

SWAT donates \$40,000 to Montreal Children's and St. Justine hospitals



Among the SWAT organizers, from left: Guy-Renaud Kirouac, Anne-Sophie Carret, Nicolas Matossian, Dominic Agostino, Vahe Djourian, Norm Richer, Peter Naylor, Jim West, Claude Bismuth, Jose Luis Montes, Louise Dery-Goldberg, Leo Cauzo, Adam Cutler, Valerie Frost and Howard Hoppenheim. For story see, p. 4.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 5 No. 2d

We are Westmount

February 22-23, 2011

Inuit health support centre moving to Westmount

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A large Inuit transit care centre is moving its long established facilities and activities to Westmount from NDG April 9, the *Independent* learned last week.

Nunavik House, operated on St. Jacques St. by the Northern Quebec Module of the Innulitsivik Health Centre in

Puvirnituk on Hudson Bay, will consolidate its operations at the YMCA refugee centre on Tupper St., site of the former Reddy Memorial Hospital.

This includes lodging and services for up to 160 Inuit who come to Montreal

from the far north either for medical treatment at the MUHC, or as escorts or family members accompanying patients.

While some are here only briefly, others remain for longer periods awaiting medical continued on p. 2

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Blasting, height concerns unite neighbours at Devon hearing

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Neighbours banded together to voice concerns over dynamiting and the height and scale of a proposed new house at 28 Devon during a demolition hearing February 17.

Interestingly, with only one person – a family member of the property's former owner – intervening against the actual demolition, the meeting evolved into a discussion of the large two-storey house that would replace the current bungalow and

fears that blasting could affect the integrity of neighbouring houses.

"If this were a wooded lot that did not involve demolition, there would not have been this opportunity to discuss the plans for the new house," said meeting chairman and city councillor Patrick Martin, who quickly picked up on the irony of the situation.

"You can build what you want, but I don't want my house damaged," said neighbour Cyndy Mar of 796 Lexington Ave. to continued on p. 7

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(For more details, please turn to p.2)

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Most crimes flat in January

Graffiti doubles, hits record

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With the exception of the murder of Jason Peagram on January 13, there were few surprises reported in most of the criminal activity reported in Westmount during the month.

According to a synopsis for January in Westmount provided by local Station 12, the number of break-and-enter reports, car thefts and other offences remained fairly constant and relatively low.

But the total of graffiti reports, which have been climbing steadily, doubled those in December to reach a record 42. That also came as no surprise, however.

"There's an increase in graffiti everywhere," said police commander Stéphane Plourde.

He referred to several arrests for graffiti over December, January and February.

But other than that he would only say that police are continuing to work on the problem and that the names of anyone caught are being sent to Westmount officials so they can recover damages.

Murder investigation still needs info

Asked how the Peagram murder (see January 18, p. 1) investigation was proceeding, Plourde said, "Last week I spoke to the investigator in charge, and he said he was continuing to work on it but there was no conclusion."

Plourde asks anyone with information to call InfoCrime at 514.393.1133. This can be done anonymously.

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Inuit patients to be housed in old Reddy Memorial

continued from p. 1

procedures or as out-patients.

The move of offices and lodging into the Tupper site "will be a temporary measure until we find a permanent site," explained Céline Laforest, director of the Northern Quebec Module.

"We welcome them to Westmount," said city director general Duncan Campbell.

Laforest said the move was precipitated by the termination of the lease for Nunavik House at 6195 St. Jacques St., near Grand.

Final arrangements are still being made with the YMCA, she explained, but the move provides an opportunity to combine all operations, including several

Selected crime stats from Station 12

August '09 to January '10 - Westmount

Type of crime reported	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Break and enter	9	10	5	10	7	10
Robbery (theft with violence)	0	0	0	2	0	2
Theft from vehicles	19	28	25	13	14	18
Theft of vehicles	5	3	1	2	2	4
Graffiti	35	22	26	23	21	42
Hit and run	10	20	28	16	21	21

NB: Statistics released by local station 12 no longer include sexual assault, a broad category that may often be mistaken only for rape cases.

Lifeguards quickly hired for pool 're-opening'

Within one week of the announced "re-opening" for this summer of the Westmount pool, a full complement of 15 lifeguards was hired, said Sports and Recreation director Michael Deegan. "They are the same staff for the most part," he said.

The unexpected opening of the pool for one more summer was announced February 7. Its demolition is to take place in September to make way for construc-

tion of the new arena/pool project.

Deegan said no repairs would be required to the 50-year-old pool other than the usual startup procedures, "and we are always concerned with potential leaks once the pool is filled." Efforts by Dolphins' swim team leaders Ross Fraser, Helen Campbell, Nancy Nelson and Oliver Sugden to broker alternate arrangements, now no longer needed, had been "extremely helpful," he said.

smaller satellite transit houses. Only one, a home for pregnant women, will be maintained on West Hill Ave. in NDG.

Some of the Inuit requiring lodging have been staying at the YMCA residence since September, she noted.

