



The MONTEBELLO Voice

an independent gazette

still here

June 27, 2020

*When I look into your eyes
I can see the fire of a thousand galaxies
For we are all made of stars*

In support of new CC

I do not believe I am the only person who can't wait for the new community center to be built. The dated and ugly existing space badly needs updating to the 21st century. All residents will appreciate and benefit from the improved HVAC, lighting and sound systems and layouts.

I expect the value of our homes to appreciate more than the cost of the construction. – Sandra Wilkinson 📧

Wear your mask!

The very few people who walk the halls around Montebello without masks are incredibly dangerous. They have absolutely no idea who went before them and left fine coronavirus particles in the air for them to inhale (the heavy one will drop out but the fine ones can linger for a long time).

When I see someone wanting to get on an elevator without a mask, I simply hold up my hand and say, "No mask." Twice in the last week, the person in front of me says, "Oh no, I have one" and starts to put it on.

This is not good enough. Any person who does not wear a mask indoors is a number one candidate to be a carrier. It is worse when they are an asymptomatic carrier as they will blithely spread the infection wherever they are able.

Stay as far away as possible from anyone not wearing a mask! – John Powers 📧

Emails opt out

Am I perhaps not the only MB resident who's sick and tired of the daily emails: Specials at the Montebello Café?

It wouldn't take an IT genius to make them OPT IN, or UNSUBSCRIBE. It should have been set up that way initially and there's no excuse for not doing it now. – Richard Titus 📧

Let's rethink the CC plan

Fellow Montebelloans,

We voted on updates before the pandemic. We need to completely rethink what we are doing in view of what new norms for social distancing might be. We need a new study. I do not plan to sit in a room with 200 or so people for a meeting anytime soon, possibly never. I am an attorney and understand the legal argument. But OUR WHOLE WORLD HAS CHANGED.

We can't use the pools, the elevators are dangerous, the fitness room has to be spaced out, and on and on. We are never going completely back to the way it was. We do not know how it is going to be, but things just will not be the same.

I currently am a non-resident owner but hope one day to move in. At times

I had owned 2 properties at Montebello and my mother was an owner. I wish it could be like it was in the past with nicer decor. But it can't be.

I am not opposed to spending money to improve the physical plant

but WE NEED TO FACE A NEW FUTURE. We will need the best experts to help us face the future. Clinging to the past means condo fees for amenities we may never be able to use.

Our next meeting may have to be a virtual one. Do we have the technical capacity to do that? We need to build in a lot of technical capacity. For example we may have to have read outs about which elevators are empty, whether the hobby room is empty, all carry out for the indoor portion of the cafe, large exercise rooms where we can be 6 feet apart or participate via zoom in exercise classes.

Please, I beg the Board members to figure out a way to cope with our unknown future and not cling to our old ideas. – Angela Anderson 📧



The Montebello Voice wants to hear from you: musings, travels, announcements, photos, book reviews, commentary, memoirs, essays, analysis, poems, suggestions, club news, recipes, and free ads
A publication for the residents, by the residents

Cover art by Rachael A. Bright

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Call for entries for AiM's summer exhibit

With the partial lifting of COVID-related restrictions, Art in Montebello is pleased to announce that it will sponsor a summer art exhibit in the Community Center from August 1 to October 1.

This exhibit will feature both three-dimensional art (e.g., sculptures, ceramics, jewelry, stained glass, etc.) as well as paintings and photographs. The opening of the exhibit will occur in two stages. On August 1, all accepted art will be displayed in the lounge on tables and easels. Residents and guests will follow a unidirectional path to allow for social distancing. Refreshments will be available. Following the exhibit opening in the lounge, paintings and other two-dimensional works will be hung in the café for the duration of the show.

The exhibit's theme is Transitions and Changes. This theme is broadly defined and could include such subject matter as seasonal and other cyclical changes, COVID-related changes, emotional upheaval, psychological and interpersonal changes, social changes, and renovations. The exhibit's curator is Guido R. Zanni.

Applicants may submit photos of up to three entries for consideration. Entries must be in JPG format and should include title, dimensions, medium used (e.g., oil, acrylic, stone, etc.) and a brief description of the piece, along with your name, building, and unit number. Submissions must be sent via email to gzanni@aol.com no later than July 15. Applicants will be notified by July 22 as to the status of their entries. All accepted two-dimensional works must be exhibit-ready with the appropriate hardware for hanging. Please note: the curator determines the location in which the artwork will be displayed. Accepted entries must remain on display for the duration of the exhibit and cannot be removed or substituted with another piece. Neither AiM nor the Association assumes liability for stolen or damaged artwork. Please contact the curator at 703-960-5874 with any questions you have regarding the entry process.

