

# Majestic Isles News

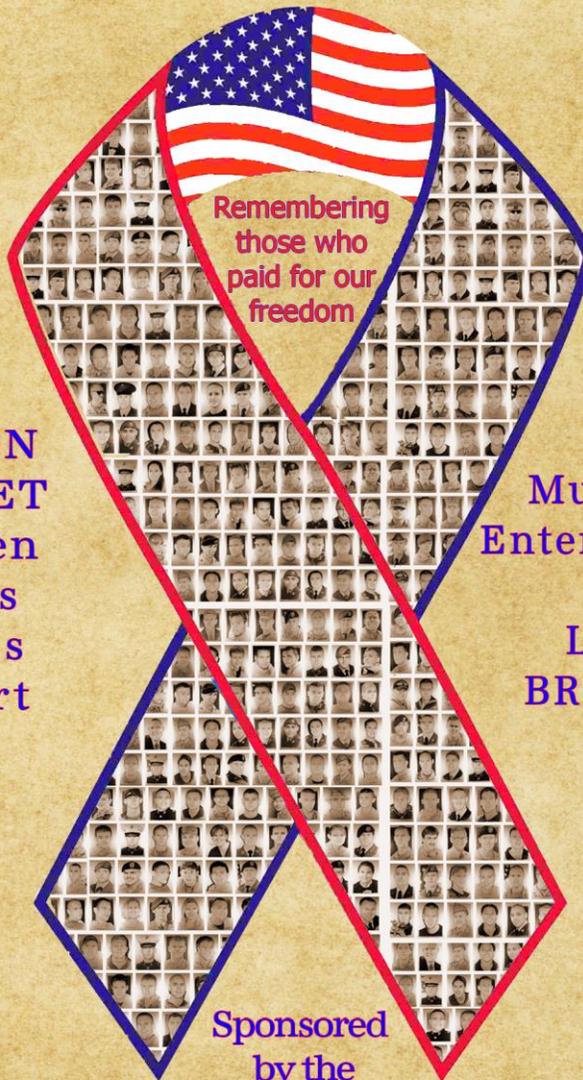
May 2015

Volume 18

Issue 8

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I am proud and very excited to introduce my daughter, **SUSAN LEVINE**, who is joining me in my Real Estate practice. Susan has an extensive background in marketing, and her experience will be a tremendous asset to me as I continue to serve my neighbors and friends in Majestic Isles.

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The M.I. Newsletter is  
financially self-sustaining.  
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**SAFETY IN THE ISLES**

**By Steve Bayer**

At the recent Safety and Security meeting of COBWRA representatives, Captain Chris Keane emphasized the fact that although most crime categories were trending downward, the incidents of vehicle burglaries was on the rise. If you don't lock your vehicle, you stand a good chance that the bad guys will rob your car. They just walk the aisles of parked cars and flip the door handle.

It's hard for me to believe, but the instances of people losing computers, wallets, cell phones and guns are staggering. **Please**, whether you are parked in your driveway, Publix or the local movie theater, make sure that you put your possessions in the trunk and most of all, **lock** your car.

Do you have a two-way voice emergency system? Whether it is with ADT/DEVCON or another vendor, please make sure that you are testing this alarm feature every month or two. It turned out that a problem was created when ADT purchased DEVCON and the computers didn't speak to each other properly. The glitch has reportedly been corrected, but I strongly recommend that you check the system. Just push your button and wait for the call over the two-way connection. Simply tell the operator that you are testing your system.

Please feel free to call me, Steve Bayer (737-0495), with your safety and security concerns or questions.

**GOOD AND WELFARE**

***GET WELL***

Helen Aldoroty      Sid Bedell      Marcia Brandfon      Buddy Koch  
Sandy Levine      Bobbie Rice      Rhoda Shenkman

***SYMPATHY***

To Frank Della-Lana on the loss of his wife, Mary.

***MESSAGES***

I want to thank my friends and neighbors for their cards and donations made in memory of my brother, Paul Vapnek. Thank you again.

*Sylvia Arbesfeld*

To my friends and neighbors in Majestic Isles: Thanks for your cards, donations and calls. They were very comforting.

*David Kanter*

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

## **M.I. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **APRIL 16, 2015**

*Minutes of the April 2015 meeting will not be available until the Board approves them at the next meeting. We include the unofficial and abbreviated notes below in order to inform residents in a timely manner.*

#### **Treasurer's Report, Saul Siegel**

*(Residents may request a report of the 4/16/15 cash positions.)*

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

- At the April 8 COBWRA Safety and Security Meeting, District 6 crime statistics were discussed. The only crime statistic that went up is car burglaries. In most cases the vehicles were left unlocked. Residents are reminded to lock their cars even when they're in their driveway.
- Boynton Beach Parks and Recreation is looking to build a County Park on Acme Dairy Road behind the Canyon Shopping Center.
- We had a radar trainer in here for two weeks, but it had little effect. Residents are still speeding down our streets.
- The daily Crime Mapping Report showed eight burglaries in Palm Chase Lakes; six were vehicle burglaries and two were home burglaries.
- Someone cleared off the back lobby bulletin board on the evening of April 15.

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

- The plantings along the Woolbright Road wall are doing well.

#### **Insurance Committee, Ken Keller**

- We will be continuing with most of the policies we have with the exception of Citizen's, which has been replaced by Heritage.
- We have added a clause that will cover us for mold and sewer back up. The contract with Palm Beach Water Utilities will be coming up for renewal and we're not sure what will happen with the lift station generator.

#### **ARC Committee, Mark Jaffie**

- All of the houses scheduled for painting in 2015 have been completed. No two adjacent houses are painted the same color.
- Cleaning notices for back patios have been sent out to residents.
- Many residents have begun using a new system for staining their driveways.

- The 2016 Paint Colors are the same as 2015. Please pick your colors early.

- The plant replacement from the roof cleaning is being checked. The final list will be given to M&P.

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

- As of April 1, 2015 there were nine new 2015 residents contacted and five visits completed.