"I think it will be a very interesting experience to have the Northern Quebec Module come here," said Pascal Alatorre, director of the YMCA facility. "They will bring a lot of HR support and experience." This includes interpretation and transportation services.

The new residents will boost the facility's occupants to near its capacity of 325 beds. Refugees currently occupy 150, he said.

It is not immediately known what im-

pact an influx of additional residents at the Y might have on nearby facilities, city director general Campbell said.

Sources vary on whether the existing NDG location has been an area of concern and there has been only one Public Security report to date concerning one of the institution's residents already billeted at the Y, who allegedly caused a minor disturbance.

Local police commander Stéphane Plourde said that police are working with specialists as well as Westmount Public Security to prepare ways of managing social issues that might arise.

"It is a concern," said local police commander Stéphane Plourde of the visitors. "They are coming from a different culture in the far north to the big city."

Police and Public Security met February 17 at city hall with a social worker.

Public Security assistant director Greg McBain said the social worker helped them gain greater understanding and appreciation of the disruption the Inuit visitors can face when coming to Montreal. Some are unable to communicate in English or French and are accustomed to a lifestyle in which they may hunt to eat. Even the differences between the sunlight hours can be disorienting.

Just like YMCA refugee centre director Alatorre, McBain said, "it's going to be an interesting experience."

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Lambert: Westmount Square conceived as a ‘clearing in the chaos’

BY RALPH THOMPSON

The Westmount Historical Association (WHA) opened its spring 2011 lecture series February 17 with a presentation on Westmount Square by two distinguished Montrealers, Phyllis Lambert and France Vanlaethem.

Lambert, founder of the Canadian Cen-

tre for Architecture, and Vanlaethem, associate professor with UQAM’s design school, spoke to a packed house at the Westmount Public Library about the complex and controversial history and the philosophy of Westmount Square.

The audience learned that the noted architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, whose iconic works include the Chicago Federal

Center complex, the Farnsworth House and Crown Hall in Chicago, used his design of the Seagram Building in New York as a template for a number of modern high rise office towers including Westmount Square. Lambert is the daughter of famed Seagram’s builder Sam Bronfman.

Westmount Square, which opened on December 13, 1967, was unique in that it combined commercial space, offices and residential space in one complex.

Van der Rohe’s concept of a rectangular form on stilts atop a large platform was

an integral part of his design.

Vanlaethem described the controversy and struggles that ensued as the visionary architect tried to convince Westmounters, Montrealers, unions and city councillors of a new way to use urban space.

The overall clean lines, space around the structures and the raised platform, stilts and glass panels project a calm friendly environment, “a clearing in the forest, a clearing in the chaos,” said Lambert.



From left, Phyllis Lambert, France Vanlaethem, and from the Westmount Historical Association, Marie-Andrée Contillon and its president Doreen Lindsay, answer questions about the Westmount Square project. Ralph Thompson’s photographs of Westmount Square can be viewed online for a limited time at www.photoimagerie.com/WestmountSquare.

Clarification

In reaction to “Quelque Chose is coming to Westmount,” (February 15, p. 30) owner Annie White wanted to clarify her point about the antique business. “There is certainly always room for antiques. In the magazines, you see a mix of old and new. Our passion is in antique lamps.”



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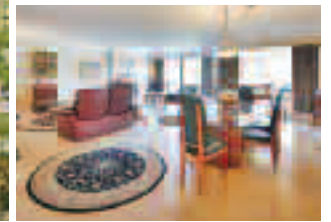
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CANADA NEEDS NEW JETS

In January, I received a "Parliamentary Bulletin" sent by the MP for Westmount-Ville Marie, Marc Garneau, criticizing the government on several of its policies.

Garneau, among others, says the Liberals will overturn the purchase of the F-35 fighter jets the government has ordered. He doesn't say how much we will have to pay under the contract for cancellation, although the minister of Defence has indicated that it would be \$1 billion. This is something the Liberals have done before, showing no respect for the integrity of contracts.

Canada's current fighter aircraft will come to the end of their useful life in the next few years. Canada is a very large country territorially. We need these aircraft for our own domestic integrity. They will – over their useful life – doubtlessly be required to advance Canada's interests internationally, as the F-16s were needed on so many occasions in the past 20 years.

Without this equipment, Canada's international prestige, which, according to Mr. Garneau, the Liberals value so highly, will surely suffer. It is true that they will cost \$16 billion starting in 2016 spread over 30 years. This does not seem so high a price to pay over so lengthy a period.

CARL RAVINSKY, KENSINGTON AVE.

SHADES OF GREEN

Una Kay proposed to city council that Westmount become totally smoke-free within all apartments and other multi-unit buildings, replete with a ralleying cry of "Let's become a real green city." (See article February 15, p. 6).

Her invasive, totalitarian presentation, cloaked in pseudo-green concerns only serves to reflect how some folks have come to equate animosity towards neighbours with meaningful social activism.

Why stop at cigarettes? Why not curry, cabbage, perfumes, air fresheners, etc.?

When all is said and done, will only those in the position to purchase a single family dwelling (rolling in green), truly enjoy any sense of personal choice or freedom in Westmount?

