

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 6 No. 4c

We are Westmount

April 17-18, 2012

Ludmer and Westmount Park Church file action

Court asked to put freeze on arena/pool project

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Attempts to start work next week on the arena/pool project took a new twist April 13 when a longtime project critic and Westmount Park United Church combined to seek a court freeze on work until requests for temporary and permanent injunctions could be heard.

The request to Quebec Superior Court

against the city and contractor Pomerleau Inc. was taken by David Ludmer, an architect living on Grosvenor, the church through Reverend Frank Giffen, its minister, and Robert Tait of Blenheim Place, the church's clerk of sessions.

At press time Monday, April 16, a date for the hearing was in flux but expected in two or three days.

The church, Giffen said, is concerned about possible loss of road access on de Maisonneuve including the turnaround and damage from vibrations during construction to its stonework that has been undergoing repair.

Ludmer, who declined comment on his action, *continued on p. 12*

**Remembering
Virginia McClure,
p. 10**

Last skate at arena?



Photos: Ralph Thompson

Sunday April 15, 10 pm in the Westmount Arena, Westmounter Lew Haddad, left, and Gus Palkovi take a last sentimental skate around the practice rink, while the CEOs battle it out against the PhDs in the last event in the arena before its planned demolition. Haddad had been skating in the arena in the late evening five times a week for the past 10 years since he retired from teaching physics at Dawson College. Inset: At 10:45 pm, all that's left is to turn out the lights.

Parking inspectors struck

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two city parking inspectors have taken the city's zero tolerance crackdown on abuse of employees to heart in laying charges against alleged assailants in separate incidents April 4, Public Security officials said. Both occurred on St. Catherine St.

One was struck on the head; the other on the shoulder, knocking his microphone to the ground and breaking it.

Speaking to the issue of zero tolerance,

city director general Duncan Campbell said last week that to not prosecute offenders sends the wrong message. "Our parking inspectors shouldn't be targets for abuse just because someone thinks they can be treated that way because they pay their salaries."

Following an incident in March, he said, "in which another parking inspector was assaulted and neither the individual nor police wanted to lay charges, we spoke to police and said whether they want to or not, we *continued on p. 10*

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Redfern to become two ways for half a block

Tickets issued for by-law violations at two condo projects

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

An issue of work site management and control by the city raised its head over the holiday weekend when two large condo construction sites were found to be in violation of city regulations.

Three tickets totalling \$1,142 were handed out at 1250 Greene April 6 for work being carried out on a legal holiday, Good Friday, Public Security officials said. Another for \$1,250 was issued to 215 Redfern by Urban Planning for leaving the work site unsecured.

In the case of contractors disregarding city by-laws because the cost of a ticket might be “peanuts” compared with discontinuing the work, for example, city director general Duncan Campbell said that the escalating costs of subsequent tickets could be a deterrent. In some cases, the city would likely have to speak directly to the owner.

On the other hand, he added, it was incumbent on the city to explain Westmount’s statutory holidays at the time of issuing a permit. They sometimes differ from those in other jurisdictions.

Disobeying orders

Of the three tickets handed out at 1250 Greene, one was given to the site supervisor for disobeying an order to stop the work. Two others for \$257 each were issued to the construction company, Reliance, for working on the holiday and for using heavy equipment at that time.

On Saturday, April 7, the condo development at 215 Redfern was found to have been left unsecured with what was described as a gaping hole through the loading dock. Hoarding around the perimeter had not been completed. The \$1,250 ticket was subsequently issued when the same situation was observed April 10.

While both the exterior demolition permit and the building permit were issued March 23 for the work on Redfern, Campbell said, the city is awaiting a revised site management plan, which includes the circulation flow of construction vehicles on Redfern.

A previous plan that had been agreed to in theory was to have the trucks loop around the back of the building site and exit onto St. Catherine, he said. But this was found during a site visit to require too tight a turn once the hoarding is in place.

Redfern two-ways

Now, Campbell said, Redfern will become two ways between St. Catherine and the northern point of the worksite. This will enable trucks to use Redfern while not proceeding north to de Maisonneuve. Redfern is usually one-way north to de Maisonneuve.

It will require changes to the traffic lights at St. Catherine as well as special

parking for residents.

Traffic has been a contentious issue for the condo development since the public demolition meeting June 28. Various options had been considered but the final decision was one that had seemed the most likely (see October 4, p. 6).

Trees removed

As well, because some trees on the

work site have already been removed without a permit, the required application was expected to be presented to city council for approval at its mid-month meeting April 16. Campbell said he did not believe any fines had been issued in regard to the cut trees, however. It is understood that the city will require four new mature replacement trees to be planted.

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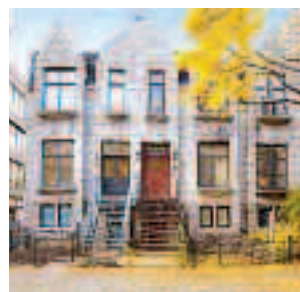
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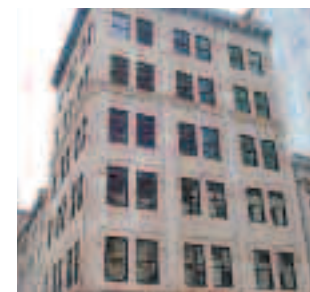
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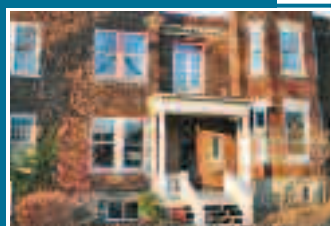


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OLD PUTTING GREEN PERFECT PLACE TO RELOCATE DOG RUN

As a dog owner and lover, I would like to applaud the decision of the council to move the dog run to the old putting green.

This is a brilliant decision and one I suggested about 15 years ago when there was conflict between the dog run people and the residents of Lansdowne.

A five-foot fence, along with the hedges around the area, will be great at keeping the dogs inside, as long as there is the double gate entrance. This should ease any fears of the dogs escaping and knocking people over.

This area is also a lot safer for the dogs than the current one, which is so close to Lansdowne. There have been dogs killed on Lansdowne.

Few people sit in this area to read quietly. Most I see sit around the flower mound next to the large field.

The day camps in the summer also have a lot of alternatives: the fenced-in soccer field, where I have seen them many times; the large soccer field; the area where the checkerboards and shuffleboards were; the island in the lagoon and the field in front of the school.

I doubt very highly that many residents from Academy Rd. will be able to escape the noise of the construction by sitting in there. The noise will carry all over the area.

I think the old putting green is the most sensible choice of a place to relocate the dog run.

BELINDA BOWES, ACADEMY RD.

WHY THE DISGRUNTLEMENT OVER DOG RUN?

So much hostility towards our four-legged friends in our Westmount haven. How can this be?

I believe most people know how much benefit a pet brings to our health – mental and physical. If we are to be the beneficiaries of the comfort and love these animals bestow upon us, it is only fair that we provide them with the environment they deserve, and for many dogs our local dog runs provide the only place where they can run and socialize freely.

Despite the helpful suggestion in a letter in the April 10 issue of the *Independent* (“Dog runs not green”) that a dog owner can easily take a 10-minute walk from Westmount Park to Murray Park, many dog owners are not able to walk that far and definitely not that fast up the hill to Murray Park.

As a long-time dog owner who has been walking a dog throughout the neighbourhoods of both Murray and Westmount parks for over 14 years, I have rarely seen any sneaky escapees (dogs tend to be quite overt when they run off), and

never seen any person – young or old – bowled over or injured.