#### **New Business**

- Harvey Galan read a letter dated March 23, 2015 notifying FirstService Residential of the intent to cancel their management services contract.
- Motion to terminate the management contract with FirstService Residential passed unanimously.
- Motion to ratify the signing of the Castle Management Contract as of May 1, 2015 passed by unanimous vote of the Board.
- Motion to fine a resident \$100 for excessive noise passed by unanimous vote.
- Motion to open the card rooms to guests as of April 1, 2015 passed by a vote of 5-2.
- Motion to spend \$861.85 for summer plantings in the signage areas at Woolbright and El Clair entrances and at the corner of Woolbright and El Clair passed by unanimous vote.
- Motion by Bill Broth to plant the area outside the multi-purpose room for \$632.50 passed unanimously.
- The cable negotiator will be here to discuss the cable negotiations on April 20 at 2 p.m.

### **WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS**

By Elaine Jay

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

Monica & Milton Ricciardi

### **Ronald Kertes, D.D.S., P. A.**

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**Needle Point Pictures**, 2 rattan upholstered chairs, antique lamps, good costume jewelry. Call Rhoda (731-2149).

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The newsletter staff thanks  
**Ken Miller**  
 for his monthly columns.  
 We wish him well!

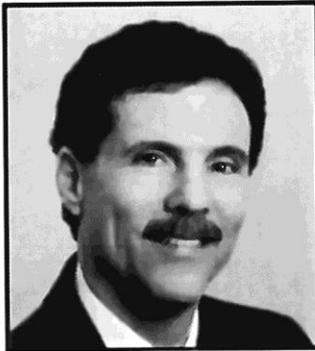
**COBWRA CLIPS**

*The full Highlights of the April 15 COBWRA meeting are on the back lobby bulletin board.*

- COBWRA is working to identify all parcels and tracts of land that are suitable for development so we avoid hit-and-miss development.
- COBWRA requested that the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser’s Office conduct an assessment of the financial contribution that COBWRA communities make to Palm Beach County. The report concluded if COBWRA were a municipality, it would be the fourth largest in the County.

**Parks And Recreation Director Eric Call** discussed the proposed Canyons Park, a 52-acre tract on Boynton Beach Blvd. and Acme Dairy Road. A funding mechanism such as a bond issue or sales tax will be required to meet the countywide parks needs. Passage of a \$100 million bond issue would cost the average homeowner, with a Homestead Exemption, \$5 per year. Mr. Call is considering requesting that the County Commission place a bond issue for the development of additional parks and recreational facilities on the November ballot.

To **Esther Pierrilus**  
 and **Paul Narine**  
 Thank you and Best Wishes!



# Steven J. Levine

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## APPRECIATION OVERDUE

By Barbara Lader

Majestic Isles residents are fortunate to have volunteers who contribute their time and talent to make living here a pleasure.

Are you one of our homeowners who remembers being welcomed to our beautiful community just before or soon after arriving? While you were in the midst of boxes all around you or trying to decide into which cabinet to place dishes, utensils, pots and pans—as well as where to place furniture—did you receive a telephone call asking if you would like a visit from a neighbor to let you know about the variety of social opportunities here? Not only were these volunteers ready to provide information about our assortment of clubs and events, and if needed how to obtain help from the clubhouse office, they also made available a condensed version of our Rules and Regulations.

Our region has grown in the 19 years since Majestic opened its doors—from Boynton to Delray and Boca, up through Wellington and West Palm Beach. The information these volunteers provide run the gamut from local shops and supermarkets to malls, hospitals, urgent care clinics, salons, barbershops, furniture stores, carpeting, etc.

These special “informants” have been greeting newcomers almost from the beginning of our community. Among them are: Sandy Levine, Sylvia Fefferman, Joan Sorkin and Iris Rothstein. Others who met with new home owners include: Thelma Mechanic, who co-authored the play, “Politically Incorrect,” which was performed in our clubhouse and who also wrote for the “Majestic Isles News;” as well as Enid Bayer, who performs frequently in M.I.L.T. productions.

One of the earliest residents to our community, Sandy Levine, said that as there was no official board of directors or committee when she moved in, she took it upon herself to call on new residents when she noticed a moving van in front of a home. She knocked on doors and made appointments to come by with information, including coupons and samples. Sandy continued to volunteer for many years.

As time went on and there was an influx of new residents, Sylvia Fefferman, currently Social Club president, joined Sandy to help welcome new people. Their efforts continued for many years. They report

that they still receive compliments from neighbors who recall their visits to them.

Sylvia went on making rounds while Majestic continued to grow. Joan Sorkin, a long-term, active member of the Social Club, came aboard to offer her assistance. She tells the story of visiting a new homeowner and being astonished to see curtains and drapes hanging, decorator items, and pictures hung on the walls, the house looking lovely and elegant. Joan asked the resident how she managed to do all this having just recently moved in. The reply she received was: “I told my husband I wouldn’t move if I had to start decorating a home—so we bought the model!”

Iris Rothstein, a member of our Board of Directors, is the current “Welcome New Neighbors Coordinator.” She receives notice of people purchasing homes in the community from Bonnie, our office director. Iris makes the rounds of businesses in the area, presenting a letter from the President of our Board, requesting donations showcasing their establishments to be included in the “welcome packet” given to every new resident. Iris maintains a list indicating the dates and times she has telephoned and personally met with each new homeowner.

We thank these wonderful volunteers for their efforts in welcoming our neighbors and helping them transition to their new homes in the Isles.



*Being a mother is learning about strengths you didn't know you had, and dealing with fears you didn't know existed. ~Linda Wooten*

*If evolution really works, how come mothers only have two hands? ~Milton Berle*

*A suburban mother's role is to deliver children obstetrically once, and by car forever after. ~Peter De Vries*

*You can fool some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool mom. ~Author Unknown*

*Thanks to my mother, not a single cardboard box has found its way back into society. We receive gifts in boxes from stores that went out of business twenty years ago. Erma Bombeck.*



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## Gardening in the Isles

By  
Stan Davidson



On a recent visit to Budapest and Prague in Eastern Europe, I noticed that one of the most popular flowers growing throughout these cities in containers and window boxes is the geranium. The geranium can be grown in South Florida, although there can be some challenges because of the high heat and humidity. With a little knowledge and care you can showcase several varieties of geraniums in your landscape during our winter, spring and early summer months. They usually grow the best when the night temperatures are about 60-65 degrees and daytime temperatures are 70-80 degrees.

