

■ Toulas Take: Yes, it's hard to be a compassionate consumer. No, you shouldn't stop trying p.4

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Westmount designers featured at Montreal Design Open House 7

Doreen Lindsay has a passion for art, history, and Westmount 19

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We all scream... summer in the city!

Westmount streets were busy with people indulging in summer treats this past Sunday.

Photo: Peter Ford

CONTEST DETAILS ON PAGE 19

with GARDNER and MARY-CLAUDS LOCAUX

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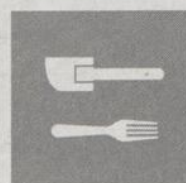
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Westmount dog owners get new rules, new play spaces

■ MORGAN LOWRIE

The council chamber at Westmount City Hall was overflowing Monday night, full of local dog owners who were worried by rumors that the city planned to close the Lansdowne dog run.

In the end, the news was good: although the city will close the run at the corner of Lansdowne and Ste-Catherine, they will open a new and bigger one behind the round circle garden in Westmount Park.

The proposed area is currently a concrete expanse, originally built for chess and shuffleboard players, but has been largely unused since 1983.

City councillor Cynthia Lulham explained that the city had been looking to remove the concrete for some time. The location is further away from traffic and from residential homes than the current dog run, which has raised safety concerns and noise complaints.

"It will be a beautiful area and much more pleasant than being near the traffic," Lulham said. "We understand that a dog run is an important community contact for a lot of people."

The new dog run will measure 1,249 square meters, about the same size as the original Lansdowne dog run, before the space was reduced to 400 square meters once the construction began on the Westmount recreation centre.

The current dog run area will become added green space adjacent to the recreation centre's new pool. Lulham also mentioned that the city gains a LEEDS point for removing the concrete from the park.



Choco at the Lansdowne dog run.
Photo: Archives

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City council also passed a bylaw restricting the number of dogs that any person may lead, have or bring to a Westmount dog run or Summit Woods to three.

This is to address the concerns that professional dog-walkers who care for large numbers of dogs at one time are not able to control them or clean up after them.

The news pleased one local woman who had come to city council to plead for action on the dog issue. She said that she had become scared to walk her dog in Summit Woods after being attacked last year, and that she regularly saw walkers with 5 to 7 dogs each at one time.

"There is no way you can know where they are, or clean up after all of them," the woman said. "It is not good for the woods either."

Lulham said that stories such as these were what inspired the rule change.

"When you bring in a large number of dogs, they get pack-like," she said. She said she was 'appalled' by the behavior she saw up in Summit Woods in the spring.

"The dogs would all just run off into the park, and there is no way you can supervise them. The first purpose of summit woods is as an urban sanctuary, and walking dogs should be a pleasant experience."

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Yes, it's hard to be a compassionate consumer. No, you shouldn't stop trying

Factory explosion in Bangladesh can feel 'out of sight, out of mind,' but should it?



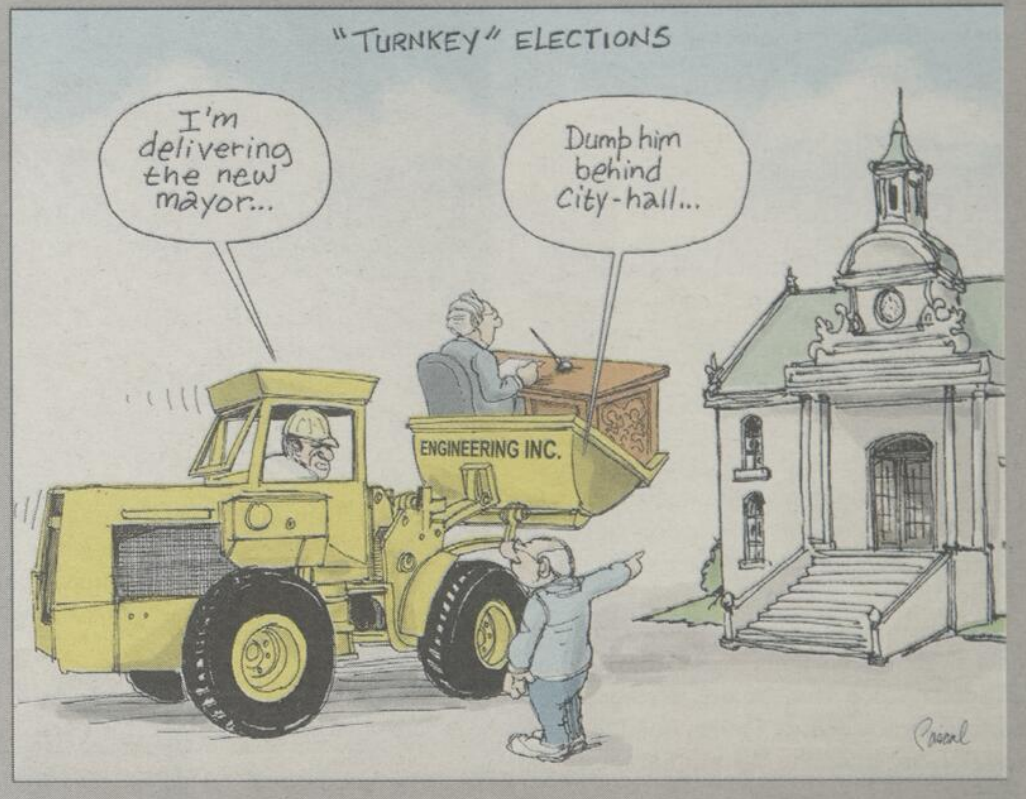
Toula FOSCOLOS
Toula's Take
toula.foscolos@tc.tc

