SCOTT McCAFFREY
Staff Writer

The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn haven’t stopped forward economic momentum along the Columbia Pike corridor.

That was the takeaway from the annual “Pike Progress Luncheon,” held Sept. 25 in a “virtual” format – a first for the event.

“It’s easy to get down in this time – today’s presentation certainly inspired a lot of optimism,” said John Murphy of Washington Workplace, who chairs the board of the Columbia Pike Redevelopment Organization (CPRD), which sponsors the annual look both forward and backward.

The annual event always proves to be “one of the highlights of our year,” said Murphy, who both lives and works along the 3.5-mile Arlington stretch of the Columbia Pike corridor.

“‘There will be . . . a world after COVID,’ promised Kim Klingler, executive director of the 35-year-old organization that supports economic and cultural activity on what she describes as Arlington’s newest and oldest main street.

The corridor provides “a vibrant, safe, connected and diverse” backdrop for residents, visitors and workers – and a community that has been impacted, but not derailed, by COVID.

Orr said that the project, which replaced a supermarket and surface parking lot, benefited from the form-based code that helps to guide Columbia Pike development.

“It was an extremely positive process for us,” said Orr, noting the brisk nine-month journey from submission of plans to a county-government green light.

Although leasing activity slowed to a trickle during the early days of COVID, things then began booming, with as many as 60 leases being signed some subsequent months – in part because renters could get into a new building for $500 to $1,000 less per month than a comparable apartment in the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor goes for.

Further west along the Pike – tiptoeing

Continued on Page 4

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Candidates: Local Students Should Be Back in Class

At Forum, 8th District Challenger More Aggressive on Topic Than Incumbent Democrat Beyer

SCOTT MCCAFFREY
Staff Writer

Should Northern Virginia public-school students be back in class, rather than trying their best to learn “virtually”? The two candidates for the 8th District U.S. House of Representatives are in agreement on generalities, but seem to differ on the emphasis they place on a return to in-person instruction.

Long-shot Republican challenger Jeff Jordan used a Sept. 23 debate sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area to press for a return to school, citing a host of reasons. “Our children are suffering academically, socially, intellectually across the board,” Jordan said during the 90-minute forum, held “virtually” due to the pandemic. “Our teachers are in the same box,” Jordan said. After a lifetime of learning to excel in front of a class, they have become “Zoom monitors,” he said. Shortly after the Trump administration in June pressed school districts across the nation to open schools with in-person learning this fall, all the public-school divisions in the 8th District (Fairfax, Alexandria, Arlington and Falls Church) opted to start the 2020-21 school year with all-online classes. Some districts are beginning to rethink that plan, with tentative steps to begin some in-person learning in coming weeks and months.

Incumbent U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8th) was in agreement with the principle of students’ returning, but he was more cautious. “We all want our kids back in class, but we want them back in school safely,” said Beyer, pushing for federal funds to provide masks, testing and cleaning supplies.

“Running elections “is very different than it was a decade, two decades, three decades ago,” said Jeremy Epstein, an expert in cybersecurity and foreign interference. “We need to understand all the different areas that are at risk.”

That said, “we have some good resilience in Virginia,” said Epstein, pointing to paper ballots and other advances in recent years. Also on the panel will be former County Board member John Vihstadt, along with Arlington elections chief Gretchen Reinemeyer.

Upcoming Forum Set to Focus on All Aspects of Election Security

The Arlington County Bar Foundation will host an online forum on ensuring elections are conducted free of outside interference on Monday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m. The community is invited to view the presentation.

The presentation will tackle “all kinds of issues about election security, election procedures,” said local attorney Brent Baxter, who will lead the discussion.

“Election security is very different than it was a decade, two decades, three decades ago,” said Jeremy Epstein, an expert in cybersecurity and foreign interference. “We need to understand all the different areas that are at risk.”

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Fairfax Leaders Approve New Tysons High-Rise

Goodbye windmill, hello skyscraper on a tiny triangle of land in central Tysons.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on Sept. 29 unanimously approved a proposal by Jrs@tysons LLC to raze the existing J.R.'s Stockyards Inn at 8130 Watson St. and erect a 270-foot-tall, 26-story, mixed-use building with 244 residential units, a small amount of ground-floor retail and underground parking.