Plant geraniums in containers with a moistened soilless potting mix, leaving an inch or two at the top of the container. Do not crowd the plants in your container. For example, a twelve-inch diameter pot or a hanging basket should contain several small transplants equidistant from each other. Ensure that the soil is pressed firmly around the root ball and water thoroughly until water drips from the bottom drainage holes.

Locate the geranium planting outdoors in full sun for at least six hours per day. Water the potted plant at least once a day to maintain a moist soil level and keep the Florida heat from drying out your plant. Drying out will stress the flowers and cause damage to both the flower and foliage. Chances are that you will not encounter any pests but there can be foliage damage due to over watering.

There are more than 200 varieties of geraniums, although the most common cultivars come in shades of red, white, salmon and purple. Some varieties have interesting growing habits and are more adaptable to hanging baskets.

Geraniums are heavy feeders, so fertilize the the plants every two weeks with a balanced fertilizer 10-10-10. Application of fertilizer is required continuously to ensure healthy blooms and foliage. You can deadhead fading blooms to encourage further blooming and to reduce the possibility of stress and insect pests.

Bring the containers indoors when Florida temperatures go below 50 degrees. This plant can be grown indoors for short periods of time, if you locate the container in a sunny window, control the soil moisture level and fertilize on a regular basis.

There are some interesting facts about geraniums in terms of flower meanings. They are the sign of peaceful minds. The word geranium comes from the Greek word "geranos," that means crane. It refers to the craning neck of the flowers' stems. The plant was discovered before the turn of the 16th century. Europeans used the geraniums for scents, perfume, sachets and some even used them for cooking.

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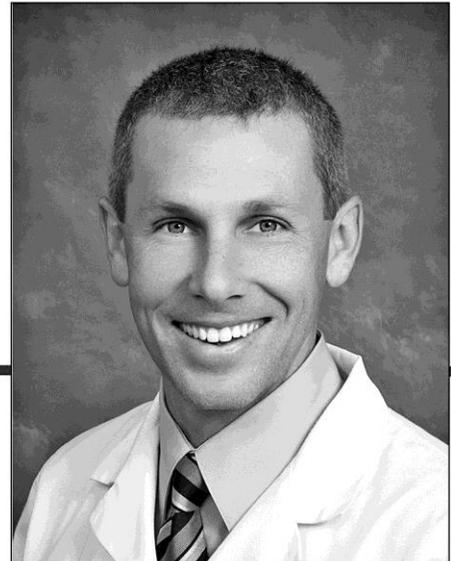


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## INVESTORS DISCUSSION GROUP

By Bill Harris, Faciliator

If you weren't at our April meeting, you missed a very important session on sector investing. This concept is based on the premise that one or more of the S&P 500's 11 sectors will outperform the broad U.S. stock market. Over different time horizons, five factors influence sector performance. Last year they signaled real estate, currently part of the Financials sector, Health Care which among its components includes the very hot biotech and biopharma stocks, Utilities, Information Technology (IT) and Consumer Staples (stuff we use) sectors which generated double-digit returns.

For the first nine months of 2015, the five time-horizon dependent signals across the board favor only IT. A defensive turn following last fall's collapse of the Energy sector has skewed the influence of these signals on future sector performance. Through September 2015, in addition to the IT sector, Consumer Staples, Health Care, Telecommunication Services and Utilities should outperform the broad U.S. stock market.

How would you take advantage of this information? Do you know what criteria you need to consider when you filter your brokerage house ETF screener so as to obtain a list of potential ETFs in which you could invest? You want an actively managed ETF, not one as in dividend investing that's tied to an index of stocks that consistently grow their dividends. You need to know that the ETF basket of equities comprises stocks based on their earnings growth and free-cash-flow margins rather than their valuations alone.

The Energy sector fell sharply in fall 2014 as crude oil prices plummeted. Energy is undervalued and you need to consider that certain exploration and production (E&P) oil companies are better equipped to survive this period of low oil prices than are others, that the industry is ripe for mergers and acquisitions, that the firms with the best balance sheets will end up the winners, with companies with longer debt maturities being better than those with shorter ones. You need to separate and invest in energy MLPs whose primary business is the transportation and storage of crude oil, natural gas or petroleum products from those MLPs largely invested in the E&P business. You need to think Europe where compared to the U.S., stock prices are low, maybe even think Japan. You need to learn how

economic factors and the global economy affect when and where we should invest or trade. You need to attend our monthly meetings, partake in our discussions.

Due to dwindling attendance, our next meeting will be October 12. Check Channel 63 for the planned agenda. If you have questions or just want to discuss your equity investment ideas, E-mail me at [gedoc79@gmail.com](mailto:gedoc79@gmail.com). Minimize your risk, invest wisely, and have a prosperous summer.

*As this article does not mention any specific equities, the usual disclaimer is not included. Nonetheless, remember to do your own due diligence.*

## REEL IMPRESSIONS

By Edye Frankel



Just recently I saw the movie "Gett: The Trial Of Viviane Amsalem." For me the movie was disap-pointing and depressing. The plot about a woman's request for a gett (a Jewish divorce), which took over five years in a rabbinical court in Israel and was absurd in its court proceedings. The rabbis were depicted as indecisive and almost silly; the witnesses were not believable. The arguments were ridiculous. The set was a boring set of tables and chairs which never changed for the extreme length of the movie. Of course, we all know that women are not regarded as equals to men, especially in Israeli orthodoxy, (actually are almost invisible), and that a gett requested by a woman is quite difficult to obtain. This movie certainly brought this to light! For me it was painfully and unnecessarily long (it felt like every minute of five years) and it did succeed in depressing me, and at the same time, in angering me. The acting was excellent and I suppose in that sense the movie was successful, because it did make its point very strongly, but I could easily have done without it, or at best with a shorter version.