Most of you have already heard about an illegally-constructed building in Bangladesh that collapsed and killed close to 400 people. The details emerging are heartbreaking. Huge cracks had apparently appeared in the building days before, but the owner assured everyone that it was safe.

Even though police ordered an evacuation, the managers of the five garment factories housed in the building told everyone to continue working. Hours later, the entire building (eight floors of what should have only legally

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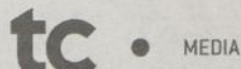
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been five) collapsed, crushing people to death. Many who didn't immediately die, would eventually burn to death as fire broke out.

The thought of people trapped for days under the rubble, only to burn alive as they lay there unable to move, makes my stomach turn. And this is only one of many such disasters in garment factories. A similar one, only a few months ago, had killed 112 people.

This incident has, of course, focused attention (probably briefly) on the poor working conditions of the workers and the often questionable practices that allow for such exploitation to take place.

Inevitably, when such tragedies take place, discussions erupt and the same questions are routinely asked: "How do we prevent industrialized companies from bypassing regulations or ignoring sub-par conditions for the sake of profit? How can we boycott international brands and force them to treat their workers overseas better when we, the consumers, rarely know what's going on?"

In many instances, information is so limited, so confusing and often so misleading that it

discourages most consumers from making informed ethical choices, or even attempting to make one.

Continued on page 5 >>>

SEND US YOUR LETTERS!

The Examiner welcomes letters from readers on topics of local interest. While we only publish the writer's name and street, all letters must include the writer's name and address, as well as a daytime phone number for verification. Letters may be sent by e-mail to: examiner@tc.tc

We look forward to hearing from you!

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▶▶ Continued from Toula's Takle, page 4

Also, 'out of sight, out of mind' is a powerful element here. It's very easy for consumers in the States or Canada, who spend more money for designer coffees in a week than most of these workers make in a month, to think about the indirect consequences of their consumer decisions, when they're not staring them in the face.

And let's not forget the favourite line of many who can't be bothered: "If these factories weren't there, these people would be starving. At least they're making a living." But of course exploiters like to think they're helping the exploited! It's what helps them sleep at nights.

And yes, I understand it's hard to be a conscientious consumer. How do you get anything done in your day if all you're thinking of while shopping is 'is this dolphin-safe tuna? Is that fair-trade coffee? Is that free-range poultry? Should I even be eating poultry? Is this organic? Is this Rainforest Alliance certified? Gah!! Make it stop!

As a conscientious, globally-aware, privileged first-world consumer, the guilt will eat you alive, if all you do is ponder the impossible entitlement your purely-by-chance birthright affords you.

But you can pick your battles. North American and European retailers who purchase products from sweat shops and factories with questionable standards should be held accountable. Once the retailers are held accountable, you have their attention and you

force change.

It's the media's responsibility to focus the spotlight on these issues – no matter how distant and hopeless they may appear to sometimes be.

It's the consumer's responsibility to demand change, by refusing to ignore what's taking place. It may be tempting to reach for that \$8 T-shirt at Walmart and Joe Fresh, but there's a price attached to that incredibly-priced bargain. Are you willing to pay it? Nike found out the hard way in the late '90s, when rumours of sweat shops surfaced, that many consumers weren't.

Remember how when people found out blood diamonds, it changed how jewellery manufacturers conducted business? Do we have all the information? No. Are blood diamonds still finding their way into the market? Of course. But just because we can't change everything, doesn't mean we can't attempt to change something.

Bangladesh's garment industry is the third-largest in the world, after China and Italy. That means that the world needs to continue keeping its attention on this country, because opportunities for exploitation will certainly increase, as demand for more cheap labour increases.

Yes, I understand that 'money makes the world go round' and for-profit companies only have profit on their minds, but there's a way to turn a profit and still behave in a socially conscious and ethical way. Many companies prove that routinely, and the ones who choose to balloon profits on the backs of third-world workers

Letters to the Editor

Do the right thing

Last week, the Mayor of Montreal, Michael Applebaum, announced that the City of Montreal was officially disqualifying the engineering company Dessau from bidding on public contracts with the City of Montreal. The ban will last for five years and actually apply to any tendering process from December 17, 2012 onward.

This action was taken as a result of the revelation by Dessau, before the Charbonneau Commission, that the company had knowingly engaged in collusion to rig bidding prices on municipal contracts. The same policy will apply to other firms that have admitted to collusion before the Commission.

