

Majestic Isles News

December, 2010

Volume 14

Issue 3



Steve Bayer



Bill Broth



Janice Davidson

Vote for 4 Board Members

Dec. 15



7:00 pm

Mort Goldstein



Joel Rosenthal



Saul Siegel



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financially self-sustaining.
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by advertising revenue.

Manager's Corner

Let's talk about the oak trees on the property. Every January all the hardwood/canopy trees are trimmed back and thinned out to reduce the canopy, reduce wind resistance in case of a storm, and decrease the number of acorns and amount of pollen dropped on the driveways and sidewalks. The trees *were* trimmed in 2010. The trees, however, have had an abnormally productive growth cycle this year and the acorns have been raining down like never before. This may have been caused by the colder than average winter temperatures or the above-average rainfall during the 2009-2010 winter. Florida also made the national news – from Orlando all the way to Key West – for the amount of pollen the oaks produced, which created health hazards and breathing difficulties for those suffering from allergies or other medical conditions.

As I drive the property, I see that the oak trees are constantly dropping acorns and leaves everywhere. The acorns leave stains on the driveways and sidewalks and litter the ground. Landscaping work is done at each home once a month and the lawn mowing crew is in for 3 cuts per month, which translates to driveways and sidewalks being blown clear 4 times a month. That's still not enough to keep the tree droppings at bay. Ryan and I took our blower to a few houses and cleaned the driveways just to see how long they would stay clean. Wouldn't you know it - the very next morning the driveways we had just cleaned were once again littered with acorns.

I see many residents spending time outside trying to sweep up the leaves and acorns, only to find the same mess the next morning. The little leaves are a pain to sweep, the acorns go everywhere, and it's disheartening to finish cleaning one evening only to come out the next morning and have it look as though nothing had been done. The bottom line is that we simply do not have the manpower or time to blow off everyone's driveway and sidewalk a daily basis.

I've heard from the residents about a better or easier way to clean up the debris, so I have one suggestion - buy yourself a small electric blower. Starting at only \$30 Home Depot has a line of blowers that will easily handle the job in short order. The only other thing you'll need is a 50' – 75' extension cord and you're ready to go. In less than 10 minutes and with minimal effort your walkway and driveway can easily be cleaned off and the debris blown into the lawn area so that the little oak trees that will sprout from the acorns will be cut down by the mowing crew.

While the association does its absolute best to keep Majestic Isles looking as pristine as possible, a little help from the residents on their own property goes a long way too. It's just another step in making our community a place everyone can be proud to call "Home"!

Ken Miller, Association Manager

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Unofficial Highlights of M.I. Board of Directors Meeting, Nov. 5, 2010

Minutes of the November 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.

President's Report, Joel Rosenthal

- Candidates for the four open Board positions are Bill Broth, Steve Bayer, Saul Siegel, Joel Rosenthal, Mort Goldstein, and Janice Davidson.
- The property that is under foreclosure is scheduled for auction in February. If a bank owns the property, they are responsible for only 1 year of assessments. Someone buying the property would be responsible for all of the past assessments on this unit, which now amount to approximately \$10,000.

Treasurer's Report, Sy Kugelmas

As of Nov. 4, 2010:

- Delinquent units: There are 3 units in arrears on their maintenance with the total outstanding amount of \$14,109.65. These units have been referred to our attorneys who will proceed accordingly.
- Coupon books: We expect 2011 coupon books to be mailed about November 15, 2010. Units now on the AutoPay system will not receive payment coupon books. Please allow five (5) business days for your payment to reach our lockbox.
- Auto pay: We now have 133 units on the AutoPay system.
- Disclosure requirements: Unit owners selling their units are required to provide the buyer with a disclosure statement. Please contact Continental or Ken Miller to ask what information is required in this new disclosure statement.

(The report of cash positions and statement of operations will no longer appear in the newsletter. Residents may request this information at the office.)

Security Committee, Steve Bayer

- Everyone should have a carbon monoxide detector. Please sign up in the back lobby to purchase one if you don't already have one.

Grounds Committee, Mort Goldstein

- Committee recommends that winter plantings, which are in addition to the previous landscaping proposal, should be done at this time. Motion to accept M&P's proposal for these plantings at a cost of \$1477.74 passed unanimously.

- Canopy/hardwood tree trimming will be done in January.

- Palm Beach Aquatics has finished the plantings and the contract will include trimming the upland trees. Muhly grass has been planted on all of the littoral shelves.

Clubhouse, Pool, and Painting, Harvey Galan

- Painting and cleaning will start in January.
- Decorator is coming to a meeting next week about the upstairs renovation.

Unfinished Business

- Discussion concerning the petition about freezing employees salaries that was sent to the Board.
- Discussion concerning the height of the perimeter ficus hedge.
- Further discussion concerning employee raises.

Documents Committee, Doris Davidoff

- After review of changes the document committee recommends, attorney recommended that further review is necessary. Board agreed to delay changes at this time.

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SAFETY IN THE ISLES

By Steve Bayer

The Safety and Security Committee has planned a number of events that are described below.

Have you been saving paper records for years and aren't sure how to dispose of them in this age of identity theft? We will be bringing back the shredder truck. You will have the opportunity to clean out your old files for a very nominal cost. We did this last July with great success and will repeat it in January. Start organizing now!! Look for more news on channel 63.

Sometime in January we are planning to hold a CPR refresher course. Anyone who has ever taken a Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation course and wants to know the updated method is invited to attend. Please notice that we now have an AED, Automated External Defibrillator, installed in the ballroom by the door to the kitchen. In case anyone has a heart attack, it is there and always ready to save a life.

In February we will invite **Devcon** to come back to review the use and procedures of your **Alarm** system. We want to remind you of some of the features of the system that you may have forgotten.

In March we will invite our fire extinguisher company representative to come in and review the procedures of how to use a fire extinguisher. Many of us bought them years ago and although the dial says they are good, it may be time to replace them. This program has been a big success in other communities.

We are waiting for the county to approve the permit to install the new arm at the outbound side of the El Clair Ranch exit. Once we have the permit, installation will proceed quite quickly.

The carbon monoxide detectors that we have ordered will be available very soon. If you haven't ordered yours yet, please stop by and see Ken Miller in the office. We ordered a number of extra detectors to have on hand.

Again - **Please remember to stop at the El Clair gate when you come in.** This is the only way that to prevent non-residents from tailgating your car into the community.

Have a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.

GOOD AND WELFARE

GET WELL

Joyce Goldstein
Eddie Kutner
Regi Hendler

Mimi Pestreich
Harold Unger

SYMPATHY

To Edie and Manny Goodman on the loss of their son, Ronald.

To Pearl Kornblau on the loss of her sister Surilla.

To Penny Spinner on the loss of her husband, Jack.

To Don Horowitz on the loss of his brother Sandy.

MESSAGES

Sincere thanks to all my friends for your many cards, calls and good wishes while I was in the hospital.

Eddie Kutner

Thanks to all my friends and neighbors for your cards, calls and good wishes for a speedy recovery after my recent surgery.

Harold Unger

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.

M.I. Board Of Directors

ELECTION WED. DEC. 15 at 7 p.m.

Your vote counts! Six candidates are running for four, two-year terms on the M.I. Board of Directors. The M.I. Annual Meeting and Election will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m.

Watch the tape of Candidates Night held on Nov. 17 on Channel 63 which will be shown several times each week until the Election. Times of the broadcast are posted on Channel 63.

A quorum of residents is necessary to hold the Annual Meeting and Election. Please arrive promptly at 7 p.m.

Immediately prior to voting, which is by secret paper ballot, there is an Association meeting at which nominations may be made from the floor.

Completed proxy statements should be received in the office by 4 p.m. on Wed. Dec. 15.

Each household gets only one vote, regardless of the number of owners.

MILESTONES

By Joan Sorkin

Allan and Selma Wattenberg celebrate 50 years of marriage.



Wedding: The Wattenbergs were married on Dec. 18, 1960 in Brooklyn, New York.

How they met: Selma and Allan met on a blind date.

Where they lived: When they were first married, the Wattenbergs settled in Riverdale, New York. They later lived in Rockland County, New York for 28 years before moving to Majestic Isles in 1996.

Family: The Wattenbergs have two sons. Steve, and his wife, Lana, reside in New Jersey with their sons Josh and Spencer. Jerry, his wife Heather, and their children, Ruby and Ezra, live in London.

Anniversary celebration: Selma and Allan plan to celebrate this milestone by taking a transatlantic Mediterranean cruise.

Secret to a successful marriage: Being married to your best friend.



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBOR

By Elaine Jay

The Majestic Isles Newsletter would like to welcome the following new resident to our community.

October: Joan Boden

MEET THE STAFF



It's been a long time, but **Joan Sorkin** still considers herself "just a girl from Brooklyn."