We look forward to an exciting and final exhibit in the Community Center. 📧



Photo illustration by Joel Miller

Community Center renovation budget and costs

Final Community Center Renovation Budget

6/21/20

Description	CC Reno Budget Cost	Source of Cost
Construction Cost	<u>\$4,309,040</u>	from <i>Construction</i> tab
General Requirements	\$503,966	from Scott-Long formula
Overhead & Profit (@5%)	<u>\$240,650</u>	
Total Construction Cost Estimate	<u>\$5,053,656</u>	
Additional Costs		
Audio-Visual	\$125,000	IST bid Budgeted amount
Furniture	<u>\$350,000</u>	
Total Construction with Furnishings Cost Estimate	<u>\$5,528,656</u>	
Other Project Expenses	\$165,770	from <i>Other Costs</i> tab from <i>Soft Costs</i> tab
Soft Costs	<u>\$1,618,500</u>	
Total Cost Estimate	<u>\$7,312,926</u>	
TOTAL COST ON COMMUNITY CENTER BUDGET LINE	<u>\$6,953,826</u>	
Performance Bond	\$102,000	Board-chosen insurance
Total Cost on Separate Budget Lines	<u>\$359,100</u>	from <i>Separate Budget</i> tab
Available Contingency	<u>\$746,174</u>	

KGA recommends 5% of the construction cost, which is \$215,450.

The cost break-down and bid analysis were included in the board packet earlier this week, which was emailed to all owners from the office on June 19. You can access this information and additional documents at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uc-UorF9JEuKkeMhabBxGWfihRb-3bIUzH/view> – MK

General & Administrative Costs

“General & Administrative Costs” were previously called “Soft costs”. These are non-construction costs. These are other costs necessary to support construction.

Item	Cost
KGA	\$653,800
Additional KGA	\$25,400
Construction Cost Estimating (Scott+Long)	\$45,000
Landscape Architecture	\$10,000
Exterior Lighting Consultant	\$2,000
Temporary Facilities	\$700,000
Unit Rental	\$30,000
Miscellaneous furniture, etc., for temporary facilities	\$10,000
Relocation of DCN	\$100,000
Building Move Out / Move In	\$40,000
Grand Piano Move and Storage	<u>\$2,300</u>
	<u>\$1,618,500</u>

Scott-Long Construction Bid

Construction Subcategory	Cost
Field Engineering & Surveying	\$5,303
Demolition	\$161,132
Cast-In-Place Concrete	\$323,660
Masonry	\$13,837
Misc. Metals	\$75,868
Glass & Stainless Steel Handrail	\$31,260
Architectural Woodwork & Cabinets	\$340,654
Waterproofing	\$12,336
Building Insulation	\$47,179
Joint Sealants	\$5,000
Doors, Frames, & Hardware	\$113,200
Louvers	\$1,657
Storefront & Glazing	\$223,227
Drywall & ACT	\$345,367
Resilient & Carpeting	\$154,695
Painting & Coatings	\$44,011
Signage	\$13,000
Toilet Accessories	\$19,594
Fire Extinguishers	\$2,700
Kitchen Equipment	\$151,941
Laundry Equipment	\$3,000
Fabric Awnings	\$13,225
Elevators	\$69,690
Fire Protection System	\$58,883
Plumbing	\$230,079
HVAC	\$890,820
Electrical	\$697,356
Earthwork & Utilities	\$111,738
Shoring & Underpinning	\$76,760
Site Amenities	\$21,190
Asphalt	\$15,683
Fence	<u>\$34,995</u>
Total Construction Cost	<u>\$4,309,040</u>

Other Project Costs

Item	Cost
Building Permit	\$130,900
Site Grading	\$6,800
Certificate of Occupancy	\$70
Local Agency Bond	\$15,000
Legal	\$5,000
Reimbursable expenses	<u>\$8,000</u>
	<u>\$165,770</u>

“Dad, what did you do as a kid in the olden days?”

By Bob Shea

I was asked that question countless times by each one of three young daughters as they grew up. It must have been the “olden days” as today one is a brigadier general in the Marine Corps, one is a grandmother, and one is a telecom analyst for a university.

What did I do as a kid growing up in a small New Hampshire town?

It is easier to say what we did *not* do. We were “free range kids” whose every moment was not pre-ordained by pre-teen résumé building. We did not have youth sports teams, dance lessons, music training, pre-teen SAT tutoring,



specialized summer camps, or structured play dates. We did have a Boy Scout troop of which my father was the Scoutmaster, but that is another story. We did not need a mom with a comprehensive day planner to make sure we were where we should be at the appointed day and time.

We did have freedom to do what we wanted, within limits, when we wanted to do it.

We rode bikes with fat tires. We explored the woods and built forts which were always better than the last one we had constructed. We skipped flat rocks on the local lake. In the winter, we built snow caves, threw snowballs, shoveled our driveways, and cleared space at the curbside mail boxes so the RFD mailman could do his job. We collected comic books (usually ten cents each)

and traded with our friends. A “classic comic book” was worth two of the normal Roy Rogers, Superman, or Archie varieties.


We were the original recycle advocates. Not to save the environment, but to make money. We looked for soft drink bottles, picked them up, and took them to the local grocery store. A small bottle was worth two cents while a big one was worth a nickel. Note to today’s youth: aluminum cans had not yet been invented. A good day’s foraging for bottles at the picnic area at the local lake was often worth 20 or 25 cents.....two comic books or the price of admission for a Saturday matinee at the in-town movie theater. Life was good!

We did have restrictions. Most were mandatory: change out of school clothes before play, wander home for lunch, head home in the late afternoon for “supper” when the local commuter train from Manchester to Portsmouth went through about 4:45 PM, head home again

when the street lights went on in the evening, and shine your shoes on Saturday night to be ready for church on Sunday. We could live with that.