One of those companies is Genivar, an engineering firm that has been awarded a striking number of contracts by the City of Westmount, including work on the arena

project for which it received hundreds of thousands of dollars in extra untendered fees, the Master Traffic Plan and recent sewer-replacement contracts.


In light of this, will the City of Westmount now do the right thing and follow the example of Montreal and bar Genivar (and others on the list) from doing business with the City for five years? Furthermore, can we be assured that Westmount taxpayers will no longer be 'systematically fleeced' by these cartels, as Henry Aubin expressed it in the Montreal Gazette (April 19, 2012) even after companies change their names, as Genivar plans to do. As of January 2014 it will do business as WSP instead of Genivar, showing how 'easy it is to skip away from a sullied reputation'.

Mavis Young
Melville Avenue

need to be exposed, derided and eventually forced to go clean or go home. As consumers we have the power, but we've forgotten that.

It's just not enough for Galen G. Weston,

executive chairman of Loblaws and founder of Loblaws' discount clothing chain Joe Fresh to state that he's 'troubled' by these practices. It's a start, but it's nothing at all if that's where it stays.

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What's coming up in Westmount...

WESTMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL HOLDS CAR WASH THIS SATURDAY

Westmount High School will hold a car wash fundraiser on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Esso station on Sherbrooke and Grosvenor. Drop by, get your car washed and help out our local students.

FREE COMPOST FOR WESTMOUNT RESIDENTS ON SATURDAY, MAY 11

On Saturday, May 11, starting at 9 a.m. at the Westmount Public Works Yard, on Bethune Street, local residents can pick up FREE compost. Compost made from leaves collected last autumn will be made available to Westmount residents from 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 11th at the Public Works yard, Bethune Street, while supplies last. Residents should bring a container (either a plastic bag or a bin), a shovel and proof of residence. Supply is limited so please leave some for your neighbours. Trucks and trailers are prohibited!

Finished compost has a fresh earthy smell. It improves the structure and the richness of the soil. It can be dug into your plant beds, spread on your lawn or used as mulch around plants and trees. You can also add it to potting soil for indoor plants. It will help improve the health and growth of plants without any chemical fertilizer.

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SAINT-MATTHIAS (ANGLICAN) CHURCH EVENTS

On Thursday May 16th, 7:30 p.m.: A Victorian choral evensong at Saint-Matthias (Anglican) Church, Westmount, 10 Church Hill Road at Cote-Saint-Antoine, in the octave of Saint-Matthias. For information phone the church office at (514) 933-4295

On Sunday May 19th, 9:15 a.m.: An important discussion on justice issues in the Saint-Matthias Adult Forum series in the presence of the Right Reverend Mark Macdonald, national indigenous bishop for the Anglican Church of Canada. In the lower hall of Saint-Matthias (Anglican) Church, Westmount, 10 Church Hill Road at Cote-Saint-Antoine. For information phone the church office at (514) 933-4295.



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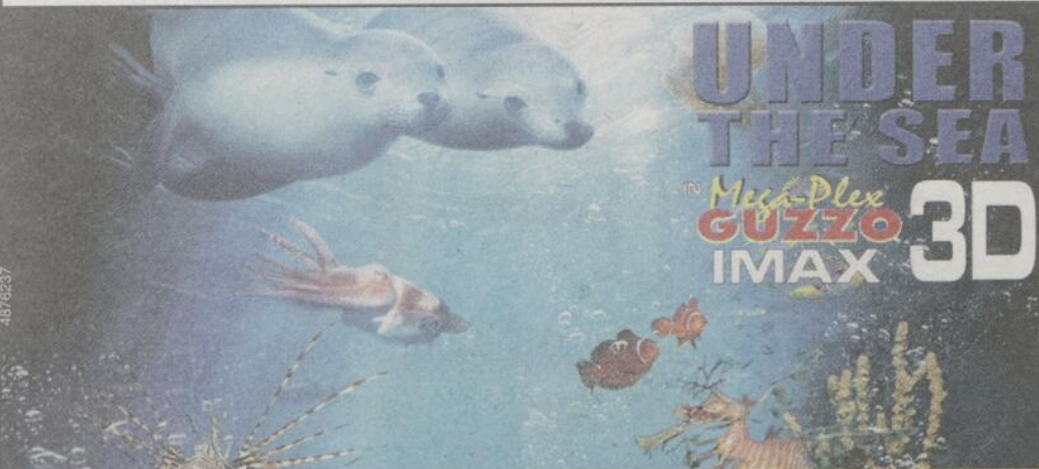
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Westmount designers featured at Montreal Design Open House

■ MORGAN LOWRIE

Once every two years on the first weekend in May, local designers take center stage with Design Montreal's Open House Weekends, an event created to showcase the city's award-winning designers and to give the public an inside view on the creative process.

Westmount-based firm Architem were first-time participants in the event, which is open to designers who have won an award or distinction in a local or international design or architecture competition in recent years. The local architects were invited by virtue of being one of three finalists in a competition to design an amphitheatre in Trois-Rivieres.