Joan, who has been on the newsletter staff for several years, writes the Gourmet Club articles highlighting the group's fabu-lous dishes. She includes some recipes to try to inspire others to cook. She loves to cook and when Judy Zied started the club, Joan was only too happy to join. From time to time, she has written columns showing the humor in everyday occurrences and she also puts together the Milestones columns for couples celebrating "big" anniversaries.

Joan graduated from S.J. Tilden High School and attended two years of Brooklyn College, then went to work on Madison Avenue for a well-known advertising agency. After meeting Marvin, then a pharmacy student, and marrying, her career switched to raising children. Two boys, David and Michael, were born in Brooklyn. The Sorkins daughter, Tracy, was born in Massapequa, New York. Days were hectic, but Joan found time to work with the Amityville School District as an unpaid volunteer. As president of the Parents Association, she started a school newspaper to try to publicize the accomplishments of Park Avenue School.

When the house became too small for their growing family, the Sorkins moved to Wantagh, New York and Joan started working as a travel consultant for a local travel agency. This gave Marvin and Joan many opportunities to travel.

In 1996, with the children married and the job market limited for pharmacists, Marvin and Joan decided to move to Florida. Joan's parents had lived here for many years and Marvin's siblings also lived here. After he married, their son Michael had moved here and their first grandson is a native Floridian. They say, "We did not choose Florida, Florida chose us." Marvin and Joan continued working until the retirement bug bit them.

Joan is busy with the Social Club, the Pap Corps, and her large family here. Everyone who goes to the pool knows the youngest of her nine grandchildren, Bianca, who flirts with all the men at the pool. All in all, Joan has a very full life.

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Highlights of the November 17, 2010 COBWRA Meeting at Tuscany Bay

Donna Berger: New HOA & Condo Laws

Donna DiMaggio Berger is managing partner at Katzman, Garfinkel & Berger, a law firm representing community associations. Bank foreclosures were the number one concern last session. Lenders have no incentives to take possession of foreclosed properties.

- Delinquent owners need to understand that an association may foreclose for unpaid assessments much easier and faster than a lender can foreclose for unpaid mortgages. Associations just have to prove that the assessments were never paid. Berger recommends that community associations pursue foreclosures as soon as the documents allow.

- Some people do not pay assessments because they can't. Others don't pay because they do not consider paying the association a priority.

Provisions passed by the Legislature into law include:

- Increasing from 6 months to 12 months the liability of a lender for unpaid Condo assessments (or 1% of the mortgage) for foreclosed units the lender acquires after July 1, 2010. It remains 12 months or 1% of the mortgage for HOAs.

- Both HOAs and Condos may suspend the right of usage of common elements by unit owners more than 90 days delinquent. This includes right to use the clubhouse, pool, tennis courts, etc. Rights to usage cannot be suspended for access to the unit, parking, elevators or utility services. The suspension ends when all monetary obligations are satisfied. Berger said, "The threat of suspension often convinces some delinquent owners to pay up."

- Suspension of TV service where there is a bulk contract with a cable TV or satellite company is difficult. The company usually will not comply and requires continued payment for all units. Since utilities may not be suspended, people with phone service from the cable TV company are protected.

- For both Condos and HOAs, if a unit is occupied by a tenant and the owners are delinquent in paying their obligations to the association, the association may demand that the tenant pay their rent directly to the association. Demands must be in writing by mail to the tenant with a copy to the unit owner.

- A tenant who acts in good faith in response to a written demand from an association is immune from any claims by the unit owner. The liability of the tenant may not exceed what they owe the landlord.

Caridad Center Adopt a Family Program

Contact Scarlett Favé at Caridad, 737-6336, X115, to adopt a family to help needy families with holiday gifts. Information includes suggested gifts, sizes and ages. Deliver gifts to PBSO on Jog Road by Dec 16.

Det. Ivanovich: Preventing ID Theft by

Det. Mirko Ivanovic works for the PBSO on ID theft prevention and investigations. Some of his points:

- ID theft is the Number One crime in the USA, the easiest crime to commit but hardest to investigate.

- Get a shredder and shred all documents with any personal information. ID thieves will steal your mail and your garbage looking for personal information. Shred credit card offers and statements, medical bills, utility bills and insurance bills.

- Never leave outgoing or incoming mail sitting in your mailbox. Give outgoing mail to the postman directly or take it to the post office.

- Don't leave wallets, purses and bills lying around when you have workers or cleaners in your house.

- Never give Social Security numbers or bank account numbers to anyone over the phone.

- Be careful with passwords. Don't use obvious passwords like your child's name, your mom's name or the dog's name. Don't use the same passwords for all accounts or web sites. Make passwords at least 8 characters long including both letters and numbers.

- Twice a year, ask for a free credit report from all three credit firms. You might discover you are already a victim of ID theft if you see a credit card or bank account that you know is not yours.

Officials' Reports

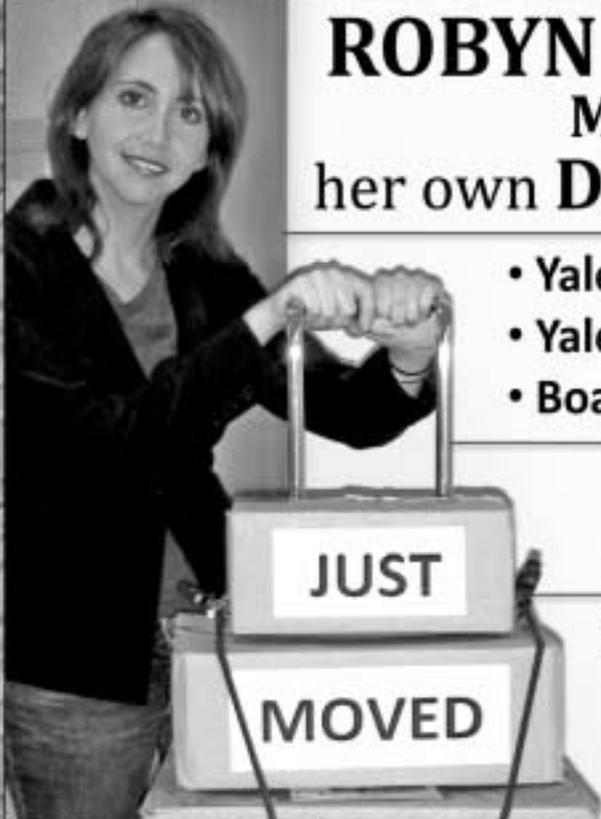
BCC Commissioner Burt Aaronson, District 5, is pleased voters passed the charter amendment by over 73% to bring the rest of the county under the Inspector General Comm. He's asked the Palm Beach Post to refer to Palm Beach County as the county leading the way on ethics reforms—not as "corruption county." Karen Marcus was elected Chair of BCC and Shelley Vana was elected Vice Chair.

Deputy Gordon Starr, PBSO, reported the crime stats for September and October for District 6:

- Residential burglaries: 88 in Sept. and 55 in Oct.

- Vehicle burglaries: 83 in Sept and 85 in Oct--all unlocked vehicles sitting in their driveways.

- There were 6 arrests for residential burglaries. One suspect accounted for 200 burglaries this past year. Starr said most house burglaries occur between noon and 6 pm after nobody answers the door.



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Gardening in the Isles

*By
Stan Davidson*

Growing roses in south Florida has always been a challenge because of our hot humid conditions. However, Knockout roses are relatively easy to grow and are available in local gardening centers. They have a continual array of stunning flowers and do not require special care. They are one of the most disease resistant and heat tolerant roses on the market. The Knockout rose comes in a variety of colors including: red, pink, and double petal varieties of red, pink and yellow. The red varieties are the most common commercially available.

A Wisconsin botanist who was looking for a hardy disease resistant rose bush developed Knockout roses. The bushes grow to about 3 feet in height and remain in a relatively tidy mound, which makes them very adaptable for growing in a pot.

One third of the bush can be cut down in early spring with a hand-held pruning tool. Be careful because Knockout roses have numerous thorns. Use heavy-duty gardening gloves when handling this plant and others, such as crown of thorns. Remove the faded blooms by deadheading to stimulate growth. Likewise, regular deadheading for all your flowering shrubs will keep the flowers blooming all year round. Water the Knockout bush at the bottom of the shrub, preferably early in the day. Reducing the shrub's exposure to overhead watering prevents black spot fungus and other diseases. Water potted roses more frequently in dry and windy weather.

Place a layer of mulch around the base of the bush, taking care not to apply the mulch onto the stem of the plant. A layer of mulch retains moisture and prevents weeds.

A fertilizer specifically developed for roses should be used frequently following the manufacturer's instructions. Ensure that the Knockout rose bush is located in a location that receives at least 4 to 6 hours of sunlight a day.

