

# Majestic Isles News

May, 2013

Volume 16

Issue 8

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**Manager's Corner**

This month I want to talk about what I consider to be three very important subjects that residents can all act on to help make Majestic Isles a place that everyone can be proud to call "Home."

**Garbage** – Just about every Monday and Thursday as I drive through the property in the early afternoon, I see garbage and recyclables (hereafter referred to as "trash" or "garbage") already set at curbside. The M.I. Documents allow trash to be set out no earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the day before collection day. The Board is considering revising this rule with the proposed Documents changes, but for right now, the rule stands. I also see many bags of garbage set out that are not in a closed container – a direct violation of rules stated in the Documents. The reason we check and occasionally relocate 44 rodent bait stations around the property is because this is Florida. We have rats. Leaving anything at the curb that can be eaten just encourages the rats to make more rats. Think about it.

**Speeding and Stop Signs** – Recently I was riding in the golf cart with Steve Bayer and, in a period of less than 45 seconds, we watched three vehicles roll through the four-way stop at Royal Caribbean/Imperial Seas/Grand Harbour. The letters that say STOP on those red and white octagonal signs do not stand for "Slow Till On Paint." **Please come to a complete stop at all of the signs.** Also, we still see many vehicles coming around Royal Caribbean going at least 45 mph. **Seriously?** Dogs, pedestrians, Mr. Mai on his bicycle... if you're driving that fast, you can't stop, and no one can get out of your way. The last thing we want is another accident. Think about it.

**Mailboxes** – The next time you go out to get your mail, take a good look at your mailbox. I see many boxes that are bubbling up with rust under the paint or rusted out on the back or bottom, and doors that won't stay shut. Do you really want wet mail? Consider replacing the box and the piece of scrap lumber that holds it to the post with a new mailbox and plastic mounting plate to increase "curb appeal" for everyone (and keep your mail dry). Think about it.

By the way, have you heard that the forecast for Hurricane Season has been released? The experts predict "enhanced activity" due to warm tropical Atlantic waters and the lack of an El Niño. If the models are accurate, look for 18 named storms (average number is 12) 9 Hurricanes (we usually get 6-7) and 4 Major Hurricanes (the average is 2). Start stocking up a little at a time now to avoid long lines and depleted shelves.

Ken Miller, Association Manager



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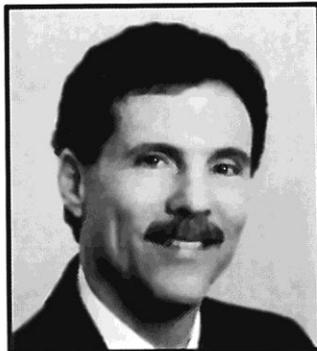
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## **Unofficial Highlights of M.I. Board of Directors Meeting, April 4, 2013**

*Minutes of the April 2013 meeting will not be available until the Board approves them at the next meeting. To inform residents in a timely manner, we present the unofficial and abbreviated notes below.*

### **Treasurer's Report, Sy Kugelmas**

- *(Residents may request a report of the 4/4/13 cash positions and Statement of Operations at the office.)*
- Budget compliance to March 31, 2013: We are over budget in the amount of \$17,438 because the landscape maintenance costs and management costs have exceeded the amount allocated in the budget.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **COBWRA and Safety and Security, Steve Bayer**

- *Highlights of the March 20 meeting of COBWRA appeared in the April issue of this newsletter.*
- The Palm Beach Post printed an article about GL Homes giving \$2.8 million to Palm Beach County. The article is available with the minutes.
- There have been several slips and falls in the parking lot. We're considering barriers at the sidewalk to keep people from falling over the car blocks.
- The radio frequency identification (RFID) tags are being worked out to replace the transponders. A letter about this will be forthcoming within the next couple of months, along with a sticker reminding residents to make sure they have not left their keys in the car. Several area people have died recently due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

#### **Grounds, Bill Broth**

- Most of the issues concerning removing and replacing trees have been resolved with the exception of the type of tree that has to be used for replacement. *For more about replacement trees, see p. 7.*
- The lakes were treated for algae, but we can't do a whole lot about the pH (acidity) of the lakes.
- We're still trimming the landscaping at the signs on Woolbright, in order to increase visibility without changing plantings.

#### **Welcoming Committee, Iris Rothstein**

- We have purchased bags with the M.I. logo that are filled with goodies for the new residents. Rules and Regulations for the community are also included, along with a whole ton of other information and freebies! Visits are made to all new residents.

#### **Insurance, Saul Siegel**

*(See motion pertaining to insurance in New Business)*

### **Documents, Liz Hopwood**

- The issues with the lighting around the Medjool Palm Trees have been resolved.
- We don't yet have the final copies of the Documents for the Board to review before sending them to the attorney.

### **Architectural Review (ARC), Mark Jaffie**

- The committee has inspected the back patios in Phase II and 14 letters have gone out reminding residents to have the patios cleaned. We still need to do Phases I and III.

### **Painting Committee, Harvey Galan**

- The committee is looking at new colors.

### **New Business**

- M.I.L.T. will be allowed to replace the Social Club poster in the lobby for two weeks. The Board will look into options for dealing with multiple poster requests at the same time.
- A motion was made to incorporate the following, which has been approved by our attorney, into our Rules and Regulations: "Street clothes are not permitted in the pool and hot tub. Only proper swimming attire is permitted, which includes bathing suits and other clothes manufactured for pool use. Hats and/or t-shirts are permitted in order to protect against sunburn." The motion was tabled.
- A motion to grant an exception to remove a tree at 5928 Seashell Terrace passed by unanimous vote.
- Motion to approve reinsuring with Plastridge Insurance Agency passed by unanimous vote.
- Ken Miller is to get a written Proposal from R&H Lighting for replacing the light fixtures in the lobby overhang and renting a lift so that the lobby lights can also be repaired.

## **WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS**

By Elaine Jay

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

Melvyn and Elizabeth Kurman  
James and Patricia Lannon  
Gary Lederman  
Robert and Dawn Robledo  
Harris and Sandra Tokayer

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## DID YOU KNOW...

