

The MONTEBELLO Voice

an independent gazette

hope to change

November 8, 2018



What did you do to my oatmeal?

By Sarah-Mai (Sammy) Simon

The advent of truly autumnal weather inspired me to have oatmeal for breakfast. I opened a brand new box of Quaker Old Fashioned Oats and made one portion of oatmeal for myself. Hubby likes his with salt but he was abstaining. I garnished mine with a (heaping) tablespoon of brown sugar and a handful of raisins and dug in. Hmm, the cereal tasted strange but I managed to finish it, while perusing the carton. The first thing I noticed, now that my eyes were open, was the color. Didn't the background used to be bright red? This box was rust-colored. In fact, Quaker has transformed the formerly patriotic red, white and blue package to one that is politically correct in color and content, repeating the words 100% Whole Grain twice. The Quaker man is still there but his smile looks a little smug to me.

I went to <https://www.quakeroats.com> and saw that many of the consumer comments on the website echoed my observations. "...different texture... tastes pasty....takes longer than five minutes to cook." Quaker's replies stated that the company has not changed the product. However, click on Quaker Quick 1-Minute Oats. Follow the asterisk to read, "Product formulation and packing and promotion may change. For current information, refer to packaging on store shelves." Hmm, why aren't they willing to admit those facts apply to the rest of their oatmeal products?

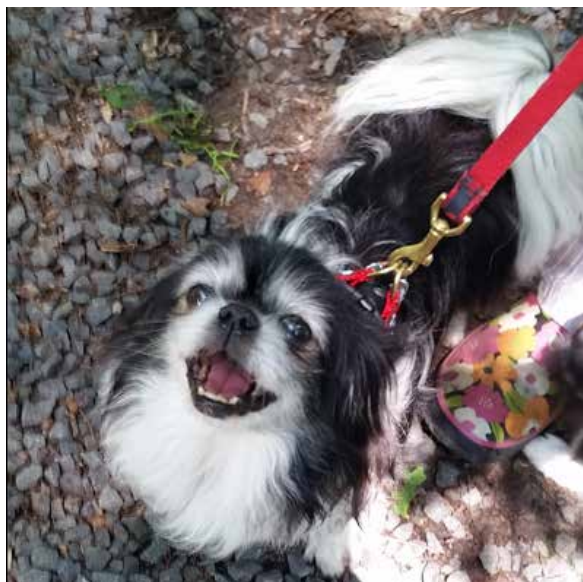
Now, I am old enough to remember when Quaker had only one variety of oatmeal and Grandma and Mother had to cook it for a long, long time. But, it came in a tin, which, when empty, became a marvelous drum for us kids. Want one? eBay is offering one for a mere \$19.99 plus \$5.15 shipping.

Well, I have 29 more half-cup servings in my current cardboard box. I am going to try to get rid of six of those by making "vanishing oatmeal raisin cookies" this afternoon.*

*P.S. The recipe yielded 30 cookies, but I had not left enough space between dough droppings. On each baking sheet was one humungous rectangular cookie I then had to cut into squares. I should have measured rounded teaspoons rather than tablespoons. That would have resulted in 60 cookies. If I repeat the exercise, instead of one cup of raisins, I shall add chocolate chips and chopped nuts.

Homemade granola might use up another three or four servings. If there are any fans of the new stuff out there, I would be happy to hand over the rest to you. 🍪

Cover photo of Rock Creek Park by Susan Dexter



Across Time

You know how to comfort me
When I look into your cloudy gaze
As if time stood still
And you were still a young dog
Believing in me

Secure that I will handle
Whatever evil comes
There will always be food,
And shelter, and safety, and love

When life overwhelms me
And you offer me peace

I wonder how I can go on
When you are gone

But what a dog knows
And has steadfast love for
Can never be severed across time.

— Sarah Newcomb

Thirteen-year resident of Montebello, Moose Newcomb, died recently after a long battle with a brain tumor. Moose was a rescue dog. He maintained his sweet disposition despite a significant abuse history, focal seizures and damage to his cervical spine.

Photo by Angel M. Jensen

The **MONTABELLO** **Voice**

an independent gazette
Alexandria, Virginia

This publication accepts no funding or oversight from advertisers, residents, or the Montebello Condominium Unit Owners Association. All opinions are encouraged and reflect the diversity of views in the community. All articles and photographs come from Montebello residents. To receive or contribute to this email-only gazette, contact montebellovoice@cox.net or visit on the web at www.montebellovoice.com.

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shorts & briefs

Upcoming productions at nearby high schools

Hayfield High School

Green Day's American Idiot

November 1 - 3 and 8 - 10

<http://www.hayfielddrama.com/>

Edison High School

Mamma Mia!