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## WHO WERE YOU?

By Phyllis M. Cohen

Mother's Day always makes me nostalgic. I have all of the happy remembrances of my own children growing up, their poorly wrapped handmade gifts constructed with lots of love, popsicle sticks, and Elmer's glue, and later their adult offerings of flowers and thoughtful presents. But it also saddens me as I recall those no longer with me, my mother, and my oldest sister who often acted more like a mother to me than a sibling. There is still an empty place in my life, especially on Saturday mornings, the usual time for my sister to call me, and at holiday gatherings, where we remember her cooking and her humor, her great love for her children as well as my own, and her terrific insights into people. I am fortunate that she remains a real presence in my life, though she died early in her sixties,

In contrast, the memories of my mother are almost dreamlike. Looking back, I realize that the picture I have of my mother is largely based on childhood experience. In those memories, my mother is the take charge, efficient, tireless hardworking wife and mother struggling to raise four children in a tiny apartment, working fulltime, and still performing all of the duties that were expected of a wife and mother in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Though she was a modern working woman running her own business long before women's lib was talked about, she was essentially trapped by family obligations and expectations. What she wanted out of life, what her dreams were, what her early life was like, are all a mystery to me.

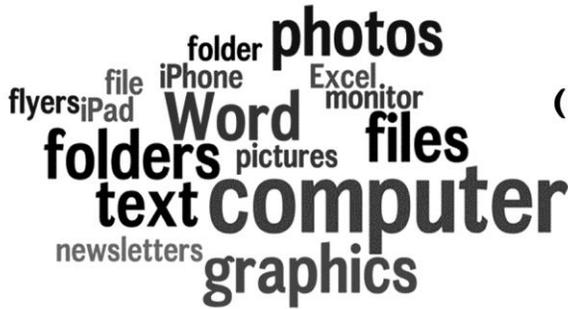
I know almost nothing about my mother's early life except the barest of facts. This is made even more mysterious because of the almost complete absence of any photographs from her childhood or young adulthood. She was the oldest of eight children born to immigrant parents who ran a laundry business in the Bronx. She had six younger brothers and a baby sister born almost at the time she got married so that she was barely a year older than my oldest sister. She was more like a daughter to my mother than a sibling. My mother never talked about her schooling and I am not certain that she ever graduated from high school. In contrast, all of her brothers went to college and became professionals, dentists, accountants, lawyers, and were, for the most part, wealthy men.

I believe she met my father, a struggling pharmacist who lived in Brooklyn, through cousins in Brooklyn. My father must have been taken with this dark haired, blue-eyed beautiful girl from the Bronx, since he had to make an almost two hour trip by subway to see her when they dated. I do know that he laughed about spending the nights at her house, when it was too late to trek back to Brooklyn, and sharing the oversized crib with the youngest baby in the house at the time, my late Uncle Nat. Even my mother's wedding remains hidden in mystery, no pictures were taken because, as my mother bitterly recalled when I asked her once, my father's sisters thought it was waste of money. My mother also had a strange story of a secret marriage between my father and her at City Hall a year earlier than her actual Jewish wedding celebration. I know there's a story there!

Talk about mismatched mates. Nothing about my parents was compatible in personality, so they had a stormy, difficult marriage. He was hearty, full of stories, songs, very loving to his children (we could do no wrong) and over-demanding of time and attention. My mother, in contrast, was cynical, shrewd, critical and utterly devoted to her children. While my father craved attention and love, it was my mother to whom people were drawn. People recognized her honesty and lack of guile. Nevertheless, in those days, people stayed together, regardless of differences, and they were both so devoted to the welfare of their children, as well as the necessity of keeping up appearances, that they struggled through the years, putting on brave faces, making do, taking pleasure and joy in their children's accomplishments and aspirations.

I wish I knew what my mother's dreams and desires were. I wish I knew what her life was like when she was growing up, all through the early 1920's. She was certainly brave and courageous because she was badly burned in an accident when filling a kerosene lamp as a teenager and spent almost a year in bed recovering, yet she never talked about it.

These memories always make me realize how little we know people, even those so close to us. I sometimes wonder what my own children know about me. So on this Mother's Day, I think of my mother, I remember her love and strength. I wish I could remember more.



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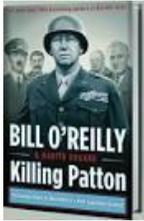
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## Another Good Book to Check Out “KILLING PATTON”

by **Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard**

By **Stan Kaish**



Most people I know have high praise for “Killing Patton.” They call it: exciting, interesting, educational, even reminiscent. What do the reviewers have to say? Most call it superficial, derivative, speculative, padded. Oddly enough, both groups may be right.

The things reviewers complain about may be the very elements that make it a good read for the rest of us.

If you don't know, the title refers to the death of Four Star General George S. Patton. After a lifetime of combat and danger in two World Wars, the General was killed in an auto accident, when a truck crossed the road and slammed into his car. The war was over. Patton, bored with peace, was on his way to hunt pheasant with a buddy. O'Reilly's premise is that Patton didn't just die. He was assassinated. By whom and why? Answering those questions is the rationale for the book. But they're not answered. They are speculated on, and the actual killing and speculation take up perhaps 50 pages of this 350 page book.

So what is in the other 300 pages? They contain a colorful history of some highlights of World War II. The emphasis is General Patton's campaigns, but there are plenty of vignettes about others. The critics call these padding. They say there is nothing original here, that it is all available in other sources. Maybe, but we the lay readers aren't going to dig it out on our own: tales of Eisenhower's dalliance, Roosevelt's betrayal of Churchill, details of Hitler's last day in the bunker, Rommel's suicide to escape execution, and many more. These stories are one reason we liked the book, and the author's politics may have something to do with the critics' fault-finding.

