

The **MONTABELLO** Voice

an independent gazette

let's fall in love

June 5, 2021

Opposites attract

Siamese twins tennis partners

It's their Spring Break. They arrive in droves, eat, drink, hook up, and depart.

Betcha anything that for the whole next 17 years he won't even call her

I hear some Marvin Gaye in the background

Cicada porn

You and me baby, we are stuck like glue

Headed for divorce

17 love

Get a room!

Love all

5 more minutes

PG17

Score: love

Opposing viewpoints

That's it. You two are grounded for 17 years!

A bugs' love life



Once again, singing without a mask

By Jane White and Carol Coyle-Shea

Nietzsche was so right. Life without music is a mistake. The pandemic caused the Montebello Music Club to painfully cut back our concerts to celebrate various holidays and special events. We want to return as soon as possible.



We missed all of you. Did you miss us? We have exchanged ideas and made plans for our return as soon as we can safely do that.

When we do return we want to be better than ever. So, during the planning stages, we have identified our one biggest need – we need more singers: ALL voice ranges, ability to read music NOT required, just like to sing and have FUN, auditions NOT required. Why limit your singing to solos in the shower?

Why not make a mental note in pencil to join us when we return to our rehearsal mode? After all the pandemic limitations, what better way to celebrate “back to normal” than by dusting off your vocal chords in a fun social setting? We will rehearse twice a month in the evening. As soon as we are able to meet, we’ll let you know when and where we’ll be gathering.

Won’t you join us?

Contact us at janemariwhite@hotmail.com or carolcoyle@cox.net. 📧

voices on the 37



Women wronged

By Richard Titus

Surfing around my HD Radio dial I encountered Act 4 of Verdi’s *Otello*, just as Desdemona is getting into her *Salici Salice* aria. I’m thinking: “Can anything he wrote (based on Shakespeare’s tragedy) be more delicious and more deeply moving?” But also, “And more misogynistic and sexist?”

Imagine. She knows he’s coming to kill her for something she didn’t do. So, does she flee? Seek help? Find a weapon? Nope; she gets her hair done. Then he shows up and is unmoved by her protestations of innocence, refusing to grant her enough time even for a quick Hail Mary. She passively gets suffocated. But wait, there’s more. As she’s expiring, someone asks: “Who did this?” She answers: “Nobody, I myself.” Being an opera heroine is a tough job, granted. You can look forward to going crazy, being murdered, a fatal illness, abandonment, suicide, etc. But Shakespeare and Verdi really throw the book at poor Desdemona.

Back to the real world: I had a Brazilian girlfriend who said that if a guy walked in and found his wife cheating on him, Brazilian law allowed him to zap her on the spot. My friend said it wasn’t reciprocal, that the tradition was losing favor, and that it wasn’t expected to endure. One could Google it and find out; I didn’t.

The way this opera ends always makes me think of a phone call that didn’t happen, but most certainly should have happened. “Police, this is Nicole Brown

Simpson, in Brentwood. You know the address. I just shot a guy who was trying to break into my house. He’s not moving; I can’t see his face but I think it’s my ex-husband, O.J. Simpson, the football player. As you know, he’s done this before.” 📺

The Montebello Voice
uncut, uncensored,
unofficial

Cover photo by Alex Biero
Captions by clever neighbors
via Facebook

The MONTEBELLO Voice
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Woodlands


Arbor Day Tree Donation Program deadline is June 14

With only days to go before the deadline, Montebello's 2021 Arbor Day Tree Donation Program, the Grounds Committee encourages you to join in the fun of picking out and donating a tree to our wonderful woodlands.

A donation of \$250 funds the purchase of a tree, and each tree can be dedicated to one or more loved ones. Residents are getting together to pitch in smaller donations to get to the \$250 goal and select a specific tree species. Individual donations of any amount do add up as well. They will be pooled by the Grounds Committee, which will then select the trees most needed after June 14.

 MontebelloGrounds.com has updated information on the trees.

 [Click on each tree's image](#) for info on the species.

 You can find the [donation form](#) on the website as well as at the front desk and the brochure racks in the mailroom of each tower.

