

Mayor's response to arena skeptics dominates council meeting

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Mayor Peter Trent and arena/pool project chair Patrick Martin hit back at critics during the September 6 council meeting, contending information being disseminated by the “naysayers” was lacking credibility, misleading and “faulty or total nonsense.”

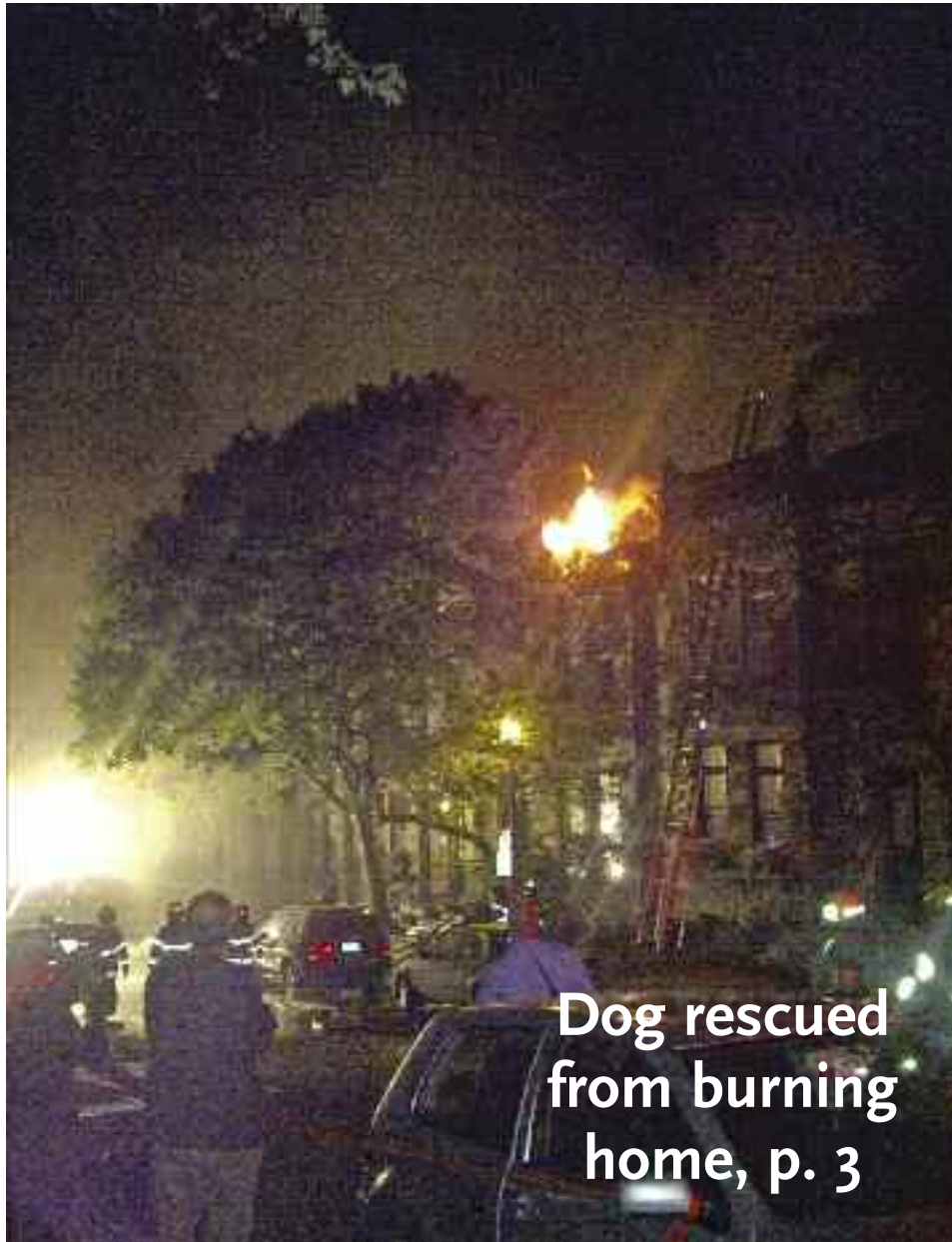
But council's decision to move forward with the project as accepted by 83 percent of respondents to a survey in April 2010 would not be influenced by an online petition or letters and interviews in metropolitan and national media, they said.

“Will a lobby group push aside democracy? Not on this council's watch,” Trent stated.

While the project's design process was taking

continued on p. 18

Blaze hits Argyle Ave.



Dog rescued from burning home, p. 3

Onlookers watch as firefighters battle the blaze at 448 Argyle the night of September 8.

Photo courtesy of Christina Miller

16% of homes did not conform to smoke detector by-laws, see p. 4.

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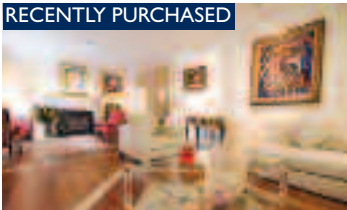


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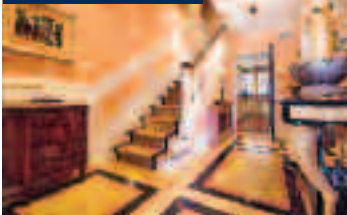
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PSOs save dog from burning Argyle home

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two public safety officers burst into a burning greystone at 448 Argyle Ave. the night of September 8 to rescue a crated, barking dog moments after one of them located the source of smoke being smelled over a wide area.

No one was home in the two-family dwelling at the time, and firefighters managed to extinguish the fire within two and a half hours of its discovery at 9:45 pm, said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain. Police and fire officials confirmed the cause as electrical.confirmed the cause as electrical.

The smokey fire, which forced evacuation of adjacent houses in the row as a precaution, was reported to have burned through the second storey and roof, causing extensive damage. One firefighter was reported to have been taken to hospital.

Public Security began receiving calls at 9:25 pm for smoke at Kensington and St. Catherine. Alerting the fire department,

they began searching the area in attempts to pinpoint the problem.

PSO Armand Morin located the source at 9:45 pm where he found the roof on fire, and the information was relayed to firefighters. The 1896 building backs onto Selwyn House School and the city's Protective Services building on Stanton St., which houses the Public Security, fire and police stations.

In the meantime, efforts were made to alert people who might be inside, at which point PSOs Morin and Marc Franceschini were told about the dog by a neighbour and could hear it barking in the lower condo.

The officers kicked in the door and carried the crate to safety as firefighters began arriving on the scene. The dog was described as a large mixed-breed type. It was taken in by neighbours until the arrival of its owners.

The street was then blocked off at Sherbrooke and Thornhill.

Fire prompts giant sleep-over for Argyle residents

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Christina Miller, who lives immediately next door to the September 8 fire on Argyle, told the *Independent* that her home sustained water and smoke damage.

