

Majestic Isles News

April 2015

Volume 18

Issue 7



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MANAGER'S CORNER

The South Florida “winter” is over, the Snowbirds are migrating back north, the lines at restaurants are getting shorter, and there’s a whole lot less traffic on the streets and highways. Now it’s time for – **Hurricane Season!!!**

Most M.I. residents have been through several hurricane seasons, a couple of actual hurricanes and quite a few “wait-and-see-what-happens.” For experienced people, prepping for the season is old hat. For others, like many new residents, the flooded streets, downed trees, power outages, and food shortages are only something on TV.

We all know hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through Nov. 30, but every year it seems to creep up on us. We’re all enjoying the beautiful South Florida weather – the time of year when we actually want to be outside for any length of time – and the next thing we know, out come the red and black flags on the beaches. Conversations include phrases like “feeder bands,” millibars, convection, and storm surge. You know you’ve been in South Florida too long when you actually know what these words mean and can use them in a sentence.

Now is the time to start prepping so you can be safe at home while everyone else is fighting the long lines made up of other people who waited until the last minute to prepare. If you purchase a few extra canned goods each time you’re at the grocery now, you can have your pantry fully stocked before the warnings go out. The same thing goes for candles, batteries (don’t over-buy on batteries, because they do have a shelf life), and paper plates and cups.

Generators are a great asset after a storm, but they’re not really much help if they don’t work. Just try to get a generator repaired the first few days – or even weeks – after a hurricane hits. We’ve all heard that a stored generator should be started and run for at least 15 minutes each and every month, but did you know that a generator can start, run, and sound just fine and not work at all? While you have the generator running, take a lamp and plug it into each outlet on the side. If the lamp doesn’t work on any of the outlets, make arrangements *now* to have it repaired. Also, make sure you have enough approved containers for gasoline. Florida Fire Prevention Code prohibits storage of more than 25 gallons of gasoline and all containers should be placed in a metal tray or in a metal cabinet.

Try *now* to open all of your accordion shutters on one of these bright sunny days to make sure they close properly and have no broken pieces that need to be replaced. Do you really want to be fighting with your shutters while we’re under a hurricane warning? Residents who have hurricane panels should have all panels clearly numbered for each window. It’s a really good idea to have a simple map showing which panels go where. Are you going to close your shutters or put up the panels yourself? If you can’t or don’t want to do it yourself, do you really want to make frantic calls as a storm is passing through the Western Caribbean? Find a handyman, son of a friend, or willing neighbor and make the necessary arrangements early.

Nothing helps with a good night’s sleep more than knowing you’ve already done all you can to “Hope for the best, but prepare for the worst”.

Ken Miller, Manager

For photos, information and back issues of our newsletter (starting with April 2008) check out our website:

www.majesticisles.com

The M.I. Newsletter is financially self-sustaining. **All** expenses are covered by advertising revenue.

M.I. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MARCH 5, 2015

Minutes of the March 2015 meeting will not be available until the Board approves them at the next meeting. To inform residents in a timely manner, we present the unofficial and abbreviated notes below.

Treasurer's Report, Saul Siegel

- (Residents may request a report of the 3/5/15 cash positions and Statement of Operations at the office.)

Security Committee and COBWRA, Steve Bayer

- At the Feb. 19 COBWRA meeting, the Palm Beach County Chief Deputy Property Appraiser explained the extent of the reach of COBWRA. COBWRA Communities have 42,000 parcels, which is the same approximate size of the City of West Palm Beach.

Grounds Committee, Bill Broth

- The jasmines around the 15 royal palms on Imperial Seas were removed, saving \$2750.
- An oak tree was removed from the clubhouse parking lot and replaced with a little gem magnolia.
- The cleaning and replanting of the Woolbright wall is the big project right now.

ARC Committee, Mark Jaffie

- Several approvals were given for lights and plantings.
- The resident whose request to enclose the back patio with plexi-glass was rejected resubmitted the request, replacing the plexi-glass with sliding glass doors. ARC approved the revised request.

New Business

- Motion to reconsider the \$13,700 for removal and replacement of the ficus hedge, that the Board approved at the February meeting, in favor of the proposal for a price not to exceed \$11,690 passed by unanimous vote.
- Motion to approve FastSigns' proposal for \$2120 for the clubhouse entrance sign passed in a 5-1 vote.

In response to questions raised by residents at the end of the meeting, Harvey Galan explained that the littoral shelves were cleaned out to appease the residents, and that the bad-looking ficus hedge has been removed from in front of the Woolbright wall.

UNCLASSIFIED ADS

Needle Point Pictures, 2 rattan upholstered chairs, antique lamps, good costume jewelry. Call Rhoda at 561-731-2149.

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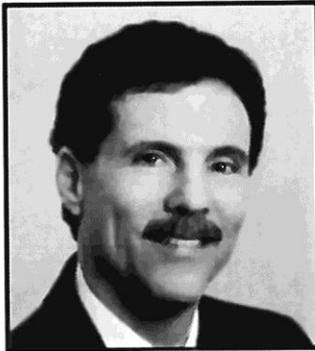
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SAFETY IN THE ISLES

By Steve Bayer



There has been a noticeable increase in residents driving very fast in our community. Many of those same people are ignoring the posted stop signs.



We have already had an accident that totaled one car. Fortunately, there were no major injuries. By the time you read this, you will have noticed the sheriff's radar speed sign. Please be aware of your speed so that we won't have to go to the expense of inviting the sheriff into the community to enforce the law.

Do not leave anything of value in your car (this applies to in the community or around town). We have had instances of people roaming the community at night trying door handles. They take anything, including loose change, computers and handbags. *Always* lock your car doors when you park.

GOOD AND WELFARE

GET WELL

Lynn Fischer
Enid Gross
Ruth Oppler

Alaine Scharf
Iris Schechtman
Marcia Steiner

SYMPATHY

To Sylvia Arbesfeld on the loss of her brother.
To the family of Renee Kantor.
To Lenny Schwartz on the loss of his sister.

MESSAGES

Thanks to all our Majestic Isles friends at Majestic Isles for your caring cards, calls and gifts. You are all very special to me. *Joseph Bloom*

To my friends and Majestic Isles family: Thank you for your donations, cards and thoughts following my recent surgery. I know they aided my speedy recovery. Bless you all. *Ruth Oppler*

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your cards, calls, visits and goodies during my hospital stay and rehab. Your kind words and company really made a difference. *Roberta Rabinowitz*

Please note: We reserve the right to edit for length (30 word maximum) and clarity. Submit items to Elaine Jay by email at ElainJay@aol.com with Good and Welfare as the subject. Acknowledgement of each email will be sent as verification of receipt.