By Bill Broth

Last month I wrote about your membership in the Majestic Isles HOA (Home Owners Association) and your role in selecting the Board of Directors. This month's topic is the Documents you were given when you moved to Majestic Isles and which are the basis for the operation of the Association.

Every community – be it condominium, HOA, time-share, or rental – falls under the jurisdiction of Florida laws. There are statutes for each type of residence, and the laws governing HOA's are found in Florida Statute 741. Based on this statute, a builder publishes Documents for each of its HOA communities. As you might expect, the initial Documents favor the builder (Oriole, in our case). When a majority of homeowners had closed on their houses, governance of Majestic Isles was turned over to the HOA. The newly elected Board established a committee to amend our Documents by removing those articles or wordings that favored the builder. With the approval of our attorneys, the proposed changes were presented to the HOA members for their approval. Following a majority vote in favor of the changes, and with the approval of our attorney, the revised Documents were submitted to the state for final approval. The same procedure has been and will be followed for subsequent Document changes.

Majestic Isles Boards have periodically appointed document committees to review and propose changes to our Documents. Your Board, through its appointed committee, has been working on proposed changes to our Documents. These changes are now being finalized and if approved by the Board, they will be sent to the attorneys for possible corrections. It is in the best interest of every resident to review the proposals and to vote for or against them.

If approved by the homeowners, the Documents will then be sent to Tallahassee for state approval. Once they are approved by the state, the changes become a part of our Documents.

Each month I will try to explain some aspect of the workings of the M.I. Board. Please let me, Bill Broth (704-7989), know if you have a specific topic you would like me to cover.

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Is our face red! Last month, we somehow managed to reprint the unclassified ads that had already appeared in the March issue of the newsletter. With one exception, the new ads didn't make it into the April issue. We hope that those whose ads did not appear as planned will accept our deepest apologies.



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## GOOD AND WELFARE

### GET WELL

Janice Berger	Marian Held
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### SYMPATHY

To Isabel Lubchansky on the loss of her sister  
To Fran Weiner on the loss of her husband, Puggy

### MESSAGES

I wish to sincerely thank my caring friends and neighbors for their kind wishes on the loss of my sister.

Isabel Lubchansky

I deeply appreciate the kindness and concern of our Majestic Isles friends and neighbors during and after my recent hospitalization.

Jim Wachtel

*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 email will be sent as verification of receipt.*



## CORRECTION: TREE REMOVAL INFORMATION

We now have, in writing, clear information about tree removal and replacement.

A Tree Removal Permit is not needed to remove a tree from your property, but you must maintain the tree count for the lot. If you remove a palm tree, it must be replaced by a palm tree; a hardwood tree must be replaced by a hardwood tree.

A hardwood/canopy tree must be replaced by a like tree that is no less than 12 feet tall with a 6 foot spread and it must be a native species.

Bill Broth, Grounds Committee Chairman

## LIVING TO TELL THE TALE

By an anonymous Majestic Isles resident



Perhaps, like me, you know of people who died because they went into the house leaving their keys in the car and the motor running. Perhaps, like me, you've thought, "That could never happen to me; I *always* take the keys out as soon as I stop the car."

Think again.

A couple of weeks ago, at the end of a very stressful day, I decided to charge my cell phone overnight and wanted to be absolutely certain to take it with me in the morning. A sure way to remember the phone would be to put my keys next to it, but the keys weren't on their usual hook, in my purse or in my pockets, so I went to the garage to see if I'd left them in the car. As I opened the door to the garage, I was astounded and momentarily puzzled by how hot it was in there. Suddenly the light dawned – the car motor was running. I quickly opened the outside garage door and turned the motor off.

I'd been upset when I arrived home and have no idea how long the car was running, but I do know that I had returned at least two phone calls and read and responded to the day's accumulation of email. The carbon monoxide alarm hadn't gone off and I hadn't felt any physical symptoms, but those things would probably have happened very shortly – after I had gone to bed.

As soon as I stopped shaking, I found a big sheet of brightly colored paper, wrote "KEYS!!!" in four inch letters on it and taped it to the garage side of the door to the house. As Steve Bayer stated at the April Board meeting, you will soon receive a sticker for the same purpose. **Please don't throw away the sticker, thinking that you are too careful to need it. Use it!**

*Editor's note: The reminder below appeared in last month's article about carbon monoxide detectors. In the story above, the car had not run long enough to trigger the alarm, but this bears repeating:*

- **The rule of thumb life expectancy for a CO Detector is seven (7) years...** The TEST function only tests the HORN/Alarm function. It does NOT test the ability of the detector to actually monitor... detect and ...trigger an alarm to produce the audible function/horn.

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## *Gardening in the Isles*

*By  
Stan Davidson*



We see these critters creeping all over our landscapes and occasionally hiding in our homes. These small lizards, geckos, are found in warm climates throughout the world. They range in size from less than an inch to rare species twenty-four inches long. Let's examine these exotic lizards and their unique characteristics.

Geckos are the second largest group of lizards with close to 1500 different species. They make chirping sounds to socialize with other geckos. Geckos do not have eyelids. Like snakes, the eyes of geckos are covered with transparent scales. A gecko sees the world through something like a windowpane. A gecko keeps its "windshield" clean by licking it with his tongue.

Geckos come in various color patterns and the colors, such as purple, pink, blue and black, make them the most colorful lizards in the world. Some are subtly patterned and somewhat rubbery looking while others are more vividly colored. Some species, like the chameleon, can change color to blend in with the environment or particular temperature. Some species are "parthenogenic;" the female is capable of reproducing without copulating with a male. Is this modern day birth control or is it out of control?

What is the lizard walk? A lizard moves forward by advancing diagonally opposite legs, the left front and the right rear legs at the same time, then the right front and the left rear. This sequence causes the lizard to wiggle its body side to side as it walks or runs. This wiggle in the lizard's walk is the forerunner of the movement that propels snakes. The wiggle serves as a reminder that snakes evolved from lizards or lizard-like creatures.