The following are some helpful tips for planting this rose bush in a pot.

- Make sure to plant the bush about one inch above the bud union.
- The pot should be no less than 16 inches in diameter to provide ample space for the roots and to have good drainage.
- To prepare a container drill several half inch holes in the bottom and place a layer about one inch deep of gravel/stones to ensure good drainage.
- Add a soilless mix, containing some bone meal, ground bark, and slow release fertilizer. This mix has been prescribed by several rosarians (dedicated rose growers).
- Fill the container to about one inch from the top and saturate the mix until you see water draining from the bottom of the container.
- I recommend that if you are locating the plant on your patio, you elevate the container at least an inch above the patio with a piece of wood or stone block.

It's now holiday time in Majestic Isles and also back North, but in warm south Florida now is the time to plant roses. Why not try to plant, or give as a gift, one of the most widely planted roses? You will find caring for this rose will be a "knockout". This is indeed one of the best plants to start off for the novice rose grower.

Have a Happy Holiday of Gardening!!

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MORE THAN JUST THE BIG BAND ERA

By Josh Katz



DUKE ELLINGTON

Real Name: Edward Kennedy Ellington

Arguably the most important figure in twentieth century music, Duke Ellington's impact on the jazz world is indisputable. His innovative styles and original compositions inspired

many artists over the years. Such successful bandleaders as **Woody Herman** and **Charlie Barnet** name Ellington as their chief influence. Ellington was also one of the few artists to successfully make the change from the hot music of the 1920s to swing in the 1930s, and he continued to contribute to the musical landscape in the post-war era.

Though Ellington studied piano as a youth, music was not his main interest early in life. His original plan was to become a commercial artist. His love of jazz, however, eventually led him back to the keyboard. He began to study under several local Washington-area jazz pianists and soon found work in various clubs. Three months before he was to graduate from school he dropped out and turned professional musician.

In 1917 Ellington formed his first outfit, The **Duke's Serenaders**. The group became popular and was often invited to play at diplomatic functions. In 1923 Duke joined **Elmer Snowden's** band. Snowden took his group to New York. An argument over missing funds, however, eventually led band members to walk out on Snowden. Refusing to give up, they elected Ellington as their new leader and named themselves the **Washingtonians**.

Ellington and his new group began to play at clubs around the New York City area. In 1924 they recorded their first song. Key to the early group was trumpet player **Bubber Miley**, who gave the band its signature sound with his plunger technique. In 1926 the orchestra signed a management deal with song publisher Irving Mills. This association helped attract national interest. The band's lucky break finally came when **King Oliver** turned down an offer from the

Cotton Club to set his group up as the house band. Ellington was then invited to take the job, and he accepted. The resulting national radio exposure made the orchestra an instant sensation.

Ellington switched from playing hot jazz to swing music during the mid-1930s and continued to find success. In reality Ellington's music had always had a swing style to it, and such early swing kings as **Benny Goodman** and the **Dorsey Brothers** owe much to his genius. Ellington never acquired the popularity that his contemporaries enjoyed, however. Part of this was due to the fact that black orchestras had less opportunity to be heard than their white counterparts, but a big part of Ellington's failure to attain superstar status was that he rarely catered to popular tastes. Much of his music was original and challenging. The latest hit songs and novelty tunes had little room in the Ellington repertoire.

Throughout his career Ellington attracted top musicians. Many of the players who worked for him were extremely loyal and remained with the group for long periods of time. This allowed Ellington to write arrangements specifically for certain musicians, thus giving him the ability to exploit each artist's strong points. Among those who served faithfully were **Cootie Williams, Harry Carney, Lawrence Brown, Barney Bigard, Johnny Hodges, Jimmy Blanton, Ben Webster, Billy Strayhorn, Juan Tizol, and Ray Nance**. Vocalists who worked with Ellington over the years include **Ivie Anderson, Herb Jeffries, Al Hibbler, Kay Davis, Joya Sherrill, and Maria Ellington**. (Maria was no relation to the Duke. She later became **Nat King Cole's** wife.)

As a composer, Duke penned such standards as "I Got It Bad And That Ain't Good," "I Let A Song Go Out Of My Heart," "It Don't Mean A Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)," as well as "Mood Indigo," "Satin Doll," "Solitude," "Sophisticated Lady" and many, many more.

He continued to lead his orchestra up until his death from lung cancer in 1974.





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FLAVORS OF FLORIDA

By Donna Shaneson

Many residents expect visitors this month and are looking for enjoyable ways to entertain their company.

The nature sites listed below provide guests with a taste of lush plant life in South Florida.

Loxahatchee

441 South Boynton Beach Blvd.

Boynton Beach

Experience the Everglades at Loxahatchee.

Wakodahatchee

Jog Rd., North of Lake Ida

Delray Beach

Wakodahatchee's three quarters of a mile of boardwalk is a bird lover's feast.

Green Cay Wetlands

Hagan Ranch Rd, south of Flavor Pict

Delray Beach

JCC

8500 Jog Road,

Boynton Beach

736-4731

Organic vegetables, fruit, flowers and more are available on Fridays at the green market at the JCC. The market is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cinemark Theaters

1151 North Congress Ave.

Boynton Beach

1-800-FANDANGO for tickets and show times

www.cinemark.com

Local theaters will show simulcasts of the Metropolitan Opera. These live operas were a smash success last year and will quickly sell out.

Old School Square Cultural Arts Center

51 North Swinton Ave.

Delray Beach

562-243-7922 (Box office is ext. 1)

Feline lovers are sure to enjoy "The Cat's Meow" at the **Cornell Museum of Art and American Culture** at Old School Square. The show includes paintings, drawings, sculpture and photographs by local and national artists, as well photos and stories from local cat owners. The show will be at the museum until Feb. 27, 2011.

Also at Old School Square, the **Crest Theater** will feature Cirque Sur L'eau Congalee Dec 17- 19. This is not your regular ice show, but figure skating combined with cirque to create a fabulous show full of excitement and charm.

The beautiful tree and holiday Ferris wheel are right in the front of the theater in Old School Square.

The Delray Beach Public Library

100 West Atlantic Ave.

Delray Beach

Main desk 266-0194

Director of Community Relations 266-9490

www.delraylibrary.org

The popular Thursday brown bag lunch discussion group "Lunch with Liz," will meet on Dec. 2 at 11:30 a.m. to focus on "Welcome Embrace, I Navigate the Unexpected!" based on insights of Barbara De Angelis. Radio personality and author Liz Sterling presents the program. (Information at 266-9490.)

The Delray Beach Library's afternoon book club will discuss Barbara Kingsolver's "The Lacuna" on Mon., Dec. 20 at 1 p.m. This novel takes readers to the heart of the 20th century's most tumultuous events.

The Healthy Living Series at the library presents two lectures in December. On Tues., Dec 14 at 2 p.m., R. Mark Stowe will talk on "Natural Ways to Banish Anxiety and Depression. On Wednesday Dec 22 at 2 p.m. Dr. Ronit Stein will present "The A.B.C.'s of Skin Cancer." Go online and check out many more the terrific courses, lectures, and art exhibits at the Delray Library or call the Community Relations office (see above).

The Jewish Museum of Florida

301 Washington Ave.,

Miami Beach, FL 33139

305- 672-5044

www.jewishmuseum.com

An exhibit on Florida's Jews in the military runs through Jan. 2. The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on civil and Jewish holidays.

Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILIR)

2601 St. Andrew's Blvd.

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883-0999

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TEA TIME

By Thelma Mechanic



Whether you are elated or disappointed with the Tea Party's inroads into the recent political elections, I want to assure you of one thing. This article is about a different kind of tea party, one that has existed for about 5000 years. After water, tea is the most consumed beverage in the world. These are pretty good credentials for a drink.

In China, tea has always served medicinal purposes. Today, if we are ill, we turn to tea for comfort. Modern science has also confirmed potential health benefits of tea. It has been documented that tea leaves contain a mix of substances such as anti-oxidant compounds (polyphenols) that offer protection from many illnesses.

Recently, I received a packet of twelve individual teas as a hostess gift. After a little research I learned that the difference in the taste of various teas is comes from the way the leaves are processed after harvesting. Basically all types of tea come from the "Camellia sinensis," an evergreen bush that is grown primarily in China and India. For example, for black tea, the leaves are spread out to wither and oxidize and turn the leaves brown. This ripens the tea and gives it a deep robust color and flavor.

On the other hand, "Green" tea leaves are steamed and dried and not oxidized. This tea has a light green or yellow color, and has a mild flavor. Oolong (my favorite) leaves are partially oxidized and fall between black and green tea. It is usually amber in color and has smooth taste. This tea is usually served in Chinese restaurants.

