

# The **MONTEBELLO** Voice

an independent gazette

give peace a chance

January 10, 2020

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**A reminder about recycling dos and don'ts**

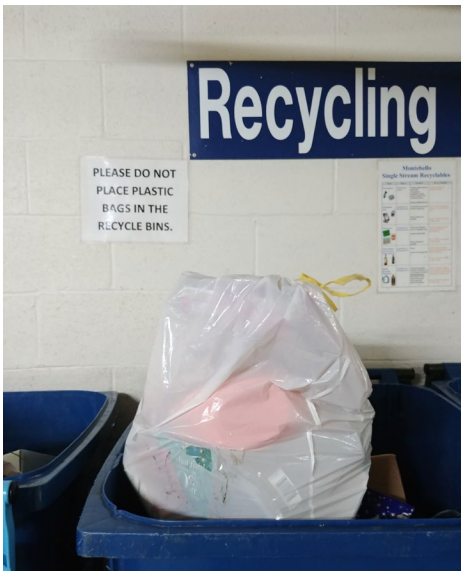
Please, Montebello residents – we have large signs over the recycling bins on the B3 levels of each building telling us **not** to put plastic bags in the bins. Yet people continue to do so, as shown in this photograph taken on December 26 of a large plastic bag right at the top and almost directly underneath the sign. In addition, please do not leave your recyclables (especially cardboard boxes that have not been flattened or any boxes at all) on the shelves in the trash rooms. It is not the job of the Montebello staff to take care of what you are too lazy to do yourself. – Candace Cowan 📷



**AiM Film Society starts new year with Coen Brothers classic *O Brother, Where Art Thou?***

We've shown more than 30 films at our monthly screenings, and this time we have another gem. So many people have come up to me to say things like, "I saw that film twenty years ago and **loved** it. I can't wait to see it again." I seem to be the only person who hasn't seen it yet, so I'm really looking forward to it.

You get George Clooney, John Goodman, Holly Hunter, a fast-moving story, and some great bluegrass music in this film that will be introduced and discussed by John Glaser, our newest committee member. John is a Coen Brothers fan and he is excited about showing *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* on Thursday evening, January 30 at 7:30 in Party Room 2. – Joel Miller 📷



**Photography Lecture Series**

Professional photographer Tom Albano will be here to talk about **his** photography and **yours**.

As a photographer working for three major TV networks over the past 35 years, Tom has much to share with us. Come prepared to see the work of a master photographer and hear him tell you how to get the best pictures from your point-and-shoot camera, your iPhone, or your Hasselblad as he answers your camera questions.

See you on January 29 at 7:30 pm. in the Community Center. – Joel Miller 📷

*Cover photo by Azita Mashayekhi*

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*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](mailto:montebellovoice@cox.net) or visit on the web at [www.montebellovoice.com](http://www.montebellovoice.com).*

Editor & Designer  
 Mikhailina Karina

Contributors  
 Carole Appel, Candace Cowan,  
 Jackie Fleming, Raymond Houck,  
 Channing Huhn, Azita Mashayekhi,  
 Dian McDonald, Joel Miller, Sarah Newcomb



**B3 level of 5901 on January 1, 2020. Hmm, why would there be so many flattened cartons today? – Carole Appel**

## Commitment to wildlife can be hazardous

By Sarah Newcomb

Shortly before Christmas, my friend and I were walking with dogs down the Montebello trail behind Building 4 when we heard what we thought was a bird. We paused, looking around. My friend pointed out that the noise was coming from a small, injured squirrel bleeding on the ground among the leaves. The squirrel's mother was in the tree above, calling to the little one.

While my friend stood guard over the injured squirrel, I raced back to my apartment with my two tiny dogs, and released them. I grabbed a shoe box, punctured it with holes, picked up a new pair of rubber gloves, and drove my car to the location. Back outside, my friend and I were able to toss a light cover over the injured animal and place her gently in the box. My friend held the box while I drove to the nearby level 2 critical care veterinary hospital. We rushed the squirrel inside, where triage

was waiting. We made a donation of whatever we had, and asked the hospital employees to let us know how the squirrel fared.