Of course there were chores: help weed the vegetable garden in the summer, shovel snow in the winter, feed the chickens, put the household trash in a 55-gallon drum for burning in the backyard (environmentally not good), and be an unskilled mom helper when she canned vegetables and fruit in the fall.

We even had a minor health scare when polio hit the area in the late 1940s. Schools closed for 4 weeks (made up by going to school on Saturdays for the entire spring), no movie theaters, avoid crowds except church, and wash your hands. The incentive to do all that were photos of folks in “iron lungs” or wearing steel leg braces for the rest of their life. We adapted and eventually life returned to normal.

In retrospect, we loved the simple life. Today’s kids would have probably been bored to death, but we did not know any better. “Free range” was not a marketing slogan. It was a way of life. 



Showing my “flare” for fashion

By Raymond Houck

Tt was a perfect day in the summer of 1970 when I was visiting my high school friend on his farm along with a handful of his family members. We were strolling around the spacious farm just outside Morgantown, West Virginia. Sporting my new high-fashion jeans, I was immensely proud to be so “hip.” These were not just regular bell-bottoms which were all the rage at the time – but *super* bell-bottoms, which were called “elephant pants” by us kids. The flare was about a foot wide! I had to put rubber bands around the ankles when I rode my bike to keep them from getting stuck in the chain.

As we continued our peaceful walk, I felt a strange sensation on one leg. With horror I realized an insect was inside my left pants leg, and he was jumping around! “Help! Help!” I screamed.

My friend’s mother, fearing I was terribly injured, maybe even bitten by a snake, raced to my side. “What’s wrong?”

“A grasshopper jumped up in my pants! Get it out! Get it out!” I jerked my leg higher and higher, kicking like a Rockette.

Soon my friend and all the other walkers surrounded me. I rolled up my pants leg trying to look for the offending critter. It was no use – the grasshopper jumped further up my pants leg! Then, to my horror, my friend’s very practical mother shouted, “Pull down your pants so we can shake it out.”

“NOOOO!” I screamed. To me, removing my pants in front of my friend’s family was way worse than having this accursed insect in my pants!!!

BUT... what must be done, *must be done*. The adults instructed the snickering children to turn around and resume walking as I dropped my drawers.



As soon as the pants came down, the hideous monster was spotted right on what my farm friends called my “hinder.” As the grasshopper jumped to freedom, it seemed just as happy to escape as I was to see it leave.

That was the day I learned an important lesson: high fashion doesn’t play so well on the farm, and is much better left in the city. 🐛

