

Majestic Isles News

January, 2011

Volume 14

Issue 4

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financially self-sustaining.
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by advertising revenue.

Manager's Corner

As we start off another new year, I want to take just a minute to thank the members of the Board of Directors for their hard work throughout this last year. Under the direction of Joel Rosenthal as the President, Doris Davidoff, Janice Davidson, Harvey Galan, Mort Goldstein Sy Kugelmas and Saul Siegel have all taken a personal interest in their chosen duties. Residents, vendors and guests constantly tell me Majestic Isles has never looked better.

I'd also like to take time to remind residents of a few of the Board's accomplishments of 2010: Installing the video cameras in the guardhouse showed an almost immediate positive result. Review of our video recordings was instrumental in helping break up a burglary ring that was operating in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin Counties. We were able to provide the Sheriff's Office with a clear picture of the vehicle, license plate number and driver, and this made it possible for Sheriff's deputies to quickly apprehend the culprits who had broken into two homes in Majestic Isles as well as into many other residences in the five-county area.

M&P installed lawn drains on Lake 2, similar to the drains previously put on Lake 3, to control the erosion across the littoral zones. Lawn drains were also installed at four locations between homes on the north side of Island Reach Lane where significant erosion had already moved the bank of the lake back almost 4 feet. Once the drains were completed, Palm Beach Aquatics planted muhly grass to fill in the bare areas on the littorals on all three lakes. The water in the lakes looks clean and clear...just the way it's supposed to!

Majestic Isles was selected as one of the six finalists in the 2010 Communities of Excellence Awards in the Disaster Preparedness Category. Although we didn't win the award, it's quite an accomplishment event to have been chosen as one of the finalists from the entire state.

As we start in to 2011, residents can look forward to even more being done to make Majestic Isles a place you can all be proud to call "home." Zimmerman Tree Service will be trimming all of the canopy/hardwood trees – everything except palm trees – this month, and we'll start on redecorating the second floor of the clubhouse. The canopies on the pool, tennis courts and second floor balcony will be replaced, and proposals are being taken to replace the chairs and lounge chairs at the pool.

I look forward to the coming year, in which Board and I will continue to do everything we can to make Majestic Isles the best that it can possibly be.

Ken Miller, Association Manager

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Highlights of the December 15, 2010 COBWRA Meeting at Bethesda Hospital

Sheryl Steckler, PBC Inspector General

What is an Inspector General? There are three main areas of activities: audits, contract oversight and investigations. The IG (Inspector General) is not here to punish anyone. "We are here to find problems and recommend corrections," she said. "It is up to management to take the appropriate actions."

- Ms. Steckler believes the Palm Beach County Ethics Code is now the best written anywhere in the country.
- The IG is truly independent. The IG is responsible solely to the people of Palm Beach County.
- An important function of the IG office is to provide training for county employees, vendors and elected officials. The business community is asking a lot of questions and even making suggestions for areas of concerns and investigations.
- The IG is responsible for promoting accountability, efficiency and good government.
- When investigations turn up criminal activity, the findings are turned over to the State Attorney's Office for prosecution.
- Contract Oversight is notified before any county contract is awarded so it can be checked to see if proper procedures were followed and the contract is well written and clear. Is the county getting what the taxpayers are paying for?
- A major goal of the IG office is to find waste and duplication -- saving money for the taxpayers. Miami-Dade County found their IG office saved many times the cost of operating the IG office.
- Results of audits and investigations are posted on the IG web site once complete: www.pbcgov.org/OIG
- Whistleblowers are completely anonymous to prevent retaliation by management. Hotline: 877-283-7068
- Palm Beach County's Office of the Inspector General will be accredited nationally and recertified by the national organization every three years.
- The citizens showed their support for the Inspector General concept by their overwhelming support of extending the IG office to include all 38 municipalities in the last election.
- Presently, the IG covers all of Palm Beach County Government and recently added the Solid Waste Authority. The 38 municipalities are expected to come under by spring 2011. Constitutional officers and the School Board have not yet elected to join.

- The bottom line: Is Palm Beach County getting the best possible government at the best price?

Officials' Reports

Captain Martin Bechtel, Commander, District 6, PBSO, reported the crime stats for November:

Resident'l burglaries	40	Robberies	7
Vehicle burglaries	53	Vehicle accidents	233
Stolen vehicles	5	Moving violations	40
Business burglaries	4	Alarm responses	388

COBWRA Reports

Canyon Isles, a family community of 500 homes, was approved as the 94th member of COBWRA.

Growth Management, Gerry Morrison, Chair:

- COBWRA Delegates voted to recommend approval of a Development Order Amendment allowing the Walmart on the NW corner of Military Tr. and Hypoluxo to reconfigure the site plan as presented and to recommend approval for re-zoning the property from CG Commercial General to MUPD. The expanded Walmart will be about 125,000 SF and offer groceries plus general merchandise. The building and parking lot will be brought up to the new "Big Box" store code with an enhanced building appearance and redesigned parking lot.
- Delegates were briefed on the plans by Delray Medical Center to open an urgent care center in the approved but un-built 20,000 SF medical office building at Canyon Town Center. The 1st floor will be urgent care and a diagnostic lab. Ambulance patients cannot be accepted. Hours planned: 9 am to 9 pm. The 2nd floor will be doctors' offices.

Elected to the 2011 Nominating Committee:

Bruce Brodsky, Delegate for Cascade Lakes; Lew Doctor, Alternate for Aberdeen, Past President 2000-2003; Myrna Rosoff, Alternate for Aberdeen, Director; Mitch Rubin, Delegate for Cobblestone Creek, Director; Shirley Saporito, Delegate for Jamaica Bay. The Nominating Committee will report at February COBWRA meeting. Elections will held in March and the new officers installed in April 2011.

Future Meetings (Open to the public) Jan 4, 6:30 pm: Growth Management at PBSO Dist. 6 Jan 19, 9:30 am: Delegates meeting at Majestic Isles. (Woolbright Road between Military & El Clair Ranch.) Jan 27, 7:00 pm: COBWRA Evening meeting, West Boynton Library, 9451 Jog Road.

-Ken Lassiter for COBWRA Communications
www.cobwra.org

SAFETY IN THE ISLES

By Steve Bayer



I hope that you have noticed the new **red** reflectors and the large **red** Stop sign just inside the El Clair Ranch gate. They have been installed as a reminder that you are required to stop

there to prevent another car from tailgating you into the community. Only one car at a time is allowed to come in that gate. Please help us keep this community safe.

The carbon monoxide detectors have arrived and if you haven't picked yours up yet, please see Bonnie or Ken in the office. Please bring a check made out to the Majestic Isles Association for \$21. If you didn't sign up but would like to purchase one, we still have a few extras for sale.



We have scheduled a few events for the coming months that I would like to bring to your attention.

- On Jan. 19 at 9:30 a.m., there will be a COBWRA (Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations) meeting in the clubhouse. M.I. residents are invited to attend.
- We have scheduled the "Shredder Truck" to return on Jan. 12 at 9:30 a.m. In these days of identity theft, we recommend that you shred any paperwork with your identity information on it.
- In February we will be having a community meeting with DEVCON, our security system provider. Please come and remind yourself how to use your alarm system.
- We are also holding a CPR class on Feb. 24 at 10:00 a.m. for those who would like a refresher class, as well as those who would like to learn the basics of how to save a life.
- In March we plan to have a representative from a fire extinguisher company come to tell us about testing of extinguishers and how often they should be replaced.

Please watch channel 63 for the dates and times of these important events.

*Two wrongs don't make a right, but three lefts do.
~Jason Love.*

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Joel Rosenthal



I wish to thank Saul Siegel for his service on the Board of Directors over the past two years and I also welcome back Steve Bayer. Steve has a long list of service to the community and will be a welcome addition to the board.

As we begin the new year, committees will be forming and new faces are welcome. Your input into our community affairs is needed. We encourage our many new residents to attend board meetings, which are usually on the first Monday and Thursday of the month. (Check channel 63 to be sure.)

Over the next few months we will discuss improvements to the pool, exercise equipment, our documents and many other areas. Stay informed and be part of the fun here at Majestic Isles.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011

The newsletter staff congratulates the four winners of the recent election for the Board of Directors: **Steve Bayer, Janice Davidson, Mort Goldstein and Joel Rosenthal.**

As soon as the election results were known, the newly constituted Board held an organizational meeting to decide upon the positions the members of the 2011 Board would hold for the current year. The results of that meeting are as follows:

President: **Joel Rosenthal**
 1st Vice President: **Harvey Galan**
 2nd Vice President: **Mort Goldstein**
 Treasurer: **Sy Kugelmas**
 Assistant Treasurer: **Doris Davidoff**
 Secretary: **Janice Davidson**
 Member-as-Large: **Steve Bayer**

We wish all members of the Board a good and productive year. (See p. 31 for more on the election.)

