

Majestic Isles News

May, 2009

Volume 12

Issue 8

MAJESTIC ISLES SOCIAL CLUB MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE TO OUR ARMED FORCES

MONDAY, MAY 25
5:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.
\$18 P.P.

MUSIC
AND
ENTERTAINMENT
BY
LARRY BRENDLER

BOSTON MARKET
CHICKEN
SALAD
FIXIN'S
DESSERT



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www.majesticisles.com

MANAGER'S CORNER

The new Multi-Day and Resident Aide entrance passes seem to be working out quite well. They have cut down on the long lines at the guardhouse as visitors and workers wait to come in to the community, they've lightened the guard's workloads and made a lot of visitors happy. In case you haven't heard yet, residents can call the guardhouse voicemail line (375-8406) to request a Multi-Day Pass for guests or workers who will be at your house for a number of days. These passes can be written for up to one week at a time. Residents who have aides coming in their homes for an extended period can request Resident Aide Passes that will be good through for a month at a time. Questions? Call me.

Zimmerman Tree Service will be on the Property near the end of the month to trim all of the palm trees throughout the Property just in time for hurri...I mean the summer months. This trimming will remove the fronds that touch the houses, take out low hanging fronds and also remove most of the fruit from the trees. No one likes the yellow things that the palm trees drop all over their driveways and sidewalks. We signed a 3-year contract with Zimmerman to lock in the price and this will be their second year of the contract. I'll be recommending to the Board the early part of 2010 that they consider another multi-year contract for the tree trimming to cut back the canopy and hardwood trees (anything that is NOT a palm) in January and the palms the end of May or beginning of June.

April, May, and June are notoriously famous for being windy months. Every time we have a couple of windy days in a row the property can look like a hurri...I mean storm blew through and left palm fronds lying everywhere. The Areca Palms, particularly along Imperial Seas, are constantly dropping fronds that quickly build up. The landscaping crew, as good as they are, can only visit each house once a month. If you take palm fronds that are lying around your house to the front, the landscapers will pick them up every evening before they leave. If their truck is full they will finish picking up the next day.

As you might have read in my Weekly Highlights, I received a warning from South Florida Water Management District about overuse of the recharge well. With no measurable rain since October, except for one week, the well had to be left on to keep the lake levels up. In order to use the well to pump water only equal to the amount we use for irrigation, the well is going to be shut off over the weekends. This means that the lake levels will slowly drop just from evaporation. **PRAY FOR RAIN!!!**

Ken Miller, Association Manager



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Unofficial Highlights

M.I. Board Meeting, April 2, 2009

Minutes of the April 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

- Lake Worth Drainage District has permit for new sidewalk around canal at El Clair and Woolbright.
- We'll host flu shots again this year. Date TBA.
- We were refused credit to lease the new copier for the office so other options will be explored.
- Hometown Pest Control agreed to extend contract to end of year to fit our budget cycle.
- Two companies want to negotiate cable contract, but their fees keep changing. One company wants to come back to a workshop to present again.
- Leo Miller recommends posting Rules and Regulations and making copies available. Board might want to look into changing Rules and Regulations. Ken Miller added that if Rules and Regulations are part of Documents, they can't be changed without resident vote.
- Multi-Day and Resident Aide passes now being used at Guardhouse are working well.

Treasurer's Report, Sy Kugelmas

Cash on hand & in banks:

Operating Accounts	\$240,980.28
Reserve Accounts	<u>\$276,766.12</u>
Total Cash	\$517,746.40

- Total unpaid maintenance is \$297,114.00.
- Will receive Autopay payments of \$105,000 on 4/6/09, leaving unpaid balance of \$192,114.00.
- One unit now owned by bank. Our attorneys have filed liens to cover maintenance charges owed. Total of \$3,856 does not include late charges, interest or attorneys fees.
- Audited financial statements will be issued ~ 4/10/09. Copies will be available and a notice put on Channel 63.
- New system requiring Board members to approve vendor invoices gives better control of expenditures.
- Current expenditures are below budgeted amounts. Board members are working diligently to ensure there is no over-spending.

COBWRA Report, Martin Goodman

- Sheriff's Office Representative believes manned guard-houses are an extra level of security".
- 474 of the 532 calls for Fire Rescue at the Woolbright Station were for medically related incidents.
- Congressman Wexler's office gave flyer about the stimulus package.

- State Senator Dave Aronberg working to avoid further selling or leasing of highways to private companies.
- Future of programming and cost of cable television appear to be uncertain because of deregulation.

Grounds Committee, Mort Goldstein

- Grounds Committee met and walked El Clair wall. M&P installed plantings, cut back and trimmed overgrown bushes. Mulch put down around new plantings. M&P also applied mulch by hand around clubhouse and blew mulch in common areas.
- Committee wants to get bids for the Woolbright wall.

Insurance Committee, Janice Davidson

- Committee recommends accepting Plastridge package.
- Other companies expressing interest told we would contact them 90 days before new policy expires.

Painting Committee, Harvey Galan

- All scheduled painting and cleaning of homes is done.
- Ken Miller and Harvey Galan working on list of plants killed by roof cleaning.
- We still need the roof tile reports.

Clubhouse Committee, Irene Weinstein

- Meeting with one of the decorators 4/16/09 at 1 p.m.

Cable Committee, Sy Kugelmas

- Discussion about options for TV service.

Old Business

- Motion to buy new copier for \$3200 defeated 1-6.

New Business

- Motion to accept proposal from M&P Services for \$36,000 to mulch front of homes defeated 2-2-3.
- Motion to accept Plastridge Insurance package and hold payment to Citizens until 4/15/09 passed by 6-0.
- Motion to open a Reserve and an Operating Account at First Southern, passed 6-0-1.
- Motion to accept proposal from LBS Pressure Washing to clean sidewalks, driveway aprons, gutters, curbs, and mailbox posts passed 4-3.
- Air conditioning maintenance agreement proposals tabled.
- Motion to hire R&H Electric for \$650 to move electric outlet and install floodlights on golf cart corral for new walking path passed 5-1-1.
- Motion to accept Walt's Window and Door's proposal to replace Plexiglas on pool gate with "Union Jack" passed by unanimous vote.
- Motion by Harvey Galan to have Hartzell paint both exercise rooms with our paint for \$150 each, seconded by Sy Kugelmas. Unanimous vote in favor.
- Discussed not allowing residents delinquent in their Maintenance Fees to rent their units.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Joel Rosenthal



The Board of Directors will make many important decisions over the next few months and we need your input. Negotiation for a new TV contract that will affect us all will begin shortly. Options currently on the table include cash, premium channels, direct TV and AT&T, and the length of the new contract. Mulching of our grounds has been an ongoing issue over the past month and there are several different opinions regarding the scope, method and cost. We're planning renovations to the second floor of the clubhouse, but have not yet resolved the timing or the financing. Watch Channel 63 for the schedule of committee meetings on these and other important topics.