In my packet of tea, I also found an assortment of herbal teas with names like "Fruit and Almond," "Chamomile," "Perfect Peach," and "French Vanilla." These herbal teas, I learned, don't actually contain leaves from the tea plant. They are made up of dried fruits, flowers, roots or seeds such as chamomile, mint or thyme.

Tea is individually prepared by dipping a tea bag in hot water, but some prefer to put loose tea in a teapot

and letting it steep. There are also canned tea beverages, but most of them contain added sugar and calories.

Even though tea is considered a healthy and comforting drink, it does contain caffeine (but less than coffee). It had been suggested that one should drink no more than four to six cups a day to avoid the effects of caffeine.

Like everything else, moderation is the course to follow. Enjoy your cup of tea and have a happy tea-leaf reading.

PET PATCH

By Molly



Hi— my name is Molly, and I'm a Toy Poodle. If they let me, I'll be writing an occasional article for the newsletter.

I've lived in Majestic Isles for 10 years with my mom, Marge, and we just love it here. I have lots of good friends, and you'll often see a bunch of us taking our parents for a walk. There's my friend Andy, a black Cocker Spaniel; Jonim, a Peek A Poo; Lacy, a Bichon/Poodle mix; and Oatmeal, a King Charles Cavalier. Last, but not least, there's Oreo, a mixed breed. People think I don't like him because I "attack" and growl at him when I first see him, but then we make up. We really do like each other!

Lacey's mom looks like the Pied Piper with all of us following close for our treats. You also see us gathering around Ken when he has treats for us.

We sure have the life! I'll tell you about other friends in future issues. Maybe I can even persuade some of them to write.

A REMINDER FROM MOLLY: *When my mom and I go out for a walk, she cleans up after me and takes the little bag back home to put it in our garbage. I wish all neighbors with dogs would do that.*

Investment Discussion Group

Al Silverman, Facilitator

As this is being written, six days have passed since the election, so presumably at least some of the dust has settled. What dust you ask? That is a polite word for all the “(*x@&*)” that was thrown at the electorate in an attempt to capture its votes. All three parties engaged in that shower of words of wisdom, threats, lies, innuendos, etc. (the third party, of course, is the “Tea Party”). Well, we now have a divided Congress -- and a new promise of an attempt at co-operation -- which, unfortunately, did not occur in the first two years of this presidency.

We can only hope that this new Congress will facilitate -- (I like that word) -- facilitate the creation of more jobs, an improving economy, reducing home foreclosures, reducing the deficit, resolving the immigration problems, moving to a peaceful solution of our many foreign entanglements, etc. -- and, oh yes, -- settle the question of taxes. **Good luck, ye eternal optimists!**

The above is not meant to be political but rather to provide some background to explain why the market did not go wild the day after the election. Many analysts say the win by the Republicans had already been priced into the market. Others are taking a wait-and-see attitude to see the effect of the announced QE2 (second stimulus package), which may take a day, a week, a month, or you name it.

We discussed the following questions at our Nov. 18 meeting:

- How many believe QE2 will be effective in helping the economy, stimulate the creation of jobs, etc.?
- How many believe lower taxes will help the economy, stimulate the creation of jobs, etc.
- How many believe now is the time to invest for growth and income and when should we be seriously concerned about rising inflation?

Let us look at some historical data. From 1922 -2006, the average gains 90 days following mid-term elections have been 8.5%. From 1871-2005, average gain of S&P corporate stock index during third year of a presidential term was 10%, and in the fourth year -- up 7%. The year following mid-term or president's 3rd year in office was best for the DOW. Anticipation of QE2, the second wave of stimulus has

done more for the market than for jobs. Therefore, if historical data can be used as a guide, the possible expectation is for an up market this year and next. Keep in mind, though, that as the old lyrics say, “It ain't necessarily so.”

At our meeting last month, we discussed a lengthy list of investments with attractive income. Two additional securities, with distributions in the 11% to 12% range, may be of interest. These are closed end funds (CEF) and have been paying quarterly since the year 2005. They are a type of investment that uses covered calls to generate income. While the strategies used can be simple or complicated, investing in them is very simple.

But first, here is the definition of a covered call: the selling of a call option while simultaneously holding an equivalent position in the underlying stock. This is an attempt to take advantage of a neutral or declining stock. If the option expires unexercised, the writer keeps the premium. If the holder exercises the option, the stock must be delivered, but because the writer already owns the option, risk is limited. This is the opposite of an uncovered call when the writer sells a call for a stock that he/she does not own, (a naked call), a dangerous strategy with unlimited risk.

The two mentioned above are Eaton Vance closed end funds--one investing in U.S. stocks and the other investing in global securities.

*All information mentioned at our meetings is presented for information only and should not be considered as recommendations. If you are interested in any of these investments, **do your own research** with regard to suitability, risk, etc. and discuss them with your investment advisor.*

What a difference a century makes!

In 1910:

- The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.
- Only 1 % of the homes had a bathtub.
- Only 8 % of the homes had a telephone.
- There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

From the internet – source unknown

A TRIP OF A LIFETIME

By Ellin Goldstein

A year ago, some friends suggested that I join them on a 28-day European cruise, I readily agreed. The big day finally arrived and the six of us took off, arriving in Barcelona at 9 a.m. To our bodies it was only 2 a.m. so we slept most of the day and only ventured as far as a little restaurant right around the corner from the hotel for dinner. A couple of bottles of white sangria and the best seafood paella I had ever tasted were a fabulous beginning to my big adventure!

Bright and early next morning, a Friday, we boarded a hop-on/hop off bus and started sightseeing. We saw intricate hand carved decorations and many different statues on the churches, the outside of a Jewish cemetery that dates back to the Inquisition, the Olympic stadium, fantasy statues of animals (an upside down elephant for example), and Gaudi's famous unfinished church – utterly exquisite with its many domes and points on the top. The church, La Sagrada Familia, is to be consecrated as a basilica next month by the Pope.

I'll never forget Gaudi's Parc Guell. The commentary in my ears said it was just a 10-minute walk to the top. I'll never again listen to one of those devices! After the six of us "hopped" off the bus and walked to the corner, we looked straight up a cobblestone hill. We walked for what felt like an hour, until my heart was palpitating and I was sure a heart attack was imminent – and we were only half way up. Then we saw it, an oasis! No, it was really a small bar. It didn't matter. We had lunch and more sangria, to give us energy.

At the top, we were rewarded with a fantastic view of a large church, with many side balconies, more steps and myriads of people on every step just milling around. Coming down was fantastic and oh, so quick. Then it was hop on the bus and off the bus to see more and take more pictures. Saturday was more of the same – on the bus, off the bus, looking, taking pictures, buying souvenirs, meeting other tourists, and hearing many other languages. As we looked back later, we realized this was the most relaxed day of the entire trip.



Sunday, we took cabs to the beautiful, gigantic Ruby Princess cruise ship. Only one of our party lost a suitcase, but it was delivered to her that night.

We had arranged for vans and guides for six of the ports, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the first four days and then later, in Greece and Turkey. What were we thinking? "Exhausting" doesn't begin to describe it! First stop was Monte Carlo, Monaco, and Nice. The very large palace of Prince Albert, the crown prince of Monaco, was lovely. It was difficult to see the details, because of all the bodyguards (he obviously was in residence) and the hordes of people wandering around. There were expensive draperies, roped off furniture and pictures. Outside the palace there was a newspaper article showing the wedding of his father, Prince Ranier, to Grace Kelly. The shops in Monaco were well-known high end stores - way out of our price range.

In Florence, the views from the van showed colorful homes built as steps alongside the mountain, giving a full view of the water. Pisa was a disappointment; the tower really doesn't lean that much. At a very busy market on the outskirts of Florence, a woman was making lovely beaded jewelry, using tweezers to place the beads. I bought necklaces for my daughters, who love them. The stalls set up in the market had more necklaces, aprons, little toys for kids and everything else you can think of. We had tickets to see Michelangelo's statue of David, but there was such a crowd that we decided to settle for the "David" in the plaza instead. Both Florence and Rome were so crowded that it was difficult to get around.

In Rome we saw churches, a synagogue (with a dome like all the churches, but a gold color), the Coliseum, St. Peter's Square, the Vatican and the Sistine Chapel. We stood outside a little pizza shop, and ate delicious pizza that was nothing like what we get here. It felt like a whole can (but they were fresh) of mushrooms was placed on something similar to matzoh but more solid. Our driver tried to get away from some of the traffic, and went down side streets with wet laundry hanging from the windows. We almost hit a little boy on a bicycle. Everyone smiled at us anyway; they were probably thinking "those crazy Americans."