SUNNY SAVAGE, SOMERVILLE AVE.

ONE PAPER LEADS TO ANOTHER

Having just discovered your new paper today via an article in the *Gazette*, I am so happy to finally obtain recent news of Westmount on numerous topics.

Though I have lived elsewhere for the past 17 years, I still think of Westmount as home. Over 60 happy years as a resident cannot be forgotten! Thank you for making your paper available online.

HELEN (AYER) GOODALL,
KINGSTON, ON.

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Author of *Honey, I Wrecked the Kids* gives parenting tips at independent school-sponsored event at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Power struggles lie at the centre of parent/child conflicts, says psychotherapist and parenting expert Alyson Schafer.

She insists mums and dads should think of relaxing control of their kids a bit more often if they want to avoid becoming failed parents.

The author of two books, *Honey, I Wrecked the Kids* and *Breaking the Good Mom Myth*, Schafer was the guest speaker at an event held at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom on February 17, organized by the Quebec Association of Independent Schools (QAIS).

A mother of two, Schafer has a private psychotherapy practice in Toronto, through which she counsels children and families. She makes frequent appearances as a motivational speaker and hosts a call-in advice program, "The Parenting Show," on the Rogers cable TV network in Ontario.



Author and psychotherapist Alyson Schafer gestures dramatically during her talk on parenting at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, February 17.

Schafer acknowledged that everything she believes in as a psychotherapist comes from her training based on renowned psychotherapist Alfred Adler's theory of individual psychology.

Regarded along with Freud and Jung as one of the three founding figures of psychotherapy, Adler emphasized the importance of equality in healthy relationships. Schafer repeated some of that message in her analysis of parent/child relationships.

She told an audience of more than 100 at the temple that if they started understanding the behaviour of their children, they would be amazed at how quickly tumultuous family situations return to normal.

Highly animated and demonstrative in her presentation, Schafer used an array of props – including hats, balls, even a length of rope – to make her points.

She said that parents dealing with their children's transgressions need to separate the deed from the doer. "The deed is the action, the doer is the child."

Schafer explained parents today tend not to focus their attention on their children as much as they ought to. "I don't think we appreciate that one of the problems in today's society is that not all the time spent is really great quality time."

According to Schafer, today's fathers spend no more than an average of seven minutes a day with their children, and even often it's time spent driving the kids to organized activities.

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Sound barrier report to go to Transport ministry

City wants input into commuter train study

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount will be requesting input into a plan to more than triple the number of commuter trains to the West Island, Councillor Theodora Samiotis said Thursday last week.

The \$22-million engineering and design study was announced February 14 by Quebec Transport minister Sam Hamad as a first step in a plan to increase West Island commuter service from 26 weekday trains to 86. The trains would use a dedicated track along the current CP line in Westmount.

“This is a huge increase,” Samiotis said.

“We knew it was going to happen. And we fully support increased service to the West Island as long as it’s in a context that respects the environment here, including noise attenuation.”

The city would also be holding a public meeting on the issue, likely before the summer, she told the *Independent*. Joël Gauthier, president of the Agence métropolitaine de transport (AMT) that provides the commuter service, would be in-

vited to hear citizens’ concerns.

The installation of a sound barrier to reduce noise and pollution from trains and the Ville Marie Expressway is part of the train issue, she pointed out.

As a result of train increases and the planned lowering of part of the highway, which is included in the Turcot project, sound barrier criteria have changed, explained director general Duncan Campbell.

Sound barrier study updated

This required a recent updating of the city’s 10-year-old sound barrier study by a consultant that led to installation of the sound barrier prototype at the foot of Abbott Ave. This new version was to be presented to the general committee of council at its meeting on Monday, February 21.

It will then be submitted to the Quebec ministry of Transport “so we can start negotiations regarding costs, placement and other items,” Samiotis said.

Even though Hamad was reported to be open to the need for a sound barrier during a meeting with Mayor Peter Trent No-

vember 8, 2010, Samiotis pointed out, it was far from a *fait accompli* (see “Turcot revisions fuel new hope,” November 16, 2010, p. 1).

The “insertion” of such a barrier would possibly be required only along the section east of Hallowell, where the highway would not be lowered, she said.

WTAG to review issue

Asked to comment on the proposed frequency of commuter trains, David Schachter, who spearheads the Westmount Train Action Group (WTAG), said he had been traveling out of the country and needed more time to consult colleagues.

“However, WTAG supports reasonable levels of commuter rail transport as long as the technology implemented addresses the quality of life issues of those who live along the rail corridor,” he said. “Vibration, noise and pollution are the issues that concern WTAG.”

At its October 4 meeting last year, city council adopted a long resolution asking the Quebec minister of Transport in part

to ensure that no new commuter train lines or increases in service to the West Island take place without the proper studies and “accepted by all affected stakeholders.”

“The engineering study is a first step in the process,” Samiotis said.