Architem was founded in 1986 by three women: Andrea Wolff, Elizabeth Shapiro and Magda Kuskowski. Over the past 27 years, they have worked on high-profile projects such as the Bronfman house, the addition to Selwyn house, and the new Selby street condo project.

Founding partner Shapiro says that the weekend's events were a chance for Montrealers to come see the office and learn about the design process, from ideas to drawings to details. Their exhibit featured drawings and photos from their projects, activities for children, and the opportunity to pick the brains of world-class designers.

"I think people will be surprised by the



The local architects were invited by virtue of being one of three finalists in a competition to design an amphitheatre in Trois-Rivieres.

complexity of the process," Shapiro said. "We start with an idea, but to translate that into sketch that reflects that vision is a very detailed process. Every part of a design has aspects that have to be studied. It's very intricate."

She says that the weekend was a great opportunity for the public to see what goes into the process of designing the city they inhabit.

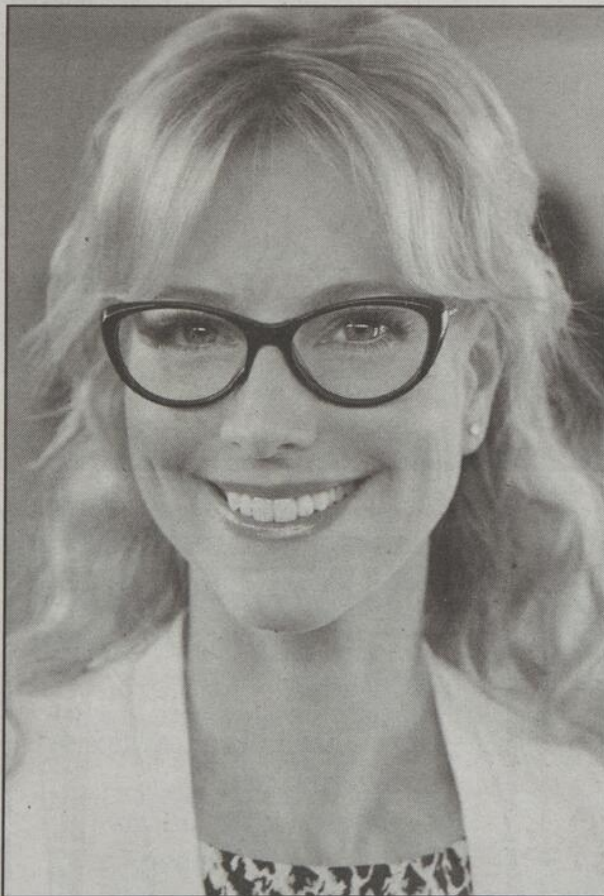
"It's a marvelous activity - a chance for

people to get a glimpse into what makes their environment special," she said. "An environment's design helps to alter and enhance the day-to-day experience, and you feel it whenever you enter a well-designed space."

She points out that even the garbage bins and benches in public places were designed meticulously. Small details like the placement of lighting on a wall or the materials used in

construction can have a huge impact.

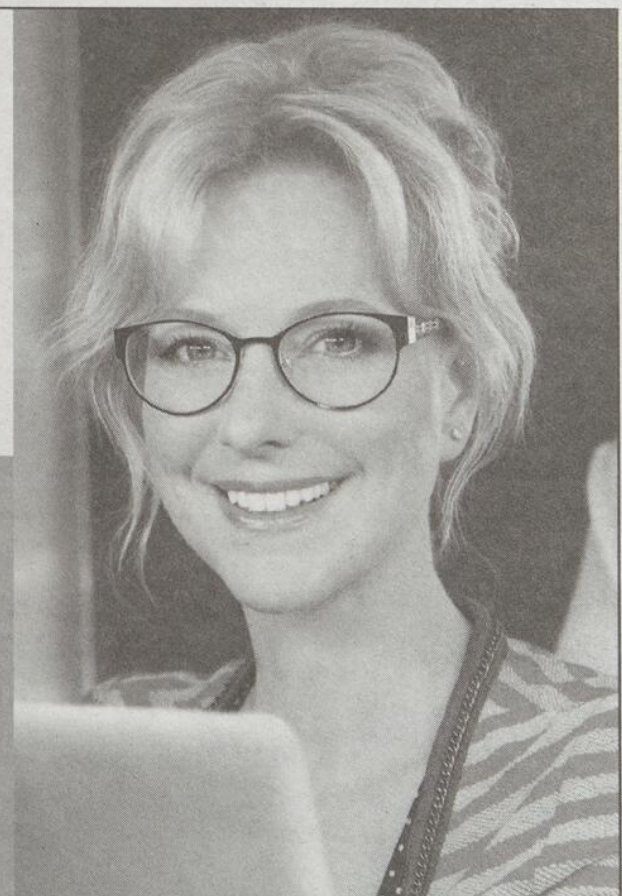
The event is run by Montreal's design bureau, founded when Montreal was declared a UNESCO city of design in 2006. Open houses routinely take place across the city on Saturday, May 6 and Sunday, May 7 from noon to 5 p.m. For more information about next year's event, visit <http://www.portesouvertesdesignmontreal.com>.