Some dogs bark more than others, but this sound, for me, is far less offensive than the use of leaf blowers and various other horticultural weaponry, not to mention the unpleasant sounds of interminable construction projects.

But, it is all part of summer life in the suburbs, and I think we should simply appreciate how relatively good life is here and not get so agitated about minor and temporary blips in our otherwise comfortable environment.

I congratulate the councillors for their patience in dealing with all the disgruntlement any plan or decision seems to provoke.

LYNDA TAYLOR, STRATHCONA AVE.

FOCUS ON ARTERIAL STREETS

I am happy that Westmount traffic planning is doing this study because traffic in Westmount is poorly managed.

The main issue is managing traffic on arterial streets. The city cannot avoid the 66,000 vehicles that transit Westmount every day. Nor should Westmount make that transit such a difficult journey that drivers seek an alternate route.

The objective is to get those transit vehicles in and out of Westmount as quickly as possible.

Today on arterial streets, there are too many “locks,” that is, when one traffic light turns green, the light at the next intersection turns red, meaning a vehicle can only travel one block before having to stop again.

During rush hours, traffic can back up so much that it blocks the intersection where the light is green, thus impeding traffic on the cross street when that light changes.

I wrote to Westmount’s roads department about this issue. My email was forwarded to Hydro Westmount. Hydro replied that they had checked the lights and all was fine. But the next morning nothing had changed.

Some say these locks slow traffic and

make our streets safer. I don’t think this is true. It only results in frustrated, angry motorists on clogged streets and more pollution from idling vehicles.

When some exits on the 720 were closed for repairs, we had more early morning vehicles travelling through. On the radio, announcers joked how they had to stop at every light and that Westmount was so inhospitable as if to try to make travelling through our city as unpleasant as possible. As a Westmount resident, I was somewhat ashamed.

Focusing on traffic flow on the arterial streets is the main issue. There is really not enough traffic on collectors to be of much concern.

STEVE WEIR, PARKMAN PL.

HOW MANY OPPOSE THE DOG RUN MOVE?

Following a very frustrating experience at the last council meeting, it became apparent that a decision regarding the moving of the [Lansdowne] dog run to a central location in [Westmount] park is now a *fait accompli*.

What is more disturbing is that green space, culture, the very young and the seniors are shunted aside to make room for a very small part of the population.

I am surprised by the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding this decision. I wonder if it is just a small number of residents who do not like this intended move, or is there a significant number of residents who like the park the way it is now?

If the number is really small then we will cease and desist with our objections. But if those of like mind do not agree with the decision, please reply to me at fmollermt@yahoo.com and if the number is meaningful, I will put together a petition for presentation to the city council, including each complainant’s name, email address and Westmount street.

FRANK MOLLER, STANTON ST.

Possible theft avoided?

Public safety officers followed a suspicious looking person at 12:30 am as he emerged from Hallowell and walked through streets and lanes leading to Centre Greene on April 5. He was intercepted by police on Stayner St. Public Security officials said he was identified as having a dossier for theft but was not in possession of anything. PSOs followed him until he left Westmount. He was from Salaberry de Valleyfield.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount.

Weekly
Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

PUBLISHER & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: David Price

EDITOR: Kristin McNeill

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

LETTERS & COMMENTS:

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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Correction

In “An update on four condo projects in Westmount” (April 10, p. 12), regarding the 215 Redfern project, the story read “A hoarding notice has been posted on the boards with a message for residents who wish to communicate with the developers.” In fact, at press time, the notice was not posted.

30 turn out from Lansdowne/de Maisonneuve area

Parking concerns voiced over arena/pool construction

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Lansdowners at a District 5 neighbourhood meeting April 11 joined a chorus of other residents who live near the arena/pool site in voicing common concerns over the impact of parking during the pending construction phase.

Others, including some living on de Maisonneuve, asked wide-ranging questions in many areas that covered the tennis backboard, arena exhaust, seating, by-law enforcement, arena rental, the dog run and security. But it was the parking that led off the queries.

Zones reserved for residents only were being designated on other streets adjacent to the site, said Cheryl-lynn Rogers. She feared that visitors and other parkers from those streets would be shifted onto Lansdowne, where residents already found parking scarce.

“We’d like special parking for residents,” she said. “Why is it being provided for these other streets?”

Councillor Gary Ikeman, who chaired the meeting attended by about 30 at Victoria Hall, explained that “all the action”

from the building site was going to take place around St. Catherine St. and Academy Rd. and was not expected to spill over onto Lansdowne.

“However,” he emphasized, “this is not final and something we can look at.”

Former mayor Karin Marks, attending as a Lansdowne resident, suggested that a two-hour parking restriction would help, since residents with parking stickers would be able to over-ride the time limit and it would allow for parking for their guests.

Marks, whose council had originally proposed an above-ground recreation centre, said she was pleased the underground arena would have windows along Lansdowne to let in natural light.

While the meeting was held specifically to present city plans to mitigate disruption during construction, much of the two-hour session was taken up by a discussion of the project itself, as presented by Councillor Patrick Martin (see story, p. 12).


Many subjects raised

Replying to many of the questions raised, Martin explained that the city

would investigate new types of net-like movable tennis backboards and suggested the possibility of acquiring two that could be placed at any of the courts.

There would be seating for about 200.

Given the plans for energy recuperation and heat exchange at the new arena, Martin said *continued on p. 21*



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Teens watched in suspicious overnight activity

Two Montreal teenagers were watched by public safety officers in the early hours of April 6 as they checked out cars up and down various streets, Public Security officials said.

They were followed as they walked back and forth on Grey Ave. in NDG, Victoria, Westmount Ave., Côte St. Antoine and Sherbrooke, where they were finally stopped near 4250 Olivier and issued \$37 tickets under Westmount's traffic by-law for not crossing the street at a crosswalk. Police were called to confirm their identity.

Nolan cheered on by Rolsyn and Westmount Park School during his 42-km marathon



The entire student population of Roslyn and grade 5 and 6 students from Westmount Park School, numbering some 600 in total, gathered along Sherbrooke in Westmount Park to cheer along school caretaker Eddy Nolan, April 12 at about 10 am. His run was to commemorate the day Terry Fox started his "Marathon of Hope" April 12, 1980. Nolan, a cancer survivor himself, ran his own 42-km marathon, starting from Montreal West along Sherbrooke to Westmount, where he was cheered on by students, and east along Sherbrooke to Montreal East. He carried the Terry Fox flag and his purpose was "simply to honour Terry Fox," Nolan said.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

Looking for Westmount's secret gardens

The Westmount Horticultural Society is looking for residents who have hidden gardens they might be interested in showing to their neighbours during a Secret Garden Tour on June 13 or, in the event of rain, on June 14.

The society will be organizing the event this year that originated many years ago with the city's Horticultural Advisory Committee (HAC) and will be supplying

the volunteers to staff participating gardens.

As its name suggests, the tour will feature gardens that cannot generally be seen from the street. Residents interested in having their garden considered can email the horticultural society at mm-babineau@gmail.com with the subject "Secret Garden Tour."

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Public Works employee joins overnight pursuit

Retired cop's call leads to graffiti arrest by PSU

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A retired Montreal police officer called Westmount Public Security at 3:47 am April 12 to report graffiti in progress. It triggered an overnight pursuit through streets and alleys that ended at Wood and de Maisonneuve, where public safety officers arrested, handcuffed and held a suspect for police to take into custody.

At least 15 different locations, including the RCMP headquarters building, were subsequently discovered to have been defaced with the same tag, said assistant Public Security director Greg McBain in describing the incident.

A 21-year-old Mississauga man appeared in court the next day charged criminally with the offences, he said.

