

Majestic Isles News

July, August, September, 2009

Volume 12

Issue 10



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www.majesticisles.com

MANAGER'S CORNER

We are constantly addressing matters that concern the safety and security of all Majestic Isles residents, so we occasionally “tweak” the Standard Operating Procedures to take new circumstances into consideration. The procedures include the regulations under which the security guards allow visitors into the community, the locking of the clubhouse at night and unlocking of it in the morning, and emergency responses. We also regularly review office procedures to try to address almost every possible situation in advance, so that timely responses can be given to the concerns of the residents.

This brings me to Resident Emergency Procedures. Now that we're into the 2009 Hurricane Season, it becomes more important than ever to coordinate these procedures with the management office so that everyone is on the same page. Probably the most important information we have in the office is the Resident's Emergency Contact information.

We recently had two problems at the homes of two residents homes that could have been avoided if only we had full and complete emergency contact phone numbers on file. In one case, an emergency medical alert, which is part of each home's monitored alarm system, was spontaneously activated. When Bonnie and I couldn't contact anyone on the resident's list, Police and Fire Rescue had no choice but to break a back window to gain entry. All of the resident's contact information was up to date, but none of the contacts were home. If we had had the **cell phone numbers** of residents and their contacts, in addition to the home phone numbers we did have, we could have alerted the police that it was a false alarm before any damage was done.

The second incident involved a resident who left to go up north without informing anyone in the office and without informing the emergency contacts. Several days after that resident missed an appointment and no one could recall seeing the resident or knowing anything about his whereabouts, Fire Rescue was called. With no good contact information on file, Fire Rescue took off the front door, only to find an empty house.

Take the time **TODAY** to come into the office and make sure all of your contact information is up to date. This includes your visitor list – whom to allow into the community on a regular basis – and your emergency contacts. Having the home numbers of 20 people who live nearby and have keys to your home is great, but what if something happens and none of them are home? That's why it's so important to also **include your own cell phone number** as well as **the cell phone numbers** of your emergency contacts. It only takes five minutes to update all of the information and can save a whole lot of time and aggravation. If you can't make it to the office, **neatly** write up a list – typing is even better – of everyone on your guest list as well as your Emergency Contact List and drop it in the office mailbox. Your information will be entered into the computer and sent out to the guard computer, so that it will be available even after office hours...just in case.

Ken Miller, Association Manager

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M.I. Board Meetings, June 2009

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

President's Report, Joel Rosenthal

- We've reached a compromise with Rolyn for the outstanding balance from the water leak.
- Ken Miller is at meeting about Ficus Whitefly. Board to consider the contract. Attorney has been consulted.
- Emergency contact information for residents needs to be updated. [See Manager's Corner, p.2]
- We are looking into an opportunity to purchase some used treadmills that are only a couple of years old.
- Received letters from residents about flooding and landscaping. We'll check them out.

COBWRA Report, Martin Goodman

- Martin is now COBWRA's Parliamentarian.
- Stan Brizel will chair the President's Forum.
- Flu Shot sign up sheet will be posted late July.
- State Senate passed a \$1 tax on cigarettes and surcharge on other tobacco products. The House didn't go along with it.

Finance Committee, Sy Kugelmas

- Approximately \$21,000 will be added to the reserves over the course of 2009
- Final cost of Rolyn bill to M.I. approx. \$17,300.

Grounds Committee, Mort Goldstein

- Going ahead with the individual bed plantings.
- We have asked Hartzell if they can use "green" chemicals for the roof cleaning.

Clubhouse Committee, Irene Weinstein

- Carpet vendor was here for measuring and will provide estimates and samples.
- Expect written estimate from table refinishing company by the end of next week.
- Looking for a chair company.
- Waiting for painting estimate from Hartzell.

Documents Committee, Leo Miller

- Board will have to decide upon the next step.

Architectural Review Committee, Harvey Galan

- Looking for committee members.

Cable TV Committee, Sy Kugelmas

- Negotiations are continuing. No decisions to be referred to the Board as yet.

Painting Committee, Harvey Galan

- Painting is done.

Treasurer's Report, Sy Kugelmas

Cash on hand & in banks:

Operating Accounts	\$211,635
Reserve Accounts	<u>\$278,423</u>
Total Cash	\$490,058

- Total maintenance that remains unpaid is \$3,956.00.
- Vendors owed \$2,485, which is not due until completion of work.
- Audit for 2008 is complete and accepted by the Board. Copies available for all residents
- This year's income and expenditures are running close to budgeted amounts.

Current operations:

Revenues received thru 5/31/09	\$736,512
Operating expenses and owners expenses	<u>664,547</u>
Net income from Operations	71,956
Transfer to the General Reserves	39,750
<u>Transfer to Painting/Roof Fund</u>	<u>8,815</u>
Revenues over Expenditures to 5/31/09	\$ 23,400

Old Business

- Motion to accept the settlement offer from Rolyn passed by unanimous vote.

New Business

- Board agreed to purchase two new microphones for the ballroom at a cost of approx. \$550 each.
- Motion to accept renewing the contract with TEM for the entrance gates passed unanimously.
- New aerator needed for Lake 1. Board agreed to have Vertex replace compressor needed for Lake 1.
- Motion to refer the residents to the Compliance Committee for possible fines passed 4-2.
- Motion by Sy Kugelmas to accept the Electronics Insurance Policy, as recommended by the insurance committee, passed unanimously.
- Motion to accept the proposal from M&P for landscaping the individual beds passed unanimously.