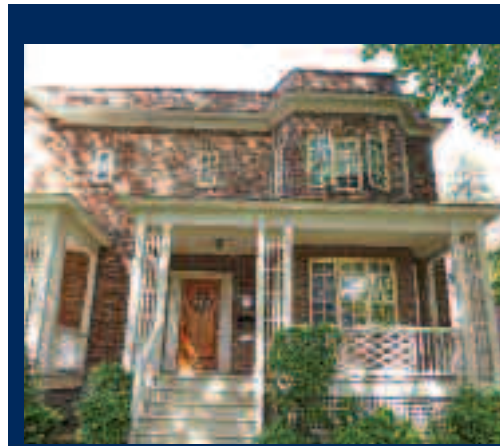
But on a more positive note, the fire appears to have brought people in the area closer together.

While Red Cross workers who arrived

on the scene asked if anyone needed shelter, according to Miller a number of neighbours also offered to take in anyone forced out of their home.

"We have a very tight community on our street," she said. "As a result, we all ended up sleeping in each other's houses, which was quite nice."

See photo, p. 1.



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16% of homes did not conform to smoke detector by-laws

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Fully 16 percent of homes inspected in the south half of Westmount over the summer failed to comply with the city's by-law concerning smoke detectors, according to results released by the Public Security Unit last week.

This is consistent with last year's results for the northern half of the city when

the two summer fire inspectors, Pierre-François Sabourin and Olivier Sehari, found a non-conforming rate of 17 percent. This refers to dwellings that fail to have one or more operating smoke detectors as required by law.

While the agents called at 1,507 doors this summer, they were able to gain entry at only 443 dwellings, or 29 percent. This compares with 32 percent last year.

They distributed 101 batteries supplied by the city and provided and installed nine new smoke detectors, where residents were deemed unable to supply or install their own.

People seem to be more aware of the importance of maintaining smoke detectors, said Sabourin who called on many apartment buildings with Sehari. These buildings are not included in the statistics since they required different criteria.

And while Westmount does not yet require mandatory installation of carbon monoxide detectors in homes using gas- or oil-fired heating units, 27 percent of homes were found, both years, to have voluntarily installed them.

"The summer inspection programs are important as an education tool to emphasize the importance of fire prevention and maintenance of life-saving smoke detectors," explained assistant Public Security director Greg McBain.

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WCSC presents to traffic consultants

Change bike path, create other options

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's bike path on de Maisonneuve should be phased out as a two-way route, an alternative created on St. Catherine and bike lanes painted on other east-west arteries. As well, greater emphasis should be placed on education, enforcement and engineering.

These recommendations were presented to the city's master traffic plan consultants by Westmount Citizens for Safe Cycling (WCSC) September 8, the second of two days set aside to hear from community groups.

"Safety first is our stand," explained presenter Dan Taddeo.

To improve safety for cyclists, motorists, pedestrians and residents alike – the narrow two-way de Maisonneuve bike path should be phased out in its current configuration over two years because it fails to comply with various standards for bike paths, he said. As well, it separates Westmount Park in two sections as West-

ern Ave. (now de Maisonneuve) once did.

Instead, the current east-west cycling "corridor" through Westmount should be redirected along St. Catherine as both police and Public Security had previously recommended. de Maisonneuve could then become a one-way west bicycle lane to move with the flow of traffic.

The brief also calls for bicycle lane lines to be painted on Côte St. Antoine for east-bound cycling and on Westmount Ave. for westbound travel – both with appropriate links to the major St. Catherine route and other lanes.

Woman falls

A Westmount woman fell on the sidewalk on St. Catherine near Hillside Lane August 30 bumping her head, Public Security officials report. She was given first aid by the bike patrol, who came across her at 11:53 am and treated her until the arrival of Urgences Santé. The woman's son, a city worker, was also on the scene.

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Backing up sewers to be studied and meeting held

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city will be studying ongoing problems of sewer backup and flooding during heavy rain in the area of St. Catherine St. from Hillside to the Glen, residents were told at the city council meeting September 6.

David Parsons, a resident of Academy Rd., raised the issue of buildings that experienced the problem on his street and also of the sewer collapse at St. Catherine just east of the Glen during downpours this summer.

“I’ve been flooded three times in five years,” added Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who lives on St. Catherine at Irvine. “I’ve asked Public Works to look into it, and we’ll have a meeting of people in the area. I’m very concerned because we’re at the bottom of the hill.”

City director general Duncan Campbell said the meeting would likely take place within a month or two after the city simulates the problem to better understand how the water flows in that area.

Parsons wondered how the existing

problem might be further affected by the new arena project. He was assured by Mayor Peter Trent that the water table at that site was low. Councillor Patrick Martin also explained that when sewer and water lines running under the current arena are diverted this fall they will be replaced by ones with larger capacity.

Martin, who is Utilities commissioner, later told the *Independent* he wanted to look into a broader point of sewer capacity in the entire area for which the sewers would likely have been built a century ago to accommodate a different population.

Now, with the development of higher rise buildings and condos, there are more people using water and flushing toilets. More paving of streets also means that water flowing down the mountain has less opportunity to soak into the ground, “so it’s an increasing problem when there’s a flash rain.”

The sewer network has only three north-south routes to handle the water, under Atwater, Greene and the Glen. All water from Claremont to Hillside flows into the Glen sewer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TOO MANY THINGS GOING ON FOR POLICE

I was walking west along Sherbrooke St. and saw a police car parked in front of Pâtisserie de Gascogne. A police officer was sitting at a table outside the shop, speaking with someone and writing on a large paper. His partner was sitting in the car.

Two cyclists pedalled by me and the officers, riding on the sidewalk. The officer at the table definitely looked up and saw the cyclists; he also saw me glaring at him.

After my brief stop at a store, I returned heading east. I stopped and spoke to the officer in the car, asking why neither she nor her partner had paid attention to the cyclists on the sidewalk. The response was “I’m making a report. I can’t do two things at once.”

It makes one wonder.

LYNN PECKNOLD, GROSVENOR AVE.

DON’T MISS STARGAZING AT SUMMIT ON SEPT. 17

I often wonder how many people regularly visit the Westmount website when one hears complaints that people do not learn of events until after. Advertising events is expensive and sometimes too much for organizing committees on limited funds.

There is a completely free event on Saturday, September 17, sponsored by the Healthy City Project, that has had little publicity up to now.

At the annual Earth Hour celebrations, one of the greatest attractions was star gazing through the powerful telescopes of the Royal Astronomical Society. The “oohs” and “aahs” emanating from viewers demonstrated the surprise and appreciation of what they saw in the night sky.