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|| **MATURE DRIVERS** ||

|| **TRAINING COURSE** ||

|| We are holding a Mature Drivers' class in our ballroom on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ||

|| At one time, the course was given on two consecutive mornings, but now **the two sessions will take place on** ||

|| **the same day.** ||

|| After taking the class, you will receive a certificate that may qualify you for a three-year discount on your auto ||

|| insurance. (Check with your insurance company to be sure.) In a one-car family, only one member of the family ||

|| is required to take the class. If there are two cars and two drivers, each must attend. ||

|| In the back lobby, there is a list of residents who took the class in 2012, who will need to take the course again ||

|| to continue receiving their discount. ||

|| Both those who have taken the course before and those who wish to take it for the first time should give Bonnie ||

|| their checks for \$12 per person, made out to the Palm Beach Safety Council. If Bonnie is not in the office when ||

|| you come by, please drop your check in the mail slot on the office door. Your check is your registration. ||

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Highlights of COBWRA Meeting at Valencia Lakes, March 18, 2015

The March Highlights are abridged below. The full version is posted in the back lobby.

Following welcoming remarks, the delegates observed a moment of silence in memory of **Sam Hershkowitz**, who had worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for the people within the COBWRA area.

COBWRA president, Myrna Rosoff:

- Announced the appointment of **Education Chair Sam Manuele** to the Palm Beach County Library Board.
- Announced the appointment of the **Audit Committee**; Bruce Cohen of Cobblestone Creek, Stan Beecoff of Platina and Stephanie Melrose of Mizner Falls.
- Announced that **Growth Management Committee Chair, Gerry Morrison**, and **Vice Chair, Steve Oseroff**, will be switching positions.

TREASURER'S REPORT: COBWRA Treasurer, Bill Swan, reviewed the Proposed Operating Budget for May 1, 2015 – April 30, 2016. The budget was approved by the delegates.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: With no additional floor nominations made at the February meeting, the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee was accepted as follows: **President**, Myrna Rosoff; **1st Vice President**, Glen Harvie; **2nd Vice President**, Warren Danz; **Treasurer**, Bill Swan; **Secretary**, Debbie Murphy.

TALLAHASSEE REPORT: Government Affairs Committee Chair, **Glen Harvie**, reported that he and Treasurer **Bill Swan** and Director **Barbara Roth** traveled to Tallahassee for Palm Beach County Day, participating in 20 individual meetings with State Legislators and/or their staff members to discuss COBWRA's 2015 Legislative Priorities.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: Committee Chair **Gerry Morrison** reported that the committee and the COBWRA Executive Board voted to recommend approval of the Lennar Homes proposal to build 218 Townhouses on Flavor Pict Road Road west of Military Trail. The delegates voted to recommend approval of the project.

FIRST RESPONDER'S REPORT:

• **Captain Christopher Keane, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office District 6**, reported that Florida is the epicenter of tax frauds and scams of various types and senior citizens are frequently the intended victims.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS

- **Palm Beach County Mayor Shelly Vana** reported that the County Commission will begin holding public workshops as they develop the annual budget.
- **County Vice Mayor Mary Lou Berger** announced that the ordinance addressing solicitation and distribution on roadway medians will have a first reading in April, second in May and be followed by a 60 day period for comments.
- **Schoolboard Member Karen Brill** announced that signs asking, "HOW IS MY DRIVING?" along with a telephone number, will be placed on all district buses. She noted that this initiative was the direct result of a comment made by a COBWRA Delegate at last month's meeting.

PROGRAM

- **Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw** reassured the delegates that the PBC Sheriff's Office would be up and functioning even if Congress fails to provide money for the Department of Homeland Security. He spoke of the issues associated with medical marijuana.
- **State Attorney Dave Aronberg** reported that successful prosecutions are up, juvenile detentions are down and the department's Public Corruption Unit has been working successfully thanks to volunteers.

By Bruce Brodsky

**NEXT MEETING: Banyan Springs April 15, 2015
Installation of Officers**

Majestic Isles' First Alternate COBWRA Delegate Stan Brizel has resigned. Barbara and Martin Goodman are the Alternate Delegates.



PREPARING FOR THE INEVITABLE

By **Ellin Goldstein and
and Marilyn Levy**



Preparing for the loss of a husband or wife sounds macabre, but is necessary and can prevent weeks of frustration and confusion. Here are some ideas that

might help you plan for the inevitable. (These are opinions derived from our own experiences and stories told to us by people who have found themselves in frightening and difficult situations). Some items we mention are also important if you are now living alone and someone outside of your household will be handling your affairs.

The ability to drive is vital for your survival and independence. If you have never driven or haven't driven in a long time, go to driving school. Brush up your skill before it becomes absolutely necessary. With that, you must also learn how to pump gas.

Many people are not computer literate. If one of the pair is, the other must know the screen name and password used. A list of screen names and passwords should be printed and kept in a safe place, but not on the computer.

All our homes have security systems with a code word. Do you know the one for your house?

Do you know each other's Social Security number?

Financial matters can present a big problem. Quite often in a relationship one person handles all financial affairs. Both names should be on all stocks, bonds, bank accounts, utility bills, car registration and houses. If joint ownership is not feasible, one name should be as owner and the other as beneficiary. A contingent beneficiary should also be listed. This will help avoid probate.

There are certain documents you must have: a will, health care proxy, living will, power of attorney. There are others that must be accessible: the deed to the house, marriage certificate, service records, discharge papers, birth certificate.

Both partners should know how to do laundry, shop, cook a simple meal, write checks, balance the checkbook, and operate the TV and CD player and other devices that may be in the house.

There are matters that should be discussed, as difficult and unpleasant as they may seem: Do you want to be resuscitated? Do you have cemetery plots? Should you preplan and prepay for the funeral? People who avoid preparing for a life alone only add to the pain of losing a spouse.

We invite you to share your ideas and experiences, with a focus on providing our readers with practical information that can help make life easier for the survivor. We also welcome questions you may have for us.

***Note:** The above article is not intended as professional advice. Please contact your own accountant and/or attorney about your particular situation.*

REEL IMPRESSIONS

“THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL”

By **Edye Frankel**



Since the “Best Exotic Marigold Hotel” is fully booked with long term residents, the dream of expansion has erupted in the minds of Muriel Donnelly (Maggie Smith) and Sonny Kapoor (Dev Patel): A “Second Best Exotic Marigold.” With plans underway, Evelyn and Douglas (Judi Dench and Bill Nighy) venture in the Jaipur workforce, wondering where their regular breakfast dates will lead. As Sonny's ensuing marriage to Sunaina (Tina Desai), the love of his life quickly approaches; he finds his plans for the new hotel making more claims on his time than he has available. As the big day nears, family and guests alike find themselves swept up in the irresistible intoxication of an Indian wedding that blossoms into an ornate and extremely festive occasion.

If you enjoyed the first “Exotic Hotel movie,” you will also enjoy this one. And even if you missed the first, this one will be fun. Of course the acting is superb and the plot amusing. The only drawback for me was that it was a bit too dragged out and long. Otherwise, it was pure amusement and entertaining. Definitely recommended.