GEM: M.I. GOING GREEN

By Irene Weinstein



The Gem (Green Environment - Majestic) Committee met on Wednesday, Dec 15 to discuss how our committee can further encourage our residents' participation in the county's recycling requirements. We are looking into purchasing, with the board's permission, different color trash bags that will make it easier for the various clubs to recycle after each meeting and function. Other ideas were presented and will be discussed at a future meeting.

We need you, our residents, to do your job and recycle. It is so important for our grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Have a great holiday season. Hope to see you at our next meeting. Please watch channel 63 for further updates.

The Board of Directors did not hold a regular meeting in December. The "Unofficial Highlights" of the January meeting will appear in the February issue of the M.I. newsletter.

GOOD AND WELFARE

GET WELL

Dottie Caroff
 Harold Geyer
 Saralee Weinstein

SYMPATHY

To Norman Katz on the loss of his brother.
 To Evelyn Klein on the loss of her husband, Irv.
 To Anne Solomon on the loss of her daughter, Doreen Solomon.
 To the family of Bill Zuckerman.
 To Lee Katz, on the loss of her husband, Josh.

MESSAGES

My sincere thanks to all my friends and neighbors for their donations, cards and calls wishing me a speedy recovery.

Dottie Caroff

I cannot believe how many of you wrote and called. It has given me the encouragement to continue recovery and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Joyce Goldstein

We want to thank everyone for the condolences, donations and cards in memory of our son.

Edie and Manny Goodman

Majestic Isles is truly a caring community. Thank you, friends and neighbors, for your many calls, cards and good wishes after my recent surgery.

Regi Hendler

I was overwhelmed by the many donations and cards in memory of my brother Irv. Thank you for caring, Majestic Isles friends and neighbors.

Norm Katz

I want to thank everyone who was so kind and helpful as I recovered from knee replacement surgery. I appreciated it very much.

Barbara Segaloff

Please note: We reserve the right to edit for length (30 word maximum) and clarity. Submit items to Elaine Jay by email at ElainJay@aol.com with Good and Welfare as the subject. Acknowledgement of each email will be sent as verification of receipt.



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Gardening in the Isles

By
Stan Davidson

I wish all Majestic Isles residents a New Year of good luck and good health. In line with this wish, there happens to be a houseplant, the lucky bamboo, that the Chinese believe brings prosperity, fortune and happiness to whoever has one, especially if it has been given as a gift. The lucky bamboo is one of a small group of shrub-like species with slender stalks, and flexible strap-shaped leaves. The lucky bamboo has a well-earned reputation of being nearly indestructible. The tough stems can survive in vases of water under a wide variety of light conditions. Even a poorly maintained lucky bamboo plant will live for a long time before it finally dies.

The vast majority of lucky bamboo plants are shipped from China. The plant can be shaped in a multitude of ways by braiding, twisting and curling the stalks. A three-stalk bundle can be purchased for as little as \$10. The more intricate shapes are more expensive.

In the world of horticulture the lucky bamboo is not labeled as a bamboo at all, but a plant species known as *dracaena sanderiana*. Although you observe that most of these plants are seen grown in water, the plant can be potted in soil. *Be cautious if you have children or pets around, because the leaves are mildly toxic if ingested.*

How does one care for a lucky bamboo? The plant prefers bright filtered sunlight. Avoid direct sunlight, as it will burn the leaves. The plant can tolerate low light, but relocate the plant to a bright spot if the plant begins to stretch outward or the green leaves begin to fade.

Watering this plant is a bit tricky compared to the typical houseplant. It can grow indefinitely in a vase

with at least a couple of inches of pure water and pebbles on the bottom to support the stalks.

I mention pure water because the plant is very sensitive to chlorine and other chemical impurities found in our tap water. Water the plant with distilled water or bottled purified water that has been left out for 24 hours to settle out any chemical impurities. In past articles, I have recommended changing the plant water often. To promote good health in the lucky bamboo, I recommend watering at least once a week.

The lucky bamboo likes household temperatures between 65 and 80 degrees. Do not locate the plant adjacent to air conditioning or heating vents.

You should feed the plant every month or so using a weak balanced soluble fertilizer. A single drop is plenty for most arrangements.

The most common problems related to the lucky bamboo are connected to the water that the plant is immersed in. Chlorinated water will kill the plant over time. Contaminated water that is dirty or infected with bacteria can be fatal to the plant. If the plant develops black roots, these should be cut away. Prevent algae from growing in the water in a clean vase by changing the distilled or bottled water weekly. Leaves that are faded or yellow indicate too much sunlight or too much fertilizer. Remove dead or rotting stalks immediately.

Let's grow the lucky bamboo in Majestic Isles to bring our residents good luck, good health and prosperity in the New Year, 2011.

Happy Gardening !!



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INVESTMENT DISCUSSION GROUP

By Al Silverman, Facilitator



The investment discussion group meeting of the year was held on Monday, Dec.13, 2010 and included the following agenda: Lament, Hope, Euphoria and the

Political Effect.

Lament: We discussed the question “How well did you do this year?” You could have been up 10% to 20% in total returns (that includes dividends and capital appreciation). A total return of 5% to 10% would have also been acceptable. Anything less than that possibly means that you may have missed one or more of our meetings this year.

There are ominous signs on the horizon and in many portfolios--signs that interest rates may have bottomed and are starting to rise. The market values of corporate and municipal bonds have begun to fall along with other fixed income without a growth component. Corporates and munis have fallen approximately three to five per cent. Some junk bonds, to date, have held up a little better.

What is the anticipated time frame for interest rates to continue to stay low--which is what the Fed is trying to maintain to stimulate the economy--or to continue to raise rates slowly because of the concern that government policies and the high debt is inflationary? The estimates by some analysts are one year---to which I add, approximately plus or minus one year!!!

Hope--Last month we discussed the statistics over the 1922 to 2006 period which indicated that the third and fourth year of a Presidential term are usually favorable for the market, with securities increasing in market value an average of 10% and 7½% respectively. Keep in mind, that to try to make this information work for you, your portfolio ought to include securities that may benefit during a protracted inflationary period. In other words---more “income with growth” and less fixed income (without growth). There is an anomaly here, since you may want to retain fixed income securities as long as you can in order to cope with substantial volatility in market value. In past meetings, we have discussed many securities that meet one or both of these goals.

Euphoria--Many securities that pay high dividends (or distributions) had high yields when first mentioned. As the market values have risen since then yields have fallen, some substantially, but their

dividends have essentially remained the same. High current yields of 6% to 9% are now deemed acceptable, yet there are still securities available with dividends such as 12%, 15%, and 20%. These, too, have been discussed before.

Political Effect--here we are on less solid ground. Many believe that the key to improving the economy is creating jobs, jobs, and more jobs. That should be the primary concern of Congress and the president. One very prominent argument has been to reduce taxes and to retain the Bush tax cuts. Three thoughts occurred to me:

- If the payroll taxes for the middle class are reduced slightly, will it create enough additional spending to increase jobs, or will it merely permit workers to help pay off their debts?
- If the current Bush tax cuts for the wealthy are maintained at the current level, considering the current jobs status, how will maintaining the current tax rate facilitate a significant increase in jobs?
- Would it not be better for the government to stimulate job growth with aggressive infrastructure programs and to stop the exporting of jobs to foreign countries?

As you can imagine, the discussion that ensued over these questions were vigorous and animated, yet friendly. At this juncture, we can only look forward and pray that the 2011 Congress can come up with answers promoting job growth and an improved economy.

We then discussed an article by Jim McTague in Barron’s entitled “Uneasiness in Muni-Land.” With the market value of municipals generally in a downward trend due to economic stress in many states, he concludes that “The municipal market is no longer the place for conservative investors. It has become nearly as volatile as the stock market”. Some people are not concerned, however, since they will collect the stated principal in twenty or thirty years, though its purchasing power may be much lower than today, without some growth.

The meeting wound up with a review of many securities which have met our concept of high income with moderate growth. Join us in January and have some fun while you participate in broadening your investment horizons. Always remember to do your own research with regard to suitability, risk, etc. in evaluating securities you may be interested in, and discuss them with your investment advisor.

A Happy New Year to all.

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CRUISING WITH ADAM SANDLER

By Enid and Steve Bayer



wish became a reality.

Number one on our bucket list has always been an audition for a play or movie – a *real* audition. After a tip from a friend, a search on the Internet and of newspaper ads, this

On a sunny Saturday morning, we went with our longtime friends Mel and Myra to Kaiser University to try out for the Adam Sandler movie, “Jack and Jill.” The process was simple. We filled out a form giving our vital statistics, experience and availability. Availability, in this case, meant being free to spend 12 days on a cruise ship. We submitted snapshots of ourselves, some staff members looked us over and smiled – and that was it!