Next Saturday [September 17] starting at 7 pm at the Westmount Summit, the Earth Hour committee is hosting a free

evening of star gazing.

This is an amazing opportunity to learn about planets, stars and other celestial objects. One of the highlights will be the moon rising and Jupiter at 9 pm.

This is a very exciting event. Bring your own cup as there will be free hot spiced apple juice!

And keep up with Westmount activities. Our city is as good as the citizens who help make it so.

EVE ASPINALL, GROSVENOR AVE.

GOODBYE OLD POOL

Here is a shot of kids and a favourite lifeguard at the Westmount pool the afternoon of September 5, enjoying the final hours. The lifeguard told me he was going to be the last one to be in the pool, ever.

To the staff at the Westmount pool: Thanks for a great summer!

NED BROOKS, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.



From left, top: Owen Brooks, Simon Brooks, Evan Yatrou, Max Taylor, Charlie Taylor and Tarek Bari; bottom: Neos Dionisopoulos and lifeguard Sky Wittman.

Photo: Ned Brooks

WESTMOUNT PARK A NATURAL HABITAT TO TREASURE

Recently as I walked through Westmount Park, I came across a budgie flying from one branch to another. I knew that a tropi-

continued on p. 7

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Letters, cont'd.

continued from p. 6

cal bird wouldn't survive a Canadian winter and that somebody had lost a budgie in the recent past, so I tried to rescue her with the help of a granola bar. Yes, she ate avidly but was hesitant to stay with me.

The mother of a toddler, her husband, a woman jogging past, a young man with his girlfriend and several onlookers tried to help and then went off.

Finally, the young man returned, resolutely climbed the tree, caught the bird and placed it in my shopping bag. (My apologies to the city administration if we broke several by-laws by feeding birds, sheltering illegal aliens and climbing on trees.)

Now what? I took her to Westmount Animal Hospital (514.487.5300), where she was graciously given temporary lodgings until she is claimed by her owner or adopted by one of the three kind young women working there. She appears to be a juvenile in perfect health, has a yellow head, a green back and grey wings.

Westmount Park is a natural habitat, where people, animals and plants live in harmony. Let no man-made monstrosities upset its delicate balance. I'd rather pro-

tect a graceful flying greenback than the greenback plummeting in Wall Street.

MAYA KHANKHOJE, KENSINGTON AVE.

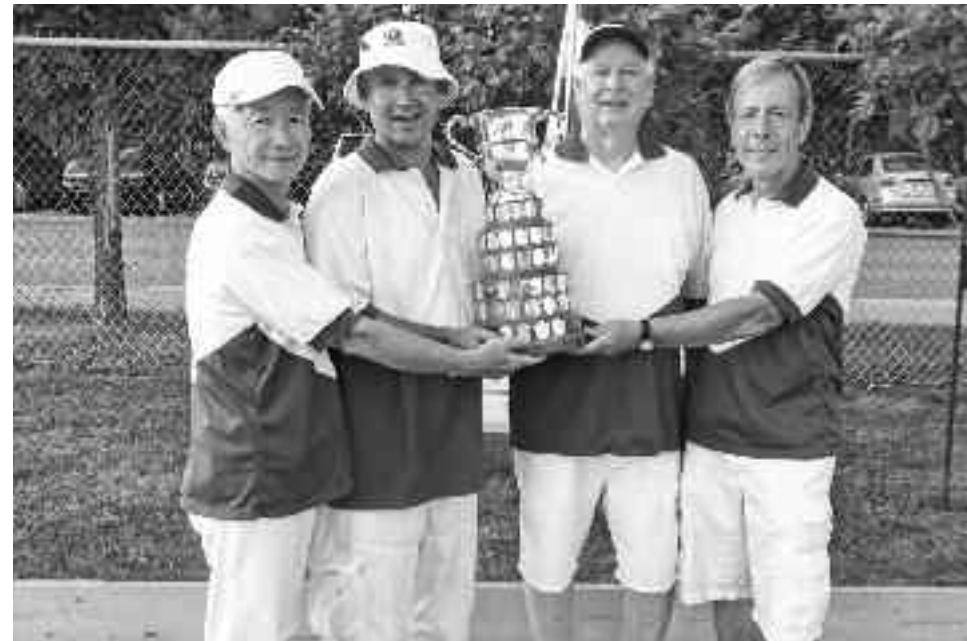
Trent meets with Porter

Mayor Peter Trent told the city council meeting September 6 he had met with MUHC executive director Arthur Porter to raise the city's concerns over lack of pedestrian and cycling access and off-site ambulatory clinics that could add to traffic congestion.

"I can't reveal all the things he said but they are lobbying Quebec to come up with the money" for site access, Trent explained. He had requested the meeting, which took place August 24 (see story July 12, p. 6).

Porter was very warm to the idea of meeting with the city's traffic plan consultants, Trent added. "I've opened the lines of communications." Further arrangements would be left to the "technical people."

Westmount Men's 4s win Wellington Cup for third year



The Westmount Men's 4 team achieved a "three-peat" for the Governor General's Cup (or the Willingdon Cup) on September 3 at the Pointe Claire Lawn Bowling Club. The annual tournament pits the two best Quebec Men's 4 teams (this year, from Westmount and St. Lambert) against the best two from Ontario. From left are Henry Fung (lead), Greg Gelgor (third), Richard Menear (skip) and Bruce St. Louis (lead), former Westmount director general. The Westmount team first won the Governor General's Cup in 2009, then again in 2010, and for a third time this year, albeit by the "skin of our teeth," according to St. Louis.

Photo: Irene Menear

Archeological dig under way at Hurtubise



Archeological workers, who are conducting a dig at the historic Hurtubise House on Côte St. Antoine Rd. at the corner of Victoria Ave., were on a break when the Independent stopped by September 9. According to Doreen Lindsay of the Westmount Historical Association, who will be giving walking tours in Westmount on Saturday, September 24 and Sunday, September 25, archeologists are digging in the front of the historic house, although it seems they haven't unearthed very much of interest yet. "But just the idea that the land is being looked at after more than 200 years!" Lindsay said in an email to the Independent.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

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Siemiatycki holds Guzzo chair for cancer research



*Social Notes
from Westmount
and Beyond*

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The Guzzos' annual September 1 "Notte in Bianco" (where all guests wear white) was glamorous and star-studded. Honorary presidents were former prime minister of Canada **Paul Martin** and his wife **Sheila**, who mingled with **Sheila Copps**, former deputy prime minister; Senator **Céline Hervieux-Payette**, **Fabienne Larouche** and **Michel Trudeau**, and **Anna Hopkins**, the actress from *Barnie's Version*. The party featured celebrity **Jill Zarin** (from the US reality show *Real Housewives of New York*) with husband **Bobby**, as well as performers **Ginette Reno** and **Martha Wash**, who rocked! The floor was packed as dancers enjoyed their infectious music, along with The Showman band and singer **Frank Panzera**. Guests strolled about, admiring the grandiose Guzzo estate, with its outdoor fireplace and garden sculptures. Lam-



Westmounter Dr. Jack Siemiatycki and his daughter Emma.

borghinis, Ferraris and Porsches purred up to the valet parking lot. Then partygoers enjoyed Moët & Chandon champagne, a sponsor, as was the SAQ, which supplied the fine wines. The event was hosted by **Alexandra Diaz** of Radio-Canada and Westmounter

Aaron Rand, with CJAD, there with **Val Wiseman**. Other Westmount residents included **Michaela** and **Michael Penner**, **Andrée** and **Michael Goodman**, **Jennifer Campbell**, and **Gladys** and **Tony Delcorpo**.