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INVESTORS DISCUSSION GROUP

By Bill Harris, facilitator

A lot of the stock market's gains in recent years have come from rising valuations. Now as a result of the dramatic changes in the global economy and markets since mid-2014, we can expect earnings rather than valuation to be a central driver of performance. After double-digit-level returns over the past few years, annual equity returns probably will be mid-single digits for the next five years. Although a more muted performance than in the recent past is envisioned, equities are still quite attractive, particularly when compared with traditional fixed income. Given the improving U.S. economy and the focus on earnings rather than valuation, cyclical parts of the market – sectors that perform well when economic activity increases (e.g. technology, energy, and telecom) – look attractive. Divergence strengthens the case for active management. The individual P/E ratios of the stocks in the S&P 500® Index are trading at their narrowest distribution in more than 30 years. For example, the gap between the least expensive and the most expensive stocks is among the tightest in recent memory. Investment opportunities will emerge if these discrepancies return to more historic normals.

After a 30-year bull market in bonds, investors should temper their return expectations. The bond market might return about 2% a year going forward, without adjusting for inflation. While global conditions may suppress the ability of U.S. rates to normalize in the near term, fundamentals from broadening global expansion may support higher rates over time. The ten-year Treasury yield is expected to move up to about 3% by the end of the year, which may depress returns along the yield curve. Additionally, investors focused on the short end may be surprised if and when the Federal Reserve raises rates.

Given the current environment, investors should diversify their sources of yield and look for potential opportunities in areas like high yield, bank loans, and emerging market debt. An active approach could be another potential solution, where investors may consider using diversified fixed income portfolios to take advantage of these opportunities. At our March meeting we discussed *High Yield Bonds* (5.3% BB's-11.7% C's) e.g. the mutual funds *USAA High Income* (*USHYX*) (6.4% ttm*) which invests only 8% of its holdings in C-rated bonds, and *Vanguard High-Yield*

Corporate (*VWEHX*) (5.5% ttm) with 93% of its bonds rated B or better and a razor thin expense ratio of 0.23%. These funds aim to provide total returns of from 8 to 11%. *TRowe Price Spectrum Income* (*RPSIX*) (4.3% ttm) and *Loomis Sayles Bond* (*LSBRX*) (6.89% ttm) are *Non-Traditional Bond* funds whose actively managed, “unconstrained” riskier approach gives them the ability to go anywhere to boost yield and hedge against price drops if interest rates rise. *ttm = twelve trailing months annual yield – effective March 6, 2015.

Given the structural shifts in the energy market, prices may need to trade below, or perhaps even well below, equilibrium to address global oversupply. This may leave high-cost, or highly levered producers vulnerable in the near term. As supply and demand come back into balance, West Texas Intermediate crude could approach \$65/bbl by the end of the year. *Energy Master-Limited Partnerships* (*MLPs*) have sold off as the price of oil has fallen. These companies focus on the midstream portion of the energy market, including pipelines and infrastructure, and they typically have long-term transport or storage contracts. These areas are driven more by volume over the long term and are less directly affected by the drop in oil prices. In addition, MLP valuations have become more attractive given their yield and distribution growth potential. Rather than invest in individual MLPs that can tie you up in Schedule K-1 tax knots, invest instead in an ETF that is set up as a corporation and not as a partnership. To mitigate principal loss when oil prices fall, invest in an MLP with little or no exposure to the upstream end of the energy market (exploration and production). The *Alerian MLP ETF* (*AMPLP*) which tracks an index of pipeline MLPs has paid out 6.25% in the past year. But, thanks to the pullback in share prices and a 4% hike in its distribution in 2014, buyers are likely to collect a yield of almost 7% in 2015.

Next meeting: April 13 – Intro to Sector Analysis; Real Estate and Health Care Sector Investing.

Disclaimer: The Facilitator is a financial news reporter who may bring subjects to your attention to stimulate discussion at the meeting. He does not make recommendations. Do your own research and due diligence with regard to suitability, investment objectives, etc. and consult your investment advisor. Above all, for any investment you make, you are buying into someone's business. Make sure you understand the nature of the business and the potential pros and cons for its future

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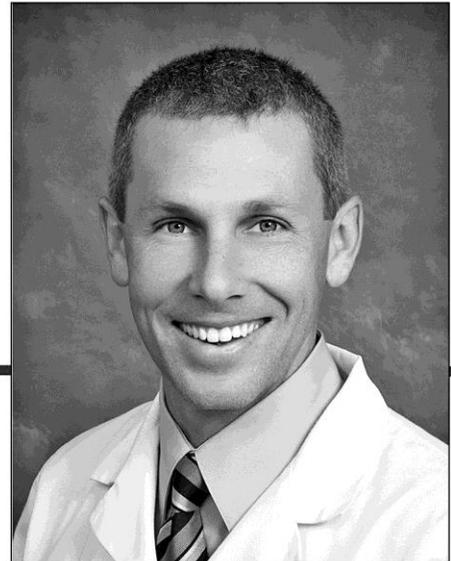


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APRIL FOOL'S DAY, MAYBE

By Phyllis M. Cohen

Wow, am I glad that Apple finally came out with their new watch. Now if I can only decide if I want the \$399 Sport's Model that takes your pulse or the \$10,000 solid gold fashion statement one. I don't think the solid gold model takes your pulse because Apple was afraid that customers who bought that model might experience a sudden surge in their blood pressure when they realized what they had spent. But who cares when you have a device that does everything from replacing credit cards to showing your bank statements to playing music and sending messages in your own handwriting. It does so much that if you weren't required to wear clothing, you could probably just don that watch and be ready for anything the day brought.

Of course rival company, Peach, decided to take on the baby boomer generation's needs since failing eyesight and stiff joints made the use of some of the watch's functions difficult. They kept trying larger and larger versions until their competitors started calling the new models "My grandfather's clock" since it looked like you might have to carry the large version on your back. Fortunately, they decided to go with all voice activated commands so that became the design of choice. After all, for the generation that grew up with Dick Tracy, what better design than one that allowed you to talk into your hand – "Come in Tess Truehart, this is Dick Tracy."

However, geneticists have advised that evolution will make it possible for all of humanity to use those tiny text keys and devices that now bug the elderly population. Through natural selection, which assures that the most capable and strong of the race survive, the computer literate will ultimately be the mates of choice, so that eventually all children will be born with adaptive computer thumbs that make it possible for everyone to use the increasingly smaller devices. It should only take a couple of thousand years.

In the meantime, to ensure that even the littlest child can learn the ways of the computer world, world famous Baby ProGro will sell a new pacifier for infants to use. The programmable pacifier will permit parents to use an app on their smart phone to program the pacifier so that while the baby looks at a screen and starts to suck on the device, the pictures will change according to how diligently the child sucks on the nipple. You can start teaching quantum physics and geology at birth. If the baby starts to fuss or

loses the pacifier, music and soothing sounds will emerge, or else an alarm to tell the parent that he or she is needed. An app that would help to induce early toilet training was discarded by the company after they were sued by several of the big disposable diaper companies who have a vested interest in discouraging early toilet training. They want to keep promoting the sale of larger and larger diapers until they reach kindergarten size.

