The montebello voice sunrise, sunset rch 5, 2020

an independent gazette

voices on the 37

Win-win-win-win

By Mikhailina Karina

Another year, another board election. Only this year's election is more like a popularity contest for the student council where every candidate goes home a class officer – top three vote getters are awarded three-year terms and the bottom two get one-year terms. Five candidates for five positions out of a population of about 2,000. So much for civic involvement in a premier condo community full of highly educated professionals.

Three of the candidates are incumbents, with one person serving on the board since the Clinton Administration. Four are men and one is a woman. They represent four towers and four branches of the military: Army, Navy, Merchant Marines, and Air Force. Four have earned advanced degrees: theological studies, counseling, business administration, health education, and health facilities management. All have extensive management experience with finances and personnel, as well as community involvement at Montebello and beyond. All range in age between 64 and 76 (give or take a year or two).

The Community Center lounge was packed with residents for the Meet the Candidates (or rather, Meet Five of the Future Board Members) event on February 23. Demographically, the makeup of the audience mirrored the candidates. It was a civil, and a touch ho-hum event with five articulate, informed, accomplished, and well-qualified individuals who are fiscally conservative and deeply care about Montebello.

Unwittingly (I assume), even the men's outfits that night were coordinated. All four wore dark blue; one wore a suit, two wore ties (burgundy and yellow), two practically twinned in brown/ tan slacks, open collar blue shirts, no ties, and navy jackets. The woman candidate was all business in black slacks and a white blouse. Everyone wore sensible shoes.

As in the past, attendees submitted written questions that were read by Elections Committee member and emcee Joel Miller.

Not surprisingly, a handful of people asked about reducing costs, managing the Community Center renovation, payroll expenses, increasing community participation, and taming rising condo fees.

Candidates agreed that while it's important to attract and keep good employees, it's also important to pay them a living wage. Several said that pay increases should be based on performance, not just cost of living increases.

Overall, all five were in agreement about studying the budget and looking for ways to save; attracting more people to clubs, committees, and events; communicating through a variety of channels; and managing the disruptions caused by the Community Center construction.

So why bother to vote when the winners are obvious? Because it's our civic responsibility. And the Elections Committee people say if at least a quarter of the owners do not vote, we'd have to go through the expense of holding another election. So please darken your boxes for one, two, three, four, or all five of the candidates. They're all solid and will do well by us. As a bonus (and an incentive), the association will provide tasty treats at the annual meeting on March 12.

Area development updates

Covering the Corridor is an excellent source of news around the Richmond Highway area. Below is a link to some proposed developments in the area:

https://coveringthecorridor. com/2020/02/south-county-site-specific-nominations/ M

To err is human

I accidentally left out Azita Mashayekhi's name from the Final Glance in the last issue. This is her *Love* paint-



ing. She also sent in the accompanying quotations. -MK

On the cover: Sarasota Sunset by Penny Jones



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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farewell

Lelia "Lee" Ashton Tebbs Ghiglio July 26, 1931 – February 17, 2020

elia Ashton Tebbs Ghiglio passed away on February 17 in Mount Vernon Hospital in Northern Virginia following a debilitating stroke

she suffered in November. She is survived by her daughter Laura Ghiglio Meincke (Pete), grandchildren Brett and Kaitlyn of Lorton, sister Rebecca Tebbs Nunn (Spike), niece Cathy Tebbs Christopher (Al) of Kilmarnock, and niece Ashley Nunn of Raleigh, NC. She was predeceased by her husband Col. David Jeremiah Ghiglio (USA. Ret), parents Stuart and Laura Tebbs, brother Stuart Tebbs, Jr., and nephews Michael Tebbs Nunn and Douglas Arthur Nelson Nunn.

Lee, as she preferred to be called, graduated from Kilmarnock High School at the age of fifteen and from Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia when she was nineteen. In high school, she was on the May Court and in college, she was on the Dean's List all four years. During the summers, she worked at the telephone office in Kilmarnock as a telephone operator.

