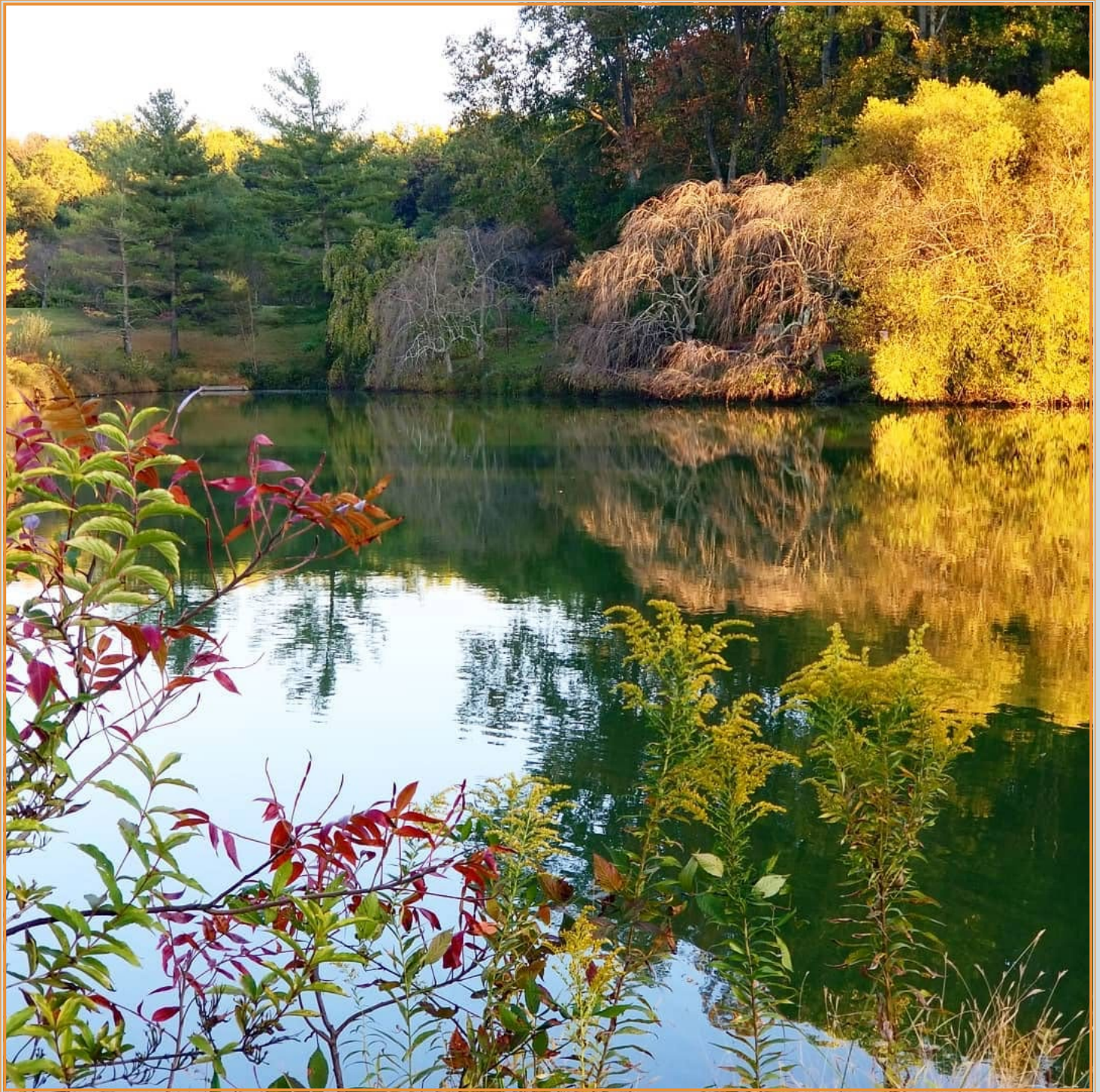


The **MONTEBELLO** Voice

an independent gazette

when autumn leaves start to fall

October 24, 2019



Meadowlark Gardens in Vienna, Va. Photo by Azita Mashayekhi

Official 2019 White House Christmas ornaments for sale

Montebello Music Club is selling the new collectible White House Historical Association ornaments honoring President Dwight D. Eisenhower for \$22. The ornament symbolizes President Eisenhower's commitment to innovation.



In July 1957, Eisenhower was the first president to fly in a helicopter while in office; thereafter the helicopter became a feature of White House life.