 Questions?
OurMontebelloGrounds@gmail.com

 **Deadline: June 14**

Popular species like Redbud, Sweetbay Magnolia, and River Birch have been popular choices, and just a few of those are still available. A number of Hickories, Eastern Cottonwoods, and Red Oaks are also available. Be sure to check out some hardwoods that are becoming increasingly rare in Virginia. Yeah, they have kind of weird names like Black Gum, Pawpaw, Serviceberry, Fringe Tree, and American Hornbeam, but these lovelies are really important to the canopy. 🌳

 <p style="text-align: center;">Black Gum, Frederick News-Post</p>	<p>Black Gum, known for its vibrant foliage in the fall.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">Pawpaw, Wikimedia</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Pawpaw fruit, Wikimedia</p>	<p>Pawpaw, a smaller tree whose fruit was a favorite dessert of George Washington.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">American Hornbeam, King Nursery</p>	<p>American Hornbeam, famous for its brilliant fall foliage. Its name is from "horn," meaning tough, and "beam," meaning tree, in German.</p>



*A gift of marigolds planted by Grounds Committee members Brian Hayden and Chuck Amorosino along side of long Mount Eagle Drive
Photo by Chuck Amorosino*



Montebello Budget Request Form (Last Updated: April 30, 2021)

Please submit this budget request form to the F&B point of contact and the General Manager, preferably through email. Fill in your responses, being as direct as possible, using the blank space provided in the boxes.

Date of Request: May 10 2021 _____, 20 _____

Automatic external defibrillators (10)

Proposed Cost:\$1400 each=\$14000

Reserve Study Replacement Year (if applicable):2031

Costing Method:cash

Justification (please provide information that explains why these funds are needed): There are about 655,000 cases per year of acute cardiac death in the US. The brain ceases in about 4 minutes after the heart stops. The heart muscle fibrillates (unable to contract) and there is no circulation or pulse. The AED is shown to revive about 45% of the cases if done in 4 minutes of the event. We cannot depend on the local EMTs to get here rapidly. The new machines are safe and easy to use. There is no liability for the use of the machine in VA. A law signed four years ago approves this. There are 200 cases per 100,000- per year, meaning 4/2000-about the population here. There were two devices here-at the fitness center and administration area -but signage was missing and they would not be readily available for the residents. There should be at least one in each building, on the security car, tennis and pool area outdoors, lower level exercise room, and fitness center.

Estimated level of operational support from the Community (please explain what expense in terms of labor or dollars [including contract dollars] the Association will be required to expend to maintain this service or keep this item in repair or serviceable): There is widespread support in the community for the devices no charge. The maintenance is \$100 per year for each unit and a useful life of 10 years for each unit.

Estimated life of the purchase (if applicable, please indicate when this item may need to be replaced):10 years-12 years

Impact if request is postponed or denied (please explain what the consequence is if this purchase is not made or postponed): There have been no liability suits for the use of the machines but a growing number for the lack of having an AED available. There may be deaths here that could be prevented.

Additional Comments:A survey by the American Red Cross was done here a few years ago and recommended 15 units.
Erwin M. Jacobs, M.D.

Please take a brief survey at <https://interhelp.com> to gauge community interest in getting additional AEDs.

- Submitted by Paul Foldes

He wrote the songs and the jingles

By Raymond Houck

Marketers know well the power of a good song. A catchy tune along with some punchy lyrics about a product can create a remembrance that lasts through the years, and in some cases, much longer than the product itself. Jingles have existed for as long as there have been radio and television stations to play them, but the advertising scene during one year over the last 50 years was particularly memorable for introducing some of the catchiest tunes in jingle history.

That banner year was 1971. The McDonald's Corporation introduced a new commercial featuring seven guys cleaning the h e c k out of a restaurant while singing "You Deserve a Break Today." Meanwhile, another food giant, the Coca-Cola Company, ran a spot that featured people singing on a hilltop, "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing." An insurance company promised, "Like a Good Neighbor, State Farm is There." A few notes from the last ditty still appear in State Farm commercials today. Just think about it – many of these jingles were composed by a then struggling sing-

er-songwriter named Barry Manilow, who was paid just \$500 for each little tune!

Manilow's work as a commercial jingle writer and singer began in the late 1960s with his first paid gig for Dodge and continued into the next decade. He would also perform many of the TV jingles he composed, including State Farm Insurance's "Like a Good Neighbor, State Farm is There" and Band-Aid's catchy "I Am Stuck on Band-Aid 'Cause Band-Aid's Stuck on Me!" for which he adopted a child-like voice and wrote the music (Donald B. Wood wrote the lyrics).

His singing-only credits include commercials for Kentucky Fried Chicken's "Finger-Lickin' Good Day", Pepsi's "All Across the Nation, It's the Pepsi Generation", and Dr Pepper's "The Most Original Soft Drink" among others – with his own biggest break coming in McDonald's "You Deserve a Break Today."