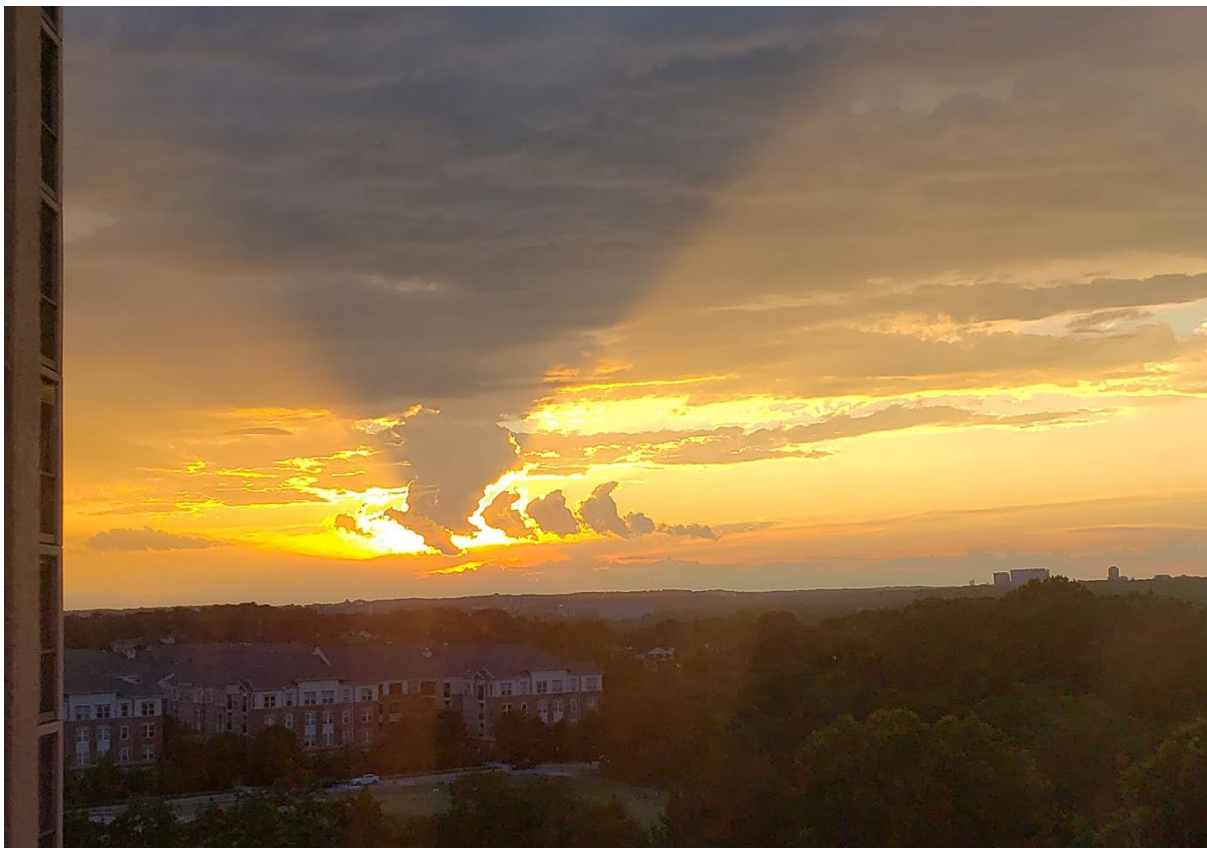


Photo by Jenifer Ehrlich

New study stresses transformed role for military in a world of “financial Maoism”

A major new study published by The International Strategic Studies Association (ISSA) has highlighted a return to strategic-level military engagement between major powers, including possible viability for theater-nuclear weapons, but a smaller role for military input into a broader framework of an amorphous new “total war.”

The study stresses that, as with the last “total war” of the 20th Century – the Cold War (1945-1990) – there would be a lower level of resort to major kinetic operations than in, say, World Wars I and II, a greater reliance on military prestige and power projection maneuver, but all within a framework which greatly exceeds military strategy and operations.

As a result, the new book – which focuses on how the 2019-20 coronavirus epidemic served as a break-point or trigger defining the long-gestating break into a new strategic era – highlights the maxim of former French Prime Minister Georges Clemenceau: (1906-09 and 1917-20) who said: “La guerre! C’est une chose trop grave pour la confier à des militaires.” (War is too serious a matter to entrust to military men).

The New Total War of the 21st Century and the Trigger of the Fear Pandemic, by Gregory R. Copley, the President of ISSA, is a work of philosophy and analysis on the transformed nature of human society and the way it goes about the business of survival in the 21st Century.

Copley, an Australian, but working with governments around the world, notes in this, his 36th book, that “war

is complex, and became exponentially more complex as the 21st Century grew.” He says that a simmering conflict became a “total war” of a new type, erupting in 2020, openly and irre-

the balance of power. Life itself. The world had begun moving toward this amorphous new, global ‘total war’ even as the Cold War ended three decades earlier.”

A basic premise of this book is that the “new total war of the 21st Century” began when the “last total war of the 20th Century” – the Cold War – ended. The Cold War, although total, was predominantly in the social, economic, and technological space, and had only moments of formal or informal armed conflict.

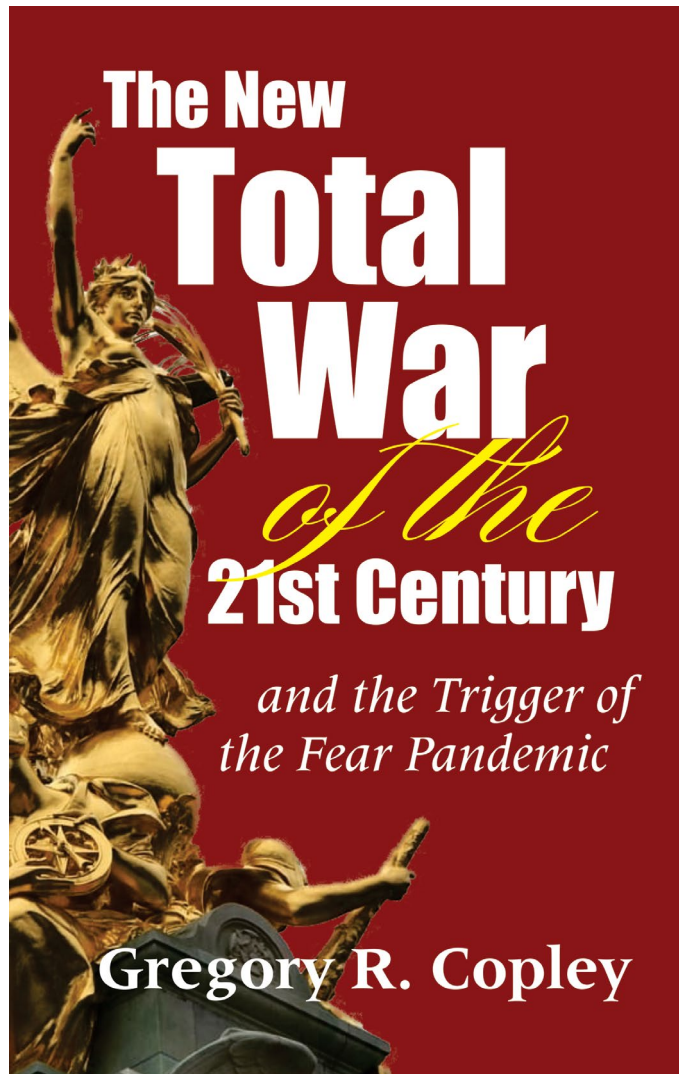
The Cold War resulted in the defeat of the USSR and the Warsaw Treaty bloc, partly because the West was able to split the People’s Republic of China from the USSR. The PRC, undefeated, did not then become an ally of the West, but rather a key victor of the Cold War.

