

# Majestic Isles News

May 2017

Volume 20

Issue 8

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Dessert

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Jay Peskoff, Property

The M.I. Newsletter is  
financially self-sustaining.  
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## **MANAGER'S CORNER**



There are a few “housekeeping” matters that all residents need to pay more attention to. Firstly, please make sure to pick up after your pet. We are trying to keep the community looking beautiful, and we have gotten several complaint calls to the office regarding this problem. We do not like assessing fines, and other people do not want to clean up the mess. If you are a pet owner, please make sure that you are courteous to your neighbors and clean up after your animal.

Second, when you or your guests come to the clubhouse, think of it as your own home. If you move the pool chairs, please put them back. Also, we have also been getting calls complaining that the restrooms are messy at night. I have seen pictures of garbage and paper towels thrown on the floor. If you have guests in town it is very important that they are aware of the rules of the clubhouse. We are here to keep the property clean, but it is also important that we get everyone’s help in keeping it looking nice.

If you have a work order you can send it to [majesticisles@castlegroup.com](mailto:majesticisles@castlegroup.com). Also, a reminder that our official website is [majesticisleshoa.com](http://majesticisleshoa.com). In order to access the “resident-only” pages, you will need to register. If you are not registered, click on “login,” then “new user” and follow the steps to get your verification code. You will then have access to your account information and news about the community. You will also will be able to file online maintenance requests.

We expect that two new stop signs will have been installed on Imperial Seas Boulevard by the time this issue goes to press. One is on Island Reach Lane, and the other at the clubhouse entrance on the west side of the street. These stop signs are designed to address concerns about drivers exceeding the speed limit of 25 m.p.h.

Please make sure you are not being tailgated into the property. An incident occurred recently at another property, and the safety of the residents is our main concern.

Just a reminder, your dues need to be paid on April 1. If you have any questions about this, please call the office.

Regards,

Manager

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# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

## **April 20, 2017**

**Submitted by Alene Kristal**

*Editor's note: This is an unofficial summary of the BOD meeting of April 20.*

There was a large attendance at the Board of Directors' April meeting. All members of the board were present. Jay Peskoff and Pedro Mena represented management.

**Clubhouse Report, Bob Edinger** (*new Board liaison to the clubhouse redecoration committee*)

- Within 30 days of the April 20 meeting, there will be a special meeting, open to the community, with the following agenda:

- Review the results of the reserve audit
- Review proposed clubhouse redecoration budget
- Select a decorator
- Review proposed methods of funding the work

A meeting summary will be mailed to all residents.

### **Concerns Raised in Open Forum**

- The Board has not given sufficient weight to community input
- A petition addressed to our State Representative, Emily Slosberg, asking for a signal light to be installed at the entrance to the community (This is in response to the recent automobile death of a resident at the Woolbright entrance)
- Thanks to the Board for the new stop signs
- Condition of one of the lakes. (A new company will take over lake maintenance on May 1)

### **Treasurer's Report, Bob Edinger**

- (*Call Castle at 954-792-6000 to request the full report.*)

### **Management Report, Jay Peskoff**

- The clubhouse will be closed May 4 and 5, while the parking lot is being repaved. The pool will be closed from May 2 - 5 for pool deck repainting.
- Additional pest traps were installed around the community, the pool heater repair was completed on April 20, and a gate arm was replaced without cost.

### **COBWRA, Steve Bayer**

- Car burglaries, due in part to unlocked vehicles, continue to increase throughout the area.
- Odyssey Middle School closing has been postponed for a year.

### **Security Committee Report, Steve Bayer**

- After discussion, committee did not recommend that cameras be installed at the front gates
- Committee recommended that spare gate arms be purchased to be kept in reserve
- There is a problem with residents leaving the pedestrian gate open

### **Grounds Committee, Stan Davidson**

- Several residents were sent letters informing them of the need to refurbish their front yards
- M&P will plant more annuals for added color

### **ARC Committee report, Ed Mordis**

- Eleven out of 12 ARC applications were accepted at the last meeting of the committee

### **Recreation Committee, Jerry Ehrlich and Duncan Hopwood**

- While the parking lot is closed, pickleball players should park in the street and walk to the courts
- It is suggested that we have a Social Director in the clubhouse to organize activities

### **New Neighbors Committee, Iris Rothstein**

- Welcome meetings arranged with two new residents

### **Insurance Committee, Iris Rothstein**

- The insurance committee has been dissolved
- Because a number of people have sued the community, only one insurance company entered a quote for the policy renewal. The 3 percent premium increase will be reflected in the next fiscal year's HOA dues. Residents thinking of suing, should be consider the cost to the community.

### **Old Business**

- A motion to install lights along Imperial Seas Blvd. for a cost of approximately \$4,100 was passed unanimously.
- A motion to adopt changes to the by-laws pertaining to the Board of Directors election was vigorously opposed by a number of residents on the grounds that any amendment requires a community vote; motion tabled awaiting further legal advice.

### **New Business**

- Motion to install cameras at the Woolbright gates to capture license plates of any vehicle that damages the gate passed with a 4 - 3 vote; the cost is approximately \$5600.

## Highlights of COBWRA Meeting at Banyan Springs, April 19, 2017

The April 19 Highlights below have been slightly abridged. The unabridged Highlights will be posted in the back lobby.

**Banyan Springs President Howard Silver** welcomed the Delegates and recognized COBWRA for the organization's many accomplishments.

### Growth Management Report

**Growth Management Committee Chair Steve Oseroff** presented two projects to the Delegates for consideration:

1. **Aladdin Residential**, located east of Lawrence Road, south Of Gateway Boulevard, requesting variance to allow Aladdin Avenue to remain as a sub-standard 20' wide right-of-way. The Delegates voted to recommend approval of the variance request.

2. **Hagen Commercial MUPD**, located on the NE Corner of Hagen Ranch Road and Boynton Beach Boulevard

Summary:

- MUPD with 53,000 Sq. Ft. retail/restaurant
- Request to allow Type 1 Restaurant with Drive-thru
- Access from Boynton Beach Blvd and Hagen Ranch Road
- Eliminate a second wall on the north and east boundary, replace oak with other variety
- Community support for large berm
- The Delegates voted to recommend approval of the project as presented.