A week later, we received a phone call from California inviting us to join a group of 150 extras. We couldn’t believe that out of 8,424 applicants the four of us were chosen. Enid’s immediate thought was whether Steve would be able to leave his responsibilities to our community and the Red Cross for 12 days. It took some reorganization and we were anxious to go.

The next ten days were hectic. We received notification of our wardrobe requirements and we started to pack. Three overstuffed suitcases and we were set.

The cruise ship was the Allure of the Seas, the newest, largest cruise ship on the ocean. On Friday, Nov. 12, after checking in and unpacking in our spacious cabin, we were free to go to the pool. Adam Sandler and his family joined us for a swim. Later, we enjoyed dinner with our friends.

Our Journal:

Saturday, Day 1, 7:45 a.m. call

We reported for duty. After filling out pay vouchers, and signing confidentiality papers, we had a brief orientation with the casting director.

The rules: Don’t approach the stars or ask for autographs. No picture taking on the “set.” Don’t wander from the holding areas. If these rules are broken, you will be asked to leave.

Two scenes are to be shot today, and we are selected for both. We are so excited since both scenes are with Adam, up close and personal.

We spent most of the day waiting and were finally sent to bed at 1:15 a.m. without being filmed.

Sunday, Day 2.

This was a day off, so we slept in. Exploring the ship occupied most of the rest of the day. We walked the Promenade, the Boardwalk and Central Park. A description of the ship is a story in itself. Suffice it to say, it’s a fantastic ship and we enjoyed all the amenities.

Monday, Day 3. 6:00 a.m. call

We fill out vouchers and then move on to wardrobe and makeup. Most of the time, we just sit and wait. To keep busy we do crossword puzzles, read, snooze and eat. Some do yoga or sing and play their guitars. All through the day, food is served. Sandwiches and sushi are served butler style. An array of foods is available on a buffet, i.e.: breads, an assortment of meats, lox, cream cheese, fruits, snacks and pastries.

Tuesday, Day 4. 6:00 a.m. call

We spend the day on deck. We’re “crossers,” aka walkers, back and forth a million times. It’s hot and sunny, so we hydrate and spray sun block on ourselves constantly. We leave the set at 5:30 and meet friends at 6:30 for dinner. By 9:00 p.m. we are dead tired, but can’t turn in; we must wait for our call time to be posted at 10:00 p.m. or later.

Wednesday, Day 5. 6:00 a.m. call

The same process all over again, except they decide our wardrobe is unacceptable. Off to the wardrobe room, which was amazing. There were over 70 racks of potential wardrobe. One area is for men, one for women. Hats, shoes, scarves and outfits of all sizes, colors and description are on display. Formals, casual and special event costumes line the walls. We estimate the area is 2,800 square feet. Make-up and hair styling are in the adjoining room. We are ten senior citizens being dressed for a shuffleboard scene. Some get fitted with grey wigs. Steve is fine, Enid gets more grey highlights. We wait all day and at 6:00 p.m., we are told to come back tomorrow. We meet for dinner, go to an ice show and by 10:00 p.m. it is bedtime. (*Continued on page 30*)



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WHAT YOUR SURVIVORS NEED TO KNOW (Part 4)

By Mel Burstein

The personal representative named under your will, usually your spouse or other family member, has the responsibility for preparing an inventory of all assets which were held by the deceased solely in his or her name alone, or in joint names at time of death. For federal tax purposes, the values of the assets are to be shown at **date of death values** (*market value*), and **not at cost**, even if no Federal Estate Tax is due. The date of death value will be the new basis for assets inherited. Unpaid interest on bonds and dividends receivable on stocks must also be included in the inventory.

If you are a named beneficiary who inherits an IRA, life insurance policies or annuities, remember to name your own beneficiaries and contingent beneficiaries. *If the deceased was named as primary beneficiary under your IRAs, life insurance or annuities, it is important to name a new beneficiary or to let the contingent beneficiary succeed to the position of primary beneficiary.* Assets with named beneficiaries are not subject to probate, but are still part of the deceased federal taxable estate. Life insurance policies on the life of the insured, where the insured had no incidents of ownership, are also not part of the taxable estate. *Incidents of ownership* include the right to change beneficiaries, assign the policy to some other person, borrow against the policy or cancel the policy. The inheriting beneficiary will have to decide the question of keeping or surrendering these assets.

Title to an inherited auto should be transferred from the name of the deceased to the name of the person inheriting the auto. Contact the State Department of Motor Vehicles about this. To change title you will need a copy of the death certificate, title and registration, proof of insurance and driver's license. There is a transfer fee involved.

If the deceased was over the age of over 70, required minimum distributions **must be made annually** from an IRA owned by the deceased. In the year of death it is the responsibility of the personal representative to make sure that the distribution for that year has been taken. If it was not taken prior to the death, then the personal representative must take the current required distribution or the balance of distributions for that year. Contact the custodian of the IRA for information regarding the amount of all distributions made

prior to death. Distributions received after death are to be deposited into the estate account. Current year distributions that were not made prior to death cannot be rolled over. *There a penalty levied by the IRS if a current distribution is not made. The IRS penalty is 50% of the difference between what should have been distributed and what actually was distributed during the year plus the income tax due on the distribution.*

To transfer title to real estate that is in the name of the decedent alone, you will need both a certified copy of the death certificate *without the cause of death* and a Personal Representative Deed. Title in joint name will pass automatically by law. The surviving spouse should transfer title on the records of the county in which the property is located. If this is not done, the records will not show clear title to the property. Absence of clear title can cause problems transferring the property after the death of the surviving spouse or upon the sale of the property.

At present, a surviving spouse has the *option to elect* (that is, to claim) **30%** of the deceased spouse's assets, including those in the probate estate, the decedent's revocable trust, jointly owned property, beneficial interest in the cash value of life insurance immediately preceding death, and many other assets. This is called the **"elective share."** The claim for the elective share must be filed the earlier of six months after date of service on the surviving spouse of copy of notice of administration, or two years after death.

Review medical and long term insurance policies, auto insurance and any other insurance that may have expired with the death of your spouse. Request refunds of any unexpired insurance premiums.

Notify credit card companies and banks that issued the cards, of the death of your spouse and request that the cards be cancelled. Request that a card be issued in your name if you do not have one.

Take time to consider your situation and don't rush into anything you might later regret.

Please note: *I am not an attorney. Do not construe the information in this article and in the previous articles of this series as legal advice, but rather as general guidelines. Consult an attorney with questions about your specific situation.*



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YEAR END MUSINGS

By Phyllis M. Cohen

It's the end of the year and I am trying to come up with a column to wrap up 2010 that could perhaps give my readers some insights into the past and hope for the future. (Oops, I am confusing myself with a real columnist). Anyway, I sit down with a copy of the daily newspaper for some inspiration and immediately start laughing over the WikiLeaks "disaster." I am guessing that somewhere up above, if Stieg Larsson were watching and weren't already dead, he would be laughing himself to death over the latest political calamities.

Stieg Larsson, in case you have been in outer space this last year or so is the late Swedish writer, (*"The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo,"* etc.) who wrote a trilogy of books dealing with computer hacking, government secrets, big business intrigue, and threats to newspaper reporters. Sound familiar? Could Larsson have thought up a better plot line than WikiLeaks? How about Julian Assange as a Larsson hero? There's everything here for a great follow up novel for Larsson: a self-proclaimed messiah dedicated to ending government secrecy and posturing; sexual accusations; secret hackers with names like Jester and Anonymous disrupting cyberspace, business and communications to make their point.

No one is disputing the seriousness of the WikiLeaks disclosures. But was anyone surprised to read that our ambassadors thought that a bunch of our Afghani and Iraqi supporters were not quite honest and were squandering (or stealing) our aid money or that our diplomats made disparaging remarks about fellow foreign diplomats? Hillary Clinton, attempting to defuse some of the anxiety over the releases remarked that a foreign diplomat said when he heard about some of the remarks made by US diplomats, "Don't worry. You should hear what we say about you." A Washington reporter referring to the diplomatic corps remarked that in the State Department a gaffe is when someone accidentally tells the truth.

Assange, at this date, is already in a London jail and at least one of his hacker followers (a 16 year Dutch boy) was in jail. However the leaks go on. Don't believe anything they reveal about me.

On another serious note, I noticed that an Ivy League education just ain't what it used to be. Five Columbia

University students were caught in a sting operation selling drugs of all kinds to fellow classmen and friends. The good news is that they were only trying to pay for their college tuition. And apparently they had really acquired some business acumen there at Columbia. They had each specialized in a certain drug product, referred clients to each other depending upon the client's tastes and were doing well enough so they didn't have to ask Daddy for allowances. The bad news is that they are unlikely to be able to complete their education. But more good news - in prison they will probably learn how to be better drug dealers and not get caught again so easily.