Contacts for purchasing:

Building 1 – *David Ransom*
davidransom2@comcast.net
703-960-0650

Building 2 – *Yo Frommer*
yonlarry@gmail.com 703-317-1140

Building 3 – *Mark Beerthuis*
mbeerthuis@gmail.com 703-360-7191

Building 4 – *Carol Comlish*
ccomlish@msn.com 301-613-2008

Pay by cash or check made payable to: Montebello Music Club. Proceeds go to the Grand Piano Concert Series

Questions? Mark Beerthuis at mbeerthuis@gmail.com. 📧

*The Montebello
Voice wants to
hear from you*

Wanted: fork and knife carriers

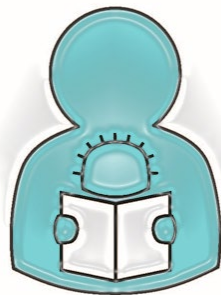
The Montebello Environmental Club is looking for a few more volunteers to take the silver to the monthly Potluck or Cup of Joe. This activity is aimed at avoiding the use of plastic throw-away flatware (and avoiding trying to cut your meat with a plastic knife.) If you are able to help occasionally to take or pick the flatware, please contact Karen or Don Barnes at chinakaren@yahoo.com or call 703-960-4936. 📧

Grandinvolve seeks volunteers

By *John Glaser*

Looking for a rewarding experience that benefits Fairfax County students, teachers and families? We need you! Grandinvolve is recruiting older adults as volunteers who would like to become mentors, reading/math helpers, and classroom assistants. No experience required. We need just a few hours of your time to make a difference to a student, teacher or family in our community.

Grandinvolve is a great opportunity for people to assist in helping challenged kids in elementary school, an important factor in their future success.



This fall we are targeting Title 1 elementary schools throughout the county, with multiple new programs in the South County area. Hours are flexible and opportunities await.

Interested? Contact info@GrandInvolve.org or go to www.grandinvolve.org. 📧

Neighborhood farmers markets

By *Sammy Simon*

On my way home via Belle View Boulevard last Thursday, I came upon a small farmer's market in front of Belle View condo complex at 1204 Belle View Blvd. that operates Thursdays from 3 to 7 p.m. Orchard Country Produce also sets up a market at St. Luke's Episcopal Church at 8009 Ft. Hunt Road on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 pm. They accept MasterCard and Visa if your bill exceeds \$15.

Orchard Country Produce www.orchardcountryproduce.com is a family-owned and operated, sustainable fruit and vegetable farm settled in Cumberland County, Penn., in the Appalachian Foothills. 📧

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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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Mikhailina Karina

Contributors

Karen Barnes, Mark Beerthuis,
Jackie Fleming, John Glaser, Raymond Houck, Azita Mashayekhi,
Dian McDonald, Sammy Simon

Breakfast of champions

By Raymond Houck

There is some dispute about who originated the very first frozen dinner, but there is no doubt that the executives at C.A. Swanson & Sons catapulted the concept into consumer kitchens. An

It was easy to reheat and eat in front of the new-fangled television sets that were fast becoming the centerpiece of the American living rooms. Even the packaging of the meals looked like a TV, complete with images of a viewing screen and control knobs. By the end

TV dinners hadn't been on the market long when I had my first taste of the forbidden fare in the early 1960s. My mother would not let us have them at home, but that changed when my cousin Bobby was visiting with us one summer. He asked for a TV dinner since he and his family ate them all the time. Mother, wanting him to enjoy himself, agreed to his request. She took us to the local A&P and allowed us each to select one we would like to eat. I was over-the-moon with excitement but also overwhelmed with all the selections. Bobby zoomed in on the Mexican Fiesta meal he desired, and I followed his lead. Mom purchased two of those meals as a treat for us boys.

The next morning, I found my cousin in the kitchen eating one of the meals we had chosen. To my delight there was one for me, too – along with a Dr. Pepper and an Eskimo pie.

Thanks, mom! That was a breakfast to remember! 🍽️



oft-repeated story says the company turned a “fowl” situation – an excess of Thanksgiving turkey – into a marketing success. The team filled an aluminum tray with turkey supper fixings and dubbed the frozen meal a “TV Dinner.”

of 1954, millions of Swanson TV dinners had been sold. In 1960, TV dinner trays gained a fourth compartment to accommodate a dessert. And in 1962, Swanson dropped the name “TV Dinners” because the meals could be eaten for lunch or even breakfast.