After majoring in psychology in college, she took a position as a social worker in Chesterfield County moving later to the job of Probation Officer in the City of Richmond where she attended T.C. Williams School of Law. In her mid-twenties, she began the career that she loved, which was teaching fifth grade. She began her teaching career



at Fort Belvoir but had the opportunity to teach in several schools across the Fairfax County School System and taught there well into her seventies. After she retired from teaching, she was a substitute teacher in Fairfax County for many years teaching special needs children.

For the past nine years, Lee resided at Montebello, a condominium community in Alexandria, where she served on the social committee and brought many cultural activities to the residents. Up until her stroke, she volunteered weekly for the American Red Cross, played both party and duplicate bridge, and was a frequent hostess to her friends for intimate dinners. She also volunteered weekly at a homeless shelter in Alexandria.

A memorial service will be held for her at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Alexandria on Thursday, March 5, at 11 a.m. with a reception to follow. Later in the month, there will be a celebration of Lee's life held at Montebello by her friends. Her final resting place will be next to her husband at Arlington National Cemetery. The date for that service is to be determined.

Text courtesy of Laura Meincke, photo by Dian McDonald

history lesson

Nazi maps and geodetic data

By Joe de Angelis

he threads that are woven into the tapestry of history are often obscure and more often of little or no consequence. However, they are there nonetheless, and as such, the stories that these threads represent should, whenever possible, be told. Such is the nature of what follows.

Recently I read an article in the November 2019 issue of the Smithsonian Magazine titled "The Untold Story of the Secret Mission to Seize Nazi Map Data." The article piqued my interest not just because I am a former cartographer, but also because the article mentioned two German cities that I am very familiar with: Wiesbaden and Saalfeld an der Saale. When my wife was a child, she and her family lived in Saalfeld under both the Nazi and Communist regimes. I, on the other hand, had three tours of duty in Wiesbaden, which was where I met and married my wife.

Now let us go to Saalfeld first, where the U.S. Army's 87th Infantry Division (ID), on 14 April 1945, using a Treadway Bridge that they built over the Saale River, entered the city of Saalfeld. Upon entering the city, the Americans repeatedly asked for anyone who could speak English. My wife's father, Wilhelm Plagge, was readily identified as an English speaker and immediately pressed into service by the Americans. With his help they were quickly able to set up a temporary command post and secure the city before the main body of the 87th ID continued eastward. However, unbeknownst to the townspeople, the Americans were soon destined to leave Saalfeld because of the agreement made amongst the Allies at the Yalta Conference that stipulated the exact boundaries of occupation for each of the victorious Allied Powers. As it turned out, the Americans had overshot their designated area of occupation and were in the area designated for Soviet Union occupation.



American, British, French and Soviet Zones of Occupation as agreed to at the Yalta Conference. The purple area, which includes the city of Saalfeld, is that part of the Soviet zone that was temporally occupied by the American Army.

Apparently Herr Plagge and his family made a favorable anti-Nazi impression on the Americans because they confided their withdrawal to them and said that when they left, the Russians would be there immediately to take their place. They offered to take Wilhelm, his wife, their two small children, and all of their belongings with

them when they moved out of Saalfeld for Western Germany. Although it was a generous offer, the Plagge family refused and remained in Saalfeld. However, at the risk of their very lives they escaped East Germany seven years later, crossing no man's-land into West Germany on foot. Upon escaping they hitchedhiked to and settled in the city of Wiesbaden.

The Americans were in Saalfeld for just 79 days when they left in the middle of the night in compliance with the Yalta agreement. On that same day, 2 July 1945, almost simultaneously with the departure of the Americans, the Russians moved in. Saalfeld was now

> occupied by the Soviet 17th Tank Division.

According to the article, it became readily apparent to the U.S. Army after the invasion of Normandy that there was a substantial lack of geodic data and maps available to them as they began their push eastward. The Office of the Chief of Engineers formed a secret intelligence unit with soldiers from within the Army Mapping Service. The unit was known as the HOUGHTEAM. named after its commander, Major Floyd W. Hough. The

HOUGHTEAM, much like the Monuments Men who saved the art treasures of Europe, was allowed to operate throughout the European theatre without restrictions. Their task was "To move in behind the infantry as it advanced with the aim of gathering as much cartographic and geodic information as possible from the enemy."