SPECIAL MEETING of 6/11/09 and 6/18/09

Board decided that with at least a year left in the current cable contract, nothing should be decided immediately and more negotiations are needed. All motions tabled until August Board Meeting.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Joel Rosenthal

Now that the first six months of 2009 have passed, it's time to look back on what your Board of Directors has accomplished and to look ahead at the upcoming decisions that must be made.

Our budget continues to show a surplus of about \$100,000 and improvements to the grounds have been completed. We were able to substantially reduce the cost of mulching over that of last year, so we were able to include areas not planned for in the budget passed last year.

Irene Weinstein and her clubhouse committee have continued to do an outstanding job preparing for the second floor improvement project and hope to come in at or below budget (a rarity nowadays).

Sy Kugelmas continues to provide the Board and the community with financial reports for every need and at a moment's notice. His monthly financial committee meetings provide the Board and community with up-to-date information. Sy and Saul Siegel share financial responsibility this year to save the community nearly \$15,000 that would otherwise be spent on an outside bookkeeper. Their plan to change banks for next year's assessment payments will save us printing and other costs.

This Board encourages complete participation at both Board and committee meetings. We've scheduled more evening meetings to accommodate our residents. The biggest accomplishment of this year's Board has been the cooperation and devotion showed by each member to his or her assignments—there is no better effort than teamwork that allows the full Board to be part of the decision making process.

Over the next few months our community will be considering a new cable contract. Board and committee members have heard a lot of proposals and held many meetings to give the community the very latest information. Through negotiations, we should be able to reduce our cable increases by at least 50% over original quotes.

This fall, we start work on next year's budget and we welcome your involvement. Let us work together so we can continue to be proud of Majestic Isles, our beautiful home.

Questions about the above? Call me at 739-6439.

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

By Ken Keller, Captain



Let me offer a suggestion. When you leave the front entrance of our community to drive east on Woolbright, have patience. If there is a car in the center turn area waiting to turn left, wait until it completes the turn and enters the roadway. It is *very* dangerous to have two cars waiting in the center turn area because one of them will have restricted vision. Be a good neighbor, be patient, and drive safely.

Hurricane season is here. We hope we will not experience any hurricanes. However, plan ahead. If you are going away for a few days or a few weeks, make sure you store all loose items that can blow away and become projectiles. I believe the term is "batten down the hatches."

Last but not least – Remember:

Stop at *all* stop signs.

Drive slowly and carefully.

Volunteer for the Majestic Isles C.O.P. unit.

(Talk to me about it.)

Have a happy and healthy summer!





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To Lynn Fischer on the loss of her husband, Herb.

To Audrey Hausman on the loss of her husband, Allen.

To Delfina Reccasina on the loss of her husband, Peter.

To Doris Robin on the loss of her husband, Bob.

To Sandra Rothenberg on the loss of her husband, Max.

To Joe Rovner on the loss of his mother.

MESSAGES

My heartfelt thank you to all the caring people of Majestic Isles for the overwhelming number of cards, donations and calls upon the passing of my beloved husband, Herb.

Lynn Fischer

Thanks to all of my Majestic Isles friends for the many calls, cards, visits, and gifts that I received after my recent surgery. Your concern and help was most appreciated.

Rita Goldman

To all my Majestic Isles friends: You have been by my side every inch of the way in the last three months. I can't thank you enough for your loving support.

Bernice Kozlin

To my friends and neighbors in Majestic Isles: Thanks so much for your cards and calls during my hospital stay and recuperation. Your kindness is certainly appreciated.

David Lader

I want to thank all my friends and neighbors who sent me get well wishes and donations. I am doing great and hope to be seeing everyone soon.

Al Lynn

We deeply appreciate your cards, calls, contributions

and concerns during our recent illnesses. Thank you all so much.

Judy and Mitch Radin

A heartfelt thank you to all for your cards, donations, calls, flowers and delicious food following my recent surgery and ongoing recuperation. Your concern and caring are deeply appreciated.

Selma Wattenberg

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



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Excerpted Highlights of the June 17, 2009 COBWRA Meeting

The June meeting of the Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations was held at Majestic Isles.

Guest Speaker: Deidra Gibson, Emergency Readiness Coordinator, Area Agency on Aging

Ms. Gibson stated that the agency:

- is funded by the Dept of Elder Affairs and partners with P.B. County during disasters.
- speaks to communities on handling the elderly during disasters and creating community disaster plans.
- teaches a class for PBSO on handling elder crime.
- works with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and the CERTs (Community Emergency Response Teams).
- provides individual family emergency planning, as needed, and shelters for special needs individuals.

Ms. Gibson further stated:

- Palm Tran will pick up a senior and transport that person to a shelter before a hurricane, if no other transportation is available.
- A special expo on Hurricane/Disaster Preparedness will be held Saturday, July 20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Boynton Beach Mall, in cooperation with FEMA. Door hangers are available to meeting attendees. These are hung on an outside door to indicate if the resident needs or does not need help after a hurricane.
- Pet shelters are available but require pre-registration.
- The agency local contact number is 684-5885.

Officials' Reports

Representative Maria Lorts Sachs, Dist. 86: Now that the legislature session is over, she is available to discuss any type of problem. Call 266-6645.

Tara Laxer for Senator Ted Deutch, Dist. 19. Senator Deutch is waiting for Governor Crist's response to his request for a Task Force to review condo issues, including foreclosures and rising insurance costs.

Representative Carl J. Domino, Dist. 83, from Jupiter, is deeply involved in funding for Dept. of Veterans Affairs. He reported new benefits for seniors and veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Susan Bucher, Supervisor of Elections, thanked COBWRA for its support obtaining a new building and budget approval for her department.