The suspect is reported to have told public safety officers he was studying in Montreal and taking a course in graffiti.

A full report was turned over the city clerk's office in attempts to recover the cleaning costs related to the damage, said McBain. This is a key component of Westmount's zero tolerance of graffiti.

The initial call to Public Security at 3:47

am reported graffiti being committed in the area of 4505 St. Catherine near Abbott. The witness, the former police officer, provided a description of the suspect as a large man wearing a white hood, as well as the direction in which he was heading.

PSO Marie-Ève Parent, who was patrolling nearby, answered the call but could not find the suspect at that location, McBain said. "She was persistent and continued to search for him."

It was in a bus shelter across from 4271 St. Catherine at Olivier and outside the RCMP building that she spotted a person's hand moving up and down. The person then went behind the RCMP building and after a few moments, crossed the street and headed north in the lane between Olivier and Greene.

Seeing him mark a wall at the rear of 1222 Greene, she ordered him to stop, saying he was under arrest. Instead, he fled south back down the lane and headed north on Greene. She was then joined by PSO Paris Papadotos in the department's unmarked car.

It was around this time that a Public Works employee also arrived to help,

McBain said.

"He had been listening on his radio to PSO Parent's call for assistance and back-up so he took the initiative to jump into his truck and assist in keeping the suspect under surveillance."

The suspect was running east into Westmount Square property and was pursued through the lane past the loading dock and up to de Maisonneuve, where he was caught by Papadotos at Wood.

Ordered to lie on the ground, he was handcuffed and identified through an Ontario driver's licence. He admitted to being drunk and apologized for running away, stating he was afraid of being caught and that he had discarded his paint marker.

The initial witness, the retired police officer, remained on the scene and available throughout, McBain said.

Among the damage discovered were various markings on balconies and walls of private dwellings, a bus shelter, walls and signs at businesses, alleyways and the RCMP building. A follow-up was being carried out April 13 to look for additional markings, McBain said.

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La ville invite les résidents à se prononcer sur les priorités du **Plan directeur de la circulation et du transport actif de Westmount**. Si vous n'avez pas reçu la trousse d'information distribué dans le secteur résidentiel le mois dernier, vous pouvez obtenir un exemplaire dans un des édifices municipaux ou le consulter en ligne au www.westmount.org.

Veuillez retourner le questionnaire rempli au plus tard le 20 avril 2012 en personne, par courrier ou par courriel au plandirecteur@westmount.org.

SEND YOUR TRAFFIC MASTER PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE BY APRIL 20

The City invites residents to submit an opinion on priorities for the **Westmount Traffic and Active Transportation Master Plan**. If you have not received the package that was mailed to all households last month, pick one up at a City building or consult the website at www.westmount.org.

Please return the filled questionnaire by April 20, 2012 in person, by mail or by email to trafficplan@westmount.org.

**Plan directeur de la circulation
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1928-2012

Remembering Virginia McClure

BY HEATHER BLACK

The Westmount community mourns the death of Virginia Gray (Welsford) McClure, a Visual Arts Centre founder and ceramist.



Virginia McClure

Photo courtesy of The Visual Arts Centre

But McClure is perhaps better known for her dedication to the Visual Arts Centre. In 1955, she joined a Westmount ceramics guild, The Potters Club, and was instrumental in its evolution to a private art school, the Visual Arts Centre.

With the centre's founding in 1971, McClure became a driving force, serving as teacher, director and board president. According to its present director Victoria LeBlanc, "she was a source of inspiration, who gave the centre the shape and form of who we are today."

In recognition of her contribution to the centre, the exhibit hall was named in her honour. There, McClure held a retrospective exhibit of her ceramic and plastic work in 2006. She was also a student at the centre and, in recent years, returned to drawing, exhibiting 26 works at the gallery in 2009.

But McClure was also a poet and writer. Her book *Green Jelly Beans: Poems and Monoprints* was published by the Visual Arts to coincide with the 2006 exhibit.

In 2009, she also published *The Yellow Painting*, a personal memoir of her art training and involvement with the centre.

Funeral services were held on April 13 at Westmount Park United Church, where she was an active member. Pre-deceased by husband, Olaf McClure, and son Eric, she is survived by daughter Troy.

In celebration of her life and work, the Visual Arts Centre is publishing a new volume *Drawings by Virginia McClure*. The book launch will be held on Saturday, May 26 at 5 pm in the McClure Gallery.

Parking inspectors

continued from p. 1

will lay charges."

The first of the two recent incidents on April 4 took place at 10:40 am in front of 4120 St. Catherine after an inspector issued a ticket for a delivery truck parked in a bus zone at the corner of Gladstone.

The driver was reported to have crossed the street, grabbed the inspector's arm, yelled at him and hit him on the head with "a downward motion," Public Security officials said. The inspector warned him he was under arrest, and called his supervisor and police as the man entered the building at 4120.

The inspector informed police on their arrival that he would press charges and identified the man as he exited the build-

ing.

At 3:20 pm, another inspector was starting to ticket two cars at expired meters outside 4271 St. Catherine near Clarke when one of the drivers said, "Don't even think about it!" in what was described as a threatening manner.

As the inspector was writing out the ticket regardless, the man began rummaging through items on the back seat of the car, adding that he had "been in Somalia."

When he was handed the ticket, the inspector was struck on the shoulder, knocking his microphone to the ground where it broke but was still able to relay the call for assistance. Police arrived and the man was identified as a 44-year-old Montreal resident.

Leash law in effect April 16

Fretz to speak to historical association about Summit

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As Summit Woods is starting to “burst into life,” conservationists are urging people and their dogs to stick to the trails to avoid trampling and disturbing vulnerable new growth and protected trilliums as well as migratory and nesting birds.

The appeal to respect the woods was made last week by John Fretz, who chairs the Summit Woods Advisory Committee (SWAC) and has been making regular checks of the nature preserve.

As of April 16, dogs must be leashed at all times throughout the migration period, according to the dog by-law 535.

Despite an early spring, Fretz said, the bird and flora sanctuary has remained “very dormant” with only a few plants poking through the ground. “Everything is kind of mixed up this year.”

The first bird-watching gathering of Bird Protection Quebec is already set for Tuesday, April 24 at 7 am at the lookout, he said. Last year, this group identified 32 species of warblers, 22 of which were spot-

ted in one single morning.

Known for its biodiversity, the woods are widely acclaimed for their banks of trilliums, which have attracted interested observers from Europe and the US, said Fretz, who will address the public meeting of the Westmount Historical Association at Westmount Public Library on Thursday, April 19 starting at 7 pm.

“The summit has just started awakening,” he said. There are large clumps of lily of the valley beneath trees, swaths of Adder’s tongue about to bloom, carpets of little blue bells and a mob of stinging nettle rising along the Promenade trail.

“These spring flowers attract insects vital to the migratory birds’ feeding, so it’s high time to keep dogs on leash.”

This year will be a pivotal one for bringing the sanctuary up to preservation standards and for public education, he explained. “I have friends who still think it’s only just a dog run.”

SWAC’s plans for 2012 include the installation of an information board, starting with a

continued on p. 17

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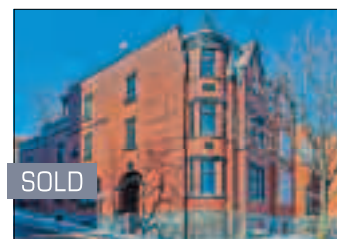
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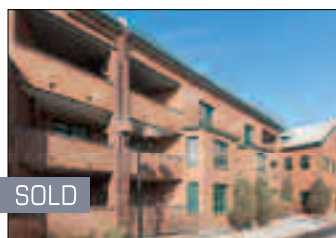
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Martin provides latest insight into arena/pool project

Still time to extend the rink for another \$1-million

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

For the second time within two weeks, a city councillor spoke out publicly on the possibility of extending the shorter of the two rinks proposed for the Westmount recreation centre.