The elegant guests were greeted by **Vince Guzzo**, VP and COO of Cinémas Guzzo, and his wife **Maria**, president of the Guzzo Foundation. Maria was simply chic in a white strapless dress and multi strands of Tahitian grey and silver pearls. Cocktails were held in one tent, then the sold-out crowd of 400 moved into the huge main tent for the sit-down dinner, catered by Java U and Buona Notte.

The gala was held to raise funds for the University of Montreal's Guzzo Environmental Cancer Research Chair, held by Westmounter Dr. **Jack Siemiatycki**, there with his daughter **Emma**. Some \$250,000 was raised to help find scientific evidence that could help identify and explain the causes of cancer.



Vince and Maria Guzzo.



Westmounters Andrée and Michael Goodman.

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Station 12 faces off with Centre Greene in friendly hockey

BY WESLEY MCCOY

Summer at Centre Greene would not be complete without our annual floor hockey play-off. For the past several years, the children attending our summer day camp face off for a friendly hockey game with the officers of Westmount's station 12.

This year, the game took place at the centre on August 16.

What most do not realize is that the generosity that station 12 has shown to Centre Greene over the years not only makes this event possible, but also enriches the lives of the youth on an ongoing basis.

For several years, the officers have been donating a portion of the proceeds from their annual bean lunch program. The money is specifically donated to purchase sports equipment in order to reinforce positive interaction through recreation for the youth of our centre.

Over the years the funds donated have purchased almost the entire collection of sports equipment at Centre Greene. When Constable Adalbert Pimentel, community relations officer, came to see our equip-

ment, we were both surprised at the amount of it the station had donated.

Here is a quick list: two hockey nets, two soccer nets, 18 hockey sticks, two goalie outfits, two kin-balls, six tumbling mats, badminton nets, rackets and birdies, along with a cornucopia of skipping ropes, dodge balls, pucks, playground balls, frisbees and tennis balls.

On August 16, the summer camp children recorded their fourth victory in a row over the station 12 team. It was a close game, but the kids just had the edge again this year!

I would like to thank the station 12 on behalf of Centre Greene for their community involvement and ongoing generosity.

Wesley McCoy is the executive director of Centre Greene

Noise complaint fizzles

A resident of Grosvenor who called Public Security at 8:42 pm August 25 over a neighbour's noisy air conditioner refused officers access to his property to take sound level readings, officials said. The complaint was forwarded to the city's Urban Planning department.



Station 12 representatives, from left, standing: Officer Jean Laforce; below: Officer Adalbert Pimentel, police cadet Maxime Filiatrault, police cadet Maxime Foucault and, far right, Commander Stéphane Plourde. Of Centre Greene, far right in white shirt is executive director Wesley McCoy.

Photo courtesy of Centre Greene

THADDEUS HOLOWNIA



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Vic Hall fills to capacity to

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

As some 500 people from all walks of life began filling the seats and balcony of Victoria Hall to celebrate the life of Sally Aitken September 7, it soon became apparent that the turnout in itself exemplified the extraordinary way in which a very humble woman had touched so many

lives.

“My mother would be slightly embarrassed by today’s large gathering,” said daughter Jennifer Aitken.

But Mayor Peter Trent, one of the speakers, defined the reaction: “All Westmount loved Sally.”

Activist, rights advocate and former city coun-

continued on p. 11



Sally Aitken's family gathers for a photo during her memorial, September 7 at Victoria Hall.

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honour Sally Aitken (1937-2011)

continued from p. 10

cillor, Aitken lost a long battle with various cancers on July 31 at age 73 at home after welcoming dozens of friends and cohorts to share her last days with her, supported by her family (See August 9, p. 6). And many of those were among the standing-room only celebration of her life.

“She revelled in all that life offered and by all accounts did it well,” said her husband Allan Aitken, who recalled the day in 1983 when she launched her political career of two council terms on the very stage where he now stood. Her opening line: “I’m so nervous.”

Describing her as warm and caring, son Ian recalled how “when she got involved it was because she wanted to get involved surrounded by like-minded people wanting to change the world.”

Among the many institutions and causes she supported were: Children for Peace; recycling, pesticides and pornography control; Planned Parenthood; nuclear disarmament; education reform; advocacy for nursing homes and seniors’ residences; the YMCA; the WMA; the Westmount Public Library; Polio-Quebec and the Healthy City Project, which she founded.

If she had had a sign for her desk – the kitchen table, said Trent, it would have read: “Lost souls found here.”

The Aitken kitchen

In fact, it was to the Aitken kitchen on Arlington that anyone went who wanted advice or support to further a cause, pointed out longtime friend Georgia Copland, another speaker. “Most of the important work that took place in Westmount took place there.”

The round wooden table was surrounded by papers and files, as many recalled.

“I thought of it as the command centre,” explained Jennifer, who recalled people “of all shapes and sizes, colours and backgrounds around our table – activists, friends, relatives and friends of relatives.”

Clergyman Peter Davison, who married Sally and Allan 50 years ago, spoke of her “pursuit of justice” while 10-year-old Clare – one of eight grandchildren and the daughter of their son James – related the feelings she had for her grandmother. Interestingly, it is she and her family who now live in the house on Arlington.

To mark Aitken’s Scottish roots, a piper playing “Amazing Grace” concluded the formal celebration before a reception took place for all.



Allan Aitken welcomed family, friends and many of Sally Aitken's colleagues.

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One last paint job for hockey ice at arena

Alain Lapointe was hard at work at the Westmount arena on September 7. He was part of a team that specializes in painting the lines beneath the ice in hockey arenas. They were completing what is expected to be the last ice painting job at the old arena before it undergoes a major refurbishment, which will include a new hockey rink.

According to Andrew Maislin, coordinator with the Sports and Recreation department, the years that the old arena was in service – 1958 to 2012 – will be painted under the ice for the coming fall and winter season.