### Installation of Officers and Directors

• **County Commissioner David Kerner** installed the 2017/2018 Directors and Officers. **Directors: Joan Brunswick, Mel Morris, Steve Oseroff, Barbara Roth, Gerri Seinberg, Stan Sherman. Officers: 1st VP Phil Barlage, 2nd VP Bruce Brodsky, Secretary Debbie Murphy, Treasurer, Beth Miller.**

• **County Commissioner Mary Lou Berger** installed **Myrna Rosoff** as President for 2017/2018.

### Outgoing President's Comments

**Outgoing President Glen Harvie** expressed his sincere appreciation to the officers, directors and committee members who served during his tenure. He also noted that several new committees were formed

during his administration, including Water and Wetlands Committee and the Mosaic Virus Committee. He also commented on what the future holds for COBWRA, including the proposed park and library west of the turnpike, Ag Reserve and "infill" issues and the need for enhanced communication.

### 2017/2018 President's Comments

**President Myrna Rosoff** expressed enthusiasm for the park and library project referred to earlier in the meeting. She noted that the library design calls for meeting space and reported that construction will begin shortly on the feeder road between Lyons and Acme Dairy Roads – the first step in making long-awaited Canyons-area park a reality. She also plans to appoint a By-Laws Revision committee to assess the relevance of the current document and make recommendations for changes.

Rosoff also made a strong case for holding County officials accountable for strict enforcement of existing rules prohibiting residential and commercial development west of Route 441.

### Next Meeting

Legislative Update with **State Representative Joseph Abruzzo, State Representative Emily Slosberg, State Senator Jeff Clemens and State Senator Kevin Rader: Wednesday, May 17, 9:30 A.M. at Bellaggio**

*Meeting Highlights by Sharon Reuben*

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## Clip and Save POLITICAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact information for federal offices appeared in the March issue of the M.I. News. The information below pertains to state offices. We will print contact information for county offices in a later issue.

### STATE

#### Governor Rick Scott (R)

400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
850-488-7146  
[rick.scott@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:rick.scott@eog.myflorida.com)  
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#### Carlos Lopez-Cantera (R)

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#### Attorney General

#### Pam Bondi (R)

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[pam.bondi@myfloridalegal.com](mailto:pam.bondi@myfloridalegal.com)  
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#### Jeffrey Atwater (R)

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#### Commissioner of Agriculture

#### Adam Putnam (R)

#### Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services

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#### Senator (4 yr. Term)

#### District 31

#### Jeff Clemens (D)

508 Lake Ave., Unit C  
Lake Worth, FL 33460  
561-540-1140  
Tallahassee  
850-487-5031  
[clemens.jeff@flsenate.gov](mailto:clemens.jeff@flsenate.gov)

#### Representative (2 yr. term)

#### District 91

#### Emily Slosberg (D)

7499 West Atlantic Avenue, Suite 200  
Delray Beach FL 33446  
561-496-5940  
Tallahassee  
850-717-5091  
[emily.slosberg@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:emily.slosberg@myfloridahouse.gov)

## GOOD AND WELFARE

### GET WELL

Janice Berger	Evelyn Kaufman
Marilyn Chermak	Carole Schulman
Gabi Held	

### SYMPATHY

To Phil Prant on the loss of his wife, Sylvia.  
To Marge Rosin on the loss of her husband, Herb.  
To Irwin Zivitz on the loss of his wife, Sandy.

### MESSAGES

I want to thank all my Majestic Isles friends for their concern, donation cards and visits during my recovery from hip surgery. It was truly appreciated.

*Ed Gerard*

I want to thank all my friends and neighbors for all their good wishes for my speedy recovery.

*Sandy Kastner*

*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](mailto:ElainJay@aol.com) with Good and Welfare as the subject. Acknowledgement of each*

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**Meet Gail Shatzkamer-Freiberger**  
**New M.I News Staff Member**



Welcome Gail Shatzkamer-Freiberger to the M.I. News staff.

Gail designed this month's cover, and is a talented artist. Gail has a creative side and said she has always had a strong interest in art and fashion design. Born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y, she and her husband Bob moved into

Majestic Isles this past August from Plantation, Florida.

Earlier in her life Gail, a wife and mother who, while busy raising her children, had a variety of part time jobs. She later returned to full time work at Bank of America as an Executive Administrative Assistant to the Senior Vice President in Home Loans. The department employed over 625 associates, a position she remained at for over 18 years.

Gail then worked for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield as an Executive Assistant to the Senior Vice President working in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Following that, she worked as an Administrative Assistant for the Director of Marketing at Health South Sunrise Rehabilitation Center in Sunrise, Fl.

Gail & Bob have been married for 10 years. They both enjoy travel, dancing, tennis, working out and watching a lot of college sports. She is an avid Gator fan of the University of Florida and Bob is a Seminole fan of the Florida State University.

Gail has two sons: Jason who lives with his wife and their son and daughter in Parkland, Fl., and Kevin, who resides with his wife and their daughter and twin sons in Hingham, Mass.



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## ***Gardening in the Isles***

***By  
Stan Davidson***

All gardeners have at one time been confronted with the dilemma of what to plant within a tree ring. A tree ring is the circle at the base of a tree surrounding the tree trunk usually covered with mulch. The mulch provides a barrier that keeps the weeds from emerging, encourages healthy growth, retains moisture and is esthetically attractive. Also, by creating an area around the tree, you actually reduce the mowing by eliminating trimming. As a tree matures, surface roots can poke through the lawn surface (girdling roots) and can cause mowing problems.

Let's examine a "tree ring garden" that offers a buffer to mowing and gives surface roots some coverage. Ring gardens around trees and shrubs provide additional visual interest to the landscape and can accent and enhance the overall landscape. The rings can be planted with a variety of flowers, small shrubs and ground cover.

Add no more than 2 to 4 inches of soil and mulch around the base of the tree. The choice of plants for a ring garden should take into account the planting exposure, the required moisture level for the tree, root structure and the available depth for planting. The girdling roots of a mature tree can be an issue, so plan the garden around the tree to ensure little lawn damage from the eruption of surface roots.