Some people, frightened by the rising threat of technology, like the old time handloom weavers who feared factories and tried to sabotage the machine looms, have organized a Counter-Computer Device Committee. They urge all parents to turn off all of their children's tech devices and live for at least a week computer free. Previous attempts have resulted in some parents learning that the child they were feeding in their house was actually their neighbor's kid, since they hadn't seen their own child's face for six months except when crouched over the iPad. There also was an increase in sales for Zoloft and Prozac as the parents suffered withdrawals from Facebook and e-mail deprivation, a well-known syndrome of addicts when forced to go cold turkey.

In the meantime, AARP is considering a class action suit against some big companies that discriminate against those non-tech-savvy folks who still use old telephones, snail mail, real books and paper and pen. It's hard not to see a conspiracy behind the rising cost of stamps and greeting cards that almost forces you to send an emailed birthday greeting and a gift certificate on line rather than the real thing. And was the IRS in cahoots with the tech industries when they made it almost impossible to find paper copies of tax filing documents so that the taxpayer had almost no choice but to go online to file? Just remember when you get your new 3D printer that UPS and FedEx will no longer have to deliver any packages. Just order on-line and you will download the product and print it out in your own home. I am not sure that I am ready to try assembling a new car, but considering my last car buying experience, it might almost be worth it.

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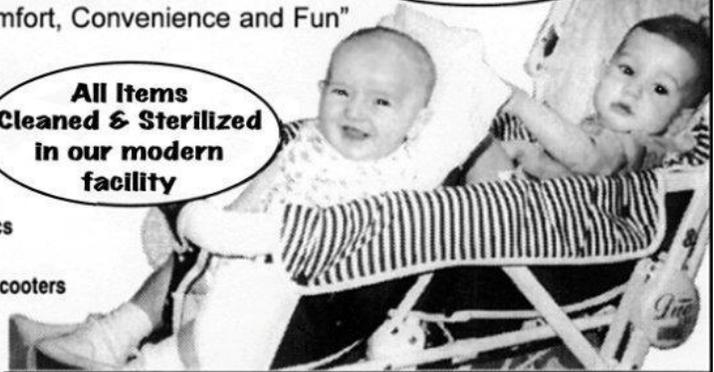
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Gardening in the Isles

By
Stan Davidson

Make your front yard outstanding in Majestic Isles by keeping these three basic tenets in mind: renovate, reveal and simplify your landscape. With these three tenets, curb appeal will definitely result. If you stand in the front of your house with your back to it and then quickly turn around, the first view your eyes are drawn to is the front entry, the foundation beds and the door to your home. Let's examine each of the above tenets and see how you can improve your front landscape curb appeal.

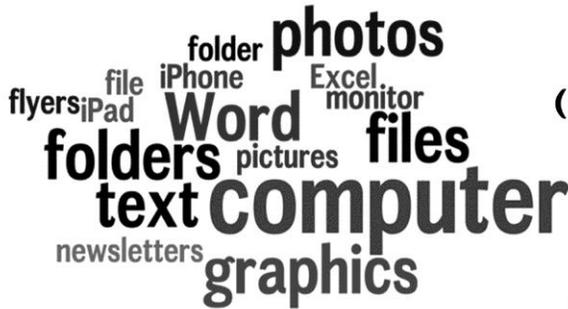
If you have a poorly defined bed border with an overfill of mulch and distorted vinyl edging, you may want to renovate the outline of the bed with a rock, stone or concrete preformed edging. I recommend a curved edged outline to improve the appearance of the front landscape. A combination of egg rock, colored stone and mulch in the beds makes an attractive addition in lieu of discolored mulch. An overgrown entry with clinging foliage draws attention to what you do not want people to see. Figure out what looks bad and replace it with several potted flowering plants in attractive containers of different sizes leading up to the entry. To prevent a nighttime front entry accident, install several solar powered driveway lights adjacent to your entry plantings. If a palm tree or hardwood tree is relatively close to the front entry, an orchid attached to the tree's trunk makes a welcome addition.

Also, you may want to consider removing overgrown shrubbery to improve curb appeal. In particular, you might consider taking out plantings that obscure, rather than reveal the architectural features of your home. You can outline a window with a climbing vine but be aware that it will require regular pruning to reveal the architectural beauty of a window. If you

have a tree planted in the proximity of your house, you may have to remove the lower limbs. If you planted new shrubs, your shrubs should be maintained to their mature height and should not require much pruning to reveal the key architectural features of the house. Some homeowners may want to add a water fountain near or in the entryway. If you have a screened entry, the sound and appearance of the water feature will attract ones' eyes naturally to the front door.

A cluster of many different plants in the front landscape is a spectacular sight when first planted, but can become a gardener's nightmare. If you have too many plants growing close to each other, with a variety of shapes and sizes, as the plantings mature, periodic pruning and maintenance is a necessity. This is neither cost nor labor effective. Therefore, simplify your front yard plantings. Remove your existing overcrowded landscape plantings and start over by planting a smaller number of plants in small groupings. A word to the wise, keep it simple! A professional landscaper may tend to sell you an abundance of various plants that look great initially. However, the rapid growth of most plants in south Florida has to be considered when redoing your landscape. A growth rate of "slow" applies to plants that grow fewer than 12 inches per year, "medium" growth means fewer than 13 to 24 inches per year and "fast or rapid" growth refers to 24 or more inches per year.

In most cases, it is time for residents with the original builders' plantings to renovate, reveal, and simplify to create great curb appeal and maintain the beautiful Majestic Isles landscapes!



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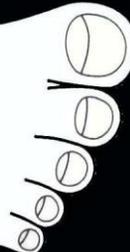
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SPLISH SPLASH

By Betty Wachtel

I never feel as alive and energized as I do after a swim – and it’s even better if the swim is in the early morning. Coming out of the pool, every cell in my body calls out, “Thank you, thank you!”

How shall I keep track this morning? “A my name is Alice?” An alphabetical list of geographical locations, girls’ names, boys’ names or animals? Vegetables? Adjectives? One circuit of breast stroke, four circuits of crawl, one more of breast stroke, four more of crawl, one last circuit of breast stroke and out – exactly one half hour – but my mind wanders and all of a sudden I don’t remember where I am in the count. You’d think I couldn’t count four circuits, of the pool, “1, 2, 3, 4” without getting mixed up. You’d be correct.

That first day at day camp at about six and a half, I wasn’t afraid putting my face in the water, but I was too cold to do anything but stand there and shiver. I had no body fat to speak of, and it was pure torture to stand still in the pool as the instructor encouraged us to take turns putting our faces in the water and blowing bubbles. I wanted out – immediately if not sooner – but the counselors thought I was scared and faking. Only when my lips turned blue, did they let me out to dry off. And that was just the first day.

Day camp was great fun – except for swimming lessons, and they spoiled the whole two weeks. The knot in my stomach started at the breakfast table and intensified until the moment I could leave the pool. For many years, the chlorine smell of an indoor pool was enough set me cringing. I didn’t even have to be in the pool area; the steamy chlorine smell pervades even the lobby of whatever building it’s in.