Commissioner Shelley Vana, Dist. 3: The county's greatest issue is the 2010 budget. She is confident that the county will pass a lean but effective budget.

Mary Lou Berger, Sr. Asst. to Commissioner Burt Aaronson, Dist. 5: Dan Weisberg, C'y Traffic Engineer, is resolving the Hagen Ranch and Flavor Pict Rds. traffic light installation delay. It should be installed

before COBWRA's next meeting. "Public Ownership" is a new land use category created for Water Utilities properties not privately owned.

Lt. Mike Kirschner, PBSO Dist. 6, (for Capt. Bechtel) reported the crime statistics for the past 30 days.

COBWRA Reports

Ken Lassiter, COBWRA President, announced the following appointments: **Education Committee Chair:** Roberta Levitt-Moccia, (San Marco); **Vice Chair:** Bruce Brodsky, (Cascade Lakes) **Membership Committee Chair:** Susan Reiter, (Coronado Estates); **Vice Chair:** Eli Reiter, (Coronado Estates).

Committee Reports

Joan Brunswick, Chair of the Health and Flu Shots Committee, announced two workshops for communities participating in flu clinics. Dates at bottom of this page.

Legislative Affairs Chair, Bonnie Cohen: Gov. Crist vetoed SB714 and signed SB360, opposite to COBWRA's vote. Eric Malkin and Bonnie Cohen will be COBWRA's representatives to the ABC Legislative Council.

Stan Brizel, Chair of Presidents' Forum announced a meeting on Sept. 9. The topic is community budgeting.

Gerry Morrison, Chair of Growth Management, presented three recommendations passed by the Executive Board and approved by the COBWRA Delegates at this meeting. **1:** Approval of 3 modular units to enable the **Montessori Academy** at Military & Lantana Rd. to increase the number of students from 50 to 108. **2:** Approval to increase the number of students from 120 to 170 without making exterior changes at the **Faith United Methodist Church Pre-School** located on the south side of Boynton Beach Blvd. between Jog & El Clair Ranch Roads. **3:** Denial of **Sunrise Assisted Living Center's** request for a land use change from HR 8 to HR 12 because the planned building exceeds COBWRA's 35-foot height limit.

Future Meetings (Open to the public)

July 16, 3:00 p.m.: First Flu Shot Workshop at Valencia Shores

Aug. 4, 6:30 pm: Growth Management at PBSO Dist. 6

Aug. 18, 3:00 pm: 2nd Flu Shot Workshop at Avalon Estates

Aug. 19, 9:30 am: COBWRA meeting at **Ponte Vecchio West,** west side of Hagen Ranch Road between Boynton Beach Blvd. and Gateway. Speaker: US Cong. Ron Klein.

—By Bob Katz, COBWRA Communications

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Gardening in the Isles

*By
Stan Davidson*



The dog days of summer are upon us. We notice that many of our flowering winter annuals are wilting and withering in the Florida heat. We venture outside less and have a tendency not to take care of our flowering annual and perennial plants. Good maintenance requires regular fertilization, watering, pruning and weeding even during the summer months.

Many bedding plants, especially those grown in containers, are craving care. Continual watering causes nutrients to leach out of our typical sandy soil, which results in insufficient availability of the nutrients, particularly nitrogen for greening and potassium for good root structure. Controlled-release fertilizers like Osmocote® and Dynamite are a bit costly, but the slow-release nutrients contained in these fertilizers do provide food for many months in lieu of the weekly/monthly application of soluble fertilizers like Miracle-Gro®.

Established beds should be watered on an “as-needed basis.” Wilting stress caused by the lack of water will reduce flowering on many plants, such as container-grown New Guinea impatiens, and should be avoided. The frequency of irrigation is dependent upon the plant specie, soil type, sunlight exposure, temperature and amount of rainfall. Daily watering of some summer annuals growing in full sun may be required, especially those grown in containers.

Always water during the early morning hours, rather than in the afternoon or evening. This helps to reduce fungal stem and leaf diseases. If we have very little

rainfall, it is advisable to wash the foliage on all your annuals and perennials with a strong jet stream of water to remove unwanted pests such as spider mites, aphids and mealy bugs. Don’t forget your shrubs!

Good pruning practices can also help to keep the flowers in your beds and containers blooming continuously. The removal of old flowers as soon as they deteriorate is highly recommended to stimulate plant growth. This practice, known as “dead heading,” prevents plants from producing seeds and becoming unruly.

It is a lazy hot summer day. We can just lie back in our air-conditioned homes, gaze out our windows and enjoy the natural beauty of our lawns. Not only do our lawns provide beautiful lush scenery, but they also provide oxygen and filter pollution around our community. Along with the oxygen that our turf grasses release, the lawn provides moisture as water vapor transpires from its leaves. Do you remember the pleasant aroma emanating from a recently mowed lawn? A well maintained lawn is a beautiful site and a neglected one detracts from whatever it surrounds. Even people who do not particularly like the color green will enjoy gazing at a lush green lawn this summer.

When you garden this summer, remember: “A garden always gives back more than it receives.”

Have a wonderful summer of happy gardening!!