The views in Naples were similar to those in Florence; we looked down over the road to colorful houses and a seaport. We passed Pompeii, but didn't get a chance to get really close. What an imposing sight that mountain is! Riding on the Amalfi Coast, with the curviest, narrowest roads I had ever seen, scared me almost to death. The quaint town on the coast was lovely. The bells on the impressive church in the center of town rang every 15 minutes. From there we went to Sorrento, where we enjoyed lots of great shopping and had lunch in a delicious, very busy restaurant, then gelato in the town. (Yummy.) *(continued next month)*



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GROUNDHOG DAY, AGAIN

By Phyllis M. Cohen



One of my favorite movies, “Groundhog Day” with that great comedian Bill Murray, tells the tale of a young man reliving the same day, caught in a time loop, as he tries to change the day’s events so that he can go onto the next day. The concept of redoing the past, long a favorite sci-fi topic has always intrigued me, but particularly the way in which this film dealt with it. The same events kept repeating, however, until Bill Murray changed himself and could then move on to the next day.

And that is how I have been feeling ever since the November election. On the morning after, I breathed a sigh of relief. Whatever the outcome, it was now safe to turn on the television again without being subject to an onslaught of political ads and pronouncements. The mailbox was no longer filled with pounds of political fliers, (obviously, no green party candidate running) and I could even answer the phone without hearing everyone from former dog catchers to former presidents telling me how to vote.

Or so I thought. I told you about Groundhog Day right up front. And that is apparently just what happened. For in the minds of the people who ran and won or ran and lost, the election is not over. And so as Thanksgiving and then Christmas approach, Election Day refuses to go away. We keep replaying it again and again. In Alaska, they keep counting the write in votes for senator, arguing over the spelling of the candidates’ names and challenging each one for proper penmanship or neatness. Here in Florida, famous for hanging chads and recounts, boxes of misplaced ballots emerge from peculiar places, forgotten, discarded, or overlooked.

And are the winners and losers satisfied? Of course not. All of them are grimacing and gesturing, threatening doom and gloom if their ideas are not accepted or if the opposition’s ideas come into play. In fact, can you hear them say 2012? Electioneering has already begun!

If you think the agony is over, listen to the howling as the winners and losers review the ideas for making all of those big changes they advocated. The mandate of the electorate, according to the pundits, is that we should reduce the national debt and create jobs. We have to stop spending more than we have, just like

John Q Public does at home. Now comes the financial diet for the nation. But just like at home, will the family members agree on what they should cut down on or eliminate? Will Mom give up her hairdresser appointment, Dad his costly golf game tee times or junior his car with its hefty insurance payments? And are cable TV and text messaging necessities or luxuries?

It was little surprise that the mere announcement of a proposal by a bipartisan committee to investigate remedies for debt reduction would generate a firestorm of criticism from all sides of the political spectrum. Republican Senator Alan Simpson said ruefully that when these proposals came out, he’d have to go into the witness protection program.

Which of the hardy winners and losers in the campaign will stand up for raising social security retirement age, reducing military budgets, eliminating some middle class tax write-offs (like mortgage payments) and pages of other dire cuts? Of course, this is just the beginning of the painful process. We can expect endless hours of panel discussions, appearances by experts and politicking on all sides. And the new members of Congress haven’t even been sworn in! Sounds familiar?

One thing we can be sure of. It’s more likely we’ll have a slug fest than a tea party in Washington. So I remember the sentiment of the late Rabbi Silver invited to view the opening of the Florida legislature a number of years ago by one of its members. After spending the day observing them, he was asked if he would care to open the session by invoking a blessing for the members of the legislature. He declined, saying that after seeing the representatives, he felt the people of Florida needed the blessing more.

And if there is a moral to this story it is the message of the film. Until we change, we will keep on repeating the same day, again and again and again.

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COMMUNICATION: With Health Providers, Insurance Carriers et.al.

By Paul Mendelsohn

In past articles I have discussed how to keep good records of your health care. One benefit of following an organized system is that you will have at your fingertips the information you need when communicating with your health providers or insurance carriers and intermediaries.

Doctors and other health providers have very little time to communicate with you. Many medical appointments are scheduled so that the primary provider will have no more than 10 minutes with you. (This usually does not include the care that is given by physician's assistants, nurses, aides, etc.) Both your concerns and any information the doctor has to convey to you usually have to be covered within those ten minutes. After leaving you, the doctor spends another 5 minutes documenting the visit, and then it is on to the next patient.

With this time limit in mind, you have to make every minute count. Before your appointment write out your questions and have available necessary additional information. Make two copies, one for your record and the other for your provider. This is where your annual notebook with all your records is invaluable. Bring it with you.

Most physicians or other care providers will appreciate your understanding and respecting their time limitations. With other patients waiting for their care, the provider may only be able to give you short answers. If the issues don't require immediate answers for your health care, it is reasonable for the provider to say he/or she will talk with you by phone outside of office hours. Keep your copy of your questions and supporting information near your telephone, where it will be readily accessible when the doctor calls. With questions prepared in writing, you are less likely to forget or misstate them.

Your questions may be about your treatment, medications or bills. When possible, it is best to ask questions about the costs before you receive services. If you are a regular Medicare patient, rather than an Advantage Plan patient, know before you make an appointment whether or not your provider is a Medicare participating provider. If he or she is not a participating provider, you may be responsible for a larger percentage of the charges and you may be responsible for charges that Medicare may determine

as uncovered or medically unnecessary. With a Medicare participating provider, you are usually only responsible to pay for **specific** services, about which the provider informs you in writing. You sign an agreement to accept those charges if Medicare does not cover them. Before you sign such an agreement, be sure you fully understand why the provider feels that service is necessary and medically appropriate for you and why Medicare may not cover it.

Frequently, billing services are not handled directly by the provider but by another billing office or agent. Before you approach the practitioner directly about billing for services you've received, try to resolve the situation by calling the "for questions about your bill" telephone number on your bill.

If you are a Medicare patient, you should not pay for services other than co-payments until after you receive both your "Explanation of Benefits Letter" from your Medicare carrier or intermediary, and the corresponding notice from your Medigap secondary insurer. The provider should send you a statement that adjusts for these payments and you should check your record to assure that the amount you are being charged corresponds with what Medicare and your secondary insurer state your responsibility is.

When you call the provider's billing office, state your questions clearly and politely. If you disagree with the response, re-state your position to the party to whom you are speaking, but don't be belligerent. If you still disagree after the second response, tell the person that you will speak directly to the provider. When this happens, immediately **write** to the provider, clearly stating your objection to the bill and also state that you were not satisfied with the response you were given by the billing office. Keep a copy of this note with your record. If you simply ignore a disputed bill, you may lose your right to appeal the charges and negatively affect your credit records.

Clear, concise communication supported by good records is the key to having comfortable and positive responses from your doctors and other care providers.



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WHAT YOUR SURVIVORS NEED TO KNOW (Part 3)

By Mel Burstein

This installment and the next will focus on the actions a surviving spouse or family member should take after the death of a spouse.

1) Order copies of the death certificate, *showing cause of death*, from the funeral home. The number of copies you need will depend on the number of brokers, bank accounts and other institutions that will be involved in transferring your spouse's assets. There is usually a charge based upon the number of death certificates you order.

If you hold Florida real estate in joint names, in order to change the land records (title) from joint ownership of real estate to your name alone, the State of Florida requires a *death certificate that does not show "cause of death."* You will also need an *affidavit of continuous marriage*.

2) As soon as possible, notify the following of the passing of your spouse (or family member):

attorney	annuity company
accountant	broker
insurance agent	life insurance company
religious leader	payer of pension

3) As soon as possible, notify the Social Security Administration of the date of your spouse's death. You may have to return the last social security check your spouse received. You are entitled to a death benefit of \$255 and some sort of payment for a monument. When you apply for social security payments after the death of your spouse, bring with you *the birth and death certificate of your spouse and your marriage license*.

4) You have heard the word "probate," but what is it? It is the legal process of:

- Gathering the assets of the deceased,
- Paying the decedent's debts and expenses including estate taxes, if any,
- Distributing the balance of the assets to the rightful beneficiaries,
- Submitting the *will*, if there is one, to probate, if your spouse has held assets in his or her name alone.

Estates of \$75,000 or less can use what is called "summary administration." An estate of more than \$75,000 must have a formal administration. The will

should be probated in the County where the deceased was domiciled. For Palm Beach County residents, that will be at the Courthouse located at 100 W. Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach (phone: 1-888-760-9209). Assets with a named beneficiary, or beneficiaries, are not subject to probate (e.g.: life insurance, IRA's, annuities, joint bank accounts, etc.)

5) If there is a personal representative named in the will, the probate court will issue Letters of Testamentary to the personal representative. Letters of Testamentary authorize the personal representative to act on behalf of the estate. In cases where the personal representative is not qualified to serve or refuses to serve, and there is no other person named as successor, the court will appoint one (usually someone in the family).