The audit for 2008 should be available on request at the office and we expect to discuss it in detail at the May meeting.

Now that summer is approaching, it is important that those residents who will be out of town for a lengthy period make sure the office has your contact information. While you are away, you can always keep in touch with the latest community news at www.majesticisles.com.

CITIZENS OBSERVER PATROL C.O.P. UNIT # 74

By Ken Keller, Captain



A reminder to residents leaving town:

If you want the patrol to inspect the outside of your house while you are away for more than seven days, you must fill out a request form. The forms are located on the wall of flyers in the back lobby.

When you fill out the form, please give us as much information as possible and be sure to include your approximate return time. You must sign the form and you can leave it in our mailbox in the back lobby. When you return, please remember to call to let us know you are back.

Thanks for your cooperation. Have a good time!

SAFETY IN THE ISLES

Submitted by Steve Bayer

This is from Thomas Tolbert, Fire/Rescue Battalion Chief

How do we decide who is going to respond to your communities? It depends on which station is closest and has personnel available to send to the call. If a station is out on call, another station will cover the call. If the quantity of calls in an area reaches a high number, it's time to consider adding a station.

What happens when you dial 911? The call goes to the Sheriff's Dept. The call is analyzed and sent immediately to Fire Rescue if necessary. When you call 911 from home, the new enhanced 911 system displays your home information on a screen. If the call is from a cell phone, you will have to give the information verbally.

What determines to which hospital a patient is taken? Normally a patient is taken to the closest hospital. If it is a non life-threatening situation, you could be taken to a hospital of your preference. Certain medical conditions require a specific hospital.

Is it permissible for someone to accompany the patient in the EMS vehicle? Yes, but only in the front not in the back with the patient. It's a liability issue; there are no safety restraints in the rear for accompanying passengers.

How long does it take to reach a destination? We are constantly moving teams in order to cover areas that have teams out on call. To assist teams from another area, the numbers on your house should be large and clear. House numbers should be on **both sides** of a free standing mailbox.

Why should Fire Rescue be notified of any physical changes within a community? Time is of the essence. EMS must be made aware of anything that slows response time. For instance, speed bumps or humps require the vehicle to slow down or stop before crossing. On the return trip, the patient is subject to tremendous discomfort by bouncing around as the impediments are crossed.

Any questions, call Steve Bayer (737-0495)



RING OF FIRE

By Diane Frank

"In loving memory of Irene Glickman"

At the edge of the continent,
fires are everywhere.
Lightning strike at Point Arena.
Then a wide band of fire
traveling northeast on a summer wind.
Hundreds of lightning strikes
inside a ring of fire
torching the solstice night.

In the Mendocino Woodlands,
echoes of stellar jays,
a family of pheasants,
a mountain lion stalking in the meadow.
In the distance, burning mountains.
Images of the enigma
weaving themselves together
inside a larger vision.

For some reason I don't understand,
my mother decided to walk
back from the edge –
unable to leap at this time
through the ring of fire.

This is for my mother,
the older version of the three-year-old
who stood on the piano bench
and belted out radio tunes
and folk songs from the old country
when her relatives said in Yiddish,
Sing Mamale, Sing Little Mama.

Somewhere
in the middle of the continent
peonies in full bloom
now filling the still warm nights
with their sticky fragrance.

Somewhere
while the rest of us are
still dreaming,
a meeting with her Guardian angels,
planning how long she will stay
and the next adventure on her soul's journey.

Mamale,
you'll probably burn a path of fire through the sky
on your way,
and wherever the meteorites and snow angels
take you next,
I hope it is glorious!

In the middle of the redwood forest,
I feel you singing
inside the spirit of the trees.

GOOD AND WELFARE

GET WELL

Helen Benowich	Fran Feinberg
Larry Calder	Beverly Jaffe
Eileen Danziger	Ted Kalestein
Alan Ehrlich	Bernice Kozlin
Irene Ehrlich	Cynthia Mendelsohn
Helaine Fasio	

MESSAGES

Thank you to all our friends and neighbors. Your cards, donations, and calls following my accident are sincerely appreciated. I look forward to returning to clubhouse activities soon.

Larry Calder

To all my Majestic Isles family: I am truly touched by the outpouring of good wishes during my recent hospitalization. I am now a member of the "hip" club.

Karen Cohen

Words cannot express my gratitude for the support our community gave me during Phil's illness and after his death. I am so grateful to be part of this community.

Doris Davidoff

To my friends and neighbors: Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your calls and cards upon the passing of my wife Helen on March 4, 2009.

Jack Gordon

*Please note: We reserve the right to edit for length (30 word maximum) and clarity. Submit articles to Elaine Jay by email at ElainJay@aol.com with **Good and Welfare** as the subject.*

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mothers and grandmothers of Majestic Isles

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INVESTORS DISCUSSION GROUP

By Al Silverman, Facilitator

Now the questions are: When will the market turn? Did it hit bottom? Will it ever turn? Will global warming, from whatever influence, cause the oceans to rise, and if so, what will happen to the polar bears? Is the economy mending? Will the end result be high inflation, and if so, in what month, year, or decade?

Let us now switch from “what” to “who.” Who really knows? Some realtors are advising to buy now since housing is very cheap. Some brokers are advising to buy stock for the long term for substantial future gains. Some analysts recommend buying income stocks, including “MLPS.” Some analysts say the economy will turn up by end of this year, or next year ---or-----?????? Some hedge funds, having closed their short positions some time ago and having then gone long, now may be taking new short positions for the anticipated market reversal to the downside.