Board increases hourly staff wages, supports landscaping proposal

By Mikhailina Karina

The board expressed support for the proposed front entrance landscaping plan to beautify the bare hill on Montebello’s northern approach via the service road.

Grounds Committee chair Virginia Hodgkinson presented a slide show with images of new seasonal plantings, such as sumac, bottlebrush buckeye, and asters. Invasive trees on the knoll are in the process of being removed, the knoll flattened to improve sight lines for the gate. Dogwoods, redbuds, American hollies, and additional Yoshino cherries will be planted.

The total budget for the project will be almost \$64,000, which includes a 15 percent contingency. Landscaping, done by Natural Resources Design, will be \$52,446 and new irrigation will come to \$11,383. Money for the landscaping is already set aside in the Grounds Committee’s budget. Annual maintenance will cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

Hodgkinson said it was too late to begin fall plantings, but work will begin next April. She presented the plan at the October 22 board work session. Directors Raymond Goodrich, Heather Click, and Tom Harrelson were absent; Doug Kennett was on speaker phone.

The board also moved forward the proposal to increase Montebello’s housekeeping staff hourly wages by \$1 in the next pay period rather than wait until January. 🍽️

“People demand freedom of speech as a compensation for the freedom of thought which they seldom use.”

– Soren Kierkegaard

Planting of the bulbs

By Jackie Fleming

On a beautiful Saturday morning, I walked over to the three circle planters by building 3 to help with planting 600 daffodil bulbs. I enjoy having an outlet to garden now that I don't have my house anymore. Many of my neighbors on the Grounds Committee share my sentiments and we gladly dig in the dirt to get our gardening fix.

It was 9 a.m. and I had on shorts and my Montebello Grounds Volunteer tee shirt. When I got there, my

fellow Grounds volunteers in matching tee shirts were already working. The big excitement was the bulb driller. No hand digging for us!

Our leader, Chuck Amorosino, gathered the ten of us and gave us the opening pep talk. In fact, Chuck had been preparing the circles since the night before. We divvied up the jobs and all worked together to plant almost 600 daffodil bulbs in the three circles. First we checked the holes that were drilled to make sure they were cleared of roots,

added non-chemical fertilizer, a bulb, topsoil and then covered it all with mulch. All materials were provided by our landscaping company.

The planting took us 3 hours of hard work, bending clearing and shoveling. It was so nice to work with my neighbors to accomplish this task. Unlike the spring planting where we received instant gratification as the plants were there, this task was anti-climactic as we won't see the fruits of our labors until spring. Still, it was a community day, working with neighbors, sharing stories and enjoying a beautiful fall morning.

If you see the circles, it is not apparent that we worked on them. You will see some little moth balls which will help keep the squirrels from stealing the bulbs. Next spring, I can't wait to see the vibrant colors and varieties of daffodils that will

emerge. 🌱



building 2 party



Photos by Dian McDonald
The Montebello Voice

oktoberfest



Photos by Dian McDonald

The Montebello Voice

In Celebration of HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
Speaker Series Presents



From the *Art Museum of the Americas* at the **Organization of the American States (OAS)** – Adriana Ospina, Curator of Collections and Education, will present highlights of the current exhibition: **Visual Memory: Home and Place.**

This exhibition examines the significant artistic practices of New York-based artists **Iliana Emilia Garcia** and **Scherezade Garcia**. This mid-career survey explores how each artist reflects upon constructed notions of human geography and history in a creative multidisciplinary approach.

NEW DATE

Tuesday, October 29th
7:30 pm
Community Center Lounge

Sponsored by the Activities Committee

The Speaker Series Presents

RUNNING STRONG FOR AMERICAN INDIAN YOUTH

Paul Krizek, who as General Counsel for **Running Strong for American Indian Youth**, will offer a talk on the good work of **Running Strong**, information about our Virginia Tribes, and historic information on Native Americans.



Billy Mills (Oglala Lakota), American gold medalist in the 10,000 meter race at the 1964 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games, joined with Paul Krizek in 1986 to establish **Running Strong for American Indian Youth**. **Running Strong** was originated under Christian Relief Services in 1986.

NOTE: Paul's father Eugene Krizek, founder of Christian Relief Services, is a former Montebello neighbor.

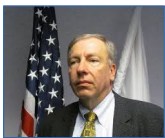
Tuesday November 7th at 7:30 pm
Community Center Lounge

Sponsored by the Activities Committee

The Speaker Series Presents

IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY

Jack Kull, Regional Policy Chief (Southeast Asia) at Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Agency, will talk on its mission of accounting for U.S. personnel from past conflicts to their families and the nation.



