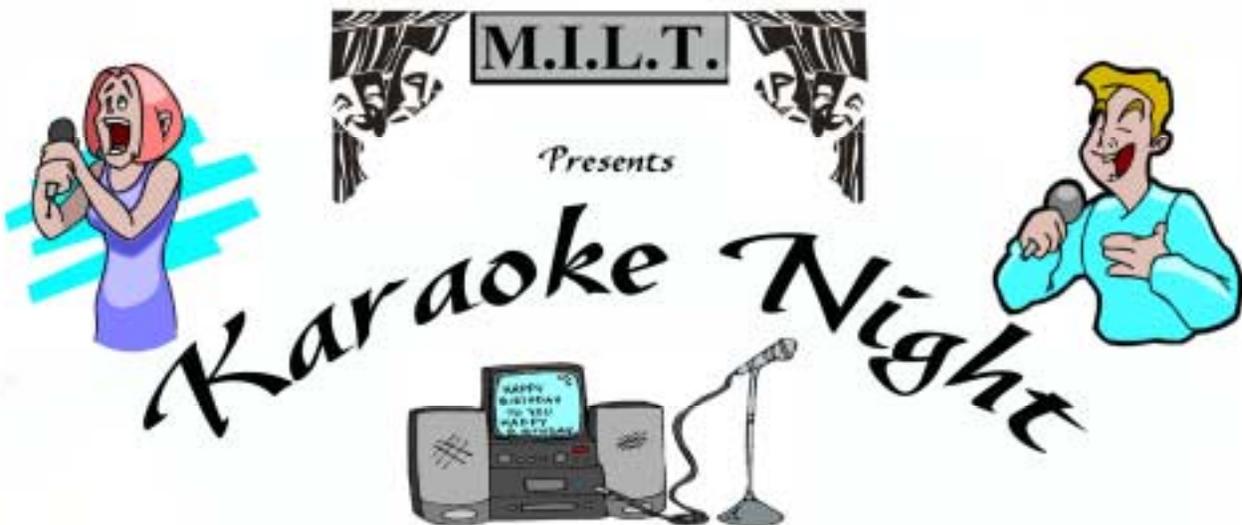


Majestic Isles News

June, 2010

Volume 13

Issue 9



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MANAGER'S CORNER

Every week, at least two or three residents call me about problems with their Comcast TV service. Although fixing TVs is definitely not in the job description of the Association Manager, I don't mind taking a couple of minutes to see if I can help fix a problem rather than having residents wait for an appointment with Comcast. In most cases, I can tell almost immediately if it's a simple fix or something that requires a "professional." I thought I'd pass along a few things you can try to do yourself to correct the issue.

First and foremost, make sure your TV is set to Channel 3. If it's on a different channel you'll only get snow or a blank screen. Use the "Channel Up or Down" buttons directly on your TV -- *not the remote* -- to set it to Channel 3. Many times this will solve the problem. If this does not resolve the issue, leave your TV on before taking the next step.

If you have a VCR in line with the system, follow the same instructions as above for your TV. You may have to use the remote control **for the VCR** -- *not the Comcast remote control* -- to change the channels. If you are still having the problem, leave the VCR on as you move to the next step.

Sometimes when you use the "All On" button on the Comcast remote control, the remote skips turning off one component, such as the cable box. If this happens, when you try to use the "All On" button, you'll be turning some components on and some components off. Look at the Comcast cable box and make sure the light is on. If not, use the Comcast remote control and push the "Cable" button and then the "Power" button. You should see the light on the cable box some on. If you've left the TV and VCR on, you should now have reception.

At this point, you will have done everything I do when I come to a house to try to solve TV problems. If you are still having trouble, I'm willing to give it another try before you call Comcast. I am not able to drop what I'm doing to immediately help with television issues. It may take me a while to make it out of the clubhouse and over to your home, but I can spend the minute or two that it takes to run through these steps, as time allows.

If these steps don't fix the problem, I'm afraid you'll have to call Comcast and wait for an appointment.

Ken Miller, Association Manager



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Unofficial Highlights of M.I. Board of Directors Meeting, May 6, 2010

Minutes of the May 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

- According to our attorney, Association is allowed to charge new owners for capital contributions.
- 5855 Grand Harbour Circle will go up for auction by the bank on May 10.

Treasurer's Report, Sy Kugelmas

- Ken Miller, Association Manager, will assist current and future treasurers with operation of Prime's bookkeeping system to ensure continuity. Future treasurers will have easy access to the Prime system with Ken's assistance.
- Judge rendered a decision in our favor in case of M.I. housing unit in arrears. If we are permitted to go forward, we will take title and can rent out the property. We will not be subject to mortgage lien or real estate taxes. Possibility that anyone in our community can purchase unit. See ch. 63 for details.

Current Cash Position as of 5/6/10

Operating accounts	\$281,944
Reserve accounts	165,152
Total cash position	\$447,096

Statement of Operations for the 1/1/10 – 4/30/04

Total revenues	\$589,243
Operating and owners expenses	<u>-539,348</u>
Net income before reserves	49,895
Transfers to reserves	<u>-84,690*</u>
Net expenses over revenues	(\$34,795)**

*Includes Comcast door fee of \$50,000

**Negative balance exists because the \$50,000 put into reserves cash account must be included as charge to the operating statement, according to our auditors.

- Audited financial statements for calendar year 2009 were accepted by Board at last meeting. Resident owners can obtain a copy from Bonnie.
- Amt. owed vendors as of 5/6/10 totals \$223.65.
- The loan for refurbishing clubhouse for \$500,000 will be paid in full by September 24, 2010. For future years, we will add to general reserve fund without necessity of paying loan.

Grounds Committee, Mort Goldstein

- Recommending we continue checking hedges for signs of ficus whitefly damage, but don't treat for insect until it is confirmed on property.

Clubhouse and Pool, Harvey Galan

- Met with another decorator who will provide proposal. Painter will charge \$700 to repaint all doors, backstage, and repair holes in backstage walls.

GEM (Environment) Committee, Irene Weinstein (See article on p. 6)

Insurance Committee, Janice Davidson

- Hartford sent notice of cancellation for boiler policy. Contacted our agent and found out that other policies cover that risk.

Unfinished Business

- Motion to accept proposal of Zimmerman's Tree Service to use granular treatment throughout property for ficus whitefly, if needed, for \$4593.60 did not pass (3-4).
 - Motion to treat ficus hedges with spray as needed and move to granular treatment if necessary, did not pass (3-4).
 - Motion to accept painter's proposal to paint upstairs doors, dressing room, and repair holes and paint backstage for \$700, subject to verification of insurance, passed (7-0).
 - Motion to accept the painter's proposal to prime, paint and install crown molding in upstairs card room and hallways for under \$2500 passed 7-0.
 - Following discussion of request by resident to install ham radio antennae including proposed restrictions. Motion to approve letter as amended to include a 5' restriction and change "length" to "height," and send it to resident, passed 6-0-1.
 - Motion to accept proposal from CompDoc to install WiFi in clubhouse for \$442.98 passed 7-0.
 - Notice of "Free Movie Pass" given to community by Comcast will be posted on Channel 63 and offered to residents with understanding that Association accepts no responsibility.
- ### **New Business**
- Discussed bringing in shredding company for our residents to destroy important papers. Motion to hire MicroShred passed 4-3.
 - Motion by Joel Rosenthal to eliminate Esther's overtime for June, July, August, and possibly September passed 4-3.
 - Motion to contact Solid Waste Authority about recycling service passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

By Joel Rosenthal



As we approach the mid year mark, preparation of the 2011 budget, in late September. This process, which is open to residents, involves the finance committee, which is chaired by our treasurer, and Prime Management’s bookkeeping department. It includes a review of our reserves and ongoing contracts. Although it is important to have sufficient funds, it is also important to make every effort to control spending when possible.

In the fall, residents will be considering candidates for the November election. We encourage residents to get involved and consider how they can be part of maintaining Majestic Isles. There will be four positions up for election, and an election committee will notify residents of the schedule for the various steps of the process. Board members attend ongoing programs to learn about the regulations that affect homeowners’ associations. They also receive periodicals with timely information.

We hope that new residents of Majestic Isles will consider how they can be part of our effort.

The Board has not scheduled a July meeting, but special meetings are always an option if necessary. Watch Channel 63 for updates and changes. Keep an eye on the Atlantic and have a nice summer.

**CITIZEN OBSERVER PATROL
C.O.P. UNIT #74**

By Ken Keller, Captain



Several residents have asked me questions like, “I saw one or more men in the back of my house. I’m suspicious because I don’t recognize them. Who should I call?”