The HOUGHTEAM's most famous discovery occurred in the spring of 1945 when, based on a comment made by a captured German National Survey Agency officer, wherein he mentioned the city of Saalfeld in connection with geodic data. The HOUGHTEAM immediately headed for Saalfeld, arriving on 17 April, just four days after the U.S. 87th ID captured the city. The 87th ID however kept on rolling eastward without setting up a military government, but they did leave some troops in the city. Maj. Hough assumed authority over the city and met with the mayor and several other leaders, including my wife's father who was acting as an interpreter for the 87th ID. When Maj. Hough told them about a possible stash of geodic data in the city, the officials immediately took the team to an old warehouse where, to their amazement, they found stacks and stacks of maps and papers containing geodic data as well as geodic equipment. They had found nothing less than the central repository for the entire geodetic archives of the German Army, which had been moved to Saalfeld for safe keeping. The coverage of the geodic data that was discovered extended well into Eastern Europe as well as the Soviet Union.

Maj. Hough immediately wrote an urgent letter to the Chief of Staff of the Army Corps of Engineers stating: "There have been found some dozen or more truckloads of documents, much of it irreplaceable, and of extreme val-

history lesson

ue to the War Department." Shortly after, trucks and men were provided and the maps, documents and equipment were removed from Saalfeld. The move was completed on 2 July with the last American truck pulling out of the city just as the Soviets moved in with their tanks. All of the captured maps, documents and equipment were sent to several cities in the west, including Wiesbaden.

Some 15 years later, in the early 1960s, as a young cartographer I was assigned to the 497th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron (RTS) in Wiesbaden, Germany. My duty station was actually in Schierstein, a suburb of Wiesbaden, in a former German Hospital compound located near the Rhein River. The building I worked in had three sub-basements, one of which contained hundreds of thousands of captured German maps and thousands of spindles containing negatives of aerial photos of European cities that were taken by the German Luftwaffe. That's right, all of what was brought to Wiesbaden from Saalfeld by the HOUGHTEAM. I was part of a team that converted these maps and aerial photographs to large-scale Air Target Charts and Air Target Mosaics of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union for use by the U.S. Air Force. However, at the time I was not aware of the historical significance of the maps and photos, I just knew that they had been captured. It was not until many years later, while talking with my father-in-law, that I learned of his association with the Americans in Saalfeld. He hinted at the Americans finding some maps but never elaborated on the subject. It was not until I read the article in the *Smithsonian Magazine* that I connected all the dots and realized that we were all a part of the larger historical picture.

History's tapestry may never include these threads except for this writing. However, I find it more than coincidental that there is a connection between all of these occurrences, no matter how vague. Call it a fluke, providence, destiny or whatever you like, but my working with the same treasure trove of maps and aerial photographs that were retrieved from the city where my wife lived as a child, and the fact that everything came together in Wiesbaden demonstrates that there are historical connections between isolated events that bind us together, while at the same time defy our understanding. I believe that every story, no matter how insignificant it may appear, should be made known because the tapestry of history should be as complete as possible.

Stretch class busts moves with new music

By Sarah Newcomb

Our rapidly growing Stretch Class is breaking down a music barrier with new tunes. The trend started with Diane Fitzgerald's Wednesday workout to classics from the 60s, 70s and 80s. That continues to draw a crowd of both women and men.

Two other classes, led by Steve Rosenthal and Sue Berlin respectively, have followed suit by designing their own play lists of favorites —from 40s jazz to contemporary soft rock. All tote their own high-tech speakers.

Changes are receiving positive reviews, especially from long-term class participants. Those exercise aficionados have been getting even healthier to marching tunes from a CD player. Come stretch with us to your music favorites!

Next MontbelloTechClub meeting:

March 5, PR4, @7:30 p.m.