The news was first revealed March 29 by Cynthia Lulham, commissioner of Urban Planning and Parks, at a District 7 neighbourhood meeting on the complex (see April 3, p. 1).

Now, at a District 5 information session held by Councillor Gary Ikeman at Victoria Hall on April 11, the extension possibility came from arena/pool project chair Patrick Martin. The city had kept open the option to build the second rink to 200 feet as part of the Pomerleau design-build contract signed April 2, he told residents of Lansdowne and de Maisonneuve.

“There is the opportunity in the next month if someone wants to come forward with \$1 million,” he said.

Because the arena is underground, the shorter 185-foot rink could not easily be extended at a later date, he pointed out. Its reduced size had been proposed to keep the \$38.3-million project on a construction

budget of \$33.5 million.

Martin provided the latest insight into it whose reduced imprint on the park, he said, “is going to be of enormous benefit to the people in that area.”

By eliminating the north arm of Academy Rd., cars will no longer be able to exit from the arena onto de Maisonneuve and Lansdowne, “so all that traffic will be removed.”

His information to date, he said, indicates the construction fence would be placed along the inside of the sidewalk on the south side of de Maisonneuve enabling the dead-end street in front of Westmount Park Church to remain open.

The hoarding would also protect the big iconic tree to the south. “It’s not looking well,” Martin added, “but everything will be done to protect it.”

He did not know yet whether the contractor would be using one big crane or several smaller movable ones.

Given the nature of the terrain and bedrock being 100 feet down, “we don’t expect difficulties” in excavating to a depth of some 35 feet where the land is not filler. The ground is solid enough, he said, to support the arena without the installation

of piles that were required for the existing arena.

“It’s an unexpected benefit of the mayor’s plan to go underground. We’re digging deeper than where the ravines were” to land that’s been there “10,000 years,” he explained.

It was also expected that most of the excavated material would be trucked down Glen Rd. to be used for the Turcot project.

In dismantling the existing arena piece by piece – likely just after May 1 – he said, “I’m anxious to see how they’re going to

remove those long beams.” The roof is held up by a series of 100-foot beams of reinforced concrete supported by columns on the east and west sides.

Commenting at the end of the meeting, Lansdowne resident Michel Korwin said he was pleased with the one shorter rink since it was more likely to “be open to the general public” and skating activities other than hockey. “I think this is the perfect solution.” He did not agree that the shorter rink should grow.

Injunction sought

continued from p. 1

contends in the court document that the plan for the recreation centre in the signed contract differs substantially from the loan by-law and information sent out to residents.

In a prepared statement, Mayor Peter Trent said: “We are very proud of the fact we have been able to sign a contract that respects the original estimated cost promised to Westmount citizens. This contract also meets all the specifications and technical requirements agreed upon with the ministry of Municipal Affairs and as presented to our citizens.”

Putting the city’s position in layman’s terms, he explained that “if you borrow money from a bank to build a house based on preliminary plans, and move a toilet to a different location, you don’t go back to the bank.”

Giffen said the church’s board decided to take the action against the city at a meeting about a month ago based on “revised plans” showing the underground rinks were partially above ground and that it was “self evident there would not be room for a street or turnaround.”

He had been given verbal assurance that this access would be retained, “but that’s not concrete enough” he said. The church’s activities and revenue depend on access to the main door during and after construction.

While congregants had been informed of the board’s decision, “absolutely,” he said, the news came as a surprise to some.

“I was taken aback,” said Mary Stark, the director of the Contactivity seniors’ centre, which meets at the church. She said she had received the news at 10:30 pm April 15 in an email from the church. Stark, who been appealing publicly to city officials to maintain the road access, said

she felt they were “aware of the issues” of accessibility and “were working on solutions.”

One congregant, Mary Lund of St. Catherine, said she had only heard about the legal action over the weekend from a friend unaffiliated with the church but understood the church’s concerns.

It was 55 years ago that the church mounted widely publicized opposition to the building of the current arena claiming at the time it would be too noisy and the music too loud.

There has been no public objection by the church to this point to the proposed underground project though Giffen said he had relayed his concerns to city director general Duncan Campbell.

He didn’t know how the church had become involved with Ludmer or the name of the law firm representing them.

The 48-page declaration was filed by the firm of Lavery, de Billy.

Last call for traffic study input April 20

Westmount residents are returning the traffic study coupon at a rate of about 50 a day, excluding submissions received by email, city officials said last week.

The deadline to make comments known is April 20.

While residents are asked on the coupon to personalize the priorities listed, many are including their own comments, which are already being compiled, according to Brigitte Stock, city Communications head.

The coupon was included with a letter to all residents from Mayor Peter Trent the week of March 25, presenting some of the data collected by traffic consultants.

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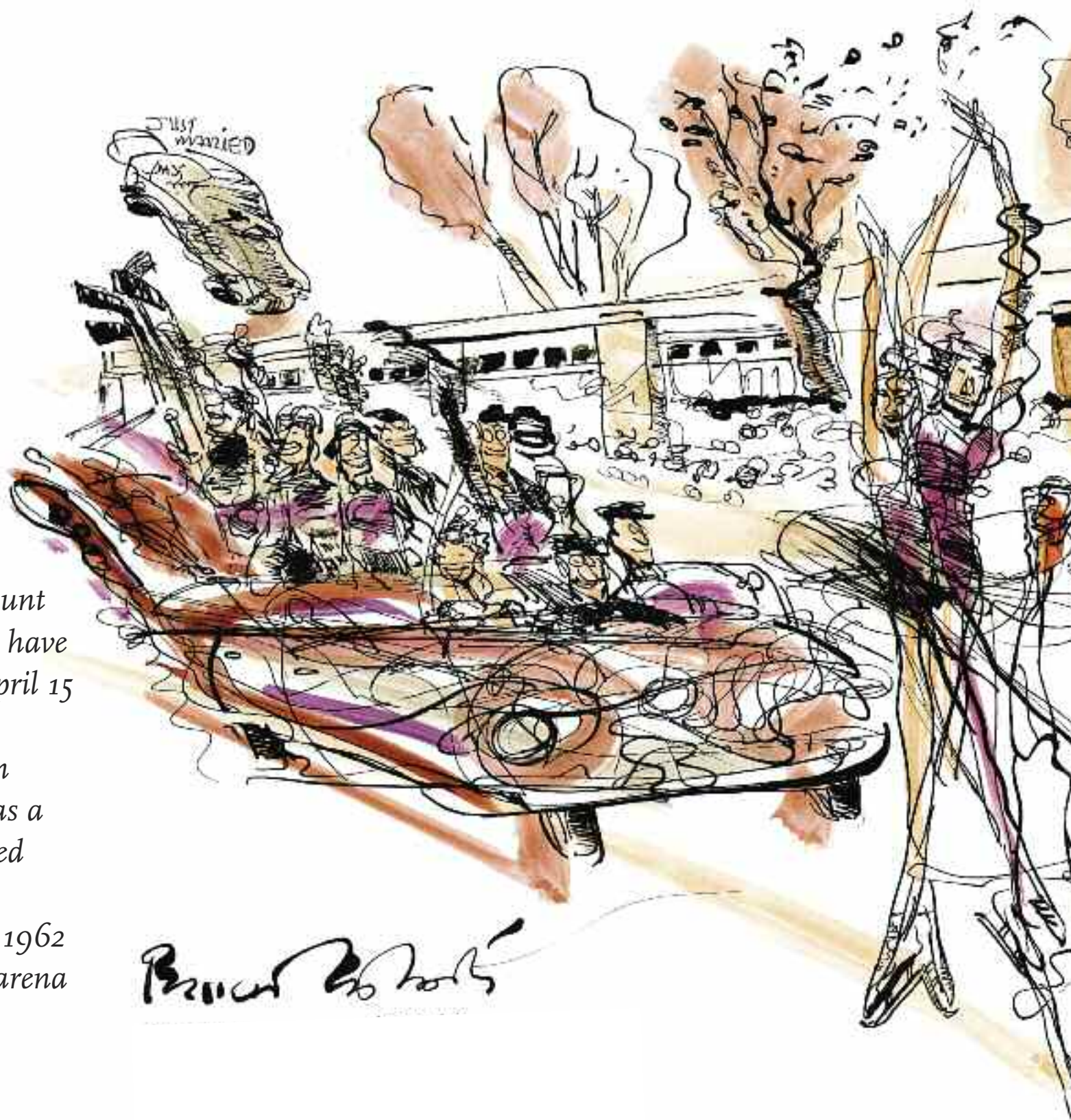


