

Majestic Isles News

March, 2010

Volume 13

Issue 6

Majestic Isles Men's & Women's Club

Parents Day

Delicious Buffet Brunch
Great Entertainment

Mom

When: May 2nd, 2010 11:30-2:30

Dad

Where: Boca Greens Country Club
Kimberly Blvd & 441

Grandma

Couvert: \$25.00

Grandpa



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*For photos, information
and back issues of our
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www.majesticisles.com

The M.I. Newsletter is
financially self-sustaining.
All expenses are covered
by advertising revenue.

Manager's Corner

Each month I try to use my newsletter article to provide useful and varied information - and hopefully some good reading - to the residents of Majestic Isles. I've offered tips for landscaping concerns, hurricane preparedness, securing your property when you leave for an extended period, and many other topics. Once in a while something comes along that I think will be useful to the entire community and I try to pass it along.

This month I want to focus on the Vial of Life. This is a form provided by the American Red Cross, Palm Beach County Sheriff, and Palm Beach County Fire Rescue that will help emergency personnel to help you if they are called to your home. The form has spaces to list your name, address, and phone numbers as well as your physician's name and phone number, major medical problems, current medications and where they are stored, allergies, date of your last tetanus booster, and your blood type. The information on the form is important for rescuers to know immediately at a time you might not be in condition to answer these questions yourself.

We have the Vial of Life packets available in the office for the residents. After you fill out the form (remember to update it as necessary), put it back in the zip-lock pouch, and use the enclosed magnet to stick it to the front of your refrigerator. There's a big red cross and the words "VIAL OF LIFE" on the outside of the pouch that makes it readily apparent to rescuers. We've already had one situation in which the paramedics were called the home of a resident who was unable to answer questions. Fortunately, the Vial of Life packet on the refrigerator had all of the necessary data. It only takes a couple of minutes to fill out the form. Having the correct information available and in a specific location saves time for emergency personnel and it could save your life.

Another suggestion brought to me by a resident is to use the "Buddy System." Pick out one person - friend, relative, neighbor - and make a pact to call each other at least once every day. Inform your buddy when you're going to be out of town for a few days. In the event that something does happen to you, your buddy can check your house if they can't get in touch with you by phone.

Stop by the office to pick up a Vial of Life packet and while you are at it, double check your Emergency Contacts list. The time it takes to fill out these simple forms will be well worth it... just in case.

Ken Miller, Association Manager

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BOOK

Unofficial Highlights of M.I. Board of Directors Meeting, February 4, 2010

Minutes of the January 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.

Manager's Report, Ken Miller

- Topics to be considered by Board: pavement striping proposals, concrete, exercise equipment.
- New auto flusher has been installed, golf carts have their yellow lights, Aspen has put better supports on the air handlers.

President's Report, Joel Rosenthal

- Received a request from the Social Club for more chairs.
- Correction of error made at the Jan. meeting: Steve Bayer is the COBWRA Delegate, Stan Brizel 1st Alternate, Barbara Goodman 2nd Alternate, Mitch Radin 3rd Alternate.
- Owners who have sandblasted their driveways will have to repaint or stain them as per the decision of the Board.
- Spoke with Comcast about \$6 bill for digital service in the office. We will be credited for it.

Treasurer's Report, Sy Kugelmas

- Prime has taken over bookkeeping and start-up issues are being resolved.
- Current outstanding maintenance payments total \$10,099.65. One unit, owing \$8,199.65, sent to our attorney. Will be put into foreclosure, if possible.
- Prime no longer accepts maintenance payments through internet or through old mailing address. Residents must change to current mailing address: Make sure to enclose coupons and put account numbers on your checks.

Current Cash position as of Feb. 4, 2010

Operating accounts	\$369,308
Reserve accounts	<u>147,514</u>
Total cash position	\$516,822

Statement of Operations as of January 2010

Total revenues	\$ 144,430
Operating and owners expenses	- 156,484
Net loss before reserves	- 12,054
Transfers to reserves	9,161
Net expenses over income (loss)	\$21,054

Finance Committee, Sy Kugelmas

- There is a 15-day grace period after the maintenance fee is due before a \$25 late fee is automatically imposed.
- Only Board of Directors has power to waive late fees.

Grounds Committee, Mort Goldstein

- Committee toured M.I. property, decided most of plants damaged by frost are recovering.
- Imperial Seas median renovation to start Feb. 8.
- New plantings have been approved and we'll start them soon.

Security Committee, Al Traum

- We have "OK – HELP" door hangers in case of a hurricane.
- COBWRA formed a "Safety & Security Awareness Committee" to share information about crimes occurring in the area.

Clubhouse Committee, Harvey Galan

- Clubs would like to purchase a dishwasher for the kitchen.
- May have red and black chairs reupholstered instead of purchasing new chairs for ballroom.
- Residents have requested fans for the upstairs card room.
- Will change lights in library to spot lights.
- Meeting with several decorators to decide on a course of action for the upstairs.

Documents Committee, Doris Davidoff

- Next meeting is Feb. 17 at 10 a.m.
- May change documents twice, once soon for immediate needs and later for things that can wait.

Painting Committee, Harvey Galan

- The painting and cleaning are in process.

Insurance Committee, Janice Davidson

- The only insurance claim we have had in the last three years is the water leak.
- There is a terrorist clause in the insurance policy that we need to either accept or decline. We're waiting for an explanation.
- We need people for the Insurance Committee. Meetings will be posted on Channel 63.
- Recently, when a resident had a recent medical emergency, the paramedics were pleased with how detailed the information on the Vial of Life was. It is a great idea to fill out these forms and have them readily available.

Old Business

- Motion to accept the Proposal by Hartzell for concrete work at the shuffleboard court passed by unanimous vote.

New Business

- Motion by Mort Goldstein to accept Walaczek's proposal for restriping the roads, if the application procedure is approved, passed by unanimous vote.
- Addendum to the agreement with Prime specifying that we will not have a bookkeeper on site passed by unanimous vote.

GOOD AND WELFARE

GET WELL

Jean Bezack Jack Moss
 Jerry Ehrlich Fran Weiner
 Duncan Hopwood

SYMPATHY

To Irene Ehrlich on the loss of her husband, Alan.
 To Marlene Garber on the loss of her husband, Harold.
 To Larry Goldstein on the loss of his wife, Merle
 To Esther Pierrilus on the loss of relatives and dear friends in Haiti.

MESSAGES

Majestic Isles, must be the most caring and loving community. Ray and I thank everyone who called, visited and sent get-well cards. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts
 Bernice & Ray Kozlin

Thanks a million to everyone who sent me cards and offered support during my recent surgery and hospitalization.
 Betty Kula

The family of Joe Schultz would like to thank all their Majestic Isles friends and neighbors for the sympathy cards and donations that they received.
 Alice Schultz

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.



SECURITY

By Al Traum

Garage Doors

As I drive through our community, I notice a lot of garage doors that have been left open. When you are not in the garage, please make sure that the door is closed. After getting out of your car and before entering your home, close the garage door. This is for your safety.

Let's continue to keep our community safe.

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

By Ken Keller, Captain



An octagonal sign with the word STOP is a traffic control method designed to prevent accidents. Here in Majestic Isles, we have had some very close calls because drivers did not stop, but rather fast-rolled through stop signs.

One of the corners that has seen these near misses is the intersection of Imperial Seas Boulevard with Royal Caribbean Circle and Grand Harbour Circle. Another bad spot is the intersection of Imperial Seas Boulevard with Emerald Cay Terrace and Grand Harbour Circle.

Please – let's not create a new statistic. Observe the stop signs and tell your guests to do the same.

Prevent accidents by observing the traffic rules.

WALKING YOUR DOG? THEN WHAT?



Picking up after your dog will help keep Majestic Isles clean and attractive. After you've picked up after your dog, please **dispose of the package in your garbage can.**

Some people have been putting the droppings around the trees or in the gardens of the public areas. Not only can this actually harm the vegetation, it is also offensive in odor and attracts flies and vermin. Please be considerate of your neighbors – and also remember that failure to dispose of the droppings properly makes you subject to a \$200 fine under Palm Beach County law.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS MARCH 14, 2010

On March 14, turn your clocks ahead an hour, effectively moving an hour of daylight from the morning to the evening.

MATURE DRIVERS' COURSE

By Fred Oestreicher



The next Mature Drivers' class will take place on Monday and Tuesday, May 3 and 4 in our clubhouse from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

A list of the residents who took the test in May 2007, along with full instructions, will be posted on the bulletin board in the back lobby of the clubhouse during the fourth week of March. If you are on the list and plan to take the class, just check off your name. A sign-up sheet will be provided for those who are not on the list, but plan to take the class.