– M.C.B.



Professional hockey rink ice painter Alain Lapointe works on the logo of the Atom A Westmount Wings hockey team on September 7.

Graffiti vandal in action caught on film

The city of Westmount will pursue a 17-year-old from Toronto for damages related to graffiti at the comfort station in Westmount Park, Public Security officials said last week. The culprit was reported to have been captured on camera while spraying the door of the washroom at about 11:37 pm.

Police were called and the culprit was issued a \$118 ticket under municipal by-laws rather than being charged in court because of the out-of-province residency.

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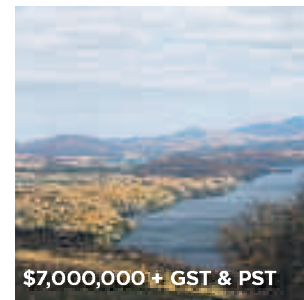
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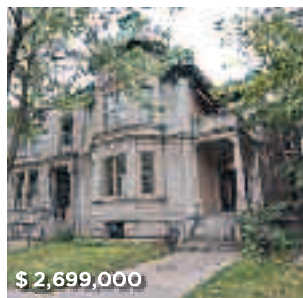
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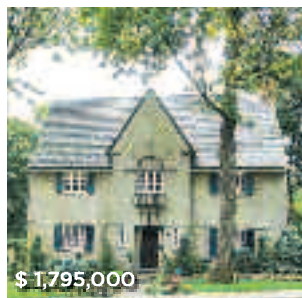
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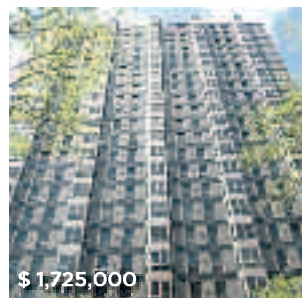
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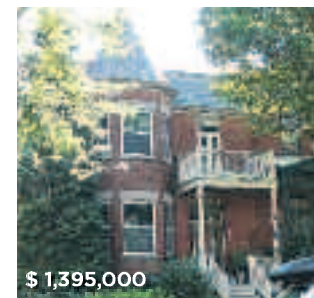
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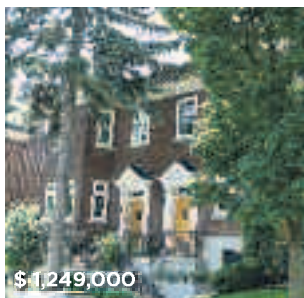
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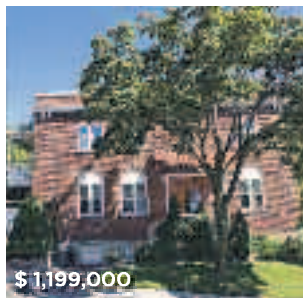
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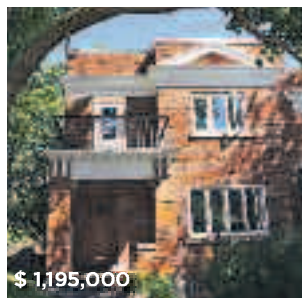
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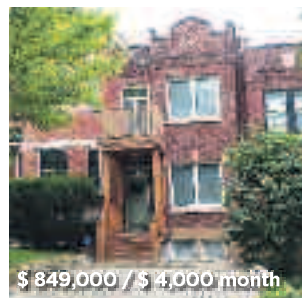
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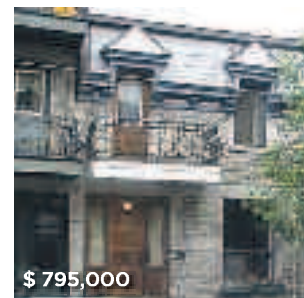
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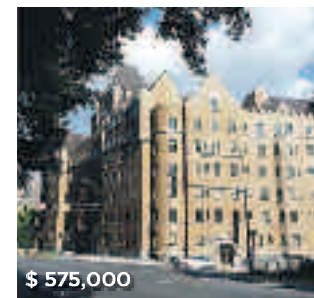
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Mayor: Lower southwest site not Westmount Park

Arena built in no-name park

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

While the site of the current arena and proposed new facility may seem to be in historic Westmount Park, technically it isn't so, Mayor Peter Trent told the September 6 council meeting.

"Let me give you a piece of *real* history," the mayor said in taking to task Patrick Barnard for alleging the new complex threatened to destroy Westmount Park, created in 1898 and now a part of the city's heritage (see story below).

Producing a copy of an 1898 map, Trent proceeded to explain that Westmount Park had always been confined to the parcel of park south of Sherbrooke and north of what was then called Western Ave., now de Maisonneuve Blvd. The street, which used to run where the bike path is now, formed the south edge of the park from Melville to Lansdowne.

A 1907 map shows the portion of land now occupied by the arena and Lansdowne dog run divided into building lots

continuing north along Lansdowne towards Western Ave. and the Westmount Methodist Church (now Westmount Park Church).

In 1910, the city bought a large section of land to extend the park south to where Academy is now and sell off building lots along St. Catherine as a business venture. A map of 1915 depicts it as "public park."

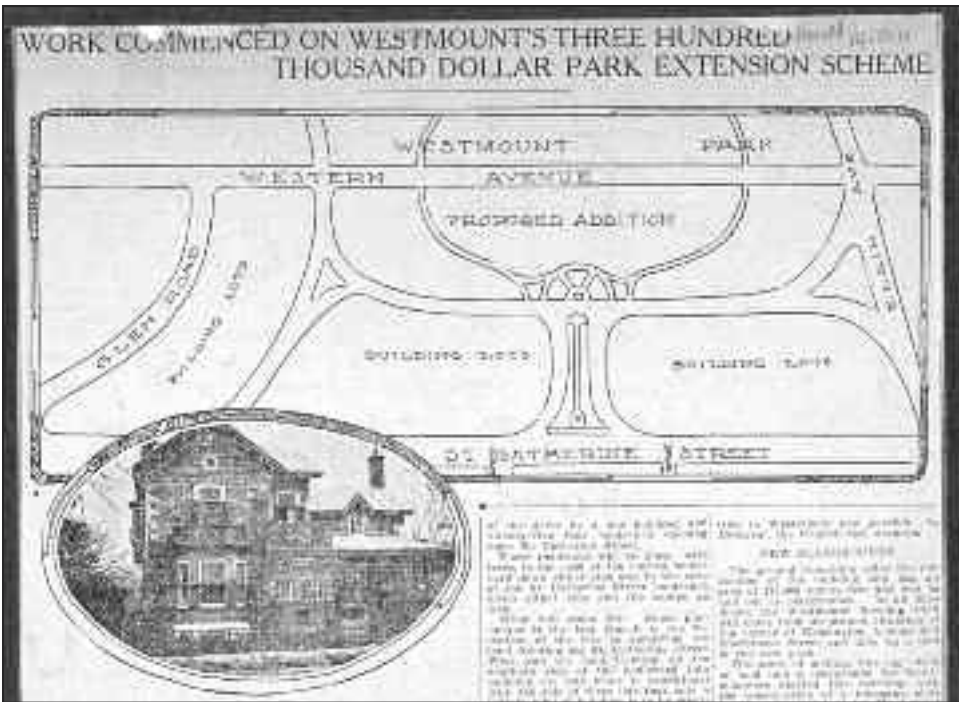
But the site of the portion of land to the southwest remained subdivided right up to 1930, Trent said.