Four years later, at a sleep-away camp with a lake, I had no trouble putting my face in the water and blowing bubbles, but the next step, getting my feet off the bottom to do the “dead man’s float,” was a different story. For two weeks of daily lessons and each afternoon during “general swim,” I tried desperately to get my feet off the ground, but it was as though I were glued there. Then all of a sudden I could do it – a little bit of a jump and I was floating, arms out ahead of me, legs straight behind with my feet together, just as the counselors had been trying to teach me. I knew that from there on it would be easy.

Camp was over too soon, and it was time to go home, where – sob – there would be no more swimming until the next summer. I couldn’t wait to get back to camp. By the second week of the following summer, I swam well enough to pass the deep-water test that let me forever leave the “crib.” Nothing in my childhood outshone the “high” of passing that test.

For me, fresh water swimming is the gold standard, but with age I’ve gotten fussier about water temperatures, so most of my swimming is in the Majestic Isles pool. Outdoors, I hardly notice the chlorine. The water temperature is almost always just right, and even air temperature in the upper sixties is okay if I leave my towel very close to the pool steps.

So – how to count today? Ah – No more counting, no more breaststroke circuit in the middle; that was only there so I didn’t have to count above four. I’ll just check the time when it feels as though I’ve been swimming long enough and in the meantime, my mind will be free to wander.

Florida at its early morning best: an almost cloudless blue sky, the air warm but not hot, a quiet that is unlike any other part of the day and a breeze so gentle that my swim buddy and I won’t feel chilly when we get out of the pool, even if the air is cooler than the water. Okay – time for us to stop the our jabbering and start swimming, before other people realize that this is a perfect pool day.



So I rang up my local swimming baths. I said 'Is that the local swimming baths?' He said 'It depends where you're calling from.' - Tim Vine

Many people cycle or swim to keep trim. But if swimming is so good for the figure, how do you explain whales? - Charles Saatchi

The brilliant thing about swimming is that, while you're doing it, there's nothing else you could be getting on with, like the ironing or sorting out the children. My mind goes into free-float mode...

- Sophie Hannah

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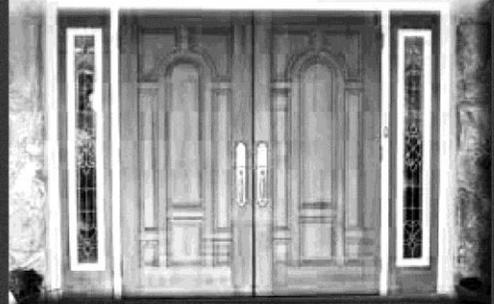
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Another Good Book to Check Out “WINK OF AN EYE”

by Lynn Chandler Willis

By Stan Kaish

Many ordinary people fantasize about writing a best selling novel. Lots of them try, I am sure, but before long, they run out of words, or ideas, or patience. “Wink of an Eye” is by a woman who ran out of none of those things and this, her first published mystery won the competition for the Best First Private Eye Novel, held by Minotaur Books and the Private Eye Writers of America. Pretty good for a fledgling novelist with nine grandchildren to distract her.

Mike “Gypsy” Moran has returned to his hometown of Wink, Texas, a place he couldn’t wait to leave some 20 years before. He’s a private eye by profession, and hasn’t returned out of a sense of nostalgia. He has fled his current home in Las Vegas because a Mafia guy is looking to kill him. He is hiding out. Back in Wink, he has a sister, Rhonda, her husband, a policeman named Rodney, a feisty grandmother known as Gram, and a one time girl friend named Claire with whom he had a hot and heavy romance but abruptly left behind. His mother is a hard working nurse at the local hospital and his father walked away years ago.

Gypsy’s main goal is to remain unnoticed while things work themselves out in Las Vegas. Not likely. In spite of himself, he is drawn into some of the nefarious things going on these days in Wink. A kid named Tatum hears that Gypsy is a private eye and seeks him out to prove that his father, a police officer, didn’t really commit suicide by hanging himself, but was murdered. The kid’s grandfather, a retired police officer, is in a wheel chair as a result of having been shot in the back. They both argue that there is something rotten in Wink’s law enforcement. Eight girls have disappeared with little investigation. The Chief has been behaving strangely, and a hooligan element seems to be running things. Gypsy couldn’t care less. He just wants to hide out, but gradually gets drawn in.

Wink is a small town. It isn’t long before Gypsy and Claire encounter one another and discover the heat between them remains. Claire neglects to mention that she now also has a husband. Gypsy meets the rogue police element in a pick-up basketball game, and our grandmotherly author knows just where to have him receive a knee to gain his attention. The

kid’s longing for his recently deceased father awakens memories in Gypsy of his own feelings when his father walked away. And a most attractive reporter named Sophia Ortez joins him in trying to unravel what’s going on in Wink.

The plot unfolds in “Wink of an Eye” with few surprises other than the deftness with which it is presented. This does not read like a beginner’s book. The characters are believable, interact with warmth, and for most part, entertainingly.

“Look, kid. I hate that your dad’s dead. But I don’t know what you want me to do about it.”

“You’re a private investigator. I want you to prove he was murdered.”

Sure, And after that, I’d look into something simple like JFK’s assassination. I scratched my chin, the morning stubble pricking my hand. Maybe I should have stayed in Vegas. There, people just wanted me dead. They didn’t want me to actually work.

“Homicide investigations are complicated. They’re not easy to—“

“I have detailed notes.”

Of course he did.

“Plus I have the files of the cases he was working when he died.”

I hated to ask, but curiosity got the better of me.

“What cases?”

“The eight missing girls.”

I scratched my chin again.

“Why didn’t you just turn it over to the police?”

“He was the police.” He rolled his eyes, an annoying rite of passage at his age.

From then on, it is Gypsy and Tatum, bonding ever closer as they probe into what’s rotten in Wink. There are dangers galore in doing so, but in the end, we all share the satisfaction of knowing that the bad guys got what was coming to them, and the good guys will probably be back some time soon, for another adventure in Wink.



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BETWEEN TWO RIVERS

By Bill Harris



When I submitted last month's article, one of our editors happened to ask if I was compiling my bucket list. Well, the answer is yes and no. I've already been to most of those cool places that I wrote about but as yet, haven't been to all of them. Of those I haven't visited, there are a few that I, but not necessarily you, would never consider visiting. Although they might be great destinations so as to beat south Florida's summer heat, they're just not for me. Evelyn and I really aren't into crisscrossing foreign countries to soak up centuries of culture and history. Instead, we like to retreat to the peaceful calm, the beauty and harmony of the world's and in particular, our own natural treasures.