Most geckos have extremely fine ridges and bristles on the bottom of their toes. That's the reason we

occasionally see them clinging to the ceiling in our homes, on glass doors and windows and other smooth vertical surfaces. Their feet are not sticky. Their microscopic bristles on their toes are like tiny hooks and not like suckers, so the gecko cannot hold onto wet surfaces.

Amazingly, many geckos can cut off their not-so-vital tails at will when threatened or molested. If a predator grabs a gecko by its tail, the tail is severed immediately. The detached tail continues to twitch, giving the predator the impression that it is holding onto a fighting animal. The regenerated tail of a gecko has no bones and does not have the markings of the original tail. The tail can be severed again and again. The only time limit is the time required to grow another tail.

The following is a true story of a traveling gecko. On a recent trip from Florida to Ohio, my wife was disturbed in flight by some movement in her hair. While she was combing her hair in the Ohio airport restroom, a gecko fell out into the sink! Like Lindbergh, the gecko made history. This was first plane ride of a gecko that had passed through TSA security from Florida to Ohio without being detected.

A tip for catching the elusive gecko in your home: Use hair spray to incapacitate the moving gecko in his tracks, and then dispose of it. If you want to be a little more humane, a spray of cool water will disorient the critter. A fact – if you get rid of geckos, then your bug problem may increase!

By the way, someday the elusive gecko may be receiving an Emmy award for best acting in a GEICO commercial.

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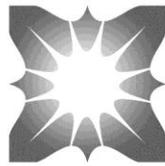
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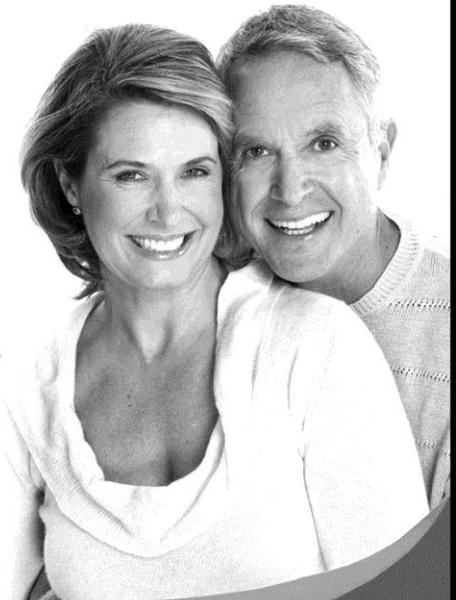
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## FLAVORS OF FLORIDA

By Donna Shaneson

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ILIRinfo@att.net

ILIR is featuring one summer session that will run from June 3 to July 1. The institute is closed from June 30– July 6 for the July 4th holiday.

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### Delray Public Library

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[www.Delraylibrary.org](http://www.Delraylibrary.org)

Delray Public Library **Author Series** meets on **May 6, 9 and 20 at 2 p.m.**

The **Healthy Living Series** meets on **May 14 at 2 p.m.**

The lively discussion group, **Socrates' Café** meets on **Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m.**

Call the library for more information about the above programs and check out the library newsletter for future speakers and performances.

Other area libraries also offer a wide variety of programs. Recently I met several Majestic Isles residents at the Jog Rd. branch library where the author of "Once We Were Brothers" spoke. It was really terrific.

### The Delray Beach Playhouse

950 W. 9th Street

561-272-1281 ext.4

The 2013-2014 season will take place from October 2013 through June 2014 and will feature both plays and musical memories. At five plays for \$100 or \$30 for individual plays, it is a great bargain. The season's program of plays will include "The Last of the Red Hot Lovers," "Driving Miss Daisy," "You

Can't Take it with You," "The Pajama Game" and "Doubt." The Musical Memories programs will include "Come Fly With Me – Songs of Sammy Cahn," "Harlem on My Mind," "Call me Madam: First Lady of Musicals," "Good News," and "Make Someone Happy: Music of Camden and Green."

Morris Berman and I both volunteer at this wonderful little theater where every seat is a good seat. The theater is in a beautiful setting on Lake Ida. They are very flexible with exchanges.

\*\*\*\*\*

## INVESTMENT DISCUSSION GROUP

By Al Silverman Facilitator

The Investment Discussion Group provides a forum for lively discussions of topical matters relating to investments, finance, government, economics and international developments. It includes a periodic attempted explanation of the volatility and high jinks of the market and its fluctuations. When you hear of any investment idea at our meetings or elsewhere, we emphasize the need for doing your own research, due diligence and discussing it with your investment advisor.

Having said that, we are constantly looking for new or different ideas to provide income with some growth. We also seek ways to protect or minimize the effect of volatility and down markets, if possible. The guiding concept is that, while the markets may gyrate, we should at least try to earn well on the downside as well as the upside.

Our guest speaker on April 8 was Kerry Hoffman, a Vice President and Financial Advisor at Morgan Stanley who was recommended by his client, Joel Cohen, President of the Men's Club. His area of expertise is in wealth management. He presented a very interesting discussion and review of various financial areas of interest to retirees as well as various services he and other ethical investment advisors provide. A lengthy and informative question and answer session followed.

As a follow up to the investment "puzzle" in the April issue of the Majestic Isles News on page 17, Iris Rothstein indicated that she identified the 18 stock symbols from their initials and yields as noted. We hereby provide a resounding applause (**Clap, Clap, Clap!**). See y'all Monday May 13 at 4 p.m.



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## BETWEEN TWO RIVERS

By Bill Harris

Invasion! We hear the word on the radio, see it in TV or computer news headlines, and read about it on our smart phones, iPads or tablet computers. It seems as though almost always, somewhere in the world, some terrorist cell, rebel or national army is blowing up something or someone, or is invading some sovereign state. Most Americans equate the word “invasion” with 9/11, Afghanistan, Iraq and both Gulf Wars, Vietnam, Korea, D-Day, Pearl Harbor.

Wars used to occur between “Haves” and “Have-Not’s.” Those that didn’t have what they needed e.g. oil or gas, minerals and metal ores, arable land, water, even open space –“*lebensraum*” – went to war, invading those that did. Wars now occur because a terrorist group or a nation state believes its ideology, culture, religion, or mores are better than another's.