The PRC knows that to succeed in the new total war, it must continue to ensure that grand strategic maneuver dominates, and military contact is minimized and only used to nudge trends or deliver decisive culmination. In all this, military prestige must remain high.

U.S. Pres. Donald Trump, like Xi, intrinsically understood that the actual use of military

force in total war holds the greatest risk of strategic decline, rather than success. Comprehensive, total maneuver is the game.

The book analyzes how the PRC became locked, more than a decade before the 2020 “trigger” of the fear pandemic (which was itself a pivotal point which the COVID-19 crisis brought to a head), into an existential struggle for strategic existence. China’s real economy, disguised by “formal” statistics, had



vocably from a Beijing epicenter.

His introduction noted that the opening volleys of this war came to most of the world as a barrage of fear “heard ’round the world.” It was the most effective opening salvo of any offensive, 1941’s Pearl Harbor included.

“Fear was the initial weapon and doctrine of the new total war; and coronavirus was the gunpowder which fueled it. Fear can change everything: economics, politics, love and hate, and

geopolitics

already begun to decline. The world's population had also begun its transformation from population growth to population decline. Everything had changed.

In order for the PRC to survive, let alone attain its goal of global dominance, it needed to ensure that its rivals, particularly the U.S. and its allies, faced economic and therefore strategic decline. Beijing needed to level the playing field.

PRC Pres. Xi Jinping, in September 2018, set the Communist Party of China's goal as the achievement of "global hegemony" by 2049, the centenary of the Party's achievement of control over mainland China. To do this, he told his senior Party and military leaders, the PRC had begun "a New Thirty Years War" against the U.S., an historical illusion to Europe's Thirty Years War which ended in 1648 with the Peace of Westphalia.

And just as the Peace of Westphalia created a new "rules-based world order" – the foundation of the global geo-strategic framework for the next four centuries – so the "new Peace of Westphalia" determined by a Communist Party of China victory would determine the "new rules-based world order." But even then, as he declared this, Xi knew that the PRC economy was in decline, and that mainland China suffered from critical challenges which had to be overcome.

The PRC had some 20 percent of the world's population, but only seven percent of the world's water, and most of that was polluted, as was its ability to grow food. It had become more existentially dependent on imported food and raw materials than any great nation since the collapse of Rome.

The New Total War discusses how the PRC has sought to transform its situation into success, and what it must do to achieve that. But it is more than merely about the great new challenge by Beijing to the West, and, very significantly, against Australia. **The New To-**

tal War describes how the concepts of conflict, and particularly the concept of total war, have been transformed by sociology, demographics, and technology.

So it describes where the world was going, in terms of economics and security, and details the great challenges and opportunities which are possible

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for societies. It probes deeply into the interrelationships of sociological issues with technology, democracy, and governance.

In **The New Total War of the 21st Century**, Gregory Copley brings together the lessons of more than a half-century of active engagement with leaders around the world, and the study of the history of human conflict and achievement.

Copley concludes the book – which also includes an extensive and unique glossary of strategic terms and their meaning – with cautionary words:

Military action in the near-term could well consolidate the PRC position in its "near abroad." It could even achieve *de facto* or *de jure* control of Taiwan, a critical legitimizing goal for the Communist Party of China (CPC), if the U.S. did not rush in assets and support to show a pre-emptive tripwire to deter PRC escalation. But what after that? Would it give Beijing the breathing space to "fight another day," given that – had it left matters as they were – it would not have had that chance, due to its growing economic difficulty (and the potential for collapse)?

Like Japan in 1941, the CPC had to buy time if it was to survive and consolidate control over markets and sourc-

es of supply. But, like Japan in 1941, would a precipitate action cause not just the U.S., but a variety of its allies, to rebuild in the longer-term?

The wager was now in the air.

But the book goes broadly into the evolution of the philosophies of total war as well as delving into the current

and anticipated iterations of it. Copley has an extensive, unique glossary of strategic terminology, particularly focusing on the evolving framework of grand strategy.

Unique approaches to studying the grand strategic approach of PRC Pres. Xi Jinping and the CPC have Copley describing Beijing's Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) in terms of both traditional Chinese approaches to building tributary relationships with its trading partners (indeed all other nation-states, which the PRC does not consider sovereign) and in terms of a modernized version of maoist globalism.

Copley said that Xi and the CPC recognized that it had become infeasible to sell Maoist globalism as an internationally-appealing ideology, given that it promised an eradication of individual gratification, so had to form a new way to build international subservience to the CPC. The BRI, then, was conceived as a combination of strategic power projection and the construction of a modern "supply chain" to link the PRC with its resources and markets as well as a means of building a tributary form of obedience to Beijing.

The result was that the Belt & Road Initiative became a sophisticated form of what Copley terms "financial Maoism," in which transactional material-

ism replaced ideological conviction. Thus, from Beijing's perspective, the BRI did not need to be viable in normal building a strategic dominance, a de facto alliance structure in a world where Beijing actually countenanced no alliances in the traditional sense.