Agenda: Show & Tell

Selection of popular moneyand time-saving apps and web sites

For: Apple, Android smart phones, tablets Example: want to save up to 50+ cents/gal choosing between nearby gas stations? Come to find out how.

Presenter: Paul Foldes, club co-lead, former FTC consumer protection attorney

club news

No more vet after-hours emergency service at VCA

By Deborah Rowell

CompassionatePetServices@gmail.com

Like me, many Montebello pet-owners have depended for years on going to

VCA on Duke Street for our pets' after-hours emergencies. This is the case whether or not we use a different animal hospital on a regular basis the rest of the time.

VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital

2660 Duke St., Alexandria, VA 22314 703-751-2022 https://vcahospitals.com/ alexandria?utm_source=maps&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=VCA_Alexandria_Animal_Hospital (3.2 miles from Montebello)

Are you aware that things have changed?

Emergency services are no longer available at VCA after hours. However, their urgent care and general practice will continue to operate during daytime hours.

What is the reason for this change?

VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital can no longer find enough doctors to fully staff the place at night. Their front desk reports that the situation may return to normal within 4-6 months. Note: The hospital still has urgent care services during the day as well as all their general care services.



Be prepared for the sake of your pet.

A fair share of us have had very stressful experiences of bundling up our sick/injured pets and driving during the middle of the night for emergency vet care. Imagine how shocked and distressed you'd feel if you arrived and saw a closed sign and a list of alternate emergency vets.

So it's best to make plans now for where you'd take yourself in an after-hours emergency.

Where should you take pets now in case of an after-hours emergency?

Listed below are the alternate vets that are closest to Montebello, but are

twice as far away as VCA on Duke Street. So be sure to factor that extra time into your planning.

Springfield Emergency Veterinary Hospital

6651 Backlick Rd. #F Springfield, VA 22150 https://vetreferralcenter.com/ 703-451-8900 (6.1 miles from Montebello)

Columbia Pike Animal Hospital & Emergency Center 4205 Evergreen Lane Annandale, VA 22003 https://columbiapikeanimalh. com/?utm_source=google&utm_

medium=organic&utm_campaign=gmb&utm_term=website 703-256-8414 (6.9 miles from Montebello)

I hope this information has been helpful to owners of dogs, cats and other animals. Please pass it on to anyone else who might be interested.

Notes from the Tech Club Meeting

By Paul Foldes and Cheryl Jobe mbtechclub1@gmail.com

We discussed use of YouTube videos for education and for Tech Club topics. We intend to preview and select "good" ones and portions of good ones, acknowledging that there is a range of quality out there.

For the subject of Bluetooth wireless device pairing, were started with a por-

tion of a video that included the history and basics of the technology: https:// www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzxZU-JmOu3o

(Bright Side, How Bluetooth Works, Jul 4 2019)

We showed the Bluetooth icon and the Settings icon. We explained that speaker pairing is a common use of Bluetooth to get better audio quality than a device is capable of without using wires. We also commented that car-pairing is another very common use of Bluetooth, especially for navigation. We then demonstrated the pairing of a Bluetooth-capable speaker with a device. On the device we went into the Settings, selected Bluetooth, and selected pair new device. We pressed a Bluetooth button on the speaker to put it into pairing mode. After a little struggle, the pairing worked and we played music generated from the device through the speaker. We showed a cou-

club news

ple of videos to demonstrate car-device Bluetooth pairing.

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=YMz23zFKGNQ

(Bluetooth car pairing Patty Peck Honda, 2018 Honda CR V - How to Pair & Deleting a Phone, Jan 25 2018)

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=3Ca4BIyVhY8

(Bluetooth car pairing Caddilac Que)

We next discussed the important subject of password security using Password Managers. We re-aired the Superbowl commercial for the Dashlane password manager product:

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=B5lslSPfhkg

We specifically covered the Lastpass password manager, as both Paul and Cheryl use it. We explained that it is a software lock-box to store your all of your passwords securely. The only password one needs to remember is the Lastpass master password to the lock-box, hence the name Lastpass. We showed portions of the following videos explaining the product in more detail:

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=u4eOmoEhla0

(from The Tech Chap)

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=Wj5ApkD9nVo

(Older, from 2013 – displayed approx. first 2 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=anDPmY6pJrU

(Long tutorial, displayed approx. 7 min)

For a general series of tutorials, especially for those who are intimidated by technology, we recommended Technology for Seniors Made Easy, a free site.

https://technologyforseniorsmadeeasy.com/

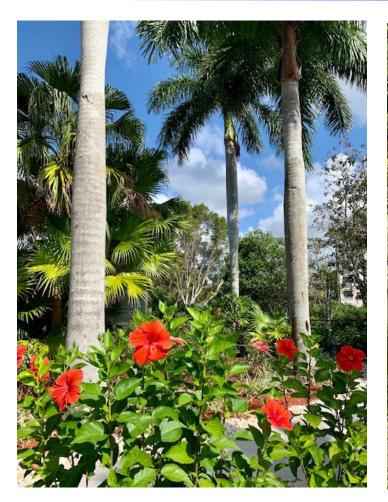
https://youtu.be/tRLDy_iwClc - slow

http://YouTube.com/technologyforseniors

Another is the Senior Tech Club, a subscription payment site:

https://www.seniortechclub.com/

We also mentioned the nearby Hollin Hall Senior Center computer class, every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. (must join the Senior Center to attend, \$48/year).



Bonita Springs wildlife



in the news

2020 Democratic Primary results

Mt. Ver	rnon Dist	crict				
Active registered voters			tal votes	Voter turnout		
80,591		26,886		33.4%		
Montebello registered voters (all parties)						
5900	5901	59	02 3	5903	5904	
5	342	3	39	311	329	VOTED UV0
607 Hu	ntington	Precinct				
Registered	voters	In-person	Absentee	Total	Voter turnout	
4,276	5	1,426	130	1,555	36.4%	
J. Castro	B. Sanders	E. Warren M	I. Williamson	J. Biden A. I	Klobuchar T. Gabbar	d A. Yang T. Steyer M. Bloomberg*
1	328	213	1	707	3 16	1 1 151

*C. Booker, M. Bennett, D. Patrick, and P. Buttigieg were on the ballot, but received 0 votes

Source: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/sites/elections/files/assets/result/resu0320.pdf

FYI: Coronavirus By John Powers

We have absolutely have no idea how serious Coronavirus will become so there are some things that we might want to consider as prophylactic measures. You have heard or seen references to supply chain interruptions. These need to be taken seriously as these could come into play. So consider:

Identifying any medications the absence of which could cause you serious problems. Purchase, out-of-pocket, a month's supply and use this as a rolling inventory along with your insurance paid refills.

Identifying any goods that are being manufactured in China, Korea or elsewhere in the Pacific Rim whose absence or significant delay would cause serious problems and purchase them in advance (this shouldn't be a biggie).

Obtaining a supply of N95 masks and consider getting goggles (I have 10 N95 masks and just purchased no-leaking swim goggles)

Being extremely diligent in not touching your face with your fingers after any outside activities in which you touch public surfaces such as our fitness equipment (remember that hand sanitizers are only partially effective – wash thoroughly when getting home).

Listen to the video found at this link: https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=kIL5m5XznNY Of the above, the medications and the hand washing are the most critical but after the Coronavirus gets here, have a mask and goggles available if you go among crowds. Stay vigilant for public announcements from the CDC and the Virginia Department of Health.



Young musicians piano recital

Photo by Dian McDonald March 5, 2020

women's luncheon



Guest speaker, Linda C. Schlekau, Sherwood Regional Library branch manager Photos by Dian McDonald







mardí gras



coming attractions

Art in Montebello

Acrylic Fluid Painting Workshops with Guido R. Zanni



March 8 and 15 1 - 4 p.m. Hobby Room 4

his hands-on workshop teaches fluid painting techniques commonly referred to as "pouring acrylics." Acrylic paints

are mixed with a thinning medium and poured onto a canvas. The flowing paint is then manipulated into the desired design. Brushes are rarely used; paint is manipulated with forced air, heat guns, chains, sponges, strings, balloons, and other non-traditional tools and methods.