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MORE THAN JUST THE BIG BAND ERA

By Josh Katz



Alto saxophonist, clarinetist and bandleader Hal McIntyre worked with several local bands in his native Connecticut before forming his own eight-piece outfit in 1935. In 1937 he was hired as a replacement in **Benny Goodman's** band. Though the job lasted for only ten days he caught the ear of **Glenn Miller**, who was organizing a new band. Hal became the first musician hired for Miller's group, only to see it break up after a few months due to financial problems. When Miller made another attempt in 1938 Hal signed on again. This time Miller succeeded, and his orchestra soon became the hottest band in the country, with McIntyre an integral part of its now famous sound.

In 1941, Glenn convinced him to form his own group, offering to back it financially. McIntyre's orchestra debuted that same year at the Glen Island Casino. The group proved quite popular and went on to play at many of the top venues around the country, including the Statler Hotel in Washington for President **Roosevelt's** Birthday Ball in 1945. Hal's first vocalist was **Helen Ward**. Saxophonist **Les Elgart** also played with the band.

Hal continued leading the band well into the 50's. In fact, the orchestra backed the **Mills Brothers** on their 1952 hit record "The Glow Worm." Hal McIntyre died tragically in a house fire in 1959.

LITTLE KNOWN FACT

Did you know that the New York City newspaper with the largest circulation from 1925 thru 1929 was the Jewish Daily Forward?

DID YOU KNOW?

Daytime dramas are called Soap Operas because they were originally used to advertise soap powder.

In many of the milk ads that are shown on TV, a mix of thinner and white paint is used instead of milk.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS

Cab Calloway (real name Cabell Callaway III) played professional basketball before becoming a band leader.

Marjorie Hughes who sang in **Frankie Carle's** band was Frankie's daughter.

Hoagy Carmichael's real name was Hoagland Howard Carmichael.

CORRECTION

In one of my previous articles I mentioned that **Ziggy Elman** wrote a song called "Freilich in Swing," which was re-titled "And the Angels Sing" when **Johnny Mercer** added lyrics. Well, this is only partially true. What Ziggy did was to take an old Jewish song called "**Der Shtiller Bulgar**" (The Quiet Bulgar), make some minor modifications and re-title it to "Freilich in Swing." Der Shtiller Bulgar was written by **Abe Schwartz**. And who do I thank for this information? None other than Majestic Isles resident and famous card shark, **Harvey Schwartz**. Abe Schwartz was Harvey's grandfather.

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More in future articles.

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See you next issue.



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TAKE-OUT MENU

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MAJESTIC ISLES GRAPEVINE

By you – the readers

Overheard at the tennis court:

A bunch of the tennis players were talking about air conditioning. “Sol” keeps his thermostat at 78°; “Sam” keeps his at 64°. The others set theirs in between.

“Sol:” Sixty-four! We used to keep our house up north at 62° on bitter winter nights, when it felt as though the wind was blowing straight from the North Pole. You *cool* the house to 64°? This winter when our house got down to 64° we were discussing whether we should turn on the heat.”

“Sam:” Sixty-four is just right, year ‘round. My wife likes it that way. I like it that way. It’s cool. It’s comfortable.

“Sol:” Say, Sam - You know that wife swapping deal we were discussing? It’s off!

Reminiscing at a Hadassah luncheon

After the young couple got married, the groom’s mother admonished the bride, “I make chopped liver every Friday night, and my son loves it. Be sure you make him chopped liver.”

The first Friday the couple was home, the bride made and served a chopped liver appetizer. The next week she made it again. Although it was a chore she disliked, she was determined to be a good wife. If her husband loved chopped liver, he’d have chopped liver, but she did wonder what she’d gotten herself into.

After she’d master the dish and served it proudly for several dinners, the young husband turned to her and asked, “Are you always going to serve chopped liver on Friday nights? My mother made me eat it all my life and I always hated it.”

Father-son phone conversation

MI resident father: I like the way Dan Brown writes short chapters that end in a cliff hanger, and that thread of the story isn’t picked up until several chapters later – but I don’t read a lot of fiction. Maybe if I did, I’d recognize the style as similar to some other authors.

Son: I read almost nothing but fiction – most of it written by attorneys for the other side.

MI Resident in traveling Nova Scotia:

Scene: The parking lot of a Nova Scotia restaurant, where a customer noticed the Florida license plate of an MI resident.

Customer: “Do you know if I can get to East Brunswick, New Jersey without going across the George Washington Bridge?”

MI Resident: “Sure – we used to live right near there. I’ll get the map and show you.”

After the question was answered and after some general chit-chat, the customer had another question, this one directed toward the MI wife.

Customer: “Say, are you Jewish?”

MI wife, who had been born and raised in the New York area: “Yes, but why do you ask?”

Customer: “You sound just like my mother.”

Do you have a story?

Do you have a short humorous tale from last week – or long ago? Did someone really make you laugh at the tennis court, around the card table or at the pool? Share your story either by putting it in the newsletter mailbox or calling Phyllis Cohen (740-1960). Please don’t use real names



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“MAN’S BEST FRIEND”

By Thelma Mechanic

We’re “going to the dogs” for an article in this issue of the newsletter. We interviewed several—not all— of the keepers of canine pets and there is no denying that each of them confirmed that a dog is man’s best friend. Each dog owner waxed ecstatic over his pet, like a proud parent with a new-born baby.

As with a baby, a dog means having many responsibilities for many years. A dog needs outdoor exercise, food, water, and visits to the vet, and, at times, medicine. A dog needs attention and care every day. But there are many rewards for those who understand the caring of a pet. Read on!

“Andy” is an adorable all-black cocker spaniel owned by Jerry and Ilse Cowan. He’s only four months old, but has already learned to fetch and play ball, to the delight of the Cowans. He is a replacement for Shatzi who unfortunately had to be put to sleep at age eight. The Cowans are thrilled to have found Andy.