Ground covers help to conserve moisture, prevent weeds and add color to the landscape. Some Florida plants that are easy to grow include: blue daze, dwarf chenille, dusty miller, alyssum, and vines.

Blue daze reaches a height of 12 inches spreading outward to 24 inches. This low growing plant makes an excellent ground cover. The dwarf chenille plant is a ground plant several inches in height that forms a canopy of serrated leaves with bright covered fuzzy flowers that stand erect. Keep it well watered and fertilized.

I recommend that the green island ficus be included in the tree ring landscape. The green island ficus can be used if you desire to retire and relax, because it is a very low maintenance plant. Do not let the name "ficus" scare you, since it is tolerant to the well-known ficus white fly that has caused damage to our ficus shrubs. The plant noted as the plant of the year in 2001 in Zone 10 can be kept very small and is drought and heat tolerant.

Smaller shrubs and some shallow growing perennials make excellent accents. However, avoid shrubs with deep or large root systems, since they can disturb the tree's growth. A shallow rooted small shrub that can be kept at a low growing height is the gold mound duranta. The plant is lovely to look at, easy to grow, and it offers amazing yellow lime green foliage.

In conclusion, select plants with similar moisture requirements, and ones that can handle the shaded exposure from the tree's foliage. You should try several trial plantings, if you desire a permanent tree ring design that attracts the eye.



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## CROTCHETY: A NEW MAJESTIC ISLES NORM?

By Liz Hopwood

I don't like the word crotchety . . . I don't even like the way that it slips off my tongue . . . crotch-et-y. I began thinking about the word when I experienced a very crotchety man the other day. We had taken some friends home after eating out but were unable to park in their driveway as both their cars were there. It was necessary to park partially in their driveway while our car extended onto the sidewalk in order to remove a wheelchair from our trunk. Although we had had a great time, our hearts were heavy as we remembered this man mobile and, like many of the original MI residents, losing some of his independence and needing assistance at this point.

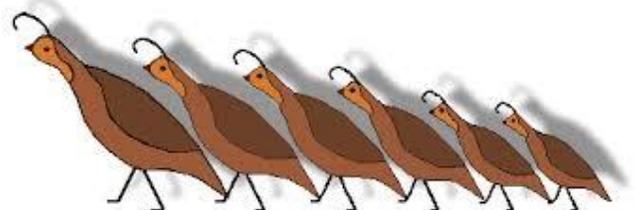
We had barely opened the car doors when an elderly looking tall man with a cane appeared angrily shouting that our car was not allowed to park there, we were blocking his path and another neighbor's driveway, we needed to park in the street and that he was being forced to walk in the street . . . all this wasn't right! Traditionally Majestic Isles has been a pretty non-violent place although I do remember eight years ago when two male residents went fisticuffs in the men's locker room. I didn't know what was going to happen as my husband and I got out of the car. As it turned out my husband peacefully stated that we had a handicapped passenger, that my husband was getting the wheelchair out of the trunk and that the walker needed to calm down. Clearly annoyed at the inconvenience, the man walked around the back of the car but the incident lingered with me. Why would anyone who is having some difficulty walking himself be so upset about helping another person who is much more handicapped than he? Although I did not know the man, he appeared to be distinguished . . . someone who would be kind in other circumstances. I chalked it up to being crotchety.

The next afternoon I headed out to the cardio room to begin my "continuous movement" routine. (I have totally erased the word *exercise* from my vocabulary and mind. I hate exercise and refuse to have anything to do with it regardless of present or future health benefits.) I was stunned. Someone had stolen the TV remote control. I began seething. How could anyone steal the TV remote control in the cardio room? What was I suppose to do? Frantically I search every machine and wall. With each step and passing moment I felt unbridled anger to throttle the thief

regardless of gender. If the resident had lost their own remote at home, all they had to do was call Comcast who would send them another one free. Instead I was inconvenienced. That's just not right! Then I remembered the man whom I thought was crotchety and realized I had joined him. What was wrong with me? Why had such a little thing like a stolen remote upset me so much . . . after all, I came to do continuous movement not to watch TV.

As I was doing my continuous movement routine, I realized how powerless and weak I felt. In the world of work, I was used to people either doing what I said or, at least, considering what I said. As colleagues we did what was best to get the job done. In the world of retirement, no one has to listen to or consider anything I say. However, I have found the art and joy of true friendships in retirement. I realize retirement and aging are two different paths closely intertwined. It's not that the retirement years aren't golden; they are. I get to go and do exactly what I want, when I want to do it, with whom I want to do it and where I want to do it. That's golden to me. I never imagined I would have that freedom. But with that retirement path comes the inevitable price of aging. I awaken with more aches and pains. My balance and mobility are not as good. My hearing and eyesight need assistance from glasses and hearing aids. I am more forgetful questioning myself about dementia. I see doctors and dentists more frequently and I take more prescribed medications than ever before. I feel totally powerless to change this health direction and from observing my friends and neighbors, this path is not going to reverse itself.

Knowing that my physical health will continue to decline makes me feel helpless, vulnerable and CROTCHETY! So I guess I have joined the elderly man who didn't want to walk around the car. Yes, crotchety means bad-tempered, irascible, irritable, grumpy, cantankerous, etc., but I found one definition which also describes it as the *twilight-of-life drama*. I like that. As I age, my family will have to get used to the drama of my sunset - including crotchety!



## A SCREECHING

### “HAPPY BIRTHDAY SONG” TO ME!

By Nancy Topolosky

What is that *screeching* sound during the night? Have you heard it? It is a loud frightening sound that comes and goes, and appears to echo across the lake. I also hear it early morning and early evening, especially when it is cloudy outside...but for months, I could never find the source of that piercing sound, nor, for that matter, even identify it!

During this past February and March, my husband and I loved to sleep with the windows opened, feeling the cool breezes coming off the lake, while listening to nature’s music on the lake...but this sound was different: frightening at first, then a little annoying, until I became really intrigued. I asked many people. Some said they had heard it but also had no idea what it was. I resolved to find the source of this sound!