In 2009 Manilow was awarded an

Honorary Clio at the 50th Anniversary Clio Awards in Las Vegas for his early work as a jingle writer and singer. When accepting the award, he stated that he learned the most about making pop music by working for three or four years as the jingle industry. Manilow went on to a glittering music career, but he never forgot his early days as a jingle writer and performer. In fact, for many years, his live shows included a medley of his popular jingle hits! 🎵



Enjoy some of his beloved music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s0xryLTnBhI>

OFFICIAL

BARRY MANILOW

01. Can't Smile Without You
02. Even Now
03. Somewhere Down The Road
04. Mandy
05. I Write The Songs
06. Looks Like We Made It
07. Ready to Take a Chance Again
08. Weekend In New England
09. This One's For You
10. Somewhere In The Night
11. Can't Take My Eyes Off You
12. If I Should Love Again
13. Tryin to Get The Feeling Again
14. Memory
15. Read Em And Weep
16. It's A Miracle
17. Could It Be Magic at Children
18. What is Your Favorite Ending Credits Song
19. If You Remember Me
20. When October Goes

Best Songs

Greatest Hits 2021

Community theater, an overlooked local treasure

By Bob Shea

Live theater usually has a small, albeit important part in most of our lives.

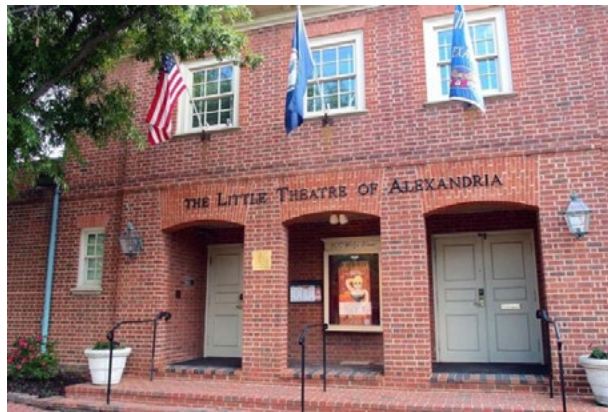
We all can recall attending a performance at the wondrous Kennedy Center, or at DC's historic icon, Ford's Theater, or maybe our first live show amid the lights and excitement of NYC and Broadway. For others it may be just the thrill and trepidation of a high school performance with our family in the third row. Nevertheless, live theater has probably touched all of us in some way.

Unfortunately, the thrill of live performance, except for rock-style concerts, is losing its attraction within our always "I need to stay connected" younger population. When we next attend a live performance, and we hope it will be soon, look around. The audience for the most part will look like much of Montebello's core population: older, grandma and grandpa-looking folks. Where are the younger people?

The young among us live in the world of apps, cell phones in hand, exchanging photos of what they had for dinner or cute dog tricks. They are missing so much. We as senior citizens owe it to these youngsters to expose them to the majesty of live theater by introducing them to real people telling a story on stage. However, when we look at the pre-pandemic price of tickets for a show such as *Hamilton*, the costs are bank-breakingly absurd, but there is an option: community theater.

Within a 40-mile radius of Montebello there are at least 30 long-established community theaters, with two of them within a 10-minute drive: Little Theater of Alexandria (<http://thelittletheatre.com>) and Aldersgate Church Community Theater (<http://acctonline.org/contact/>). During 4 years as a

judge for an organization called Washington Area Theater Community Honors, or WATCH (think Tony Awards for community theater), I have attended community theater performances from Warrenton to La Platta, and Gaithersburg to Woodbridge, evaluating musicals, mysteries, comedies, and serious drama. My considered opinion: they are local treasures that should not be missed. However, a few may not be total treasures based on who showed up for auditions, the particular show, or the skill of the volunteer director. But even a bad evening at the theater is usu-



ally a pretty good evening, especially if combined with a dinner at a restaurant.

Some community theater groups, such as LTA, are fortunate to own their own venues. Others are gypsy companies that must share facilities with county governments, churches, or any place with a stage that can be obtained for the run of a performance. Obviously a dedicated stage is an advantage, but one would be pleasantly surprised at the ingenuity and talent displayed when a facility must be shared. A good example is St Mark's on Capitol Hill, where after each Saturday night's performance of *Evita* or maybe *South Pacific*, the complete set must be removed for the next day's church services. The show must go on as well as the traditional Sunday mass.

Additionally, the talent on stage is often breathtaking. A fact of life is that

even the most talented college theater majors all too often find that after graduation a real "day job" is required to pay the rent or mortgage, but their talent remains. They work 40-hours a week someplace, and then work equally hard at what they truly love – live theater. It is mind-boggling to see how much real stage talent exists within our community, and how hard these dedicated souls work to make theater come alive for us.