If you are uncertain whether it has been three or more years since you took the class, you may call your insurance company to verify the issue date of your last certificate.

The fee is \$10/person. Checks payable to the Palm Beach Safety Council should be placed in the C.O.P.'s mailbox in the back lobby.

The state of Florida mandates that you receive a discount on your car insurance if you take this course. A certificate will be issued upon completion of the course.

Call Fred Oestreicher (734-5169) for further information.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

Compiled by Josh Katz

I used to work in a fire hydrant factory. You couldn't park anywhere near the place.

I bought some batteries, but they weren't included, so I had to buy them again.

For my birthday I got a humidifier and a dehumidifier. I put them in the same room and let them fight it out.

I went to a general store, but they wouldn't let me buy anything specific.

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WATER – WE NEED IT!



You may have noticed that once again, this winter hasn't brought South Florida all the water we need. We can't make it rain, but we can make what we have last longer.

Most people in North America use 50 to 70 gallons of water indoors each day and about the same amount outdoors, depending on the season.

Remember, **every drop helps**, so here are some suggestions:

- Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush. There is no need to keep the water running while brushing your teeth. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.
- Rinse your razor in the sink. Fill the sink with a few inches of warm water. This will rinse your razor just as well as running water, with far less waste of water.
- Use your dishwasher and clothes washer for only full loads. Automatic dishwashers and clothes washers should be fully loaded for optimum water conservation. Avoid the permanent press cycle, which uses an added 20 liters (5 gallons) for the extra rinse. For partial loads, adjust water levels to match the size of the load. If you're in the market for a new clothes washer, consider buying a water-saving frontload washer.
- Don't let the faucet run while you clean vegetables. Just rinse them in a stoppered sink or a pan of clean water.

SPECIAL ELECTION: U.S. Congressional District 19



Tuesday, April 13, 2010: Special general election to replace U.S. Representative Robert Wexler (D) who resigned his position on 1/3/10.

To vote in the special general election, you must be registered by March 15, 2010.

Candidates for U.S. Representative are: Ted Deutch (Democrat), Edward J. Lynch (Republican), Jim McCormick (NPA - No Party Affiliation) and Josue Larose (WRI)

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MEET THE STAFF



“By **Thelma Mechanic**” appears in almost every issue of the Majestic Isles Newsletter, atop one of the most popular features of this newsletter - Thelma’s heart-warming and entertaining human-interest articles. Thelma has been contributing to the newsletter for a number of years and always writes about subjects that appeal to all of us.

In recent months, Thelma has urged kindness to geckos, waxed nostalgic about the past while looking forward to 2010, and, most recently, discussed the topic of friendships. Her articles always manage to bring a smile to the reader’s face.

Thelma came from New York, where she attended New York University. After graduation, she worked as a copywriter for an advertising agency and while there, entered a contest and won a scholarship to attend a program through which she could learn more about advertising. These classes affected the rest of her life because the instructor emphasized “thinking outside the box,” a novel idea at that time. Thelma’s articles frequently include that kind of thinking.

After she married and had 2 sons, Thelma was a stay-at-home wife and mother until her husband’s untimely death at 38 changed all that. She returned to school, earned a Master’s Degree in Education, and worked as a guidance counselor in a middle school until she retired about 11 years ago and moved to Majestic Isles.

Thelma leads a very busy, active life and very much enjoys her retirement. But she still makes time to show us the joys and travails of everyday life and often passes on a chuckle, or two, when she puts pen to paper.

To find out how to share your version of “out of the box” thinking with your friends and neighbors call Phyllis Cohen (740-1960) or Betty Wachtel (739-6086). Shy about your writing skills? Don’t be – the editors will make any necessary corrections.



INVESTORS DISCUSSION GROUP

Al Silverman, Facilitator

The primary aim of the Investment Discussion Group is to discuss how the market functions, the various influences that may move the market, and to bring to your attention various securities that you may find interesting and worthy of your follow up. We encourage questions and commentary from all attendees. We do not make stock recommendations and we always use the expression, “DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH” if you want to consider any security for investment.

Many attendees have asked how to do research---and we have mentioned some sources of information in the past. At our meeting on Monday Feb. 8, 2010, we decided to dig a little deeper into “Elementary Research.” With the tremendous assistance of Doris Davidoff, we set up the meeting in the clubhouse ballroom, complete with the projection system and the stage screen to demonstrate a step-by-step method to research a security.

We discussed using a computer and web sites such as Yahoo Finance, CEF Connect, Quantumonline, Google, Windows Explorer, etc. It was pointed out that no system used to analyze a security is perfect. Some web sites may contain an error or two and we showed how to check them. However, it gives the investors a better knowledge of the security they may be considering---and it stacks the odds a little more in your favor.

For those who missed the meeting, or for those who have tried this research method and still have questions, we will review the subject periodically at our future meetings if requested. See y’all Monday, March 15, 2010 at 4:00 pm. (Note the date change.)

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FLAVORS OF FLORIDA

By Donna Shaneson

Last month, after I wrote about the Red Cross Show House, people told me how much they enjoyed this venue. Another Design House for all of you HGTV watchers can be seen through June 11th.

**DCOTA (Design Center of America),
1855 Griffin Road, Dania Beach
(954)-920-7997
www.dcota.com**

The Design Center of America is now showing a 15-room model house. It will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and on Saturday, March 6 and April 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission charge is \$10 per person.

**Museum of Lifestyle and Fashion History
Boynton Beach Mall
801 N. Congress Ave, Boynton Beach
561-243-2662.**

Visiting grandchildren may enjoy the Barbie golden anniversary exhibit, which will be on display through April 1 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Sunday hours are 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. The entrance fee is \$5.00.

**Festival of the Arts in Boca Raton
Count de Hoernle Amphitheater (north end of
Mizener Park
Boca Raton, Florida 33432
Phone: 1-866-571-ARTS (1-800-571-2787)
Fax: 561.961.2098
Email: www.festivaloftheartsboca.org.**

March is the month for "From Russia with Love," which will be presented March 6 through 18. Music, film, art, dance, and literature with a Russian theme will be featured. Many free films will be shown, including:

Saturday, March 6 – "Anastasia" at 1:30 p.m.

Monday, March 8 – "From Russia with Love" at 4 p.m.

Friday, March 12 -- "Dr. Zhivago" at 4 p.m.

As part of the festival, famed soprano Renee Fleming will be singing and the Russian National Orchestra will perform. Get the whole schedule of all the marvelous concerts, talks, and films by visiting the web site. Prices are also listed on the web.

**Historic Trolley Tour of West Palm Beach
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The tours, which take place aboard a signature bright-red trolley, entertain and educate guests about Downtown's historical buildings and landmarks. The trolley leaves at 4 p.m. on Fridays and 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays. There is a \$5 charge for adults; children ride free.

**West Boynton Library
9451 Jog Road, Boynton Beach
561- 734-5556.**

Nora Natke will lead a discussion of "Seeing" by [Jose Saramago](#) and Margaret Jull Costa on Thurs. March 11 at 2 p.m.

**Delray Beach Public Library
100 W. Atlantic Avenue
561- 266 - 0194,
www.delraylibrary.org**



As I've mentioned many times in this column, the Delray Beach Public Library has many activities. Stop in at the library and pick up a calendar of events or visit online. Here is just a sampling:

Thursday, March 4 at 12 noon: The topic of Lunch with Liz will be "All the World's a Stage," based on the insights of Glenn Close. The group is led by radio personality and columnist Liz Sterling.

Tuesday, March 9 at 6 p.m.: The Evening Book Group will discuss "The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit," by Lucette Lagnado.

Monday, March 22 at 1 p.m.: The Afternoon Book Club will discuss "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett.

**Delray Beach Film Festival
561-381-3212
www.delraybeachfilmfestival.com**

Call or go online for details of the fifth annual Delray Beach Film Festival, which will take place from March 22 through March 28.

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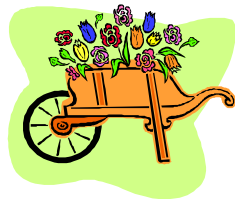
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Gardening in the Isles

*By
Stan Davidson*

What is special about shamrocks? Maybe it is all about the songs and mystique of four-leaf clovers. The plant folds its leaves in half each night or when it's cloudy. There is certainly a connection with St. Patrick's Day and leprechauns. Whether or not they are magical, shamrocks are beautiful and easy plants to grow indoors. They have few requirements to ensure their success.