Finally, on a lighter note, across the pond, the Brits are getting ready to throw a big wedding for Prince William and his longtime girlfriend, Kate. Hopefully, this Princess Kate will have a happier and longer life than the three Kates married to King Henry VIII who were, in order, divorced (Catherine of Aragon), beheaded (Kathryn Howard) or died young in childbirth after her brief marriage to Henry and her subsequent re-marriage (Katherine Parr).

What's most interesting to me is not the royal couple, but all the look-a-likes getting a piece of the action. Men and women who bear strong resemblances to the Prince and Kate as well as to Queen Elizabeth are raking in thousands of pounds in payments for appearances all over England. Why anyone wants to pay to see someone who looks like William eludes me. Maybe it's like the Elvis impersonators who are everywhere, now that Elvis has left the building. The copy is as much fun as the real thing. Of course, if the present student unrest continues in Great Britain, the government will probably have to hire those look-a-likes to ride around to public events as decoys. I'm guessing that Prince Charles and the lovely Camilla will have second thoughts about riding in a big fancy auto through an angry crowd protesting tuition hikes.

So here's to 2011, starting off already with many problems and issues. (And have I said one word about politics and Congress and the president and reality shows about killing caribous, and, and, and...) If you saved any New Year's Eve bubbly, we may need it.



MEET THE STAFF



Ellin Goldstein has been on the newsletter staff since shortly after she moved to Majestic Isles in 2007. She has written articles about her experiences and is always a good sport about pitching in when we have an idea for a

column but have no one to write it. In addition, she gathers the information for the calendar that appears inside the back cover each month and types articles for newsletter contributors who do not type.

Ellin was born in Manhattan and lived in the Bronx until her family moved to Freeport, Long Island shortly after she started school. Ellin graduated from Hempstead High, then attended Syracuse University for a year. She transferred to Hofstra College, was graduated in 1960 with a degree in English, then taught junior high in Westbury and Merrick. In 1964, she earned an M.S. in Education from Hofstra and the same year, she married Jerome Goldstein, an accountant from Brooklyn whom she met on a blind date. The Goldsteins settled in Bayside, Queens before moving to Raritan Valley, New Jersey in 1968. Ellin left teaching when her older daughter, Ronni, was born the following year. Ellin's younger daughter, Bari, was born in 1971. Jerry and Ellin moved to Miami because of an opportunity for him. They divorced in 1982, and Jerry moved to Las Vegas, where he still lives.

Ellin remained in Miami and returned to teaching (English, drama, and classes for the gifted). Both of her daughters went to the University of South Florida, and both received graduate degrees from the University of Miami. Ronni is a special education teacher in Miami. Bari, an attorney, lives in Boynton Beach. Ellin returned to school and became a school librarian in 1995. After retiring in 2006, she moved to Majestic Isles.



Ellin's happiest moments are spent in the company of her now-celebrity grandchildren, Jake, 5, and Sydney, 4 (see left). Many residents here have seen them frolicking at the pool. Ellin is active in Hadassah and the Singles' Club. She enjoys working for the newsletter and remains happy in her new home.

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A TRIP OF A LIFETIME Part 2

By Ellin Goldstein

Ellin spent a month cruising and traveling in Europe.

(Continued from last month) In the seaport of Mykonos the people very friendly, and we again found great shopping. We were able to get off the ship here and wander the very narrow streets that ran by the edge of the seaport.

In Istanbul, our guide took us to the Blue Mosque, where we had to remove our shoes to go inside. It was a slow process, but the view inside was really fantastic. My neck hurt from looking at all the intricate carvings. We also saw Topkapi Palace, where the sultan kept his harems. The inside was covered with all kinds of materials and looked like the movies we have seen of such places. The Grand Bazaar was closed because it was Sunday, but the smaller spice market was open, and I went shopping – again. We went down a side street and came to poles in the road. The guide explained to the guard that we were Jews who wanted to see the synagogue; he pushed a button and the poles disappeared! We drove on down the street and faced the synagogue - a little storefront with more bars on the windows. We were told we could not enter because there was a wedding going on, but the people walking in waved and smiled at us.

From there it was on to Kusadasi, where we took a tender into town, then wandered around the small narrow town. There were many small shops all crushed together and the vendors came yelling, “Do you want to buy a genuine fake?”

In Athens, we climbed slippery marble steps with no handrails to the top of the Acropolis. I'd never have made it without the help of friendly passersby. We saw the Pantheon (under renovation) and enjoyed the colorful synchronized changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Even a stray dog among the observers seemed to enjoy the ritual.



We sailed into Venice at noon. From the window in my cabin, I took pictures of St. Mark's Square. Ashore, the bridges were hard for me to navigate, but I did anyway.

I bought a lovely Murano vase with soft colors, blues and reds, and the opening was shaped like a fish's mouth. It was a challenge wrapping it when we left the ship, but it did make it home! Venice is the most different of all the places we saw, because it is all on the water, but all the places are the same in that they try to sell everyone anything they can.



We returned to Naples and from there took a jetfoil boat in the rain to the island Capri. The city and the view were great. A bus took us up to Anacapri (top of the island) and the view there was even better. We rode the funicular - a great straight up cable car - back down to Capri. I was afraid to get on, but some man started making fun of me and sort of pushed me in. He laughed when I thanked him.

In Rome again, we toured an ancient Etruscan city with some stores, a church, a fountain and what resembled a picnic area. We visited a farmhouse once owned by, and now named for, Luciano Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon. The property is now a country house/hotel and olive oil is made and sold there.

Next stop, Cannes. We took a tram ride through the classy modern city. Walking about, we had to laugh when we came across the Palm Beach Casino. I kept meeting people from Boynton Beach. It was weird to go so far and meet people who lived across the street or on Military Trail.

Our last stop was Porta Delgado, Portugal (really part of the Azores). We took a bus tour high above the city to a lake with waters that are half blue and half green. The fable is that a poor peasant fell in love with a princess, and her father would not allow them to be together. One had blue eyes and the other had green. They jumped into the sea and the water changed colors. Pink flowers grow all around, in rocks, on ledges; they seemed to have no roots. The city itself was surprisingly modern with skyscrapers and a large airport.

Then we came home. Our entire group of six had a great experience, not a restful vacation! There was so much walking and so much to remember. This article is but an abbreviated version of the trip. It was certainly the adventure of a lifetime. I loved it all!

“Ones destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things.” - Henry Miller



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FLAVORS OF FLORIDA

By Donna Shaneson

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On Sunday, **Jan. 9** at 2 p.m., the Delray Beach Public Library will present its 12th annual Author's Showcase. Judy Markowitz and I attended this event last year and thoroughly enjoyed hearing the authors describe their books.

The Healthy Living Series is presenting four terrific lectures on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. **Jan. 4:** "The Law of Attraction," **Jan. 11:** Dr. John Conde, "The Science of Happiness," **Jan. 18:** Dr. Marylu Shore, "How to Be More Positive And Energetic In These Highly Stressful Times," Saturday, **Jan. 29:** "Yoga for Everyone," with a panel of yoga instructors.

On **Jan. 20**, at 10:30 a.m. the "Understanding Other Cultures" group will discuss "Common Ground – How To Stop The Partisan War That Is Destroying America" by Cal Thomas and Bob Beckel. These two authors from opposite ends of the spectrum join forces to describe our polarized political atmosphere, and to encourage voters and candidates to align themselves with principles that directly benefit the largest possible number of citizens. For information, call 561-266-9490.

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The Florida Stage at Kravis Center
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www.floridastage.org

The Florida Stage recently moved to the Kravis Center, which is easy to get to and has free parking. The theater offers a 3-play sampler. You can choose your dates to best suit your own schedule. We saw "Cane" last week and absolutely loved it. The acting is very professional and done by equity actors.

The West Boynton Branch Library
9451 Jog Road
734-5556

The afternoon Book Group will discuss "Raise the Titanic" by Clive Cussler on Jan. 13 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Nora Natke will lead the discussion.

The Design Center of the Americas (DCOTA)
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If design is more up your alley, The Design Center of America opens its doors for the season on January 19. It will showcase 20 installations based on the golden age of Hollywood. Design House Showcases the most exquisite showrooms as through the industry's most talented eyes.