November 30 - December 1

December 6 - 8

<https://www.edisondrama.com/>

Mt. Vernon High School

A Spare Me

November 15 - 17

<https://www.mvstheatreats.com/>

T.C. Williams High School

Noises Off

November 9 - 10 and 15b- 17

[https://www.acps.k12.va.us/
Page/10#calendar143/20181122/
event/3581](https://www.acps.k12.va.us/Page/10#calendar143/20181122/event/3581)

GrandInvolve

*Changing the World – One
Child at a Time*

The Match Game

Volunteer with Passion
and Purpose

November 14, 1 – 3 p.m.

Sherwood Hall Library

Meeting Room

Join us for a workshop to help you match your skills and passion with volunteer opportunities in our community while learning about GrandInvolve, a group involved in matching classroom mentors, math/reading tutors, and classroom reading assistants with children in select schools near our community.

To respond or obtain more information, contact info@grandinvolve.org.

Submitted by Karen Barnes

News you can use

Fort Hunt Herald

<https://forhuntherald.com/>

Founded in August 2018, an all-digital publication devoted to covering the news, issues and items of interest to the residents of the greater Mount Vernon district in northern Virginia, including Huntington, Belle View, Groveton, Hybla Valley and Fort Hunt.

Covering the Corridor

<https://coveringthecorridor.com/>

An independent, online news site focused on the Richmond Highway area of Fairfax County. It launched in February 2016 to deliver more news and information to residents of this historic, diverse and ever-changing section of the county.



Curioser and curioser

a year abroad

By Robert Roman

The Roman family – Rob, Deborah, and Dominic – long-time Montebello residents, have recently re-

located to Budapest, Hungary.

After our first vacation in this Central European city, we returned several times to enjoy the city's family-friendly offerings, including cultural events, spas, parks, and a fantastic and efficient public transportation network.

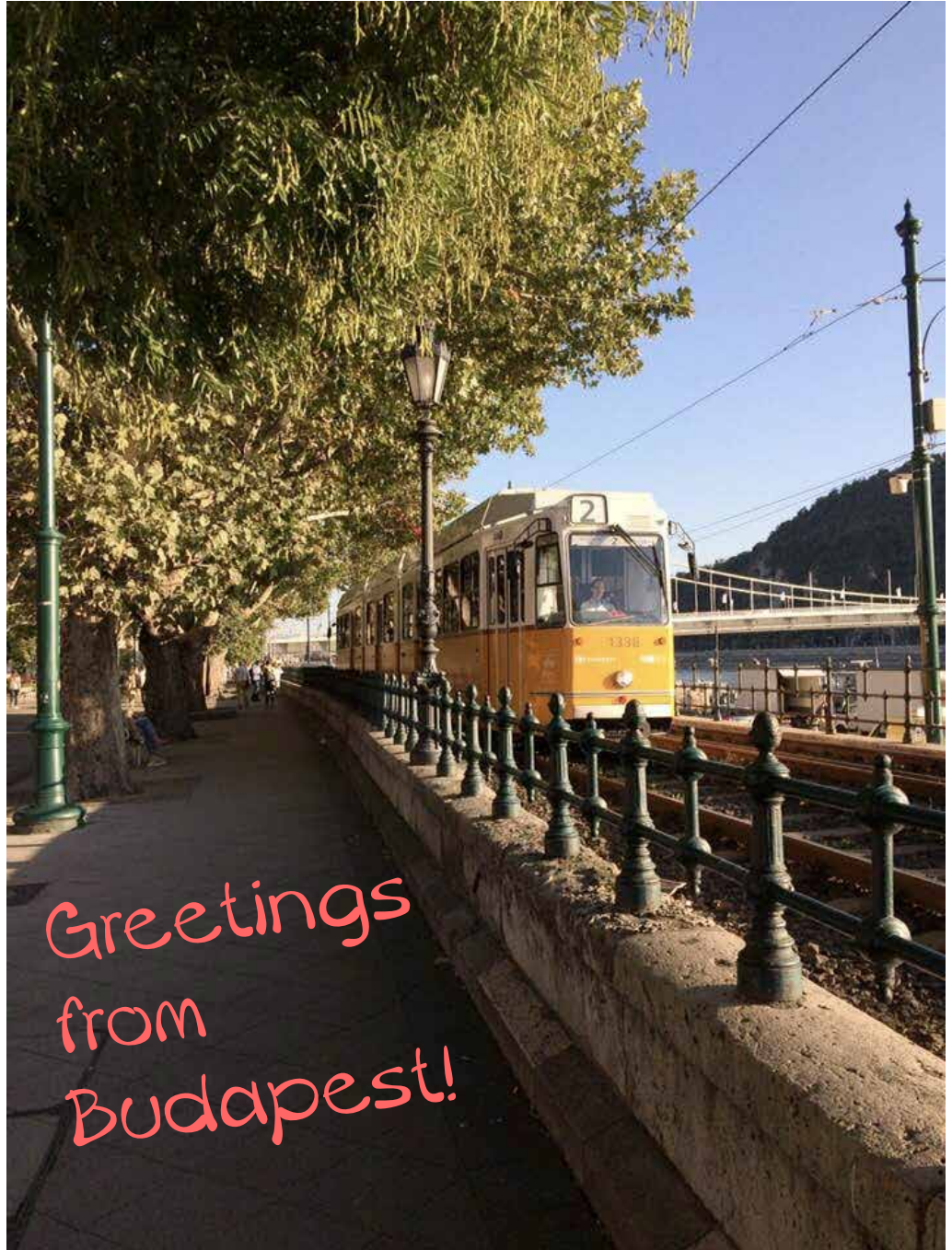
We began to think of Budapest as a great retirement spot offering plenty of family activities as well as educational opportunities for our son. We both wanted to continue our careers in the education field and wanted to find an international school for our son.