The New Total War of the 21st Century looks at the growing and newly-defined roles of population warfare, media warfare, information warfare, technology warfare, and, above all, information dominance (ID) warfare. It pays particular attention to the evolution of war-economies and the transformation of societies – including democracy and democratic institutions – which were being transformed by the new total war. Copley also looks at the impact of new technologies and doctrines emerging within defense establishments to fight the new type of conflict, paying particular attention to the new PRC and Russian military transformations and the possible relationship which the militaries will have with transformed economic environments.

The book also highlights the move from the globalist-defined world framework which had evolved since the end of World War II back (in cyclical fashion) to a sovereignty-defined world framework, and also the inevitable move toward the “global civil war” structure which the author had defined in his 2018 work, **Sovereignty in the 21st Century and the Crisis for Identity, Cultures, Nation-States, and Civilizations**. In this respect, the “fear pandemic” of 2020, which the COVID-19 situation triggered, caused such an economic dislocation globally that it put the PRC and the US (in particular) in a “race to the bottom,” rather than a race to the top.

Copley highlighted how critical it was for the PRC, which had essentially begun its economic as well as demographic decline a decade before the 2020 break-point, to stop the U.S. reviving its economic growth cycle. The opportunity of the COVID-19 crisis, then, was

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utilized as a chance to use not only population warfare but the range of other information dominance techniques to ensure that the U.S. economy remained “locked down” for as long as possible to “level the strategic playing field.” And to ensure the defeat of U.S. Pres. Donald Trump in the November 3, 2020, U.S. Presidential election, given that Trump represented the U.S. push-back against Beijing after some three decades of unfettered and unopposed PRC global power projection following the end of the Ronald Reagan U.S. Presidency.

The new book has drawn a wide range of advance praise from policy-level reviewers.

Dr. Robert Wood, the Emeritus Dean of the U.S. Naval War College noted: “This study is a must-read for those who are entrusted with national defense as it will change the way we think about defense budgets, strategies, decision-making, and operations.”

The former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Newt Gingrich, said that Copley's new book represented “the kind of new thinking and candid dialogue we need to prepare for a better future.” The founder of the major U.S. think-tank, The Heritage Foundation, Dr. Ed Feulner, said that Australian Gregory Copley was “one of America's foremost strategists,” and that **The New Total War** was “a provocative volume that expands our understanding of these challenges in their broadest context. Read it to understand the challenge we are really

facing.”

Yossef Bodansky, renowned U.S. geo-strategist and best-selling author of **Bin Laden: the Man Who Declared War on America**, said of one of Copley's earlier works, **The Art of Victory** (2006): “Gregory Copley, our only conscious grand strategist and exponent of psychological strategy, provides vital new insights into the key challenges facing us today: terrorism and globalism. If **Sun-tzu's Art of War** is the marshal's baton in the knapsack of every soldier, then the beautifully written **Art of Victory** should be the secret strength of all who wish to lead society.”

The print editions of **The New Total War of the 21st Century and the Trigger of the Fear Pandemic** are available now from the U.S. publisher. A PDF (and imminently a Kindle) ebook edition is also available. To order, go to www.strategicstudies.org, and click onto the e-commerce link. 📖

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*The Montebello
Voice
uncut, uncensored,
unofficial*

soup's on

By *Mikhailina Karina*

I'll never forget my first bowl of gazpacho.

It was during a visit to Charleston in the summer of 1993, when my boyfriend at the time, Brian, and I drove to South Carolina to visit his family. We stayed at his sister's luxurious beach-front condo on Kiawah Island, a gated enclave with resort amenities.

Coming from St. Louis, which is legendary for hot and humid summers, I was shocked by the Southern heat and humidity that overwhelmed my car's AC. As we trudged along Charleston's historic district and admired the elegant buildings (before I knew the buildings' painful history), we came upon a tiny café with some seats at the counter and a handful of tables. Hungry, overheated, and exhausted, Brian suggested I try gazpacho. "It's like a liquid salad," he assured me. I was a strict ovo-lacto vegetarian, which made finding food in regular Midwestern restaurants challenging and humiliating, so I was happy to have a normal meal without haggling about meat stock. I'd never heard of gazpacho, but trusted Brian's foodie knowledge because he was the person who introduced me to Japanese, Vietnamese, and Thai food that finally made its way to St. Louis.

The hole-in-the-wall diner featured sandwiches and desserts. Every dish was served with a wedge of chilled watermelon. I noticed a couple next to me – a strikingly handsome tall young man with dark curly hair was devouring a thick meat sandwich; next to him,

Gazpacho!

a petite blonde with a sharp face was wearing calf-high white boots with laser cutouts. They were clearly a couple and I was fixated on her boots, in Charleston, in the summer.

When my food arrived, I was pleased to see a crusty chunk of bread and a trio of unfamiliar cheeses that looked fancier than the sliced Havarti my fam-

with sun-kissed Mediterranean cuisine.