The variety of clover most commonly grown as shamrocks for St. Patrick's Day is a four-leaf clover with pure white blossoms and compact growth (oxalis acetosella). They are not related to the clover we observe growing as weeds in our South Florida lawns. When purchasing a good oxalis plant in your gardening center, look for one with lots of new growth and emerging buds. No matter what you do, they have a tendency at times to look very tired and a bit droopy, so let them sleep. The plant is a bulb that requires a dormant period. Restrict all watering and fertilizing when the plant is dormant and store it in a cool and dark location for two to three months. As with any bulb, let the leaves die back naturally. Do not remove any leaves until they are brown. When new buds appear, you can start watering and fertilizing again or repot it, if necessary.

All shamrocks require lots of light to grow and to bloom well. They need to be kept slightly damp and prefer cool temperatures while in bloom. The plant grows well with average household humidity; however, an occasional misting is welcomed. During the winter and spring months feed them once a month with a balanced liquid fertilizer (20-20-20). When the plant stops blooming, it is advisable to reduce the fertilizer to every other month. Shamrocks should be grown in a soilless potting mix that provides good drainage. When repotting after the dormant period, in order to propagate new plants, the bulbs that are barely under the soil surface can be divided.

Hopefully, the shamrock will reward you with leaves and perhaps flowers in time for St. Patrick's Day. Be patient, since the dormant period only occurs twice or three times a year.

Green is the color of life and growth. The leaves of the four-leaf clover symbolize Faith, Hope, Love and Luck. If you desire all of these on St. Patrick's Day, you should be wearing a touch of green on this day, a tradition that dates back to the 1700's.

Happy Gardening!!

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MORE THAN THE BIG BAND ERA

By Josh Katz

JAN SAVITT



Jan Savitt (real name Jacob Shumsk) and His Top Hatters emerged as one of the country's leading orchestras during the late 30s. Savitt, who was classically trained, had no background in jazz, but his use of a musical device called "shuffle rhythm" allowed his

group to swing with the best of them. This device, featuring a piano playing double time, gave the orchestra a different sound.

Born in Russia, where his father had been a drummer in the Imperial Regimental Band of Tsar Nicholas II, Savitt immigrated to the United States with his family at age fifteen. Hailed as a child prodigy on the violin, he won several scholarships to the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia and later became the youngest person to perform with the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra.

In 1926 Savitt organized his own string quartet, which earned a spot on a national radio series and won the Philharmonic Society's Gold Medal Award. These achievements caught the attention of local Philadelphia radio stations WCAU and KYW, where Savitt was offered employment as musical director. There he formed the Top Hatters. The group's most popular early hit was the highly swinging "720 in the Books," so named because that was the song's number in the band's catalogue.

Savitt's primary girl singer was the lovely Carlotta Dale. Sadly, though, a traffic accident effectively ended her career. She fell from a moving car that Savitt was driving. Savitt's early male vocalist and featured star was Bon Bon, a wonderful performer with a rich voice and one of the first African-Americans to work with a white band. After Bon Bon and Dale left the group, Savitt used a variety of vocalists, the most memorable of whom was actress Gloria DeHaven.

In the late 1940s Savitt found himself in debt to the IRS. To earn extra money he scheduled a series of one-night performances. During that tour, Savitt's life was tragically cut short at 41. He died of a cerebral hemorrhage while traveling to a show in Sacramento.

1950: TUESDAY 7 to 10 PM TV LISTINGS

ABC: Club 7, Can You Top This, Life Begins at 80, The Beulah Show, Buck Rogers.

CBS: The Stork Club, The Faye Emerson Show, The Vaughn Monroe Show, Suspense, Prudential Family Playhouse.

NBC: Kukla Fran and Ollie, The Original Amateur Hour, Armstrong Circle Theater, Suspense, The Little Show.

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Don't Touch That Dial

Which Twin Has The Toni?

Fly the Friendly Skies (United Airlines)

Where's the Beef?(Wendy's)

ALICE BLUE GOWN

Remember this lovely waltz? People have often wondered about the origin of the title. Well, Alice Blue Gown was named after Alice Longworth Roosevelt. Alice was the daughter of President Theodore Roosevelt.

SOME MORE REAL NAMES

Ice - T	Tracy Marrow
Elton John	Reginald Dwight
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Spike Jones	Lindley Jones
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Danny Kaye	David Kaminski
Georgia Gibbs	Fredda Lipschitz

DOESN'T SOUND RIGHT

James Durante	King Jimmy Bible
Richard Tracy	Dick the Lionhearted
John Carson	Pope Johnny

FRED ALLEN

I'm sure most of us remember Fred Allen and his famous Allen's Alley routine on the Texaco Star Theater. Do you remember?

Kenny Delmar as Senator Claghorne

Parker Fennell as Titus Moody

Minerva Pious as Mrs. Nussbaum

Peter Donald as Ajax Cassidy

Alan Reed as Falstaff Openshaw.



By Mel Burstein

Do you know if you have to file a 2009 Federal Tax Return? Below is a schedule of your filing status and the amount of gross income you must have in order for you to file.

Single	Married, filing jointly	Married, filing separately
	 \$ 3,650
Under 65..... \$ 9,350	Both spouses under 65..... \$18,700	
Over 65..... 10,750	One spouse over 65..... 19,800	
	Both spouses 65 or over..... 20,900	

A return must be filed if you have net earnings from self-employment in the amount of \$ 400.00 regardless of your filing status and other gross income you have. There are other filing requirements that require a tax return to be filed but the above are the main categories.

I have been asked time and time again by taxpayers “ What tax bracket am I in?” This is something that you should know because it can help you make future financial decisions. Below I have listed a few of the main tax brackets for 2010 that will pertain to most of you.

	Net Taxable Income	Tax and Brackets
Single	Not over \$8,375	10% of taxable income
	Over \$8,375; not over \$34,000	\$837.50 plus 25% of the excess over \$8,375
	Over \$34,000; not over \$82,400	\$4,681.25 plus 25% of the excess over \$34,000
Married, filing jointly	Not over \$16,750	10% of taxable income
	Over \$16,750; not over \$68,000	\$1,675 plus 15% of the excess over \$16,750
	Over \$68,000; not over \$137,300	\$9,362.50 plus 25% of the excess over \$68,000
Married, filing separately	Not over \$8,375	10% of taxable income
	Over \$8375; not over \$34,000	\$837.50 plus 15% of the excess over \$8375

What income is nontaxable? Generally, most income you receive is taxable. There are some types of income that are not taxed at all. Here are a few of them:

- Child support payments,
- Gifts, bequests and inheritances,
- Welfare benefits,
- Compensatory damage awards for physical injury or sickness,
- Cash rebates from a dealer or manufacturer,
- Tax exempt interest from municipal bonds and tax exempt mutual funds. Although this interest is usually not taxed, it must be reported on your tax return.
- Life insurance proceeds paid because of the death of the insured person, unless the policy was turned over to you for a price.

Income to be included on your tax return may be in a form other than cash, such as barter. The fair market value of goods and services exchanged is fully taxable.

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SNOW DAZE

By Phyllis M. Cohen

Have you had enough yet? Of the cold weather, I mean. If you are like me, you probably complained all summer about how hot it was, and how long. In December, the temperatures were still running in the high 80's, to the delight of my visiting grandchildren who spent all their time at the beach. My Boston daughter, of course, kept "kvetching" about how hot it was in our house (air conditioning set to 78) and how humid.

But Mother Nature has a way of getting even with us, sooner or later. In January the temperatures plummeted and our weather forecasters began to wax rhapsodic. It doesn't take much to excite our weathermen since most of the forecasts are a variation of "hot" and "hotter." 30's and 40's became the new norm and, for a while, it was fun. We dug out old sweaters, sweatshirts and scarves that had been buried in drawers since we moved down here, substituted hot chocolate for gazpacho, and huddled in blankets while we watched TV.

After a week or so, most of us started noticing how unprepared many Floridians were for long periods of winter temps. The only people doing the happy dance were the people over at FPL as they watched the meters going round and round racking up kilowatts. Power outages, the kind we have in the summer when everyone has their air conditioners on, occurred. Fires threatened homes where people used electric heaters to keep warm, and crop damage was predicted.

Our worries soon seemed insignificant. The snow gods unleashed powerful storms across the country, dumping tons of snow in cities where a few inches was considered a major storm. Blizzard conditions in places like Washington D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia and even southern cities like Atlanta and Dallas reminded me of past winters up north.