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Remembering the arena 1958-2012

The current Westmount arena and pool may have closed for good on April 15 (see p. 1).

The arena opened on November 14, 1958 as a roofed, but unenclosed structure. The pool opened next door in 1962 and the sides of the arena were closed in the following year.





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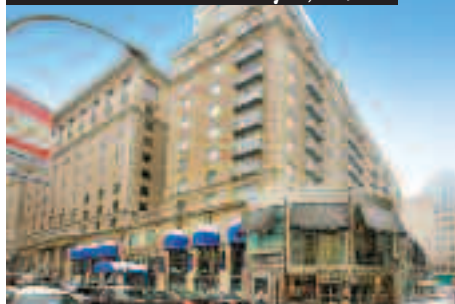
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In addition to personal mementos, we were also allowed to fly small items that we would subsequently present to organizations during a post-flight tour. On my first flight I was given the opportunity to fly miniature flags of all the provinces and territories, which were subsequently framed in a photo montage and presented to the provinces and territories in a small ceremony.

On my last flight aboard *Shuttle Endeavour*, someone at the Canadian Space Agency suggested that I fly a paper copy of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. I agreed to this and flew two copies, one in English, one in French. I confess that at the time I had not read it thor-

oughly. That is probably true for most Canadians.

So I took the Charter with me aboard *Endeavour* on a mission that orbited planet Earth well over a hundred times, travelling millions of kilometres. The mission included a visit to the International Space Station, where our crew installed the first pair of giant solar panels, and I had the pleasure of operating the Canadarm to perform the installation.

Back on Earth, I was informed that I would have the opportunity to present both copies of the Charter, suitably framed, to the prime minister of Canada, Jean Chrétien. Not wanting to look uninformed about the content of the Charter in case the prime minister asked me a question about it, I sat down and actually read it completely for the very first time. I was profoundly moved by what it said and realized that this document spoke about Canada more eloquently than any other national document I had read pertaining to our democracy.

In this Charter, Canadians were stating boldly their belief in the sanctity of their rights and freedoms, with all that that entailed. I was genuinely moved. I have reread the document on occasion since then and its significance continues to increase for me.

I mention this anecdote for two reasons: to remind Canadians that on the April 17, we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Charter, and, secondly, to encourage you to read it if you have not already done so.

I'm sure you will find it inspiring.

Summit Woods

continued from p. 11

spring panel in the next few weeks.

The board has now been approved by the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) though it had been planned to be installed in time to describe the park's winter characteristics.

SWAC will also review the upcoming report on Summit Woods to be tabled by landscape architect Marc Fauteux.

Following this, Fretz said, volunteers will be mobilized to eradicate the invasive common buckthorn that has been threatening other vegetation.

A just-published book on Summit Woods and Mount Royal provides insight into bird and animal species as well as plants that once thrived in the woods, he said. *Si la montagne pouvait parler* (If the mountain could talk) is a natural history

written by Pierre Monette, who spent many days on the mountain as the son of a Westmount city employee around 1900, Fretz said.



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Private party at Arsenal rejoices in contemporary art



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

On March 15, many Westmounters enjoyed the art-full launch of Arsenal contemporary art. The former industrial shipyard, located at 2020 William St. in Griffintown was built in 1843, and has been transformed into a stunning site for contemporary art, and for party rentals.

Seen in the private-invitation-only hip crowd were Westmounters **Anne Birks**, **Mary Anne Ferguson**, **Susan Alper** and **Charles Jacob**, **Louise and Michel Blouin**, **Eve Howse** and **Rubin Goldbaum**, and **Diane and Robert-Jean Chenier**, VP of the Musée d'art contemporain board.

Former Westmounter **Gen Blouin** and her team checked guests with an iPad – too chic. The packed event, called “The Art of Collecting,” attracted VIPs, gallerists, BYTs (Beautiful Young Things), titans of industry, lawyers and head honchos, such as **Charles Lapointe**, CEO, Tourisme Montréal.

The massive room (20,000 square feet) was transformed by the décor. Huge life-size horses with lampshades on their heads (and you thought that was only an old college trick!), stood elegantly above large sofas in black, white and stylish silver. Baroque-ish chairs in white and black vinyl provided seating for people watching. A huge bar in the centre of the room was beautifully back lit – and well used.

Black-clad dancers from the Marie Chouinard troupe hurled themselves around the stage, echoing the graphic poses drawn on the scrim behind them.

And then, of course, there was the art hanging on the walls. Art works – 65 in total – were lent by 15 collectors, including **François Odermatt**, city of Montreal; **François Rochon**, Giverny Capital; **Jean-Michel Ross**, and other gracious patrons.

Many art aficionados were noted in the standing-room-only crowd, including the director of the Musée d'art contemporain, **Paulette Gagnon**; CIAC director **Claude Gosselin**; **Julie Legault**, cultural development agent with the city of Montreal; gallerist **Donald Browne**; lawyer **Pierre Lortie**; and **Hughes Charbonneau** of Galerie Division, which is on the second floor of Arsenal, along with Galerie René Blouin.

The sophisticated soirée was invitation only, but everyone is invited to view the show for free until May 25 (www.arsenal-montreal.com).



Michel and Louise Blouin.



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Anne Birks, Andrea Hickey, with Jean-François and Diane Chenier.



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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

- **“Torah and Tonics”** young adults discussion with Temple Emanu-El-Beth Shalom rabbi Julia Appel on a new, controversial Jewish topic, 7 pm at Brutopia, 1219 Crescent St.
- The University Women's Club of Montreal presents architect **Julia Gersovitz** on “Pelimpsest Redux,” 6 pm at the Atwater Club, 3505 Atwater Ave. Cost \$30.76, includes dinner. Reserve: 514.932.3922 by April 13.
- **“Challenges of caregiving** – caring for the whole person mind, body and spirit” with nurses Sue Britton and Joan Foster, and Zelda Freitas, 6 pm to 8 pm at Temple Emanu-el Beth Shalom. Free. Register: The Council on Palliative Care fmpa202@aol.com or 514.499.0345. Another talk on April 25.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

- A Westmount Historical Association talk on **Summit Woods** by Westmounter John Fretz. Also featuring Robert Armstrong, ornithologist and Jane Atkinson, botanist. 7 to 9 pm in the Westmount Public Library. Admission free for members, non-members \$5 at door. Info: 514.989.5510 or 514.932.6688.
- Violinist Françoise Morin-Lyons, a founding member of I Musici de Montréal Chamber Orchestra, gives a lecture-demonstration about **the violin**, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. Free.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