Call 911! As we have been told, "When in doubt, call them out."

Dial 911 in any emergency. Strangers in your back yard might well be an emergency. If you’re not sure whether a situation warrants a call, risk erring on the side of caution. Let the Sheriff’s Department investigate and possibly prevent an incident.

A reminder: **If you call on your cell phone do not hang up until the operator tells you to do so.** A landline can be traced whether or not you have hung up, but cell phones can only be traced when in use. This is true everywhere.

To stay safe, be alert - and when in doubt, call them out!

If you have to call the Sheriff’s Department in a non-emergency situation, call 688-3400.

WE CARE

By Fred Oestreicher

Remember us? **WE CARE** of Majestic Isles is a



group of your neighbors who volunteer to provide Majestic Isles residents with a variety of services at no charge. We maintain and lend out medical

equipment, including items such as walkers, wheelchairs (regular and transport), canes and crutches that can make life easier while you are having difficulty getting around. If you are looking for these items or other medical equipment, call Sid Bedell (733-2123) before you call a medical supply company. Sid, a dependable **WE CARE** volunteer, is knowledgeable, experienced and eager to help.

For information about other ways **WE CARE** can help call Fred Oestreicher at 734-5169.

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GEM: M.I. GOING GREEN

By Irene Weinstein

Majestic Isles is a gem of a community, so it seems fitting that the name of the newly formed committee on the environment is Green Environment Majestic (GEM). The goal of the committee is to reduce or eliminate our use of toxic chemicals and to increase recycling by the various clubs and organizations that use the clubhouse.

Seven residents attended our first meeting, on April 29; three others had expressed interest but were unable to make the meeting. We also had inquiries from three seasonal residents, who plan to attend when they are here. This committee is open to *all* residents at *all* times, and we look forward to hearing your ideas.

In addition to making immediate plans to work toward reducing the use toxic cleaning supplies and increasing after-use recycling, we mentioned topics that we hope to address later. These include plant spraying, fertilization, composting and painting.

At the May board meeting, we were given permission to investigate recycling possibilities and to look into the ways we can “go green” with our cleaning supplies. I have contacted Waste Management, and they are now preparing a proposal that will be faxed to Joel Rosenthal, Board president, for him to sign. That will be our first step in getting the recycling program started. Once the contract is signed, we can begin to meet with a Waste Management representative to discuss how many small bins will be needed in addition to the two 95 gallon bins we will be receiving. A few committee members will meet with a representative of AmSan, our cleaning supplier, to discuss the use of green products.

We plan to hold our next meeting on June 2, at a time to be announced. Watch for the details on Channel 63, and come join us!



FLORIDA ELECTIONS

By Claire Deveney

Elections for Federal, State and County Offices
Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010 Primary Election
Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2010 General Election

Early primary voting will be held Aug. 9 to 22 and early voting for the general election will be held Oct. 18 to 31. Locations for early voting will be listed in the local newspaper.

Offices to be voted on include: U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative, Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer, Commissioner of Agriculture, State Senate and State Representative, judges and county offices.

To vote in the primary you must be registered by July 26, 2010. To vote in the general election you must be registered by October 4, 2010.

M.I. residents who are registered to vote where they currently live are in Precinct 5027. The polling location is at the Chabad Lubavitch of Boynton, 10655 El Clair Ranch Rd., Boynton Beach.

Information on all candidates may be found on the web at www.pbcelections.org. Absentee ballots may be obtained by calling Palm Beach County Elections Office 561-656-6200 or call toll-free within Palm Beach County 1-866-868-3321. M.I. resident Claire Deveney, cell 561-504-3842 can also provide voting information. As a courtesy, Claire also picks up completed absentee ballots and delivers them to the supervisor of elections office.

GOOD AND WELFARE

GET WELL

Mimi Hauser

Fran Ost

Mike Rossi

SYMPATHY

To the family of Lew Friedland.

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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DRIVERS LICENSE RENEWAL New Rules

By Doris Davidoff

To beef up Homeland Security, Congress passed the “REAL ID Act” in 2005. It became effective nationwide in May 2008. Florida began issuing REAL ID compliant licenses as of Jan. 1, 2010. The compliant licenses have a gold star in the upper right corner of the card.

You may use the “convenience method” (mail or online) to renew only once. After that one time, you will have to renew in person. A license renewed by mail or online will not have the gold star.

A license without the gold star will be valid for federal purposes, such as getting on an airplane or into a federal building, until Dec. 1, 2017 for those citizens born before Dec. 1, 1964 (only until 2014 for those born later). If you receive an eight-year license via the convenience method and it has a valid-until date of 2018, you will have to renew it in person before Dec. 1, 2017, to obtain a “gold star” license.

U.S. citizens renewing a license in person must have one document proving their identity, two forms of proof of residential address and one form of proof of social security number. There is a list of many items on the Motor Vehicle Department’s web site (www.flhsmv.gov) that can be used for proof of residential address, including items such as monthly mortgage statement, Florida Voter Registration Card, Florida Vehicle Registration, medical or health card with address, homeowners insurance, utility bill, etc.

If you have ever changed your name, you need proof, such as a certified copy of your state- issued marriage license (not a religious one). Proof of your social security number can be the original copy of the card, a W-2 form, or a paycheck. The full list of accepted documents is on the web site listed above in the fourth paragraph.

To avoid a long wait or any other challenge, make an appointment and renew your license well before the final deadline. Non-citizens can check the website to find out what documentation they need.



MATURE DRIVERS

By Fred Oestreicher



Although May’s Mature Drivers class set a Majestic Isles record with 95 participants, instructor Kim Olson needed no help with crowd control. (Could that be because she is a former New Jersey driver?) She kept us awake and attentive by breaking up the monotony of the green manual with tales of her own driving experiences and by reading and discussing newspaper articles related to driving and other safety issues. Her remarks about problems with identification theft led neatly into a discussion of the new requirements for driver’s license renewal. (*See article on this page to learn what these requirements are.*)

All participants filled out a form that the Palm Beach Safety Council (PBSC) would use to create certificates of course completion. By the time you read this article, those who attended the class should have received their certificates, which are good for three years. Send these to your auto insurance company to prove eligibility for a discount on your annual premium. The amount of the discount varies from one insurance company to another.

We hope those of you who participated came away with information that will make you a more careful driver out on the road – and within our gates.

We thank the PBSC for sponsoring this class. In the fall, they will offer the class again, so watch the newsletter and Channel 63 for the details.

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AVOID IDENTITY THEFT

Shred Papers at M.I. on July 14

Avoid chances of identity theft by securely destroying papers with sensitive information, such as Social Security numbers, credit card account numbers, bank information, etc.



Micro-Shred is an on-site document destruction and recycling company that specializes in secure destruction of sensitive papers. We will have their truck here for a community shredding event at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 14.

Micro-Shred can process paper only (staples and/or paper clips are OK). Do *not* bring credit cards, CDs, DVDs, notebooks, sheet protectors or other plastic items.

Because our Association is subsidizing this event, there will be a charge of only \$2 per "box" for you. A standard box is 10" x 12" x 15" but you can bring your papers in any paper or plastic bags or in any size box. They will estimate the number of standard size "boxes" you are shredding to determine the price.

Full information is available in a flyer in the back lobby of the clubhouse. If you want to take advantage of this opportunity, you must put your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the back lobby by July 6.

If you have any questions, please call Doris Davidoff (742-3384) or Steve Bayer (737-0495).

MEET THE STAFF



Donna Shaneson, whose motto is "live life to the fullest!" has been writing "Flavors of Florida" for the newsletter for four years. She is always looking for fun things to do and places to see and visit, day trips and walking trails, so she can report on them in her column, "Flavors of Florida."

Donna and her husband, Irwin, moved to M.I. in 2002, and still summer at their home in Long Beach, N.Y. The Shanesons have two sons, Jeff and Adam.

Donna was born in Washington, D.C., and raised in Chevy Chase, Md. She graduated from Long Beach High School in N.Y., earned a B.A. degree in communication arts from Queens College, a master's degree in reading and special education from Adelphi University and an advanced certificate in administration and supervision at Brooklyn College.

Donna taught at the largest alternative high school in Queens, N.Y., and later became the administrator of the school. She also served as arts coordinator taking students to opera, ballet, Broadway, museums and on college trips. She proudly explains that she helped many at-risk youth such as high school dropouts, ex-convicts and pregnant teens. She prepared students for the high school equivalency (GED) exam. Donna explains, "This school was very successful and many students went on to college. I loved the work for 27 fabulous years. We created an environment where teachers liked to teach and students enjoyed learning and learning was fun."