If you are confused, so are most other people. The market, the economy, the analysts, etc, are all caught up in this swirling state of confusion and differing opinions to the extent that it is difficult to know where to place your bets. Yes, I said “bets” since the market has become more of a gambling casino than ever before. But knowledge helps to stack the odds a little more in your favor. While it is difficult to protect your portfolio from a major downturn such as we are now witnessing, information about your investments may help you during the recovery phase (whenever that may occur).

On the question of when will the market recover, the answer is not a specific date but rather depends upon many factors, such as the hoped-for success of the government’s effort to provide liquidity to the banking system and other financial and business enterprises, the creation of incentives to purchase homes, minimize foreclosures, encourage the reversal of layoffs and begin the rehiring of American workers, etc. etc. The improvement in the economy is a “work in progress” and may continue for several years. The market may anticipate its improvement by six to nine months with many fits and starts as it gropes to sense the actual trend. Some project the turning point to be by year-end while others look to the 2010 or 2011 year.

With a presumed time frame of many retirees (except those who are interested in building a portfolio for their heirs), the predominant emphasis at our

meetings has been on securities that produce income with modest growth in these times (what a dangerous word - “growth”).

There was an article in the April 13, 2009 issue of “Barron’s” and another in the April 7, 2009 newsletter, “Personal Finance” concerning the attributes of Master Limited Partnerships (MLP). They trade on the major exchanges, have yields in the approximate 8% to 12% range and may have certain tax advantages. As much as 80% of distributions may be treated as a return of capital, allowing you to defer paying taxes on the income you receive until you sell the MLP. Cramer on TV has indicated that President Obama may soon deal with this tax deferral. In any event, consult your accountant. You may also need her/him to prepare your tax return or use a program like TurboTax to wade through the form K-1 you will receive at tax filing time. Also, don’t forget to explore preferred stocks, some with very attractive yields. Learn more about these at our meetings---and then do your own research and consult with your advisor as to suitability.

JUVENILE DIABETES WALK-A-THON

By Al Traum



I would like to thank everyone from Majestic Isles who took the time to contribute to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

This was the eighth year that Majestic Isles residents walked and/or contributed to this cause.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to walk with me on Saturday, March 28: Bobbie & Herb Rosenfeld, Gladys & Joel Cohen and Harvey Galan. Last year, Sandy Kastner and Bernice and Ray Kozlin also walked with us.

Thank you also to the many people who contributed money. If anyone is still interested in contributing to this wonderful cause, please contact me (742-3727). I will be happy to come over and pick up a check



Gardening in the Isles

By

Stan Davidson

Did you know that plant appetites crave food scraps? Food scraps contain valuable nutrients that can be used to improve the soil in our landscapes and potted plants. The potassium in a banana is an ideal building block for our plants, as are the nutrients contained in coffee grinds and egg shells. In addition to potassium, banana peels also contain calcium, magnesium, phosphorous, silica, sodium, and sulfur that are all gourmet additions for our plantings.

Bananas have many interesting alternative uses. If you are holding a peeled banana you have several different options; you can just eat it or try something different.

Placing several banana peels in the planting hole or on the soil surface was popular among gardeners in the 18th century, but they had no idea why the peels seemed to yield healthier plants. The peels rot quickly (3-4 weeks) adding nutrients to the soil.

Bury banana peels around the bottom of plants to discourage aphids and other insects from attacking your plants or laying eggs on them.

Making use of bananas and their peels as part of your gardening chores is relatively easy. There are several ways to feed banana peels to your plants. First, you can plant or transplant with bananas by digging a hole and placing a whole banana in the hole. Option two is to bury a very ripe banana adjacent to your new plant or break it up into pieces and bury it around the plant. Another way is to just plant the banana peels this way. A third option involves the use of your oven. Bake the banana peels to accelerate the decomposition. Place the peels on a baking sheet in a 350-degree oven and bake until they are crispy. Allow them to cool and break them into small pieces.

These small pieces are convenient to add to your potted plants.

Add some extra shine to your indoor or outdoor plants before using the peels as fertilizer. The inside of the peel can be used to gently remove dust and dirt from the foliage of your plants and will leave the foliage shiny and beautiful. Also, the inside of the peel can give an amazing shine to your shoes.

If you accidentally step on a fire ant mound, rub the inside of a banana peel on the site of the insect bites to ease the itching. The oil in a banana peel will soothe the skin and promote the healing of an abrasion on your grazed knee or elbow from an accidental fall. In the opinion of some neurologists at the National Pain Research Institute applying a banana peel to the site of pain can result in almost immediate relief.

Last but not the least, powering cars from bananas has to be the coolest way to go green! An Australian company is planning to build a plant to produce biomethane, a natural gas, out of banana waste to fill our future automotive fueling needs.

In the recent Will Smith movie, "Seven Pounds," Will said: "grow larger rose blooms with banana peels."

I suggest that instead of tossing your peels into the trash, that you consider burying them beneath your plants. You can snack on a banana and let your plants enjoy it too!

Happy Gardening!!

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INTRODUCING...

Berne and Janice Berger

By Claire Deveney



Berne (pronounced Bernie) and Janice Berger are interesting, multi-talented, public spirited, affable and most welcoming. Berne is a classic storyteller – he

engages the listener, shares delightfully detailed stories and listens attentively to the other person.

Born and raised in Boston's Roxbury section, Berne graduated from the High School of Commerce. He enrolled at Bentley College for over a year, then joined the Army in 1948 to 1949. He trained with the 82nd Airborne, and then was in charge of all clerks at Ft. Bliss, Texas. Upon returning, he joined the Army Reserves in Boston and earned an associate's degree in accounting at Bentley.

In 1950 Berne drove with a few of his friends to a Halloween Party at Janice's home in the Mattapan section of Boston. Berne says, "I was smitten." Within a week, he called her and took her to the Boston Opera House to see "The Mikado." They married two years later and will celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary on June 15. "She was a beautiful bride," says Berne. "A day doesn't go by that I don't tell her how important she is to me."

Janice was born in Everett, Mass., raised in Boston and went to Jeremiah E. Burke High School. Following graduation she worked in accounting as a civilian employee of the Army and Air Force in its regional contracting office.