Richard and Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum
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The current exhibit, "Feather Wars, Surviving Fashion 1870-1920" examines periods in South Florida history when trends in women's hats almost caused extinction of certain Florida birds. Egret chicks were so prized that they brought the same price per pound as gold.. The exhibit runs through June 30, 2011. The museum, which has free admission, is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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The Phyllis and Harvey Sandler Center has many interesting classes morning, noon, and night. The \$8 charge for Wednesday matinee movies includes coffee and a discussion moderated by Myrna Loman. The movies start at 1:00 p.m. The **Jan. 19** feature is an Argentinian movie, "Live-in Maid." On **Jan. 26**, the movie will be "All My Loved Ones," a Czechoslovakian film. (I saw this film and recommend it as one of my favorites this year. Don't miss it!). There are also book clubs, lectures, trips and lots of great fun at the Boca JCC – check it out!!

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A YEN FOR YOGA

By Thelma Mechanic



When was the last time you felt pain-free, free from twinges in your back or your knees? Perhaps the twinges come from gardening or climbing stairs, or simply stepping up or down to get to your car - but there they are.

Instead of reaching for medication, many doctors suggest exercise to boost muscle flexibility. This means using proper body movements to prevent and to correct problems that arise from poor posture.

A good starting point is to st-r-e-tch. As we age, we get into the habit of using our bodies in ways that cause muscles to become tense and tight. This tends to limit our body movements. And tight, short muscles are also more vulnerable to injury. So st-r-e-tch, particularly after a warm bath or shower.

But wait! Where does Yoga fit into the scheme of things? Yoga actually began 5000 years ago in India, as a method to become one with the universe. It began as a philosophical and spiritual discipline, but has evolved to create training for the body and the mind. "Yoga" means union – and relates to the connection between mind, body and spirit.

A yen for yoga has inspired many new yoga entrepreneurs and students in South Florida. According to the newspapers, at least 12 yoga studios have opened from Broward to South Palm Beach, in addition to gyms, the JCC and numerous yoga videos. Obviously, there are many stressed out Floridians who seek yoga instruction.

Yoga combines stretching with meditation and controlled breathing. This can relax tense, painful muscles. Research indicates that yoga can lower blood pressure, so you also get benefits for the health of your heart.

There are many beginner, intermediate and advanced technique. A simple example is the Alexander Techniques. This technique re-educates the body in the art of correct alignment from the head down so that muscles aren't under constant stress and strain from compensating for poor posture. It also helps to relieve back pain. Do you remember when your mother told you to walk with a book on your head? She was on to

something! Your posture is a technique you can practice at home. All it requires is for you to picture an imaginary string running through your body and out the top of your head. Concentrate and pull yourself straight up with it. Voila! You stand upright in a proper stance. Also, avoid slouching when you sit, and stand tall when you walk.

There are many yoga workouts that are best conducted with an experienced instructor. They have peculiar names, the Hablia, the Bridge, the Cobra, the Mountain, the Triangle, the Warrior 1 and 2, a downward facing Dog and Sage, to name some. These are all fairly simple, low impact exercises to help you shape up. They were created to help strengthen shoulders, the lower back, and legs, and to stimulate the circulatory, digestive, and lymphatic systems. Some yoga variations stimulate the thyroid and parathyroid, as well as reduce fatigue. Other variations of yoga strengthen thighs, knees, ankles, kidneys, hamstrings and even help with insomnia. It is always advisable to see a physician before undertaking any exercise class. However, yoga instruction is relaxing and on the increase, and the benefits derived from following instructions are multiple.

In addition, I recently read in the newspaper about "laughter yoga" which is offered to Alzheimer patients and their caregivers. A patient said "It gives me happiness inside of me." Laughter yoga is not a cure, but it brings more energy into the body and stimulated stability and balance. The director Ericka Ruiz claims that laughing for no reason is just as healthy as laughing after a joke. The basic idea is clap, breathe and laugh. It seems to indicate that laughter is the best medicine!

Another activity also caught my attention. It was entitled, "Improve your vision by way of eye yoga." The technique here is to stretch the eye muscle to increase flexibility, relaxation and stamina.

The various low-impact techniques required of yoga have made it increasingly popular as an exercise. The only equipment you may need is a rubber mat to prevent slipping. Also blocks and straps are optional.

If you've been telling yourself it's time to shape up for the New Year, I say "Go for it!" A new you will emerge if you continue your workouts. Join the multitudes with a yen for yoga.

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OLD ENOUGH NOT YOUNG ENOUGH

By Joan Baron

So, do you remember how old you were and what you were doing when you got your first TV? Were there programs for everyone? What was on? How many hours of programming? What - and when - did you watch?

I was about 6 or 7 years old when we got our first TV, and we watched "Howdy Doody" and Milton Berle, star of the "Texaco Star Theater." We watched "The Lone Ranger" and we watched cartoons. I don't know what my parents watched at night, because I was too little to stay up late; but they laughed and whispered as they sat in their chairs, smoked their cigarettes, and watched "their" shows. I couldn't wait to be a grown-up so I could see what they were watching. I wanted to be old enough to stay up as late, so I could watch all those TV programs.

Eventually, I did grow up. I watched "I Married Joan," "The Perry Como Show," "The Doris Day Show" and "The Andy Griffith Show," as well as all the comedies and dramas that came on and became popular. I never watched the 11 p.m. news. (It just wasn't "me.")

As time went on, the later night shows began to interest me. Feeding babies, changing diapers at midnight or 2 a.m. might have had something to do with it, and soon I was hooked! I became a big fan of Jack Paar and late night TV even when there was no baby to feed. Then, when Johnny Carson took over – Wow! I was a goner! I loved him and Ed McMann. I couldn't wait till 11:30, I was so very, very thrilled to watch them.

I did this for years – then, hmm – I dunno, something happened! I think I 'grew up' some more, but suddenly, without any babies to feed, I began to drift off toward the end of the program! Oy! As much as I wanted to watch, I just couldn't last until 1 a.m.

Then I got busier with kids in school, PTA meetings, carpools for Hebrew school, band and drama classes, and... **work!** All this took so much time, effort and energy that I said goodnight to Johnny earlier...and earlier...and earlier.

Somewhere along the way, I no longer said "Good-night" to Johnny, but said 'Good-by,' because I couldn't stay up past the end of the 11 o'clock news.

In reality, I usually lost interest at about 11:17 or so. I don't care about sports, so I'd turn off the TV before 11:30 and then go to sleep.

So here I am, I have no kids, no diapers, no work, and absolutely no energy. Johnny Carson is just a memory - gone but not forgotten. Jay Leno is fine, so are Letterman and O'Brien, but I am not. The 11 p.m. news is not for me. (Thank goodness for cable).

Yep! I know there are 10 o'clock news programs, and scads of stuff on all 300+ channels. I can TIVO and record and HULU. In the afternoon, I just hope I can watch this stuff before I fall asleep for my nap ...Ah! A daytime nap! (I really must be getting younger, don't you think?) I just hope I don't get hooked on those daytime soaps – they could really interfere with my nap!

Now that I am old enough to stay up as late as I want to, I am too old to stay up as late as I want to. Zzzzzzzzz - see you in my dreams!

Wrinkled was not one of the things I wanted to be when I grew up.

PET PATCH

By Molly



I was so happy to hear you enjoyed my last article.

We have four puppies living here – Lucy, Mande, ZuZu-Petals and Bandit. They are always ready to play, but since I'm getting older, I have to slow down. Now Puggy, my neighbor, is more my speed – we just like to hang out together.


Let me tell you about Scooter Cohen – he is a snow dog, and has reached the age of 17! Since his parents started giving him medicine for his arthritis, he is acting like a pup – can you imagine that?

My Mom hung my stocking up today, and I am watching small packages being hidden – can't wait 'til Christmas.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and a great healthy New Year.

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THE BIG BAND ERA

By Josh Katz

Editor's note: Josh's death on Dec. 24 is a big loss to Majestic Isles. In his memory, we are reprinting this column, which appeared in the 2004 summer issue.

In 1941, the recording industry paid out millions of dollars in royalties to working musicians. However, there were no royalties paid for the use of recordings on radio programs and in jukeboxes. The president of the American Federation of Musicians, James Caesar Petrillo, decided that this would not do. His argument was that if the record companies couldn't devise some system whereby musicians were paid for the use of recordings on radio and in the jukeboxes, then he wouldn't let them record at all. Almost every big band leader disagreed violently with Petrillo's actions, but James Caesar stuck to his battle plan. He banned all recordings from union musicians as of August 1, 1942. Since all non-vocal recording artists were members of the union (including members of all the major symphony orchestras), the recording industry ground to a stop. During the few months preceding the ban, the record companies had just about every band in the studios day and night trying to build up a stockpile of records – and these were released little by little during the coming months.