Donna says she's still having fun. She's taking many courses at United Federation of Teachers facility in Boca Raton on music, film, Broadway and show tunes. She loves reading and giving and going to book reviews and attends many book clubs. She's active at the Chabad shul and runs its book club. Among her favorite things to do are cooking, water aerobics, talking, walking, bike riding and enjoying the beautiful surroundings and nature walks. She also meets regularly with her cousins to talk, do antiquing, go to art and craft shows, and schmooze.

What would you like to see in the Majestic Isles News? We hope to find your suggestions in the newsletter box in the back lobby.

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Highlights of the May 19, 2010 COBWRA Meeting at Valencia Isles

State Legislators Report on Tallahassee

Rep Maria Sachs, District 86, is already starting to prepare for the next legislative session. Her **Blue Ribbon committees** begin meeting in June to draft bills for 2011. Committees are Disaster Preparedness, Energy, Healthcare, Education and Human Trafficking and are open to any interested citizens. To join, call her office at 266-6645. She is also putting together a **symposium on small businesses** looking for renewable energy jobs.

- She said the reason the House passed no energy bills was they were waiting to pass a bill to allow offshore drilling for oil. After the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, offshore drilling is off the table.

- The emphasis is shifting to renewable energy sources.

Rep Kevin Rader, District 78, reported the 2010 state budget was the biggest problem the legislature faced this year. The **budget passed was \$70 B**, some \$3 B less than last year. Unemployment is at 12.3%—the highest in the State's history. How are we going to get people back to work?

Three bills important to PBC passed:

- **The Red Light Camera Bill** passed and the Governor signed the Bill. It is now the law.

- **The Pill Mill Bill** banning dispensing more than 72 hrs. of prescription drugs to cash customers.

- **The Ethics Bill** with tougher penalties for unscrupulous elected officials passed. Rader sponsored the bill the House sponsor and Senator Aronberg was the Senate sponsor.

- On the last day of session, there was partisan bickering over a last-minute amendment to a healthcare bill requiring a woman seeking an **abortion** to have an ultrasound and pay for it. Unfortunately, it passed. **Please ask the Governor Crist to veto this bill.**

Rep Joe Abruzzo, Dist 85, reported these bills passed:

- **The Animal Abuse Bill** to penalize anyone stealing and slaughtering horses for their meat. The bill would also prevent anyone with a questionable background from practicing as a veterinary pharmacist.

- **The Direct Support to Military Families Bill** will help families when a member's deployment creates a hardship for the family.

- Palm Beach and Broward County have become the Pill capitals of the country. The **Pill Mill Bill** requires that only licensed doctors can operate pain clinics..

- The **budget situation** will be even worse next year when the Federal stimulus dollars run out.

- Abruzzo said that many Republican House members still believe Florida should approve offshore drilling.

Officials' Reports

Chair of the BCC, District 5, Burt Aaronson reported:

- The proposal to **rent the land for the Canyons Park** to a nursery is dead. To save maintenance cost, the county will mow the grass only twice a year.

- On the **Red Light Camera Bill**, Aaronson said the intent of the county was to save lives, not benefit monetarily. The legislature wants to raise money.

Commissioner Shelley Vana, District 3, expressed her concerns over the **release of fresh water** from Lake Okeechobee into our estuaries and killing the marine life. The Army Corps of Engineers says safety concerns over the Lake Okeechobee Dike make water releases necessary. It is human life vs. marine life.

- She thanked everyone for helping to convince the **Governor to veto Senate Bill 6** that would have changed how teachers are paid.

Captain Martin Bechtel, Commander PBSO Dist. 6, reported the crime stats from April 15 to May 14:

- PBSO investigated 186 car accidents. Boynton Beach Blvd. and Lantana at Jog are the most dangerous.

- 49 residential burglaries, 79 vehicle burglaries, 5 robberies and 4 business burglaries.

- PBSO responded to 449 false alarms.

- 445 truant children were returned to school so far this year. Kids out of school get into trouble. PBSO is seeking participants in the next **Sheriff's Citizens Police Academy** starting Sept 1 and a **Teen Police Academy** in July. Call 357-7000 for details.

Chief David Horowitz, Fire Rescue, Battalion 4, If you will need a medical or pet shelter during a hurricane, you must register in advance. To reserve a shelter call 712-6400 for medical and for pets call 233-1266.

COBWRA Reports Education Chair, Harriet Doctor, seeks volunteers for the committee. Anyone in a COBWRA community may volunteer. Call Harriet at 735-7564.

Health & Flu Shots Chair, Joan Brunswick, reported that planning proceeds the fall flu shot clinics. At a workshop at 3 pm, Aug 3 at Valencia Shores, you will learn your clinic's schedule and other details. Clinics begin Sept 23 through Oct 5, 2010.

Future Meetings (Open to the public)

June 1, 6:30 pm: Growth Management at PBSO Dist. 6

June 14, 7:00 pm: COBWRA Evening Meeting at Coral Lakes, 12751 El Clair Ranch Rd. "Foreclosures Crisis"

June 16, 9:30 am: COBWRA Delegates meeting at Westchester Country Club, Pipers Glen Blvd & Jog Rd Program: Hurricane preparedness for communities.

—**Ken Lassiter for COBWRA Communications Online at: www.cobwra.org**

VISITING

Edd Bloom and Beverly Jaffe

By Claire Deveney



Edd Bloom and Beverly Jaffe come from Yonkers, N.Y. where they graduated together from Yonkers High School, class of 1949.

Edd went to the State University of New York for two years and then transferred to Michigan State University in East Lansing, where he joined ROTC and earned a B.S. degree in electrical engineering. After graduation Edd married and began working for the National Security Agency in Washington, D.C. Six months later he was called to active duty to serve as a second lieutenant in the Air Force as a maintenance and supply officer on Guam.

Upon his return, Edd and his family settled in Grand Rapids, Mich., and he went to work at Lear Electronics. His work as an engineer, and later as plant manager, took him to Inland Steel in East Chicago, Ind.; American Standard in New Jersey and Macon, Ga. and Stanley Tools in York, Pa. and Wichita Falls, Texas.

Edd completed his successful 33-year engineering career in 1988 due to corporate downsizing, and he and his wife, Marcia, opened a stained glass studio. Marcia died of lung cancer ten years later. They were married for 43 years and had three children: Beth, a professional photographer, lives in Rochester, N.Y.; Brian, a marketing manager with Hilton Hotels in Atlanta, lives in Woodstock, Ga. with his wife, Deborah and their two children, Caitlin, who graduated from high school in May, and Colin (Edd's grandchildren); and a daughter, Brenda, who died five years ago.

After high school, Beverly completed the executive training program and became an assistant buyer for Saks 34th Street in Manhattan. She was married in 1950 and left work to start a family. Her daughter Nancy and her husband, Paul, live in Raleigh, N.C., and have two adult children, Jeffrey and Stacie. Robert and his wife, Wendy, live in Demarest, N.J. with their two children, Lindsay, a May graduate of the University of Hartford, Conn., and Ross. Laurie and her husband, Steve, live in North Bergen, N.J. There are three great-grandchildren. Ryan, 5 and Jake, 3 live in Calif., and Emerson, 4 lives in N.C.

Edd and Beverly attended Caitlin's and Lindsay's graduations in May.

Throughout her life Beverly has done extensive volunteer work, particularly for Cerebral Palsy where she served on the board of directors in Yonkers.

When her youngest child was five, Beverly returned to work as a receptionist of a beauty salon. She then worked as an office manager for a gynecologist for 35 years. Her 37-year marriage ended in divorce. When Beverly decided to retire she moved to M.I.

Edd and Beverly remet at their 50th high school reunion. Edd told Beverly that he planned to visit Florida and she agreed he should call on her. Their first date in Florida was a Dave Brubeck Concert. Edd returned home and they kept in contact with hour-long phone calls and regular visits. When Beverly had a double knee replacement, Edd was there to help Beverly back on her feet. Eleven years ago they started a new chapter of their lives together at M.I.

Both Edd and Beverly are active in the M.I. Little Theater. Beverly usually works off stage, doing everything from reading lines to ticket sales. Edd acts and directs. Since his 20's he has loved and performed in community theatre. He's been directing since 1999. He has performed in 50 roles and directed eight productions. He directed and acted in M.I.L.T.'s "Send Me No Flowers" this past April. Edd has been a co-president and board of directors member of M.I.L.T. Since coming to Florida, Edd has both directed and acted in numerous theaters including Lake Worth Playhouse, On Stage Productions, at the Jewish Community Center, and has directed several plays at Valencia Isles, a neighboring community. He has also done TV and radio commercials and voice-overs.