In 2018, the agency accounted for 203 formerly missing persons from past conflicts. There are over 82,000 DoD personnel and other individuals who remain unaccounted from the WW II-era through the Gulf Wars.

A hobby that is of particular interest to Jack, and also a tribute to the families who've lost a Soldier in the Vietnam War, is the creation of 12-inch action figures in the fallen soldier's likeness. He will bring a few of these for display, as shown.

An apt phrase coined by a commander upon hearing a similar briefing, "we will always come and get you; we will always come and find you."

Monday, November 11th (Veterans Day)
7:30 in the evening
Community Center Lounge

Sponsored by the Activities Committee

A Taste of Montebello presents ...

How to Eat Gluten-Free And Love It!!!

What is Gluten anyway?

Gluten- Free? What no more bread or pasta?

Some good news and some more good news!!!!

A discussion with hand-outs.

Preparing a Gluten-Free lasagna and enjoying a taste.



Thursday, November 14, 2019
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in Party Room 2

Sponsored by the Activities Committee

Presented by Alison Tarshis

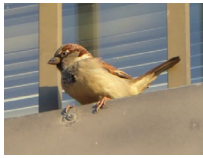
The Montebello Grounds Committee Presents:

2019 Nature Photo Contest



CONTEST RULES

- Eligible subject matter: Natural flora and fauna, observed on the Montebello property during 2019
- Two age categories: Photographers 15 and under; and 16 and over
- Photographers may submit up to 5 photos
- Photographer agrees that submitted photos may be used by the Association or the Grounds Committee for promotional purposes



HOW TO ENTER

Email .jpg files to ourmontebellogrounds@gmail.com

Give your name, building/unit, age (if under 16), and where each photo was taken



Entry deadline:
November 1, 2019



Invite you to our film & discussion



THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING MAN

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21 7:30 P.M. PARTY ROOM 2

THE MOST INCREDIBLE STORY-EVER!



Featuring groundbreaking special effects, this 1957 sci-fi movie stands out as one of the more ingenious, unsettling, and everlasting movies of its kind.

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

Please note the date change. Due to Thanksgiving, it's a week earlier than our usual time slot.

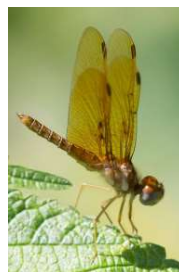
The Montebello Grounds Committee Presents:

Cathy Ledec, Fairfax County Citizen of the Year

Cathy Ledec is president of the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park, chair of the Fairfax County Tree Commission, president of the Pavilions at Huntington Metro Home Owners Association, a Virginia Master Naturalist, an Audubon at Home Ambassador, ...and volunteer leader of bird walks at Montebello

What Wildlife Are Telling Us

- Wildlife and wetland renovation at Huntley Meadows
- Wildlife at Montebello
- Implications for health of the environment

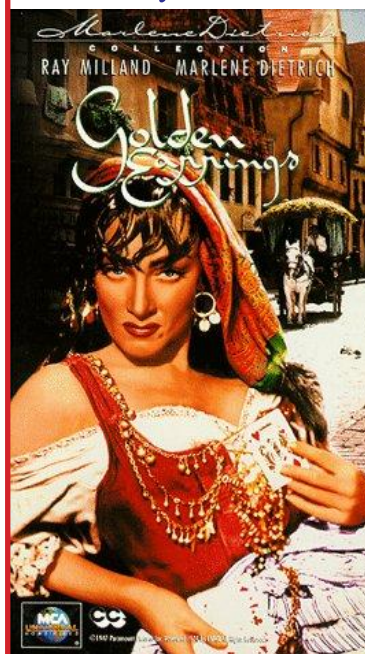


Wednesday, Nov 13, 7:30 pm

Community Center Lounge

Montebello Classic Movie Night

Wednesday, November 20, 2019, at 7pm
on the Big Screen in the Community Center



Golden Earrings

This is what made going to the movies so exciting! Marlene Dietrich and Ray Milland star in a romantic spy drama (with a wonderful song), set around World War II. The film was made in 1947, but it's one you'll wish you'd seen earlier, and often.

FREE popcorn, candies, soft drinks:
A Great Classic Movie Night!

Your host, Pamela Copley, will give you a pre-show briefing on the stars and the production, and then give you all the post-screening "back story" highlights. Pamela can be contacted at PVonGruber@aol.com.



Painting by Azita Mashayekhi