Singers were not required to be members of the musician's union, so they were able to record, and record they did, accompanied by chorale groups. Interestingly, the first records made as singles by Dick Haymes, Perry Como and Frank Sinatra were done this way. Sinatra did make some recordings under his name a few months prior, but at the time he was still a member of the Tommy Dorsey orchestra. However, the biggest selling record during the record ban, and one of the biggest selling records of all time was a recording of "Peg O' My Heart" done by a group known as the Harmonicats. You see, the harmonica was not recognized as a musical instrument by the union.

For more than a year, no major company made any records with musicians. Finally in September 1943, Decca signed a new contract with the union, and a month later, Capitol followed suit. It wasn't until a year later that Victor and Columbia signed.

Actually many recordings were made by the big bands during the course of the ban. They were made solely for the uses of our servicemen, and released as

"V-Discs." They were not sold in stores and were never played on radio stations and in jukeboxes. Well over a thousand of these were made, strictly as a morale booster for members of our armed forces. Many years later, just about every V-Disc recorded was finally made available to the general public via reissues on LP's, cassette tapes and CD's. In listening to these, it is interesting to compare the V-Disc version with the commercially recorded version of the same material.

During the war many musicians and a number of leaders either enlisted or were drafted in the Armed Services. The leaders included Dean Hudson, Artie Shaw, Orrin Tucker, Eddy Duchin, Claude Thornhill, Clyde McCoy, Ten Weems, Bob Crosby, Larry Clinton, Ray McKinley (who passed away in 2004) Bobby Byrne, Sam Donahue and Glenn Miller. The bands that still functioned pitched in to the war effort by playing in service camps and touring with USO units to play for the servicemen overseas. Though some of the top bands, like Tommy Dorsey, Les Brown and Harry James continued to do well, certain problems did arise, some of which were eventually to contribute to the decline of the big bands. Gas shortages made traveling not only difficult for the bands but also almost impossible for fans who wanted to go places outside the city limits. Top spots like the Glen Island Casino (New Rochelle, NY) and Frank Dailey's Meadowbrook (Cedar Grove, NJ) were forced to close. Then there was the 20% amusement tax, a midnight curfew, and as cited earlier, the recording ban.

By the war's end, the world of popular music had become primarily a singer's world, not only on records, but also on radio shows that once featured the top bands. Frank Sinatra, Perry Como, Dick Haymes, Andy Russell, Dinah Shore, Jo Stafford, Peggy Lee and others had replaced the bands as top musical attractions.

Some of the big bands continued, and a few of the top ones still thrived. However, it was becoming more and more difficult for the big bands to continue. Finally, in late 1946, the big band bubble burst with a bang. Inside of a few weeks, eight of the top bands broke up – Benny Goodman, Woody Herman, Tommy Dorsey, Les Brown, Jack Teagarden, Benny Carter and Ina Ray Hutton.



GOURMET CLUB

By Joan Sorkin

The sounds of "Fiddler on the Roof" put our Gourmet Club in the right mood for their evening of Jewish cooking at the home of Marvin and Joan Sorkin. We were determined not to make the usual cooking we grew up with. We ventured out into the world of Jewish cuisine around the world.

Wine, served with potato and vegetable knishes, courtesy of Janice Berger, started us off. As we proceeded to the table, we were met by the delicious smells of old fashioned cabbage borscht made by Judy Zied. Challah was our bread of choice.

We then helped ourselves to our delicious buffet: Roasted chicken thighs with African flavors made by Joan Sorkin, Veal Stew and Cauliflower made by Flo Kalestein, Eggplant casserole with fresh tomatoes by Joan Peckins, and Tilapia with a hazelnut crust by Seena Calder.

Dessert by Paul Mendelsohn was an Israeli fruit salad complete with persimmons, kiwi, kumquats and pomegranates. Fresh applesauce cake with chopped walnuts and homemade chocolate rugalach rounded out the meal. We made plans for our February dinner.

FISH IN HAZELNUT CRUST

¾ cup shelled hazelnuts	2 eggs beaten
¼ cup dry bread crumbs	1 cup flour
½ tsp. ground coriander	1 tsp. cayenne pepper
2 tsp. ground cumin	Salt to taste
1 ¼ lb. red snapper or tilapia sliced into 8 equal size pieces	
1 Tbsp. butter	

- Place nuts in dry skillet and cook about 15 minutes until toasted. Do not allow to burn.
 - Wrap nuts in clean cloth and rub to remove skins. Chop fairly fine and mix with breadcrumbs, coriander and cumin and spread mixture on a plate.
 - Place eggs in bowl. Combine flour, pepper and salt and spread in another plate
- Dip fish into flour mixture and then in eggs, allowing excess to run off. Press fish into crumbs.
- Place fish on a plate and refrigerate until ready to cook, up to ½ hour.
 - Heat butter in nonstick skillet. Place fish in skillet and cook over med-high heat until pieces are lightly browned – turning once – 2-3 minutes each side.
 - Serve at once.

SINGLES SCENE

By Thelma Mechanic

It's time to pay your \$15 dues for 2011. If you haven't already paid, please put your check in the Singles' mailbox to Mimi Hauser's attention. The check should be made out to M.I. Singles.

On December 11, we enjoyed the Harid Ballet, followed by dinner at the Marriot. Car pools worked out very well.

Please bring pajamas for infants to teen-agers to meetings. The pajamas, which are much needed and appreciated, will be picked up by a veteran's group and donated to needy children.

Coming Up:

December 31- January 1st is New Year's week-end. Another bus has been hired, so space is still available. The room is \$209 (2 in a room) or \$229 for a single room. Call Roberta (736-6387).

January 7- Friday, 3:00 Board Meeting, followed by 4:00 regular meeting

January 9 – Sunday, breakfast at Coral Lakes

January 16 – Sunday, Holiday Party at Coral Lakes, includes dinner and a movie; cost is \$25.

February 10- Valentine's Party at Valencia Lakes (sold out).

February 20 – Boca Museum with a docent, price is \$10 per person.

March 6 – Original Florida Follies at Olympia High School \$26 (sold out).

May 28 Harid Ballet Put your \$24 checks in the Singles' mailbox ASAP.

Watch Channel 63 for further information

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To exhibit your work, please sign up
 in the back lobby by Jan. 20.

Committee members will be in the
 front lobby to assign tables and
 screen space on Thurs. Jan 20 from 3
 to 4 p.m and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Contacts: Marilyn Friedberg (742-
 5766)

**Majestic Isles
 CANCER RESEARCH UNIT**

By Audrey Hausman



On January 21-28, 2011, the Cancer Unit and Hadassah are joining together to sponsor a southern Caribbean cruise aboard the Holland America ship Westerdam. It is not too late to sign up for this fun filled trip.

On Sunday, Feb. 6, from 2 to 4 pm. jewelry designer Phyllis Pinsel, will hold a Jewelry Party in her home to benefit Cancer Research. This event is open to the community. Do join us!

Our membership appreciation luncheon will be held in the clubhouse on February 17, 2011. We hope to keep you spellbound with a hypnotist entertainer. A cover charge will apply. Watch for further details.

On Thursday, March 31, 2011, we'll hold our card party at Benvenutos. We will have vendors selling their wares in a knock out boutique. Raffles will be sold and the prizes will be terrific. An elegant lunch will be served. Oven roasted chicken breast, pan seared shrimp pasta primavera or grilled sirloin fillet will be among the choices for your entree.

Get your players together for your games, mah jong, canasta, dominos, poker or pan. Won't you join us for a fun filled card party?

Thought of the month "to err is human-to forgive divine."

We wish a healthy, peaceful new year to one and all. May all your resolutions be kept and all your dreams come true for you and your families.

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CRUISING WITH ADAM SANDLER

(Continued from page 13)

Thursday, Day 6. 6:00 a.m. call

We repeat yesterday's routine. At about 2:00 p.m., magically a dozen "senior, senior" citizens appear. They replace us! We are disappointed, but the director felt that we weren't old enough. That's show biz. We have dinner and then see the wonderful show "Chicago." Midnight is bedtime.

Friday, Day 7. 7:30 AM call

A break at last - a later call time. While waiting to be called to the set, we notice our colleagues fall into three categories. First are the theatrical "wannabees," who do anything to get noticed. Second, are the neophytes who are there for the money, the good food and the free booze. The third group is the "larks." These folks, like us, are there for the experience and fun. Our mantra is "don't think, just listen."

Saturday, Day 8. 8:00 AM call

This was our last day to work. It's a full day of waiting with no shots for the seniors. The young, hot bodied gals and guys were filmed surfing on the wave pool and enjoying the hot tub. At 5:30 we were free for the day, with dinner at 7:00. After dinner, we strolled through Central Park and relaxed with drinks in a lovely outdoor café. We met some fellow extras and had a lot of laughs comparing notes. Midnight, off to bed.

Sunday and Monday were days off.