In 1958 Berne and Janice moved from Boston to Randolph, a Boston suburb. The Bergers have four sons and six grandchildren – Robert, his wife, Judith, and their children, Michael, Laura, and Jennifer, of Andover, Mass.; Larry, his wife, Lisa, and their son, Zackary, in Newton, Mass.; Mark and his partner, Howard, reside in Oakland Park, Fla.; and Paul, his wife, Diane, and their children Nathan and Sylvia live in Holden, Mass.

Janice was a stay-at-home mother until their youngest son entered high school. She worked for Dunkin Donuts headquarters for 10 years, initially as a bookkeeper. After all the franchises were sold, she became a newspaper advertising and print buyer. "I loved it and it was wonderful," Janice said.

Berne's career was in senior management and finance. His first job was an office manager with a textile firm, then for a men's and boy's footwear firm as company controller for five years. For 26 years, from the mid 1950's to the mid 1970's, he worked in senior management for Bunny Bear, the world's largest manufacturer of juvenile products, in Everett, Mass., first as company controller responsible for administration, finance and credit. Two years later he became Vice President.

Berne later held two positions as controller, one with an import and wholesale distributor of women's footwear, and one with responsibilities for finance, administration and importing for Maxwell Shoes. Berne created the numbering or "sku" system for the footwear industry that is used today. He also developed a logistics system for tracking shoe shipments around the world.

As a young couple with children, Berne and Janice had visited both sets of parents in Florida. They initially moved to Delray at Villages of Oriole, Deauville Section, where they lived for 16 years before moving to M.I. in 2003. At the Villages, Berne served as president of the board of directors three times and was on the board for 10 years. A few months after they relocated to Florida, they both returned to work.

Prior to Passover, Janice was busy preparing to have 14 family members for the second seder and noted that last year they had 17 guests. Janice, who is super-organized and a gourmet cook, prepared all the foods and meals for the holiday in advance and said, "I love to cook everything myself."

Janice and Berne are both members of the Social Club and M.I.L.T. and recently joined the Gourmet Club. Janice is a member of the Women's Club and Hadassah. Berne is a member of the Men's Club and serves on the M.I. Documents Committee. He is also on the Board of Directors of the Palm Beach Jewish Genealogical Society. The Bergers enjoy travel and cruises and have explored 50 countries including Russia, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Spain and China.

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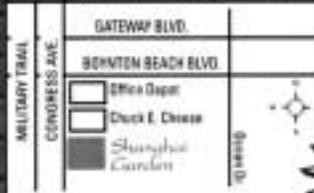
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MORE THAN JUST THE BIG BAND ERA

By Josh Katz



FREDDY MARTIN

Freddy Martin was not a jazz musician and never tried to be. He was, however, probably the most respected tenor saxophonist of the dance band era. The warmth and richness of his tone impressed even the most ardent of jazz

performers. His sweet orchestra was one of the most musical of its time.

Born in Cleveland, his interest in music began at an early age. In high school he led his own dance band, and on his free evenings he also sold musical instruments. One of his sales calls was to **Guy Lombardo**. Guy didn't buy anything, but he did listen to Martin's orchestra. Lombardo liked what he heard, and later, when he was unable to make an engagement, he recommended Martin's band as a replacement. Even though successful, his band later broke up, and he played as a sideman for several years before forming a new band in 1931. Martin finally broke through in the mid-1930s during his residence at the Bossert Hotel in Brooklyn, and he soon had a recording contract with Brunswick. At one time or another the band contained future leaders **Claude Thornhill**, **Russ Morgan** and **Alvino Rey**. Male vocalists included **Buddy Clark**, **Stuart Wade** and **Merv Griffin**. **Helen Ward** also sang with the band in the early 1930s before she joined Benny Goodman. She was the only female singer featured by Martin.

When Russ left to form his own band he relied heavily upon Martin's arrangements to fill his book. He also took something else of Martin's -- his tagline. Martin had always used "Music in the Martin Manner" to describe his band. Morgan lifted it wholesale, calling his sound "Music in the Morgan Manner." Martin never objected or made a fuss.

Martin's biggest hit was "Tonight We Love," taken from Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto. It proved a huge success and prompted him to perform other classical-derived works. His orchestra remained popular long after other big bands had faded away. He continued to be active in the band business until the 1970s. Freddie Martin passed away in 1983.

Next month – The McGuire Sisters.

SAMMY DAVIS JR.

Sammy was once billed as "Silent Sam, the Dancing Midget." He made his professional start in vaudeville at the age of three as part of an act which also featured his father, **Sammy Davis Sr.**, and his uncle, **Will Mastin**. In order to avoid child labor laws the young Davis sometimes held a cigar while he performed and did not speak during the show.

MITZI GAYNOR

In my opinion, she had more talent than any of the other more famous musical stars during her time. This included **Debbie Reynolds**, **Alice Faye**, **Betty Grable**, **Marilyn Monroe**, etc, etc, etc. She could act as well as the others, could dance better than the others, could sing as well as or better than the others, and had more personality. What a talent.

By the way, her real name was (get ready for this) **Francesca Marlene de Czanyi Von Gerber**.

ZIGGY ELMAN

Ziggy Elman (real name **Harry Finkelman**) was one of three trumpet players in **Benny Goodman's** band during the mid to late 30's. His section mates were **Chris Griffin** and **Harry James**. I felt Ziggy was every bit as good as Harry James, but was overshadowed by Harry. He wasn't as colorful or flamboyant, and didn't quite hit those famous (in my opinion once again – not very musical) high notes for which Harry was famous. When Harry left the band, Ziggy became the featured trumpeter.

Benny had a radio program sponsored by Camel cigarettes called the "Camel Caravan." **Johnny Mercer** was co-host along with Benny, and occasionally sang. Ziggy wrote a song which he called "Freilich in Swing." Benny liked it and it was played on almost every weekly program. Obviously it featured Ziggy. On one program, Benny asked Johnny Mercer if he could write lyrics for the song. Johnny said he would. A few days later he had the lyrics written. An arrangement was made, and a week later "Freilich in Swing" was played with a vocal by **Helen Ward**. It became a smash hit, and is now considered a standard. Johnny's lyrics caused the title to be changed to "**And the Angels Sing**."