The current arena was built in 1957 and the pool in 1962 at the site formerly occupied by tennis courts.

In the 1970s, de Maisonneuve had become a speedway, according to some, between the original Westmount Park and the extension enclosed by Academy Rd. to the south.

In the 1980s, Trent explained how then alderman John Shingler persuaded council to permanently close the stretch of street along the park, grass it over and add an

continued on p. 20



Date of the story in the above newspaper clipping is November 14, 1910.

Image courtesy of Patrick Martin

Arena/pool project: hot topic at council



Mayor Peter Trent listens to Patrick Barnard.



Patrick Barnard: Parks everywhere need protecting.

"far longer" than planned, he conceded, tender specifications should be ready in time to launch a call for bids by year-end or the start of 2011 (see August 9, p. 7).

Trent lashed out against a *La Presse* online article last month by leading project critic and Save the Park founder Patrick Barnard in which he suggested the project threatened the heritage of century-old

Westmount Park and was a "vanity project for the city and mayor."

The battle cry "save the park" was disingenuous because, Trent said, the underground project will actually increase green space and "where the arena is, and will be, was never part of Westmount Park."

In fact, the "century-old" park did not extend south of de Maisonneuve, he said,

producing historical maps showing how the portion of current parkland containing the arena had been subdivided into building lots for development that never took place (see story above).

Furthermore, he said, the so-called "mega" project was adding only 37 percent more ice surface and 33 percent more outdoor pool area. As for having two NHL-size rinks, that was the standard to which all tournament rinks were now being built. The current arena now has one NHL rink and half of one.

Asked by hockey players Howard Hoppenheim and Nicolas Matossian how the city planned to respond to an online petition of Save the Park group and deal with the "naysayers," Councillor Martin began by saying the petition was "leading people down the garden path in the park."

He had read in the preamble, for example, that the project would cost \$52 million, the dog run would be eliminated, park space would be decreased, and that the project should include a combination indoor/outdoor pool. Trent also noted there was no mention of the \$20-million grant to offset the \$37-million cost.

In fact, Martin said, council was not empowered to spend more than \$37 million, the dog run would remain in approx-

continued from p. 1

imately the same place and the park's green space would increase by an acre due to the rinks being underground. Montreal's climate makes it "impossible" to build an all-seasons pool, he said.

Martin said the petition's claims were "unfortunate" because they take away the validity of the project. And, the petition's credibility was further lacking by attracting many non-residents and anonymous names and by being placed in a downtown bookstore. There were reported to be some 1,700 names or signatures.

The negative publicity, Trent said, was a disservice to taxpayers at a time the city would be launching a \$5-million fundraising campaign to help defray costs. He noted that consultations with user groups were now under way.

"It's time to pack it in, Mr. Barnard," Trent said.

In reply, Barnard said that parkland everywhere needed protecting. He added that he would be presenting a "technical solution" to the project as part of a presentation at upcoming public consultations on the development plan of the MMC, the Montreal Metropolitan Commission (see August 30, p. 5).

Taking arena dispute to the streets



Lamppost at corner of Prince Albert and de Maisonneuve on September 8.

Photo: Westmount Independent

While the *Independent* has not witnessed any “brawls” at city meetings (*pace* other media reports), the spirited arena debate has spilled from the op ed pages and council chambers into the streets. This lamppost on Prince Albert south of the de Maisonneuve contained opposing messages on September 8. On the lower sheet, arena skeptics have reproduced an August 11 *Gazette* article and entreat residents to find and sign the “Change Westmount arena plan” petition (see story April 26, p. 5). At press time, the petition stood at 1,773 signatories, including anonymous and non-resident signatures.

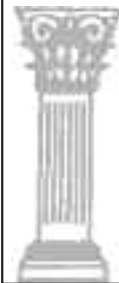
The upper flyer asks: “Aux membres du ‘Sauvons le parc’: Saviez-vous que poser une question au Conseil de Ville ne nécessite pas un ton agressif et condescendant?” [To members of Save the Park: Do you know that asking a question of city council does not require an aggressive and condescending tone?]

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City of Westmount



AVIS PUBLIC
CODE D'ÉTHIQUE ET DE DÉONTOLOGIE
DES ÉLUS MUNICIPAUX

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné qu'un projet de règlement intitulé « **RÈGLEMENT SUR LE CODE D'ÉTHIQUE ET DE DÉONTOLOGIE DES MEMBRES DU CONSEIL** » a été présenté par monsieur le conseiller Victor M. Drury, lors de la séance ordinaire du conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount tenue le 6 septembre 2011.

Ce projet de règlement vise à adopter un code d'éthique et de déontologie des membres du conseil qui soit conforme aux exigences de la *Loi sur l'éthique et la déontologie en matière municipale* (L.R.Q., chapitre E-15.1.0.1).

Ce code énonce les principales valeurs de la ville en matière d'éthique, ainsi que les règles de déontologie qui doivent guider les membres du conseil. Les règles énoncées dans ce code concernent, notamment, l'indépendance de jugement des élus eu égard à leurs intérêts personnels, le favoritisme, la malversation, les abus de confiance ou autres inconduites, les dons et autres avantages, l'utilisation des ressources de la ville ainsi que l'après-mandat. Ce code prévoit également les sanctions que peut entraîner tout manquement à l'une ou l'autre de ses règles.

Ce projet de règlement sera présenté pour adoption au cours de la séance ordinaire du conseil devant se tenir à la salle du conseil de l'hôtel de ville de Westmount le lundi **3 octobre 2011 à 20 h**.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter ce règlement et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffier situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 13 septembre 2011.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCT
APPLICABLE TO ELECTED OFFICERS

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that a draft by-law entitled "**BY-LAW RESPECTING THE CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**" was tabled by Councillor Victor M. Drury at the regular sitting of Council held on September 6, 2011.

The object of this draft by-law is to adopt a code of ethics and conduct applicable to council members that meets the requirements of the *Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act* (R.S.Q., chapter E-15.1.0.1).