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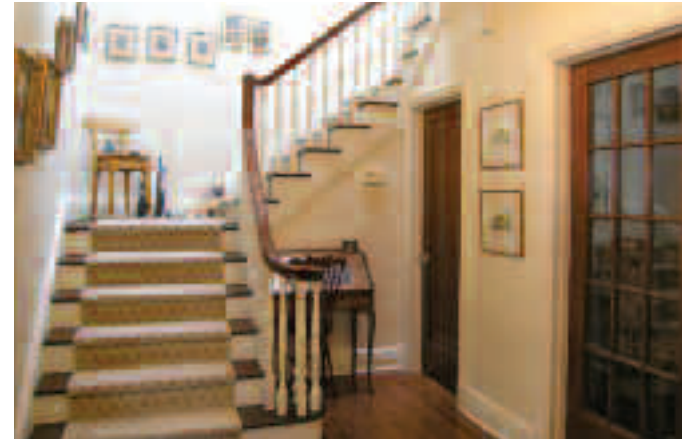


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Devon neighbours suggest scaling down new house

continued from p. 1

homeowner Jordan Dermer, a developer. It set a civilized yet serious tone to the meeting.

Maidy Teitelbaum of 789 Lexington stated her family had just completed \$200,000 worth of renovations, and like others houses that were “finished,” did not want them damaged by the blasting.

Addressing the blasting issue, Westmount already had strict regulations in place regarding the strength of dynamite charges and monitoring measures, explained Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier and Gary Garbarino, the project's contractor.

Better quality

While the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) had already recommended the demolition, it also found the replacement home would be of improved quality and harmonize better with the streetscape, said PAC chair Carole Scheffer. But not all agreed.

“It makes the house next door look like a little cabin,” said Teitelbaum.

Helen Malkin, of 804 Lexington, said she felt it didn't “follow the shape of the land,” and was not in scale with the street.



Joseph Yared speaks, while Marc Lieberman, left, looks on in background.



Existing bungalow at 28 Devon.



Proposed two-storey replacement house with two dormer windows in roof.

Image: Architettura

She too worried about potential damage from blasting.

Joseph Yared, whose property at 88 Summit Crescent lies directly behind and above 28 Devon, said his main concern was the height of the roof that would directly affect his back yard and living room. “I don't see why tomorrow I will see the same tax bill when my property will be devalued.”

While no decision has been rendered, Adam Borowczyk, the new home's designer, stated to the meeting that the tall sloping roof could in fact be lowered two feet if the city changed its technical regulations.

And while Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier said this would require a by-law change, there was a feeling as people left the meeting that a way might be found to lower the house to a more acceptable height.

Brought up good points

“You've brought up some very good points about the terrain and how to build

in an acceptable way,” Martin told the meeting.

Along with participation by the residents of at least five nearby homes, Martin said he had received phone calls from seven or eight other neighbours unable to attend. All were concerned about construction disruption and blasting.

The city had sent meeting notices to 70 homes in the area, Poirier said.

As well, a letter from an engineering firm had been prematurely distributed to many, informing them it had been hired to inspect the pre-dynamiting condition of their houses.

Clarifying points

Marc Lieberman, son-in-law of Sidney Lithwick, the home's original and only owner until its sale to Dermer six months ago, bristled at the PAC's suggestion the home had been built of inferior materials. The stone is quarried rock and its wooden structure is cedar, he explained. A large amount of rock had been left in the basement, he added, because of concerns at

the time over blasting.

He said he had movies of its construction that included the architect Max Roth.

Designer Borowczyk, in his presentation of the replacement house, had suggested the home's architect had not been Roth because it did not conform to some Roth plans or his building style.

Asked to comment after the meeting on the input neighbours had provided into the design of the new home, Martin told the *Independent*: “I'm hoping our building process will be modified to allow for public hearings on major projects such as this one.”

He also said he had been “upset” by the letter from the engineering firm informing people about the blasting before the meeting had even taken place, and before he had heard about it himself.

“It assumed that because the PAC had recommended the demolition and replacement project that it was a done deal.”

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Two detained but no charges laid

Public safety officers are reported to have spotted two young men looking into parked cars on Victoria Ave. north of Sherbrooke at 3:14 am on February 13. The two were followed as they walked east on Sherbrooke, one holding a cane and pushing a bike.

At the YMCA, one tried in vain to open the front door and then to remove a bicycle from the nearby rack.

At that point, police were called and detained the pair at Melville. One was found in possession of “a rather large metal-type cutter in a green bag,” said Public Security assistant director Greg McBain. No charges were laid.

Door egged

A resident of Abbott Ave. returned home February 12 just before midnight to discover the front door splattered with tomatoes, eggs and toilet paper, Public Security officials report. There were no reported reasons for the mischief or suspects.

Correction

Last week's *Indie* edition ran a news brief “Milo and Azrieli gear up for concert of music for lovers”. Organizers changed the time of the concert to 2 pm for the one-time performance of “Romantic Arias – Music for Lovers” by the Musicians of the World Symphony Orchestra. The concert takes place Sunday, February 27.