Well, a family friend, down here visiting from Maryland, also became hooked on the idea. She herself has been on several bird-watching adventures and is fairly knowledgeable. She had me download the app on my phone: *Peterson’s Field Guide to Birds*. We went through every Florida bird on that *app*, clicking on the “sound icon” to listen to the sound each bird makes. None sounded exactly like what we were both hearing...until my wise, problem-solver neighbor, Issy Ellefson, mentioned “Maybe it is a limpkin.”

A *limpkin*? Never heard of such a bird...but that is what, in fact, it was...is!!!

Returning again to the app on my phone, I searched for “limpkin” and listened again to the sound. Sure enough, that screeching sound appeared at the very *end* of the soundtrack. I was determined to find where this bird was hiding (now that I know what I was looking for!)

It took several more weeks before I spotted it for the first time. It was on March 18 at 7:30 am. It was cool outside, and cloudy. I was sitting out in my lanai when I heard that piercing sound. Lo and behold, that limpkin flew, with big upward wing movements, out of a dry tall grassy area on the opposite side of the lake, up to the top of a low rooftop!

On March 20 at 8:12 am, I spotted TWO limpkins on my side of the lake. One was standing in the grass; the other in the water, near the lake’s edge, apparently looking for food. I was mesmerized for almost an hour

(careful not to frighten them away) watching them “limp” along (hence their name), poking with their long beaks both in the water and in the grassy area. They also spent many minutes at what looked like cleaning/drying their feathers. And they had some buddies that followed them. Sometimes, it was a group of brown-feathered ducks; but most of the time, it was two baby coots. I took tons of video clips, hoping to catch one of them in the act of producing that sound.

To my delight, one of the beautiful brown spotted limpkins (brown with white spots and streaks) opened its long beak, but only slightly, and let out *three loud, screeching sounds*, as if to say, “Happy Birthday, Nancy!” (My birthday was March 22!) What a unique birthday present!



To learn more about this uncommon local bird that is a champ at hiding itself in tall grassy areas as well as on rooftops behind foliage from tall trees, check out *Florida’s Fabulous Waterbirds: Their Stories* by Winston Williams and *Peterson’s Field Guide to Birds* (book and app).

*Their Stories* by Winston Williams and *Peterson’s Field Guide to Birds* (book and app).

## WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

By Elaine Jay

The Majestic Isles Newsletter welcomes the following new residents to our community.

Gregory Brown & Janell Hendrick

## Retrospective Continued MAJESTIC ISLES NEWS

*Those of us who have been here a while fondly remember Josh Katz, who in addition to writing a monthly column featuring entertainers we remember from our younger days along with entertainer trivia presented in a variety of formats. On page 16 we bring you one of his 2008 columns.*

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## MORE THAN JUST THE BIG BAND ERA

By Josh Katz



"Swing and Sway with Sammy Kaye" is probably the single most memorable tag line of the big band era, and millions of people did just that -- "swing" and "sway" to Sammy Kaye's orchestra. It was actually more just swaying. Kaye's arrangements never approached the swing end of the spectrum. His music fell quite tidily into the style of simple and commercial dance rhythms often called "Mickey Mouse," and he was very successful at it.

Kaye's real name was **Samuel Zarnocay**, and he was the son of Czech immigrants. Kaye began playing clarinet in college bands while at Ohio University. In the early 1930s he led his own orchestra at the Statler Hotel in Cleveland. Later he performed at many of the best hotels in New York and starred in his own radio program. Vocalists at various times included Don Cornell, Jimmy Brown, Johnny McAfee, George Brandon, Maury Cross, Marty McKenna, Tommy Ryan, Charlie Wilson, and Arthur Wright.

Kaye relied on several gimmicks to make his performances more entertaining. His most famous gimmick was called "**So You Want to Lead a Band.**" He would bring a member of the audience up on stage to wave a baton and act as bandleader.

Kaye's band never featured any truly memorable musicians. In fact, his sidemen were often rather mundane. Kaye, however, was strict and demanded discipline, and the sound that came out of his men's instruments was usually flawless. Kaye's dictatorial attitude as a bandleader was well known.

Kaye's radio program moved to television during the 1950s. He continued recording up until the 1960s. He eventually retired to Southern California, though his orchestra carried on under the direction of trumpeter Roger Thorpe. It still performs to this day. Kaye died from cancer in 1987 at Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, New Jersey.



Introducing a religious program, the announcer said, "Do you know what hell is – come in and hear our organist."

One announcer got it backwards when he said "You have everything to lose and nothing to gain."

An announcer read this commercial exactly as written in the script: "The ladies sneakers are excellent for street walking."

The actor was supposed to say that the fog was as thick as pea soup. It came out as "the fog is as thick as sea poop."

### DO YOU REMEMBER

Drive ins – products made in the USA – rotary phones – wax paper sandwich bags – Good Humor – S & H Green stamps – electric typewriters – trolley cars – Coke in glass bottles – Orange Crush – milkmen – stores closed on Sunday.

### MAKIN' WHOOPEE

This famous song written by **Walter Donaldson** and **Gus Kahn** was introduced by **Eddie Cantor**. The original lyrics as written by Kahn started off as

Another bride, another **June**  
Another sunny honeymoon  
Another season, another reason  
For makin' whoopee

Eddie forgot the original lyrics as shown above and sang

Another bride, another **groom**

Eddie also recorded the song, and his mistake effectively changed the opening lyrics of the song for many singers – to this day.

### OSCAR LEVANT



Did you know that classical pianist Oscar Levant played piano in Bernard Anzelevitz' band. Oscar was required to play the popular songs of the day, including some jazz charts. Oh, Bernard Anzelevitz was better known as Ben Bernie. some jazz charts. Oh, Bernard Anzelevitz was better known as Ben Bernie.