Meet “Max,” (short for Maxwell), the three year old Maltese, owned by Harriet and Tony Parker. They consider him very special, lovable and obedient. He is a good watchdog and will bark at suspicious characters, but is wonderful with children, especially the Parker’s grandchildren.

“Sugar” is the pedigreed Maltese belonging to Allen and Eileen Danziger. Sugar is pure white (hence her name) and was purchased as a pup at a pet shop ten years ago. She is a smart little dog and understands everything the Danzigers say to her. She gives them much joy.

Joanne and Tom Shaffer are the proud owners of “Otis,” a black and white Boston terrier, weighing in at 28 pounds. He was a gift to Joanne at one day old, but the AKC required her to wait six weeks to get him registered. His official AKC name is “Otis Little Dot” and he is a delight.

Stan and Arlene Brizel own “Sporty,” a small Volpeno, who was six years old in October. Sporty, a great family dog, gives and loves affection. Sporty’s parents belong to the Brizel’s son, so he gets to see his parents often.

“Tobi” is a white and tan ShihTzu adopted by Jennie Platteis when the dog was abandoned and left at the Animal Shelter. Jennie had been looking for a Shih Tzu and it was love at first sight! “Tobi” is now three years old and weighs 12 pounds. She loves humans and is not happy with other dogs; she shies away when they are

present. She is a good traveler and doesn’t let Jennie out of her sight.

Almost everyone knows “Molly”, the fluffy white poodle with the pink bow. She proudly walks with Marge Chappell and a few other walkers about 5 PM daily. “Molly” is as friendly as she is adorable. Marge says that “Molly” will remember those who give her treats.

Bernie and Irene Freedman have “Abby”, their seven-year-old white mini-poodle, who weighs all of ten pounds. Bernie’s doctor was the original owner and was looking for a new home for his pet. Bernie quickly volunteered to take her at age two. Irene claims, “It was our blessing.” “Abby” is a smart, good-natured, happy camper. She even lets the cat drink out of her bowl!

“Lady Bug” is a purebred tri-colored (black-white-beige) Beagle. “Lady Bug” was nine months old when adopted by Gerry and Elly Roggs. The Roggs’ son got her from the pound and she was his dog until he went off to graduate school and left the dog in his parents’ care. They flew to Florida with her. Now that she is eleven years old, they need to drive with her. Beagles are hunting dogs with a keen sense of smell. When the Roggs return home from being away, “Lady Bug” will howl at their return.

There are many more pets in Majestic Isles with endearing, obedient, protective, and playful dispositions. We couldn’t interview all these owners, but do recognize the close relationship between owners and their pets. According to the M.I. by-laws, each family is limited to no more than two pets.

So we’re doing better than China, where beginning July 1, each household can raise only one pooch. Those with two or more dogs will have to decide which to keep; the rest must go. Sounds cruel to me! Meanwhile, folks, if you need a devoted, loyal friend, consider a dog!



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INVESTORS DISCUSSION GROUP

By Al Silverman, Facilitator



The summer time is upon us. Many of us are making vacation and travel plans. Others may plan to continue to experience the beautiful vacation land of Florida with its warm weather, blue skies and, oh yes, an occasional hurricane or two -- or three. The thought of the above, may possibly take our minds off the turmoil in the financial markets.

Those who have held tight during the past year or so may, by now, have experienced a partial recovery in value. Some may have panicked and sold, others may have been too timid or fearful to buy back near the bottom, and some, with a deep breath and some bravado, may have taken the plunge and bought at the lows, thus making a possible profit of 10% or 20% or more (and feel like a "Knocker" -- loosely translated as a "Genius").

Some of you feel you may have missed the boat in this early move. With the Fed pumping and printing money in an attempt to prop up the economy, the long-term effects should be felt down the road. However, with rising fuel costs, the housing market still in trouble, the threatening world events, and more, the road going forward may be very bumpy. In fact many analysts expect a sell-off, or correction during the next few months.

They are usually talking about growth stocks, which are vulnerable in this environment. Investments that pay dividends may be less affected. In any event, keep an eye on interest rate -- and every other imaginable indicator that measures our market and the economy.

The next meeting is planned for September. Have a nice summer.



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



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SHOW ME THE MONEY

By Phyllis M. Cohen

There's been a lot of talk in the media recently about money, huge amounts of money. Of course, part of the talk is due to the current unpleasant economic circumstances in which the world finds itself. Apparently, billions of dollars have been flowing through the economy to aid near bankrupt companies (and unfortunately, some of it has evaporated in the demise of ailing auto and insurance companies) with a mere trickle going down to the populace in the form of extended unemployment benefits and stimulus grants. And when the national debt is mentioned, numbers in the trillions are revealed.

But I'll leave all this talk about macroeconomics to the experts and pundits who fill our TV screens, print media and Internet sites. I am always more intrigued by recent stories about the average person who is suddenly caught up in a change of fortune. And several great stories have appeared in recent months that have amazed and confounded me. One of the first to appear concerned a recent powerball winner. For those who don't follow our state lottery interests, powerball is a multi-state lottery that has seen huge jackpots accrue. Most recently, a young cowboy from South Dakota bought a ticket—in the town of Winner—and was the sole winner of a jackpot worth over \$240 million (actual payoffs after taxes, etc. amounts to around 80 million). He came from a hardscrabble ranching family in a small town and had invested his last few dollars in a few tickets for the game. In an interview shown on national TV, he looked very much like the trapped Miss California being asked that fateful question at the Miss USA pageant by Perez Hilton this year. When asked what he would do with the money, the cowboy, in the same vein as the beauty contestants, remarked that he would use it to benefit many of the people who had been so good to him and his family. (There has been a poor track record for many of the big lottery winners, unaccustomed as they are to managing a sudden influx of dollars.) One can only hope the young man succeeds. Shortly after the announcement, the reporter indicated that a new chain and lock had been strung across the gate to his ranch. The onslaught had begun.

