register result was an important legal hurdle, Trent said, "in my view, we had the moral authority to go ahead with the project in May when 83 percent approved it in the mail survey of the population."

The 114 registered signatories represented less than one percent of the 14,000 eligible voters, stated Councillor Patrick Martin, the arena/pool committee chairman, at the close of the register.

Saved costs and delays

A referendum, Martin said, would have been "a waste of time and money" after the survey's 83 percent in favour results. Referendum costs were estimated at \$150,000.

Surprisingly, he said, despite widespread publicity concerning the arena project over the last three years, some residents who turned up to sign the loan register were reported to have expressed confusion over its purpose or even details of the project. One did not know why she was supposed to be signing the register, but had been told to show up.

The city will now commission work on a 3-D model of the project for presentation at a public information meeting, tentatively scheduled for next month, Trent said. It will also proceed with obtaining the actual working drawings for the calling of tenders.

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MUHC building at night because of rain delay

continued from p. 3

York Ave. resident Wanda Potrykus agreed that there has been an increase in noise from the MUHC property lately. “Always this sort of beep, beep, beep,” she said describing the warning signal the dump trucks make while operating in reverse.

“It just drives you nuts. You know, they’re not supposed to start before 7 am. Well, often by 6:30 they’re starting ... But it’s also on the weekends. Are they working seven days a week? That’s what gets me. I didn’t know they would be working seven days out of seven.”

However, another resident, John Blackwood-Chernoff, whose home is at the corner of Prince Albert and York, said he

hadn’t noticed any extra noise lately. “I don’t hear anything,” he said. “There are always some people who are complaining, but I’m happy that [the MUHC and the Shriners] are building finally,” he said.

Julie Paquet of the MUHC’s public affairs department confirmed to the *Independent* that earth removal operations were taking place on the construction grounds from 8 pm to 4:30 am every day last week except Friday and Saturday.

“They were delayed in their schedule by rain and so they needed to accelerate,” she explained, adding that it wasn’t possible to do so during the day because the movement of the trucks would have been hampered by street traffic.

According to Paquet, the public affairs department received a number of com-

plaints, and she insisted they are being taken seriously. “We got a few from the Château Westmount, which is right next to the site. As soon as we get a complaint, we communicate with the contractor and we take measures.”

Commenting on the letter that set off the issue, Mayor Peter Trent said, “It’s a bit unusual I suppose for me to respond to a letter from someone who hasn’t signed it, but the problem it describes I suspect is real and therefore is something I would

have to take action about.” Trent said he now has some homework to do before taking action.

“We have to measure the noise somehow,” he said. “We also have to check into the city of Montreal’s noise regulations to see whether indeed the MUHC is contravening them. Thirdly, I’d like to inform the local Westmount city councillors of the problem. And fourthly, once all that’s been done, I would take it up with the MUHC.”



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Local

Lost

LOST: One Canon digital camera in black case. Likely on Sherbrooke Street in front of the Westmount Library. If found, you can keep the camera but please return the memory card either by mail to the Independent or drop it in the mail slot at 4274 Dorchester. Thank you.

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Dolphins end season with last BBQ at old pool



The Westmount Dolphins swim team celebrate the end of season on a diving board at the Westmount pool August 21.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

The main diving board at the Westmount pool got put to an unusual use on August 21.

Instead of being the launching pad for

daring plunges into the deep end, it served as a convenient table for hamburgers, soft drinks and corn-on-the-cob consumed by the Dolphins swim team during their end-of-season BBQ.

The Dolphins did exceptionally well in

this, their final year of being based at the pool, which will be shutting permanently soon in preparation for construction of Westmount's new arena and pool complex.

According to head coach Taylor Bond, the team achieved fantastic results. He said they won all their dual meets except for one at the beginning of the season. They also finished second overall in the A Division. And last week in finals involving all 21 competing pools in Montreal, the Dolphins finished first in the consolation finals, first in the finals and third in competition for the 10-and-under trophy.

"This year was great," said Bond. "We had the highest participation that we've ever had, and all the kids really improved. So we're very happy given the rate of participation and the improvement throughout the past summer."

Although the Dolphins will be without a home pool next year, the team's board of directors with the help of the city of Westmount are examining different options for a temporary base a short distance from Westmount. The team will also continue participating fully in meets held at pools all over Montreal.

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