Though I had grown up in New York City, I never remember snow as an inconvenience. Who had ever heard of a "snow day?" (The great blizzard of 1947 occurred on December 26 and 27, paralyzing the city, but schools were already closed for vacation). No one would think of staying home from work, and all children walked or used public transportation to go to school. The worst thing about winter weather for me as a child was wearing those heavy lisle stockings (alas, no tights or slacks in those days) and those clunky galoshes you wore over your shoes. The

galoshes were invariably hand-me-downs, either too small or too big, and the stockings, supported by garters, were always drooping.

And then there was Massachusetts, my home for 30 years. My father-in-law handed us a shovel as a wedding gift as we left for Massachusetts the day after we were married! What a sign of things to come. Ah snow, big storms, little ones, starting some years in early November, falling as late as Mother's Day one season. Anyone who lived through the Blizzard of '78 still remembers the events of that unexpected snowfall. Since it fell during the height of the rush hour, hundreds of cars and trucks were stranded on all the major highways, and drivers were trapped in their vehicles or took refuge in any open store or building they could find. People talked of spending three days in supermarkets or restaurants or huddled in their cars until they were rescued.

I recall those little things: Snow scrapers and warming up the car. Black ice and spinouts. Trying to dress three toddlers in snowsuits and boots, and then undressing them minutes later to go to the bathroom. Shoveling out the driveway for hours only to have the snowplow fill it in instantly as it cleaned the street. Driving down Commonwealth Avenue and passing a fire scene where a parked car in front of the building—completely covered in snow—was now encased in ice from the firemen's hoses.

Soon, our cold days will grow warmer. The snows over the Mid-Atlantic states and the South will melt or be removed, further draining the coffers of beleaguered cities. Washington D.C. will stop looking like Moscow and the cherry blossoms will return. And maybe, just maybe, the rhetoric will subside. Who knew that even snow could be a political issue? You've heard the comments. *It costs too much to remove. Why isn't my street plowed? We need more federal funds. I told you there was no such thing as global warming.*

For my part, I promise not to grouse about the weather — until the hurricane season arrives.



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When Plans Go Awry VANCOUVER WINTER OLYMPICS

By Thelma Mechanic



Hype and hoopla always dominate sports news. Witness Super Bowl 44, which this year lived up to the media hype with an exciting game featuring two star quarterbacks.

Now, as I write this, we are witnessing the highly anticipated Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia.

From the very beginning — the Opening Ceremonies — plans did not bode well. This was the first time in Olympic history that the opening ceremonies were held indoors. It was a laser-lit spectacle that viewers watched with anticipation until the last laser was lit (with great difficulty).

In addition, the weather forecast was disappointing for a winter Olympics. High temperatures reigned, in the 40's, plus rain and clouds, which would cause many delays. Snow had to be trucked in to the ski areas, and ski technicians had to be called in to prepare the slopes.

The worst blow to the Olympics was devastating. During a practice run, a 21-year-old Georgian luger died in a violent crash on a perilous course. The President of the Olympic committee Jacques Rogge sadly announced, "This most certainly cast a shadow over the games." Indeed it did. The Georgian competitors wore black armbands during the opening ceremonies.

So there you have it, even before a single medal had been awarded, officials had to cope with an athlete's death, a maddening lack of snow, and the challenges of following the spectacular Beijing ceremonies.

In addition, American potential gold medalist Lindsay Vonn bruised her shin during a practice run for her downhill event and American speed skater Shani Davis pulled out of his second race, in order to save himself for later races.

Competition is obviously keen in an Olympic event with the best vying against the best. Imagine winning a gold medal by 1/100th of a second. It has happened! Every split second counts in tight competition. Therein lies the excitement and the disappointment. Athletes train long and hard for supremacy in their sports. Once the games begin, the pressure to achieve world-class status increases.

It's an honor to represent one's country, but it takes skill and daring to compete. For example, the men's downhill vertical drop is greater than the combined heights of the Eiffel Tower and the Empire State Building. Whew! Luge competitors travel up to 90 miles per hour on the icy and dangerous slopes.

At this writing, we have yet to see the outcomes for many athletes. There are many competitions yet to go in snowboarding, speed skating, ski jumping, Alpine skiing, luge, biathlon, free-style skiing, and ice dancing.

David Johnson, an Economics professor at Colorado College, has an accuracy rating of 94% predicting winners in the last five Olympics. His forecast? He says Canada will win more medals than any other country (27), just edging out the USA and Norway. We have yet to see how accurate he is!

P.S. Fate has a way of changing things! The U.S. has done very well, and Canada, alas, not so well. But all of the athletes are wonderful



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VISITING

Ed and Harriet Strauber

By Claire Deveney



Ed and Harriet Blank Strauber have acted, sung and danced in a variety of M.I.L.T. productions. Ed is now developing new shows based on early, popular radio and TV programs.

Harriet and Ed were both born and raised in Brooklyn.

She went to Lafayette High School and graduated from Brooklyn College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education. Harriet taught third, fourth and fifth grade at the Red Hook School in southern Brooklyn.

Ed graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School, class of 1953, attended Brooklyn College for two years, then earned a Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy from Long Island University in 1959.

On Friday, Dec. 13, 1957, a cold, snowy evening, Ed's classmate at Brooklyn College, Marvin Sorkin — now an M.I. neighbor — convinced Ed to attend a college mixer. Ed says, "I saw this pretty blonde and asked her to dance." He decided to stay at the party when Marvin, who was driving, left earlier. Ed escorted Harriet home by bus and then, after midnight, took two buses home — a trip that took over an hour. Subsequently, Ed took many bus trips to Harriet's home.

After college, Ed worked in the Catskills and proposed to Harriet by mail. They married in Brooklyn on July 10, 1960 — their 50th wedding anniversary is this year!

Ed began his pharmacy career working in Nassau Drug Store on Nassau Street in lower Manhattan, where he did his six-month internship. He passed the New York State licensing state exam in 1960. He joined the Army reserves in the spring of 1961 and became a "weekend warrior" at Camp Drum in Watertown, N.Y.

The Strauber's son, Stephen, and his wife, Cheryl live in Denver, Colorado, with their children, Terry, 11, Katelyn, 9, and Aaron, 7. Their daughter, Wendy, and her husband, Marc, of Plainview, Long Island, became proud parents of a baby boy, Logan, born 12/24/09.

Harriet taught before her first child was born, and then became a full time homemaker. When the children were ages 12 and 15 she returned to work part time as a bank teller for eight years, then worked as a office manager for a busy two-physician OB-GYN practice.

Ed worked at Nassau Drug Store for six years and at another pharmacy before buying a partnership in a pharmacy in Greenwich Village near Washington Square, where he worked happily for 23 years.

Anticipating changing times, Ed sold his partnership in 1996 at age 58 and worked part time while looking for a full-time position in a difficult economy. At the same time, he and Harriet purchased their vacation home in Majestic Isles. Ed said, "The need and future growth for pharmacists was here in Florida. So I applied and got a job immediately, and said to Harriet, 'I guess we are moving.' We signed and moved into Majestic Isles full time in June 1996 and I began my pharmacist job at Wal-Mart that Monday and worked for 13 years, full time for 10 years and then part-time one or two days a week until recently.

"I'm really enjoying myself and love it, now that I'm not working for the last four or five months," Ed remarks. "I swim and go the gym at the Y two or three times a week, am very active with M.I.L.T. and am more active at my synagogue."

Ed's father, a salesman, also had a tap dancing school. Ed didn't take up tap dancing until he moved to M.I. He and Phil Chermak, Mel Burstein, Erwin Silling, Herb Levin and Ted Kotsonis took tap from Josette for an M.I. show. Ed demonstrated his new skill to his father, who gave him some advice about smiling at the audience, enjoying yourself, and "selling it" to the audience! Ed's Dad lived to age 96. Ed enjoys tap dancing and practices in his garage on a plywood floor he installed because concrete hurt his knees and ankles.

Ed loves preparing for M.I.L.T. performances. "It's more fun in the rehearsals and practicing." Harriet has performed in a number of M.I.L.T. shows. In the November production of the "Retrial of Harvey Bernstein," she sang a number of songs, including "Crazy," a song made popular by Patsy Kline. She took tap and ballet in her 30s and 40s and resumed tap five years ago. She performed tap dancing in M.I.L.T. shows including "Roxie."