Most community theaters have no paid staff and exist as IRS 501(3)c non-profits. However, the related bills still must be paid from ticket revenue and fundraising. Each theater company needs a myriad of free talent beyond the few unpaid cast members one sees on the stage: set designers, set builders, artistic painters, wardrobe and costume creators, prop locators, lighting and sound technicians, stage managers, box office staff, ushers, bookkeepers, and boards of directors. All are unpaid volunteers who collectively make the magic of live theater come alive in our

very own neighborhoods.

Once our COVID shots are complete, and society has returned to normal, I would urge everyone to take advantage of a relatively inexpensive and wildly entertaining night out at a local community theater. Please consider taking along a grandchild or someone who has not been exposed to live theater. One day they may become someone who prizes live entertainment in lieu of the potentially lonely life of swapping cell phone photos of ordinary life, temporary friends, and cute pets.

They just might thank you for exposing them to live entertainment. If they or you are enthralled, you might also one day decide to volunteer using your latent talents, but a warning: volunteering in any capacity can be addictive, but so very rewarding. Just ask me. 🍷

Montebello Speaker Series: Book Talk

81 Questions for Parents (and Grandparents): Helping Your Kids Succeed in School



Join Montebello resident (and former Fairfax School teacher, board chair, and legislator) Kris Amundson as she talks about her new book on how parents and grandparents can help kids succeed in school.

“There are, in fact, school secrets parents need to know,” she says.

- Should parents “redshirt” kindergarteners and hold them out for a year? (Probably not.)
- Should students take algebra in the eighth grade? (Yes.)
- How much should parents help with homework? (Less than they’re probably helping now.)
- Can grandparents be the “secret weapon” in student success? (Yes!)

June 23 - 7:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

Zoom information will be posted one day in advance

81 Questions for Parents is available on Amazon or through Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.



<https://www.amazon.com/81-Questions-Parents-Helping-Succeed/dp/1475859341>

Sponsored by the Activities Committee

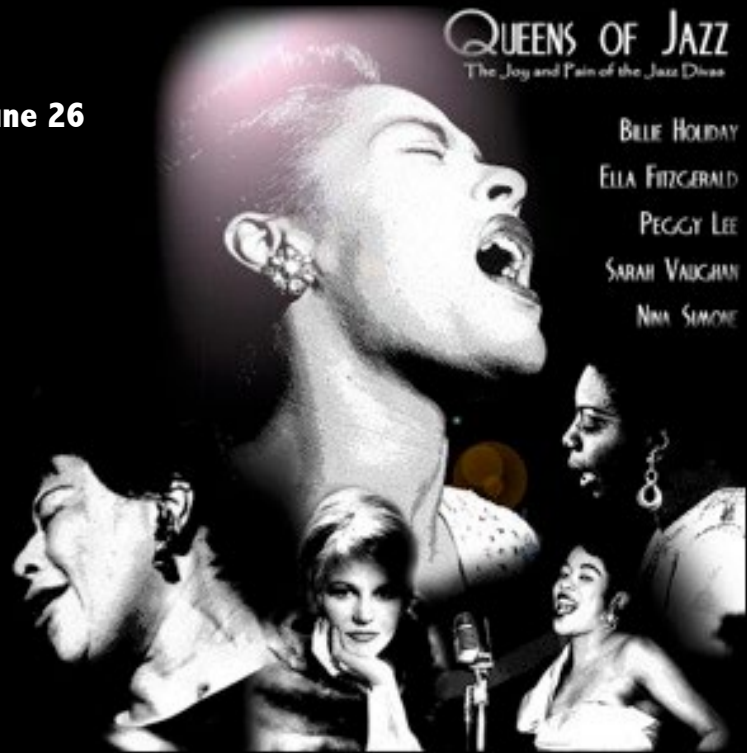
Montebello

Sponsored by the Activities Committee

Join the community on
Friday, June 25th from
6:30pm to 9:30pm – on
Picnic Hill



Rain date: Saturday, June 26



Come join us for the return of
DJ'd music evenings with our
"Music On The Hill" Night.
This evening will feature
music from the female "Jazz
Divas."

****No traffic, tolls, or
admission fee****



walks 'n wags



walks 'n wags



walks 'n wags



cicadas



final glance

#rainbowwings #rainbowsselfie #pride2021 #pridemonth #pride 🌈 #sharingthelove



Local Colour boutique owner Rachael Bright celebrates Pride Month in front of the rainbow wings she painted in the Occoquan historic district