In addition to M.I.L.T. Beverly is a board member of both the M.I. Cancer Research Unit of the Pap Corps and Hadassah.

Edd added the second "d" to his name four years ago for a new email address. His CB radio name has been Mr. Ed, after the talking horse TV star. The name Mr. Ed was not available, so Mr. Edd was born. "It's different," he says.

Edd and Beverly are creative and enthusiastic and share their many talents and caring with their neighbors and friends at M.I.

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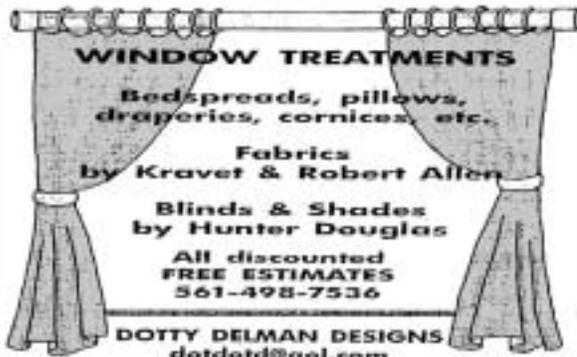
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Gardening in the Isles

By
Stan Davidson

I have been a volunteer in the Palm Beach County Master Gardener's program for over 10 years. Let's go outside the gates of Majestic Isles this month and find out who and what Master Gardeners are. Deborah Devulis, a County Extension Agent with whom I work and whom I quote below, is an excellent source for this information.

What are Master Gardeners? "Master Gardeners are people who are willing to make a personal commitment to volunteer services, have a sincere desire to help others and who want to learn about landscaping and gardening."

How did the program start and how is it going? "In 1972 an innovative Extension Service Agent in the state of Washington reasoned that well-trained volunteers could respond to the many everyday homeowners' questions and free the agents and their colleagues to respond to more challenging and difficult problems. The Extension Agent selected, trained and certified volunteers to be known as Master Gardeners. Since 1972, the Master Gardeners' Volunteer Program has grown and is currently active in more than 45 states. Florida's program began in 1979. It has become a tremendous success and is now active in 56 Florida counties."

What is the Cooperative Extension Service? "In 1862, the United States Congress passed the Morrill Act which established colleges in each state to be financed through grants of land from the Federal Government. The University of Florida, in Gainesville, is Florida's Land Grant College.

The university's Institute of Food and Agriculture (IFAS) is that part of the university which has the responsibility for the Cooperative Extension Service and sponsors the Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Program."

How does one train to become a Master Gardener? "Master Gardeners receive 120 hours of intensive training by University of Florida specialists, industry experts, extension agents and more. Training subjects include: basic botany, turf management, pest management, palms, soil science, plant propagation, citrus, tropical fruit, household pests, native plants, vegetable gardening, ornamental trees and shrubs, and ground covers. Upon completion of the above topics of study, a written exam is given. Once the introductory training is completed, the Master Gardener must return 75 hours of volunteer services. To remain a certified Master Gardener requires 35 volunteer hours and 10 hours of continuing education training each year. Master Gardeners participate in a variety of activities that include: plant telephone hotline [I have accumulated well over 2000 hours on the hotline over the past 10 years], public speaking, working with youth in schools and helping at special gardening events and the Green Market."

I hope the above information provides you with some insight on just what a Master Gardener is and does. You can be sure that as a Master Gardener I, personally, will always be available in Majestic Isles and will continue to man the Delray Master Gardeners' telephone hotline "to help others to grow."

Happy Gardening!



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FLAVORS OF FLORIDA

By Donna Shaneson

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www.delraybeachplayhouse.com

Musical Memories, presented by Randolph Del Lago feature the music of Arthur Schwartz, "That's Entertainment. The dates are May 31, June 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. All seats are \$25.

Boynton Beach Library

208 South Seacrest Blvd.

Boynton Beach

742-6390

The Boynton Beach Library has quilter's groups for all levels on Thursdays at 9-11:30 a.m.

Green Cay Wetlands

12800 Hagen Ranch Road

(East side of Hagen Ranch Road, between Boynton Beach Boulevard and Atlantic Avenue).

Boynton Beach

966-7000

The Friends of the Green Cay will present a Tai Chi class on Thursdays at 3 p.m. The price is \$30 per course. There are many benefits to this ancient Chinese system of exercise. Many doctors suggest Tai Chi to prevent seniors from falling. It is wonderful at helping balance problems for seniors.

Morikami Gardens

4000 Morikami Park Rd.

Delray Beach

495-0233

www.Morikami.org

"Sushi and Stroll" on select Friday evenings is a wonderful summer option at the Morikami. Explore the wonderful gardens and peaceful areas set up for reflection.

Palm Beach Dramaworks

322 Banyan Blvd

West Palm Beach

514-4042

Dramaworks is doing a staged reading of Noel Coward's "Hay Fever." There will be a discussion after the play, on June 1, at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. and on June 4 at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The Flagler Museum

1 Whitehall Way

Palm Beach

655-2833

On Founders' Day, June 5, admission to the Flagler Museum is free. Treat yourself and friends to a wonderful tour of Henry Flagler's house, White Hall. You can walk around the beautiful grounds and view his private train in which he travelled from New York to Florida. The furnishings are terrific and there is a beautiful lace exhibit on the 2nd Floor. Don't miss this free day at the Flagler.

Kravis Center

701 Okeechobee Boulevard

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www.Kravis.org/regionalarts

Kravis will present their concert series, Music "At Eight" and Music "At Two." This is a Regional Arts Concert Series featuring the Moscow Symphony, the Toronto Symphony, and the Israeli Philharmonic with Zubin Mehta and Itzak Perlman and more. The cost is \$16 for one concert, \$96 for 6 concerts and \$144 for all 9 concerts.

Clematis at Night

Centennial Square

West Palm Beach

822-1515

Clematis at night occurs every Thursday night between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. and features music, food, and shopping for crafts and jewelry.



REMEMBERING

In observance of Father's Day, members of the newsletter staff and a couple of their spouses have contributed the following stories.

Herb Levin: During my teens, my family often vacationed at a modest hotel in Atlantic City. While relaxing on the porch one evening, my father became acquainted with another guest. The gentleman confided in him that a neighbor's snoring was keeping him awake. He had tried all means he could think of to muffle the sound, but to no avail. Dad was too embarrassed to admit he was the guilty party. The two shared an interest in automobile mechanics and continued to converse throughout the week. Some years later, we learned that Dad's friend invented the Midas Muffler. We always wondered if my father's snoring was a source of inspiration.

Betty Wachtel: When my dad, Sam Reeback, was a boy, he and a couple of friends liked to hang around the nearby volunteer fire station. The summer he was nine, they were thrilled to be "drafted" to help train a new fire horse. One boy stood on a chair near the fire gong, hammer in hand, another stood just to the side of the doorway of the horse's stall, near the rope that could open the gate. My dad, holding a small whip, stood at the back of the stall. On cue from a fireman, the boy with the hammer hit the gong to simulate an alarm. The boy at the door pulled the cord that opened the stall. (With a real alarm, the gate would open automatically.) My dad immediately hit the horse on the rear with the whip, the horse ran out of the stall, and a fireman hitched him to the hose wagon. They repeated this over and over before the horse learned to leave the stall and go directly to the wagon when the alarm sounded. This was the last fire horse trained in Newburgh, New York before the fire stations switched to motorized vehicles.

Doris Davidoff: My father, Philip Seligson, ran away from home before he graduated high school (he eventually received a GED diploma), but he was one of the most educated people I've ever known. He read everything so he had an extremely large vocabulary. He didn't always pronounce words correctly because he learned them from reading, not listening, but he knew what they meant and how to use them. We kept an unabridged dictionary near our dining room table and many evenings at dinner, he would use a word he thought my sister or I might not

know. If we couldn't give him the definition, we would have to go to the dictionary to look it up before we could finish eating. I'll never forget the time, when I was about eight years old and trying to be humorous, my father looked at me and said, "Stop being facetious." I said, "I'm not – I'm just being funny." He made me go look it up.

Donna Shaneson: As Hubert Humphrey's campaign manager in 1960, 1964, and 1968, my father, Sidney Spector, travelled all over the country. He really loved politics, and his picture appeared in "Life" magazine. My parents attended the inauguration of Johnson and Humphrey. We have wonderful memorabilia from all the conventions.