On a recent vacation we decided to investigate the possibility of relocating and decided to visit the International Christian School of Budapest. The school was a great fit and we realized that we would like the opportunity to serve.

The application process began with TeachBeyond, an organization that acts as a conduit for teachers and ancillary staff to pursue positions in Christian education throughout the world.

After completing a year's worth of applications, interviews, and preparation, we were on our way to Budapest to become staff members at ICSB with Rob in the Supplemental Services Department, Deborah as part-time school nurse, and Dominic entering as a 7th grade student.

Rob retired from his stateside public school position and Deborah from her position as school nurse at The Basilica School of St. Mary.



Greetings
from
Budapest!

The apartment search began a few days after our arrival in the city and only took one day. Without a car, we wanted to be close to a metro line for our commute to school, which is located in a suburb called Diosd. With the help of a rental agent we found a renovated apartment in the city center in a historic building with high ceilings, large windows, and architectural details. A series of repairs were needed but the rental agency responded fairly quickly to repair the air conditioning,

replace the worn couches with new ones, and arrange for a new washing machine to be delivered. The commute to Diosd has been great with a subway steps from our door with trains departing every three minutes or so.

We miss our adult children, Evana and Tony, but are hoping to visit with them soon. We send best wishes to all of our wonderful friends and family and are making plans to reconnect in person. 📞

a year abroad



a year abroad



midterms 2018

607 - HUNTINGTON (08)

Candidate	Votes	Percent
Thomas S. Oh (R)	516	22.97%
Donald S. Beyer, Jr. (D)	1,724	76.76%
Write-In	6	0.27%

[https://results.elections.virginia.gov/vaelections/2018%20November%20General/Site/Locality/FAIRFAX%20COUNTY/Member%20House%20of%20Representatives%20\(08\).html](https://results.elections.virginia.gov/vaelections/2018%20November%20General/Site/Locality/FAIRFAX%20COUNTY/Member%20House%20of%20Representatives%20(08).html)



Photos by Carole Appel and Mikhailina Karina

halloween



halloween



cup of joe



cup of joe



cup of joe



cup of joe



The SPEAKER SERIES Commemorates
VETERANS DAY



From the Library of Congress, Karen Lloyd will introduce
THE VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT
which collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of
U.S. Veterans from World War I (1914-1918) to the Iraq War (2003-2011)

The **MUSIC CLUB** will follow by offering patriotic selections

Mount Vernon High School's JROTC Cadets will serve as
COLOR GUARDS.

(Directed by Caroline Simkins-Mullins, Colonel, USMC, Ret)

Monday, Nov 12th at 3:00 pm
Community Center Lounge

Sponsored by the Activities Committee

Montebello Classic Movie Night

Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at 7pm
on the Big Screen in the Community Center



Back by Popular Demand, and now technically perfect.
The beautiful Catherine Deneuve in her brilliant 1964 singing role.

FREE popcorn, candies, and soft drinks for a great classic movie night!

Your host, Pamela Copley, will give you the pre-screening information on the movie and its stars, and then give you a post-screening back story.

A Celebration of Life

FEATURING
"CHYP AND ANDI"

Saturday, December 1, 2018

6:30 - 10 PM

Community Center Lounge



Tillie Cassidy, a Cancer survivor and Montebello resident, invites all residents to join her at the Community Center for the annual "Celebration of Life" event. 2009-2018



Throughout our community many have been touched in some manner by Cancer. Tillie hosts this event each year in honor of those who have been touched as well as to celebrate surviving and/or coping with the challenges faced with this disease. Please join Tillie and raise our glasses to this year being the year we find the cure for "All Cancers."