I called back later that day. Hospital employees told me that the squirrel made it and was going to the wildlife rehabilitator. I shared the good news with my friend. Several days later, the wildlife center called and asked me to call them because they had "questions" about the squirrel. When I called back after that weekend, the staff did not know why the center had contacted me, but would find out. Hearing nothing more, I back called again. The director could not remember why he had called, but later that morning he called me back.

Reaching me during my shopping on Christmas Eve day, the director said that he was sending – or had already sent – a "bite report" to the Department of Health. The squirrel had died in their care. I understand that the law requires a bite report any time an ani-

mal bite occurs. But why contact me? The director believed that my tiny dogs had attacked this squirrel and my dogs might be rabid. He said the Health Department would be contacting me.

Records like this could be damaging for an owner and their pet. I don't want to be a goody-two-shoes, but anyone who knows us knows my tiny dogs are sweet-tempered, always on their leashes, and have enjoyed every possible array of medical care – from routine shots to necessary surgery and years of uninsured human-grade medication. As a 7-year volunteer with our local animal shelter, I received their Positive Impact Award. I could never walk away from an injured animal without helping.

I have to say that I read the director the riot act about automatically assuming my tiny, sweet animals attacked a squirrel and assigning to me what could be negligent owner behavior. The director told me that he would correct the record. I wondered whether he could retract a report if it had already been filed in a computer system somewhere.

Consequently, I talked to our county animal control about what happened. An officer shared contact numbers for the state Department of Health. I have yet to call them. I did call the veterinary hospital, which has known us for many years and very, very well. The hospital contacted the wildlife center on our behalf. They were told by the director that he absolutely had corrected the record, and that I have nothing to worry about now.

I did learn something from this experience that Good Samaritans have already learned in aiding humans who need help. You can hurt yourself by offering assistance. This squirrel was my third wildlife rescue. The next time my heart speaks... I will think more carefully. But then I will step up to help the animals every time. 🐾

Photo by Azita Mashayekhi





## rock stars

### The way of kindness

By Jackie Fleming

I was walking my dogs out back behind building 4 and noticed a blue rock. I reached down and turned it over. Someone had painted the rock and put the word “Love” on it. It was so cute and just made my day. I left the rock under a tree where I found it and carried on with walking the dogs.

The next day, we took a different route and guess what? I found another rock. Again, it put a big smile on my face and I put it where I found it. I found one more rock along the route that says, “Love 2 You.”

I have found three rocks so far and am going to keep looking for others. I left them where I found them so that others can experience the warm feeling I had as they stumble upon them. I am purposely not divulging their whereabouts so that others can be surprised as I was. I am going to continue looking, and hopefully finding, more joy on our grounds. 📷



<https://www.thekindnessrock-project.com/>



### What an incredible act of kindness!

By Channing Huhn

Some of you may know that in November I lost my dear husband Peter. His little pup Caddy and I have been getting into our own rhythm and on our typical walking path today we came across a very special treasure. What looked like a pink rock turned out to be a special message.

We have rock angels among us. Keep your eyes open! Thank you. I can't tell you how appreciated this was. 📷



*After 20 years of delivering mail to residents in building 1, Kevin Dorsey retired on December 31.*

*Photo by Mikhailina Karina*



cheers!

# I raise a glass to you!

By Raymond Houck

**T**hree hundred and sixty million glasses of Champagne and sparkling wine are consumed on New Year's Eve. Although red wine gets the glory when it comes to health benefits, sparkling wine contains heart-healthy antioxidants – plus a glass of bubbly is lower in calories – about 80 compared to wines with 125 calories.

Champagne is a French sparkling wine. Many people use the term Champagne as a generic term for sparkling wine, but in the EU and some other countries, it is illegal to label any product Champagne unless it comes from the Champagne region of France and is produced under the rules of the appellation.

Sparkling wines are produced worldwide, but many legal structures reserve the word Champagne exclusively for sparkling wines from the Champagne region, made in accordance with certain restrictions and regulations.

Champagne became associated with royalty in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. The leading manufacturers made efforts to associate their Champagnes with nobility and royalty through advertising and packaging, which led to its popularity.