But even more intriguing to me was a tale out of New Zealand, where a couple suddenly found that their line of credit at the bank had been bumped up to \$8

million. It seems the couple had asked for a \$10,000 loan and the amount of \$8 million was somehow transferred into their account. Before the bank could correct the error, the money and the couple had disappeared to places unknown. Like many media stories, I take this with a huge grain of salt. Could this really have been a bank "error?" How could average Mr. Kiwi, faced with this huge pile of dough, suddenly figure out a way to extract this money from the bank and get out of town? The last time I tried to have my bank generate a large certified check from my own money, I had to deal with three vice-presidents and swear to give up my first-born grandchild. Who has an offshore bank account ready to take the funds? Definitely a plot worth investigating.

My favorite is the story from Israel where an elderly woman's daughter surprised her with a new mattress and threw out the old one, unaware that her mother had hidden her life savings of \$1 million in Israeli shekels and American dollars in the old mattress. The story went on to say that she was searching landfills for the missing mattress. What a great story! Like the reporters, I wondered where the money had come from. She wouldn't say, but obviously didn't trust banks. I wondered how big a pile \$1 million would make. I did a little research and assuming she had notes of \$100 denominations, that would be 10,000 bills. At the weight of American banknotes, about one gram, that would be about 452 to a pound or around 22 pounds of money. And if the bills were of smaller value, there could be far more bills. I wondered how you stuffed 10,000 bills in a mattress (zipper? secret compartment?), let alone how one could sleep on a paper filled bed. And finally, would you really not mention to your daughter that you had hidden \$1 million in your house?

In any event, it's easy to see that money doesn't necessarily bring happiness, as those people with money keep telling those of us without. But you can certainly create a lot of big stories and generate tremendous interest anytime a bizarre tale is told. Did I tell you that I have a winning power ball ticket too? If you see my mattress outside, call me.



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VISITING:**Phyllis and Bernard Fishkin**

By Claire Deveney



Walking into the tastefully decorated home of Phyllis and Bernard Fishkin, one is immediately taken by the beauty of the splendid sculptures created by Phyllis.

Phyllis' sculptures are chiseled in a variety of stone: gray, white, marbled, black and brown. "The Lady with the Hat" is a relief carved out of grey stone that glistens as a background for the subject, who is dramatically presented in black. The subject appears to be a woman from the 1930s. "Children on the Seesaw" captures a joyful moment in clean, crisp white stone.

Although Phyllis prefers not to title many of her works some other subjects include an Indian woman on a rock, a mother and child, and several free form sculptures. A piece with chiseled faces on the front and back of a sculptured head, displayed on a swivel, is particularly intriguing. Most of the works are two and one-half feet tall and one to two feet wide and are displayed throughout on pedestals and tabletops.

Bernard and Phyllis were both born and raised in the Bronx, New York. Phyllis attended P.S. 61, Herman Ridder Junior High (J.H.S. 98), and James Monroe High School. She attended City College of New York for two years before transferring to Queens College where she earned her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in education.

Phyllis initially taught fourth and fifth grade in Huntington, Long Island, and later was a language arts teacher. Her career spanned 25 years. She loved teaching and enjoys talking about it.

Bernard attended P.S. 92 for the first and second grade. After his father died when Bernard was in the second grade, he attended P.S. 61. He went to Herman Ridder Junior High, but did not know Phyllis who was a few years younger. After graduating from DeWitt Clinton High School, he entered Fordham University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy in 1950. He went on to Long Island

University, C.W. Post Campus, and earned an M.S. degree in professional studies in 1952.

Bernard began his career as a pharmacist that year and in 1957 he and a partner opened their own neighborhood pharmacy in East Northport, Long Island where he worked for 33 years.

Bernard and Phyllis grew up in the same neighborhood and knew of each other casually. They met on a date arranged by Phyllis' friend and Bernard then asked her out to his college prom. They began dating and soon fell in love and became engaged. They married two years later, in 1952.

The Fishkins have two sons. Mitchell, a dentist, and his wife, Anna, a fabric designer, live in Long Island. David, a gastroenterologist, and his wife, Judy, a dentist, reside in Hagerstown, Maryland with their sons, Jacob, 12, and Eric, 9. Her grandsons have already told Phyllis what sculpture they would eventually like to have.

Bernard and Phyllis started married life in Mount Vernon, N.Y. Five years later they moved to Great Neck, Long Island and then, in 1959, to Plainview, N.Y., where they made their home for 38 years. They moved to Majestic Isles 11 years ago. Bernard explains, "We bought a condo in Boca Raton and we only used it for two weeks during school vacations." Then they decided to relocate and chose M.I. When asked why Florida, Bernard said, "I liked it and I liked the weather." Phyllis added, "We met nice people and it seemed like a good place to settle."

Phyllis works as a travel agent part time for an agency. Bernard and Phyllis are active members of M.I.L.T. and each has performed a variety of roles. Phyllis has also tap danced in a number of shows. Watch for Bernard and Phyllis in the upcoming M.I.L.T. productions, "The Retrial of Harry Bernstein" on Nov. 7 and 8, and "Send Me No Flowers in March 2010. The Fishkins are members of the M.I. Cancer Research Unit of the Pap Corps and Phyllis serves on its Board of Directors. They also are members of the Social Club and other groups at M.I. "We are enjoying life" Bernard comments.