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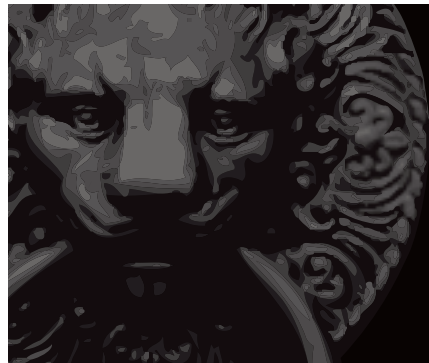
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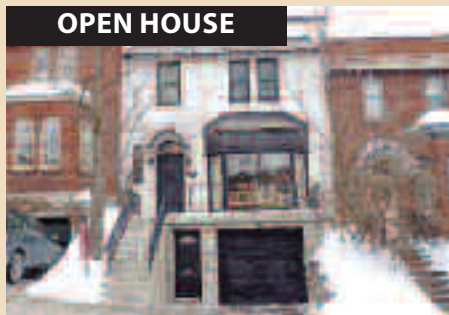
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- Westmount** 4375 Montrose – **JUST LISTED!** Beautiful 3 bdrm, family home w/garage, 5000+sq ft corner lot. \$1,675,000

New hospital's main excavations done as piling reaches halfway mark



This was the scene on February 17 as piling activities continue at the incoming super hospital's Glen Yards site.

By ISAAC OLSON

Excavation of the incoming super-hospital's main footprint is reportedly completed and the piling process, which can be heard throughout much of Westmount, should be finished by the end of April.

Julie Paquet, spokesperson for the McGill University Health Centre, said 53 percent of the piles have been installed since operations got underway in October. Back then, a notice was circulated claiming the piling would be finished in February.

However, a December 6 notice was sent to area residents with a springtime deadline because planners found the original

goal "unrealistic," she said.

Crews aim to install 5,300 piles, reduced by 700 since the October estimate. Piles are cement-filled steel pipes that are knocked deep into the earth in order to create secure footing for the hospital's foundation.

Later, underground parking will be excavated on the Montreal side of the site and, by the end of February, some 250 engineers, architects and project managers will move into the temporary offices on the Westmount side of the site, said Paquet, who noted a plywood fence has been installed along St. Catherine St. as requested by Westmount.

They call him Mr. Big



He spent the first five years of his life nameless and unloved, chained up outside on a farm. His people thought of him as a thing, no more deserving of a name than a shovel would be.

Once the farmer decided the Bernese-Newfoundland cross wasn't mean enough to be a guard dog, he tried to strangle him with a heavy chain. It didn't work. His next plan was to shoot the pooch in the head, but somehow Gerdy's Rescue heard about the plan and was able to get to him before it was too late.

You never saw a filthier mutt. Mr. Big had manure caked to his silky ruff and the feathery fur on his haunches. He'd never had a bath in his life, but Biggie loved every minute of his first.

At 80 lbs, Mr. Big is a substantial boy and yet he's underweight for his kind. He loves people and is friendly to other animals. He has a habit of taking hands in his mouth, but only because he wants to lead people to things he finds really interesting.

This happy, grateful dog has been neutered, is up to date on all his shots and has been treated for fleas and worms and has tested negative for heartworm.

Now that he's warm and clean, every day is a joyous revelation for Mr. Big. He'd like to share it with you.

For more information visit www.underdogclub.org, send an email to contact@underdogclub.org or drop a line at 1.877.43.DOGGY.

The Underdog Club is the first ever



Mr. Big

marketing agency for hard-up dogs needing a second leash on life. Online donations are gratefully accepted to help cover the costs of helping rescue organizations advertise their hard-to-place dogs.




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Needed permit to sell candy

Two youths were spotted going door-to-door selling chocolate bars on Barat Rd. late Friday afternoon, February 11. Their supervisor waiting nearby in a car told public safety officers the effort was in aid of a humanitarian trip to Costa Rica. He was told a city permit was required.

One reason for requiring a permit is to ensure the legitimacy of a cause, Public Security officials told the *Independent*.

Man stopped in the nick of time

A motorist stopped just in time to avoid hitting a man lying in the street at the southeast corner of Lansdowne and St. Catherine shortly before 2 am February 14, Public Security officials report. The man was reported to be intoxicated and had been seen earlier walking west along St. Catherine. He was taken to hospital by ambulance. The motorist lived in Montreal West.

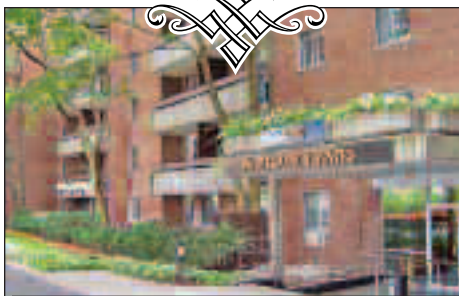
\$40K raised at this year's SWAT fundraiser for children's hospitals

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Members of the Senior Westmount All-Star Team (SWAT) gathered at the Montreal Children's Hospital on February 15 to hand over two cheques for \$20,000 each to officials from the Montreal Children's Hospital and the St. Justine hospital.

The money was raised by SWAT during its 22nd annual hockey tournament held at the Westmount arena last December 2 to 5. Much of the money came from a silent auction that took place at the same time.