We enjoyed relaxing on the ship, shopping and sharing experiences with our new friends. We all agreed that we learned a great deal about filmmaking. We're tired, but would do it again in a heartbeat. Truthfully, Enid's heart belongs to live theater, and she will stick to auditioning for our community's little theater. As for Steve, he's always ready for an adventure.

"Jack and Jill" debuts on November 11, 2011. We hope everyone will enjoy the comedy of Adam Sandler, Katie Holmes and Al Pacino. As for the Bayer family, we plan to have our traditional Thanksgiving get-together in New York next year. Guess what else? We're planning to see "Jack and Jill" together!

SNOWBIRDS

By Bobbe Greene



More than forty people attended and enjoyed the Welcome Back Meeting on Dec. 17. Many thanks to the committee; Sid Kaufman, Mark Jaffie, Sy Bochner and their many assistants; for putting together such a lovely brunch.

Mark Jaffie conducted the meeting in Marilyn Levy's absence. He introduced Joel Rosenthal, M.I. Board president. Joel updated the group on all that happened over the summer months (i.e.: installation of security cameras at the gate; work on landscaping and tennis courts; plans for beautifying the pool area with new chairs, lounges, awnings and the addition of flower pots; continuing the redecorating project on the 2nd floor of the clubhouse; plans for updating the community documents and relocation of the AED equipment from the gatehouse to the clubhouse).

Bonnie Haberstick reminded the group that if you to be included in the M.I. directory, you must sign the permission sheet on the lobby desk.

Bobbe and Jack Greene are in charge of the theatre party to the Broward Stage Door Theatre for the production of "MAME." The date is Saturday Jan. 29 at 2 p.m. All of our reserved seats are front orchestra. Cost to members is \$34 and for non-members and guests it is \$36. Put a check in the Snowbirds' mailbox if you are interested in going. The deadline is Jan. 12.

Sid Kaufman gave a report on the two-day/one night trip to Naples. The price of \$139 per person includes bus transportation, lunch at Café Italia, one night stay at the Marriot, a dinner show as well as casino with free play and a meal ticket, plus time for shopping. The proposed date of the trip is February 7 – 8, 2011.

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MAJESTIC ISLES HADASSAH

By Ellin Goldstein



On *Tuesday*, Jan 11, the Hadassah study group will meet at 3 p.m., on the same day as the board meeting. It will feature the Tu B'Shevat Seder. (Note change of day.) Our regular meeting and annual Membership Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Monday, Jan. 17.

The Hadassah-Cancer Unit cruise will set sail on Jan. 21 and return on Jan 28. At last count there were still a few cabins left. Join us! It should be a great time. Call Sheila Traum (742-3727) for details.

February will be just as busy. The Woman of Valor luncheon will be at Broken Sound CC on Feb. 6, 2011. This year Majestic Isles is honoring Janice Davidson as our Woman of Valor. Call Adele Freitag (738-3176) for further information

On Wednesday Feb. 9, the annual card party will be held at Benvenuto. Get your group together and make reservations now. Doris Robin (732-6213) or Roberta Rabinowitz (736-6387) have more details.

Scrip for Glick's, The Boys, and Kosher Marketplace is available from Betty Wachtel (739-6086) or Rita Marderstein (742-8140). You purchase the food and the merchants contribute to Hadassah.

YIDDISH CULTURAL CLUB

By Jerry Raske

After Reggie Zee called the meeting to order, Jack Lust and Tony Giacketti provided musical accompaniment to the singing of "Hatikvah" and "God Bless America." Marty Baron blessed the candles beautifully and we joined in singing Chanukah songs.

Estelle Snyder and Norman Katz told jokes and the entertainment continued with a tribute to the composing skills of Jerry Bock. We enjoyed clips of scenes from his "Fiddler."

In keeping with the holiday, donuts were included in the refreshments. Like latkes, donuts are fried in oil and so are associated with Chanukah to commemorate the oil that burned for eight days and nights when the Temple was rededicated.

Another highlight of the evening was showing of the DVD of Dr. Herb Levin performing Tevya's "If I were a Rich Man" in a performance at Valencia Isles.

All are welcome at our next meeting, Sunday, Feb. 6, 2011. No January meeting; it's too close to New Year's.

IN APPRECIATION: M.I. BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

In the election for four seats on the Board of Directors, 273 votes were cast. Of that total, 63 were proxy votes.

The election started shortly after the Annual Meeting at 7 p.m. on Dec. 15, the vote was completed at 8:20 p.m. and the results reported of the winners in alphabetical order at about 9:30 p.m. Immediately following the announcement of the voting results, the Board met to determine the new officers for 2010-2011. (See p.6)

The 2010 Election Committee was: Chairman Claire Deveney, Edd Bloom, Florence Cohen, Gil Portnoff, Ed Strauber, Harvey Vetstein and Jim Wachtel.

Thank you to the additional volunteers who worked on election night: Marge Chappell, Marilyn Chermak, Phyllis Cohen, Burt Hoffman, Susan Horowitz, Arlene Koch, Mitchell Radin, Iris Rothstein, Joan Sorkin, Renee Stichel, Al Traum and Betty Wachtel. Observers were Helen Benowich, representing the Social Club, Liz Hopwood, the Pap Corps representative, and Sy Lubchansky, for the Men's Club. Also thanks to the office staff, Ken Miller, manager, and Bonnie Haberstick for all their help and work.

MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER General Meeting, Dec. 12, 2010

By Selma Friedman

A commentator explained radio as “movies for the ears.” It’s true. “Radio Noir” was scary, especially because we could imagine all the frightening situations in our minds. I can remember listening to “Inner Sanctum,” “Lights Out” and “Suspense.” I think we all can remember.

The Dec. 12 presentation, “Sorry, Wrong Number” came from the “Suspense” series of the 1940’s, which was broadcast on CBS. It was written by Lucille Fletcher and was so popular it was repeated eight times, one time starring Agnes Moorehead. Eventually, it was made into a movie that starred Barbara Stanwyck and Burt Lancaster.

Seena Calder did a wonderful job playing the major part in the script at the M.I.L.T. production. Assisting her were Phil Chermak, Claire Deveney, Bernie Freedman, Ed Gerard, Herb Levin, Mike Ost and Joan Peckins. Ed Strauber directed the show, with a little assist by Edd Bloom.

Sound and technical aid, including all the frightening sound effects, were provided by Marty Baron, Doris Davidoff, Jack Moss, Ira Schneider, Ed Strauber and Milton Swersky. Marty even constructed an old-time console replica for us.

“Suspense,” a chill-a-second radio series began in 1942 and for the 25 years it ran, each episode was “a tale well calculated to keep you in suspense.”

Remember, anyone interested in participating in a M.I.L.T. program in any way, just contact someone on the M.I.L.T. Board. We also have elections for our board coming up. If you are interested in a board position, please contact Selma Friedman (735-9933) or Seena Calder (369-4077).

We look forward to seeing you on Jan. 9, 2011, when Harvey Vetstein will discuss Willy Loman and other literary losers.



MAJESTIC ISLES TRAVEL CLUB

Doris Davidoff



After Paul Mendelsohn visited the Space Center in December, we modified the original plans for our one-day trip to the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral on Tuesday, Jan. 18. The change allows us to reduce the price to \$99 per person. At the time this went to press, there was still room on the trip. If you want to join us, please fill out the form on one of the flyers in the back lobby. As long as we have seats available on the motorcoach, we will be happy to have you join us. Full payment will be needed to confirm your reservation. You may also invite friends or relatives, even if they don’t live in Majestic Isles.

Join us our one-day trip to the Coconut Grove Arts Festival on Sunday, Feb. 20. This festival is one of the nation's premier outdoor fine arts festivals, where visitors have the opportunity to meet and talk with exhibiting artists, sample fine cuisine, enjoy live entertainment and take a walk through history. Flyers for this trip are in the back lobby.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 23, at 11 a.m. in the clubhouse. We will have a status report on our upcoming trips and talk about some other future trips. And, as usual, we’ll enjoy some fun and games.

Information about the Travel Club is also available at www.majesticisles.com/travelclub. If you want to receive information about Travel Club plans as soon as possible – before the information is on Channel 63 or in the newsletter – be sure to provide your email address to Doris Davidoff (dorisdav@aol.com), with the request to add it to the Travel Club email list.

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

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

SOCIAL CLUB

By Arlene Koch

The "Toys for Tots" collection was once again very successful. Thank you to the residents who donated so much and thank you to Val Petroff for all the trips she made to the Fire Station to deliver the donated toys. The children in the area will have a brighter Christmas due to your generosity.

As I write, we are looking forward to the activities that Sylvia Fefferman and Joan Sorkin have planned for the Grandkids' Party and are also looking forward to Larry Goldstein's origami class for the children. We thank them all for their efforts to make this annual event a success.