If there is no will, the decedent is deemed to have died "intestate." In that situation, the court will appoint a personal representative and issue "Letters of Administration," giving that person authority to act on behalf of the estate. A court-appointed personal representative may receive a fee for his or her services. If there is no will, the distribution of assets will be distributed based upon Florida Statutes, regardless of what the deceased might have intended.

6) A will or trust, which is activated upon the death of the decedent, will normally name the personal representative(s). He, she or they will be responsible for carrying out the terms of the will or trust. The personal representative of the estate, or trustees of a newly created trust, must apply for a Federal Identification Number using form SS4 which is to be mailed to the Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, Ogden UT 84201-0023.

7) For tax purposes, an estate first year-end can be the last day of any monthly period ending within twelve months after death. A trust must have a calendar year ending December.

8) An estate is a new "taxpayer." Therefore, a new checking account should be opened in the estate name as soon as possible after death. A revocable trust becomes irrevocable after death and a new taxable entity is created. A new checking account in the trust name should also be opened.

Look for installment number 4 next month. (*Ed. Note: The second installment of this series appeared in last month under the heading "Tax Corner."*)

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NOSTALGIA TIME: Sam Levenson

By Betty Wachtel



Before becoming a television personality, and later an author, Sam Levenson taught high school Spanish, entertained at staff parties and later spent his summers participating in “comedy nights” at Catskill resorts.

I never met Sam Levenson, but I knew well the next best thing – his brother Bill, who was a close friend of my parents. Bill looked and sounded just like his brother, and like Sam, he had a repertoire of stories that grew out of life in a large family with immigrant parents. If my mother could read this, she’d say “That and a subway token will get you on the subway,” but knowing Bill did get three of my junior high school friends and me tickets to see a broadcast of Sam’s television show. Television was relatively new at the time, so getting to see the show live was a very big deal. (For that matter, going into New York without our parents was also a very big deal.) We were too young to appreciate the wisdom of some of his remarks, which were later found in his books:

Don't watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going.

Lead us not into temptation. Just tell us where it is; we'll find it.

You must pay for your sins. If you have already paid, please ignore this notice.

You must learn from the mistakes of others. You can't possibly live long enough to make them all yourself.

Love at first sight is easy to understand. It's when two people have been looking at each other for a *lifetime* that it becomes a miracle.

Any kid who has two parents who are interested in him and has a houseful of books isn't poor.

We should not permit prayer to be taken out of the schools; that's the only way most of us got through.

Any beast can cry over the misfortunes of its own child. It takes a mensch to weep for others' children.

Insanity is hereditary; you get it from your children.

It's a good thing that when God created the rainbow he didn't consult a decorator or he would still be picking colors.

WOMEN'S CLUB

By Barbara Roland

We would like to thank all of our members who attended and made our Card Party/Luncheon at Delray Country Club such a success.

Special thanks to our Programming Committee: Ruth Rossi, Rita Keller, Bert Weinberg, and Gladys Cohen. As always you did a wonderful job. Also thanks to our Publicity Committee: Sandy Kastner and Sandy Gardner. Thank you Marcia Vetstein for arranging and handling our collection for Abused Women which took place on November 15th.

We are now accepting dues of \$10 for 2011. Please join us as we have new and interesting plans for the new year. Our Welcome Back Meeting/Luncheon will be held at the Clubhouse on Monday, Dec. 13 at noon. The members' cost of \$12 includes a delicious lunch and entertainment by Jamie Porter. Please leave your dues and luncheon checks in our mailbox. We hope to see you there.

YIDDISH CULTURAL CLUB

By Jerry Raske



Nov. 7 was a cool night, a time to change the clocks and also a time to be welcomed by Reggie Z., Dr. Raul Freidkas and Norman Katz. Reggie reminisced about our late friend Surilla Aqua and her pleasure in providing cucumber salad to our group. Reggie then moved on to a discussion of Yiddishkite with Jack Lust reciting and Reggie translating.

Thanks were offered to everyone who assists so graciously and steadily in helping with the numerous details required to have a successful evening.

Our sponsor for the evening was the Schwartz Family Home Care Group. Rabbi David Mark then presented a very amusing comedy routine.

Our thanks to Pearl Kornblau, who made a contribution in memory of her beloved sister, Surilla Aqua, and to Paul Mendelssohn and to Schwartz Family Home Care for their gifts.

Our next meeting is December 5. We look forward to seeing everyone. All are invited to attend – and remember – **you don't have to speak Yiddish to enjoy our meetings.**

SNOWBIRDS

By Bobbe Greene



Most of the Snowbirds have returned and we will be meeting in the clubhouse on Friday, Dec. 17 at 11 a.m. for our annual "Welcome Back Brunch." The committee has planned lovely dairy platters and we hope everyone will attend. At \$10 a person, it is the best deal in town! Please get your checks into the Snowbirds' box in the back lobby as soon as possible so we can place the order with the caterer.

Tickets are available for the musical "Mame" which will be playing at the Broward Stage Door Theatre. Our reserved front orchestra seats are for the Saturday matinee on Jan. 29, 2011. Members' tickets are \$34 and the cost to non-members and guests will be \$36.

We are all eager to hear about a possible trip to Naples in the spring. Sid Kaufman will have the details for us.

Remember that dues are payable, so when you put your checks in our mailbox in the back lobby, please include your \$5 check for membership. Make a notation on each envelope to indicate the event for which you are paying.

CALLING ALL ARTISANS

The much-anticipated annual "Art Show at Majestic Isles" is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 30, 2011 from 2 to 5 p.m. in our elegant clubhouse ballroom.

Many of the creative and talented artists residing in our community will participate. There will be original paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, as well as needlework, photography, graphics and more for your viewing pleasure.

If you have not shown your creations in the past, consider doing so now. We have large tables and display screens to show off your work. Refreshments are served for all guests and artists. Join us for a wonderful day.

All participants are asked to sign up by Monday, Jan. 17, 2011. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the back lobby. Contact any of the people listed below for further details.

Marilyn Friedberg 742-5766

Irene Freedman 742-8760

Marilyn Milano 737-8103

Roberta Jaffie 733-2312

BOOK TALKS

By Judy Markowitz

On Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. Phyllis Cohen will facilitate a discussion of "Shanghai Girls" by Lisa See.

Shanghai Girls is a story about two sisters. The book opens in Shanghai in 1937, where Pearl and May are "beautiful girls" who model for an artist and whose faces appear on calendars and advertisements selling everything from cigarettes to soap. They come from a privileged family with cooks and servants. Then one day their father tells them that he has gambled away his wealth and that in order to repay his debts he must sell the girls as wives to Chinese men who have traveled from California to find Chinese brides.

As Japanese bombs fall on Shanghai, Pearl and May set out on the journey that takes them in and out of the hands of brutal Japanese soldiers, across the Pacific to Los Angeles. In Los Angeles the sisters struggle to find their place in this new country, with husbands they barely know, a tyrannical father-in-law, and a life circumscribed within the Chinese ghetto.

I am a fan of Lisa See. I loved "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan" and in my opinion "Shanghai Girls" is almost as good and well worth reading. This is a book about survival and just how much a person will endure for the people she loves. It is also a captivating history lesson about the difficulties faced by the Chinese immigrant population. Lisa See is an expert at describing and exploring women's relationships.

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MAJESTIC ISLES HADASSAH

By Ellin Goldstein



The next general Hadassah meeting is on Dec 20. There is no board meeting in December. The board will next meet on **Tuesday Jan. 11 (note date change)**, and the general meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 17.

A number of events are coming up in the next few months. Among them are: Life members' dessert party on Dec 8, with a couvert of \$5; Woman of Valor lunch on Feb. 6 at Broken Sound Country Club. This year Majestic Isles is honoring Janice Davidson as our Woman of Valor, so please attend if you can. Call Adele Freitag if you are interested.

Fund raising efforts include the annual card party at Benvenutos on Feb 9, 2011. The couvert is \$32 per person.

Bricks are still for sale; we have completed 3 pages and are now starting on the fourth page. The donation is still \$18 per line.

Hadassah is also sponsoring a series at Kravitz. Call Sheila Goldstein for details. Hadassah will get money back for each ticket sold.

On March 12, we are having a "White Elephant" sale. Be on the lookout for any items in your home that are just taking up space. Someone else may love them. More details to follow.

There may still be time for you to book a cabin for the Hadassah and Cancer groups' cruise from Jan 21- 28, 2011.

Hadassah is also selling tickets to see "The Music Man." Call Roberta Rabinowitz (736-6387) for more information.

You can buy scrip for Glicks, The Boys, and Kosher Marketplace. Call Betty Wachtel (739-6086) or Rita Marderstein (742-8140).