See photo, p. 1.



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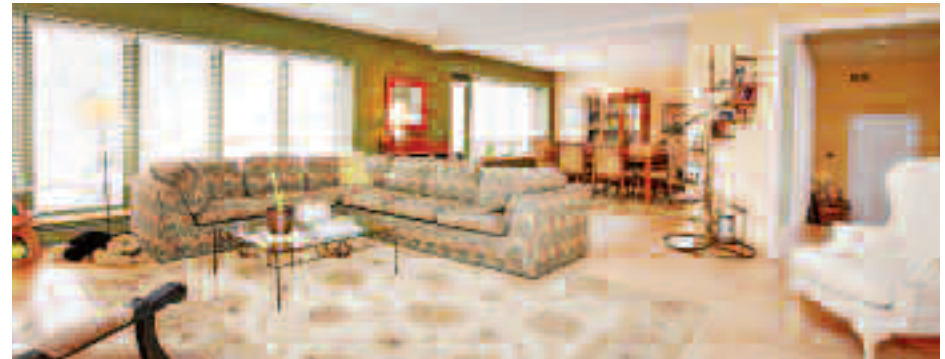
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In Other Words

The Westmount Gazette?

The *Gazette* took a look of its own at the Westmount arena debate with an article recapping aspects of the discussion and project (“Rinks plan sparks mini-war in Westmount”, February 18, p. A3 by David Johnston). Westmounter Larry Klepper and Mayor Peter Trent were quoted.

Also, the lead *Gazette* editorial the next day (“Arena plan will be a benefit for Westmount”, February 19, p. B6) waded into the debate with a firm point of view. The piece called the current arena “no longer up to Westmount scratch” and summarized, “This splendid project will tremendously benefit Westmount residents now and in generations to come.”

Hockey after lights out

Two NDG residents were asked to leave the hockey rink at Prince Albert Park on February 11 when they were found there at 12:20 am. The rink was closed and the park curfew in effect. The two were identified as living nearby on Grey Ave. and the Montreal side of Claremont.

Door found ajar

Public safety officers discovered a door ajar at 1:06 am February 11 at the rear of a commercial building on St. Catherine St., just west of Atwater. Police were called to check out the building but all appeared in order, Public Security officials said. The open door led to 10 interior office doors.

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Tequila and Orange, a nice combo'



Tequila and Orange are both for adoption from the SPCA Montréal cattery. They have been at the shelter for some time and should be high up on our list for permanent homes.

Tequila is a green-eyed calico girl with great warmth and a very affectionate na-



Tequila

ture. She was very frightened when she arrived over a year ago but you would never know it now!

She is friendly and gets along famously with other cats, so she is more than ready to be adopted.

Orange has been at the shelter for four

years, and you can change his life. He is handsome and adorable with his orange stripes and cutesy pink nose!

He arrived as a stray, and it has taken him a long time to gain trust in humans, but now he is very confident and sweetly playful.



Orange

Orange has come out of his shell and needs a forever family that will offer him stability and affection.

Both cats are very healthy, have had all their shots and are sterilized.

If you would like to find out more about Tequila and Orange, please contact Cindy at 514.386.5960 or email info@spcamonteregie.com.

If you would like to visit the cattery, it is open every day for visitors from 2 to 4:30 pm or by appointment. The SPCA Montréal is located at 178 du Vide Rd. in St. Angèle de Monnoir (exit 37 on autoroute 10).

Your neighbour, Lyzanne

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ECS finds inspiration for art project at Parisian Laundry



The grade 6 ECS class spent the afternoon at Parisian Laundry art gallery on February 18 to prepare for a joint art/English language arts project. Photo: Veronica Redgrave

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- Public consultation meeting 7 pm at city hall on **re-zoning by-law** to prevent the building of so-called super-size homes in three R2 zones.
- Kidsafe presents **The Yello Dyno** Child Protection Program, which teaches children to protect themselves, 4 pm at the children's library of the Westmount Public Library. For ages 2.5 to 6 years. Register: 514.989.5229. Free, donations accepted. Info: www.kidsafe.org.
- Bishop's University professor **Trygve Ugland** speaks on "Travel, discovery and political ideas" as part of Marianopolis College's annual speaker series, 7 pm in the auditorium, 4873 Westmount Ave. Refreshments at 6:30 pm. Info: www.marianopolis.edu/speakerseries.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- Antiquarian booksellers, **Wilfrid de Freitas and Susan Ravdin**, give expert opinion on the value of your special books, as part of the Atwater Library Books Roadshow, 1 pm to 4 pm. Cost: \$2 per book for library members; \$3 per book for non-members. Proceeds go to the library.
- Moustache Cat Rescue is holding an **adoption and foster day** at **Naturalanimal & Pawtisserie**, 4932B Sherbrooke St., 11 am to 4 pm. Cats have been vaccinated, sterilized and dewormed. Info: primeann@aol.com.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

- George Wall presents a Shakespeare lecture on **The Three Parts of Henry VI**, 11 am at the Atwater Library. Cost: \$20. Info: 514.935.7344. Also Wednesday, March 2,

at 7 pm.