See you next month.



VOICES FROM THE PAST

Compiled by Phyllis Cohen



In his book “The Greatest Generation,” Tom Brokaw wrote of the endurance, values and courage displayed by men and women who served in the military during WWII, and the strength with which they rebuilt their lives and created a great American society. He found these heroes reluctant to speak of their exploits and it was with great difficulty that he extracted their stories and published them.

In honor of Memorial Day, a few Majestic Isles veterans offered some of their memories. Like Brokaw, I found no one would talk about personal exploits or the horrors they faced. Instead, their stories reveal their humor, courage and strength.

NORM KATZ: WAR TALE

Norm Katz did not want to discuss the ugly side of war, but rather provides us with a glimpse of life for the infantry soldier in this wonderful anecdote.

In Germany, 64 years ago, in March 1945, just after the Battle of the Bulge, we were dug in on a hillside overlooking a small town. I was in Company B in the center, A on one side, C on the other. At three in the morning, my captain asked us if we would like to sleep in warm beds that night. When we all said, “Sure!” he said, “Let’s take that town!” We did! Then he asked me, the company scrounger, to find a nice place to stay. My buddy and I soon found a six-foot wall with a large open gate and, beyond the gate, a tremendous mansion. A tall, handsome man answered my knock on the door. He said, “What do you want?” I took out my 45, put it to his head and said, “Shut up and go to another room.” It turned out he was Mr. Geiger of Geiger Champagne and his basement was full of champagne. Needless to say, we all got drunk and did sleep in warm beds that night!

HOWARD WANDER: PACIFIC THEATER

Soft-spoken Howard Wander relates his wartime service focusing on the friendships he made in those difficult days.

In 1942, Howard Wander was an 18-year ROTC member who left City College of New York to enlist in the army. After basic training, he went on to the Officer Candidate School in Fort Benning, Georgia

and as a newly commissioned second lieutenant, was sent overseas to New Guinea and later the Philippines where he was a platoon leader. Injured twice, he received a Purple Heart with a cluster, the Bronze Star, and later, a special medal the Philippine government awarded to troops who served there. His group was scheduled to be part of the invading force of mainland Japan when Truman ended the war by dropping the atomic bomb.

After the war ended, Howard spent a year in Yokohama, Japan as head of a Criminal Investigation Division Unit ID (CID). His unit guarded Emperor Hirohito when the emperor visited Yokohama. Howard recalls meeting the emperor, whom he describes as being very kind and as welcoming the presence of the Americans. Howard’s CID unit was also responsible for the apprehension of two GI’s who had robbed a Japanese bank of 1,000,000 yen.

Howard remembers two life-long friends, CID agents Walter and Howard Funabiki, Japanese-Americans from California whose parents were interned out West during the war and not released until their sons returned to the United States. Another friend was Peter Grant, his platoon sergeant, a full-blooded Sioux Indian from North Dakota who fought in Guadalcanal and throughout the South Pacific.

Howard was discharged in 1946 as a Captain and stayed in the Reserves for 10 years.

SAUL MARDER: OHRDRUF CONCENTRATION CAMP

In this memory, which he was reluctant to discuss for many years, Saul Marder wants to remind us of the horrors of the Holocaust

Saul Marder was a 21-year old New Jersey boy when he was drafted in WWII and served in the European theater. He has only recently begun to discuss his wartime story. Saul was a platoon sergeant in the 89th Infantry Division that in April 1945 came upon the first Nazi concentration camp to be liberated, Ohrdruf Labor Camp, a sub camp of nearby infamous Buchenwald. At Ohrdruf, which was not an extermination site like Buchenwald, the prisoners were worked to death, brutalized, and finally forced marched from the camp as the allies approached. The allied soldiers found skeletal survivors and piles of dead bodies when they reached the camp. After the

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discovery, the neighboring townspeople, who denied all knowledge of the camp's existence and activities, were forced to walk through the camp. It was then decided to take the town burgomeister into custody. The squad that went to arrest him found both he and his wife had hanged themselves.

Fifty years later, a reunion of veterans of that division went to Europe as part of a Tour of Remembrance and visited the Ohrdruf site. Nothing remained to remind anyone of the camp's atrocities except a POW graveyard and a German army training facility. But Saul remembers, and shares this story with us so that we do not forget. Saul shrugs off the medals he earned (Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Medals) but values his experiences and the friends he made.

GENE PAIGE: RELUCTANT WARRIOR

World War II was a prelude to wars in the newly freed colonial areas in Asia and remaining colonies. Once more, the United States was involved in fighting in far off lands.

Gene was too young to fight in WWII but was called up for the Korean War. He describes himself as a reluctant warrior. The Army sent him to San Francisco, as far from his Miami home as it could, for basic training. Despite his engineering training and his ROTC experience, he was assigned to Cooking School at the 6th Army Food Service Corps. When the mistake was discovered, he was transferred to the 6th Armored Division, completed basic training, and with gold bars on his shoulders, was shipped off to Korea. He writes, "HQ gave me three Sherman tanks and told me to 'go git em.' We were put on a square wheeled freight train and sent up to a quiet little place called Kumwah Valley. Unknown to us at that time, it was short distance from a place called 'Porkchop Hill.' My tank division was assigned to the 148th Graves Registration Company. It was our job to provide protective cover for the men in the field doing their unpleasant duty." After 18 1/2 months of duty alternately freezing in the winter and sweltering in the summer, Gene completed his tour.

Gene was called up again and sent to Viet Nam, a place he said no one back then would talk about. "In 'Nam,' your clothes would rot off, you'd get all sorts of nasty ailments." The men were reluctant to make real friends because they didn't know if we would be able to continue a friendship for any length of time. Nevertheless, Gene did make a few good friends he still sees. Gene summarizes his experience by saying, "Someone famous once said, 'War is Hell.' I'm

sorry for the lack of details, but I feel you have to go through Hell to get to War."