The 1.1-acre site, located between International Drive and Watson Street in central Tysons, has been occupied by the steakhouse since the late 1970s. Owned by Jim and Karen Wordsworth, the restaurant has an iconic windmill that several supervisors said they were sorry to see go.

“I look forward to seeing this project built,” she said. “I’ll miss the windmill [but] it will be an exciting addition to Tysons that will further our goals of making it a livable, workable and enjoyable, transit-oriented urban center,” said Supervisor Dalia Palchik (D-Providence).

The Tysons Comprehensive Plan calls for buildings to be 175 to 225 feet tall in that part of Tysons, but the developer is receiving extra height and density because of the applicant’s proposal because of the amenities’ high quality.

“The applicant tried to create a lot of outdoor ‘rooms,’” said John McGranahan, the applicant’s representative. “It’s an inviting pedestrian flow that gets people down an 18-percent grade to where they can walk comfortably to the Metro station.”

The building’s underground parking area will be accessible from a driveway, to be constructed on the site, that also will be used by the adjacent parcel to the east, which will be redeveloped by Capital One Bank.

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Regional Jobs Picture Is Improving

August Data: D.C. Area Clawing Out of COVID Meltdown

Though it continues clawing its way back, the D.C. region’s employment picture has a long way to go before reverting to its pre-COVID numbers. With 3.43 million in the civilian workforce and 235,000 looking for jobs, the Washington region’s unemployment rate of 6.9 percent in August was down from 7.7 percent in July, but was well above the 3.2-percent rate recorded in August 2019. Nationally, the jobless rate was 8.5 percent in August. Figures were reported Sept. 30 by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Washington region was among 387 of the nation’s 389 metropolitan areas to see higher year-over-year jobless rates, although most of those areas are seeing improvement from the depths of the COVID crisis in late spring and early summer.

Nationally, the lowest jobless rates for the month were turned in by Idaho Falls (2.0 percent), Salt Lake City (2.1 percent) and Logan (Utah) at 2.7 percent each. The highest rates were found in El Centro (Calif.) at 22.9 percent and Kahului (Hawaii) at 20.7 percent.

Among the nation’s 51 metro areas with populations of more than 1 million, the lowest jobless rate for the month was found in Salt Lake City, at 4.7 percent, with the highest found in Las Vegas (15.5 percent) and Los Angeles (15 percent).

In Virginia, August’s jobless rate of 6.3 percent was down from 8 percent a month before but up from 2.9 percent in August 2019. The most recent rate represents 4.3 percent in the civilian workforce and 275,000 looking for jobs state-wide.

Across the Commonwealth, unemployment rates for the month ranged from 4.9 percent (in Winchester, Staunton-Waynesboro and in Harrisonburg) to 7.4 percent (Newport News).

— A Staff Report

Pike

Continued from Page 1

It was nearly six years ago that the Columbia Pike business and civic leadership was shocked to its core after Arlington County Board members voted to kill off a proposed $350 million streetcar line that would have used the corridor as the spine to connect Pentagon City to Skyline. County officials then promised an expedited, upscale bus network as an alternative, but that proved slow to materialize.

But there are signs of progress on the transportation front, including significant infrastructure construction on the western end of the corridor.

Pike restaurants have benefited from more liberal outdoor-seating rules that were developed as a response to the pandemic, and both they and retailers are benefitting from relaxed restrictions on signage.

“There is a lot of progress happening,” said Klingler. At the Sept. 25 event, CPRO presented its annual Columbia Pike Spirit Awards, to Flare Rides, Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, David Peete/B.M. Smith and Arlington Presbyterian Church. (CPRO is a “guiding light” for the community, Peete said in accepting his award.)

In addition, Ana Arias was honored as volunteer of the year for her work supporting CPRO’s drive-in summer movie-night program.

Eateries

Continued from Page 1

ic) have been hampered by government-imposed seating limitations, he said.

Restaurants operating at full capacity typically have profit margins of between 5 and 8 percent and begin teetering if sales drop off by 5 percent, “so you can imagine what our profit-and-loss statement looks like when we are down 80 percent in sales,” Cohen said.

Restaurants are safe for diners, given the rigorous safety protocols they have implemented, but the public still is put off from dining out because the virus has not been controlled yet and the media and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have tended to “scape people with false information,” he said.