Chyp and Andrea will provide great music all evening for your dancing and listening pleasure

A "Celebration Cake" and a Champagne Toast will be served

**Remember to make reservations early if you are planning on dining with the Cafe*



and



Invite you to our film & discussion



MARTY

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 29 7:30 P.M. PARTY ROOM 2



The Golden Age of Television provided a launching point for a new genre of Hollywood films. Many actors, writers and directors got their start in these television productions. "Marty," the story of a lonely butcher stumbling into love, won critical praise for writer Paddy Chayefsky. It was remade into a feature film starring Ernest Borgnine. The masterful acting and writing make it a classic. It went on to win numerous Academy Awards, including best picture, best actor, and director.

Leslee Levy will introduce the film and lead the post-movie discussion.

final glance

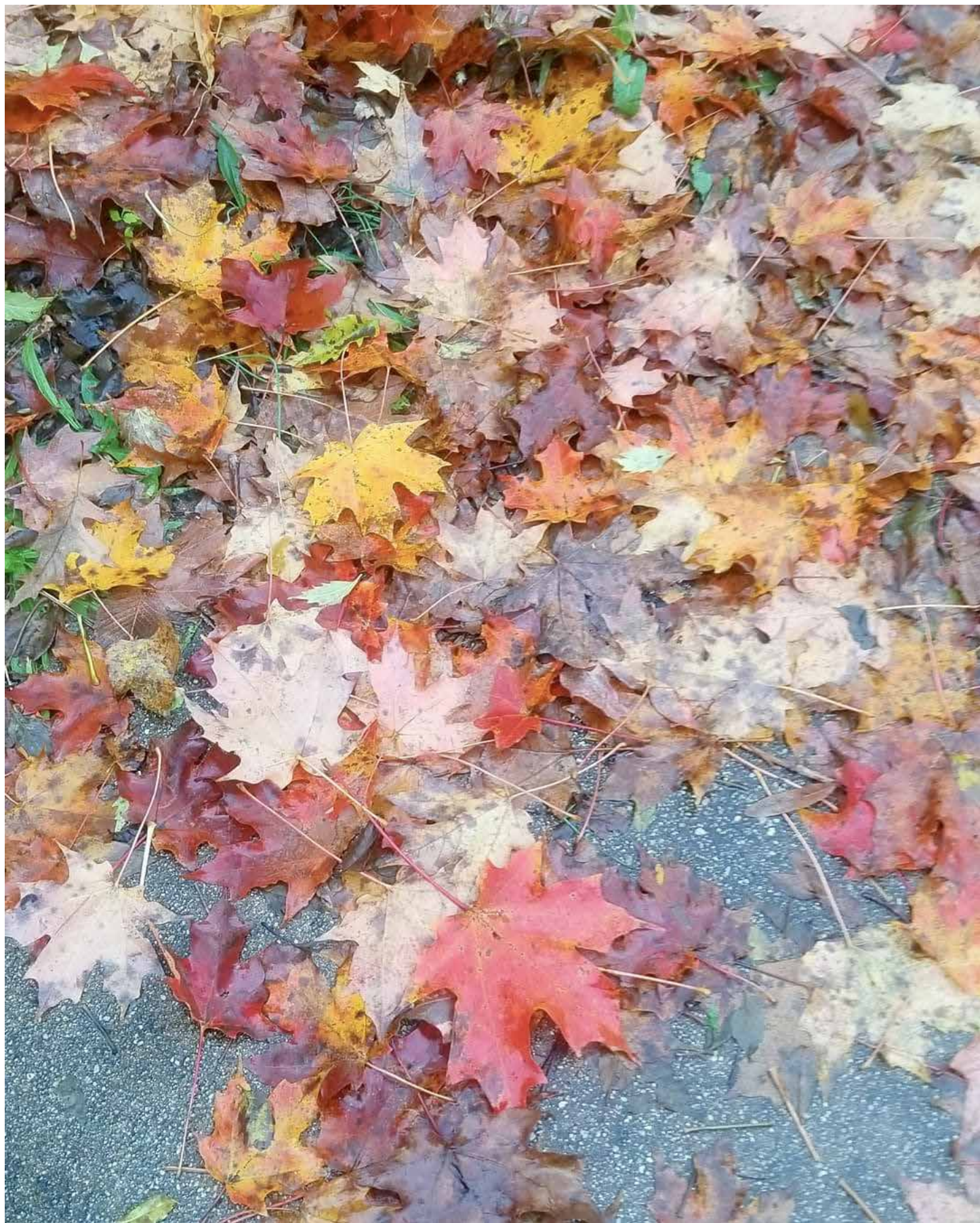


Photo by Azita Mashayekhi