Ellin Goldstein: When WWII was declared, my dad, Sidney Bauman, tried to enlist, but because he was 35 and had a child, he was not accepted by any of the armed services. He was also unable to find a job because potential employers said he should be in the army. In 1944, he volunteered to go to Bermuda, where he spent the rest of the war loading and unloading boats. Luckily for him, his best friend was in the same position, so he was not totally alone in Bermuda. My mom moved in with her mother and went to work. I was the happiest little girl, because all of my cousins lived right near my grandmother. Whenever there was a skirmish in Bermuda, we all sat glued to the radio. At the end of the war, the two friends came home safely, but my father never said a word about his experiences. I've always imagined that it must have been truly horrible for him.

Judy Radin: Both of my parents were first generation Americans...and very proud of it! When WWII was declared, Dad ran down to the draft board to enlist in the army. Disappointment was written all over his face when he reported that he was too old to enlist. In an effort to become an important part of the war effort, Dad became an Air Raid Warden and regarded his position as one of great importance. When a blackout alarm resounded throughout the neighborhood, he grabbed his helmet, whistle, gas mask and other accoutrements and ran into the street hollering "lights out" to all offenders.

At the time of one particular "surprise attack," the alarm stunned us at 1:00 a.m. Dad told us all to go back to sleep and reassured us that he would take care of everything. *(continued on opposite page)*

(continued from previous page) When the “all-clear” siren was sounded, our family was sleeping so soundly that we didn’t even hear it. What we did hear eventually, was a persistent pounding on the window of the second floor master bedroom. We all ran to the window to find Dad standing on a ladder, banging on the window. Apparently, while tending to his very important job, our hero had forgotten his house key at home and locked himself out! We teased him about his heroism for years to come.

Claire Deveney: When my father, John Deveney, died at 58, I was 23. I looked around for something he gave me, such as a piece of jewelry, and realized my father gave me my indomitable spirit and taught me by example: tenacity, how to be somebody, how to speak up for yourself, be generous, take care of someone, be a friend, laugh a lot, love the beach and swimming. For these, and many other values and things he taught me, I am grateful.

My dad, a successful contractor, also owned racehorses. During WWII he adopted two families, one from Czechoslovakia and the other from Poland, through Catholic Charities in Boston. He placed them in a farmhouse on a large farm he owned in Millis, Mass., where he retired a few of his racehorses.

He was big – six feet tall -- a self-made man, a successful building contractor with a booming voice. He taught me how to survive, love and live well.

Thelma Mechanic: My two little boys were 6 and 9 years old when their father passed away, only a week after they’d lost their grandpa. It was an exceedingly difficult time for our family. However, on June 20, I received a Father’s Day card from Robert and Bruce in their handwriting. It was poignant, and expressed their feelings for me: “Dear Mommy, Thank you for being a Mommy and Daddy to us.”

Jim Wachtel: During WWII, the need for telephone service in Washington D.C. quickly far outstripped the capacity, and the only people in the country familiar with the state-of-the-art equipment were a few employees of the telephone companies in the country’s two biggest cities, New York and Chicago. My dad, Dave Wachtel, was part of a group of 20 men from those cities who were assigned to Washington to select and install the necessary phone equipment. The highlight of my childhood was Labor Day weekend, 1944, when my mother took me to visit him there. (The trip made such an impression that when Betty and I visited D.C. as young marrieds,

I was able to navigate and drive around the city easily. It took Betty several visits to realize that all the navigating was being done with the memory of that single visit to my father when I was ten.

Elaine Jay: The Brooklyn row house in which I spent my first 10 years was a 15-minute walk from the Pennsylvania Avenue IRT subway stop. At night, after my father arrived home at the end of his commute, he was understandably anxious to get out of his wing tip shoes and relax at dinner. The bedroom and closet were upstairs and the stairwell quite dark, except during the summer months. It was up to one of the girls to bring his shoes upstairs, put the shoe trees in them [remember shoe trees?] and bring down his “easy shoes.”

As a dutiful daughter, I wanted to please my dad. However, the fear factor of going up the long dark flight of stairs into the even darker room was significant. And those shoes seemed so heavy to a six-year-old! So, my older sister and I took turns mustering the courage to accomplish the task, just to have the chance to see his broad, appreciative smile and get that loving hug and kiss.

Phyllis Cohen: My father loved a good story and a joke, especially if he was part of the tale. One of his favorites described his experience as bus boy in a hotel in the wilds of the Catskill Mountains probably in the 1920’s. One afternoon, he was romancing a pretty little chambermaid, an Irish colleen right off the boat from the old sod, and invited her for a stroll into the woods around the hotel. As he was saying sweet nothings to her, he spied a bear (it got bigger in every telling) appear behind her from the woods. Without a word, he bolted from the scene and fled back to the safety of the hotel.

A few minutes later, the young girl returned as well, encountered him and remarked, in her sweet Irish accent, “Ah, Hyman, what a fine broth of a lad you are, but no hero.”

I don’t think he made much progress in romance that summer, but proved to himself that discretion is the better part of valor.



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USING YOUR PERSONAL MEDICAL ACTIVITY RECORD

By Paul Mendelsohn



Last month, I presented a method of organizing an individual's medical activity. Now I am going to explain how organizing your medical activity record in this way can be useful.

Many of the benefits of the organization I described in the May issue of the newsletter are obvious: You'll have the information organized and in one place where it is readily available. You'll have a quick reference to see whether a bill has been paid and that will help to avoid overpayment or having to request rebates. You'll have immediate access to the contact information for all the individual's medical providers and suppliers. You'll also have a record of all medical services and tests you have received in that year.

With the medical services record, you can frequently avoid unnecessary duplicate testing by checking your record and letting the second (or third or...) doctor know you have already had a test and that information is available from the physician who ordered the initial test or from the laboratory where the test was analyzed. If you take the binder every time you go to a medical professional, you will be able to refer to it to answer questions that you may be asked at the appointment and you will be sure you are providing complete and accurate information.

In the Drug Information section of the record (Section 4), list and update all prescriptions and pharmaceuticals you use, including the dates of the prescription, the date of any refills, and the date you stopped use of a particular drug. If you have a reaction to a medication, you should also note the date and type of reaction. Behind that information, you can file all of the bills and drug information you've received. Giving this list to physicians to copy when you are asked about the drug information can save a lot of time and effort.

Each year, when you create a new binder, you can include an updated current list of medications. The binder for a new year should also include a summary sheet with the history of all hospitalizations and surgical procedures performed in either inpatient or outpatient (ambulatory) setting.

You will find this binder a real timesaver when visiting providers for the first time. By just handing them the relevant pages to copy, rather than complete the myriad of forms they ask you to complete. Make sure they return the copies before you leave the office and immediately refile them properly in the binder.

If you feel your insurance company has made an error, the binder can be a valuable tool in filing an appeal for reconsideration. You will easily be able to provide much of the information necessary to document your claim and you will have at hand the contact information of your provider/practitioner if you need to request additional justification.

Similarly if you are in an accident or workers' compensation situation, you can abstract from the binder all of the expense information related to your claim or required by your attorney or insurance company to assure you are receiving all possible compensation including related expenses such as transportation.

At tax time, the binder is a quick reference to obtain all possible medical related deductions.

If you need to change your medical insurance, these binders can be used to see what your past medical history requirements were. This is critical in matching your needs to a health insurance plan's coverage. For those with Medicare this would help in making a determination as to whether the Medicare Advantage Plan or Traditional Medicare Coverage best meets your needs. Similarly, the drug record in your binder can be of great assistance in choosing a Medicare Part D drug plan. And obviously, all of the information is useful to select an appropriate MediGap plan.

Finally, this record serves as a life-long medical history that can go with you if you move to a new area. The information in the binder also provides a record of any diseases/disorders or allergies that may be genetic and that may be useful to ensure that your children receive optimal medical care for themselves and your grandchildren.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul at 561-292-2330 or pdm2330@aol.com.

Since retiring from Medicare, Paul has been doing consultant work on issues of insurance and also disability accommodations.

INVESTORS DISCUSSION GROUP

Al Silverman----Facilitator



There is a new threat to our economy, the financial markets and the world economy. No, it is not only excessive government spending, nor the complexity of health care reform, nor the ridiculous lack of co-operation between the political parties in Congress. It is the Greek financial crisis that triggered the biggest financial weakness in Wall Street - automatic super speed micro-minute trading (down 1000 points in less than 30 minutes), which prevents visibility, along with a lack of the up-tick rule (which everyone seems to have forgotten about.). This causes havoc with the market since the shorts and traders take extraordinary advantage, as we have seen on an already beaten down market.