Although I mentioned Trail Ridge in Rocky Mountain National Park (N.P.) last month, this park has far more to offer than an above timberline one lane paved road connecting two resort towns (Estes Park and Grand Lake, CO) on opposite sides of the continental divide, even if it is the longest above timberline highway in the U.S. Take the easy succession of beginners trails that climb through Ponderosa pine – aspen yielding to Douglas fir – spruce forests from lake to lake to lake up to the base of Hallet's Peak. Or, as I did, get a back-country permit and breathe in the mountain scenery as you climb 3500 feet up from the trailhead to the 10,300-foot elevation lake at the base of Andrews glacier. Sometimes you might get more than you bargained for. We were awakened at our just below timberline 9600-foot overnight campsite to the raucous cries of

Canada jays feeding on our unprotected food supplies and wayward elk walking down the mountain through our campsite on their way to get a drink of water from Bear Lake just below us. Hey, it could have been a black bear. Colorado is a state of mind.

Or, if you tire of the horse racing at Ruidoso Downs or the gallery scene in 8200-foot elevation Cloudcroft, high up in New Mexico's Sacramento Mountains, which I neglected to mention last month, you can always drop down 4300 feet to the desert floor at Alamogordo, NM. You will have driven in about one mile, through a succession of climatic biozones equivalent to traveling nearly 3000 miles from Canada's boreal forests to Mexico's Sonoran Desert. Just to the south of Alamogordo is White Sands National Monument. Try to time your visit to just before closing on a cloudy moonlit night. When the rising moon is below the cloud deck, perception as to which way is up, down, right or left vanishes as the moonlit clouds and white gypsum sand dunes immerse you in a sea of white. You feel disoriented, suspended in space almost like an astronaut on a spacewalk. You shouldn't be too surprised. After all, Roswell, NM is just to the east, down the back slope of the Sacramento Mountains. You know what I'm talking about, right? – Bottomless Lakes State Park, flying saucers, Hanger 51, little green men.

So, maybe I should compile my "Got To Get Out Of Summertime in South Florida" bucket list? I've never been to the mountain towns of Grindelwald and Wengen on the way up, above Interlaken to the Jungfrau – the top of Europe, in the Swiss Alps' Bernese Oberland, or to Yellowstone or Grand Teton N.P.s with their geyser fields, amazing wildlife and unbelievable vistas, or to Iceland, where glaciers collide with erupting volcanoes. Now might be a good time to plan a Yellowstone-Grand Tetons vacation for Summer 2016. Those in the know tell me that you almost always need to book the Old Faithful Inn, Jackson Hole Lodge or other hotels in these parks, a year in advance if you want to guaranty your accommodations. And, what about Summer 2015? It's already starting to get hot down here in south Florida. I don't really know as yet. Right now, we are looking either at a Gulf of Alaska cruise or a San Francisco-Monterrey-Yosemite vacation. Whether we pick one of these or another, I'm sure our summer vacation will be one where we can relax and above all... Stay Cool!



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PET PATCH

By Molly



My Mom told me that the Easter Bunny is coming soon to our house and will hide Easter eggs and candy. I don't remember that happening before, but it sure sounds like fun. I love treats, as

Audrey and Ken will tell you. I'd much rather have treats than food.

And especially if there's chocolate! They say dogs shouldn't have chocolate, but who's going to know if I sneak a couple of pieces here and there. Besides, I know just what will happen with the chocolate – Mom will eat most if it and there won't be much left for me. I would even share with my friends – although they probably shouldn't have it either.

I do wish you a happy holiday – whether it be Easter or Passover!

A STUNNING SENIOR MOMENT

A self-important college freshman walking along the beach took it upon himself to explain to a senior citizen resting on the steps why it is impossible for the older generation to understand his generation.

“You grew up in a different world, actually an almost primitive one,” the student said loud enough for others to hear. “The young people of today grew up with television, jet planes, space travel, man walking on the moon. We have nuclear energy, PDA's and cell phones, computers with light speed...and many other items that did not exist in your day.”

After a brief silence, the senior citizen responded as follow: “You're right son. We didn't have those things when we were young...so we invented them. Now, you arrogant little man, what are you doing for the next generation?”

The applause was amazing!

EMAIL HOAX? URBAN LEGEND? How can you tell?

Submitted by Ray Kozlin



Some messages are more suspicious than others, but be especially cautious if the message has any of the characteristics listed below. These characteristics are just guidelines—not every hoax or urban legend has these attributes, and some legitimate messages may have some of these characteristics:

- It suggests tragic consequences for not performing some action
- It promises money or gift certificates for performing some action
- It offers instructions or attachments claiming to protect you from a virus that is undetected by anti-virus software
- It claims it's not a hoax
- There are multiple spelling or grammatical errors, or the logic is contradictory
- There is a statement urging you to forward the message
- It has already been forwarded multiple times (evident from the trail of email headers in the body of the message)

If you want to check the validity of an email, there are some websites that provide information about hoaxes and urban legends:

- Urban Legends and Folklore - <http://urbanlegends.about.com/>
- Urban Legends Reference Pages - <http://www.snopes.com/>
- TruthOrFiction.com - <http://www.truthorfiction.com/>
- Symantec Security Response Hoaxes - <http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/hoax.html>
- McAfee Security Virus Hoaxes - <http://home.mcafee.com/VirusInfo/VirusHoaxes.aspx>

Source unknown

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KNOCK ON WOOD

By Phyllis M. Cohen

I'm not superstitious, but to quote Judith Viorst, "It doesn't cost much to knock on wood." So I admit that some of my mother's old world superstitions had rubbed off on me—all right, I did have red ribbon on my walker after surgery, but only after five people had said how well I walked. (This was long before Madonna wore one.)



Anyway, I knew I was in trouble the minute I walked out of the accountant's office and said to my husband, "Well that's nice. We're getting a big refund back." I could feel the earth shift. Somewhere, up in the universe, some force had been set off. It only took a couple of hours to reveal the danger. So as I walked into our house that day, I spotted again the large dark stain on the wall that I had attributed to the carelessness of my cleaning ladies (Sorry Lucy and Gabriella) and remarked, "I guess I'll have to repaint that wall since I can't clean it." As luck would have it, my faithful handyman was only a few steps from the house and when I called him over to discuss painting, he responded immediately. I should have known then that I was in trouble. Like all repair men, he looked, touched, and then called in one of his crew to take a look. "I don't think that's dirt, I think that's water leaking somewhere in the wall." Then they pulled a table away from the adjoining interior wall and there was a long tell-tale brown stain around the baseboards. Ka-ching.

"It looks simple," he said after he couldn't find any water in the sink cabinet. "I'll open the wall a little and see if it's the drain." A little, did he say? They opened probably six feet of wall took out the dishwasher and there was the leak. Slowly, slowly over a period of time, we guessed, something had been leaking into the exterior walls until there was enough moisture to saturate the wallboard. Since the dishwasher was outside his field of expertise, we decided I should call Sears (it was a five year old top of the line machine) while the crew refinished the walls.

In the meantime, while they waited to get the supplies, the crew went into our garage to tackle a cleaning project that my handyman had been putting off. (I tried explaining to him that this job was an annuity. He would clean the garage and a few months later he would have to come back again). I won't say there was lot of junk to remove, but by the time the

boys had stacked up the bags to go to the dump, two realtors had driven by and put out "for sale" signs.