They both are very humorous, creative, congenial, patient, warm, caring, gracious, very accomplished and multi- talented. They are assets to Majestic Isles.





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MILESTONES

By Joan Sorkin



Marvin and Joan Sorkin celebrate 50 years of married life.

Wedding Date: July 11, 1959

Where: Beth Israel Temple, Brooklyn, New York

Hometown: Marvin and Joan were born in Brooklyn less than a mile away from each other. After they were married, they bought their first home in Massapequa, Long Island and after 10 years moved to Wantagh.

How they met: Joan's best friend insisted her date bring a tall friend for Joan. He did not know any tall friends, but his best friend lived next door to Marvin. Marvin was coerced to be the third couple on this triple date. They hit it off right away. One of the friends remarked to his date: "The next time I see you will be at their wedding." Little did he know that it would be true 1½ years later.

Former occupations: Marvin, a retired pharmacist owned an apothecary shop in Far Rockaway and later a full service store in Woodhaven, Queens. Joan, was a full time travel agent after the children were grown.

Family: The Sorkin's eldest son David, his wife and their three sons now live in nearby Royal Palm Beach; David's daughter lives in New York. Their son Michael also lives in New York with his two daughters and son. Their daughter Tracy lives in Delaware with her husband, son and daughter.

How they celebrated: A family party is planned and they are planning a cruise in the fall.

Secret of a successful marriage: Trust, mutual respect combined with a lot of laughter.

A TWIST OF FATE

By Arlene Levin

I had just entered my junior year at the University of Maryland when Herb and I met. He was a veteran of the Korean War, fulfilling his dream of a college education through the G. I. Bill. I was a coed, balancing a social life with the requisite need to graduate in no more than four years. While the circumstances of our meeting were unremarkable, I have always found it amazing that we ever met at all.

Herb's story began in 1944. The war was raging in Europe and the Pacific, and able-bodied men from all corners of the country were being drafted. Most of his friends and neighbors had already received their orders. Fresh out of high school, he couldn't understand why he had not been called up. After discussing this with his parents, Herb paid a visit to the local draft board. At first they were unable to locate his name. Further searching revealed it was in the "deceased file." The officer in charge told him he would never have been drafted, but could now expect to be hearing from his Uncle Sam. After reviewing his options, Herb decided to join the Merchant Marines. He trained as a radio operator and became proficient in Morse Code, an ability that would come to serve him very well.

In 1950 Herb received his draft notice for the war in Korea and was notified to report to Fort Jackson, North Carolina. To his dismay, his stint in the Merchant Marines did not exempt him from further service. Following basic training, he was deployed to Pusan. Upon arrival, his unit of several hundred men gathered on the hillside awaiting assignments. The officer in charge announced that their radio operator had broken his glasses and was being sent back to Japan. In need of a replacement he asked if anyone knew Morse Code. Out of the multitude of men on that hill, Herb's hand was the only one raised. He has always believed that lucky break was the reason he survived the war. One year later he returned home, setting his sights on a dental degree.

In 1952 I was introduced to Herb through a friend. I was seeking a ride home from college and learned we were going the same way. Six decades later we still are. Some would call it good timing, others serendipity. I call it a twist of fate.



VACATIONING IN PARADISE

By Phyllis M. Cohen

If the economy, health issues or just inertia have you stranded in Florida for the summer, be of good cheer. No other place is so perfectly suited for the new “staycation” than our little piece of paradise.

Here are a few suggestions for some short day trips that won't strain your gas budget, over-exert you or take too long to reach. If the beach is your thing, think Lake Worth, not Hawaii. Now that construction on A1A has finally been completed, take a drive north and enjoy the sight of luxury mansions tucked in between high hedges along the ocean as you drive through Boynton and Manalapan to Lake Worth. There you can walk along a boardwalk flanked by two landmark restaurants, John G's on one end, and Benny's, built on the pier. The pier has been completely rebuilt after suffering in recent hurricanes so you can walk out and watch the fishermen try their luck or just enjoy the sea views. If you don't want to eat indoors, buy a take out lunch at John G's (fantastic seafood lunches and scrumptious breakfasts only) and eat at one of their tables outside, on a bench along the boardwalk, or better yet, in a lovely little park just yards away from the boardwalk where trees and grass make a cool spot. Tacky seaside souvenirs and high-end beach clothes are available in the little stores on the boardwalk, as well as some great rum raisin ice cream.

Of course, don't forget the beach. Go while the Lake Worth boardwalk is still there. For years, there has been talk of tearing down some of the old buildings for, you guessed it, more condos. And the downtown area of Lake Worth just over the bridge from the beach (Lake and Lucerne Avenues) is still a fun place to walk and dine full of quirky restaurants and small shops, but already in the shadow of looming condos, like those to the south, in Delray. In Lantana, a little south along Ocean Avenue, there are still some charming buildings and restaurants reminiscent of Key West and the old Florida tropical style.

Drive south along A1A to Highland Beach, just south of Delray. Hotels stand cheek by jowl along the ocean, like Fort Lauderdale or Miami, but you can enjoy a great luncheon on the ocean at the Holiday Inn in Highland Beach.