Harriet is one of the original founders of the M.I. Cancer Research Unit of the Pap Corps and oversees all sales and orders of tribute cards. She is a member and past president of the Women's Club. Harriet also enjoys canasta, mahjong and knitting for family and neighbors. In ceramics class here, she created a colorful collection of ceramics that decorate her kitchen and a three-foot tall seated giraffe placed in the dining room.

Ed and Harriet challenge themselves and enjoy everything they do. They also extend themselves to others and encourage and assist them in their activities.

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Making The Most Of YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE

By Paul Mendlesohn



Despite all the current discussion about health insurance, many people are unaware of the benefits and provisions of their existing policies. Therefore, they may be denied claims or may be paying out of pocket for services that could have been reimbursed.

It is most important to be familiar with your policy coverage, including the deductibles, copayments, limits, and catastrophic provisions. These should be clearly stated in the information that your insurer or employer has provided you. Medicare recipients receive an annual copy of the booklet "Medicare and You." This outlines the coverage of this Federal program whether you are a Medicare beneficiary by age, by having end-stage renal disease, or are a Medicare-eligible Social Security Disability Annuitant. (Medicare is not to be confused with Medicaid, which is a program for low-income individuals/families, and is jointly funded by the federal and state governments.) If you are a Medicare beneficiary your coverage is quite different depending on whether you are in traditional Medicare or are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan (a managed-care-plan). Medicare Advantage enrollees, should also have a booklet from their plan.

It is important to keep your current insurance information booklets in a place where you can easily find them if you have a question regarding your policy. If you do not have a current booklet, contact your insurer, employer or union and request one. For Medicare call 1-800-MEDICAR(E) (1-800-633-4227). The booklets also have numbers and addresses to contact with questions. Most insurance companies also have websites with more specific information (for Medicare go to www.medicare.gov.) Sometimes, insurers issue newsletters, bulletins or updates that clarify benefits and these should be filed with your booklets.

Always carry your medical insurance identification cards in your wallet/purse. As you would with a credit card, make sure you have a copy of both sides of your ID card and staple it to your benefits book so you will have your number should you misplace your

card. Also include a copy with the "Vial of Life" materials you have for paramedics. (See Ken Miller's article on page 2 of this newsletter.)

Periodically review your benefits booklet to be sure you know not only your coverage, but also from whom you may receive services (this includes physicians, therapists, hospitals, home health agencies, medical suppliers, pharmacies, etc.) With most insurance plans, if you use an unauthorized provider, your bill may not be paid or may be paid at a decreased amount and usually the provider may hold you responsible for your bill. As a double check, always ask your provider before receiving services, if they accept your insurance.

When you are admitted to a hospital, it is important to make it clear that you only want providers who accept your insurance, and if no provider who accepts your insurance is available, you want to be advised in advance. Many times anesthesiologists, pathologists and radiologists do not accept assignment or are not preferred providers. Also, note if your physician uses an outside laboratory and if your policy includes prior authorizations or mandatory second opinions for certain services or procedures. Many managed care plans, as well as some other providers, require that you receive an authorization before you can see a specialist. Again, if you fail to follow the requirements, you may be responsible for a larger part of the bill than if you had followed the rules, or you may even have to foot the whole bill.

In my next newsletter article, I will focus on the importance of maintaining good records and discuss how best to do that. Future articles will discuss reconsideration and appeals processes, considerations in selecting insurance plans, communication with health care advisors, and other health insurance related topics.

In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding your health insurance you may contact me at 561-292-3013 or by email at pdm2330@aol.com.

(Paul Mendelsohn is a resident of Majestic Isles. Before retiring, for over 30 years he was an epidemiologist/health insurance specialist for the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services where he was involved in Quality Assurance, Beneficiary Outreach, and managed the End-Stage Renal Disease Network Program. At the time he retired, he was the Special Assistant to the Administrator for Disability Issues and Outreach. Currently Paul does workshops on health insurance and disability sensitivity/awareness.)

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FOR THOSE BORN BEFORE

1945

Consider the changes we have witnessed:

We were born before commercial television, before polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill.

We were born before radar, microwave ovens, credit cards, pocket calculators, personal computers, split atoms, laser beams and ball-point pens; before pantyhose or nylons, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip dry clothes, detergents and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first, and lived together afterwards.

In our time, closets were for clothes, not for “coming out of.” Bunnies were small rabbits and Rabbits were not Volkswagons. Designer Jeans were scheming girls named Jean or Jeanne, and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along well with our cousins. Watches and clocks were wound up to make them work and there was nothing digital.

We were before house-husbands, person-hole covers, gay rights, computer dating, dual careers, and commuter marriages. We were before day-care centers, group therapy and nursing homes. We had never heard of FM radio, Hi-Fi, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yogurt, and guys wearing earrings. For us, time-sharing meant togetherness, not computers or condominiums; a chip was a piece of potato or a bit of wood; hardware meant hardware and software wasn't even a word. MS meant manuscript and gay meant happy and lighthearted.

In 1940, “made in Japan,” meant junk and “making out” referred to how well you did on your exams. Instant coffee and McDonalds were unheard of. Then there were five and ten cent stores where you could buy things for a dime or less. Ice cream cones went for a nickel or a dime. With a nickel you could ride a streetcar, make a phone call, buy a Pepsi, or buy enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards. If you were well off you could buy a Chevy Coupe new for \$600 and the gas for it cost 11 cents a gallon. Automatic transmissions and air conditioning hadn't yet arrived.

In those days cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was mowed, Coke was a cold drink and pot was something you cooked in. Rock music was Grandma's lullaby and aids were helpers in the principal's office. We knew the difference between the sexes, but we were before sex change. We just made do with what we had, and thought you needed a husband to have a baby. Yet, we have survived.

Thank you to Walter Lippman for passing this along.



EXERCISE YOUR BRAIN ONLINE

Reprinted with permission from
“Parade Magazine,” June 10, 2010



People who have not yet ventured onto the Internet now have a new reason to do so. Research suggests that surfing the Web may help your brain function better.

A new study looked at brain activity in 24 adults—the youngest 55, the oldest 78—as they surfed the Net. Half the group were daily users. The other half were “newbies,” or first-time users. Participants spent an hour a day for a week performing Internet searches. At the beginning and end of the experiment, each subject underwent a brain scan.

At the start, the newbies' brains showed significantly less activity in areas involved in working memory and decision-making, compared with the more experienced users. By the end of the week, however, their brain patterns were quite similar to those of the old hands.

As we age, our brains undergo changes in structure and function that affect memory and decision-making, as well as other complex tasks. The authors, who presented their results at the Society for Neuroscience annual meeting, suggest that Internet searching may be used as a brain exercise in older adults—and speculated that doing so may even delay the onset of dementia.

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MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER General Meeting, Feb. 14th, 2010

By Selma Friedman



We shared it "One More Time" and rightfully so. Director Arlene Levin and Music Director Selma Friedman orchestrated an entertaining evening of music, comedy and dance that had been performed before and delighted the M.I.L.T. audience again. As Co-President Lenny Schwartz said, as an opening welcome to the meeting, "I'm thrilled to see so many people here tonight."

Performing for the group were Mel Burstein, Selma Friedman, Francine Gitto, Linda Kessler, Herb Levin, Nancy Levitan, Isabel Lubchansky, Norma Schneider, Fran Silling, Erwin Silling, Gloria Steingart and Ed Strauber. Providing technical support were Marty Baron, Doris Davidoff, Buddy Koch, Barbara Portnoff, Ira Schneider, Ed Strauber and Milton Swersky. Well done and thanks to all.

A nostalgic video clip showed our tap dancers "One More Time" and the audience loved it again. A special round of applause went to Joan Baron, Enid Bayer, Rita Dick, Phyllis Fishkin, Joan Peckins, Brenda Schreckinger, Elsa Stein and Harriet Strauber.

A particularly nostalgic moment came when we awarded a plaque to Fred Stein in honor of his founding of the M.I.L.T. club along with other members almost 15 years ago. Fred approached the Social Club and requested seed money to start M.I.L.T. as an organization independent of the Social Club. They agreed and the results have been tremendous. I know of no other community group that offers as many performance meetings as ours. May we keep going for many more years, and may many more join us. Fred and Elsa will be moving soon to Tennessee to be with family. We wish them well.

During the business portion of the meeting Gloria Steingart, Chairwoman of the Nominating Committee, read the proposed slate of officers for the following year: Co-Administrative President, Lenny Schwartz; Co-Artistic Presidents, Bill Broth, Bernie

Fishkin; Secretary, Francine Gitto; Treasurer, Ira Schneider; Parliamentarian, Milton Swersky; New Members-at-Large, Seena Calder, Selma Friedman, Arlene Levin, Ed Strauber, and Ex-Officio, Enid Bayer. Nancy Levitan and Josh Katz have one year left of their terms. There were no nominations from the floor and therefore the slate is accepted.