The SEC and Congress were still asleep at the switch but there are signs that they may have been shaken up on May 6. The federal regulators that oversee financial markets say they are investigating the causes of the mass sell-off on May 6 that pushed the Dow Jones Industrial Average down hundreds of points. They are identifying one possible cause: conflicting trading rules for different markets; they are looking at information from exchanges, self-regulating groups and market participants. They are looking for the mosquito instead of the swamp.

They say they will make any necessary changes to prevent the problem from recurring. The SEC and CFTC have ultimate oversight of financial markets but they generally rely on the markets to write and enforce their own rules. So much for "laissez-faire". (What's that about the fox in the hen house?)

By the way, the up-tick rule that used to be our protection against raiding by the short sellers, if again implemented, can now be easily overcome by superspeed micro-minute trading. They can trade 100 shares up and then 1000 or more shares down a million times a minute, masking visibility and crushing a stock or the market. Will the SEC change this too?

Stay calm if you have quality income investments. This, too, should pass, though the timetable is uncertain.

Periodically, a new offering of a product may be offered in a newsletter or on CNN that is promoted as a means to make you a lot of money. Such was the

case with imported frozen ice" which enticed investors to buy. However, then came an offer of a machine to "freeze imported water." Then came a machine to directly freeze domestic water to compete with the imported frozen ice - and down came the market values. So be cautious about hype that can make you rich. (This story about ice is hypothetical but it illustrates the need to do your own research.)

Notwithstanding the above, a new issue of an income investment came on the market a little over a month ago that is quite attractive. PowerShares' recently launched "Closed-End Fund Income Composite ETF." symbol PCEF. At the recent price of \$25.00/sh, the yield is approximately 8.6% and pays monthly. This is a fund of funds, an exchange traded fund, holding shares of many closed-end preferred stock funds (approx. 82), providing broad diversification; thus, the description "an ETF of CEF." It invests in taxable investment-grade fixed income securities, taxable hi-yield fixed income securities and some equity option writing strategies.

The upside takes advantage of pricing inefficiencies inherent in CEF investing since the index is weighted more heavily towards component funds that are trading at discounts to the underlying NAV. This naturally increases the distribution rate.

The downside is that the market value can be affected by changes in interest rates. This is brought to your attention for your evaluation. As always, do your own research as to suitability and consult with your investment advisor. There are many others that we have discussed at our meetings. See you all.

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MORE THAN JUST THE BIG BAND ERA

By Josh

Katz



KAY KYSER

Real name **James Kern Kyser**. One of the most successful of the big band leaders, for years his College of Musical Knowledge was one of the highest rated programs on radio.

Dubbed the "Ol' Professor," Kyser also had a successful film career.

He got his start in music while a law student at the University of North Carolina. He was picked by fellow student and future bandleader **Hal Kemp** to lead the school's popular Carolina Club Orchestra after Kemp graduated in 1927. Kay advertised for new members when school resumed in the fall. Among those who answered his call was singer/sax player **Sully Mason**, who remained with Kyser throughout the rest of his career.

The group toured the country for several years without great success. 1931 saw the arrival of trumpeter **Merwin Bogue**, later known as **Ish Kabibble**.

In 1934 Kyser received his big break, landing the gig at the Blackhawk Restaurant in Chicago. With that engagement came radio time and added fame. The band proved popular and Kyser soon earned a recording contract with Brunswick. He also hired singers **Ginny Simms** and **Harry Babbitt**.

In 1937 Kay developed a musical quiz show, the College of Musical Knowledge. A big success regionally, the show was bought by Lucky Strike in 1938 and moved to New York, where it began airing on NBC. It immediately became a smash hit.

Though Kay's orchestra excelled at playing straight numbers, he never shied away from novelty tunes. With the talents of Babbitt, who could sing in his high "Little Audrey" voice; Mason, who sang scat numbers; and Ish Kabibble, who would constantly interrupt Kyser to recite silly poems, the group was armed with a potent arsenal, which it used quite often.

In 1939 Kay starred in his first film, "That's Right, I'm Wrong," with Lucille Ball. That same year the orchestra played at the premier of "Gone with the Wind" and had its biggest hit, the novelty tune "Three

Little Fishes." Simms left in 1941 and was replaced by **Trudy Erwin**.

When WWII broke out Kay was the first star to perform for the troops. He vowed to perform no commercial engagements until the war ended, aside from outstanding contracts. He continued with his radio program and his acting career, devoting his spare time to entertaining servicemen and selling war bonds. Along with actors **Bette Davis** and **John Garfield**, he founded the Hollywood Canteen, where stars served and entertained soldiers.

In 1943 model and actress **Georgia Carroll** joined the orchestra as vocalist. Kay and Georgia were married in June of 1944.

Kyser lost Babbitt to the service late in the war. **Mike Douglas**, who later became a popular talk show host, replaced him. Carroll retired in 1946 to raise her family.

Kay left show business without even a goodbye. Over the years he refused to grant interviews and turned down offers to perform. He devoted the rest of his life to Christian Science, first as a practitioner and later as head of the church's film and television department. During the 1970s he became a lecturer and would often talk to radio stations about his music career if they plugged his tours. In 1983 he was elected president of the worldwide Christian Science church. Kay Kyser died in 1985 at the age of 80, after suffering a heart attack.

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TAX CORNER

By Mel Burstein

Here is the latest update relative to electronic filing of Federal Tax Returns. It now appears that only paid tax preparers who prepare more than ten tax returns will have to file all returns electronically. This means that if you pay someone to prepare your 2010 tax return, it will have to be filed electronically.

Last month, I said that the District Court ruled that an inherited IRA was not protected from bankruptcy creditors. The Court further ruled that, even though the 2005 bankruptcy law had provided a \$1 million exemption from creditors for IRA's, inherited IRA's were **not** covered by this law, and that only a debtor's personal retirement funds qualify for this exemption.

The tax law expressly prohibits a rollover of an inherited IRA. Title of the an inherited IRA remains in the name of the original owner for the benefit of a beneficiary, and since it no longer belongs to the original owner, it does not qualify for the exemption and is available to bankruptcy creditors.

The Appeals Court has a different opinion. It says that bankruptcy creditors cannot attach an inherited IRA even though the account title remains in the name of the original owner. This Court is of the opinion that bankruptcy law does not require that retirement funds be in the name of the original owner in order for the exemption to apply. At the time of this writing, Districts Courts remain divided on the subject. Stay tuned.

What records do you have to keep for tax purposes and for how long? *Any* and *all* documents having an impact on Federal Tax returns should be kept, including all bills, credit card and other receipts (mileage logs, etc). Normally, tax records should be kept for 3 years. Records relative to home purchase, security stock transactions, IRA's and business or rental property transactions should be kept longer.

RECOMMENDATION FOR OUR RESIDENTS

If the door to your house inside the garage is locked before you leave and start your car, and the house keys are on the same ring as your car keys, you cannot mistakenly leave your car running when re-entering your house.

THE NEW iPad MAY BE FOR YOU

By Doris Davidoff



Are you thinking about purchasing your first computer? Or, perhaps, you're considering obtaining a second one...maybe a laptop. Or, maybe you've found a computer to be more complex than you want it to be, but you'd still like to use email and the Internet.

If any of these scenarios apply, you might find Apple's new iPad to be just right for you. Although Apple has never promoted this new product specifically to the senior market, I have found that it can be the perfect solution for many seniors.

The iPad is much easier to use and more intuitive than a computer. It is based on the operating system used in the iPhone and the iTouch, which are both products that many seniors use. One can even think of the iPad as a large, and therefore, easier to read iTouch (which is just an iPhone without the phone).

With an iPad you can send and receive email and use the Internet, two functions that seniors use most. You have control over the size of the print. You can also display and organize your photos and view them on a beautiful large screen. The iPad can even double as a digital picture frame when you're not using it.

The iPad includes an excellent electronic reader. You can have hundreds of books available to read on the iPad, and holding it is very similar to holding a typical hard-cover book. Using the iPad to read books has several advantages over physical books. You can make the print larger (or smaller). You can seek the definition of a word you don't know. Or, you can search for an earlier mention of a character that shows up in the story when you can't remember who or what that character is.

There are also thousand of "apps" or applications, many of them free, for doing all kinds of things. The iPad, as purchased, includes a calendar, contacts, maps, iPod (for listening to music), and photos. There are tens of thousands of others available. Some of the apps I have are for keeping to-do notes, translating measurements like miles and kilometers or centigrade and Fahrenheit, some games, a dictionary, TV Guide, a number of newspapers such as the "NY Times," a movie guide and lots of other fun, helpful or just interesting "stuff."