ALAN COHEN: SERGEANT BILKO'S ARMY

The lighter side of the military

I was a very young 22 year-old, fresh out of City College School of Engineering, when I was drafted into the Army and sent to Fort Monmouth, New Jersey for basic training. An only child who was still babied by my parents, I had never been away from home before, and suddenly, I was thrust into barrack's life with men from all over the country, marching, carrying packs bigger than I was, and being molded, bullied, and drilled into a soldier. Fortunately, a sense of humor, a big dose of New York City street smarts, and the prevailing attitude of all enlisted men, "us against them" (i.e., the officers) helped me make friends and even get out of some run-ins with the officers.

On one memorable morning, our new major called a surprise inspection. We fell out of bed and rushed to dress in our class-A uniforms, a dress uniform, as opposed to everyday fatigues. I had already worn my uniform several times and when I pulled it on, I noticed how creased and sloppy it looked and hoped for the best. We lined up in the barracks. The major marched down the row, the top sergeant behind him, and stopped in front of me. "Who ironed that uniform, soldier?" he demanded in a harsh, loud voice.

I snapped a salute at him, and roared back in the same tone, "My mother, Sir."

The Major was dumbstruck, while behind him, men were doubled over trying to avoid laughing. Not another word was ever said, though I did bring my uniform home more frequently for my mom to iron.



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A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

One does not die until one is forgotten

The unofficial start of summer, a three-day weekend for government employees and an excuse for used car markdowns, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation’s service.

Memorial Day was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. Despite its roots in the Civil War, Memorial Day is not about division, but reconciliation, a coming together to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Traditional observance of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. The graves of the fallen are increasingly ignored and neglected; flag etiquette is rarely followed. Many towns and cities have not held a parade in decades. Others honor all dead, not just those who have fallen in service to our country.

In December 2000, the U.S. Congress and the President attempted to redirect the nation’s attention to the true purpose of Memorial Day by passing and signing “The National Moment of Remembrance Act.” The law intended to encourage and coordinate commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

A Moment of Remembrance asks the American people to set aside one day out of the year to remember, reflect upon and honor those who have given their lives in service to their country, including the over 4,000 American military members who have died since the beginning of the Iraq War.

Flying a flag at half-staff, attending a parade or memorial service, and pausing for a moment of silence are powerful symbolic ways to mark Memorial Day. We should also challenge ourselves to do more than just the symbolically remember those who have died; we can use the holiday as an occasion to ask what we can do to better support the survivors of conflict and the bereaved.



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AGE IS A NUMBER

By Thelma Mechanic

As the numbers go up with each passing birthday, the reactions from family and friends are “age is a number.” It’s only just a number if your attitude is positive.



Very often we are not in control of the events of our lives. Our response to events both reflects and impacts upon our emotional health. A good sense of humor goes a long way. Laughter is reported to be the best medicine. A study from Stanford University found that laughing for one minute has the same effect as working on a rowing machine for 6 to 10 minutes.

Gloria Steinem, the feminist guru, said, “Fifty is the new 60 and 70 is the new 80.” Jack Benny’s number was 39. Every year he’d celebrate his 39th birthday with his unique droll humor. We all seem to know of Joan Rivers attempts to look youthful. Her face-lifts are so taut, even she jokes about it. “I was born in 1972,” she says with a straight face. “My neighbor was born in room 1971.”

Joking about your age is fine, but don’t do what my neighbor in New York did. She invited a large group of friends to the local country club to celebrate her 70th birthday. Her adult children flew in from out-of-town to surprise her – but she neglected to tell them what she told everyone else. It was a lovely party, and after dinner her son rose spontaneously to toast her, “Happy 80th Mom!” This caused gasps from the audience and blushes from the hostess.

Comedians love to joke about aging. It’s such a universal theme. When an actress told Bob Hope that she was “approaching forty,” he asked, “From which direction?” Gypsy Rose Lee once confessed that she had everything she had 20 years ago, except that it was all lower.

There’s an anecdote told about the doctor and his patient. “I can’t make you any younger,” says the doctor. “Who cares?” responds the patient. “I’m not

interested in getting younger. I just want to get older.” Amen to that.

Another old-timer, George Burns, complained to his doctor, “I’m only 80 but I can only have sex once a month or so.” “That’s natural” said the doctor. “Yeah, but Groucho Marx is 85 and he says he has sex twice a week.” “Okay,” said the doctor. “You say the same thing!”

And then there’s the line we can all relate to. A patient claims his doctor has a great stress test. It’s called the bill.

So keep adding candles to that birthday cake, but remember to blow them out. If there are things you still aspire to do, plan to do them. Make your own bucket list.

Remember, age is mind over matter. If you don’t mind, it doesn’t matter. Happy birthday, whatever your number.

Peanut Butter And Jelly - Revised

By Joan Sorkin



To me one of the easiest and most nutritious lunches is a natural peanut butter and sugarless jelly on non-white healthy bread. It gives you the most protein for the smallest amount of money and is so easy you can teach three year olds to make their own.

Food companies looking for an easy profit thought, “What lunch can we make non-healthy, gum up with hundreds of chemicals and charge an outrageous price?” Well, they decided on a crustless white peanut butter and grape jelly sandwich the size of a silver dollar, frozen, and individually packaged. Guess what? The American public, whose children are overweight, out of shape and nutritionally deprived, bought it. “Un crustables” can be found in your freezer section - they actually exist.

I don’t know why this product just sent me “off the wall.” It’s bad enough that it is on the market, but that parents would feed this to their children is beyond me. Of course, my grandchildren are part of the buying public. I just keep shaking my head in wonderment and dismay.

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SINGLES SCENE

By Thelma Mechanic

The evening of April 5 was a special treat for those who met at Callero’s for dinner, followed by “Cagney” at the Florida Stage, Manalapan. Don’t be left out next time - get your checks and reservations in early.

May 8: 3 p.m. Board meeting at the clubhouse
4 p.m. General membership meeting
Bring new ideas for summer activities and entertainment.
5 p.m. Bowling at Green Acres will follow the meeting. \$6 for two games, \$3.25 for shoe rentals. Dinner will follow the bowling. Put your checks in the mailbox by April 20.

Watch Channel 63 for news of upcoming events and meetings.

Pick up flyer in back lobby for plans and events sponsored by the coalition.

MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER GENERAL MEETING, April 17, 2009

By Selma Friedman

Thank you, Ira Schneider, for organizing and running a fun karaoke night for our enjoyment. And thank you, Ed Strauber, for being our disc jockey.