Anyway, there was no warranty left on the dishwasher and the service man couldn't come for a week. We started washing dishes by hand and using paper plates. When the repairman finally showed up at 4:45 p.m. (they had given me a time slot of 1-5) he gave the last rites over the machine, (almost \$600 to repair) and left. Ka-ching.

Since we now had to repaint that big section of the wall, I decided to go ahead and have the whole dining area and living room painted because we obviously would never match the paint (don't they sell dirty white?) and spent a Saturday afternoon looking at appliances. Fortunately, a good friend came along with us after giving me a lecture on how not to buy a machine (my top of the line, gadget-loaded appliance turned out to be a dud) and we looked for a more thrifty replacement.

Back at the house, my husband gazed happily at our newly organized garage in which we could park our car easily (for the first time in eight years) and I remarked that at least we had found the leak before it had invaded the whole house. Surprisingly, my non-Yiddish speaking husband dredged up the old saying that my mother had always used. "Even a schlamozzle has to have mazel." Loosely translated it means you need good luck even when you have bad luck. "Knock on wood."



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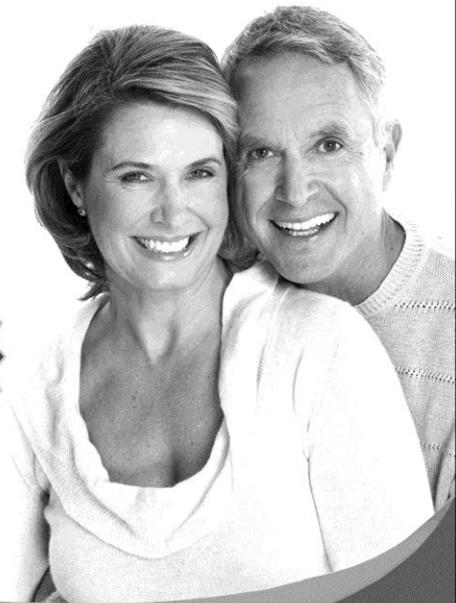
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SOCIAL CLUB

By Joan Sorkin

Our 2015 series ended after sell-out performances of Sarge and the Bronx Wanderers. Thank you so much for your support. The last issue of this newsletter featured our 2016 Series. I know you will enjoy next year just as much as this year. You can pay one half of the subscription price now to reserve your seat and pay the balance by Oct. 15.

Saturday evening, April 25 at 8 p.m. Richard Adler, a magician/ventriloquist will open our show. Matt Stanley then will entertain us with his fabulous voice. All this is only \$14 per person. Seating, again, will be as checks are received.

We are finalizing plans for our annual Memorial Day Party on Monday, May 25. Larry Brendler will be entertaining us again with a brand-new show. We all look forward to his return visit. Watch Channel 63 for details.

Again we will be collecting items for “Forgotten Soldiers” who are serving our country overseas. There will be a list of needed items in the back lobby. This is such a worthwhile charity and everything donated is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support.



Do not go see “Deli-Man” in your local theater. We plan a special movie night in July. Wait for details on Channel 63.

WOMEN’S CLUB

By Joyce Milbauer, Co-president

It’s already April and the Women’s Club is looking forward to a new season. I hope everyone had a wonderful time at the Wednesday matinee of “George M. Cohen Tonight” held at The Stage Door Theater in Coral Springs on March 25.

April 28: The canasta tournament in the clubhouse is open to all (\$10 per person). There will be coffee and....

May 17: We will have the Men’s and Women’s Clubs’ **Parents Day Brunch** at Broken Sound Country Club in Boca Raton. The cost is \$38 for paid up members, \$43 for non-members and guests. There will be an entertainer following the meal. **Note:** This date was changed from May 3.

June 9: Majestic Isles Women’s Club is going to the Norton Art Museum. Lunch will be on our own. One nice place to go for lunch is the Cheesecake Factory at City Place. Everyone will carpool. As we get closer to the date we will have copies of the Norton Art Museum Special Exhibitions Tour and the Museum Collection Tour.

Dues are \$15 per member. If you are not already a member, please support your Women’s Club by putting your check in our mailbox in the back lobby.

MOVIES – MOVIES - MOVIES
8 p.m. at the clubhouse

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SATURDAY, APRIL 18, THE JUDGE:
 Big city lawyer Hank Palmer returns to his childhood home where his father, the town's judge, is suspected of murder. Hank sets out to discover the truth and, along the way, reconnects with his estranged family.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, MAGIC IN THE MOONLIGHT: Exposing a phony soothsayer proves harder than expected when the debunker (an Englishman) becomes smitten with the purported fraud (a French beauty). This deft romantic comedy unwinds amid the gilt and glamour of the French Riviera in the 1920s

SATURDAY, MAY 16, ST. VINCENT: With his parents preoccupied with their divorce, lonely 12-year-old Oliver strikes up a friendship with his war-veteran neighbor Vincent. A hard-drinking gambler with a fondness for hookers, Vincent finds his life changed by the boy's presence.

NOTE: We show our films with closed captioning.
The film descriptions are taken from the Netflix website.

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SINGLES

By Ellin Goldstein

On March 6, the Singles held a potluck supper. Everyone contributed something, and everything was delicious. There was a great variety of appetizers, chicken dishes, meatball dishes, and even a terrific taco salad. There were regular salads, cole slaw and then there were desserts, a whole table full. As stuffed as everyone was, people managed to play three hours of cards, mah jongg, and other games.



On April 18, the Singles are going to see a presentation of "Aida" at Kings Academy. The show will cost \$26.50 and will begin at 1 p.m. Leave checks in the mailbox, and specify if you will be driving or need a ride. Call Doris Robin if you have any questions.

On May 23, the Singles are going to return to Harid's Ballet. Tickets are \$26 for members and \$29 for non-members. We will have dinner at Kee Grill.

The Singles are hosting Ladies' Day at the Palm Beach Outlet Mall on June 12. The cost is \$38 for the bus to take us there and for High Tea at Serenity Gardens Tea House. The bus will leave at 10 a.m. and should return at 4 p.m.

After that, there will be some more fun in the sun, so stay tuned for further developments. As soon as more events are put on the calendar, we will notify you, either by putting them on channel 63, notifying you by email or having the telephone squad call you.

Keep in touch! Have a good month.

MAJESTIC BOWLING LEAGUE

By Arnie Everitt

March 10 was the 28th and last week of bowling for the 2014 – 15 Majestic bowling league season. After bowling 83 games, the first place team was finally determined on the 84th game. Despite their best efforts, team Wolves could not overtake team Bears.

The season scoring results are as follows:

First Place: Team Bears: Fred Katz, Al Lynn, Carol Stevens and Joyce Stoudermire

Second Place: Team Wolves: Zita Granoff, Natalie Herbin, Estelle Snyder and Alan Stevens

WOMEN

High scratch game: Joyce Stoudermire, 168

High scratch series: Toni Kohn, 376

High handicap game: Zita Granoff, 240

High handicap series: Carol Stevens, 595

MEN

High scratch game: Al Lynn, 205

High scratch series: Bob Wolff, 442

High handicap game: Joe Magone, 241

High handicap series: Bill Harris, 648



The season at Greenacres Bowl was capped by a fine mid-afternoon party featuring pizza and wings, which we all enjoyed.