The government should take two steps right now to help dining establishments survive, Cohen said. First, it should implement a second round of Paycheck Protection Program loans, without which many more restaurants will not survive the winter months, he predicted.

Secondly, the government needs to boost restaurants’ indoor capacity by allowing installation of Plexiglas dividers between tables, Cohen said.

“If you go up to 75- or even 100-percent occupancy simply does not help us when our tables need to be 6 feet apart,” he said. “Even at 100-percent occupancy, we can only use 50 percent of our tables, and I am not sure anyone realizes this.”

Restaurants have recovered some of their business through outdoor dining and takeout services and Visit Fairfax has been exploring ways to help them continue to do so even in the colder months ahead. For example, they could install heaters to continue serving diners at outdoor tables.

“Being from Canada originally, winter has never stopped me from going out and having fun,” Biggar said.

Fairfax County has helped restaurants during the public-health crisis by allowing ones lacking patios to erect tents on parking lots and sidewalks in order to facilitate outdoor dining.

Biggar said his organization hopes the county will continue that trend and that state officials will do likewise with emergency rules permitting takeout cocktails. Restaurants are “phenomenal community partners” that support organizations and sports teams and employ many people, in-cluding many entering the workforce for the first time, he said.

In addition to the restaurant industry’s work, about 40 percent of hotel employees are furloughed, laid off or will not return to work, Biggar said. Fairfax County’s hotel-occupancy rate in August 2019 was 74 percent; a year later, it had fallen to 38 percent, Biggar said.

According to traditional estimates, hotels need about 50-percent occupancy to be able to cover their expenses and stay in business, he said.

“It’s difficult, devastating and really sad, because this industry in 2019 contributed $3.4 billion to our economy in Fairfax County,” Biggar said. “I’m hoping that we’re even going to break $2 billion in 2020.”

Only three Fairfax County hotels have closed during the pandemic, and just one of those will be shuttered permanently, he said. By comparison, about 55 or 60 District of Columbia hotels have shut down.

“With restaurants, we can do a lot to help people get to them,” Biggar said. “Hotels are an entirely different story, because the general public and consumers are not willing to travel. It’s tough to fill those rooms.”
A lot goes into building safe, strong communities. While no single factor can be highlighted as more important than another in regard to building strong communities, a willingness on the part of residents to connect with their neighbors can greatly benefit local neighborhoods and the people who call those communities home.

According to Mental Health America, a community-based nonprofit dedicated to promoting the mental health of all Americans, research has shown that social connections increase happiness and lead to improved overall health and even longer lives.

Adults may find that establishing a connection with their communities, and maintaining that connection while juggling the responsibilities of work and a family, is not always so easy. That’s especially so for adults who have recently relocated to new areas.

Reaching out to neighbors can be a great way for adults to build new relationships that can benefit them as individuals and strengthen their communities.

Strong communities are built around people. When moving to a new community, adults can overcome the challenges such relocations present by taking various steps to connect with their new neighbors.

Here are some tips:

• **Don’t be shy.** People often want to know who’s living next door, so adults who have recently moved need not be shy about introducing themselves to their new neighbors. Introduce yourself and share what inspired you to move to your new neighborhood.

• **Answer and ask questions.** Neighbors will no doubt ask questions when you introduce yourself, so be ready to answer these questions. Questions may focus on your career and where you grew up. If you grew up in the area where you recently moved, some of your neighbors likely did as well. Sharing stories about your school days and/or local hotspots can be a great way to break the ice. Don’t hesitate to ask some questions of your own as well. Asking questions might reveal some common interests that can serve as strong foundations for budding relationships.

• **Host a backyard barbecue.** Backyard barbecues are laid back affairs, and that pressure-free atmosphere is perfect for meeting new neighbors. Once you have settled in, invite a handful of your neighbors over for the barbecue. If you have children, invite neighbors who also are parents, ideally ones whose children are the same age as your own. Kids have sparked many a conversation, and discussions about local schools, parks and programs for youngsters can be great ice breakers.