We met on Friday April 17, rather than on our usual Sunday evening so as not to conflict with any holiday celebrations and a fun time was had by all.

Of course, if there was karaoke there had to be performers. Taking their turn at the microphone were Mel Burstein, Enid Bayer, Georgie Gilbert, Francine Gitto, David Katz, Josh Katz, Lee Katz, Barbara Krebs, Nancy Levitan, Isabel Lubchansky, Ira Schneider, Norma Schneider, Al Silverman, Millie Silverman, Estelle Snyder and Harriet Strauber.

Our May meeting will also be on a Friday, May 8 and will feature Theater Games. June 14 we’re back on track on our Sunday schedule and will offer "Good Humor." Come join the fun!

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*Susanne Tishet
(My name is an anagram. See p. 30)*

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MAJESTIC ISLES YIDDISH CLUB
The Joys of Yiddish

By Jerry Raske

During the opening songs at the April 5 meeting, we were treated to a most pleasant surprise as a guest, Jessica Shirley, joined in the singing with her beautiful voice.

Jack Lust once again offered a Yiddish monologue with an English translation, this time sharing information from the New York Times Magazine. Reggie Zimmerman spoke about the upcoming Passover holiday and the significance of preparing the seder plate of hardboiled egg, roasted shank bone of lamb, bitter herbs, charoses and karpas.

Our entertainer, Selma Fletcher, gave a wonderful performance on the keyboard, and at one point inspired a group of our women to join hands and dance traditional dances.

Lucky wine winners each received a bottle of Passover wine.

At our next meeting, on May 3, Pninah Lipsky, a very funny woman, will entertain us. She is known as the female Sam Levenson.

And remember, you **don't have to speak or understand Yiddish** to enjoy our great evenings.

MEN'S CLUB

By Sy Lubchansky

The Men's and Women's Clubs are having their Parents' Day affair at the Boca Greens Country Club on Sunday, May 3 at 11:30 a.m. The response has been very good so far.

A trip to the Hard Rock Casino is planned for Wednesday May 27 at 10:00 a.m. The cost, as before, will be \$18 per person and you will receive \$15 in play money and \$5 in food money. If you are thinking of going I would recommend that you get your checks, drawn to the Majestic Isle's Men's Club, into the Men's Club box in the clubhouse back lobby.

The next Bingo night will be on May 17 at 7 p.m. The jackpot is now at \$250.

We wish all our seasonal residents a wonderful summer and look forward to their return in the fall.

M.I. CANCER RESEARCH UNIT

By Bobbe Greene



It is not too late to join us at the annual Card Party/Luncheon on May 7 at beautiful **Broken Sound Country Club**. As always, we will enjoy the sumptuous buffet, browse the vendors' tables, have a chance to win some great door prizes and raffles and play our favorite game with our favorite people. The cost for this fabulous day is \$45.

Our next meeting is Just Desserts, and will be held on Thursday, **May 28 at 1 p.m.** (please note change of time). The very talented women on our board will prepare and serve their exotic specialties. Join us for an afternoon of decadence and entertainment.

SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, July 16. Elegant luncheon at the Tealicious Tea Room.

A big thanks to Myrna Bader and her committee for the mammoth job they all do sending the birthday greetings.

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MAJESTIC ISLES HADASSAH

By Bobbe Greene



The Installation of Officers' Luncheon in our clubhouse will be held on Monday, May 18 at 11:30 a.m. The lunch will be catered by Ben's Delicatessen and the cost will be \$14.

A big thank you to Joan Baron and her nominating committee for the many hours they devoted in order to present the following slate of officers:

- Presidents: Elaine Grossman
Evelyn Harris
- Executive VP: Fran Ost
- Treasurer: Janice Davidson
- Recording Sec'y: TBA
- Corresponding Sec'y: Rita Leidner
- Membership VPs: Karen Cohen
Nadine Ehrlich
- Program VP: Rosalie Rosenthal
- Fundraising VP: TBA
- Education VPs: Phyllis Cohen
Judy Radin

The Florida Atlantic Region Spring Conference is being held at the West Palm Beach Marriott on May 3. Joan Baron, Dottie Caroff and Marge Rosin will be installed onto the region's executive board. An extraordinary day is planned for the women as well as the associates. The cost for the day is \$60. Call Joan Baron for more details at 737-8722

Hadassah celebrates each new month with a Rosh Hodesh gathering at the Morikami picnic area. This month the new moon service will be held on Tuesday, May 26 at 10 a.m.

WOMEN'S CLUB

By Sandy Garder and Myrna Levine

Although it occurred a while ago, at the end of March, here are the team results from our Canasta Tournament:

First Place: Gladys Cohen and Ruth Rossi; **Second Place:** Lynn Gerstenhaber and Mimi Pestreich; **Third Place:** Charlotte Goldberg and Rose Diamond; Tied for **Fourth Place:** Sandy Kastner and Helen Aldoroty/Beverly Jaffe and Ruth Oppler.

Many thanks to Beverly Hoffer, Marilyn Sumberg, Bunny Kramer, Tillie Citron, Gladys Cohen, Sandy Kastner and Sandy Gardner for their extra efforts in setting up the room, goodies and maintaining the scores. We couldn't have done it without ya!!

During the course of the afternoon we encountered some glitches – which, we *promise*, will be resolved by the next tournament.

In May we look forward to our celebration of Parent's Day with the Men's Club. On Sunday, May 3 a sumptuous brunch with entertainment will be held at Boca Greens Country Club on Route 441 in Boca. The cost is \$24 per person for members and \$27 per person for friends and guests. This affair is subsidized by both clubs.

Plans are in the works for a visit to the Norton Museum on Friday, June 12. Stay tuned and watch Channel 63 as we program more events.

Happy Mother's Day to all.

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SOCIAL CLUB

By F. Cohen, R. Dick and S. Fefferman

Nostalgia abounded in our last series show on March 28 with "The New Platters." Some of our audience was so enthused by the music that they danced to the twist, and rocked and rolled in the aisles.

Our Showtime series for 2010 is now finalized with tickets available at \$70 per person. Shows will be held on Saturday, January 23, Saturday, February 27 and Sunday, March 21. Please check the back lobby for brochures and more details.