As Neil Diamond sings it so well, “They’re coming to America!” Most of us would not equate the word “invasion” with the opossum, Australian pine, walking and armored catfish or the Burmese python. Yet these and countless other exotics have invaded our continent claiming title to territory either vacant or previously occupied by native species.

August 2011: mathematical estimates suggest that 8.7 million species exist on Earth. All of these can be defined by where they live (their habitat or address) and by how they live (their ecologic niche or way-of-life based on type or degree of mobility and feeding). Biological invasions can occur when physical or geographic barriers to species dispersal (e.g. temperature, pressure, salinity; mountains, deserts, oceans) are altered or removed. Animals can utilize “stepping stone” island chains or land bridges connecting one land mass to another, even rafting or other “sweepstakes” routes to invade new regions.

About 3.5 million years ago the land bridge through Panama was completed, connecting North America to South America. Prior to this connection, 10 to 15-foot tall predatory flightless birds and a wide variety of large marsupial mammals (animals with pouches) roamed South America. The invasion of South America by North American animals was a disaster for many of the South American animals. After the connection, the more fit North American placental mammal counterparts drove South American species to extinction.

The Isthmus of Panama is a two-way highway. The opossum, a marsupial of South American origin, crossed into North America to find its ecologic niche vacant and has thrived here, migrating as far north as the Toronto, Canada area. Being nocturnal, birthing up to 18 pups per litter, with a gestation period of only 12 days, the opossum’s way of life guarantees its spread and survival. Today, 50% of South American animal genera are of North American origin; only 10% animal genera (anteater, armadillo, opossum, and porcupine) found in North America are from South America.

Sometimes, human behavior and not biogeography is to blame for biological invasions. A 16-foot, 154-pound constrictor swallowing a 55-pound deer has become a familiar sight in the Florida Everglades. The Burmese pythons, an invasive species from southern Asia, have been eating their way across the swamps since 2000. Some 99 per cent of the raccoons, almost as high a proportion of the opossums, and 88 per cent of the indigenous bobcats have disappeared from the habitat, eaten by the snakes. The python invasion is endangering even large reptiles like alligators, and the indigenous Florida panther could become extinct.

The snakes were imported over decades. The pets turned into pests, after owners tired of them and released them into the wild or they escaped, as many did following the devastation caused by Hurricane Andrew in 1992. The first pythons were sighted in the 1980s, but since 2000 their number has soared. Park rangers have caught or killed more than 1,800 of the huge snakes in the Everglades over the past decade, but this has made little impact. They now number more than 10,000.

There are no case studies showing that exotic species, like the Burmese python, can be exterminated or contained. They have already spread south to the Florida Keys and could spread unchecked across wide swaths of the southern USA. No options are available for stopping the spread of the snakes into the Florida interior.

Nearly 2600 invasive species have established themselves in South Florida. How do these exotics affect our native ecosystems? I hope to investigate this further next month.

## Advancements in DERMATOLOGY

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## The Reel Story

### THE PLACE BEYOND THE PINES

by Judy Radin



This movie's title is a loose translation of the Iroquois name, Schenectady, a New York State town where our story takes place. In a nutshell, "The Place Beyond the Pines"

confirms the old adage "the sins of the fathers are oft wrought upon their sons."

The film that takes place over a period of 15 years is a modern-day epic that deals with the lives of two dissimilar men and their two distinctly different sons. It contains a variety of personalities, from wealthy and underprivileged characters, to cops and robbers, judges and lawyers, brave men and scoundrels. This varied cast of characters exhibits emotions that run the gamut from revenge to mercy. All of the above unite into an exciting portrayal of how instant choices can turn into a lifetime of consequences.

The story unfolds into three complicated, yet connected parts. Luke, (Ryan Gosling), stars in Part I as a troubled risk taker who rides his motorcycle for money in a daredevil act at a carnival. Viewers follow Luke as he revs his motorcycle engine and prepares to undertake a life-threatening stunt with two other bikers, challenging gravity and risking death. Watching Luke in action is not only thrilling, but allows us to assess him as a daring loner who grew up without a father and wears a tattooed tear-drop under his left eye to prove it.

Luke finds out that Romina (Eva Mendes) and he are the parents of a baby son who she has kept secret from him. She and her baby now live with another man. Though Luke is compelled to care for his son, Romina rebuffs his overtures. He then turns to robbing banks in Schenectady and presents her with some of the money he steals. Gosling paints a brilliant picture of an apparently deranged gunman who jumps up on the bank's counter and points his gun at a teller.

Part I naturally transitions into Part II with a chase that introduces Avery Cross (Bradley Cooper), as the cop who pursues Luke as he tries to escape from his most recent theft.

The story evolves into choices and exploits of Luke and Avery as they're affected individually by father-

hood. Many of their decisions are shaped by love and concern for their respective sons.

The story then transitions to Avery's life as an over-educated cop within a corrupt police force, whose ambition leads him to run for District Attorney. The film continues 15 years later to today, which set Avery's and Luke's sons' lives on a collision course.

Part III of "The Place Beyond the Pines" demonstrates the meaning people place on life and the lengths they'll go to guarantee their safety.

Be warned, you will be on the edge of your seat as the story line twists and turns.

Just hold on and enjoy the ride!!

## PET PATCH

By Molly



Well, I guess my Mom is feeling her age – she can't add right! I was born July 1, 2000, and she said in my last article that I was going to be 14. Well, I'll be 13 in July – sorry Mom! Of course one of my neighbors said I couldn't be almost 13, as they've only been here for 11 years and Mom got me after that. Sorry, I really will be 13 in July!

I have to tell you about my Uncle Paul. He's a great cook – and he sent over some chopped liver just for me. I did share some with my Mom, but it is really for *me*. Mom put some in the freezer, so I can have it later, as it's pretty rich for my little belly! I love you Uncle Paul!!