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at

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THE MEN'S CLUB

By Joel Cohen, Pres.

The next Men's Club **Bingo** will be on Dec. 26, 2010.

An Installation buffet breakfast will be held on Sun. Jan. 16, 2011 in **Ellie's Diner** at 10:00 a.m. The menu will include the following: Scrambled Eggs, Bacon & Sausage, French toast, Home Fries, Muffins, Danish & Bagels, Coffee Station, Fruit Juices and a Fresh Florida Fruit Display.

The cost to our members is \$3 with the balance subsidized by the Men's Club. **You must be a paid up member for 2011.** Dues (\$10) and \$3 for the breakfast must be paid by Jan. 3, 2011. No checks will be accepted at Ellie's Diner.

There will be another Casino trip in early Feb. We have not decided on a casino as yet.

BOWLING FOR FUN

By Fred Oestreicher



And did we have fun, especially at the last two sessions 10/28 and 11/4. (*Note: This article was written before the later November sessions.*)

"Hi fives" were being passed all around including to Bert Stillman who came so close to a Series 600 game (he had a new ball). Sunny Shottenfield (reg. average 125) was hitting 163. Fred O. bowled 10 full frames with three splits. Shelly Mehlman went well over the averages and let's not forget the ladies. Eileen, Sylvia, Iris (she keeps us honest) have been beating their previous averages.

Want to witness a "mean" curve ball? Check Tom Shaughnessy's. He starts at least three feet above the lane!

What a nice thing to do! Arnie Sarett brings his lovely wife Doris to all the games to watch and cheer him and his team, the "Cheeters"

Don't forget the free goodies coupons, available through the internet, for free bowling games, as well as coupons from the Boynton Beach Lane for the best bowlers starting on the first day of team bowling. Just a lot of smiles all around...

MAJESTIC ISLES TRAVEL CLUB

Doris Davidoff



At our December meeting, we heard reports from two of our members about their recent trips. Judy Zied told us about her European riverboat cruise earlier this month and the visit to Prague that was included, and Doris Davidoff discussed her experiences on a cruise on

Norwegian Cruise Line's *Norwegian Epic*. The *Epic* is one of the new very large ships, carrying more than 4,000 passengers. Doris described some of the spectacular dining and entertainment options that are available on the ship. She noted that although it's not for people who want a traditional cruise experience, it can be an excellent choice for multi-generational families who want lots of choices on their cruise.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, Dec. 12, at 11a.m. in the clubhouse. We will have a status report on our upcoming trips to the Kennedy Space Center on Jan. 18 and to the Coconut Grove Art Show in Miami Feb. 20. Flyers for both of these trips are available in the back lobby. We'll also talk about some other future trips and enjoy some fun and games.

Information is also available on our web site page at www.majesticisles.com/travelclub. If you have not already provided us with your email address, please send it to dorisdav@aol.com if you want to receive information about Travel Club plans as soon as possible – before the information is on Channel 63 or in the newsletter.

We are working on plans for a couple of longer trips – one to New Orleans for three or four days this winter or spring, and another to Branson for four days next fall. Because we will use airline transportation for both of these trips, we don't have to worry about a minimum number of participants. Remember, you can invite friends who do not live in Majestic Isles to join you on any Majestic Isles Travel Club trips.

Join us at our meetings. You are welcome if you like to think about travel, even if you don't plan to take any trips. The old cliché that "planning a trip is half the fun" is true. We learn about the world and share experiences. We also make sure we have some fun.

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MAJESTIC ISLES CANCER RESEARCH

By Audrey Hausman

We are proud and excited about our upcoming Tenth Anniversary Celebration to be held in the clubhouse. Everyone is welcome. An elegant brunch will be held on Dec. 19, 2010 at \$35 per person. The caterer, "In Good Taste By Stacey" will be back by popular demand. Roberta De Mura will provide the entertainment.

In honor of the 10th anniversary milestone, we are creating a congratulatory journal. You can purchase 1/4 page for \$5, 1/2 page for \$10, or a full page for \$20. Feel free to express your comments "in honor of" or as congratulations to your family, neighbors, or friends. Place your form, complete with message and check, in the M.I. Cancer mailbox in the rear lobby. The journals will be distributed at the 10th anniversary brunch.

On Jan. 21-28, 2011 M.I. Cancer and Hadassah are joining together for a Southern Caribbean cruise aboard the Holland America Westerdam. It is not too late to sign up for this fun filled trip.

On Feb. 17, 2011 our Membership Appreciation Luncheon will be held in the clubhouse. We hope to keep you spellbound with the entertainer, a hypnotist. A cover charge will apply. Watch for further details.

***Thought Of The Month:** If you always do what you have always done, you'll always get what you've always gotten!*

We wish one and all the healthiest, happiest, and most peaceful New Year! We wish for you what you wish for yourselves!

GRANDKIDS ACTIVITIES

Sunday Dec. 26	11:00 a.m. Fishing 12:30 p.m. Pizza Party Evening Bingo TBA
Monday Dec. 27	10:00 a.m. Arts Crafts And Origami 1:30 p.m. "Get Buggy" Science Show 2:30 p.m. Ice Cream Party

A flyer with further details will be in the back lobby.

THE SOCIAL CLUB

By Arlene Koch

The Social Club is now making plans for the Grandkids Party on Dec. 26 and 27. We will have a special science program this year. Included in our activities are fishing, arts and crafts, and an Origami class led by Larry Goldstein (must sign up with ages for this). The Men's Club will run Bingo on Sunday night. We are looking forward to having your grandchildren join us for the two days. A schedule of activities is in the lower left hand column of this page. For additional information, pick up a flyer in the back lobby of the clubhouse. This program is being chaired by Sylvia Fefferman, Joan Sorkin and their committees. If you haven't signed up your grandchildren as yet, please do so as soon as possible.

Plans are also underway for our Gala New Year's Eve Party. We will be dancing to music by "Poppy" and will be having delicatessen and all the trimmings from 3 Gs. Can you ask for anything better to be doing on New Year's Eve than being with friends and neighbors at the clubhouse? We still have a few more reservations available for your dining and dancing pleasure.

The Board of the Social Club wishes you a happy holiday and all best wishes for a healthy New Year.



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

FRIDAY, DEC. 10: YOO-HOO MRS. GOLDBERG The history of "The Goldbergs" -- and the massive appeal and influence of its Jewish American main character -- is explored in this fascinating documentary from filmmaker Aviva Kempner. Though she is not a household name today, Molly Goldberg -- the indelible creation of writer and performer Gertrude Berg -- was one of the most popular characters on radio and television from the 1930s to the '50s.

SATURDAY, JAN. 8: MAMA MIA

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

by Doris Davidoff



I've always been a big fan of drama shows on TV that focus on crime, such as *Law and Order*, *CSI*, *The Mentalist*, *Cold Case*, etc, so when I heard about an opportunity to attend a 10-session

Citizens Police Academy, run by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, I signed up. This was a most interesting educational program.

The Academy is held about once a year. My group had 24 people attending, all of us seniors. At least half of the attendees are volunteer COPs in their community, and only about six of us were women.

During the ten weeks, we learned what happens in the real world and gained great respect for members of the Sheriff's Office. We all knew that TV was very different from reality, but it was an eye-opener to hear details. For example, not only is DNA not determined in less than an hour, but it can take months and even years before the results are available to the police. We were encouraged to ask questions and did so frequently.

We heard presentations from representatives of many of the departments within the Sheriff's Office, usually three different departments each week. There were also three field trips. The first was a tour of the headquarters for the county, where we learned a lot about how emergencies are handled. The second was a visit to the county jail, where those arrested and awaiting trial are housed. The last trip took us to the training headquarters for the K-9 division, where we learned how these dogs are taught to do such a wonderful job helping to protect us.

We found out how our county cooperates with state and national Homeland Security and about financial crimes, local gang violence, identity theft and computer porn. We also learned about child crimes, narcotics, firearm safety and, in one of the most interesting segments, how the crime scene unit operates, which is quite different from what we see on *CSI* or *NCIS*. For most of us, the highlight of the course was the chance to ride along with a Sheriff's Deputy. During my ride-along, I witnessed a ticket being issued and a young woman being arrested.

Watch for the next time this Academy is offered and sign up.

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MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER

“The Big Apple”

by Selma Friedman



The “Big Apple” was a biiigg hit and a very big undertaking! Arlene Levin not only conceived the idea, but also wrote the script and directed the performance. She was ably assisted by co-director Edd Bloom, choreographer Barbara Portnoff, and musical director and accompanist Selma Friedman.