Once again we thank the Hospitality Committee for an outstanding "coffee and" which was not only tasty but also attractive. This committee is also ending their "term" and we thank Co-Chairs Marilyn and Phil Cermak and their staff of Marty Baron, Francine Gitto, Linda Kessler and Nancy Levitan for a wonderful year.

We are anticipating a wonderful performance March 27 and 28 of "Send Me No Flowers" to be directed by Ed Bloom assisted by Bill Broth, and produced by Fred Stein. Tickets are only \$5.

See you at our next general meeting in April!

GOURMET CLUB

By Joan Sorkin



At our recent meeting at the home of Judy Zied, our group nibbled on Artichoke Dip made by Seena Calder and sipped white wine while we awaited our Turkish meal. We started off with a collard green salad with rice and tomatoes made by Flo Kalestein. We all agreed that though collard greens were not our favorite vegetable, Flo's preparation was very tasty.

Dinner consisted of: Skillet Shrimp with Cermoula sauce made by Joan Peckins, zucchini vegetable fritters made by Judy and served with a yogurt sauce, and couscous stuffed tomatoes made by Seena Calder. In addition, there was chicken with dried fruit and pine nuts made by Janice Berger, and stuffed zucchini with meat and tomato sauce made by Joan Sorkin. Our newest member Paul Mendelsohn impressed all of us with homemade baklava with pistachio nuts and a dietetic rice flour pudding. We also feasted on chocolate and vanilla halvah. The baklava was outrageous and showed what an excellent cook Paul is and what an asset he will be in our group.

MAJESTIC ISLES HADASSAH

By Bobbe Greene



Doris Robin and Roberta Rabinowitz left no stone unturned to ensure that all who attended had a marvelous time at the annual card party/luncheon in February. The door prizes were numerous and the raffles were beautiful. Thanks gals, for a great job.

WOW, take a look at what our chapter has planned for the month of March:

March 11 at 1 p.m.: Dazzles, (at 2200 Glades Road #404 Glades Plaza in Boca), will have a showing of their unique clothing and accessories. Refreshments will be served and a percentage of all sales will be donated to Hadassah. RSVP Evelyn at 742-7230.

March 14: Adele Freitag will be honored at Broken Sound Country Club as our chapter's Woman of Valor. Contact Marge Rosin at 737-3378 if you would like to attend this event.

March 16, Tuesday: Rosh Chodesh, the gathering of the new moon, will be celebrated at 10 a.m. at the Morikami picnic area.

March 22: The Donor Luncheon will be held at Boca Pointe Country Club. Each Hadassah member that has earned \$150.00 in donor credit may attend the luncheon. If an additional \$175.00 has been earned one guest may be invited. Janice Davidson and Adele Freitag are chairing this event.

And on to April:

On **April 8** a party is being planned for Life Members.

On **April 27** Coldwater Creek is coming to Majestic Isles. Fashions for every figure and size will be featured and modeled by your friends and neighbors. A sumptuous hot and cold buffet luncheon will be served for \$25.00. Join us for a lovely afternoon. Mim Marder and Bobbe Greene will be chairing this function.

Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first.

Mark Twain

SINGLES SCENE

By Thelma Mechanic

The Single members who attended the Mykonos Dinner-Show on Sunday, February 7 will attest to the enjoyment of the function. Dinner offered many delicious choices, followed by a beguiling belly dancer.

At our last meeting, Al Traum, head of M.I. Security, offered valuable information to all singles. His presentation included the "Vial for Life" and the idea of a buddy system, both of which Ken Miller discusses in his article on page 2. Al also recommended sharing alarm codes (numbers) with a friend and using the alarm system at bedtime and during the day.

ATTENTION: SINGLE MEN: You are encouraged to attend our meetings. (See page 29). Both your participation and input to the group will be most welcome.

Mark your calendars for the following events:

March 5 (Friday): 5:30 Board meeting, followed by the 6:00 membership meeting with an interesting speaker on finances and investments followed by "Name that Tune." Prizes to the best team. Coffee and

April 10 (Saturday): Bruce Smirnoff, Rinker Playhouse. (1 Ticket available.) Call Roberta.

May 1 (Saturday): Norton Museum with Docent; meet at clubhouse 1:15 \$10.00 to Roberta if not already paid.

In the Works;

June 6: Mystery Bus Ride Trip

July 11: "Diva Duck" from City Place

October: Trip to Branson, 20 or more needed

We'll discuss details for these trips at the meetings.

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**Wanted –
SINGLE MAJESTIC ISLES MEN**

By Paul Mendelsohn

No, this isn't a dating service. The Majestic Isles Singles Club is for **both** women and men. It has wonderful activities that do not require a partner to participate. Programs include great trips, restaurant visits, fun activities, terrific speakers, live entertainment and show tickets.

Several men have reported that they have gone to attend a meeting, but on entering the ballroom saw this bevy of beautiful women – and no men. They quickly retreated, doing their rendition of the Michael Jackson moonwalk. Well men, the women have promised that they are not vamps and will not try to entice you with short dresses, décolletage exposure or captivating heavy perfume. They will not bore you or exclude you from conversation with topics like soap operas, vogue fashion, romance novels or Oprah and the View. So check the Majestic Isles calendar or Channel 63 and come check out the fun at the next Singles Club meeting. Look guys, we may even convince these gals to plan a trip to a Spring Training ballgame or a fishing trip.

The next Singles meeting is at 6 p.m., March 5, and includes a program on finances and investment.



MOVIES! MOVIES!



SATURDAY, March 6 at 8 p.m.:

GREY GARDENS Based on a true story, this made-for-TV, Emmy-winning drama stars **Jessica Lange** and **Drew Barrymore** as the aunt and cousin of Jackie Kennedy Onassis (**Jeanne Tripplehorn**), both named Edie Beale, who retreat from tony Manhattan society to a mansion in East Hampton, N.Y. After years in isolation, the women are thrust into the spotlight when journalists report on a series of health inspections that find the house -- and its owners -- in shocking disarray. **Ken Howard** co-stars.

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MAJESTIC ISLES SOCIAL CLUB

By Arlene Koch/Joan Sorkin

After a delicious glass of champagne, the 2010 Winter Series opened in our main ballroom to the sounds of the "Diamonds." The room was filled with the sounds of the 50's and 60's and the crowd was jumping. They were dancing in the aisles. What a show!!!

We are sure that our next performers, Renee Taylor and Joe Bologna will be just as enjoyable.

Although at the beginning of the season, Cory Kahaney's name might not have been familiar to you, every community is talking about her. Making the rounds, she is keeping audiences hysterical with her good humor and charming personality. Appearing along with Cory is a singing sensation from Israel named Shalva Berti. She delighted us at a showcase last year and wowed me (JS) again as cantor for a local synagogue for the High Holidays. If you miss this performance on March 21, you will be sorry. At \$25.00 per person, this is a great night of entertainment for all. Call now for tickets (Joan Sorkin, 733-8380)

The movies are increasingly popular and we want to thank our newest volunteers Doris Davidoff and Paul Mendelsohn who will be showing our movies along with Buddy Koch, Jerry Blacker, Ed Strauber and Jack Moss. As people are always travelling, getting sick, etc. we need as many volunteers as we can get to show movies twice a month. If you are interested, please call Ken Miller (424-0952) and set up a date to be trained.

Mark these future dates for more evenings of fun:

April 24 Greenwich Village folk singing comes to Majestic Isles. See the box on this page for details.

May 31 Memorial Day Party

July 4 Holiday Celebration

We have hired "Poppy" our wonderful band from our New Year's Party to help us celebrate on Dec. 31st 2010. We will be setting up committees soon. Won't you join us on this committee? Help is needed to run all our functions. Please volunteer to give us some time. As one new volunteer remarked: "Before I started to help I had no idea there was so much to do."

MAJESTIC ISLES SOCIAL CLUB

Announces

MAJESTIC ISLES COFFEE HOUSE

Starring Folk Singer

ROD MACDONALD

With

"SONGS OF GREENWICH VILLAGE"

One night only

April 24

Greenwich Village throughout the 60's featured many of the songs that shaped America's attitudes toward civil rights, peace, social justice, love and freedom. One of the singers performing in the Village was Rod MacDonald. We are thrilled to have him singing for us. Rod has performed in Europe and Australia as well as in South Florida. You won't want to miss this show!