When Pet Patch was first started, the newsletter staff thought that other pets would want to write in, but so far, it's just been me. Okay folks, how about helping your pet share this space? (And whether you submit an article or not, be sure to send your pet's picture for the summer issue. See below.)

## ATTENTION ALL PET OWNERS

We hope to feature pets in the summer issue. Please loan us a photograph of your pet. It will be returned to you in good condition. Put the photo in the newsletter box in the back lobby of the clubhouse, to the attention of Jerry Fefferman. Don't forget to provide your name, address and phone number – and, of course, your pet's name. (If we have too many, the policy will be first come, first served!)

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## ENOUGH ALREADY

By Phyllis M. Cohen

Ah, Spring! – the sweet zephyr breeze, the sap rising slowly in the trees, green buds emerging, the sound of bird song outside my home. I am tempted to throw open all the windows and doors to let the fresh cool air into my home and to grab my dust pan and broom and work through the house obliterating all traces of winter debris, dust and clutter. Fortunately, spring lasts only about one day in Florida and after running cold water over my head for a few minutes, I manage to clear my head of such crazy notions.

After all, to start on any big cleaning project, I would have to first remove an awful lot of clutter. It would be more than just buying those cute little plastic boxes that Martha Stewart displays or color coded hangers to hang up the five or six items that all the magazines show in their newly de-cluttered areas. In fact, I am pretty sure I would need to get one of those big trash dumpsters that builders use to catch refuse when they are remodeling a house.

When we moved to Florida 15 years ago, it took us six months to downsize from our big house and its 30 years' accumulation. But it must be the fertile Florida soil and heat and rain that makes things grow and multiply. A few weeks ago, when I opened my linen closet, an avalanche of towels and sheets fell out, like the famous Fibber McGee and Molly closet in those old 1940 movies. I could swear the towels and sheets that I had discarded in Massachusetts had followed me down here and reproduced: old sheets from our bridal shower gifts; tattered beach towels from the days my son was a camp counselor. Overwhelmed, my husband and I ruthlessly sorted and discarded things filling several plastic trash bags.

Inspired, I decided to undertake a spring clean-up project by doing one shelf or drawer or closet at a time: sort of like a smoker who is trying to cut down on his addiction by smoking fewer cigarettes. Surprise! I discovered that it was not my fault that I had so much "clutter" (treasure, detritus, junk or valuables). It's just that there's too much darn stuff out there nowadays. My pantry held four different types of aluminum foil: regular, extra strength, extra wide and non-stick. In addition, there was also waxed paper, plastic wrap, freezer paper and parchment paper. If that's not enough, there were also plastic bags of different sizes and quality, and plastic or glass storage dishes.

Thinking back to my pre-aluminum foil, pre-plastic wrap childhood, I remember only one wrapping paper in our house: waxed paper. In fact, if your mother wrapped a sandwich for you to take to school, you might bring the paper back to reuse. Brown paper grocery bags would be cut up for baking pan liners or book covers, and newspapers would be recycled to wash windows, used as shelf liners or paper mache school projects, or to spread on newly washed floors. There was no need for those other wrapping products. And there were no leftovers to stow away either. My mother shopped daily and with a big family, a box of cookies or loaf of bread barely had time to leave the shopping bag before it was devoured, as was any dish made for dinner. Even in my own home, when my three teenagers were around, I was hard put to keep any extra dinner entrees from disappearing as an afternoon snack.

Household cleaning items have proliferated, too. A dozen different cleaning products vie for shelf space. There are separate cleaners for granite and ceramic, glass and stainless steel, floors and windows, toilets and kitchens. The old-fashioned vinegar and ammonia are still there, too. They still do as good a job as all my new sprays and squeeze bottles, so why do I have all of those other items?

Like my grocery habits, I have fallen victim to the power of advertising and the availability of all of these new fancier, improved products in everything from electronic gadgets to foods. Though my 78's and 45 rpm records are gone, I still have cds as well as dvd's, (but no dvd player), Kodak Baby Brownies and digital cameras, Walkman and portable radios, computers and cell phones, atomic clocks and wind-up Big Ben alarm clocks. Books, newspapers and magazines cover my tables in spite of my Nook.

As for my food pantry, I am pretty sure that half of the items I purchase today were not available even 15 years ago, when I retired. Rice milk and tofu, pita and pomegranate juice, quinoa and ugli fruits, tarragon and coriander, pesto and buffalo meat can be found in lots of average stores, to name just a few of the more exotic. Even staples have spawned dozens of variations: hi fat, low fat, unsalted, spicy. Candy, soda and ice cream, once available in small sizes or only in the candy store now fill shelves of the supermarket in huge bags or bottles, and we're determined to taste them all. Where do I begin to cut down? Help!

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## Worst Trades In Sports History

By Rick Sachs

Although we cannot consider the LeBron James departure from the Cleveland Cavaliers a trade, it got me thinking about what might have been the best or worst trades ever made. I have comprised a list of 10. See if you agree or not.

10) In the 1956 NBA draft, Red Auerbach wanted Bill Russell for the Celtics, but did not have an early enough draft pick to get him. Auerbach knew that the Rochester Royals were looking for an outside shooting guard since they already had Maurice Stokes as their main rebounder. With this in mind, Auerbach orchestrated a trade with the St. Louis Hawks, who wanted center "Easy Ed" Macauley and forward Cliff Hagan. Russell wound up with the Celtics and the rest is basketball history.

9) The Dallas Cowboys laid the groundwork for their Super Bowl teams of the 1990s by trading Herschel Walker to Minnesota Vikings in 1989. The Cowboys received five players, six conditional draft picks and a 1992 first round pick. What a steal!

8) In 1972 the Cincinnati Reds traded an aging Frank Robinson to the Baltimore Orioles for pitchers Milt Pappas and Jack Baldshun and outfielder Dick Simpson. Robinson won the Triple Crown and was named MVP of the American League and World Series in his first year with the Orioles. In six seasons with the club, Robinson led the team to four World Series.

7) Kobe Bryant: The Charlotte Hornets had just picked high school superstar Kobe Bryant, but there was a problem: Bryant did not want to play there. The Hornets did the only thing they could and traded Bryant for Vlade Divac. (Big mistake!)