## From the Internet LIFE WITH CHILDREN

*You are sitting with a group of friends, all of you grey-haired seniors with a large brood of children and grandchildren, happily living miles away. Once upon a time you would have taken out a brag book and exchanged pictures of your grandchildren and children; now everyone has an iPhone and you all squint happily at the tiny screen at pictures of grandchildren twirling batons, winning diplomas, giving speeches at the U.N. or playing at Carnegie Hall. Ah, grandchildren! How did we all get so lucky to all have the smartest, prettiest, richest kids in the whole world? I have always said it was easy: grandchildren are God's reward for not killing your children. And so, on Mother's Day when you sit surrounded by cards and flowers and gifts from your progeny, remember what hurdles you needed to overcome to reach Nirvana.*

**MESS TEST:** Smear peanut butter on the sofa and curtains. Now rub your hands in the wet flowerbed and rub on the walls. Cover the stains with the crayons. Place fish stick behind the couch and leave it there all summer.

**TOY TEST:** Obtain a 5.5 gallon box of Legos. (If Legos are not available you may substitute roofing tacks or broken bottles.) Have a friend spread them all over the house. Put on a blindfold. Try to walk to the bathroom or kitchen. Do not scam. (This could wake a sleeping child.)

**DRESSING TEST:** obtain one large, unhappy, live octopus. Stuff into a small net bag, making sure that all arms stay inside.

**FEEDING TEST:** Obtain a large plastic milk jug. Fill halfway with water. Suspend from the ceiling with a stout cord. Start the jug swinging. Try to insert spoonfuls of soggy cereal (such as Fruit Loops or Cheerios) into the mouth of the jug, while pretending to be an airplane. When finished, dump the contents of the jug on the floor.

**NIGHT TEST:** Prepare by obtaining a small cloth bag and fill it with 8 – 12 pounds of sand. Soak it thoroughly in water. At 8 p.m. begin to waltz and hum with the bag until 9 p.m. Lay down your bag and set your alarm for 10 p.m. Get up, pick up your bag, and sing every song you have ever heard. Make up about a dozen more and sing these until 4. a.m. Set alarm for

5 a.m. Get up and make breakfast. Keep this up for 5 years. Look cheerful.

**PHYSICAL TEST (WOMEN):** Obtain a large beanbag chair and attach it to your front under your clothes. Leave it there for 9 months. Now remove 10 of the beans.

**PHYSICAL TEST (MEN):** Go to the nearest drugstore. Set your wallet on the counter. Ask the clerk to help himself. Now proceed to the nearest food store. Go to the head office and arrange for your paycheck to be directly deposited to the store. Purchase a newspaper. Go home and read it quietly for the last time.

**FINAL ASSIGNMENT:** Find a couple who already has a small child. Lecture them on how they can improve their discipline, patience, tolerance, toilet training, and table manners. Suggest ways they can improve. Emphasize to them that they should never allow their children to run rampant. Enjoy this experience. It will be the last time you have all the answers.



*And good material can bear repeating:*

### WORD TO THE WISE ON MOTHERS

By Ruth Harriet Jacobs

Wellesley College Center for Research on Women

If we are available, we encourage dependency.

If we are busy ourselves, we are detached.

If we offer advice, we are controlling.

If we refrain, we are disinterested.

If we visit often, we are pests.

If we don't, we are thought uncaring.

If we hide our needs, we are martyrs.

If we reveal our needs, we are demanding.

If we provide for our old age, we are selfish.

If we don't provide, we are burdens.

If we don't pitch in, they question our competency.

If we do pitch in, we question their competency.

If all of this is true, we might as well do as we wish, and do it outrageously.

submitted by Bobbe Green

*Happy Mother's Day  
from the newsletter staff*

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## Another Good Book to Check Out “ELON MUSK” by Ashlee Vance

By Stan Kaish



*Elon Musk*

I decided to take a break from the super hero genre for a while (Lee Child, David Baldacci etc.) and browsed the biography section of the library shelves. What did I pick out? A book about a true super hero, Elon Musk. Only this one is different. His feats are reported in the news sections of the paper, not the fiction reviews. After reading this book, I concluded that Elon Musk might just as well be reported in the weather section because he strikes me as a force of nature. See what you think.

The story begins in June 1971, when Musk is born in Pretoria, South Africa. He was the kind of kid who read every book in the city and school libraries, and happily worked his way through two sets of encyclopedias. At age 18 he moved to Canada where he spent two years at Queens University, and then transferred to the University of Pennsylvania, double majoring in business and physics. And then, he was off to Silicon Valley. It was 1995. The Internet was new, information was hard to find on it, and Elon and his brother Kimbal founded a company called Zip2, which allowed local merchants to list themselves along with directions to their location. In those days this was revolutionary. The company flourished and, in 1999, Compaq Computer Co. bought it, netting the Musk brothers 40 million dollars. Elon was 28.

He next turned to banking, which he felt had missed out on the internet's possibilities. Suffice to say, that out of this grew Pay Pal, which eventually had a public stock offering and was bought by EBay for 1.3 billion, of which Musk pocketed \$250 million. He was now 33 years old. Pretty good Silicon Valley story, but certainly not super hero stuff. No. Now he had enough cash to embark on his real goals.

Among the not so trivial things that Musk worried about was the survival of humanity. He knew carbon emissions were affecting the atmosphere, and fossil fuels were contributing to a hazard that could endanger man's existence on earth. Two solutions suggested

themselves. First, find substitute energy sources that would reduce the pollution; second, find an alternative refuge for mankind in the event life on earth became unsupportable. He would attack the second solution first, suggesting that we should consider Mars as an alternate home for humanity. Enter SpaceX.

NASA had gone out of the rocket business. Musk would vie with Boeing, Lockheed and the major defense contractors to compete for NASA's business. SpaceX workers made most of the thousands of components comprising a rocket themselves. Their engineers designed for minimum weight and minimum cost. Musk had the idea to make the rockets reusable. "Imagine if you discarded an airplane after each flight." That's what rocketry was doing. Retrieving and reusing would reduce costs by a factor of ten.

A long section of the book is devoted to the failures to successfully launch a rocket into orbit. There were three launches that ended in explosions. Musk's fortune was bleeding away. Meeting payroll was in doubt. Finally the fourth launch was successful, a billion dollar contract was won from NASA, and SpaceX was on its way, delivering satellites to orbit for private and governmental customers.

While this was going on, Musk invested in an electric car company, Tesla, that had started up but was floundering. He took over as CEO. Here too, trial and error, failure mixed with success, eventually led to a luxury auto coveted by early afficianados, and the promise of a mid-priced model was on the horizon. Another step toward saving mankind by reducing gasoline consumption.