That evening, Brian's sister took us to the newest hot restaurant, Sun Spot, on Folly Island, a beach community outside Charleston. The drive on the back roads of South Carolina was beautiful, but baffling. It was the first time I saw African-American families sitting on porches of what looked like wooden sharecropper cabins with laundry drying in the breeze and old cars in the front yard. I'd seen urban poverty in St. Louis, but this was something out of history books from the turn of the century. It did not look like modern America; it looked like a place where time stood still and we were just pass-



ily usually bought. A glistening wedge of sweet watermelon stood on its rind, like a sail about to take me into a new world. The first taste of gazpacho teleported me into that new world – flavorful, refreshing, delicious. It was all the familiar ingredients I'd been eating all my life: tomatoes, cucumbers, onions,

garlic, bell pepper. But they were taken to another level by being pureed and seasoned. What a revelation! It was my first cold soup after a lifetime of hot, tasteless carrots, potatoes, and cabbage swimming in broth. Gazpacho was my gateway soup into a life-long love affair

ing through this alternate reality. I was too shocked to ask my hosts, who made their conservative views very clear during a family dinner, about what was going on outside Kiawah's resorts.

At the restaurant, because of my dietary life choices, I ordered pasta with grilled vegetables. Calling that dish pasta with grilled vegetables is like calling Michael Jordan a basketball player. The dish was splendid – crisp, delicately seasoned, full of flavor. Once again, I didn't know food could be like *that*. Brian's family ordered chocolate cake topped with a real gold leaf, which the waiter breathlessly placed at the table. Because the edible leaves were so light, the first one floated away. But the big-



gest surprise of the evening was seeing the restaurant's chef-owner coming out to greet his customers: it was the handsome curly Frenchman (I'd learned) who sat next to me during the day's first mind-blowing meal.

I took a book of matches from the restaurant, which has been rattling around my various black holes and junk drawers all these years. Google searches have turned up nothing about Sun Spot at 10 Center Street in Folly Beach or its young chef. All I have is memories of two simple, yet incredible meals that took humble vegetables to a whole other dimension.

I often make gazpacho in the summer to serve with my own crusty bread and French cheeses. Because I like it spicier, I throw a jalapeño into the mix. It's my go-to crowd-pleaser for picnics and potlucks. I make it the day before the event to allow everything to come together and toss a handful of ice cubes when ready to serve.

Like much of my cooking, I make gazpacho without precise measurements and adjust seasonings at the end. I probably go too heavy on the garlic and too light on the vinegar. I also pour in some tomato juice in addition to water.

When I decided to write about my gazpacho obsession, I could have googled a recipe from a reputable website, such as <https://www.finedininglovers.com/article/cooking-classics-spanish-gazpacho>. I also discovered a myriad of gazpacho variations that include fruit.

However, since Montebello is a veritable academy of arts and sciences with experts on any obscure subject, I contacted our Spanish neighbors for their authentic gazpacho recipe. As luck would have it, Manuel Buiza is from southern Spain, the birthplace of gazpacho. He kindly shared his own recipe with us.

Hot summer days call for a refreshing serving of gazpacho. No matter which recipe you choose or how you jazz it up, *buen provecho*. 🍴

Gazpacho Andaluz

By Manuel Buiza

I am from Seville, in the south of Spain. Gazpacho is one of the main courses that you will always see in any southern household during the summer. As I recall, gazpacho's history is even mentioned in the Bible and during Al-Andalus (the Muslim invasion, a period of nine centuries until 1492), as a dish of soaked bread, olive oil, and vinegar. In the 16th century the Spaniards brought green peppers and tomatoes from the New World and added them to popularize this meal.

Nowadays there are different types of gazpacho – maybe too many variations – but I prefer the classic Andalusian. We eat gazpacho almost every day in the summer. But our real secret is our German food processor, Thermomix, that makes two liters of gazpacho in 4 minutes.

This is gazpacho Andaluz, where our summer is long and hot, so we usually love a very liquid and cold gazpacho that we drink from our glasses. We don't serve gazpacho in bowls.

- 1 kg vine tomatoes (about 2 pounds)
- 30 g white onion
- 1 head of garlic
- 50 g green pepper
- 70 g cucumber
- half a cup of extra virgin olive oil
- about 2 tsp. vinegar
- 3 tsp. salt
- water or ice (cubes) at the end of the process

Put all the ingredients (except water and ice) in the food processor. At first, mix everything at medium speed for 30 seconds, then for 3 minutes at maximum speed. When it looks like a thick soup, add half a liter of water and mix everything at medium speed.

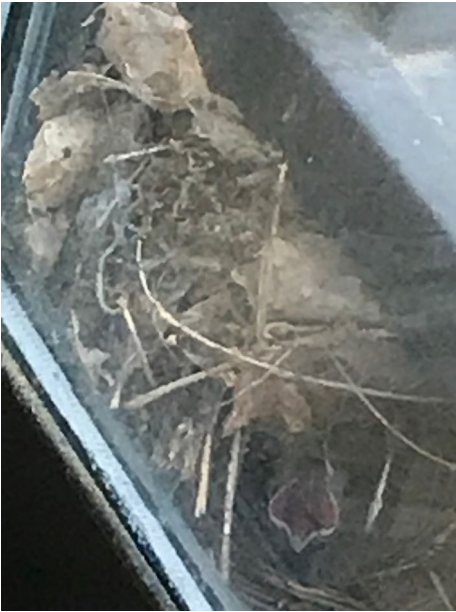
If I am going to serve it right away, I add ice instead of water (I love gazpacho when it is really cold); if not, store it in the refrigerator. 🍴



dog walkers



local views



Empty nesters

A pair of Carolina wrens nested recently in that tight space between our balcony door and the railing. Although wrens will lay anywhere from four to eight eggs, according to the National Audubon's Field Guide, because of the horizontal angle we could only see one egg and just this one chick emerged.