• **Volunteer.** Volunteering with community-based organizations is another great way to meet new neighbors. Volunteering with an organization whose mission you identify with may be even better, as you’re likely to find like-minded neighbors who share your passions when working with such groups.
(MS) — These days, home trends are about more than good design and aesthetics – they’re about creating spaces that reflect our values and are more comfortable and enjoyable to live in.

From net-zero and net-positive construction to tiny minimalist homes, trends are all about your family’s lifestyle.

Whether you’re shopping for a new home, renovating your own or creating a new build from scratch, here are some of the biggest trends you need to know for inspiration.

Sustainable design: This one has been popular for a long time, but green design has evolved to be about much more than energy-efficient appliances and LED light bulbs.

Now, it’s all about making sure everything in your home reduces your carbon footprint and minimizes any impact on the environment.

To try the trend yourself, think big and get creative – install solar panels on your roof, choose building materials that don’t require deforestation and upcycle old furniture for decorative elements instead of buying new.

Disaster resiliency: Climate change affects us in so many negative ways, and one of the top concerns is the increase in natural disasters. From wildfires that last for months to major floods that affect entire cities, we now need to prepare for the worst when building our homes.

Switching to disaster-resilient materials is an important first step. Many builders now prefer to use stronger, more energy-efficient materials like insulated concrete forms (ICFs) instead of more traditional materials like wood.

Outdoor living: Many of us are now choosing to forgo getting a cottage or summer home and recreate the experience in our own backyards. This trend helps you make the most of your existing space and take full advantage of your yard or patio during the summer months.

You can design a full living space outside, complete with an outdoor television and comfy couches, as well as a kitchen and refrigerator for entertaining. Consider adding a fireplace or firepit to keep warm during cool summer nights and enjoy the outdoors through spring, fall and even winter if you’re brave.

Home automation: This is another longstanding trend that shows no signs of slowing down. It has also evolved to encompass more of the home to make life even more comfortable and convenient.

From an oven that can be turned on remotely to preheat, to skylights that can open and close automatically to create the perfect ambient temperature, there are more ways than ever to integrate smart home technology into your living space. You can start small with voice assistant and smart light bulbs and work your way up to a total smart home system that includes home security, temperature controls and all your electronic devices.

Customization: You don’t have to settle for what mass manufacturers decide to build, or what works for everyone else. Creating a home that’s as unique as you are is the latest trend, with custom-built storage and personalized architectural features to make your space stand out.

You can even go as far as building a custom home that’s suited to your family. Older home demolitions and purchasing land-only properties is becoming more common, allowing you to work with an architect to create exactly what you want with a new build. (TF204905)
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Get Youngsters Involved in Holiday Baking
Planning Ahead – and Delegating Properly – Can Make It a Win-Win for Everyone

The holiday season is steeped in tradition. Many holiday traditions are centered around food, with much of the focus on all of the decadent treats and desserts taking center stage at many family gatherings.

Many parents hope to involve their children in as many family holiday traditions as they can. Holiday baking is one kid-friendly tradition. Moms and dads can make it even more so by taking a few simple steps before they get started.

Here you go. Happy holidays!

• Purchase kid-friendly baking equipment. Bakers rely on lots of tools to make cookies, cakes and other delicacies. That equipment is even available in kids’ sizes. Kids may be more excited about baking if they have their own equipment, and such gear also can make it easier for them to lend a hand. A spatula made for youngsters can make it easier for kids to move cookies from a baking sheet to a platter, while colorful measuring cups and their own whisk can excite youngsters about baking.

• Plan ahead. Seasoned bakers know that it’s imperative to have the right supplies, including ingredients, on hand before beginning a baking session.

That’s even more necessary when baking with kids, who might not be as patient as moms and dads hope if a baking session has to be paused to run to the store for a missing ingredient or to dig out measuring cups and their own whisk can make it even more so by taking a few simple steps before they get started.

• Douse each other with a little flour and make a joke of things if some ingredients find their way onto the counter or the floor instead of into your mixing bowl.

Parents can make the holiday baking that much more fun by letting their kids pitch in this year.

Pumpkins Are Major Specialty Crops Across Va.
Those Growing Them Face Challenges to Ensure Weather Doesn’t Derail Things

Pumpkins continue to be a popular specialty crop among Virginia farmers, and fall heralds their arrival. According to a 2019 U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service report, Virginia pumpkins generated an estimated $16.4 million in cash receipts and were ranked 18th among the state’s agricultural commodities.