The Atwater Library's **spring book sale** in the main-floor reading room, 6 pm to 8 pm, and Saturday, April 21 from 10 am to 4 pm at the Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. Features fiction, non-fiction, collectors' editions, books on art, photography, architecture, history, biographies.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

- **Tosca** by Giacomo Puccini, performed by The Lyric Society of Greater Montreal, 7 pm at Victoria Hall. Also Saturday, April 28. Tickets: \$25 or \$20 for advance purchase and for students and those over 60. Available at Victoria Hall, 4626, Sherbrooke St. W. Info: 514.989.5226.
- Mountainside United Church hosts **“Kids for Kids' Benefit Concert”** for Sun Youth's children's programs, 7 pm. Features the church's choir, along with various children's choirs. Cost: \$15; for students and seniors \$12. 4000 The Boulevard.
- Westmounter Jacke Locke will read his latest poem for the late Wiebo Ludwig, 2 pm as part of the **Poetry and Pastry Series** at the Westmount Public Library. Register: 514.989.5299.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

- The West Hill Grandmothers' Group of the **Grandmothers to Grandmothers** campaign is hosting an afternoon of classical music, 3:30 pm at the Unitarian Church (5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd. at Claremont). Celloist Don Pistolesi, violinist Sara Bohl and pianist Alain Payette will play selections of compositions from Elgar, Haydn, Schubert and Lehár. Tickets \$20. Proceeds go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Info: 450.688.2213.
- Centre Greene is hosting a fundraiser **“Mini-Golf for a Cause,”** 1 to 5 pm. Proceeds go to sending kids to summer camp. Tickets at door \$5; \$15 per family or \$60 for a four-person team for two games of nine holes. RSVP: 514.931.6202.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

Montreal Camera Club presents pictorial, creative and street image of the year, 7:30 pm at Westmount Park Church (4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. at Lansdowne). Info:

b.deans@sympatico.ca.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

- Marianopolis college **spring recital**, performed by teachers and students of its professional music program. 4873 Westmount Ave. Free. Also May 2.
- The **Westmount Mini Centre** of the Cummings Centre presents “Secularization and Religious Conflict in the Modern World” with Francis Charet on Tuesdays, from April 24 to May 29, 10 am to noon at Temple Emanu-el Beth Shalom, 395 Elm Ave. Cost: \$90. Info: Stefani Novic 514.342.1234.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

- **“More challenges of caregiving** – caring for the whole person, mind, body and spirit” with nurses Sue Britton and Joan Foster, and Zelda Freitas, 6 pm to 8 pm at Temple Emanu-el Beth Shalom. Free. Register: The Council on Palliative Care fmpa202@aol.com or 514.499.0345. Previous session April 18.



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Lansdowne arena meeting

.....
continued from p. 7

there would be little exhaust but that the shaft for hoisting the Zamboni out for maintenance could be used for ventilation and exhaust.

He also said the city would have particular control over adherence to its by-laws. Unlike private construction projects, the city will be in a position of power over the contractor because the firm was working directly for the city. "We're paying him \$33 million," he pointed out.

"Will there be a guard 24 hours a day" at the site? asked Judy Yelon. "That's a great question," Ikeman replied. "I don't know." The city's site supervisor/coordinator would be on hand during the day, however.

Michael Fortier asked if the city would be renting out the rinks commercially to make money, similar to the LCC arena.

Martin explained the LCC practice has busloads of people coming in for late-night games. "I'm not sure that's what we want to do, what you would want. With some 20,000 students in Westmount, who could use the rinks during school time," he said, "we don't have to be looking for other people to rent to."

And Arthur Yelon asked where the dog run would be located. "There are lots of places," Martin replied. Neither of the two being dog owners, he added with a smile: "As far as I'm concerned it could be on the moon." A site already proposed is located in the centre of Westmount Park that has previously been used for Shakespeare performances.

"We appreciate very much that the city has removed the arena's entrance and parking off Lansdowne," said Dorothy Thomas-Edding, of 250 Lansdowne. "It was going to be very dangerous." She was one of seven attending from one of the two smaller apartment buildings across the street from the arena and added her voice to Rogers' call for reserved parking.

Neighbourly watch

A resident of Victoria Ave. just south of The Boulevard called Public Security at 11:24 am April 3 to report a neighbour's door open and the dog outside. When no one could be reached inside, officers put the dog in, closed the door and left a business card.

Wealth management advice based on security and stability

In an uncertain economy that has created challenges for many investment advisors and their clients, Denny Matte, Senior Vice President and Investment Advisor with Macquarie Private Wealth in Montreal, has delivered a steady investment approach that draws a dedicated following among the city's top entrepreneurs, business leaders and medical professionals. During the course of 25 years serving Montreal's high-net worth individuals and families, he has become one of Canada's leading experts in crafting customized investment portfolios that are built to last.

"The fundamental rule is that each portfolio must be constructed for the specific client," Mr. Matte explains. "You don't let the market environment decide what should be in the portfolio.

You take control and carefully select investments that work for each individual situation."

What works for affluent investors in the current environment tends to be yield-producing investments, whether dividend-paying stocks or investment-grade corporate bonds. Balanced portfolios of this nature are able to deliver predictable returns and income regardless of how markets are behaving. Moreover, this strategy is more sophisticated than it would appear on the surface – Mr. Matte has a unique ability to source quality securities that go beyond what a standard broker can do. In addition, he manages these portfolios himself.

"Years ago, I discovered that third-party managers and mutual funds weren't matching the investment results that I was able to generate using my own skills and professional judgment," he says. "Clients began requesting that I dispense with that layer of fees and complexity – and I've been directing all portfolios ever since."

Matte credits the institutional strength of his firm, Macquarie Private Wealth, for providing an extensive range of investments to choose from. The global resources of Macquarie enable him to select stocks and bonds that most other firms simply don't have access to. As a result, Matte and his clients go beyond the standard off-the-shelf products to invest in securities that can provide better yields at a lower cost.

"My clients place a great deal of trust in my counsel, which is why I conduct regular portfolio updates with each of them on a monthly basis," Matte says. "This presents an opportunity to review the investment strategy and make any necessary adjustments. Ultimately, my clients value peace of mind, and that's what my professional counsel provides."

To arrange a private appointment with Denny Matte, visit his website at dennymatte.com for contact information.

Marketing feature



Ralph W. Burton April 21 – 30



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Westmount YMCA celebrates 100

BY MARLENE EISNER

Philip Aspler remembers when he first joined the YMCA.

“In 1934, my maternal grandfather died and there was some insurance, so my grandmother gave me and my brother \$5 each. We were 10 years old, and it was \$4 to join the Y for Preps,” said the 87-year-old Aspler recently from his home on Victoria Ave. Preps was the category for boys aged 12 and under.

That first membership at the central Y on Drummond St. gave Aspler the opportunity to swim, play soccer and basketball – a sport invented by the YMCA in 1891 – as well as make friends with other boys, including George Pickrell, who later

The original association was founded in London, England in 1844 by 22-year-old clothing merchant George Williams, a motherland connection that would have deep and long-lasting roots in Montreal. Williams opened the Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) as a place for boys to go because of “unhealthy social conditions during the Industrial Revolution.” According to the records management and archives website at Concordia University, the YMCA was “a religious (Evangelical Protestant) movement for young men who had left their families and migrated from outlying areas to jobs in London. Its goal was their character development. It provided fellowship and opportunities for constructive use of leisure



The original YMCA building on Sherbrooke St., which opened on May 4, 1912.