SAVE THE DATE.... more details to follow

WOMEN'S CLUB

By Barbara Roland

We've canceled the Feb. 24 trip to Murder on the Beach Book Store because of a lack of interest.

We are looking forward to our Appreciation Luncheon at Boca Greens on **March 8**. This event is for members only.

On **April 12**, we will hold a canasta tournament at the clubhouse. Partners should put their checks in the same envelope. Bring canasta trays and we will supply cards. There will be cash prizes, and coffee and cake will be served.

The cruise which was to have been jointly sponsored by Women's and Men's Clubs has been cancelled because the cruise line changed the destination to one that was not popular with our members.

Keep **May 2** open for the Parents' Day event that we are co-sponsoring with Men's Club at Boca Greens. Additional information will follow.

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M.I. CANCER RESEARCH UNIT

By Bobbe Greene

Many thanks to the fabulous committee that arranged an unforgettable "Coins for the Cure" luncheon: Seena Calder, Joan Sorkin and Fran Ost, the chair-people who put together the elegant luncheon that people are still talking about; Bunny Eisenberg who created the lovely centerpieces; Saralee Weinstein who wrapping each gift item beautifully, and Ray Kozlin for the very attractive place cards. Not to be left out are our fundraisers who are at the helm for every occasion: Marion Brandwein, Edie Goodman, Barbara Lader and Simmy Rabinowitz. We look forward to a repeat performance by the great staff of In Good Taste, with catering by Stacy.

Thursday, March 25, 2010, will be Membership Appreciation Day, with a hot Chinese buffet luncheon in our Clubhouse at 12 noon. There will be a covert charge. Watch channel 63 for details.

Tickets for "Singing in The Rain" are completely sold out. Thanks to all who are participating.

The 10th Annual Walk-A-Thon and Health Fair will be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at the FAU-Boca Raton Campus. The program runs from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The registration of \$15 includes a complimentary continental breakfast, a tee-shirt, bottle of water, access to health fair with free health screenings, entertainment, and lectures by the Sylvester medical staff. For further info contact Enid 733-1187; Helen 733-4244; Sandy 742-5865 or Lois 742-8693.

On April 29, our next general meeting includes a light lunch at 12 noon and a guest speaker.

SAVE THE DATE:

May 13: Luncheon/card party at Benvenutos

May 27: Closing "Just Desserts" meeting

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Mark Twain

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TENNIS CLUB

By Bobby Blitman



The Tennis Club's first meeting was a big success. We had a large turnout to vote for the new board and elected Art Blitman, President; Shelly Kastner, VP; Sandy Kastner, Secretary; and Bill Weitzner, Treasurer. Jerry Cowan and Marshal Deutsch are members at large.

The new board decided to waive the 2010 dues for members who paid last year because there were so few meetings last year. We hope to have a full schedule this year. We need new members with fresh ideas to join.

One of the things we voted on was to have a lottery for the tennis courts. We have two women's groups wanting to play at the 9:30 session. Saturdays are the most crowded. Everyone wants to play at the same time. Let's hope that everyone is happy with the new system.

The new Har-tru looks and feels good under your feet.

REMEMBER: the server calls out the score after each point. Let's have fun and encourage good tennis etiquette and sportsmanship.

THE MEN'S CLUB

By Joel Cohen

The Men's Club will be making a trip to the Hard Rock Casino on Wed., March 24. The cost is still \$18 per person with includes \$15 in play money and \$5 meal ticket.

Because Celebration Line changed the itinerary for the cruise we were sponsoring with the Women's Club, we have cancelled the cruise. We will try to arrange another trip in the near future.

A further update will be on channel 63 shortly.

The Men and Women's clubs annual Parents' Day party will be on May 2nd at the Boca Greens Country Club. (See front cover)

Men's Club BINGO will be on April 18.

STRIKES AND SPARES

By Dave Feinberg



Just a reminder to all bowlers: **The annual dinner dance date is March 25 at 6 p.m.**

MEN

WOMEN

WEEK 19 – HIGH GAME

Al Lynn	188	Estelle Snyder	146
Fred Katz	183	Ruth Rossi	142
Bert Stillman	177	Shirley Scheffel	138

WEEK 19 – HIGH SERIES

Al Lynn	451	Estelle Snyder	391
Fred Katz	481	Ruth Rossi	386
		Shirley Scheffel	367

WEEK 20 – HIGH GAME

Bob Rosenhouch	180	Toni Kohn	157
Ted Shapiro	178	Eileen Mehlman	149
Bert Stillman	171	Ruth Rossi	140

WEEK 20 – HIGH SERIES

Bob Rosenhouch	480	Toni Kohn	403
Bert Stillman	499	Eileen Mehlman	372

WEEK 21 – HIGH GAME

Al Lynn	194	Estelle Snyder	154
Bob Rosenhouch	168	Shirley Scheffel	141
Dave Feinberg	155	Sandy Rosenhouch	138

WEEK 21 – HIGH SERIES

Al Lynn	442	Estelle Snyder	430
Bob Rosenhouch	473	Shirley Scheffel	352
Dave Feinberg	402	Sandy Rosenhouch	366

WEEK 22 – HIGH GAME

Bob Rosenhouch	176	Estelle Snyder	155
Bert Stillman	173	Shirley Scheffel	151
Bernie Kass	153	Sandy Gardner	138

WEEK 22 – HIGH SERIES

Bob Rosenhouch	489	Estelle Snyder	384
Bert Stillman	441	Shirley Scheffel	393
		Sandy Gardner	367

SNOWBIRDS

By Marilyn J. Levy



The Feb. 5 meeting of the Snowbird Club was very informative. Al Traum, head of Security at Majestic Isles, spoke to the members about leaving their homes for the summer.

Hurricane shutters cannot go up before June 1. Al stressed the wisdom of having a house sitter and the importance of registering with Bonnie before leaving the house for any length of time.

Irwin Finkelstein, aided by Joyce Spiess, Paula Stein and Joan Greenwald, have arranged a wonderful farewell party for us on Wednesday, March 10 at 6 p.m. at the Pavillion Grill. The Grill is located at 301 Yamato Road, Boca, in the Stonegate Bank Building Atrium at the corner of Yamato and Dixie Highway. There will be a three-course dinner and music for ballroom and Latin dancing. The cost is \$30 pp for club members and \$34 pp for nonmembers. Checks must be in by March 2. On the check indicate your choice of main course: fish, chicken, or grilled sirloin. Indicate with a "d" if you must have a sugar-free dessert.

We began to plan for the 2010-2011 season. We would like to have a welcome back brunch in the clubhouse on Friday, December 17, 2010. Other ideas were discussed and will be finalized at our Friday, March 5, meeting. Please attend so that we can have your ideas for next year.

Where in the world is BREEZY LAKE LANE?

"Breezy Lake Lane?" you may ask, but some Majestic Isles residents who have used Google to get driving directions know that it is right here in the community.

To leave Majestic Isles by way of the El Clair gate, Google advises people to turn off Grand Harbour Drive onto Breezy Lake Lane, the little strip of road that leads out onto El Clair Ranch Road. But wait – just up the road, a strip of road in Palm Chase Lakes is also Breezy Lakes Lane. Do you suppose that there are more of them, in other developments in the area?

Check out our website at
www.majesticisles.com

M.I. ART & CRAFT SHOW

Living in the "Isles" was made even more pleasurable on Sun. Jan. 31st. The annual Arts and Crafts show achieved its largest attendance as so many turned out to visit. New artists as well as those we have enjoyed in the past filled our ballroom.

Items on display ranged from pastels, watercolors, acrylics, oils, intricate wood puzzles, original jewelry, needlework, quilting, sewing, photography, leather animals, stone sculptures, and computer enhanced or generated photography and art.