Meanwhile, at Musk's urging, his cousins, entered the solar panel industry. Musk joined them, and Solar City has evolved into the country's largest installer of electric panels and become a virtual electric utility. Tesla and Solar City created a need for batteries, and they are now building the "Gigafactory," the world's largest source of lithium ion batteries.

Elon Musk is now 46 years old and worth about 13 billion dollars, all of which, he says, he stands ready to devote to the Mars project. Stand by. There's more, much more to be learned about the deeds of this real life super hero, Elon Musk.

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## HOW I WON THE PUBLISHER'S CLEARING HOUSE SWEEPSTAKES

By Phyllis M. Cohen

AND THE  
WINNER  
IS.....

Did you see the Publishers' Clearing House's Prize Team outside my house with the roses and the balloons? No? Well, maybe the gate wouldn't let them in. But I actually did win in their sweepstakes. If you have never heard of the Publishers' Clearing House Sweepstakes, then you must have been living in a cave or in solitary confinement for the last thirty or forty years. The sweepstakes is an over-the-top advertising ploy that has been used to promote sales of magazines and assorted products (you can substitute junk, here if you wish) by giving the contestants the opportunity to win millions of dollars by sending in their sweepstakes tickets. No purchases are necessary, but somehow you always think that buying something will increase your odds.

Thanks to the magic of the computer age, you get a personalized letter in a glitzy envelope full of glossy pictures, directions and forms to go through. Each successive entry informs you that you are now in a smaller and smaller pool of contestants and that you are likely to be the big winner. So persuasive are the letters as they reach you that a friend of mine, with two advanced college degrees, was convinced she had won until I showed her the fine print.

You may remember a couple of years ago that Bruce Dern gave a very poignant performance in the movie, *Nebraska*, as a senior citizen, convinced that he has won the Publishers' sweepstakes makes a road trip to the headquarters to claim the prize. His son agrees to drive him and the movie devolves into a buddy film as father and son bond in what is sure to be a heartbreaking trip. The ending is a two handkerchief conclusion that you long remember.

You may wonder why people continue to be such suckers for lotteries and sweepstakes and gambling of all sorts. It's easy to see the allure of a small bet or investment producing a lot of cash. The adrenalin rush is magical when you win, and somehow, even if you have lost repeatedly, you will still stand in line to buy a lottery ticket for Powerball or scratch-off tickets when you pass the counter in gas station or supermarket. It's well known then the big winners in

any of the giant lotteries will keep on buying tickets and chances for future games.

Growing up, I can recall that gambling was considered a practice that respectable people did not engage in. True, your uncles may have played pinochle and the senior high school boys were known to play "craps" in the boy's room between classes, but otherwise, gamblers were right up there with drinkers and wife beaters and lazy husbands as undesirable role models. Everyone knew that a neighborhood bookie took bets in the local candy store, and though it was illegal to sell tickets for the Irish Sweepstakes in this country, it was easy enough to buy tickets! Like prohibition, it proved difficult to legislate against a favorite vice.

And little by little, gambling crept in to the public sphere. Fanny Brice was married to well-known gambler and conman Nicky Arnstein in the 1920's (ah, played by Omar Sharif in *Funny Girl*) and Damon Runyan humanized bookies and gambling in his writings (think of Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls*). Once Las Vegas became a reality, (started by true gangsters, not just elected ones) it didn't take too long for governments to try to take advantage of the enticing cash cow gambling created. Hence the lotteries in many states and legalized off-track betting and slots at race tracks and other venues. You can even lose your shirt without leaving your house by betting on line. Our American Indian citizens have used their unique status to get their revenge on Columbus by the proliferation of the gambling meccas they have created.

It's interesting that the one area where the public is so against gambling is in the professional sport's area. The memory of the "Black Sox" 1919 World Series scandal haunted baseball for many years, as did the City College basketball 1951 point shaving scandal. Poor Pete Rose is still suffering from his association with gambling, forever barred from the Hall of Fame and from baseball for betting against his own team.

And so we get to my original story. A couple of weeks ago, my wonderful husband announced to me, "Look, we got a letter from the Publishers' Sweepstakes saying that we won!" Wow, we did. **Ten dollars**, believe it or not! Not even enough to cover the costs of the stamps to send all our entries back. I hurriedly took the check to the bank to see if it was real. It was. But don't worry. The same letter assured us that we could still win and to keep entering. And we have!



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## HERE IN THE WORLD IS THE M.I. NEWS?

**By Claire Deveney**

How many times have you visited Jerusalem? This is an often asked question at Majestic Isles.



I'm at the Western Wall in Jerusalem where I placed a note in the wall to bless everyone. Also enjoyed the Grand Bazaar.

Jerusalem has been a place of pilgrimage and worship for Jews, Christians and Muslims since the biblical era. Its Old City has significant religious sites around the Temple Mount compound, including the Western Wall, sacred to Judaism, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, a Christian pilgrimage site, and the Dome of the Rock, a 7<sup>th</sup> century Islamic shrine with a gold dome. Founded 3,000 B.C., Jerusalem as the City of David dates back to 1010 BCE and the present City Wall was built in 1541.

*The above facts are taken from an Internet article.*

A family grandson's bar mitzvah brought me to take my fifth trip to Jerusalem this past February. My significant other of nearly 30 years Gerry Aaronson's cousin's grandson who lives in this historic city celebrated this happy occasion over four days with family lunches, dinners, the bar mitzvah and a museum visit.

## Packing for a trip?

- ✓ Boarding pass
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We would like to see our Majestic Isles. News pictured with you on your travels this summer. To share your M.I. News photo, please email it to [ElainJay@aol.com](mailto:ElainJay@aol.com) with *Where In The World?* in the subject line. Please include your name and phone number.

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# THE SOCIAL CLUB

By Arlene Koch and Joan Sorkin

Our 2017 series ended on a great note with the fabulous singing of the Flashback Four. If you did not attend the series, we hope you will consider our outstanding one we've planned for 2018. Price is still \$75 per person.