Photo courtesy of Concordia University

opened Westmount Florist.

Aspler has fond memories of the years between 1940 and 1944 when he played for the YMCA’s basketball team under the direction of Scotty Brotman. In 1950, he moved to Westmount, married and settled down to family life, opening Doyle Brothers Antiques. In the 1960s, he sent his son to the Y’s residential sleep-away Camp Kanawana for the summers – at \$45 a week – but his own relationship with the Y wouldn’t resume for another 20 years.

100 years of Y

This year on May 4, the Westmount YMCA will celebrate 100 years in the community.

time.”

The first Montreal location opened in 1851, with a strong connection to the Protestant church. By 1926, the YMCA education classes expanded into Montreal YMCA Schools, which later became Sir George Williams University, and eventually Concordia.

The Y comes to Westmount

When the Westmount Y opened on Sherbrooke St. on May 4, 1912, it was a very different building than the one that exists in that same spot today.

“It was a different facility than it is now,” said Gary White, director at the Westmount Y. “There were two bowling al-



Philip Aspler sits in his living room on April 8 and displays his original YMCA membership cards and basketball badges.

Photo: Marlene Eisner

leys, a billiard room, a dining room with a full kitchen and dining service.”

According to a 1912 brochure describing the facilities, the building also boasted 26 rooms in a third-floor dormitory, with marble and mosaic-line showers, “good” heat, lighting and ventilation, and “adequate fire escape facilities.” The gym measured 39 by 57 ft, with “abundant heat, light and ventilation. The floor is entirely free of posts. All apparatus, mats, bars, clubs, etc. are of newest design.” The Y also had an indoor running track and a swimming pool measuring 18 by 48 ft, with the sides and bottom lined with mosaic tiling and “pure spring water will always be running into the pool, thus ensuring freshness and purity.”

Luxurious as the descriptions sound, White said the Westmount Y wasn’t just a club for people of means.

“It you look at the original brochure, you see from the beginning there is the spirit of the Y being there for everyone in the community. There were three levels of membership, and one level was that some of what you were paying went to others who couldn’t afford.”

With its original design, the building remained the same for decades until a major renovation in 1988.

“We shut the building down for a full year or more,” said White.

“They took the old building and knocked it down, and gutted everything but the south wall and the archway. We

kept the west wall of the building standing, but everything else was gutted to the foundation and expanded east where there was a parking lot where now there is a new pool.”

The third floor residences were converted into a conditioning room with cardio equipment and stretching areas. Studios were built on the second floor with mem- continued on p. 23



Newspaper article announcing the May 4, 1912 opening of the Westmount YMCA.

Photo courtesy of YMCA archives

years in the community

ber services and an area for children’s programming on the main floor.

Over the years, while maintaining its core values of learning, physical fitness and community programs, the Y has evolved to meet the changing times. Initially a place for youth, the mandate has expanded to include other demographics.

“We’ve looked at seniors in our community over the last several years in terms of a gap and implemented programs where they can do an aqua fit program and then meet up afterward,” said White.

And that is what Aspler has been doing since 1986 when he and his late-wife Dorothy reconnected with the Westmount Y.

“I take the aqua fitness class twice a week and then play cards afterward. There’s a group that goes, and we play cribbage.”

Lulu Cornellier is not a senior, but the Westmounter’s involvement with the Y represents other needs in the community; single parents and children with special needs. As a recipient of the Y’s Access for All program,

which subsidizes memberships for people who are not able to pay the full amount, Cornellier was able to take her baby son Nelson to kindergym. When he was later

diagnosed with autism, he qualified for the Y’s summer day camp program, which provides shadows for children with special needs, funded by the Y’s Strong Kids Campaign. Now that he’s three and a half, Nelson still attends the Y’s daycare two days a

week, and the other three days are spent at a Centre de Petit Enfance in Old Montreal, where he gets help from a special educator.

Cornellier agreed to be a co-chair of the Y’s Cen- continued on p. 24



Undated photo advertising gym activities for kids.

Photo courtesy of YMCA archives



The lobby of the YMCA, circa 1914.

Photo courtesy of YMCA archives



Ville de Westmount
City of Westmount

AVIS D’ENTRÉE EN VIGUEUR RÈGLEMENT D’EMPRUNT N° 1424

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné à tous ceux qui peuvent être concernés, que le règlement d’emprunt mentionné ci-dessous, adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount lors d’une séance ordinaire tenue le 6 février 2012, est réputé avoir été approuvé par les personnes habiles à voter à la suite de la procédure d’enregistrement tenue le 22 février 2012. Le ministre des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l’Occupation du territoire a par ailleurs approuvé ce règlement le 11 avril 2012 :

Règlement n° 1424 intitulé «RÈGLEMENT AUTORISANT UN EMPRUNT DE 4 280 000 \$ POUR L’EXÉCUTION DE TRAVAUX DE RÉFECTION ROUTIÈRE, DE RESTAURATION DE CONDUITES D’AQUEDUC ET DE RÉHABILITATION DE CONDUITES D’ÉGOUTS», dont l’objet vise à autoriser un emprunt de 4 280 000 \$ pour l’exécution de travaux de réfection routière, de restauration de conduites d’aqueduc et de réhabilitation de conduites d’égouts.

Ce règlement entre en vigueur en date de ce jour.

Toute personne intéressée peut consulter ce règlement sur le site web de la ville : www.westmount.org 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, le 17 avril 2012.

Mario Gerbeau
Greffier de la Ville

NOTICE OF COMING INTO FORCE LOAN BY-LAW No. 1424

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to all who may be concerned that the loan by-law mentioned below, adopted by the Municipal Council of Westmount at a regular sitting held on February 6, 2012, was deemed to have been approved by the qualified voters at the registration held on February 22, 2012. On the other hand, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy approved this by-law on April 11, 2012:

By-law 1424 entitled “BY-LAW TO PROVIDE A LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,280,000 FOR THE ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME, THE REFURBISHING OF WATER MAINS AND THE REHABILITATION OF SEWERS” the object of which is to authorize a loan in the amount of \$4,280,000 to carry out work for the roadway reconstruction programme, the refurbishing of water mains and the rehabilitation of sewers in the City.

The loan by-law shall come into force today.

Any interested person may consult the by-law on the City’s website: www.westmount.org and obtain a copy 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, on April 17, 2012.

Mario Gerbeau
City Clerk



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The Y

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ennial Gala and Strong Kids Campaign. “The Y has been the one to lean on because they gave me the summer camp,” she said.

“It’s a funny but proud moment to know that I can give back when I got so much from the Y ... I’ve been keeping to myself since he’s been diagnosed. Now we’re full of hope. And it’s looking up. We went to separation class, summer camp and this June, we will have a graduation.”

The Westmount Y has approximately 3,200, but not all of them live in Westmount.

“In our case, we are the Westmount Y Centre, but we’re not restricted to serving Westmounters,” said White.

“Where we’re located geographically, there are families from other communities who can benefit from our programs.”

Peter Ottier and his daughter Audrey are two examples. The elder Ottier, who decided to become a certified trainer after he retired, lives in Ville St. Laurent and comes to the Westmount Y three times a week to volunteer in the weight room designing fitness programs for members. Audrey lives on the NDG/Westmount bor-

der, and said it’s partly because of her father that she has now become a “gym rat.”

“He introduced me to the Y, and put together a program for me,” said Ottier, 35, who’s always been active, but in outdoor activities such as cycling, hiking, boarding and skiing.

The Y became a “transformative” experience, she said, and she now works out six days a week.

It takes more than good intentions to keep the Y’s doors open to all and to provide quality programming to meet the changing needs of the community. It also takes funding.