The production covered the history of New York City from its beginning with the purchase of Manhattan and then moved on to the flow of immigrants. We met Fiorello La Guardia and Robert Moses, who accomplished much. We saw the days of Coney Island and the Boys of Summer. We heard the music of Tin Pan Alley and Broadway. All of this was filled with music, narration and a wonderful slide show of famous landmarks of the great city

The entire cast is as follows: Iris Rothstein, Lenny Schwartz, Ed Strauber, Erwin Silling, Mel Burstein, Estelle Snyder, Ed Gerard, Edd Bloom, Sy Lubchansky, Seena Calder, Herb Levin, Marilyn Chermak, Claire Deveney, Sherry Everitt, Lynn Fischer, Francine Gitto, Gerry Herman, Roberta Jaffie, Linda Kessler, Arlene Koch, Nancy Levitan, Isabel Lubchansky, Paul Mendelsohn, Marvin Sorkin, Al Weinstein, Barbara Portnoff, Fran Silling, Harriet Strauber, and Selma Friedman.

Supporting the show off stage was another whole crew: Enid Bayer, Milton Swersky, Mark Jaffie, Morris Berman, Buddy Koch, Jack Moss, Ira Schneider, Marty Baron, Bill Broth, Larry Goldstein, Phyllis Pinsel, Jerry Fefferman, Claire Deveney, Doris Davidoff, Saralee Weinstein, Josh Katz, Naomi Marcus, Rita Dick, Ray Kozlin, Marilyn Broth, Helen Benowich, Marge Chappell, Sylvia Fefferman, Adele Freitag and Bev Jaffe.

The show will be remembered fondly for a long time. Now we look forward to Ed Strauber’s Dec. 12 show, “Sorry, Wrong Number,” an old time radio play from the 1940’s. Other shows of that era were “Inner Sanctum” and “Lights out.” Sounds like fun.

In January, Harvey Vetstein will discuss Arthur Miller’s play “Death of a Salesman” and in February

we will have guests – the Park Vista High School Show Choir who will perform for us. We have our election in March and to finish the schedule, Edd Bloom will be directing “Lend Me a Tenor” in April. It’s quite a full schedule. Come and enjoy.

Don’t forget to check our pictures and activities at www.majesticisles.com.

ONE BOWL

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

Submitted by Joan Sorkin

School vacations, for many of us, means the grand-kids (and their parents) will soon be here. This recipe will please all generations.



1 cup (2 sticks) I Can’t Believe Its Not Butter baking sticks
 3/4 cups firmly packed light brown sugar
 1/4 cup granulated sugar
 1 tsp. vanilla extract
 1 large egg
 1/2 tsp. baking soda
 2 cups all purpose flour
 1 pkg. (12 oz) semi sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 375.

Beat baking sticks with sugar in large bowl until smooth. Beat in vanilla, egg and baking soda. Stir in flour until blended. Stir in chips.

Drop mixture by heaping tablespoons 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake 10 minutes or until edges are golden. Remove to wire racks and cool completely.

Courtesy of NowYouKnowBetter.com.

Personal note from Joan: I line baking sheets with parchment paper and find it wonderful for easy cleanups. I also seem to bake cookies a few minutes longer than they call for. Not sure if it is my oven. Watch carefully and enjoy!

MAJESTICS BOWLING LEAGUE SPARES AND STRIKES

By Dave Feinberg

The first position week has come and gone and my team (Bucks) has survived an onslaught from the #2 team (Mets) and held on to first place by 2 points. (Whew) - the top two teams are really battling it out.

WEEK 8 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Bernie Kass	182	457
Marty Ratiner	172	--
Dave Feinberg	169	486

WEEK 8 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Gladys Feldman	166	375
Eleanor Krongold	145	--
Gladys Cohen	139	394

WEEK 9 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Dave Feinberg	185	488
Bob Rosenhouch	171	436
Bernie Kass	156	--

WEEK 9 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Estelle Snyder	166	430
Gladys Cohen	148	400
Sandy Gardner	146	358

WEEK 10 MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Dave Feinberg	198	502
Ted Shapiro	158	441
Marty Ratiner	155	422

WEEK 10 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Toni Kohn	163	379
Estelle Snyder	163	442
Gladys Cohen	149	383

WEEK 11 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Bob Rosenhouch	190	497
Al Lynn	156	431
Ted Shapiro	154	437

WEEK 11 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Sandy Gardner	145	
Toni Kohn	145	380
Estelle Snyder	143	406

Wow! We have had a ball these past few weeks. Let's keep it going. There have been a couple of bumps in the road, but let's not let them stop us from having a great time bowling.

THE SINGLE SCENE

By Thelma Mechanic

A well-attended meeting was held in October, and activities are moving ahead. Please remember to bring pj's in infant to teenager sizes to the next meeting. They will be picked up by a veteran's group and donated to needy children.

If you haven't paid your dues for 2011, please give Roberta Rabinowitz a check for \$15.

Coming up:

- Dec 3 (Fri) 3 p.m., Board meeting
4 p.m., General meeting
- Dec 11, Saturday: Harid Ballet - carpools have been arranged by Elaine Nowak.
- Jan 16, Sunday, Holiday party at Coral Lakes clubhouse, dinner and a movie. Please get your \$25 to Roberta.
- Dec 31-Jan 1: Registration for the New Year's week-end is closed.
- March 6: Original Florida follies at Olympic High School. Please give your \$25 check to Roberta.

Check channel 63 for further information.

ADDITIONAL MEETING DATES

DATE	DAY	TIME	GROUP
Dec. 2	Thurs.	10 a.m.	C.O.P.
Dec. 3	Fri.	11 a.m.	Newsletter meeting
		4 p.m.	Singles
Dec. 5	Sun.	7:30 p.m.	Yiddish Club
Dec. 12	Sun.	11 a.m.	Travel Club
Dec. 16	Thurs.	4 p.m.	Tennis Club
Jan. 6	Thurs.	10 a.m.	C.O.P.
Jan. 7	Fri.	11 a.m.	Newsletter staff
		4 p.m.	Singles
Jan. 10	Mon.	12 noon	Women's Club
Jan. 13	Thurs.	12 noon	Cancer Unit
Jan. 17	Mon.	11:30 a.m.	Hadassah

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ACTIVITY CALENDAR
December 1, 2010 – January 31, 2011



December

- Dec. 1**, Wed., 10 a.m., Men's Club **Casino Trip** (p, a)
- Dec. 5**, Sun. 9:30 a.m., Men's Club **Breakfast**
- Dec. 6**, Mon. 2 p.m., **Board of Directors workshop**
- Dec. 8**, Wed. 2 p.m., Hadassah **Life Member party** (p, h)
- Dec. 9**, Thurs. 7:30 p.m., **Board of Directors meeting**
- Dec. 10**, Fri. 8 p.m., Social Club **Movie** (p, h)
- Dec. 12** Sun. 7:30 p.m., M.I.L.T. (members f, non-members \$2, h)
- Dec. 13** Mon. 4 p.m., **Investment discussion group** (f, h)
- Dec. 15** Wed. 2 p.m., **Book Talks and More** (f, h)
 7 p.m., **Association meeting and Board elections**
- Dec. 17** Fri. 11 a.m. Snowbirds **Welcome Back Brunch** (p, h)
- Dec. 19**, Sun. 10: 30 a.m., Cancer Unit **Anniversary Brunch** (p, h)
 7 p.m., Men's Club **Bingo** (p, h)
- Dec. 20** 3 p.m., Hadassah **Study Group** (f, h)
- Dec. 26 and 27**, Sun. and Mon., Social Club **Grandkids party**
- Dec. 26** Sun. 7 p.m., Men's Club **Bingo** (p, h)
- Dec. 31** Fri., 8:30 p.m., Social Club **New Year's Eve Party**

January

- Jan. 2**, Sun. 9:30 a.m., Men's Club **Breakfast** (p, h)
- Jan. 6**, Thurs. 7:30 p.m. **Board of Directors meeting**
- Jan 8**, Sat, 8 p.m. Social Club, **Movie** (p, h)
- Jan 9**, Sun, 7:30 p.m., **M.I.L.T.** (members f, non-members \$2, h)
 4 p.m. **Investment Club** (f, h)
- Jan 16**, Sun, 7 p.m., Men's Club **Bingo** (p, h)
- Jan. 18, Tues., 8 a.m. Travel Club **Kennedy Space Center** (p, h)
- Jan 19**, Wed., 2 p.m. **Book Talks and More** (f, h)
- Jan 22**, Sat, 8 p.m., Social Club **Showtime** (p, h)
- Jan 21 – 28** Hadassah & Cancer Unit **Cruise** (p, a)
- Jan 30**, Sun, 2-5 p.m. **Art Show** (f, h)

See opposite page for general meeting dates

Watch channel 63 for additions, cancellations, or changes in date or time.

For additional information, please contact an officer of the appropriate club,
 not the Majestic Isles Office.

f = free, p = paid, a = away, h = home

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