The Social Club is always planning ahead to our next function. Our Memorial Day Party on Monday, May 29th again will feature the entertaining style of Larry



Brendler along with chicken from Boston Market with all the fixings. Kosher food is also available from Glicks. See flyer in back lobby and leave checks in Social Club box with your table

partners. We will make up tables for those who would like to meet some new residents.

We are going to have a Movie Night with dinner around the Fourth of July. Details are being worked out. We are looking for volunteers with new ideas to make this again a memorable night. Please call Arlene or Joan. In general our movie nights at the clubhouse have been a big success. We show first run movies as soon as they are released to Netflix and are shown with closed caption titles. A drink, snack and movie for \$1. The best bargain around. Join us for the next films as listed in the adjacent column.

Please support our Social Club by paying our nominal dues of \$15 per person per year. This helps to defray the cost of some of our functions.

## MOVIES – MOVIES - MOVIES

8 p.m. at the clubhouse

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**SATURDAY, MAY 20: LION** In this affecting true story, 5-year-old Saroo is adopted by an Australian couple after losing his way in the urban jungle of Kolkata. More than two decades later, new mapping technology prompts Saroo to search for his lost family in India.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 10: LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS** Lighthouse keeper Tom Sherbourne and radiant, spirited Isabel live together in married bliss on a remote, rugged island off the coast of Australia. But their windswept world is turned upside down when Isabel learns that she's unable to bear a child. One day, a drifting lifeboat washes ashore with a crying baby in it. The dilemma the couple now face will echo far beyond the island, engulfing and irrevocably impacting their world – and that of a stranger – in a passionate story about love, hope and a fateful choice.

**NOTE: We show our films with closed captioning.**

*The film descriptions are taken from the Netflix website.*

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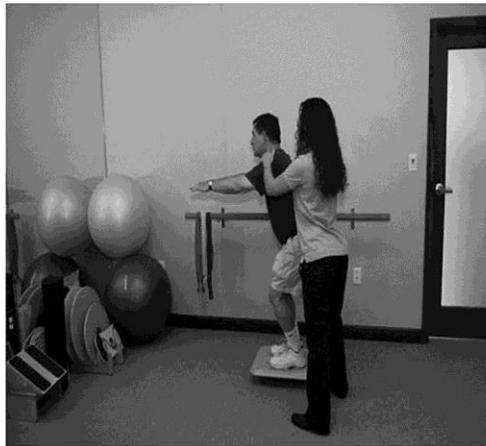
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### SINGLES COLUMN

By Renee Stichel and Marilyn Chermak

We are keeping all of you up-to-date on what is happening with the Singles. If you still have not joined us, please do and enjoy our exciting activities, outings and functions. The dues are \$15 for the year and we subsidize some of our events

Mark these dates:

**May 13:** We are going to the Kings Academy for the show "Funny Girl" at 1 p.m. The price is \$30. We will try to arrange car pools for those who cannot drive. Of course we have to eat dinner; however we have not picked a restaurant. We will take suggestions.



**May 27:** We are doing our annual visit to the Harid's Ballet at 3 p.m.; the price is \$26. Then we will go to one of our favorite restaurants, Kee Grill for dinner. If you do not wish to join us for dinner that is fine, as long as you let us know in advance.

**June 16:** We are doing a pot luck dinner followed by games of your choice. The admission price is a delicious dish for at least 10 people. We are looking forward to all our excellent cooks for their specialty dishes. If you do not cook, you are welcome to purchase a dish.

We are also looking into a cruise during the summer months. Whether you are a member or not we hope you enjoy a healthy happy summer and those who wish can join us for a swinging year!!



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### THE PAP CORPS

By R. Stichel, M. Chermak and E. Rogg



Our membership appreciation luncheon was, as always, a tremendous success. The entertainment was outstanding and we thank you, Selma Friedman. Special thanks

again to Suzanne Skinner for heading her marvelous team which includes Dolores Edinger, Marilyn Broth, and Barbara Wasserman.

On May 25 at 1 p.m. our board will treat us to their amazing desserts. We will serve coffee and tea and Carolyn Smylie will entertain you with her beautiful voice. Cost will be \$10. Tell the truth, where can you go for \$10 and get dessert and entertainment?

Save August 5 at 6 p.m. for a special event we are planning for that evening. Stay tuned for more info!

A healthy happy summer to all, and thank you for your continued support so that we may wipe out this dreaded disease for children and grandchildren.



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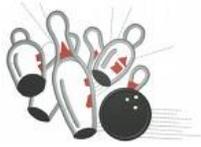
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## MAJESTICS BOWLING LEAGUE

### Spares and Strikes

By: Joyce Stoudermire



#### HIGH GAME

##### Week 24 – MEN:

Ken Ramnarine 185  
J. Schectman 153  
Steve Herbin 146

#### HIGH SERIES

Ken Ramnarine 512  
Steve Herbin 426  
J. Schectman 391

##### Week 24 – WOMEN

Natalie Herbin 171  
Ilene Gross 167  
Estelle Snyder 159

Natalie Herbin 450  
Ilene Gross 426  
J. Stoudermire 424

##### Week 25 - MEN

Ken Ramnarine 168  
Steve Herbin 163  
Alan Stevens 149

Ken Ramnarine 482  
Steve Herbin 435  
J. Schectman 403

##### Week 25– WOMEN

Ilene Gross 156  
Estelle Snyder 151  
Issy Elefson 135

Estelle Snyder 404  
Ilene Gross 381  
J. Stoudermire 373

##### Week 26 – MEN

Steve Herbin 173  
Ken Ramnarine 168  
Alan Stevens 165

Ken Ramnarine 465  
Steve Herbin 429  
Alan Stevens 418

##### Week 26 – WOMEN

Estelle Snyder 162  
Ilene Gross 155  
M. Ramnarine 150

J. Stoudermire 412  
Natalie Herbin 378  
Ilene Gross 377

##### Week 27 – MEN

Ken Ramnarine 191  
Steve Herbin 158  
Alan Stevens 158

Ken Ramnarine 504  
Steve Herbin 430  
Alan Stevens 420

##### Week 27 – WOMEN

Ilene Gross 154  
Estelle Snyder 152  
J. Stoudermire 143

Ilene Gross 425  
Estelle Snyder 394  
J. Stoudermire 375

Congratulations to our high scorers: Ken Ramnarine 185 (week 24) and 191 (week 27); Natalie Herbin 171 (week 24); Steve Herbin 173 (week 26).