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THANK YOU, BETTY WHITE

By Phyllis M. Cohen



Well, I never thought I would say it. Suddenly, it's "chic" to be old. You can blame part of it on Betty White, that dynamic 88-year-old actress who stole the hearts of Facebook fans after a Superbowl ad appearance and promos for a new sitcom starting in June led them to clamor for her appearance on Saturday Night Live. If you don't remember Betty White, she was that little spitfire of an actress who was all over television in the 70's and 80's, and one of that terrific group of mature women in the seven-season hit, "The Golden Girls," a sitcom about a group of older women living in Miami and experiencing all the woes and delights of aging. The cast included the incomparable Bea Arthur, feisty Estelle Getty, and the sexy Rue McClanahan. Betty played, to perfection, the role of a loving but naïve woman. In her present career, she is a shrewd observer with a salty vocabulary that keeps fans roaring.

This new phenom is part of what one television commentator has called "elderchic." Many older actors and actresses have recurring roles on major networks or in theaters and are enjoying renewed success in their careers. And judging by Betty White's renewed fame, young audiences are wowed.

You have to wonder why people are reacting this way. For a long time, youth has been the dominant theme in politics and the arts. Our country ushered in a very young president and his young family. In Great Britain, the new prime minister may be soon changing "nappies," as they say over the pond, at Number 10 Downing Street. In the arts and sports, old age started at 30. Just think of the expression of disdain on the faces of American Idol judges and audience as the fortyish Susan Boyle made her appearance on the stage and the moment before she first began to sing.

The older generation has long been pictured as doddering and obsolete, the butt of humor in many a

book or show. I still grit my teeth when I see a newspaper report of an "elderly man of 65" being attacked in some sort of incident. Who are they calling elderly? And to a large extent, many in our older population have been out of the public eye, segregated in senior communities or far away from family members. On a recent trip up to St. Augustine, I stopped in a roadside fast food restaurant and was amused to see that my husband and I were the sole patrons over 35 or 40. (After reading the menu disclosures about fat, salt and sugar in the meals, I know why). In fact, the server insisted on carrying my tray over to the table for me. Oy! Am I that old?

But although I am not going to say that 70 is the new 50 or 80 is the new 60, (just ask your body when you get up in the morning) it is true that there are many active adults working daily in high power and high prestige jobs. Just think of people like Andy Rooney or Barbara Walters, John McCain and Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Michael Caine and Clint Eastwood, to mention only a few. No one has made an issue of their age because ability, personality and success trump the age card anytime. In fact, rocking chairs have given way to jet skis and parasailing. Cruises and tour groups are filled with feisty older people, walkers and wheel chairs included, if necessary. The ranks of the volunteer organizations include many retired men and women making it possible for schools, hospitals and charities to provide services that would otherwise be lacking.

Maybe the sudden willingness to recognize "elderchic" is because the population in this country is itself "graying." The hugely powerful group of so-called "baby boomers" is on the cusp of social security. People in their 70's and 80's don't look that old when you are pushing 60 yourself.

So let's hear it for Betty White, who has made getting older look less frightening, and for Facebook, which proves that there may be value in sitting around twittering your thumbs. Now if only Facebook doesn't launch a campaign to run Betty White for vice-president with Sarah Palin for president.

P.S. If you want to catch Betty White on screen, Hallmark Channel shows episodes of "The Golden Girls" on many nights.

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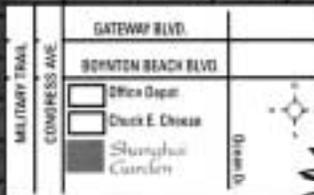
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SOCIAL CLUB

By Joan Sorkin

As this is written, we're looking forward to our annual Memorial Day party. A special thank you to all who have worked hard to make it a success. Rita Dick always amazes us with her new ideas for decorations. We're sure Joan Peckins and her committee will turn out an outstanding evening.

Plans are being formulated for a July 4th evening of food, dancing and entertainment. Please check Channel 63 and flyers in the back lobby for more details.

Movies in the clubhouse are continuing to draw happy crowds of patrons. Thank you Marge Chappell and Florence Cohen for co-chairing this committee - choosing the movies, buying the snacks, setting up and cleaning up. This has become a twice-a-month treat for all.

Our Winter Series 2011 is selling well. We will be forced to cut off sales when we reach our capacity of 250. Don't miss this excellent lineup of talent for next year. If you have not done so yet, get your checks in for \$70 per person for all three shows.

SINGLES SCENE

By Ellin Goldstein

On Saturday, May 1, the Singles went to the Norton Museum. The museum was lovely; there were many excellent exhibits including Andy Warhol and the fashion photography of Richard Avedon.

Upcoming events:

On **Saturday, May 29 at 2 p.m.**, we will be going to Spanish River High School to see the Harrod Conservatory Ballet perform. The price is \$20.

On **Saturday, June 4 at 4 p.m.**, we'll meet at Greenfield's for dinner. Please set up your own carpools.

On **Sunday, July 25**, we will go to the new Rinker Playhouse (formerly The Florida Stage) to see a matinee performance of *Lowdown, Dirty Blues*. The price is \$42. Please pay as soon as possible.

On **Sunday, Aug. 8**, we will be going for a ride on the Diva Duck, out of City Place. The price is \$20.

Watch Channel 63 for any additional information.

SATURDAY NIGHT MOVIES

8 p.m. at the clubhouse

JUNE 5: THE BLIND SIDE Oversized African-American Michael Oher (Quinton Aaron), a teen from a broken home across the tracks, has nowhere to sleep at age 16. An affluent Memphis couple, Leigh Anne (Sandra Bullock) and Sean (Time McGraw), takes him in and Michael embarks on a remarkable rise to play for the NFL.

JUNE 19: INGLORIOUS BASTERDS A Jewish cinema owner (Mélanie Laurent) in occupied Paris is forced to host a Nazi movie premiere, where a radical group of American Jewish soldiers called the Basterds, led by Lt. Aldo Raine (Brad Pitt), plans to roll out a score-settling scheme. The face-off is about to go down – that's if Col. Hans Landa, a.k.a. "The Jew Hunter" (Christoph Waltz) doesn't get in the way.

JULY 10: PLAY THE GAME When ladies' man David Mitchell (Paul Campbell) gives his lonely grandfather, Joe (Andy Griffith), some pointers on dating, Joe becomes a big hit with the women in his retirement community. But David strikes out with his own tricks when he tries to woo a girl named Julie (Marla Sokoloff). Now it's up to Joe to teach his grandson how to win at love without playing games. Doris Roberts and Liz Sheridan co-star in this award-winner.

BOWLING, TOO

By Fred Oestreicher



The new Thursday bowling group will start on **Thursday, September 30, at 3 p.m.** at AMF Boynton Beach Lanes. The lanes are located at 1190 W. Boynton Beach Boulevard, east of Congress, right behind Dunkin' Donuts. Please call me, Fred, (734-5169) if you'd like to bowl with us.

Some residents are bowling at the AMF lanes on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. Call Phil Prant (369-4360) or me (734-5169), if you are interested in joining in at that time.

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WOMEN'S CLUB

By Barbara Roland

On May 2, we again joined with the Men's Club for a Parents' Day that was a huge success. We enjoyed the food, the service and Richard Shapiro's entertainment. Thank you all for supporting us.

On **Monday, June 14 at 1 p.m.**, at the clubhouse, we are having guest speaker "Sondra." Her topic will be: "Edith Head, the gal behind the glamour." Coffee and... will be served. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Hope to see you there.

The Women's Club has donated \$300 worth of new books to our Majestic Isles Library. Happy reading!

There will be no meeting in July.

Happy Father's Day to M.I. fathers and grandfathers.

YIDDISH CULTURAL CLUB

By Jerry Raske

Reggie Z.'s greeted the crowd of members and guests at the May 2 meeting of the Yiddish Cultural Club. Jack Lust accompanied the singing of "Hatikvah" on the violin and Estelle Snyder led the singing of "God Bless America."

We welcomed new members Sherry Everitt, Doris Davidoff and Marlene Ehrlich.

The entertainment for the evening was an original play, "The Family Shanda" by Phil Chermak. The enthusiastic cast, Marilyn Chermak, Estelle Snyder, Paul Mendelssohn, Ed Strauber, Iris Rothstein and Phil Chermak kept us laughing and brought a strong round of applause.

Thanks to the numerous members who help again and again to make each meeting so enjoyable.