The first half hour will be devoted to a discussion of acrylic paints, paint density, pouring techniques, pouring mediums, common mistakes, and tips for achieving a well composed and balanced abstract. Workshop capacity will be limited to 8 to 12 participants. Two

workshops are anticipated to meet demand. As participants work with acrylic paints, there will be ongoing "over-the-shoulder" supervision and guidance. Participants will create four abstract pieces. Each painting will employ one or more demonstrated techniques.

There is a registration fee of \$25 to cover the cost of supplies. Supplies provided include four small canvases, paint (including metallic and iridescent acrylics), pouring medium, mixing sticks, mixing cups, gloves, pushpins, balloons, straws, string, parchment paper, and a pouring receptable. A heat gun, air brush, and hair dryer will be available for student use. Because fluid painting can be messy, participants are encouraged to wear old clothing.

To register for the workshop, please send an email with your contact information and the preferred workshop date to gzanni@aol.com. Please state "workshop" in the subject line. The course supply fee will be collected at a later time.

coming attractions



Learn to identify and remove selected invasive plants under direction of a team leader

- Wear long sleeves, long pants, sturdy shoes
- Bring gloves, clippers if you have them
- Kids welcome, with adult

Saturday, March 7, 1-3pm

Meet on Picnic Hill. We will pull English ivy around the pool. Later we will take a break to see skunk cabbage, an early spring treasure. Rain date: March 8, 1pm. There will be an additional Weed Wrangle® April 4.





Best Picture!

Best Cinematography!

Iractions <image>











Learn How to Use the iNaturalist App

- · Identify wildflowers, plants, and animals you don't know
- Record your observations so other residents can see them
- Help build our knowledge of Montebello's biodiversity

Get a head start--Before you come, download the iNaturalist app to your phone (iTunes or Google Play), create your own account at iNaturalist.com, and log in.

Wednesday, Mar 25, 7:30 pm Community Center Lounge (Go live with wifi)

Your observations can join these at montebellogrounds.com...



Wednesday, March 18, 2020 Montebello CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHT On the Big Screen in the Community Center at 7pm

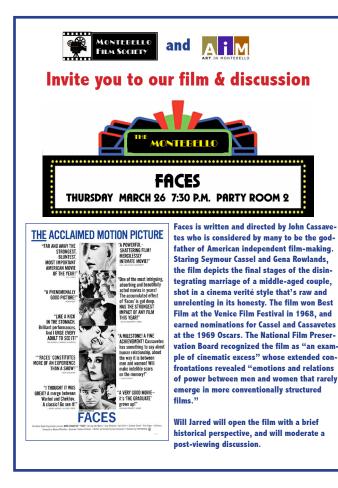


It's no wonder this blackand-white epic won two Academy Awards and nine more nominations! This 1940 love drama is brilliantly acted by Olivier. Fontaine, Sanders, and Anderson. If you haven't already seen it, Rebecca will become one of your alltime favorites It was a classic the moment it was released

With a brief introduction and back-story by Pamela Copley on this 1940 version of the movie. More details? Contact PvonGruber@aol.com



coming attractions



Montebello

Sponsored by the Activities Committee Join the community on Saturday, March 28th from 6:30pm to 10pm -

Celebrate Women's History Month

The Community Center



Saturday, March 28, 2020

THE SYMPHONIC CHORUS presents

Bring your own Chess Set if you like! - And, if you're brand new to Chess, but you'd like to check out our Chess Club while playing a relatively "quiet" or "cerebral" game that doesn't "compete" with the ancient game of Chess from a noise perspective, you may bring such a game and hang out with us! (Examples of Games that partner well with Chess: Scrabble, Checkers, Othello, etc.)

Contact Lisa J. Stedge at lisa@stedge.com and/or Nick Nickerson at fxnixson@gmail.com for more information. (e.g., most holidays and holiday periods are excluded.)

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

even mind tardiness!

final glance



Spring song

Photo by Azita Mashayekhi