A big shout-out to one of our new bowlers, Denise Rothman, who was a little disappointed for never making it in our articles. I have no doubt you will be mentioned many times in the fall – keep up the good work.

Our Winter bowling league ended on April 4 and our end of season dinner was held at Lakeside Anchor Inn on April 6. We had a nice turnout and everyone had a wonderful time.

Summer (bowling for fun) begins in mid-May; the date will be posted on channel 63. Check us out! You don't have to be a Majestic Isles resident to bowl with us either in our league or for fun.

Our Fall season begins in September 2017 and ends in April 2018. As soon as we have the exact dates it will be posted in one of our newsletters. The cost is \$7.50 per week.

If you're interested in joining our fun group, please call Al Lynn 742-9937 or Alan Stevens 336-4223.

## THE MEN'S CLUB

By Joel Cohen

The Men's Club is planning to go to Marlin baseball games this year. The games are on Thursday nights and are free for seniors. The only cost is the bus which will be \$20. The buses would leave our clubhouse around 4:30 pm.

The first game we're planning on is June 1 with the Arizona Diamondbacks. Watch for further information on channel 63.

The other games are July 27 (Cincinnati Reds), August 31 (Philadelphia Phillies) and Sept.

28 (Atlanta Braves.)

Our next breakfast will be on Sunday May 7 and there should be a speaker.

Our membership is down and we would love to have more members. Please drop a check for \$20 into the Men's Club mailbox if you haven't joined yet.



## HADASSAH

By **Ellin Goldstein**



Our next board meeting will be on Monday May 15 at 10:30 a.m. Much important business needs to be discussed.

The next general meeting will be held on Monday May 22nd. After lunch, at 11:30 a.m., our multi-talented neighbor and friend, Selma Friedman, will present a Jewish Trivia Game. Come join us and see how much you know, not only about our religion, but about Jewish entertainers, musicians, artists, sculptors, etc. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. If you want to buy the delicious tuna lunch, be sure you place a check for \$5 in the Hadassah mail box by May 17, attention Doris Robin.

We will be celebrating Rosh Chodesh on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at the Morikami Picnic Area. All are welcome!

We are now beginning our 2017-2018 Calendar Fundraisers. Remember you earn 100% Donor for your personal listings and 50% Donor for any business ads you obtain. The deadline for ads will be May 31<sup>st</sup>. You can leave your forms and payment in the mail box in the clubhouse or give it to Lee.

We are also collecting for The Book of Remembrance. Cost is \$5 per name. Call Selma Friedman or Janet Levinton with any questions.

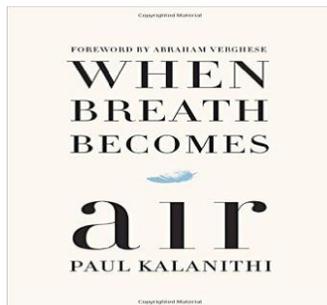
### BOOKS TALKS

On May 17th at 2 p.m. Donna Shaneson will lead the discussion on the novel

**WHEN BREATH BECOMES AIR**

By **Paul Kalanithi**

Please join us. Everyone is welcome.



## MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER

By **Selma Friedman**



April 23, 2017 was such an emotional evening, filled with love and warmth, but also sadness as one of our most-beloved residents is moving to be with her family. Francine Gitto has been with M.I.L.T. for many years, just finishing her term as president. We are still hearing comments about that fabulous party she organized for M.I.L.T.'s 20<sup>th</sup> birthday last fall.

Francine started with a small bit part, as a "hooker-in-training," but took on bigger and bigger parts, and eventually she wrote and produced her own shows as well.

Ed Strauber put together an album for Francine, showing her work through the years and presented it to her as a memento. Many thanks to Stan Rothstein's photography, Jerry Fefferman's newsletter covers and Ira Schneider's videos. Their great work chronicled her years with M.I.L.T.

Francine was also presented with a large card signed by the M.I.L.T. Board and many residents expressing love and good wishes.

A wonderful sheet cake bore a message of love and good wishes for Francine's future life with her family. Our lives have many chapters and she is moving on to her next one. We are honored to have shared the Majestic Isles chapter of life with her.

We watched a video of Marvin Hamlich's life which was wonderful, but because of the circumstances of the evening, it was a secondary event. But I am pleased to say that Marvin Hamlich played at Francine's Farewell Party.

\*\*\*\*\***Save the date:**

Sunday, May 21, 7:30 p.m.

Join M.I.L.T.'s "Sing for Fun" group as we celebrate our men and women who served in the armed forces.



### *What's Happening*

5	Fri	5:30 p.m.	Singles	Meeting	(f, h)
7	Sun.	9:30 a.m.	Men's Club	Breakfast	(f,h)
15	Mon	3:00 p.m.	President's Council		f, h)
17	Wed	2:00 p.m.	Book Talks	Discussion	(f, h)
18	Thurs	2:00 p.m.	Board of Directors	Meeting	(f, h)
20	Sat	8:00 p.m.	Social Club	Movietime	(p,h)
21	Sun	7:30p.m.	M.I.L.T.	Meeting	(f, h)
22	Mon	11:30 a.m.	Hadassah	Meeting	(f, h)
25	Thurs	1:00 p.m.	PAP	Meeting	(f, h)
28	Sat	3:00 p.m.	Singles	Harid's	(p, a)

### *Weekly Activities*

Mon.	12:00 p.m.	Ceramics		(f,h)
	3:00 p.m.	News & Views	Discussion	(f,h)
Tues	12:00 p.m.	Bowling		(p,a)
Wed	11:00 a.m.	Sing For Fun		(f,h)
	1:00 p.m.	Bunka	Crafts	(f,h)
Mon/Wed/Fri	9:00 a.m.	Pickleball		(f,h)
Thur	12:00 p.m.	Art Class	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays	(f,h)

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

For additional information, please contact an officer of the appropriate clubh,

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

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