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8 - Thursday, May 9, 2013 - Westmount Examiner - www.westmountexaminer.com



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ADDRESS	FROM (SELLER)	TO (BUYER)	PRICE	EVALUATION (2011)	YEAR BUILT
657 Belmont	Sheldon Morgan Gail Seymour	Wayne Sellers Stacey Waxton	1,225,000	1,110,300	1910
3682 The Boulevard	In-Girl Kim Hye Kyung Jang	Sandra Albers 1,240,000	964,000		1924
12 Chesterfield	Ilan Gewurtz	Avram Whiteman	862,500	626,200	1960
64 Forden Cres.	Scott Trasler Barbara Dalfern	Li Ye Zhu	2,720,000	2,808,800	1927
730 Upper Lansdowne	Karen Ann Couvillion	8454353 Canada Inc	1,020,000	972,400	1919
317 Metcalfe	Ross Robbins Reggie Potts Robbins	Maxime Turcotte Sarah Ann Diamond	1,350,000	943,800	1901
4771 Sherbrooke	Jose Duraes	David Dankurt Dana Matzen	730,000	571,900	1916
12 Windsor	Denis Ramharry	Manya Saadi-Nejad Richard Foltz	750,000	755,000	1905
11 Hillside - 210	Belcourt Properties Inc	Nicole Boucher	377,468	new	new
4410 Ste Catherine - #3E	Marie-Claire Pare Carole Duhaime	Christopher Ross	515,000	363,700	1986
4450 Sherbrooke -2	Robyn Miller	Jean Peterson	985,000	515,600	1937
66 York	Carmelina d'Elia	Marc Felgar Trisha Goren	789,000	559,000	



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Early morning m



This photo was taken by Westmount resident David Asch at 6:45 a.m. in front of the old home... springtime magnolias burst open in the early warmth at the beginning of a beautiful spring...

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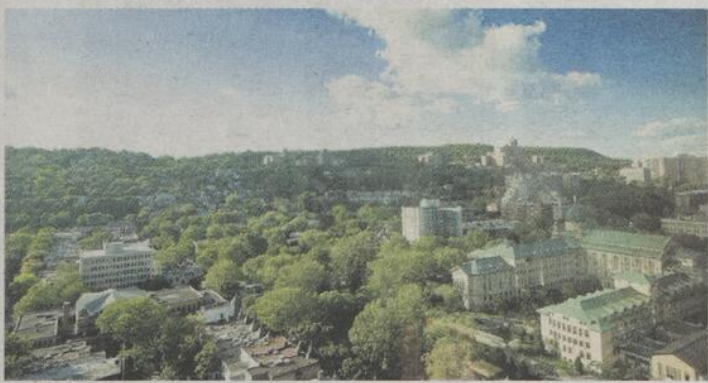
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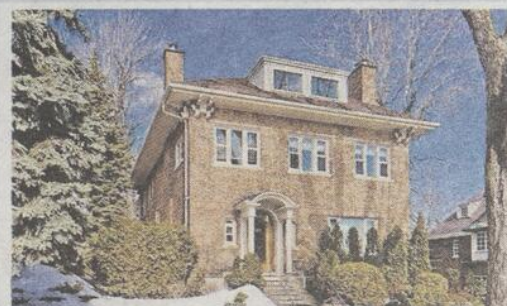
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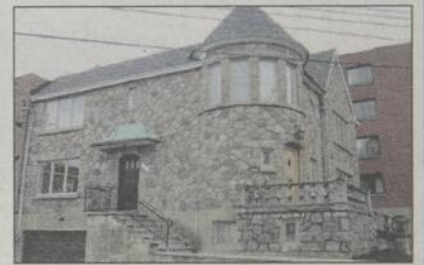
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\$469,000
MLS 10341245



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MLS 10158139



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1250 Greene prepares to open its doors

■ MORGAN LOWRIE

The luxury condo building on the corner of Greene and De Maisonneuve has been a labor of love ten years in the making. The journey from ugly but well-loved grocery store building to luxury residence has not always been a smooth one, but finally this summer, 1250 Greene will open its doors.

According to realtor Jill Prevost, the building is unlike any other on the island, with architecture reminiscent of a grand Parisien boulevard and roots firmly planted in the Westmount community.

"I think this building has got to be the most beautiful building in Montreal," Prevost said. "The attention to detail spent on this building is just beyond what anyone else would do."

She says that everything, from the hand-cut Indiana buff limestone to windows, railings, and state-of-the-art temperature control systems, were thought out and re-thought out.

"They actually bought and installed three railings on the outside of the building, just to see which one fit best," she said.