Please join with us on June 6 for another great evening and remember --- *you don't have to know Yiddish to enjoy our meetings.*



THE MEN'S CLUB

By Joel Cohen.

The Men's/Women's Clubs' Parents Day affair has come and gone and given the chatter I've heard, it was a very enjoyable day for all.

We will be suspending Bingo until October because the summer attendance is quite small, especially with our seasonal residents gone.

We are planning a day at Calder casino/racetrack on July 29. The cost will still be \$18 and you will receive a \$20 playing chit and a free buffet.

Other than that, things will be a little quiet for the summer.

MAJESTIC ISLES HADASSAH

By Bobbe Greene



Our thanks to Sheila Goldstein and the rest of the nominating committee for all their hard work in selecting next year's officers - **and** congratulations to the 2010-2011 officers.

President: Evelyn Harris

Vice Presidents:

Program: Rita Leidner, Sylvia Prant

Fund Raising: Doris Robin, Roberta Rabinowitz

Education: Phyllis Cohen, Judy Radin

Membership: Gloria Steingart, Rosalie Rosenthal

Executive Vice President: Fran Ost

Treasurer: Janice Davidson

Records Administrator: Karen Cohen

Recording Secretary: Liz Hopwood

Corresponding Secretary: Lee Katz

The wonderful installation lunch was by Ben's Kosher Deli. A big thank you to Gloria Steingart and Rita Marderstein for a great job planning this event.

The first Machon group looks forward to reconvening in the fall to discuss "Extraordinary Jewish Women Leading Jewish Lives." A second group has already been formed, but can still take members. Call Phyllis (740-1960) or Judy (736-9990) for more information.

Watch Channel 63 and look for flyers for information about "Summer Sizzler" and other summer events.

We wish you all a very pleasant summer. Stay cool!



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NEW TRAVEL CLUB FORMING



Do you like to travel? Do you like to think and/or talk about travel? If you answered yes to either of these questions, our new Majestic Isles Travel Club is for you.

Our inaugural meeting will be on Wednesday, June 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the clubhouse. At this meeting, we will determine when and how often the Travel Club will meet in the future.

Through the Travel Club, we will be able to plan some trips, including one- or two-night motor coach trips as well as longer trips if members want that. We will share travel experiences, tips and whatever else we want to do related to travel. We might invite speakers. We might view interesting videos, and, we may even share each other's vacation slides or video shows (short ones, we promise).

If you are interested in being part of the Travel Club (even if you can't attend this first meeting), please put your name(s), phone number and email address, if you have one, on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the back lobby. This will enable us to keep all those who are interested informed about Travel Club happenings.

We will introduce plans for our first Travel Club trip at the June 9 meeting. Future trip plans will be made based on what interests the most people in the club.

For questions, call one of the founding members: Linda Kessler (738-5866), Paul Mendelsohn (410-963-1851), Judy Zied (733-9370), Doris Davidoff (742-3384), Claire Deveney (561-504-3842), Jack Moss (742-9646), or Francine Gitto (731-4064).

MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER

By Selma Friedman



Is there a song that is special to you? A song that brings back wonderful memories? Happy times? Old friends? Or just a song that you find beautiful? If so, come share it with us at the Karaoke Song Night at our M.I.L.T. meeting on Sunday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Ira Schneider is organizing the evening and if you would like to participate, Ira will welcome you warmly. Call him at 364-4944 or just attend the meeting and let him know you would like to get involved. He promises there will be a large selection of recordings from which to choose.

SPARES AND STRIKES Majestic's Bowling League

By Dave Feinberg



Join our winter bowling league starting on Tuesday, **Sept. 7** and every **Tuesday at 12 noon**, at Greenacres Bowl. The league price to bowl is \$7 per day and includes free coffee and cookies.

We also bowl for fun during the summer on **Tuesdays at 12 noon**, at Greenacres Bowl. The V.I.P. prices include "coffee and...." Come on down and join the fun.

Please call Fran or Dave (733-4837 for more information.

AMERICAN FLAG HISTORY

Flag Day, June 14 This commemorates the adoption of the American flag by the Second Continental Congress in 1777. National recognition of Flag Day was begun by Woodrow Wilson in 1916 and then finally established as a recognized holiday. It is not a national holiday, like the Fourth of July, however. Below is a sampling of the development of the flag.



1775-1777: The **Continental Colors** is often considered to be the first American flag, but it was never officially chosen as such.



historians disagree.

1777-1795: The **Betsy Ross Flag** of 13 stars and 13 stripes was the first official American flag. Legend says Betsy Ross designed the flag but most



the fort. The flag still exists and is displayed at The Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. Francis Scott Key witnessed the attack and was inspired to write the poem that became our national anthem. All succeeding flags had 13 stripes.

1795-1818: The **Star Spangled Flag** of 15 stars and 15 stripes is the flag that flew over Fort McHenry in 1812 during the British attempt to capture



the fort. The flag still exists and is displayed at The Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. Francis Scott Key witnessed the attack and was inspired to write the poem that became our national anthem. All succeeding flags had 13 stripes.

1818-1819: The **20-Star Flag** is also known as the **Great Star Flag** and **Flag of 1818**.

Congress added five new stars to the flag and they permanently reduced the number of stripes from 15 to 13.



not change. Lincoln did not remove stars from the flag because he considered that these states were still part of the country.

1861 -1863: The **34-Star Flag**, was the flag during much of the Civil War. Even though 11 states seceded from the Union the number of stars did

1912- 1959: The **48-Star Flag** is the one that our generation grew up with.



1959-1960: This design, seven staggered rows of seven stars each, was selected for the **49-Star Flag** when Alaska came into the union.



1960 – present: When Hawaii entered the union, the **50-Star Flag**, designed by a 17-year-old high school student for his history class, was selected.

The information on the individual flags was taken from: <http://www.united-states-flag.com/evolution-of-the-american-flag.html>

JUNE ALMANAC

Ah June, favorite month of poets and songwriters, and dedicated to celebrations of brides, dads and grads. The mid-point of the year has been reached and summer is in its full glory. Also, June is marked by a number of noteworthy events.

Flag Day, June 14 (See article on this page.)

The Summer Solstice, June 21

This year, the Summer Solstice occurs in the Northern Hemisphere on June 21 at 7:28 a.m. It marks the longest day of the year, a day revered in early cultures as Midsummer Day and still observed by celebrations, notably at Stonehenge and Avebury. You still have time to get to England and welcome the sunrise among the megaliths at those sites.

Father's Day, June 20

Alas, poor dad. While Mother's Day found almost universal acceptance by people everywhere, the concept of a day honoring dear old dad encountered more difficulties and even derision. It was first proposed in 1910 but efforts to get it recognized as a national day met with laughs and obstacles. Dear old bumbling, know nothing dad became the butt of many an editorial each time the proposal came up. Critics thought it was more trivialization of existing holidays and would lead to days for honoring maiden aunts or pets. The national observance of Father's Day on the third Sunday of June was finally legislated during the administration of Richard Nixon in 1972. Let's hear it for dad, and no ties, please.

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ACTIVITY CALENDAR
June 30, 2010 – July 31, 2010



June

June 1, Tues., 11 a.m., Calendar meeting
June 3, Thurs., 10 a.m., C.O.P. meeting
June 4, Fri 11 a.m., Newsletter meeting
 4 p.m., Singles, **Dinner at Greenfield's**, (p, a)
June 5, Sat., 8 p.m., Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)
June 5, Sun. 9:30 a.m., Men's Club, **Breakfast** (p, h)
 7:30 p.m., Yiddish Club meeting
June 10, Mon., 2 p.m., Board of Directors workshop
June 13, Sun., 7:30 p.m. M.I.L.T. **Karaoke Night** (non-members \$2, h)
June 14, Mon., 12 noon, Women's Club meeting
 4 p.m. Investment Group
June 16, Wed., 2 p.m., **Book Talks and More** (f, h)
June 19, Sat, 8 p.m., Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)

July

July 1, Thurs, 10 a.m., COP meeting
July 4, Sun, Time TBA, Social Club **July 4th Party** (p, h)
July 6, Tues, 11a.m., Calendar meeting,
July 7, 11 a.m., Presidents' meeting,
July 9, Fri, 4 p.m. Singles' meeting
July 10, Sat, 8 p.m. Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)
July 11, Sun, 9:30 a.m., Men's Club Breakfast
July 19, Mon, 11:30, Hadassah, **Game Day** (p, h)
July 29, Thurs, 9:30 a.m., Men's Club, **Calder Racetrack**, (p, a)
July 31, Sat, 8 p.m., Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)

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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