Virginia pumpkin growers harvested 5,600 acres in 2019, up from 5,200 in 2018 and 3,200 in 2017.

“The demand is growing, and it’s a good market to be in – it’s instant entertainment for the fall,” said Chuck King Jr., a Montgomery County farmer and president of the Virginia Pumpkin Growers Association.

King, who grows 30 acres of pumpkins for wholesale with Dan Brann on Brann & King Farms, said this year’s harvest produced “some good, healthy pumpkins.” The farm began picking over Labor Day weekend and already has delivered its first fruits to 20 Walmart stores.

While King noted his crop was “lucky” to avoid the effects of damaging weather that marred much of the pumpkin growing season, he said many producers experienced a different outcome.

“Growers in Southwest Virginia have had awful challenges this season,” said King, who also is a member of the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Specialty Crops Advisory Committee. “When it’s too hot, you won’t see any fruit, and the vines won’t grow. And if it’s too wet, you’ll get powdery mildew, and the pumpkins won’t grow.”

Danny Cassell, vice president of the VPGA, produces 70 acres of pumpkins in Carroll County. He said he lost about half his crop to wet growing conditions in late summer that interrupted pollination activity.

Mike Cullipher, who cultivates 15 acres of pumpkins on Cullipher Farm in Virginia Beach, said he lost just over 2 acres of his crop due to weather. What’s left, he added, is “very pretty.”

With his entire crop dedicated to U-pick activities, Cullipher is anticipating a busy season.

Among Cullipher Farm’s U-pick produce, which include apples, blueberries, corn, peaches and strawberries, pumpkins have quickly become the most popular.

“People still really care about buying something that’s grown in Virginia or close to home, and I think that’s why the market for Virginia-grown pumpkins is increasing,” Cullipher said. “There’s a saturation point somewhere, but it’s something that continues to grow. As long as the weather allows, it should be something that can continue here for a while.”
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Tony Mangialardo
Owner, Mangialardo’s

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O’Connell Standout Commits to Maryland

All-Sun-Gazette Selection Lewis Was Eager to Play in College Park

DAVE FACINOLI  Staff Writer

Paul Lewis is staying local.

The Bishop O’Connell High School standout junior point guard recently made his decision to play men’s college basketball for the University of Maryland. Playing for the Terrapins at Maryland has long been a goal for the 6-foot-3 Lewis, who was recruited by other Division I college teams.

“Paul had a tremendous season for us as a sophomore,” O’Connell coach Joe Wootten said. “He is an outstanding shooter and shot-maker, and he has great range as a shooter. He helped us get better as a team last season.”

Lewis averaged 15.7 points, 3.8 assists and 3.9 rebounds per game for O’Connell as a sophomore and made multiple three-pointers. He helped a young O’Connell team finish 1-1 in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference, with a first-round upset of the area’s most dominant team, St. John’s. In his senior season at Langley, he had 274 assists.

NOTE: Paul Lewis is the first player from O’Connell who will play for the University of Maryland since point guard Melo Trimble a few years ago. O’Connell graduate Dave Neal is another former Maryland player.

After Summer Success, McSteen Looks Forward

Langley High Graduate Compiled 7-0 Record While Pitching for Independent League

DAVE FACINOLI  Staff Writer

Jake McSteen is healthy with a sound arm and the hard-throwing left-hander wants everyone to know he is pitching again and throwing well.

This summer in a month-long, four-team independent professional baseball league, the 2014 Langley High School graduate compiled a 7-0 record in eight starts, had a 2.70 earned run average and struck out 65. McSteen made nine starts, won two saves, a 0.65 ERA and fanned 90 in 64 innings.

“Paul had a tremendous season for us as a sophomore,” O’Connell coach Joe Wootten said. “He is an outstanding shooter and shot-maker, and he has great range as a shooter. He helped us get better as a team last season.”

Lewis averaged 15.7 points, 3.8 assists and 3.9 rebounds per game for O’Connell as a sophomore and made multiple three-pointers. He helped a young O’Connell team finish 1-1 in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference, with a first-round upset of the area’s most dominant team, St. John’s. In his senior season at Langley, he had 274 assists.