Many of the building's features were hand-selected by the building's early buyers. Fourteen of the building's 19 units have been sold, with the remaining unit prices ranging from \$1.45 million to \$5.5 million. Those buyers had the chance to customize every



1250 Greene

feature in their units, with the help of top designers and suppliers. They also made some group decisions, such as the choice to have a spa and meeting room, but no pool.

The final five units are being finished by designer Scott Yettman, with all the bells and whistles. Garage, concierge, doorman, security, and private outdoor space come standard with entry to the building.

"Basically, your wish is our command in this building," Prevost says.

The journey from inception to completion was a long one for Ramco Development's Jacob Attias. Westmount's strict laws meant that rezoning the lot to residential was a multi-year process, complicated by the community's fierce attachment to the 5 Saisons grocery store.

After a little mediating by Westmount Mayor Peter Trent, and a lot of back-and-forth, a deal was finally struck. The project was given the go-ahead in 2010.

The extensive negotiations resulted in a project that is integrated into the city to an unusual degree. Whereas many condo developments are criticized for being cold and removed from the communities they occupy, 1250 is the opposite.

The 5 Saisons grocery store, newly reborn as a 10,000 square foot upscale food market, now occupies the building's ground floor. In front of the building will be a 3,500m public square, with greenery and terrace seating.

According to Prevost, the building's residents wouldn't have it any other way.



Jill (left) and Joan Prevost

"The buyers are almost all local," she said. "It's people who know and who understand Greene and De Maisonneuve. It's people who want privacy, who don't want a big scene in the halls. But they want to be in the heart of it all. They want to walk out their doors and meet friends, or have a drink."

One of those buyers is Prevost's mother and fellow realtor, Joan, who flew in from Florida and arranged a meeting with Attias as soon as she knew the project was happening.

"She told him two things," Prevost said. "She said, 'A): I want to be in charge of selling your condos, and B): I want to buy that unit.'"

Prevost is convinced that the arrival of 1250 Greene will benefit far more than the residents who live there.

"I think it was integral to Greene," she said. "It's because of this building that we now have zoning for up to five new restaurants and cafes. I think we're going to get an entire new life on Greene. People will be entertaining, coming in and out," she continued.

"I really think it's going to turn Greene into our Rodeo drive."