General Patton commanded the U.S. Third Army audaciously and successfully. He has raced across France, gaining more ground and losing fewer soldiers than any of the other commanders in the theater. It is December 1944 and the allies are poised to cross into the German homeland. Eisenhower has called a halt to the advance much to Patton's chagrin. For political purposes, he has decided to give the honor of the first crossing to British General Montgomery. The belief among the allied command

ers is that Hitler is finished and, all that is left is a mopping up operation.

Hitler has other ideas, however. In complete secrecy he has assembled a strong force to counter attack. He calls it Operation Watch on the Rhine, and history will name it the Battle of the Bulge. At 5:30 on the morning of December 19, 1944 the quarter of a million men, seven hundred tanks and thousands of artillery pieces that have sat under camouflage in the Ardennes forest got the order to attack the allied line. In the longest section of the book, O'Reilly and Dugard detail the battle from both the German and American headquarters. Both sides concur that one town, Bastogne, holds the key to stopping the advance. It is a hub for all roads that the Germans must take. General Anthony McAuliffe and the 101st Airborne, a force of 11,000 men are dispatched to Bastogne to block the advance. At allied headquarters, it is believed that McCauliffe can hold out for perhaps a few days and that the only hope of success is if Patton and his third army can travel the hundred miles in those few days to bring relief. Most in the headquarters that day doubt it can be done. Patton assures them he can and will succeed. And he does succeed, arriving a few days after McCauliffe gave his famous reply of “Nuts” to Germans seeking his surrender.

Once the war is over, Patton shifts from asset to liability. His slapping of two battle-fatigued soldiers has not been forgotten. Nor his habit of offending the Russians at the same time official policy is to cultivate them. Truman can't stand anything about “this braggart who struts about like a peacock...” William “Wild Bill” Donovan, head of the OSS, who has been working with the Russians as our allies, hates Patton and his attitudes. Stalin hates Patton and allegedly called for his assassination. Eisenhower has filed reports calling him “mentally unbalanced.” Charges of anti-Semitism (something the critics of the book point out O'Reilly ignored) follow him, as well as reports of his abuse of displaced persons.

Perhaps it was a Russian plot, perhaps Donovan's OSS, or perhaps just a random accident on a road in Germany.

On December 21, 1945, General George S. Patton died in the US Army 130th Station Hospital in Heidelberg, Germany from injuries sustained in an auto accident.



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## BETWEEN TWO RIVERS

By Bill Harris

Majestic Isles wasn't its usual self last month. At all hours of the day, people actually walked or biked through our streets. Traffic seemed heavier with many more deliveries and more cars parked in the roads and nighttime-parked on driveway aprons. On garbage pickup days, instead of one can at the curb, some homes, including mine had two or three. Overflowing recycle bins filled the streets on pickup days. Wheelchairs and walkers had to dodge strollers and baby carriages on our sidewalks. Soccer, touch football and baseball games spilled into the streets from front lawns and driveways. Waiting lines formed at our almost never used shuffleboard courts. Our pool deck and pool were packed. Ping-Pong suddenly became the daily sport. Pool walkers and lap swimmers were banished to the pool's deepest parts as wall-to-wall children and their young parents clogged the pool's middle and shallow end. Billiards/pool room and midday tennis court action, almost never seen, became the rule. It was Spring Break...It was Easter...It was Passover, and friends and family from near and far had come to visit, stay overnight or a week or longer, to beach it, linger at festive meals, and join in outings to various entertainment venues. Our middle daughter and her immediate family wrenched themselves across seven time zones from Israel to Florida just so they could spend Passover with her two Floridian sisters and us. Not easy, especially if you have five young children.

Our house had slept all 11 of us before. This time, we didn't want to move the furniture or clutter up the floors with blow-up mattresses, all of which, with my poor vision, would have booby-trapped my memorized pathways through our home. Thanks to a dear neighbor who lent us her home while she was away for Passover, we never had to sleep more than eight in our house during the four intermediate days, or nine on the first two and last two days.

As we grow older, many people find the ritual preparation of our homes and meals too tiring and difficult, so they go away to kosher-for-Passover hotels for Passover. If our homes are ritually cleansed, we might partake of the festive Seder meals either at friend's homes or fulfill the biblical obligations to eat matzah and retell the story of our exodus from Egypt at our own Seder table. All 11 of us did this. We bought the requisite matzah and other

certified kosher-for-Passover foods, not an easy task in south Florida where markets can quickly run out.

Where to go on Passover's intermediate days to keep both children and adults entertained is always a challenge. Some choose Orlando with its theme parks. Others, as we did, find good-for-all ages entertainment attractions closer to home. We went to Lion Country Safari on one absolutely picture-perfect day. Our two youngest grandsons had never been there and another had been just a babe in a stroller the last time we went. Our visit started with a 1¼ hour-long three-car safari through African and Asian habitats where the animals come right up to the road to feed; it culminated in giraffes "by the dozen" crossing the road between the cars in our caravan. After a picnic lunch, we tried the paddle boats, took a boat ride around the monkey islands, rode on the carousel, Ferris wheel and other rides, handfed lettuce to the giraffes from their observation house with its entrance at a height equivalent to a level just below a giraffe's head; watch out for their 17-inch long tongues! Between the Ferris wheel and the giraffe house is an extensive water park with a variety of water slides and fountains. Our five grandkids played almost two hours here until the park turned off the water at 7:05 p.m.

On yet another beautiful interim Passover day we drove to Miami for an under the lights Marlins—Atlanta Braves baseball game. Pregame afternoon "Passover at the Park" festivities featured the Maccabeats, a world-renowned *acapella* Jewish concert group in an hour-long close up and personal concert presented by Chabad of South Florida. Kosher for Passover hot dogs on a stick were available; we brought our own food and had a ball. The ballgame began at 7:10 p.m. and 55 minutes later, the longest first inning I have ever witnessed was finally over with the Braves leading 5-0. The Marlins lost 8-2, but we enjoyed the game anyway. Our seats, top of the first section behind home plate, and the Marlins Park major league stadium experience was an eye opener for our grandkids; until this game they had only experienced minor league ballgames in Jupiter or the Mets at spring training in Port St. Lucie. The last of our three cars didn't get back from the game until after midnight. The rest of Passover's intermediate days, the kids swam and swam and swam in the clubhouse pool. I had to wring them out before they got on the plane for their return flights via Toronto, home to Israel.