We named it Audrey III; when mom or dad came back all you could see was a wide mouth saying "feed me."

A few hours after I took this photo the nest was empty. I don't know if the chick had developed enough to fly, but everyone was gone. It is about a 15-foot drop to a soft landing on some mulch below and I checked just in the event it had fallen, but there was no sign.

After living here for several weeks they left the nest a mess. The next tenants should get a maid service to do a complete move-in cleaning. — *Jim Galigan* 📷



Photo by Mary Sabulsky

Virtual Polymer Clay Play! Join Us To Celebrate Butterflies! Tuesday July 7 , 6pm to 9pm



Butterflies come in all shapes and patterns! Just like our polymer clay imaginations !

This time, we will make simple butterflies that *don't need a pasta machine*. We will make a cane — which means its a long tube which will give you many many butterflies to cover items or make jewelry!

We will be meeting in my adobe connect classroom. Email me for the link and password as well as the supply list if this is your first time. The link will be active about an hour before class begins.

Pratibha Srinivasan 4/1412

psrinivasan@icloud.com



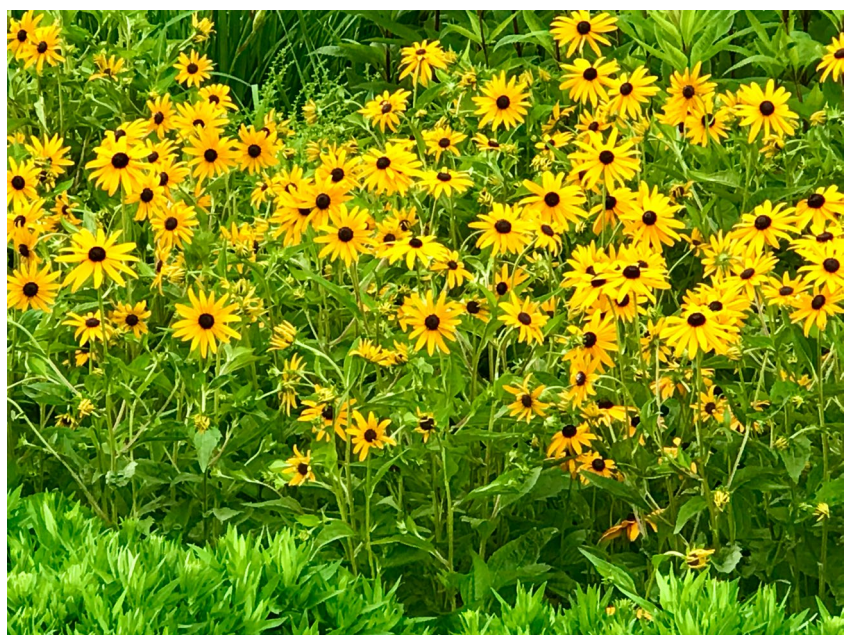
AiM Polymer Clay Group

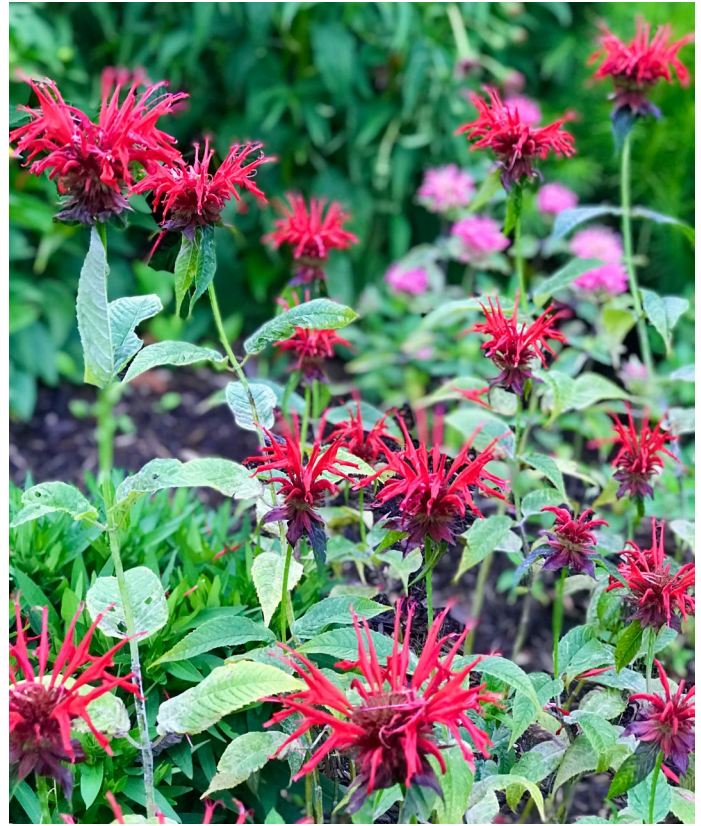
*The Montebello
Voice wants to
hear from you*

variation on a theme









final glance



Children at Cape May, NJ, Shore circa 1923

From restored glass negative by Joel Miller