- Westmounter **Eric Siblin** talks about his first book *The Cello Suites* at the St. James Literary Society's meeting at the McGill Faculty Club, 3450 McTavish, 7:30 pm. Cost: Non-members \$10. Reserve: 514.484.0146.
- **Music workshops for children** at Victoria Hall: "Brico-music" for children 3 to 6; "My music in comics" for 7 to 12 year-olds. Workshops begin at 9 am. Cost: \$5. Tickets available at Victoria Hall. Info: 514.989.5226.
- Concert at Victoria Hall for kids: **Annabelle Canto**, a young singer who has lost her voice sets out with her pianist in search of a magical cure. 10 am. Free passes available at Victoria Hall. Info: 514.989.5226.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

- In celebration of International Women's Day, **Elizabeth Kirkland** of the Dawson College history department speaks on the

Eberwein serenaded during celebration of her 102nd year



For her 102nd birthday, Teresa Eberwein, a resident of the Château Westmount seniors' residence on de Maisonneuve Blvd., was serenaded by Sylvain l'Heureux, a professional musician who was hired to provide entertainment for a party held for her at the residence on February 17. Château Westmount is a private seniors' residence that serves people who can no longer live at home. It is a permanent or temporary care facility that provides physical and psychological services.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

contributions to the advancement of women by elite women in Montreal in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave., 12:30 pm. Info: 514.935.7344 or www.atwaterlibrary.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

City council meeting, 8 pm, city hall.

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Champagne champions early spring for party goers at the Benthin's



Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Westmount residents **Yajaira and Mark Benthin** decided to do away with the white of winter and look ahead to spring – with champagne! Late January, Yajaira Benthin greeted guests wearing a gorgeous long,

ruffled Versace gown, which almost hid – but not quite – her amazing Badgley Mischka shoes.

Greeting guests with a flute of Dom Perignon after they removed their galoshes, husband Mark Benthin, co-founder and COO of Aptilon, welcomed party-goers, including Westmouters Jane and John Schwinghamer, and also Faran Rostami, Serge Jean Laviolette, Robert Charasidis and Melissa Lawrence, Lori McGuigan, Faiza Meddeb from Carita Paris, and *continued on p. 15*



From left, Yajaira Benthin, Pitter Contreras Melo and André-Anne Lamarre.

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From left, stylists Francezco Ramirez from Salon Pure and Benoit Labelle from Westmount's Mod's.



Executive chef Frank Barbusci

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Hockey teams hope tournament wins continue as playoffs loom

By JARED BOOK

Playoff time for Westmount's inter-city hockey teams is fast approaching with tournaments beginning for most levels on Monday, March 7.

While many teams in the city are performing well in their league play, three teams have won exhibition tournaments and are using those as a stepping stone to their post season.

The Novice A, Bantam A and Pee-Wee A Wings have all won tournaments in the past month, and not surprisingly are all near the top of their league standings. All three tournaments had teams from inside, and mostly outside of their league.

No pressure Novices

"There is no pressure, but we want to

stay on top," said Novice head coach Vincent Delisle. He added the turning point of their season came during that tournament.

"Between periods we were tied 1-1. I went to talk to the kids and realized that they understood that it was important. They knew what they were doing well – and what they needed to improve," he said. "At that age [7 to 8 years old], we're really lucky that the players understand hockey."

Pee-Wee feeding the hunger

Pee-Wee A Wings coach Howard Scheffer said the late December tournament they won in Dollard just feeds the hunger to perform well as the season moves forward.

The Wings are currently in the top

three but have failed to beat the top team in the league, the Predators, also a Westmount team, losing 1-0 and 4-2.

"The playoffs are a big tournament," he said. "Our kids are hungry for it. They know that they've improved. We're not going to teach any new things in the last few practices. We'll review things, and then it's pretty much muscle memory."

"The stakes are higher in the playoffs," Scheffer explained. "We're pretty solid and have a high confidence level. The coaches are confident in the players and the team is improving."

Game by game for the Bantams

The road to the win was a little different for Bantam coach Matt Robins. He said the couple of easy wins at the beginning of the season allowed the team to fall

into a trap.

"In the tournament we were challenged for the first time in a long time. Because of that, we were brought back down to earth. We got a different type of confidence after that because we could play against and beat more difficult opponents," Robins said.

"I think that going after the league championship was always in the back of our mind," he said. "It was talked about at the beginning of the year, and I hated it. Our goal is now to take a game-by-game approach and that has now made it a possibility."

Playoffs in each level will be taking place at one location. This year, Westmount hosts the Atom A tournament.

The Study science fair explores addictions, oil spills and blood clotting



The Study science fair winners show off their medals. From left: Clara Leduc, Julia Facchino, Marina Nikolopoulos, Stephanie Mouchbahani-Constance, Sophie Battat, Sarah Battat, Sabrina Roy, Chloé Anassis, Francesca Masella, Sabrina Nolan and Emily Nolan.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Eleven students enrolled at The Study won gold medals in an annual science fair which took place at the school on February 16.