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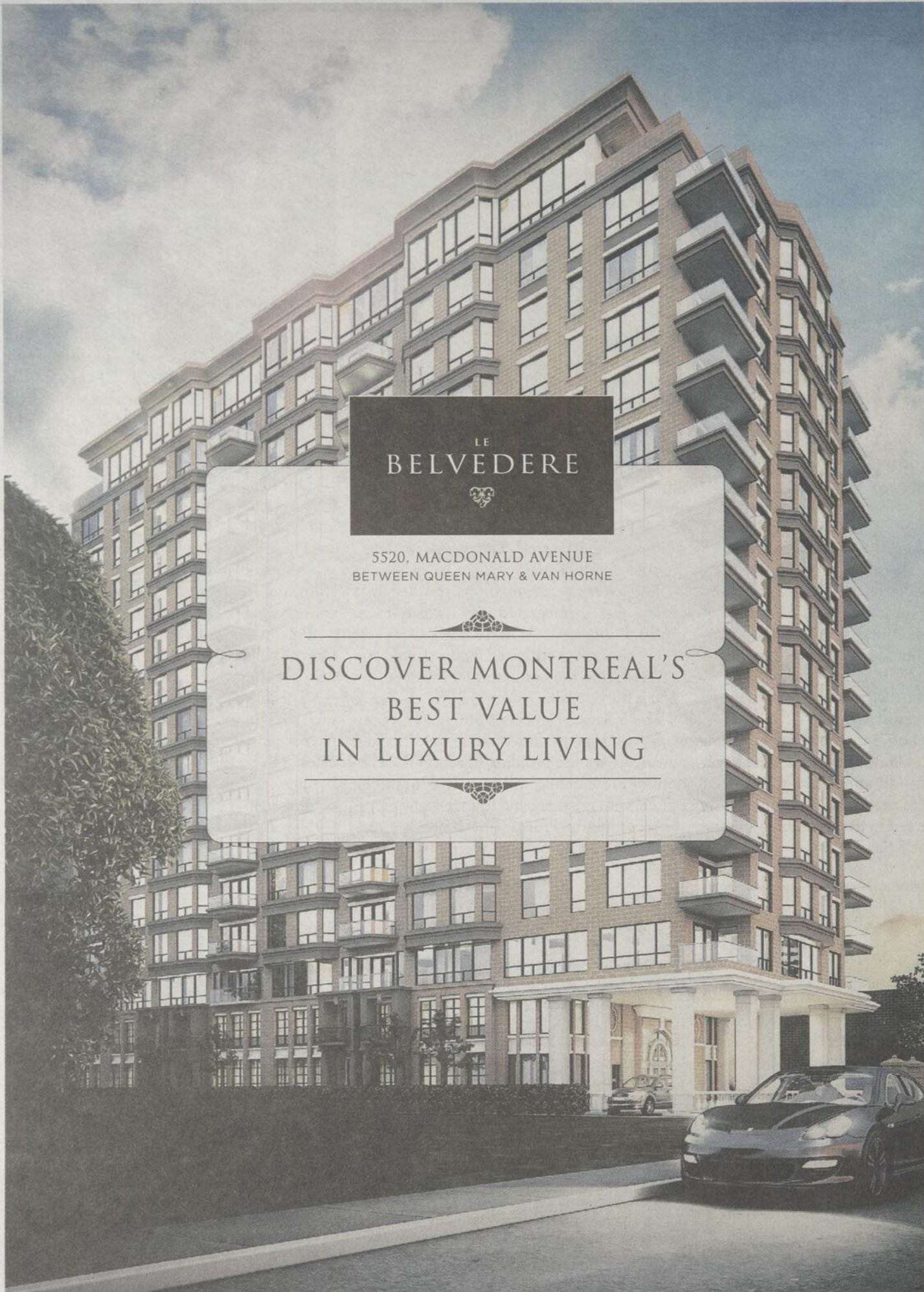
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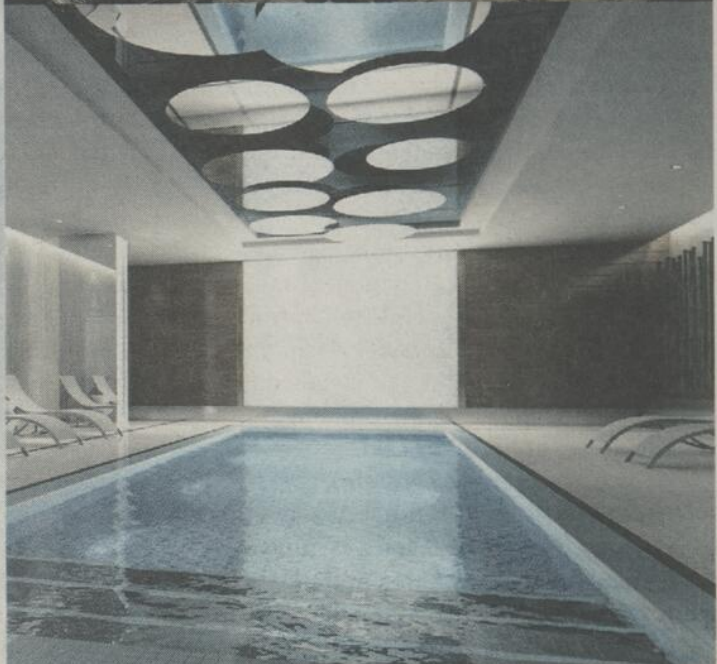
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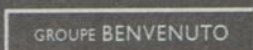
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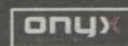
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Women's Health is a cause close to Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau's heart (seen here on the right) and she has teamed up with Barrie Risman and Mona Keddy, co-founders of Westmount-based Shri Yoga, to create an original way to raise funds in support to St. Mary's Women's Health Program.

For the occasion, mothers and daughters were invited to join them on for a special yoga class celebrating the power of love and the strength of women, which took place on Thursday, May 4. Photo: Peter Ford



A mother-daughter yoga fundraiser in Westmount

Shri Yoga Shares the Love

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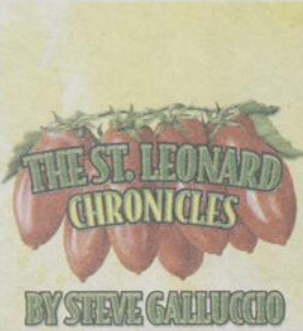


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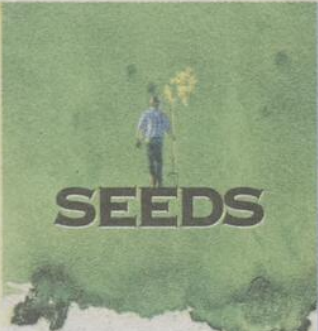
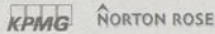


By STEVE GALLUCCIO
Directed by ROY SURETTE
Starring VITTORIO ROSSI

WORLD PREMIERE
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Hello Beaconsfield!*

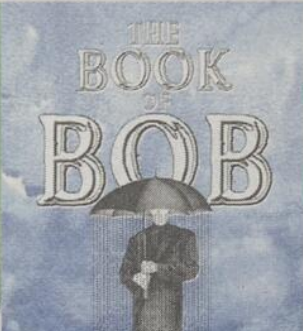
PRODUCTION PARTNERS



A Porte Parole Production
By ANNABEL SOUTAR
Directed by CHRIS ABRAHAM
Featuring ERIC PETERSON, BRUCE DINSMORE,
MARIAH INGER, ALEX IVANOVICI, TANJA JACOBS,
CARY LAWRENCE & LISA REPO-MARTELL