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 Majestic Isles News

## PET PATCH

By Molly



Recently my friend Lacey's Mom went to the Delray Affair. And my Mom did too! They did not see each other there – would you believe Lacey and I each have a new harness – the exact same pattern and color. So, if you think you've already seen me one day, and suddenly you think you see me again – it's probably Lacey – we will look like twins!

Lacey's Mom took care of me last week when my Mom was away. She went to see Mickey Mouse – *again!* Our roof-mate Lois says Mom must be having an affair with Mickey, since she goes to see him so often. But I know it's a fun place for Mom to go.

I always miss her *so* much when she's away – and when she comes home I give her lots of kisses to let her know that I did miss her.

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## CONFESSIONS OF A WORLD-CLASS CLUTTERER

By Claire Deveney



I am a world-class clutterer. Yes, papers are piled everywhere. Whole newspapers, sections and pages are piled on the kitchen table, being saved for future action items re: travel, coupons, things to buy, events to attend, pending legislative matters to write to my representatives about. More papers are on the dining room table - my office when not in use for a special dinner – and still more in the den, spare bedroom and master bedroom and front hall table. Alongside the TV in the den are books, as well as consumer digest magazines to be reviewed for items I may buy or research, National Geographic magazines, I rarely get to, and more.

I have attended four courses on clutter – that is what to do about (my) clutter. In the past 13 years, I've made notes and have misplaced them four times in the piles of papers at my computer

I am a fully functional mature adult, a news and political junkie who accomplishes many things for myself, for my significant other, Gerry Aaronson, who has Alzheimer's and whom I visit five days a week at Morse Life in West Palm Beach, and for my community. I'm an adopted grandmother of four children who love me – and I, them. When the oldest saw how many documents I have on my computer screen, she said, "You need to make files, organize them and get rid of all those things." Ah, yes!

Three years ago I hired an organizer who spends about two hours every other week to help me organize papers (including mail and receipts), make files and keep my papers organized in file boxes neatly labeled by year and subjects. This is very helpful, particularly when I have to move items to prepare for houseguests and when I organize my tax information. She is a blessing. We plan to organize the junk and stuff in the garage soon. Stay tuned for progress on that clutter! Most of the junk moved with us in labeled boxes and is still there 13 years later.

Notes from my most recent clutter course taken eight years ago at the Delray Public Library include "Surround yourself with beautiful things." "The Oxford dictionary defines clutter as keeping things you don't use." "Less is better."

"Cleaning is a way of clearing mental clutter," the instructor said. "Self talk to avoid includes, "I might use this someday, but my sister or friend (fill in the blank) gave it to me." She advised, "Those things don't have to clutter your life. Give them away. Keep only what you truly like.

Of course, the instructors of de-cluttering courses are full of specific advice (see box below).

I did clean one closet this past fall and donated all the items. I dropped off old medicines at the Sheriff's office two weeks ago. Only six rooms and two closets to go! They are all on my "to do" list. I have to de-clutter, make room and get ready for the next presidential election.

- Identify your clutter.
- Make an appointment with yourself and don't answer the phone. Set aside time – one to three hours. Create three boxes or areas: Out, Maybe, and Keep. If you don't like it, don't need it and don't use it throw it out.
- Put a box in the kitchen for papers.
- File bills and important papers you file.
- Empty out everything from one drawer, one shelf, one pile, one area or a closet. Make a decision on each item, and then move onto the next item. Do you wear it? When was the last time you wore it? Do you use it? Can you give it away to a non-profit organization, recycle it or just throw it out? If you are going to donate items, put them in your car and deliver them or call the organization to pick them up.
- If something belongs in another room, move it there.
- When you come across an item you don't know what to do with, put it in a box in the garage and write a date on the box. If at the end of a year you haven't gone to the box, throw it away.
- Throw out old towels, tools, old spices, old dry goods, lotions, medicines, etc.



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## WOMEN'S CLUB

By Joyce Milbauer, co-president



We are looking forward to our Parents' Day Brunch at Broken Sound Country Club on May 17. It's not too late to sign up! The cost is \$38 for paid up members,

\$43 for non-members and guests. There will be an entertainer following the meal. *Note: This date was changed from May 3.*

We have cancelled our plans to go to The Norton Art Museum on June 9 because of ongoing construction there this summer. Instead, we will go to the Boca Raton Museum of Art. Everyone is welcome including outsiders, and we will carpool. On-street parking is metered, but there is free parking in the parking garage. We will have flyers in the back lobby of the clubhouse.

There will be no Women's Club meetings in July and August, but watch channel 63 for updates.

If you have not paid your \$15 dues, please put your check in the Women's Club mailbox. If you are not already a member, please support your Women's Club by putting your check in our mailbox in the back lobby.

## MAJESTIC ISLES LITTLE THEATER

By Selma Friedman

Our new president, Francine Gitto, conducted the business portion of the meeting and then called on Seena Calder to welcome our guest.

Our presenter for the evening was the thoroughly engaging Randy Del Lago of the Delray Beach Playhouse. This charming man took questions from our capacity audience with no beforehand preparation. He answered each question thoroughly and at length, with examples illustrating his point. He is a natural teacher and completely knowledgeable about many aspects of theater. Randy Del Lago is a real treasure, personable, entertaining and comfortable in his own skin.

When asked how he developed his famous style of speech, he credited having read Edgar Allen Poe aloud when he was a youngster, saying, "You just had to pronounce those words correctly."

He also made the points that "It is not how well you project, but how well your audience hears," and "Productions are only as good as the people who came out to do them."

In his opinion, if someone in the audience cannot see the actor's face, it is not really theater. His basic philosophy as a director is to get to the real core of each character, what the playwright was trying to say, and then to present it to the audience.