Contrary to legend and popular belief, the Benedictine monk named Dom Pérignon did not invent sparkling wine himself, although he did make important contributions to the production and quality of both still and sparkling Champagne wines. The oldest recorded sparkling wine was apparently invented by Benedictine monks in the Abbey of Saint-Hilaire in 1531.

In 1662, wine making discoveries coincided with English glass makers' technical developments that allowed bottles to be produced that could withstand the required internal pressures

during secondary fermentation. French glass makers at this time could not produce bottles of the required quality or strength. In France the first sparkling Champagne was created accidentally; the pressure in the bottle led it to be called “the devil's wine” (le vin du diable) as bottles exploded or corks popped. The 19th century saw an exponential growth in Champagne production, going from a regional production of 300,000 bottles a year in 1800 to 20 million bottles in 1850. In 2019, Champagne sales hit an all-time record of 338.7 million bottles.

To reduce the risk of spilling or spraying any Champagne, open the Champagne bottle by holding the cork and rotating the bottle at an angle in order

to ease out the stopper. This method, as opposed to pulling the cork out, prevents the cork from flying out of the bottle at speed. The expanding gases are supersonic. Also, holding the bottle at an angle allows air in and helps prevent the Champagne from spraying out of the bottle.

Pouring sparkling wine while tilting the glass at an angle and gently sliding in the liquid along the side will preserve the most bubbles, as opposed to pouring directly down to create a head. Colder bottle temperatures also result in reduced loss of gas. Additionally, the industry is developing Champagne glasses designed specifically to reduce the amount of gas lost.

Cheers! 🍷



*First snow of 2020*

*Photo by Azita Mashayekhi*

January 10, 2020



# cup of joe

Photos by Dian McDonald





# cup of joe





# cup of joe





# cup of joe





# cup of joe





The Speaker Series Presents  
**HIDDEN TREASURES: An Appraisal Event**

Conducted by Appraiser & Estate Sale Dealer,  
Dr. Jerome Ford



Dr. Ford is a full-time professional appraiser of personal property. He has appraised antiques, fine art, and collectibles for individuals, government organization, and insurance companies for 40 years. His firm, 'Items of Value', also conducts estate sales.

Members of the audience are invited to bring one (1) item to be appraised. If there is time, another item can be appraised.

To have it appraised, you must register (early) at the desk, where you will get your numbered ticket indicating your place in line for one item.

**ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE EVENT**

**Thursday, January 16th  
7:30-8:45 in the evening  
Community Center Lounge**

*Sponsored by the Activities Committee*

**The Essential 1960s**

# Montebello

Sponsored by the Activities Committee

**Join the community on  
Saturday, January 25th  
From 6:30pm to 9:30pm – The  
Community Center**

**1960s Groovy**

**Come join us for the next installment of  
"Saturday's By The Fire" Music Night. This  
evening will feature music from the 60's.  
\*\*No traffic, tolls, or admission fee\*\***

The Speaker Series Presents

## Photographer Tom Albano



Tom Albano has worked in broadcast and production video for the past 34 years, mostly with CBS news at the Washington bureau, and with NBC and ABC.

He has also been engaged in freelance commercial, fine art and corporate photography for the last 40 years.

He will discuss quality and quantity of light while addressing personal choices in creatively applying them to images. Albano will also address modifying considerations and techniques that improve image making capabilities.

At the end of the hour, a better understanding of light and supplication will lead to better evaluate lighting conditions that aid in composition for a more impactful photograph.

**Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 in the evening  
Community Center Lounge**

*Sponsored by the Activities Committee*



and



**Invite you to our film & discussion**



**O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?**

**THURSDAY JANUARY 30 7:30 P.M. PARTY ROOM 2**



**A rollicking, humorous romp through Depression-era America produced by the ingenious Coen Brothers with a musical score still popular today. It is the story of three escaped convicts from a chain gang led by Ulysses Everett McGill (George Clooney) along with his sidekicks, Pete and Delmar. Inspired by the adventures in Homer's Odyssey, the movie is full of surprises covering this vast panoply of our America in the 1930s**

**John Glaser will introduce the film and lead the post-movie discussion.**





*Into the blue*

*Photo by Azita Mashayekhi*