We thank the following artists:

Sylvia Arbesfeld	Fanny Lust
Jean Bezack	Rita Marderstein
Sue Bieber	Marilyn Milano
Hilda Bluestone	Phyllis Moss
Phyllis Cohen	Jack Moss
Stan Davidson	Estelle Pincus
Bunny Eisenberg	Phyllis Pinsel
Irene Freedman	Joyce Rogers
Marilyn Friedberg	Ruth Rossi
Sandy Gardner	Stan Rothstein
Merle Goldstein	Rita Schneider
Sylvia Goldstein	Ron Seidler
Bill Harris	Estelle Snyder
Gerry Herman	Gloria Steingart
Sue Horowitz	Barbara Stiskin
Roberta Jaffie	Irving Sultan
Betty Kula	Judy Zeid
Martin Licker	

And to the volunteers who contributed their time and efforts: Bonnie Haberstick and Ken Miller, Mark Jaffie and Bernie Freedman and the art committee: Marilyn Friedman, Marilyn Milano, Roberta Jaffie and Irene Freedman

Refreshments were provided by the M.I. Social Club

Mixed-up Words – Rearrange the Letters

Dormitory	Dirty Room
Presbyterian	Best in Prayer
Desperation	A Rope Ends It
George Bush	He Bugs Gore
The Morse Code	Here Come Dots
Slot Machines	Cash Lost In Me
Snooze Alarms	Alas! No More Z's
A Decimal Point	I'm A Dot In Place
Eleven Plus Two	Twelve Plus One
The Earthquakes	That Queer Shake

SOCIAL NETWORKING FOR SENIORS

by Doris Davidoff

What is social networking and why should seniors care about it? Social networking is simply using web sites to stay in touch with other people. Young people are almost universally involved with social networking sites. It might interest you, however, to know that the fastest growing group of people on the major sites are seniors – especially senior women.

The best-known social networking sites are Facebook and Twitter. Another type of social networking that is popular is called a blog or blogging. I am frequently asked about Facebook, Twitter and about blogs, but in this article, I will focus on Facebook.

I first joined Facebook about a year ago when I received an invitation to become a friend of one of my closest friends in elementary school. I had tried for several years, after our 40th high school class reunion, to find her. She did not attend the reunion and I was curious to know if she was still living and how and what she was doing.

Suddenly, after I had given up on finding her, I received the invitation to be her Facebook friend. I immediately joined Facebook and looked up her profile. That gave me enough information to get her phone number. We spoke on the phone for almost an hour, catching up on all the years since we had last seen each other. It was a wonderful experience.

Just this past month, I received an invitation to befriend the daughter of a very close friend from many years ago. Again, I had lost touch with this person and had not been able to find her even after trying to do so. Again, I accepted the invitation and after getting her mother's phone number, had a wonderful, long conversation catching up.

In my opinion, this ability to get together with long-lost friends is one of the strongest reasons to become part of Facebook, but there are also other reasons.

I know much more about what some of my grandchildren are doing because I am their friend on Facebook so I can read what they post about their activities. Although they are posting this information for their own friends, I get to see it as well and it is information that they might not bring to the attention of their long-distance grandmother.

I now, after a little more than a year on Facebook, have about 150 friends in my system. These are friends from school, from the travel industry where I worked for 40 years and from clients I have worked with during that time as well as some relatives, including two of my grandchildren. There are even a few Majestic Isles people. Within the next year or two, I'm sure I will be adding two more grandchildren as they get old enough to take part in this activity.

As noted in another article in this issue, it has been proven that participation in online activities by seniors is very healthy. It helps protect against depression that is common to seniors and helps to keep the mind active and alert. The National Institute on Aging (NIA) has just granted \$1.9 million to study the ability of computer use and social media networking to enhance the quality of life of elderly adults through online social connections and easier access to health information.

Have fun – become part of the social networking world.

BOOK TALKS & MORE

By Rita Leidner



Save the date! On March 17 at 2 p.m., we will review the novel "The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society." Phyllis Cohen will be our facilitator.

This is not an ordinary book. The letters comprising this small charming novel begin in January 1946. London is beginning to recover from World War II. Juliet, who is a journalist, receives a letter from a man in Guernsey, a British island that was occupied by Germany during the war. The citizens there had formed a book club as a ruse. The club had served as a way for people to gather without raising the suspicions of the Nazis. Letters from Juliet to the people create the format of this book.

Please attend this valuable discussion. All are welcome to enjoy a wonderful and thrilling evaluation of a very unusual work of literature. Mark your calendar for March 17 at 2 p.m. in the ballroom.

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Mar. 1, 2010 - April 30, 2010



March

- Mar. 2**, Tues., 11 a.m., Calendar meeting
- Mar. 6**, Sat., 1 p.m. Cancer Unit, **“Singing in the Rain”** (p, a)
8 p.m. Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)
- Mar. 7**, Sun., 9:30 a.m. Men’s Club, **Breakfast** (p, h)
- Mar. 8**, Mon., 12 noon, Women’s Club, **Appreciation Luncheon** (p, a)
- Mar. 10**, Wed., time TBA, Snowbirds, **Farewell Dinner Dance** (p, a)
- Mar. 11**, Thurs., 1 p.m., Hadassah, **“Dazzles”** (p, a)
- Mar. 13**, Sat. 9 a.m., Cancer Unit, **Walk-a-thon @ FAU** (p, a)
- Mar. 15**, Mon., 3 p.m., Hadassah, **Study Group** (f, h)
- Mar. 17**, Wed., 2 p.m., Book Talks and More (f, h)
- Mar. 19**, Fri. 8 p.m. Social Club **Movie Night** (p, h)
- Mar. 21**, Sun. 8 p.m., Social Club, **Winter Show Series** (p, h)
- Mar. 22**, Mon. 11 a.m., Hadassah, **Donor Luncheon** (a)
- Mar. 24**, Wed. 10 a.m., Men’s Club, **Casino trip** (p, a)
- Mar. 25**, Thurs. 12 noon, Cancer Unit, **Member Appreciation Luncheon** (p, h)
6 p.m., Bowling group, **Dinner** (p, a)
- Mar. 27 and 28**, Sat. and Sun., 8 p.m., M.I.L.T., **“Send Me No Flowers”** (p, h)

MARCH GENERAL MEETINGS

- Mar. 5** Fri. 11 a.m. Snowbirds
Newsletter
- 6 p.m. Singles
- Mar. 7** Sun. 7:30 p.m. Yiddish Club
- Mar. 8** Mon. 4 p.m. Investment Group
- Mar. 17** Wed. 4 p.m. Computer Club
- Mar. 18** Thurs. 4 p.m. Tennis Club

APRIL GENERAL MEETINGS

- Apr. 9** Fri. 6 p.m. Singles
- Apr. 11** Sun. 9:30 a.m. Men’s Club
7:30 p.m. M.I.L.T.
- Apr. 12** Mon. 4 p.m. Investment Group
- Apr. 20** Tues. 7:30 p.m. Social Club
- Apr. 21** Wed. 4 p.m. Computer Club
- Apr. 22** Thur. 4 p.m. Tennis Club
- Apr. 29** Thur. 12 noon Cancer Unit

- Apr. 6**, Tues, 11 a.m., Calendar Meeting
- Apr. 8**, Thurs, 1p.m., Hadassah, **Life Member Party** (p, a)
- Apr. 10**, Sat, 8 p.m., Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)
- Apr. 12**, Mon, 12:30 pm, **Women’s Club Canasta Tournament** (p, h)
- Apr. 16**, Fri, Social Club, **Movie Night** (p, h)
- Apr. 18**, Sun, 7 p.m., Men’s Club, **Bingo** (p, h)
- Apr. 19**, Mon, 3 p.m., **Hadassah Study Group** (f, h)
- Apr. 21**, Wed, 2 p.m., **Book Talks** (f, h)
- Apr. 24**, Sat, 8 p.m., **Social Club Showtime** (p, h)
- Apr. 27**, Tues, 11:30 a.m., **Hadassah Fashion Show** (p, h)
- Apr. 29**, Thurs, 12 noon, **Cancer Meeting**

April

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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Rolling Back the Prices

BREAKFAST Starting at **\$2.99**
 7AM-11:30AM • With Coffee

LUNCH SPECIALS 11AM-3PM
 Soup and 1/2 Sandwich with Beverage.....\$8.99
 Your Choice of
 Tuna * Chicken * Egg * Crabmeat * Shrimp
 Roast Beef * Turkey * Ham
 (Brisket * Corned Beef * Pastrami \$1⁰⁰ Additional)
 Served w/Potato Salad * Cole Slaw & Pickle

DINNER SPECIALS
 Soup or Salad and Beverage.....3PM-7:30PM
 With Dessert

\$10.99

• BRISKET OF BEEF AU JUS	• LAMB SHANK OVER RICE
• TURKEY OVER STUFFING	• STUFFED CABBAGE
• ROAST SIRLOIN OF BEEF	• LIVER N' ONION
• ½ ROASTED CHICKEN	• CHOPPED STEAK
• MEAT LOAF	• BAKED SCROD

\$12.99

• VEAL MARSALA	• CHICKEN CHRISTINA
• VEAL PARMIGIANA	• TERIYAKI SKIRT STEAK
• SHRIMP SANTORINI	• BROILED SOLE
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