This Code sets out the main ethical values of the City and the rules of conduct that must be observed by Council members. The rules framed in this code addresses such issues as the elected officers independence of judgment versus private interests, favoritism, embezzlement, breach of trust and other misconduct, gifts and other benefits and the uses of municipal resources as well as post-term issues. This Code also provides for the sanctions that a violation of any of its rules may entail.

This draft by-law will be submitted for adoption at the regular sitting of Council which will be held in the Council Chamber at City Hall on **October 3, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.**

Any interested person may consult the said by-law and obtain copies thereof at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, this September 13, 2011.

Mario Gerbeau
Greffier de la ville / City Clerk

Arena site's history

continued from p. 18

acre of green space to the park.

In 1986, Trent, who was commissioner of Planning and Development on the same council as Shingler, proceeded to re-zone all land owned by the city as parkland.

Shingler was in the audience to hear the "history lesson," though he did not speak.

The decision of the current council to build the two new ice rinks underground would reclaim yet another acre of parkland in what might be now called, it seems, a no-name park.



1907 map shows the locations of building lots, the site of the current and proposed arena facilities. Note the different configuration of Lansdowne.

Map courtesy of Peter Trent

North Face's Bucci supports the Y



Boutique North Face owner Steve Bucci September 1 in his shop.

Steve Bucci, owner of Boutique North Face on Sherbrooke St. in Westmount, is making a contribution to the Westmount YMCA's summer day camp program.

In addition to providing funding for five kids who would otherwise not be able to attend the Y's day camp this past summer, Bucci donated gift certificates worth \$300 to help with fundraising activities.

The shop is also calling on those who wish to be involved to help raise funds for the Y's Strong Kids Campaign through the sale of special North Face Montreal t-shirts soon to be sold. For every shirt sold, \$5 will go towards the campaign.

"Supporting the Westmount Y centre's Strong Kids Campaign is the best way to give Montreal kids a head start," said Bucci. "We feel it is important for all kids to have the opportunity to grow up active and learn to love the outdoors."

For the fall 2011 season, Boutique North Face is having a special in-store launch event in October to raise additional donations. Funds gathered during the event will help send kids to Y day camp during the summer of 2012.

– MCB

On the Market

Life on the top floor comes with serious views



Exterior of 4175 St. Catherine St.

PHOTOS AND STORY BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Claim to fame: This was the second most expensive condo below Sherbrooke in Westmount listed on MLS.CA at press time.

“Life at the top” for some means living

in a full-service luxury building with a gym, private restaurant and indoor pool – and on the 19th floor.

Priced at \$1,995,000, it is one of two units on the 19th floor of the Château Westmount Square, located at 4175 St. Catherine St., each with its own private el-



Sutton Centre Ouest broker Judith Litvack is seen here in the 19th floor condo's spacious living room.

evator stop.

Featuring a large living room with an adjoining space for dining, two bedrooms, two bathrooms and a powder room, the condo has a total of six rooms.

“This is larger than most homes that people live in,” said Sutton Centre Ouest

broker Judith Litvack, who is representing the seller.

It is also one of the few residences in Westmount where the southerly view through the living room and kitchen windows takes in a wide swath of the St. Lawrence *continued on p. 25*

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School open houses start soon

The Study: Thursday, October 6, from 8:30 to 11:30 am, and 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Kindergarten open house: Tuesday, November 15. Tours at 9 am. Presentation and activities at 10 am.

ECS: Thursday, October 6, tour and classroom visits from 9 to 11:30 am. Tour and meet faculty from 4:30 to 7 pm.

Trafalgar: Saturday, September 24, from 10 am to 1 pm.

Selwyn House: Thursday, October 6, from 5 to 8 pm, school tours; 6 pm, grade 7 presentation. Kindergarten open house:

Thursday, November 10, from 8:30 to 10 am school tours; 10 am Kindergarten presentation.

Villa Maria: French sector open house Saturday, September 24, from 1 to 5 pm; English sector open house Saturday, October 1, from 1 to 5 pm.

LCC: Saturday, October 1, from 9 am to 12 pm; Wednesday, October 5, from 10 am to 2 pm and 4 to 7 pm. Kindergarten open house Wednesday, November 2, from 9:30 to 11:30 am; presentation at 10:15 am; Fall pre-university open house Thursday, December 1, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm; tours at 5:30 pm.

The Priory: Sunday, October 23, from 2 to 4 pm and Tuesday, October 25, from 9:30 to 11:30 am.

St. George's: High school open houses Saturday, October 1, from 12 to 3 pm and Monday, October 3, from 8:30 to 11 am. Elementary school open houses Wednesday, October 12, from 8:30 to 11 am and Thursday, October 13, from 8:30 to 11 am.

Villa St. Marcelline: Thursday, September 29, from 4 to 8 pm. For Kindergarten and elementary school, by appointment.

Sacred Heart: Saturday, September 24, from 1 to 4 pm.

Académie Michèle-Provost: Every Thursday, from 10 am to 12 pm.

Collège international Marie de France: Saturday, October 1, 10 am to 3 pm for kindergarten, elementary, secondary and collegial.

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Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

• The **University Women's Club of Montreal** holds its first dinner meeting of the season at the Atwater Club, 3505 Atwater Ave. Cost: \$30.76. Reserve and info: 514.288.9765. Newcomers welcome.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

• A program of words and music called "**River City: The Reading**" with Trevor Ferguson and Dave Gossage, presenting the new John Farrow novel, *River City*, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library.

• "Life on the Lower East Side," with **John Felvinci** at Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom from Sept. 15 to Oct. 6, from 1 to 3 pm. Cost: \$45. Part of Cummings Centre's "In the City" program.

• **Westmount Historical Association** presents "Westmount sports clubs since the 1880s," with speaker Patrick Martin, past president of the Mount Royal Tennis Club. At the Westmount Public Library, 7 to 9 pm. Coffee and cookies available from 6:30. Admission free for members; non-members \$5 at door. Info: 514.989.5510.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

• Join the Royal Astronomical Society and **observe the night skies** through telescopes at Summit Lookout, from 7 to 10 pm. Organized by Healthy City Project and Community Events. Bring your own cup for free hot apple juice. Info: 514.989.5226.

• "**After Hours**" at Westmount Public Library, 7 pm. Author John Gilmore will read from his new novel *Head of a Man* and his book on the history of jazz in Montreal, *Swinging in Paradise*. Montreal vocalist Vivienne Deane and pianists Martin Franklin and Felix Stüssi provide the musical entertainment.

• Oink! Oink! presents Montreal author **Suzanne Reisler Litwin**, who will be launching her first children's book *The*

Black Velvet Jacket at noon at Oink! Oink! (1335 Greene Ave.) Info: 514.939.2634.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

• Westmount's **Terry Fox Run**, 11 am in Westmount Park, Sherbrooke side.