On Friday, May 4, the Y will be having its annual fundraising event, and will also

be hosting Westmount’s spring ball. The evening begins at 5:30 pm at the Westmount Y for a cocktail, silent auction and historical tour and exhibit, and then at 7:30 pm, guests will cross the street for a dinner at 8 pm and dancing at Victoria Hall. The goal is to raise \$100,000.

“It’s for the Westmount Y’s Strong Kids annual campaign to make sure children with special needs have services, and to provide financial assistance to make sure the Y remains accessible to all, children and adults,” said White.

Tickets are \$125 per person, and are available at the Westmount Y or Victoria Hall.

The Study’s Palisaitis MVP at GMAA



Left, Emilie Palisaitis, a grade 11 student from The Study, with John Pevec, president of the GMAA and principal of Vincent Massey Collegiate school. Palisaitis was the MVP of the GMAA championship basketball game on March 29, which saw The Study defeat Vincent Massey by four points in the 21-17 game. The team was coached by Mona Bosnakyan, a Study alumna ('02) and physiotherapy student at McGill.

Photo courtesy of The Study

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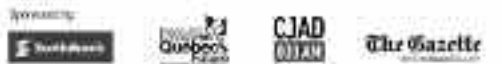
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Engineers end 12-year drought



Foreground (lying down) goalie Marcus Asselin; kneeling, from left: Bernie Asselin, Robert Cotter, Edmund Nash, Mike Finkelstein, Steve Simco. Back row, from left: Chris Oldland, Tom Davis, Lorne Cooper, Michael Marentette, Jeremy Jonas, Sheldon Morgan, Ellis Cooper, Gil Kastner, captain Nick Matossian and Mitchell Labell at the Westmount arena on April 2.

Photo: Dave Lapointe

By NICK MATOSSIAN

Westmount's Engineers hockey team ended a 12-year drought April 2 by winning the final playoff game by a score of 2-1 against the Law team, the heavy favourite and regular season leader in points.

The Engineers, who sat in the league's basement for most of the season, picked up its game enough to edge out of last position before the playoffs. With new lines and a revised strategic plan, the team worked its way through the six-game round robin to face the leading Law team in a final winner-take-all game.

It was expected to be an uphill battle for the Engineers and turned out to be a nail biter to the end and certainly the best game played all year by both teams. In the first period, the Engineers failed to capitalize on two Law penalties, but towards the end of the period with a penalty of their own, the Engineers' veteran captain Nick Matossian scored a short-handed goal on a quick pass from his right winger Edmund Nash.

With the intensity rising, the teams played a second period and most of the third period with no score, with the Engineers' defence and goalie doing a superb job of keeping the Law team at bay through eight minutes of penalties.

Less than five minutes to go and back at full strength, the Engineers were pressing Law in its own end. In a scramble in front of the net, right winger Jeremy Jonas drew the puck back to defenceman Sheldon Morgan, who fired it top corner to make the score 2-0 Engineers.

But the fat lady had not sung yet, and the Engineers found themselves short-

handed again when Bernie Asselin, its star defenceman, drew a penalty.

Law pulled its goalie, and with a six on four, swamped the Engineers' end. It was not long before Law's star forward Rick Bond scored on an assist by his captain Claude Bismuth and John Carr.

With 51 seconds to go, it couldn't get any tighter. Law had pulled its goalie, and they only need a tie to win. All the action was now in the Engineers' end, and goalie Marcus Asselin was hanging on, looking like an act from Cirque du Soleil in what was probably the longest 50 seconds of his career with the Engineers.

The buzzer went off. The Engineers had won the much coveted Exec. B league's playoff trophy! The trophy had eluded the Engineers for 12 years, but this year it was in their sights, and they earned it with their hearts.

Nick Matossian is captain of the Engineers, which, with the Law team, forms two of the four teams in the Executive B league. There is also a four-team Executive A league.

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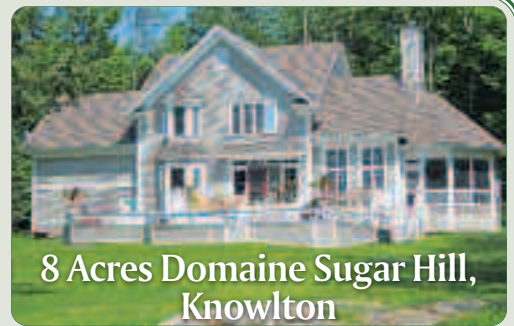


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Westmount Art Scene Chaki and Furlong differ in

BY HEATHER BLACK

At Galerie de Bellefeuille, Westmounter Yehouda Chaki brings landscapes and floral bouquets to life in bold brushstrokes. In contrast, Montrealer Michelle Furlong's intricate figurative compositions with subdued textures grace the walls at Galerie D'Este.

Yehouda Chaki at Galerie de Bellefeuille

Chaki is world renown for fluid, colourful and expressive compositions, and "September Days 1143" is no exception. Painted in oils in Mediterranean golds and blues, bold brushwork intensifies the motion of wind in grass and dancing trees. Colourful clouds balance strong foreground brushstrokes to create a harmo-

luminescent turquoise vibrate against the golden-orange of fields. Seemingly spontaneous and effortless, details are secondary to the dynamic rhythm of hue on hue.

The exhibit also includes earlier works painted in acrylic on paper. The vivid vermillion foliage of "Summer Suite 9325-A," set against dark green trees, is dynamic and beautiful. "Flowers 263-A" is a lively and whimsical bouquet of yellow and orange flowers set against red, cobalt and lime.

Expressive, vivid and lively, Chaki's work can be found at Galerie de Bellefeuille, 1367 Greene Ave.

Michelle Furlong at Galerie D'Este

Furlong takes the human form and transposes posture into alluring shapes



Yehouda Chaki "September Days 1143"

nious composition.

Coloured shapes also dominate "After the Toba River 1078." Cliffs painted in a

and patterns. A mix of graphite drawing and ink, watercolour or acrylic paint on paper, in- continued on p. 27



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technique but excel in colour

continued from p. 26

tricate patterns with solid colour create a novel style.

In “Folded Hems,” a young girl with red hair is ensconced snail-like in a spotted dress. An intriguing composition of



Michelle Furlong “Bobbin”

arms and feet, a bold but pleasant pattern is created. Yet the physical distortion hints of psychological withdrawal.

“Bobbin” is a labyrinth, viewed from above, of three entwined figures. A mix of

green, rose and black shapes, the composition’s fine lines create a radiating pattern of independence and interdependence. Another, “Combat,” is a simple but beautiful composition of torso and armour, and stripes, grids and moiré patterns.

Furlong’s talent is to intrigue by ambiguity. Drawing the human form with sufficient identifying detail, blocks of colour and pattern create abstract but pleasing compositions. Her work can be seen at Galerie D’Este, 1329 Greene Ave.

Colour and form

Chaki and Furlong have each created a unique, identifying and attractive style. Although subject and technique differ, for both artists colour and shape reign supreme. As artist Georgia O’Keeffe once said, “I could say things with colour and shapes that I couldn’t say any other way – things I had no words for.”

Heather Black is a Westmount communications designer. Contact her at blackheajea@gmail.com.



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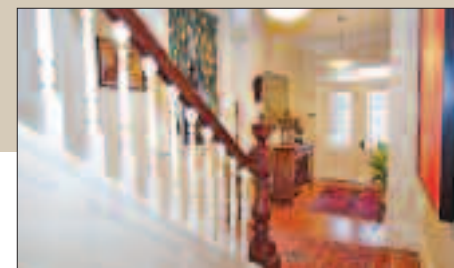
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