The winners are going on to the Mon-

tre Science Fair. Some gold-winning projects included looking into a solution (natural or chemical) to clean up oil spills, fighting addictions and "embracing the air with algae repair."

Woman struck at Prince Albert in one of two accidents

A woman was taken to the Montreal General Hospital by ambulance February 14 after being struck by a car at Prince Albert and Sherbrooke, Public Security officials said. An officer covered the woman with a blanket and helped comfort her. The extent of her injuries was not known, but she was described as conscious but unable to answer questions.

The accident occurred just after 5 pm when the PSO noticed a group of people

around a woman on the ground and went to her assistance. An emergency doctor also was on the scene and officers directed traffic.

The following afternoon around 2:25 pm, a second accident was reported at the same location, this time a minor one between two cars. The sun was very strong and quite blinding that afternoon though it was not known if that was a contributing factor, officials said.

Social Notes, cont'd.

continued from p. 14

stylists **Francezco Ramirez** from Salon Pure and **Benoit Labelle** from Westmount's Mod's.

Not only was it a birthday bash for Yajaira, the evening showcased the culinary talents of **Frank Barbusci**, executive chef at Golf St. Raphaël on Île Bizard. He was invited as a guest and celebrity chef of the night. Barbusci captivated the LBD-clad (Little Black Dress) ladies, many with pearls, others with diamonds, in the large kitchen as he gave a delicious demonstration on how to make a risotto porcini. Most important? "The stock!" he told the on-lookers.

After sampling the comforting risotto, made even more sumptuous with oodles of butter and Parmesan cheese, guests wandered into the living room to admire the art of **Nelly Melo Contreras**, whose work is inspired by Picasso.

Then they listened – and danced! – to

singer-musician-teacher **Andrée-Anne Lamarre**, who is engaged to Yajaira's brother **Pitter**.

Energy to dance derived not from risotto alone. Barbusci also brought sushi and other mouth-watering hors d'oeuvres to keep the night going for the dancers.

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NEW ON THE MARKET

492 Strathcona, Westmount \$2,175,000
Directly across from Murray Park, this beautiful and bright family home has 7 bedrooms, a large kitchen, elegant entertaining rooms, and an amazingly basement that must be seen to be believed.



NEW EXCLUSIVE

New York Style Townhouse, Westmount \$1,925,000
Townhouse on a fabulous street within walking distance to Sherbrooke and Greene with 5+1 bedrooms, 2 car garage, and 20 x 20 deck. Exclusive listing, must see.



NEW ON THE MARKET

52 de Lavigne, Westmount \$1,395,000
First time on the market in since 1965, this detached home is perfect for a couple who are looking for a small, yet cozy home with incredible views, 2 bedrooms, on a quiet street with the best neighbors!



VIEW OF THE RIVERSIDE

815 Riverside, Saint-Lambert \$995,000
This unique and beautiful property is an architectural delight (design by Henri Brillon). Located on the riverside, this jewel of a house has a country setting and is only minutes to downtown Montreal.



OPEN HOUSE, SUNDAY 2-4

1200 de Maisonneuve, 16E, Montreal \$865,000
With unobstructed views of the mountain, this lovely condo with 2 bedrooms has 1580 sq. ft of living space, large closet space, granite countertops, wood floors, and indoor parking. Great downtown location.



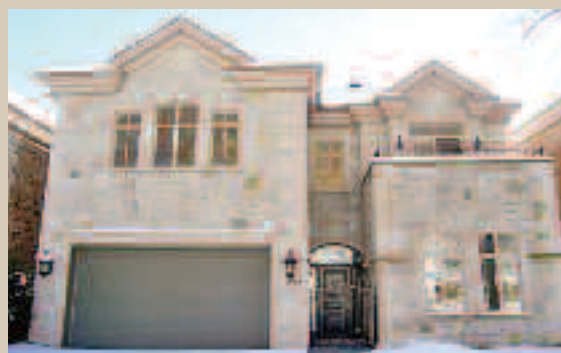
NEW ON THE MARKET

4661-4663 de la Roche, Plateau \$559,000
Revenue opportunity with this duplex in the heart of the Plateau, can be converted to single dwelling or kept as revenue property. An outstanding garden and parking for 2 cars make this extra special.



OFFER ACCEPTED

3086 St. Sulpice, Montreal \$2,300,000
A lovely detached stone residence with 3+2 bedrooms, gas fireplaces, granite countertops, wood floors, deck on the master bedroom, enclosed terrace, and finished basement. Move right in!



SOLD IN 10 DAYS

3088 St. Sulpice, Montreal \$2,300,000
Right next door, another detached stone residence with 3+2 bedrooms, gas fireplaces, wood floors, deck off the master bedroom, finished basement, and fenced backyard. Gone in a flash!



SOLD IN OLD MONTREAL

20 Soeur-Grises, #614, Montreal \$339,000
Perfect one bedroom condo on the top floor for the first time buyer, lots of sunlight, great storage, exposed brick wall and beams, indoor parking, and rooftop terrace and pool. Wow!

Deeply rooted value



Marie Sicotte

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