We anticipate a lot of fun at New Year's Eve Party with friends and neighbors. We thank the committees for their work to make the evening special. A Happy, Healthy New Year to all of you.

We have a terrific line-up for our 2011 show series: Mike Gold, Hal Linden, and Sarge. We will have a champagne reception on January 22, prior to the first show, which will star Mike Gold. Tickets for the series or for individual shows are still available.

At the first 2011 meeting of the Social Club, on Feb. 15, the Santaluces High School Choral Group will entertain us. This is their first appearance at Majestic Isles and we look forward to having them. This group will be appearing in Carnegie Hall in April.

MOVIES – MOVIES - MOVIES

8 p.m. at the clubhouse

SATURDAY, JAN. 8: MAMA MIA:

On the idyllic Greek Isle of Kalokairi, single mom Donna Sheridan (Meryl Streep) goes into a tizzy when her bride-to-be daughter (Amanda Seyfried), in a bid to learn her father's identity, invites three of Donna's ex-lovers to the wedding. Buoyed by the tunes of ABBA, this effervescent yarn – a Golden Globe nominee for Best Picture (Comedy or Musical) – also stars Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth and Stellan Skarsgård as the trio of potential dads.

FRIDAY, FEB. 10 VALENTINE

BOWLING FOR FUN

An older gent who hadn't bowled for years,
Remembered past scores with a hint of tears.
But he joined the Royals and rolled his first ball
'Tho in the gutter, he wasn't discouraged at all.

The next try, somewhat better by a bit,
Earned our novice a 7/10 split.
In fact, Fred R felt so much better, it seems
He joined Shelly and the other teams.

Ralph's group gets six strikes in a row
Tough competitors they are, we all know.
The gals - Eileen, Iris, Sylvia - they're not shy
When they make a strike, what a "Geschrei."

To Tom, Zully, Arnie, Bert, it's a serious game
To get above 170 is their aim.
Be patient with Sunny, up on the line
He's concentrating, taking his time.
Loving AMF Alleys are Jack, Milton and Stan,
When Rothstein does well, he's "The Man."

So if you have a bad day, relax, and wait
There's always next week, you'll be great.
And any bowlers not mentioned here,
You'll be in next time, never fear.

BOOK TALKS

By Judy Markowitz



It is not unusual in 2010 for a couple to meet and marry through a newspaper ad or an ad on the Internet. However, I doubt that answering such an ad was a common event in 1907, which is when the plot of the novel "A RELIABLE WIFE" by Robert Goolrick takes place.

In the novel, Ralph Truitt, a very wealthy man living in a small town in Wisconsin, placed a notice in a Chicago newspaper stating he was looking for a "reliable wife." Catherine Land responded, saying she was "a simple honest woman." She was anything but honest, and the only simple thing about her was her single-minded determination to marry this man and then to kill him, thereby making herself a wealthy widow.

If you would like to know how it all turns out, you will have to read the novel and/or come to our **Book Talks** on January 19 at 2 p.m. when Rita Leidner will facilitate a discussion of "A Reliable Wife."

WOMEN'S CLUB

By Sandy Gardner

Our Welcome Back Luncheon on Monday, Dec. 13 was held in the clubhouse and catered by Famous Market Deli. As always, the food was outstanding. The entertainment by Jamie Porter, magician-comedian, was well received.

We'll hold our installation of officers on Jan. 10 at 12:30 p.m. in the clubhouse. This function will be called "Just Desserts" because desserts, coffee and tea will be the only items served. The guest speaker will be "Sondra," doing a presentation on "Sunset Blvd." A sign up sheet will be posted in the back lobby. We'll have open seating, and there will be no charge.

On Saturday, Feb. 12, the Women's Club and Men's Club will jointly sponsor a Valentines' Day celebration at the Delray Country Club. The time and menu will be posted in the back lobby.

Dues for 2011 are payable **now!**

We wish all residents a happy, healthy New Year.

MEN'S CLUB

By Joel Cohen, Pres.

The Men's Club will have an installation buffet breakfast at Ellie's Diner on Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011. You **must** pay your dues for 2011 and the \$3.00 cost for breakfast by Jan. 3, 2011 if you are to attend. No money will be accepted at the diner.

We, along with the Women's club, will be having a Valentine's Day event on Sat. night, Feb. 12. (See front cover).

Our next trip to the Hard Rock Casino will be on Feb. 2, 2011.

Information regarding Bingo will be on channel 63. We just do not get enough participation for Bingo to plan it in advance. We will keep you informed via channel 63.

Keep Sunday, May 1 open for our annual Parent's Day brunch with the Women's club.

MAJESTICS BOWLING LEAGUE SPARES AND STRIKES

By Dave Feinberg

The second half of the season has begun and nothing has changed. The same teams seem to be fighting for positions.

WEEK 12 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Dave Feinberg	182	461
Ted Shapiro	166	
Marty Ratiner	162	433

WEEK 12 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Ellie Fox	164	386
Gladys Feldman	126	
Toni Kohn	125	373

WEEK 13 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Bob Rosenhouch	179	450
Al Lynn	169	431
Dave Feinberg	164	455

WEEK 13 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Toni Kohn	153	407
Shirley Scheffel	153	390
Ruth Rossi	139	380
Gladys Feldman	139	

WEEK 14 MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Bob Rosenhouch	193	424
Al Lynn	190	509
Marty Ratiner	166	

WEEK 14 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Estelle Snyder	147	413
Toni Kohn	146	360
Gladys Cohen	132	

WEEK 15 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Al Lynn	206	468
Bill Harris	180	433
Stan Fox	171	433

WEEK 15 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Toni Kohn	151	361
Ruth Rossi	147	387
Estelle Snyder	146	380

WEEK 16 – MEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Al Lynn	169	489
Marty Ratiner	167	435
Dave Feinberg	162	435

WEEK 16 – WOMEN: HIGH GAME HIGH SERIES

Gladys Cohen	136	377
Estelle Snyder	132	387
Toni Kohn	129	358

I wish one and all very healthy, happy New Year.

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

January 1, 2011 – February 28, 2011



Jan. 6, Thurs. 10:00 a.m. C.O.P. meeting

7:30 p.m. Board of Directors meeting

Jan. 7, Fri., 11:00 a.m., Newsletter staff meeting

4:00 p.m. Singles meeting

Jan. 8, Sat, 8 p.m. Social Club, Movie Night (p, h)

Jan. 9, Sun, 7:30 p.m., M.I.L.T. (members f, non-members \$2, h)

Jan. 10, Mon. 12:30 p.m., Installation, Women's Club

4:00 p.m. Investment Club (f, h)

Jan. 11, Tues, 3 p.m. Hadassah Study Group (f, h)

Jan. 12, Wed., 9:30 a.m. Shredder truck at clubhouse

Jan. 13, Thurs, 12 noon, Cancer Unit Meeting

Jan. 16, Sun, 9:30 a.m., Men's Club Installation Breakfast (p, a)

Jan. 19, Wed., 9:30 a.m. COBWRA meeting at M.I. clubhouse.

2:00 p.m. Book Talks and More (f, h)

Jan. 22, Sat, 8 p.m., Social Club Showtime (p, h)

Jan. 21 – 28 Hadassah & Cancer Unit Cruise (p, a)

Jan 30, Sun, 2 -5 p.m. Art Show (f, h)

Feb. 2, Wed, 10:00 a.m., Men's Club, Casino Trip (p, a)

Feb 3, Thurs, 10:00 a.m., C.O.P. meeting

Feb 4, Fri, 4p.m., Singles' Meeting

Feb 6, Sun, 9:30 a.m., Men's Club, Breakfast (p, h)

7:30 p.m., Yiddish Club meeting

Feb 7, Mon, 4:00 p.m. Investment Club meeting

Feb 10, Thurs, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors meeting

7:30 p.m. Singles' Valentine Party (p, a)

Feb 11, Fri, 8:00 p.m., Social Club, Movie Night (p, h)

Feb 12, Sat, 8:00 p.m., Men's Club and Womens' Club,
Valentine Party (p, a)

Feb 13, Sun, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Cancer Unit Jewelry Party

7:30 p.m., M.I.L.T. (non-members \$2, h)

Feb 15, Tues, 7:30 p.m. Social Club meeting

Feb 17, Thurs, 11:00 a.m., Cancer Unit meeting

Feb. 20, Sun., 9:00 a.m., Travel Club trip to Coconut Grove

7:00 p.m., Men's Club Bingo (p, h)

Feb 21, Mon, 3:00 p.m., Hadassah Study Group

Feb. 24, Thurs. 10 a.m. CPR class

Feb 27, Sun, 8:00 p.m. Social Club Show

Feb 28, Mon, 11:30 a.m., Hadassah meeting

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

Michael L. Levine

M.D., F.A.C.S.

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