I wish all of you could have been there to hear the rest he had to say. Thank you, Seena for arranging this super meeting.

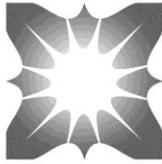


### YOU! YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE

The Majestic Isles News is put out entirely by volunteer staff. If we are to continue to have a quality publication, we need *you* and your creative skills: writing, drawing, poetry, photography, and computer graphics. We also welcome suggestions for articles of interest.

To contribute your skills, please contact Betty Wachtel (739-6086) or Phyllis Cohen (740-1960) or come to our staff meetings, usually held on the first Friday of the month, September through June. (Check Channel 63 for date changes.)

Returning to the Boynton/Delray Beach area... Ricky Shaffren, DMD



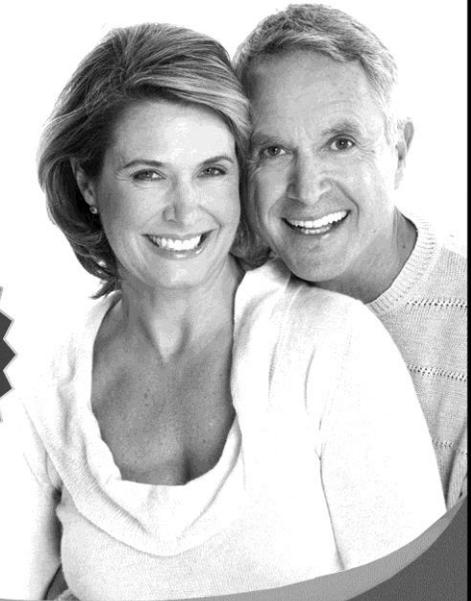
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## SINGLES

**By Ellin Goldstein**

On May 23, the Singles are going to return to Harid’s Ballet. Tickets are 26. They will be going to Kee Grill for dinner. Call Doris Robin with any questions.



The Singles are hosting Ladies’ Day at the Palm Beach Outlet Mall on June 12. The cost is \$38 for the bus to take us there and for High Tea at Serenity Gardens Tea House. The bus will leave at 10 a.m. and should return around 4 p.m.

After that, there will be some more fun in the sun, so stay tuned for further developments.

As soon as more events are put on the calendar, we will notify you by putting them on channel 63, notifying you by email, or having the telephone squad call you.

Keep in touch!  
Have a good Month.

## MEN’S CLUB

**By Joel Cohen**

We are eagerly awaiting the Men's and Women's clubs outstanding Parent's Day Brunch, which will be on Sunday, May 17 at Broken Sound Country Club in Boca Raton. Please see the front cover of last month’s Majestic Isles News and the flyer in the clubhouse for further details.

Another casino trip is being looked into for possibly June. We’ll keep you posted.

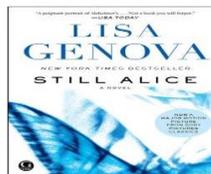
I guess it is time again to wish our seasonal residents an enjoyable and healthy summer and look forward to their return in the fall.



Just a note: Some of our former members have not paid their dues for 2015. If it is an oversight, please drop your check for \$15 into the Men's club mailbox in clubhouse.

Our new Men’s Club secretary is Steve Karten.

## BOOK TALKS



**By Judy Markowitz**

On Wednesday, May 20 at 2 p.m. Bobbe Greene will facilitate a discussion of “Still Alice” by Lisa Genova. “Still Alice” is a compelling debut novel about a 50-year-old woman’s sudden descent into early onset Alzheimer’s.

Alice Howland, happily married with three grown children is a Harvard professor at the height of her career when she notices forgetfulness creeping into her life. As confusion starts to cloud her thinking and her memory starts to fail, she receives a devastating diagnosis: early onset Alzheimer’s disease. Alice struggles to maintain her lifestyle.

“Still Alice” is in turn heartbreaking, inspiring and terrifying. The book captures in remarkable detail what it is like to literally lose your mind. The book was adapted to a film in 2014. Julianne Moore won the Academy Award for Best Actress.

We are looking forward to a stimulating discussion on May 20. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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## SOCIAL CLUB

**By Joan Sorkin**

Over 100 people enjoyed our show featuring Matt Stanley on April 25. Thank you all for your support.

Our annual Memorial Day party will be held on May 25. In addition to the Boston Market dinner of chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, corn bread, and cranberry sauce, we will be entertained by Larry Brendler. Larry will provide music for dancing, as well as a 45 minute show. We have all enjoyed Larry in the past, and we are looking forward to another great evening. All this fun with our neighbors and friends is only \$19 per person. Arrange your tables of 10 or we will be happy to make arrangements. Please leave your checks in Social Club box along with requests for sugar-free dessert. See you then!

On Sunday, July 5 we will be serving deli sandwiches with fixin's and then we will enjoy watching the movie "Deli-Man." We are still finalizing our plans, so please watch Channel 63 for more information. This will be a fun evening, so mark your calendars and join us.

We wish those Snowbirds leaving us for the summer months a healthy summer. Remember to get your checks in for our fabulous New Year's celebration at \$50 per person and don't forget our Winter Series starting in January for only \$75 per person.

During the month of May, the Social Club will again be collecting items for The Forgotten Soldiers Outreach. The back bulletin board will have a list of items needed for our servicemen and women serving overseas. We thank you in advance for your generous contributions.

## HADASSAH

**By Ellin Goldstein**

The Hadassah Associates' Fun Night, a game night, will be on Sunday, May 3 at 7 p.m. The cost is \$14 p/p.

The next board meeting will be on Monday, May 11 at 10:30 a.m. and the next general meeting date is Monday, May 18 at 11:15 a.m.. Don't forget there is a \$2 charge for a light lunch at the meetings.

To buy a brick on our sixth Brick Lane, call Lee Katz (733-6702) or Lucille Garelick (364-0533).

Rosh Chodesh will be celebrated on Tuesday, May 19 at 10 a.m. at the Morikami picnic area. All are welcome.