• **Friendly pick-up soccer game**, 10:30 am at Westmount Park, lower field (Melville side). No stud cleats. Info: John Fretz, 514.939.5670 or supermolto@sympatico.ca.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Concert of **Ensemble QAT: 1938** performs at 7:30 pm at Victoria Hall. Four musicians present musical pieces from 1938, produced on the brink of World War II. Tickets: \$20, available at Victoria Hall.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

The Good Neighbourly Communications Committee meets from 7 pm to 8:30 pm at 5100 de Maisonneuve. The date was changed from the previously scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 13.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23,

The **Second Annual Theresa Foundation Benefit**, 7:30 pm at the Westmount Park Church, 305 Lansdowne. An evening of music, theatre and poetry to raise money for the people of Mnjale, Malawi and other AIDS-stricken villages. Tickets: 20\$ general admission; students 10\$. Cash bar serving wine and beer. Info: 514.485.6327 or www.theresafoundation.com.



In Other Words

Garneau wants to see Canada in on a red planet mission

MP for Westmount-Ville Marie Marc Garneau posted an August 30 commentary on *The Mark*, a Canadian daily online forum for news, commentary, and debate. He expressed sadness that there would be no future US space shuttle launches from NASA's Kennedy Space Center and encouraged an active participation from Canada in space exploration, even suggesting a trip to Mars.

"I think Canada should also be audacious and commit to an ambitious and inspiring exploration project – specifically, a scientific mission to Mars, in which Canada would have principal responsibility for the spacecraft that would land on the surface and perform a series of scientific experiments chosen by our Canadian space scientists," he wrote.



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Out of the darkness and into the light



The Underdog Club
CYNTHIA LEE

You may have read about it over coffee recently one morning in the paper. Another raid, this time in Lachute. It's yet another story of an alleged hoarder, keeping

dozens of dogs tethered to trees, waiting for salvation. This time salvation came in the form of several animal rescue groups, including Sophie's Dog Adoptions.

Some of the dogs saved that night and now under the care of Sophie's Dog Adoptions were four huskies, including three males: Blueberry, Mr. Brown and Tundra; and one female, Thunder.

Then, there's Kali, a mysterious Eurasian breed, also saved on that muddy night.

All of the dogs have been treated for malnourishment, are now free of parasites and have been given their basic shots.

Amazingly, they are adoptable, meaning they can be re-habbed. At present they have the mentality of puppy mill inmates and don't know how to act like dogs. They don't walk well on grass or pavement as they have never done so before, they lack house-training, and don't understand basic commands.

Due to their confinement, open spaces intimidate them. But their spirits are proving to rise above their pasts, and all five are



Blueberry and Mr. Brown

.....
continued on p. 25

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Stranded woman given a lift

A late-night altercation between a man and a woman at the Summit lookout September 3 ended with the man speeding away after angrily ordering her out of the car, Public Security officials said.

The incident occurred when a patroller came across the illegally parked car at 1:49 am and asked the driver to move. He was described as very aggressive. The patroller then drove the stranded woman, a resident of St. Laurent, to Redfern and Sherbrooke.



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More on the huskies

continued from p. 24

lovable and have the potential to be great companions.

Despite the fact the four are huskies, these do not require massive amounts of exercise. But they badly need loving homes and good people to help them find courage to come out of the darkness and into the light.

Does your little light shine so very bright? Why not cast some of your brilliance on these very worthy creatures? Please contact Sophie's Dog Adoptions at info@sophiesdogadoption.com or call 514-523-5052.

Please inquire to find out more about the varied ages of these dogs. They range from approximately 10 months to seven years old.

*See more underdogs at
www.underdogclub.org.*



Kali

On the market

continued from p. 21

River, while the Westmount mountain can be seen each morning through a north-facing bedroom window.

"You can imagine what that's like in the fall with the foliage," added Litvack, as she opened the bedroom blinds to reveal the mountainside view.

"When you have coffee in this kitchen every morning, you can do traffic reports of the Champlain Bridge," she said about the southern exposure, while noting that on a clear day you can see all the way to Vermont.

According to Litvack, the Château Westmount Square is perhaps the only condo complex in Montreal that has a private restaurant for residents. "You can eat in the restaurant or they will cater to you," she said.

Taxes for 2011 taxes (school and municipal): \$15,801

Co-ownership fees: \$15,840.

On the Market is content written entirely by the Independent and is not paid for by real estate sellers or their agents.



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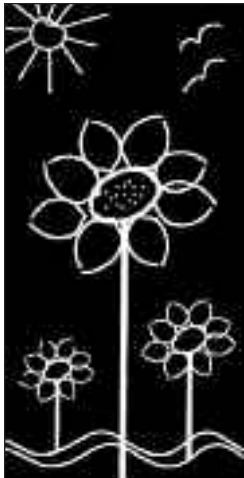
Some space still available in the following fall courses: Tai Chi, Bridge (3 levels), Great American Cities and Line Dancing.

Call to ask for details, and also to find out about our terrific inter-generational choir and our collective kitchen experiment.

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Keep ladders hidden or locked

A burglar, who broke into a house on Westmount Ave. overnight August 30-31, used a ladder from a neighbour to gain access through an upstairs rear window, Public Security officials said. It was the neighbour who called the unit wondering why the ladder was up against the other home.

Once public safety officers discovered a screen on the ground and a window open, police were called. In the absence of residents, a contact person arrived on the scene and police went through the house finding it had been systematically searched. It was not immediately known what might have been taken.

“Don’t keep ladders visible and unlocked where they can provide easy access to criminals,” advised assistant director Greg McBain.

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Callie with the pink nose



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Callie is a striking calico domestic shorthair kittie, a big-boned, 15-pound one at that. She has a distinctly patterned face that makes you look at her twice, since she has a very striking pink nose!

She was raised by her previous family from kittenhood and now, in her 7th year, they have decided that they want to travel and can’t keep her.

Callie was taken in by Gerdy’s Rescues and Adoptions as a compassionate placement and is now a marvellous candidate for adoption in our community.

She is understandably a little quiet now, wondering what has happened to her, but she will fit in beautifully in a new family with a warm home life.

Callie has a lot of affection to give, loves exploring like all curious cats and enjoys a good windowsill to snooze on in the sun. She is very healthy, has had all her shots,

and was spayed. Since her front paws were declawed, she is an indoor-only cat.

If you would like to find out more about gorgeous Callie, please page Gerdy’s Rescues and Adoptions at 514.203.9180 or email info@gerdysrescue.org. You can also take a peek at her on the rescue’s website at www.gerdysrescue.org.

Your neighbour, Lysanne



Callie

OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6TH 2011



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