NOTE: Paul Lewis is the first player from O’Connell who will play for the University of Maryland since point guard Melo Trimble a few years ago. O’Connell graduate Dave Neal is another former Maryland player.

McSteen believes his performance shows his arm is healthy again after suffering two significant injuries that required surgery to his pitching arm as a member of the University of Nebraska baseball team, starting in 2015. His fastball is back up to the 93-94-mph range.

McSteen hopes his summer effort has put him in position to draw serious interest again from a Major League baseball organizations. He’d had previous contact from multiple teams and threw in some pro camps this past January. But now, with the COVID-19 pandemic situation resulting in the cancellation of all Major League-affiliated minor league play this year, that will delay any contact from such a team.

“I had about a month to work out and pitch a short period was the most for McSteen in many months. “My arm felt great,” he said. “I wish we’d had more games.”

Originally, McSteen had hoped to pitch in a higher level of independent ball this summer, or in Europe. Those leagues were shut down because of the pandemic. So playing for the Slammers was his only opportunity. “With all that was going on, it worked out well,” McSteen said.

McSteen did pitch a good bit for Nebraska, despite the injuries. In 44 games and 102 1/3 innings, he compiled a 7-4 career record, had a 3.86 earned run average and struck out 65. McSteen made nine starts, won various team awards and was a Big Ten distinguished scholar in 2016. He had a 4-0 record and 2.04 ERA in 2017.

In his senior season at Langley under then-head coach Kevin Healy, McSteen was one of the area’s most dominant pitchers. He had an 8-1 record with two saves, a 0.65 ERA and fanned 90 in 64 innings.

“That was one of the best seasons I’ve seen from a high-school pitcher,” said Healy, now the head coach at Washington-Liberty High School. “Jake’s great summer performance should definitely give him some opportunities.”
School is back in session for many students. As families adjust to all-virtual instruction, a return to the classroom and hybrid arrangements, that adjustment period may be made easier by extracurricular sports programs – many of which are returning, albeit on altered schedules.

Basketball is a popular sport played in high schools and colleges each winter. The High School Athletics Participation Survey from the National Federation of State High School Associations points out that basketball is the most widely played sport on high school campuses. And basketball thrives off campus as well. The sports information site SportsRec says that more than 300 million people worldwide enjoy basketball.

Like all sports, basketball can pose certain safety risks. According to Prevent Blindness America, more eye injuries occur while playing basketball than any other sport. An estimated 4,500 basketball-related eye injuries occurred in 2019, with the vast majority affecting players ages 15 and older. Eye injuries on the basketball court usually result from being hit with fingers or elbows. Adequate eye protection can safeguard athletes from such injuries. Sports safety goggles and glasses can protect the eyes when scrambling for loose balls or when fighting for a rebound in the paint. Basketball players should receive guidance about eye protection from their coaches and athletic directors. Athletes also can speak to an eye professional about which options are available. More information about sports eye health is available at www.preventblindness.org. (TF20B446)
A Bird in the Hand

Well, he (or she) isn’t exactly in my hand, but he’s sure in my air conditioning compressor. Here’s the back story.

I live in an 8th-floor condo with an air conditioning compressor on my balcony. The compressor is open to the outside air for ventilation and fills a large hole in the exterior wall, except for a tiny spot about 3 inches wide and 2 inches tall.

That niche has become home to my feathered friend, or possibly even two of them. Since it was September when this unfolded, I’m thinking they don’t have babies in there, but one or both come to visit every morning and make several trips back and forth.

The nest is near my window so I can see the black speckles on their brown feathers, proud as peacocks minus the blue. I have named the taller one Larry, (after Indiana’s gift to basketball). The second remains unnamed until I get to know her better.

Each morning they arrive, duck their heads to get inside the small hole, stay a while and then zoom off. The brick is a bit stained below the entrance as they “off-load” before entering their home. I like creatures who keep a clean house!

The Birds,” but I’ll close the blinds. No sense giving thieves and this is their stash.

“An avian version of an opium den. Maybe they’re smoking something.

I have named the taller one Larry, black speckles on their brown feathers, proud as peacocks minus the blue. I have named the taller one Larry, (after Indiana’s gift to basketball). The second remains unnamed until I get to know her better.

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