The next Dine-Around will take place on Sunday, May 31 from 12 noon to 7 p.m. at Duffy's. Please join us and remember to pick up the flyer in the back hall and bring it with you.

Wednesday, June 17 we will hold another "Schmooze and Booze." More details to follow.

### MOVIES – MOVIES - MOVIES

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**SATURDAY, MAY 2, MAGIC IN THE MOONLIGHT:** Exposing a phony soothsayer proves harder than expected when the debunker (an Englishman) becomes smitten with the purported fraud (a French beauty). This deft romantic comedy unwinds amid the gilt and glamour of the French Riviera in the 1920s

**SATURDAY, MAY 16, ST. VINCENT:** With his parents preoccupied with their divorce, lonely 12-year-old Oliver strikes up a friendship with his war-veteran neighbor Vincent. A hard-drinking gambler with a fondness for hookers, Vincent finds his life changed by the boy's presence.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6, THE IMITATION GAME:** Chronicling mathematical wizard Alan Turing's key role in Britain's successful effort to crack Germany's Enigma code during World War II, this historical biopic also recounts how his groundbreaking work helped launch the computer age.

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

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

## MAJESTIC ISLES TRAVEL CLUB

Doris Davidoff



The Travel Club Planning Committee has made some changes for the future. Instead of meeting every month, we will now have four general meetings each year. Of course, we can

always call a special meeting if necessary. Our meetings will be the fourth Sunday of January, March or April (depending on how the holidays fall), June and October

We are planning to offer two major trips each year and several one-day excursions along with one or two multi-day trips. We are also planning to have each of our meetings include a discussion on a given topic, such as how to pack, tips for smart travelers, etc. They would include a brief presentation followed by a sharing of thoughts about that topic. We will still show videos of our trips and talk about anything related to travel that those attending want to talk about.

Thirty-two of us are very excited about our upcoming trip to Alaska in late May, returning in early June. It is going to be a spectacular trip to a truly spectacular destination. Our trip includes two nights in Vancouver, a seven-night Alaska cruise, a night in Denali National Park and two nights in Fairbanks, before heading back home.

We still have space for a few people on our trip to Ireland which departs on October 7. We will enjoy a ten-day visit to the Emerald Isle with its wonderful people and scenery. With Collette Tours we will be visiting Dublin, Waterford, The Ring of Kerry, Killarney, Limerick, Galway and more. We will enjoy an Irish Evening and a factory tour at the House of Waterford among many other features of this beautiful country.

Stay tuned for more information on these and other trips as they are developed. The Travel Club is open to all Majestic Isles residents and their friends and relatives, even if they don't live here. Check Channel 63 for information. Email [dorisdav@aol.com](mailto:dorisdav@aol.com) to be added to our email list. There is no membership fee to belong to the Travel Club.

## MAJESTIC ISLES PAP CORPS

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



Thank you to all members and supporters of the M.I. Pap Corps chapter. Your generosity and help is gratefully acknowledged.

Our Membership Appreciation Greek luncheon catered by Chris' Taverna held on **April 23** was a success. The guest speaker was the well-known humorist Joyce Saltman, a professor who talked on "There is Humor in Everything: Are You in Your Right Mind?" Each member received a Florida lottery ticket as a gift. Good luck. Many thanks to Many thanks to Vice President of Programming Selma Friedman and Vice Presidents of Fund Raising Suzanne Skinner and Marcia Steiner who help plan all of our fun and wonderful events. Vice Presidents of Fund Raising Suzanne Skinner and Marcia Steiner who help plan all of our wonderful fun-filled events.

Mark your calendar for the Thursday, **May 28** Desserts Meeting at 1 p.m. with a special guest. Price TBA. Details will be on Channel 63 and on flyers in the back lobby. All the desserts are homemade or donated by M.I. Pap Corps Board of Directors.

We are now selling "Pups for Pap" small plastic bags for dogs poop at \$10 for 200 bag units. Each bag is 9 x 12.5 inches. Call Marilyn Chermak 735-0695, to buy or see flyer in back lobby to order.

For all the latest news on research and lectures go to the website: [www.thepapcorps.org](http://www.thepapcorps.org). The Pap Corps, Champions for Cancer Research, is dedicated to finding a cure for all types of cancer and solely supports cancer research at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University Of Miami Miller School Of Medicine.

**Save the date:** We are planning our annual Summer Event, which will include dinner, to take place on Saturday, Aug. 1 at 6 p.m at the cluhouse. Watch for further details.



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## ACTIVITY CALENDAR May 2015

2	Sat	8:00 p.m.	Social Club	Movie Time (p, h)
3	Sun	7:00 p.m.	Hadassah	Associates' Fun Night (p, h)
5	Tues	9:00 a.m.	Drivers' Course	(p, h)
6	Wed	11:00 a.m.	Sing for Fun	
7	Thurs	2:00 p. m	Board of Directors	Meeting
8	Fri	4:30 p.m.	Singles	Pizza Party
11	Mon	4:00 p.m.	Investment Group	Discussion
13	Wed	11:00 a.m.	Sing for Fun	
16	Sat	8:00 p.m.	Social Club	Movie Time (p, h)
17	Sun	10:30 a.m. 7:30 p.m.	Men's/Women's Club M.I.L.L.T.	Parents Day Brunch (p, a) Meeting
18	Mon	11:00 a.m.	Hadassah	Meeting
20	Wed	11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Sing for Fun Book Talks	Discussion
23	Sat	2:00 p.m.	Singles	Trip to Harid's (p, a)
24	Sun	11:00 a.m.	Travel Club	Meeting
25	Mon	5:00 p.m.	Social Club	Memorial Day Party (p, h)
27 - June 9			Travel Club	Trip to Alaska (p, a)
	Wed	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Men's Club Sing for Fun	Casino Trip (p, a)
28	Thurs	1:00 p.m.	Pap Corps	Dessert Party
31	Sun	Noon - 7:00 p.m.	Hadassah	Duffy's (p, a)

MAY



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

For additional information, please contact an officer of the  
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f = free, p = paid, a= way, h = home

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