6) Pedro Martinez: L.A. Dodgers traded Pedro Martinez to Montreal for Delino Deshields. Deshields was not even a top second baseman and Martinez was a starting Rookie pitcher who won 10 games. What a steal – and what a mistake by the Dodgers.

5) In 1997 the Red Sox traded Jason Varitek and Derek Lowe for Seattle's Heathcliff Slocumb. This trade gave the Red Sox one of the better catchers in baseball and one of the better relievers and helped the Red Sox win their first World Series. Quite a trade!

4) Dr. J: The NJ Nets owner Roy Boe sold Julius Erving ("Dr. J") to the Philadelphia 76ers for three million dollars in 1976. Dr. J took the Sixers to the NBA finals 4 times and won a championship in 1983. Erving was an 11 time All Star and MVP in 1981 – not bad for 3 million.

3) Robert Parish and Kevin McHale: In 1980 the Celtics acquired center Robert Parish and draft pick Kevin McHale for first and 13th draft picks which turned out to be Joe Barry Carroll and Rickey Brown. The result was the big three, Parish, McHale and Bird, all three ending up in the Hall of Fame and winning many championships together. What a threesome and what a great trade!

2) John Elway: In 1984 with John Elway refusing to go to the Baltimore Colts, the Colts traded their draft pick away to the Denver Broncos. The trade was a complete bust for the Colts and Elway led the Broncos to five Super Bowl appearances with two wins. He would end up as one of the greatest quarterbacks of all time in his Hall of Fame career.

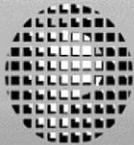
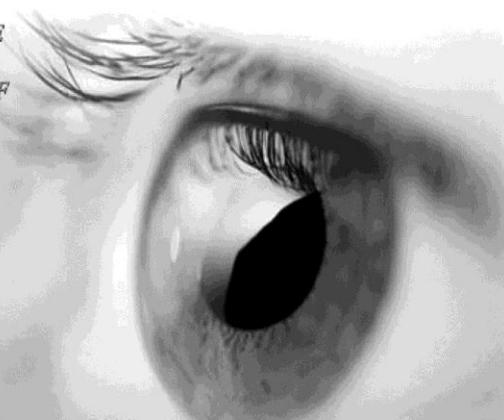
1) Babe Ruth: To finance his musical called No No Nanette Red Sox owner Harry Frazer sold Ruth to the New York Yankees for \$100,000 plus a \$300,000 loan in 1920. The results were the beginning of the "Curse of the Bambino" and Ruth becoming the greatest baseball player of all time, leading the Yankees to seven World Series appearances and four titles. The greatest dynasty in the history of pro sports was born – and in my book that was the worst trade in history!

### SPORTS TRIVIA QUIZ

Name the players who have hit 40 homers and stolen 40 bases in the same year.



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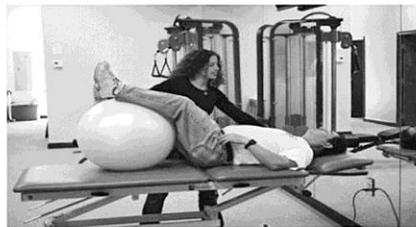


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## MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER

By Doris Davidoff



The show must go on. Our Majestic Isles Little Theater (M.I.L.T.) people showed they embraced the true spirit of theater with their performance of “Little Nell and the Mortgage Foreclosure” on April 13 and 14. On the first night of the show, they discovered that the sound system did not work. Ken Miller even came to try to help us, but after much effort, he determined that it was the amplifiers, which must have been damaged from the storm that afternoon. This meant that the microphones for the cast and the CD player for the sound effects were unusable.

But...this did not stop our determined cast and crew. The cast members agreed to go on without microphones, and Barbara Portnoff came to the rescue when she went home to bring back her portable CD player, which had strong, powerful speakers so the audience would be able to hear the sound effects that were an integral part of the play.

“Little Nell” was an old-fashioned melodrama with the evil villain, the pure innocent heroine and the valiant, if not too bright, hero. The audience, in spite of the sound challenges, did its job magnificently as they had fun booing and hissing the villain and applauding the hero at all the right times.

The cast was Francine Gitto as Nell; Seena Calder as Nell’s Aunt Nora; Lenny Schwartz as the evil villain, Wiley Whiplash; and Ed Strauber as the valiant hero, Casey Cleandeed. Adding to the cast was Nell’s comical, ascerbic hired hand, Gideann Byball, played by Isabel Lubchansky, who prompted the audience with her “Boo” and “Hiss” signs.

The cast was backed up by a dedicated and tireless crew of: Edd Bloom, director; Barbara Portnoff, assistant director; Bill Broth, stage manager; Doris Davidoff, producer and program designer/printer; Marty Baron, set construction and lighting; Milt Swersky and Mark Jaffie, lighting and stage crew; Jack Moss and Buddy Koch, sound; Ira Schneider, videographer; Stan Rothstein, photographer; Ed Strauber, sound effects CD; Saralee Weinstein, makeup; Enid Bayer, rehearsal assistant; Ray Kozlin, ticket printing; Francine Gitto, publicity; Roberta

Jaffie, publicity artwork; Nancy Levitan, dresser; and the ticket committee, chaired by Helen Benowich and assisted by Marilyn Broth, Sylvia Fefferman and Linda Kessler.

M.I.L.T. would love to have more of our residents join us in the fun of creating, starring in and/or helping with future productions. No experience is required – just a love of theater and the desire to work together.

We are setting up an email list to keep our members informed about our activities. We will not share the addresses with anyone else, but plan to use them to get the word out for M.I.L.T. If you want to be kept aware, just put a note with your name and email address in the M.I.L.T. mailbox in the back lobby. We’ll add you to the list.

## HADASSAH

By Ellin Goldstein



Almost 100 Hadassah members enjoyed our April 22 Membership Appreciation Luncheon, with a special dairy lunch and desserts and an interesting and informative speaker, Judy Herman. She discussed improving our brainpower.

