

# Book sale raised funds for Alzheimer's disease

Eight-year-old Montrealer Sarah Goldin wanted to do something to help her grandmother.

Her grandmother, who is in her 60s, has Alzheimer's disease. It is deeply troubling to the people who love her to witness the progress of the disease and to feel as helpless as they do. For them, "it is an ongoing tragic saga," said Laura Fish, Sarah's mother.

But there was something they could do, Fish said. "I said that we can raise money for doctors to do research."

Sarah thought they could design cards or hold a garage sale. "How about if we sell books?" Fish suggested. Sarah thought that was a fine idea.

And so with some guidance from her mother, Sarah set about organizing the event.

"We sat down a month ago and I asked her to make a list of 10 people she'd like to ask for books," Fish recalled. The list included family members and family friends. Sarah, a Grade 3 student at Solomon Schechter Academy, wrote a note asking people for help. Then photocopies of the letter were dropped off, along with an empty box, at the homes of the people on Sarah's list.

"Please fill this box with as many books as you can," the note said. "We will pick it up. We are raising money for Alzheimer's research."

Sarah also made a flyer - and news of the sale spread through word of mouth. It turned out that many people whose names weren't on her list wanted to contribute books for the sale - children's books as well as adult books, including recent fiction.

"We ended up with a house full of books," her mother said, "with boxes and boxes of books."

Fish spent a few weeks sorting and classifying the books and the morning of the sale last Sunday; they were set out on tables. There was a reading area outside the family's Town of Mount Royal home; it was Sarah's idea to give people the opportunity to browse before buying.



COURTESY OF MORRIS FISH

A book sale was organized after Sarah Goldin, 8, wanted to do something to help her grandmother, who has Alzheimer's.

Sarah made a poster that said "Reading = Good Dreams."

"In the morning, we had a lot of people," she recalled. The afternoon was quieter but dozens of books were sold - and some people made donations as well. Most of the people who came by were people Sarah knew: family and friends, as well as friends of her grandparents and friends of her mother's sister, Amy Fish.

Ultimately, between sales of books and donations, the book sale raised nearly \$3,000. The money will go to the McGill Centre for Studies in Aging - and the leftover books are to be donated to the Jewish General Hospital.

And Sarah's parents were proud of her. "Some adults grow up without doing anything as meaningful as what Sarah did yesterday," her mother said after the sale.

The 2010 Antiques and Collectibles Auction, organized by Montreal Hadassah-WIZO and held May 25 at the Segal Centre for Performing Arts, raised \$7,500 - considerably more than in previous years, when the event was held in private homes or condo party rooms.

The event featured a delightful cocktail reception, a silent auction, a flea market table



COURTESY OF SARAH HUTMAN

Setting up for the Hadassah-WIZO Antique and Collectibles Auction were (from left) Thelma Shapiro, Harriet Starr, Arlene Levy, Sarah Hutman, Culla Granich, Marcy Segall and Renna Bassal.



COURTESY OF RENÉ BAZILE

Zoe Regnier, Katlyn Coull and Kelsey Dezan (left to right) participated in a Girl Guides Walk for Breast Cancer Action Montreal in Greenfield Park.

featuring vintage items and an auction led by professional auctioneer Neil Horowitz.

More than 120 people attended. Horowitz was assisted by antiques expert and consultant Serge de Quevillon and the array of items featured china, silver, crystal, furniture, jewellery and art.

The money raised will go to support projects for children, health care and women in Canada and Israel. Canadian Hadassah-WIZO, a women's

volunteer organization, has been dedicated for more than 90 years to the support of children, women and health care in Israel and Canada.

Projects funded by Hadassah-WIZO in Montreal include the Montreal Children's Hospital, the Leave Out Violence (LOVE) organization; the Missing Children's Network and women's shelters.

Support and services for the May event came from several organizations and people: the

Segal Centre for Performing Arts, Anka Fruit, Thin Addictives, Henrietta Anthony, Clara Moscovitch, Tracey Abbey Taylor, Lana Harper, Coach House Antiques, Serge de Quevillon, Neil Horowitz, Montreal Paper Cutting, the YM-YWHA, Delmar Jewellers and Laurentian Jewellers.

The Riverview District of the Girl Guides of Canada held its 13th Annual Walk for Breast Cancer Action Montreal on May 5; the event raised \$960 for breast cancer prevention awareness. Girls from Sparks to Rangers, with their parents and members of Breast Cancer Action Montreal, took an evening stroll through the Greenfield Park district, proudly displaying a BCAM banner that said Prevention is the Cure.

Breast Cancer Action Montreal offers popular education programs about the environmental links to breast cancer.