Bowling for Fun is scheduled to resume April 14 at 12 noon at Greenacres Bowl. Changes will be posted on channel 63.



THE MEN'S CLUB

By Joel Cohen

The Men's Club will be having their next breakfast on Sunday, April 12, at 9:30 a.m.

Just another reminder – the Men's and Women's Clubs' Parents' Day Brunch will be held on Sunday, May 17, at 10:30 a.m. at the Broken Sound Country Club. The cost is \$38 for members and \$43 for non-members and guests.

There are still some members who have not paid their 2015 dues of \$15. We would appreciate it if you would drop your checks into the Men's Club mailbox.

We will keep you informed of any new events in the coming months

PICKLEBALL @ M.I.

By Ed Strauber & Jerry Ehrlich

THE PICKLEBALL MILE

What is a pickleball mile?

A pickleball mile does not refer to an exact measure of distance. A pickleball mile is an attitude. It is an attitude that says, "I am going to take control of my life and most importantly, I'm going to take control of my health." It is all about having fun, but having fun with a purpose in mind: To live healthy.

It has been determined that the average game of pickleball requires you to move approximately 600-700 steps. With that in mind, it then takes about 4 games of pickleball to cover the distance of one mile. So, for Pickleball Mile Members, to state that you did your Pickleball mile, you must have played four or more games of pickleball in the same day. Make sure you mark it down on your tracking sheet. And if you did your Pickleball mile, you have taken a great step towards a longer and healthier life.

Shout it out!



Did you do your pickleball mile today?

Remember that pickleball is only a game and not life. Enjoy pickleball and love life.

Let us be thankful for the fools. But for them the rest of us could not succeed. ~Mark Twain

A common mistake that people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools. ~Douglas Adams

HADASSAH

By Ellin Goldstein



Hadassah's celebration of its 16th anniversary was really an exceptional event. For our "Sweet Sixteen" celebration, Marlene Strassman and Elly

Wertheimer did a great job of decorating the Westchester Country Club in all pinks and purples. It really looked like a traditional Sweet 16 party. Adele Freitag and Janice Davidson did the preparations, which included a spirited discussion by the previous presidents of all the things the chapter has done, presented by the previous presidents. The food was sensational also.

The next board meeting is Monday, April 20, at 10:30.

The next Hadassah general meeting will be on Monday, April 27 at 11:15. Don't forget there is a \$2.00 charge for a light lunch at the meetings.

Rosh Chodesh will be celebrated on April 20 at 10 a.m. at the Morikami Picnic Area. Everyone is welcome.

Sunday, May 3 is a special Associates event. Details are in the Hadassah newsletter.

Celebrate a simcha or commemorate a loved one by buying a brick on our 6th Brick Lane, call Lee Katz (733-6702) or Lucille Garelick (364-0533).

Scrip for the Glicks, Boys and the Kosher Food Markets are available to enable you to do your Passover shopping. Call Rita Marderstein, Betty Wachtel or Sandy Froehlich. We wish all of you a sweet Passover.

As usual, Hadassah is very busy with activities. Don't forget, we can always use more volunteers.

BOOK TALKS

By Judy Markowitz

On Wednesday, April 15 at 2 P.M., Gayle Neikrug will facilitate a discussion of "Butterfly's Child" by Angela Davis Gardner.

The story, set in 1890, is about three year Benji who is removed from his home in Nagasaki and taken to live with his American father, Lt. Benjamin Franklin Pinkerton, and stepmother, Kate, on their farm in Illinois. The family hides his true identity and says he is an orphan. This novel is written as a sequel to the opera "Madame Butterfly." Everyone is welcome to join us.

Majestic Isles Pap Corps

By M. Chermak, C. Deveney, R. Stichel



Everyone take a bow! An outstanding fundraising job was done by everyone who walked, sponsored or bought a marker for the 15th Annual Pap Walkathon **March 14** at

FAU in Boca Raton. The M.I. Banner carried in front of our 40 walkers was made by Helene Riffle and Suzanne Skinner. Congratulations to Chairmen Helene Riffle and Ellie Rogg for their outstanding work. Honorary chairman was Enid Gerard. Thank you for your support.

The M.I. Pap Corps annual **Card Party was held Thursday, March 26** at 11:30 a.m. with a sumptuous lunch and desserts catered by Famous. Card groups along with Scrabble and dominoes groups had fun and enjoyed the day. Lucky participants won fabulous raffle prizes. Congratulations to Fundraising Vice Presidents Suzanne Skinner and Marcia Steiner, who help plan and sell tickets to all our successful events. Thank you to the member volunteers who helped set-up and clean-up for this successful event.

Save **April 23 for a Member Appreciation** noon lunch meeting featuring well-known humorist Joyce Saltman, a professor, who will talk on "There is Humor is everything." Price TBA.

Mark your calendar for the **May 28 Desserts meeting** with a special guest speaker. Price TBA.

For all the latest news on research and lectures, go to the website: www.thepapcorps.org. The Pap Corps, Champions for Cancer Research, is dedicated to finding a cure for all types of cancer and solely supports cancer research at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University Of Miami Miller School Of Medicine.



TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE
Majestic Isles News

Majestic Isles Little Theater

By Selma Friedman



It may be the last of the red hot lovers, but certainly not the last from M.I.L.T. The superb Neil Simon comedy had an absolutely hysterically funny script which was delivered beautifully by our performers. Director Ed Bloom and Assistant Director Barbara Portnoff brought actors together and helped them mold their particular character into life.

The amount of dialogue was huge, so it was decided to have a different "Barney Cashman" for each of the three acts. We were treated to three great performances by Bernie Fishkin, Ed Strauber and Lenny Schwartz.

The three ladies we met in the three acts were different personalities and were interpreted and presented with great humor and body language. Isabel Lubchansky was a gem as Elaine Navazio. Francine Gitto received "in-house" training for her role as "pot-head" Bobbie Michele and her performance was "smoking." Marilyn Chermak's Jeanette Fisher was nervous and depressed and she nailed her character's mood in two minutes. Very well done ladies.

Of course there are always back-up people to be acknowledged: Stage Manager, Bill Broth; Publicity and Program, Doris Davidoff; Scene Production and Lighting, Marty Baron; Lighting, Duncan Hopwood; Sounds Technicians, Buddy Koch, Jack Moss and Ed Strauber; Ticket Committee, Marilyn Broth and Helen Benowich; Ticket Design and Printing, Ray Kozlin; Poster and Publicity Art, Jerry Fefferman; Videographer, Ira Schneider; and Make-up, Sara Lee Weinstein.

The audience enjoyed having wine and snacks on the patio outside prior to the performance. The evening was filled with laughter and enjoyed by all.

If you would like to join us, onstage or off, contact any board member. Remember, all those on stage who give such polished performances or who sing so brilliantly all started somewhere. And we welcome you, one and all.

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