

Ometz raises money for at-risk youth



VERONICA REDGRAVE
SOCIAL STUDIES

On April 30, Ometz held its annual fundraising gala at Place des Arts. Tickets were \$180.

Honorary patron was **Herbert Black**. **Arlène Abitan** was event chair, attending with her husband **Henri**.

A Chance to Shine featured a performance by MOMIX, an American illusionist dance troupe. Quebec celebrity **Jasmin Roy** was honoured for his vision and passion in leading the fight against bullying and violence in schools.

The Fondation Jasmin Roy is collaborating with Ometz and writer **Camil Sanfaçon** to develop a comprehensive bilingual tool kit to help schools throughout Quebec deal with these issues.

A reception was held before the performance, and guests lined up to enjoy the sushi buffet and hors d'oeuvres.

Guests noted included Hampstead residents **Lillian Vineberg**, as well as **Jasmin Roy**, and Ometz's **Alicia Salama**, director of development; **Howard Berger** and **Gail Small**, co-executive directors; and



Lillian Vineberg.

Photo: Veronica Redgrave

Howard Lohner, president.

A total of \$340,000 was raised at the event. The evening was held to help youth at risk in the Montreal community.

Ometz is a not-for-profit human services agency that supports and strengthens individuals and families by offering a range of employment, immigration, school and social services. www.ometz.ca

Steinberg announces re-election campaign

By MICHAEL MOORE

The only mayor Hampstead has known post-demerger will officially be seeking a third term in the town's November 3 election.

"Even though we have had wonderful accomplishments over the last eight years, there are so many other things that we can do during the next mandate," Mayor Bill Steinberg told the *Free Press* after announcing his re-election campaign on July 3.

Steinberg first swept into the mayor's seat in 2005 after spearheading Hampstead's successful demerger campaign, first edging out 27-year incumbent Irving Adessky and then defeating former town councillor David Sternthal in 2009.

Nearly a decade after the demerger referendum, however, the honeymoon period from that successful campaign has long since passed and residents will be voting on his record as mayor, said Steinberg.

"The demerger is the most important thing I've done for Hampstead, but it was ancient history even when I ran the first time. People thought, 'Okay, you got the town back. Now what can you do as mayor?'" he reminisced.

"They gave me a chance in 2005 and



Mayor William Steinberg said he will run again in the Nov. 3 election.

Photo: Free Press files

then were able to vote on my track record in 2009. Now people have a chance to vote on an even better and longer track record," said Steinberg.

Steinberg's second term hasn't been without conflict for Hampstead, however, including a 2010 lawsuit filed by councillor Abe Gonsior against the council and town after he was banned from caucus meetings.

Despite the town's internal issues, Steinberg is confident that this mayoral campaign won't devolve into the mudslinging of his 2009 race against Sternthal.

"I think this one will be different, or at least I hope so. So far I've not seen signs of any negative campaigning and I don't foresee it happening," said Steinberg.

While he expects the campaign's tone to be improved, Steinberg's main challenger will be emerging from within his own council for the second straight election.

Councillor Bonnie Feigenbaum, a member of Steinberg's slate for the last two elections, was quoted in a local paper in March saying she would be running for the top job in Hampstead this November.

"It was expected, but I guess I'm somewhat disappointed because I don't really know what [Feigenbaum] is going to be running on. I think she knows as well as I do that the town has been run extremely well for the last eight years," said Steinberg.



Councillor Bonnie Feigenbaum, a member of Steinberg's slate for the last two elections, has said she will run for mayor in November.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Hampstead Happenings

Courtesy of town of Hampstead

Aquamania & family movie night around the corner

Join us at Hampstead Pool for Aquamania on Sunday, July 21 starting at 4 pm for a splashing good time for the entire family!

This year, you can try free scuba diving lessons from Total Diving, plus there will be music, games, refreshments, and much more. Stick around later that evening for Family Movie Night in the Park, where we will present *OZ: The Great and Powerful*.

The show begins after sunset; please bring a chair.

New date for Hampstead Day

Save the date! Hampstead Day has been rescheduled for Tuesday, August 27 (rain date: Wednesday, August 28).

The event had to be postponed from

June as forecasts called for rain on both the planned event date and the rain date. Stay tuned for further details.

Hockey registration

Hockey registration begins on Tuesday, August 6 at the Irving L. Adessky Community Centre during regular office hours.

The program is open to Hampstead residents born between 1992 and 2008. Players must be registered to try out for double-letter teams, which begin as early as August 15. For further information, please call: 514.369.8260.

Tennis barbeque

Season pass holders and their guests are invited to the annual Tennis Barbeque at the Community Centre on Monday, July 15 at 6 pm. Call for details: 514.369.8260.

The next regular council meeting will take place Monday, August 5 at 8 pm at the Irving L. Adessky Community Centre, 30 Lyncroft Road. All residents are welcome.