The Memorial Day party is scheduled for Monday, May 25 at 5:30 p.m. For a cost of \$18 per person we plan to have a wonderful evening of food, and entertainment by Larry Brendler. Get together with your friends and arrange for tables of ten, or we can find seating for you. This is a not-to-be-missed celebration.

Movies for May have been scheduled for Saturday, May 9 and Friday, May 22. Titles appear in the box on this page and are also listed on Channel 63.

The Social Club's last show of the season will be on Saturday, June 27 featuring Michelle James and Bobby Kelton at a cost of \$14 per person.

It's not too early to start thinking about the big bash for December 31. Reservations are now being accepted for New Year's Eve. The cost is \$50 per person with a deposit of \$50 per couple and \$25 per single. See flyers in the back lobby for Memorial Day and New Year's Eve parties.

To our snowbird friends and neighbors, we wish you a healthy and happy summer season. We look forward to seeing you again in the fall.

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MOVIES MOVIES MOVIES

SATURDAY, MAY 9 at 8 p.m.:

MARLEY AND ME Based on the best-selling memoir, this heartwarming story examines the highs and lows of marriage, maturity and confronting ones' own mortality, as seen through the lens of family life with a dog.

FRIDAY, MAY 22 at 8 p.m.:

FROST/NIXON This program features British journalist David Frost's 1977 interview with Richard Nixon in which the former president candidly discusses the Watergate scandal and its aftermath. Additional footage features Frost's own reflections on the interview. Frost also offers his thoughts on "Frost/Nixon," the Tony-winning stage play and adapted screenplay that his history-making series of interviews inspired.

A \$1 per person donation is collected at the door. If you plan to attend, we do ask that you sign the sheet in the back lobby to give us an idea of how many people to expect.

TENNIS CLUB NEWS

By Art Blitman



Hi, all you tennis buffs. Summer is fast approaching and many of us will be heading north.

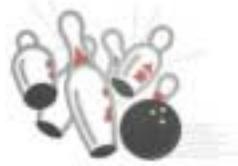
As I write, we're looking forward to the April 19 Round Robin, with separate rounds for men and women. Pizza and... is on the menu.

Hope we all have fun, and enjoy the summer. See you all in the fall.

Tennis Courtesy: Don't forget to help the server retrieve the balls!

SPARES AND STRIKES

By Dave Feinberg



The season has ended and the awards have been given out. The dinner was fabulous and the entertainment matched it.

The new season will begin on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 and end on Tuesday, March 16, 2010. The end of the season dinner is scheduled for Thursday, March 25 at 6:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars.

I ask all bowlers to try and enlist their friends to join our league, as we would like to enlarge the league to its former size. Many of our bowlers have sold their homes and the new owners don't seem to know that we are a viable group of dedicated bowlers. Let's invite them now to sign up for the new season. Snowbirds and snowflakes are also welcome. Call for details at 733-4837.

Fun bowl at our new home will be on Tuesdays at 12 noon or, if you prefer, Sundays between 9 a.m. and noon. The Sunday price is 99 cents per game. Hope to see some of you at the alley on the day of your choice.

For further information, give me a call at 733-4837.

SNOWBIRD PLANS

By Marilyn Levy



these activities.

The March 20, 2009 meeting of the Majestic Isles Snowbirds was very successful. Plans were made for the next season. We encourage part time and year round residents to join us in

Our welcome back brunch will be held on Friday, Dec. 18, 2009 at 11 a.m. in the clubhouse. Sid Kaufman, Don Duchin, Sy Bochner, Mark Jaffee, Lil Desnet and Pearl Kornblau volunteered to be the committee to shop and set up. In order to have enough funds for the brunch, snowbirds are asked to pay their \$5 pp dues by check by Dec. 11, 2009. Put the checks in the mailbox in the back lobby. There will be a sign up sheet in the back lobby so we can have an accurate count for ordering enough food for the brunch.

In January, Bobbe and Jack Greene are organizing a theater party for us to see "42nd Street" at the Stage Door Theater on Sun. Jan. 24 at 2 p.m. Ellen Alexander is arranging a trip to Jonathan Dickinson State Park in Hobe Sound for Friday, Feb. 26. While there we will picnic and go by boat to the hermit Trapper Nelson's island. A park ranger will give us a guided tour of the island.

For a farewell gala next March 10, Irwin Finkelstein, Paula Stein, Joyce Spiess and Joan Greenwald are planning a lunch-dance. There will be music and entertainment.

Our business meetings will be on January 8, 2010, then Feb. 5 and March 5. Please mark your calendars. We hope you will attend and keep this club viable.



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CORRECTION - all garbage must be place outside after 5:00 p.m. on **Monday** and **Thursday** for next day pickup."

Harvey Galen,
Architectural Review Committee

Anagram answer: Sunshine State

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SPECIAL EVENTS
May 1, 2009 – JUNE 30, 2009



MAY 2009

May 3, Sun. 11:30 a.m., Men's and Women's Clubs: **Parent's Day Brunch** (p, a)

May 7, Thurs. 10 a.m., Cancer Unit: **Card Party** (p, a)

May 8, Fri. 4 p.m., Singles: **Bowling** (see p. 23 for details) (p, a)
 7:30 p.m., M.I.L.T. **Theatre Games** (members free, \$2/non-member, h)

May 9, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)

May 17, Sun. 7 p.m., Men's Club: **Bingo** (p, h)

May 18, Mon. 11:30 a.m., Hadassah: **Installation Luncheon** (p, h)

May 22, Fri. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)

May 25, Mon. 5 p.m., Social Club: **Memorial Day Party** (p, h)

May 27, Wed. 10 a.m., Men's Club: **Casino Trip** (p, a)

JUNE 2009

June 6, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)

June 12, Fri. 11 a.m., Women's Club: **Norton Museum** (p, a)

June 14, Sun. 7:30 p.m., MILT: **Good Humor** (members free, \$2/non-member, h)

June 17, Wed. 8 a.m. to 12 noon. COBWRA: **Delegates meeting** open to residents (f, h)

June 20, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)

June 21, Sun. 7 p.m., Men's Club: **Bingo** (p, h)

June 27, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Show Time** (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,
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f = free, p = paid, a = away, h = home

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