In May, our general meeting will be held on May 20, instead of our usual meeting date because of the Memorial Day holiday. Join us for a wonderful Israeli film and special dairy desserts in honor of the Shavuot holiday.

Sunday, June 2 will be the first of Hadassah’s dining out fundraisers. Local restaurants will donate part of our check to our organization. The popular Duffy’s will begin the program. Watch for channel 63 and flyers show the details. Benny’s in Boynton Beach will have a similar event for us in July.

The Summer Sizzler will be held July 15 and include a delicious lunch and lots of games. We’ll include more information in next month’s article.

We plan to send the 2013-2014 Hadassah calendar to the printer by the mid- May, so there is barely enough time to get in those personal ads (100% donor credit) and those professional ads from doctors, dentists, beauty parlors, etc. (50% donor credit). Please call me if you have any questions (Ellin 740-9050).



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## MAJESTIC ISLES TRAVEL CLUB

By Doris Davidoff



As I write this column, we are eagerly awaiting what we expect to be a wonderful trip to Savannah. We will report on that trip next month.

Our Travel Club Planning Committee – Doris Davidoff, Claire Deveney, Francine Gitto, Don Horowitz, Linda Kessler, Paul Mendelsohn and Jack Moss – has planned a trip calendar for programs through 2014 to allow people to plan ahead and to make it easier to fit them into Majestic Isles' active calendar.

We are currently planning a couple of one-day excursions in mid-summer – one to some interesting attractions in Miami and the other to an ice cream factory. In the fall of 2013, we plan to travel to the Tampa, Tarpon Springs, St. Petersburg area for some fun and educational activities.

In 2014, we look forward to visiting several intriguing places, including one overnight trip to Daytona, a two-night trip to a Florida Music Festival and a couple of fun one-day excursions to festivals not too far away.

A fall 2014 trip to Washington, D.C., should be a wonderful opportunity to see some of the many attractions of our nation's capital. This will be a major trip since there's so much to do and see.

Our next meeting is Sunday, May 26, at 11:00 a.m., in the Clubhouse. We will present a full report of our Savannah trip and, possibly, even have the video ready to show at this meeting.

These plans are subject to change, but stay tuned to Channel 63, and if you are not already receiving email from us, sign up for our email list to learn about our plans as they develop.

The Travel Club is open to all Majestic Isles residents and their friends and relatives, even if they don't live here. We meet on the fourth Sunday of each month (check Channel 63 for any changes). Our trips have a mixture of couples and singles. There is no membership fee to belong to the Travel Club.

## MEN'S CLUB

By Joel Cohen, President



Our Men's & Women's Club Parent's Day Brunch at Broken Sound Country Club, in Boca Raton, on Sunday, May 5, is quickly approaching. By the time you read this, we will have the seating plans made up. However, if you still haven't made a reservation please call me at 742-9695, and I will see if we can accommodate you. No promises, but we will try.

If you will be attending the brunch, please note that valet parking is included in your cost, so please drive up to the entrance and give your car to the parking attendant.

The Men's Club is still trying to arrange a trip to the Hard Rock casino on May 22. I understand that the casino is making changes to the bus arrivals which might not be to our advantage. We will keep you informed through channel 63.

\*\*\*\*\*

*The only mothers it is safe to forget on Mother's Day are the good ones. ~Mignon McLaughlin, The Neurotic's Notebook, 1960*

*It's not easy being a mother. If it were easy, fathers would do it. ~From the TV show "The Golden Girls"*

*Women's Liberation is just a lot of foolishness. It's the men who are discriminated against. They can't bear children. And no one's likely to do anything about that. ~Golda Meir*

*Grown don't mean nothing to a mother. A child is a child. They get bigger, older, but grown? What's that suppose to mean? In my heart it don't mean a thing. ~Toni Morrison, Beloved, 1987*



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## SINGLES

By Ellin Goldstein

What a busy few months we have had. On April 8, we returned to Kravis for the final show of the Senior Leisure Series and saw fantastic Chinese acrobats. One young man stood on his hands on top of 6 chairs. It was really frightening. We went to Okeechobee Steak House and had a wonderful dinner.

On April 20, we met in the club house, had a deli dinner catered by TooJays, and played games of our choice. It was a noisy, enjoyable evening.



On May 11, we are going to the Plaza Theatre in Manalapan to see a matinee of "Waist Watchers," a comedy. After the theater, we'll be going just down the road to Lantana Pizzeria,

On May 25, we are heading to Spanish River High School to see Harid's Final Recital of the year. We have been there before and the students are all fantastic dancers. It should be really great.

On July 1, we are planning a return to the Plaza Theater in Manalapan to see a matinee featuring George Gershwin's Music. A meal will follow at a restaurant to be determined later.

Please feel free to make suggestions for events for next year, and especially any for New Year's Eve. Call Marge (742-7719) or Ellin (740-9050)

## ABOUT "MAJESTIC ISLES NEWS"



We welcome articles submitted by Majestic Isles residents, while reserving the right to reject material that may be inappropriate for any reason whatsoever. The staff also reserves the right to edit for content, length, clarity and accuracy.

Our newsletter is written and produced by volunteers who are your neighbors. The entire cost of production is covered by our advertisements, which is why we always say, "Please patronize our advertisers and tell them you saw their ad in the Majestic Isles News." If you patronize someone who does not yet advertise with us, ask Gerry Herman for an application form to take with you next time you go.

## Making The Rounds Of The Internet MORE PUNS

I had trouble with my iPod, so I changed its name to "Titanic." It's syncing now.

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

A soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

I know a guy who's really addicted to brake fluid. But he says he can stop any time.

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Than it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the Vegetarian Club, but I'd never met herbivore.

A guy got arrested for playing the guitar. For fingering A minor.

I'm reading a great book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

The report said that I had type A blood, but it was a type- O.

A dyslexic man walked into a bra.

PMS jokes aren't funny, period.

Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.

I went on a class trip to the Coca-Cola factory. I hope there's no pop quiz.

The Energizer bunny was arrested. He was charged with battery.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

How do you make holy water? Boil the hell out of it!

Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

## M.I. CANCER RESEARCH

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



Many thanks to all members for their continuing support of the M.I. Pap Corp Unit. We raised \$5,000 from the M.I. Pap Corps chapter at the 13th annual Pap Corps

Walkathon held at FAU on March 16. We are grateful to all participants, sponsors and donors.

Our annual Card Party held for the first time in the clubhouse was a huge fundraising success. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Val Petroff, vice president of membership, reports that we have 213 members of whom 124 are life members. Annual dues are \$35 for the year, which runs from June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014. Life membership is \$300. Before May 31, 2013 every man who upgrades to Life Membership or joins as a life member will pay only \$160, saving \$140. Annual members may renew by placing your check for \$35 in the Pap Corps mailbox. Watch for your renewal letter in the mail. Come join.

Next date to drop off clothing, shoes, handbags, accessories and small household items is June 15. Place items in large, black plastic bags and bring your donations to Renee Stichel's home, 5758 Grand Harbour. The Pap Corps is working with a thrift shop in Lake Worth.

The Pap Corp has signed an agreement for on-line shopping. Details will be announced soon. To participate, shoppers may go on to the Pap Corps website ([www.papcorps.org](http://www.papcorps.org)) and then click on "shopping." A percentage of the sales will be donated to the Pap Corps and will not increase the price.

### Save the date:

**Thursday, May 23** at 1 p.m. for the Delectable Desserts event at the clubhouse. Entertainment will be provided by the Bon Aire Choral Group presenting "Fabulous Broadway and Other Tunes." Our own Mel Bernstein is a member of the group. Fee is \$5 per person. Place check in the back lobby Pap Corps box.

**Saturday, Aug. 3**, Summer Meeting, 6 p.m. at clubhouse. Fabulous food and entertainment. Watch for details on flyers and Channel 63.

## SOCIAL CLUB

By Joan Sorkin



Get your tables together for our annual Memorial Day Party on Monday, May 27. The clubhouse will be beautifully decorated by Rita Dick and her committee, we'll enjoy the music of Mike Henry and we will all be ready to feast on Boston Market with all the fixings. Get your checks in for \$18 per person and let's party and honor our veterans. In keeping with the theme of Memorial Day, we are again collecting items for the "Forgotten Soldiers." There is a list of items needed in the back lobby as well as a box to leave your donations. This is a local organization based in Lake Worth. Whatever your feelings are about war, these young people are risking their every day and deserve to receive packages from home to show our appreciation.

By now, we hope you have seen our tri-fold advertising the Winter 2014 Entertainment Series. We are very proud of the quality of entertainment that your committee has been able to present the last few years. We can only do this with a three-show series. Tickets are being sold for all three shows now for \$70 per person. This year you do have the option of paying a non-refundable deposit of only \$35.00 per person, with the balance due in October. Please support your community and the Social Club shows.

For all the years we have been doing the series, Ira Schneider has patiently worked on the tri-fold as well as previous covers of our newspaper. He has patiently changed, rewritten, and reformatted all our many changes without getting upset. What he said after we left is something only Norma can tell! We want to thank him so much for all his help and hope we can all continue to work together for a few more years.

Keep the date of Saturday, July 6 for another fabulous show. Details to follow.





**ACTIVITY CALENDAR**  
**May - June 2013**

3	Fri.	4:30 p.m.	Singles	Get Together	(f,h)
4	Sat.	8:00 p.m.	Social Club	Movie Time	(p,h)
5	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	Men/Women Clubs	Parent's Day Brunch	(p,a)
6,7	Mon.,Tues.	9-12 a.m.		Mature Driver's Course	(p,h)
6	Mon.	2:00 p.m.	Board of Director's	Workshop	
9	Thurs.	2:00 p.m.	Board of Director's	Meeting	
11	Sat.	1:00 p.m.	Singles	Theater	(p,a)
13	Mon.	4:00 p.m.	Investment Group	Discussion	(f,h)
15	Wed.	2:00 p.m.	Book Talks	Discussion	(f,h)
18	Sat.	8:00 p.m.	Social Club	Movie Time	(p,h)
19	Sun.	7:30p.m.	M.I.L.T.	Workshop	(f,h)
20	Mon.	11:15 a.m.	Hadassah	Meeting	(f,h)
22	Wed.	10:30 a.m.	Men's Club	Casino Trip	(p,a)
23	Thurs.	1:00 p.m.	Cancer	Meeting	(f,h)
25	Sat.	1:00 p.m.	Singles	Ballet	(p,a)
26	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	Travel Club	Meeting	(f,h)
27	Mon.	5:30 p.m.	Social Club	Memorial Dav Partv	(n, h)

**MAY**

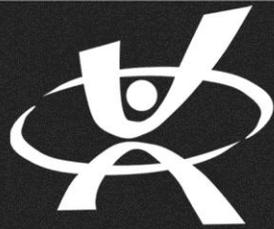
**JUNE**

2	Sun.	9:30 a.m.	Men's Club	Breakfast	(f,h)
		After 5:00 p.m.	Hadassah	Dinner at Duffy's	(p,a)
3	Mon.	2:00 p.m.	Board of Director's	Workshop	
6	Thurs.	2:00 p.m.	Board of Director's	Meeting	
7	Fri.	4:30 p.m.	Singles	Meeting	
8	Sat.	8:00 p.m.	Social Club	Movie Time	(p,h)
9	Sun.	7:30 p.m.	M.I.L.T.	Workshop	
10	Mon.	8:45 a.m.	Women's Club	Sawgrass Mills Trip	(p,a)
14	Fri.	11:30 a.m.	Newsletter	Potluck Luncheon	(f, h)
17	Mon.	2:00 p.m.	Hadassah	Study Group	(f, h)
18	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Social Club	Meeting	(f, h)
22	Sat.	8:00 p.m.	Social Club	Movie Time	(p, h)
23	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	Travel Club	Meeting	(f, h)
25	Tues.	11:00 a.m.	Club President's	Meeting	(f, h)

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

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

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



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