October 29 to November 24, 2013

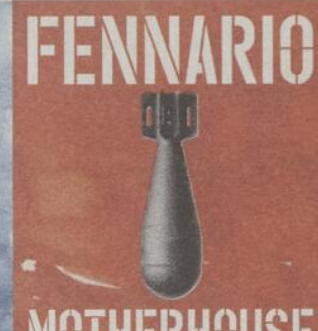
*Sowing the seeds of deception.
Claiming a patent on life.*



By ARTHUR HOLDEN
Directed by ELLEN DAVID
Starring LUCINDA DAVIS & RON LEA

WORLD PREMIERE
February 4 to March 2, 2014

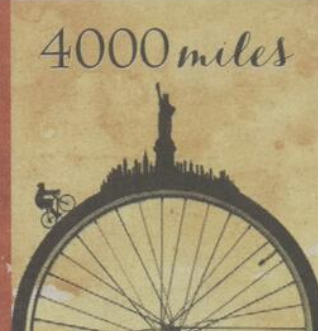
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By DAVID FENNARIO
Starring HOLLY GAUTHIER-FRANKEL

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By AMY HERZOG
Directed by ROY SURETTE
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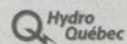
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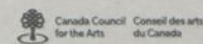
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Mother's Day Section

Theatre tickets: The perfect Mother's Day Gift



Nude With Violin, a comedy written by Noel Coward and directed by Jacqueline van de Geer, will be presented by Dramatis Personae, Westmount's Community Theatre in the Lodge Room, Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke West. There will be five performances, May 10 to May 13 - Friday May 10, Saturday May 11 and Monday May 13 at 8 p.m., with matinees at 2 p.m. on Saturday May 11 and Sunday May 12. Pay what you can for admission - the suggested donation is \$10. Reservations and information at www.theatrewestmount.com, phone 514 484 2016 or 514 486 7423.

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Doreen Lindsay

has a passion for art, history, and Westmount



To Lindsay, what she does is a passion and a full-time job, regardless of remuneration.

Photo: Serge Boisvert

MORGAN LOWRIE

Doreen Lindsay was not born in Westmount, but upon moving here fifty years ago she quickly set down roots that have grown deeper as time passes by.

This week, Lindsay received the Derek Walker Volunteer Citizen of the Year award from the Westmount Municipal Association in honour of decades of work in the fields of art and history, notably her last ten years as President of the Westmount Historical Association.

Just don't call her a 'volunteer.' To Lindsay, what she does is a passion and a full-time job, regardless of remuneration.

"I have a problem with the word volunteer, because to me, I'm working," Lindsay said during an interview at her Grosvenor Ave home. "I'm writing, I'm photographing, and I'm doing. If I don't get paid, they call it volunteering. But to me, that's a nothing word."

The London, Ontario native first came to

Montreal in the late 1950s to study painting at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts under the tutelage of Group of Seven painter Arthur Lismer, and earned her Masters' degree in Fine arts at Sir George Williams University.

After meeting and marrying her husband, Hungarian photographer Gabor Szilasi, the couple settled in Westmount, where Lindsay quickly became a fixture in the artistic community.

Lindsay helped to run a women's art gallery downtown in the 1970s, and from 1983-1993 she was one of the directors of ARTSWESTMOUNT, a group which brought artistic productions to the city. She also served on a cultural committee that encouraged the city to create a permanent art gallery, hire a cultural administrator, and renovate Victoria Hall.

It was during her time at ARTSWESTMOUNT that she discovered the passion for local history that would occupy the next decades of her life.

In 1994, she helped to organize a photography show featuring photographs of Westmount by local photographers. At the show, she met Aline Gubbay, Westmount's resident amateur historian. The two struck up a conversation and a friendship that would lead to the decision to revive the then-dormant Westmount Historical Association.

Although she had never been a historian, Lindsay quickly became a passionate enthusiast, and dove into researching the history of Westmount's homes and families. To her, the transition from art to history was a natural one.

"A lot of my personal artwork involved my day-to-day living, and that led me to be interested in my environment, where I live," Lindsay explained.

Lindsay became president of the Historical Association in 2003, and calls running it a "full-time job," since its numbers have grown from a small handful to 135.

She organizes eight lectures a year, edits and designs the bi-yearly newsletter, and coordinates historical walking tours with the Operation patrimoine architectural de Montreal (OPAM) and Jane's walk. She has

written dozens of articles for local newspapers, including the Westmount Examiner, and has taken countless photographs of the city's buildings and residents.

She also helps with research projects such as a recent one researching the history of the Glen, and erecting a plaque to commemorate it.

"As we look to develop things, I think that knowing what happened before on our streets and to our houses is important," Lindsay said. "It helps us to know how to make the future relevant to the past."

This summer, Lindsay will briefly return to her roots as an artist, as she and her husband have been invited to exhibit their photography at an exhibition at the Festival des Promenades Photographiques de Vendome, in France.

But her work in researching Westmount's history is far from done. When asked if she dreams of slowing down, she dismisses the thought.

"Oh my goodness, there is so much to do, I feel like we're just getting started," she said. "Every time we learn something new it just takes us to a new depth."

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