If you really want to see a slice of old Florida, look for announcements of the Okeechobee cattlemen's rodeo, which will be held on Labor Day. For the last couple of years it has been held indoors at the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center. This does involve a ride along back roads to Okeechobee, probably almost an hour's trip, as you compete with tractors and farm vehicles when you get a few miles west. The event is a reminder of small town life as lived all over the west and south where jeans or overalls, boots and cowboy hats are standard dress for men, women and children who work on the farms and ranches of this rural area. Church groups sponsor food booths, high school teenagers act as ushers, and everyone stands respectfully for an opening prayer by a local clergyman and the singing of the Star Spangled Banner. The rodeo is the real McCoy complete with roping, riding, and cowboys and cowgirls. The “mutton busting contests” pit four-year olds against lambs as little boys and girls try their best to ride lambs for a few seconds.

Take some time to take in the sights and sounds of an earlier time. A country song that I hear from time to time laments, “that they've paved over paradise and made it a parking lot.” Enjoy while you can.

MOVIES AT M.I.



Saturday, Aug. 15 at 8 p.m.: Last Chance Harvey Romantic comedy starring Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson

Friday, Aug. 28 at 8 p.m.: The Reader Poignant drama set in post-WWII Germany, starring Ralph Fiennes and Kate Winslet.

Saturday, Sept. 12 at 8 p.m.: Match Point This suspenseful drama with a Hitchcockian flair stars Jonathan Rhys-Meyers and Scarlett Johansson.

Saturday, Sept. 26 at 8 p.m.: Married Life An atmospheric drama with Patricia Clarkson, Chris Cooper, Rachel McAdams and Pierce Brosnan.

Fuller descriptions of the movies listed above are available online at www.netflix.com.

The July 31 movie is described on page 25.

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M. I. CANCER RESEARCH UNIT

By Bobbe Greene

The Cancer Unit board members have been hard at work planning some great events for this summer and fall.

Join us on **Thursday, July 16** at 12 noon for “More Than Lunch” at the new Tealicious Tea Room. The food is fabulous, the surroundings are both elegant and interesting. and the price for this wonderful afternoon is only \$20 per person.

A “Jewelry Soiree” will be held on **Sunday, August 9** from 2 to 4 p.m. Come view a new line of jewelry designed by creative Bunny Eisenberg, and sip champagne punch while listening to beautiful background music by the talented pianist, Selma Friedman.

At **3 P.M.** on **Thursday, September 10**, come for a “Happy Hour” and installation of officers. Hor d’oeuvres and wine will be served and entertainment will round out the afternoon. Couvert will be \$5.

Tickets will soon be going on sale for the delightful musical “Singing in the Rain” at the Broward Stage Door Theatre. We’ll be attending the matinee at 2 p.m., Saturday, **March 10, 2010**. Tickets are \$32 apiece.

SAVE THESE DATES:

October 29: General meeting, details to be announced.

November 13: Luncheon and Fashion Show by Patchington in our ballroom. Watch channel 63 for further information.

Please check the back lobby and channel 63 for updates on our programs.

See you all in the October issue.



MOVIE: Friday, July 31 at 8 p.m.

“TAKEN” While vacationing with a friend in Paris, an American girl (Maggie Grace) is kidnapped by a gang of human traffickers intent on selling her into forced prostitution. Now, her father, Bryan (Liam Neeson), a former soldier, must pull out all the stops to save her. This relentless action thriller stars Maggie Grace, Liam Neeson and Famke Janssen.

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MAJESTIC ISLES HADASSAH

By Bobbe Greene



On Monday **August 24th** we are holding a Summer Sizzler. What's a Summer Sizzler, you ask? It is a delightful afternoon with a lunch of deli wraps, soft drinks and desserts plus a card game or other game of your choice. It will run from 11:30 a.m. until "whenever" and it will be held in our clubhouse. The event is open to everyone, including associates and outsiders, so get your games together. If you need a partner, we will be happy to arrange a group for you. The cost for this great day is only \$18. Please put all names and checks for your table in one envelope and indicate what game you will be playing. Put your envelope in the back lobby mailbox to the attention of Sherry Everitt or Carole Burstein. Lee Katz (733-6702 will answer your questions.

In September we'll hold our first open Board meeting so all Hadassah members can see how our organization runs and what we do. Do join us!

The High Holidays are right around the corner so start thinking about buying your scrip for The Boys and Glick's. Rita Marderstein and Gloria Steingart will be happy to assist you. Remember that you can wish your friends and neighbors a Happy New Year by including your name on a special page in the Hadassah Bulletin. Listings are \$5 per name. Roz Wolf is collecting the names and checks. Lee Katz and Lucille Garelick are chairing the Book of Remembrance. Each name to be remembered is \$5. Donor credit is given for each of these fundraisers. Again, put your envelopes in the mailbox in rear lobby.

Celebrate the New Moon at a Rosh Hodesh Gathering at the Morikami Picnic Area at 10 a.m. on July 22nd and August 20th.

Be sure to watch Channel 63 and look in the back lobby for the latest Hadassah information.



BIG NEWS



What: Hadassah Cruise on Celebrity Solstice

When: January 10 to January 17, 2010

Where: Round trip from Fort Lauderdale to San Juan, St. Kitts and St. Maarten.

How: Call Barbara Mitchell (637-1660) for reservations and information.

See flyers in the back lobby

SINGLE SCENE

By Thelma Mechanic

The Singles summer schedule is light, but we do have some plans:

July 10, Friday

No Board meeting

4 p.m.: The general meeting will include the distribution of the Florida Stage tickets and arrangement of car pools for the July 19 theater expedition (see below).

July 19, Sunday

2 p.m.: Matinee performance of "Some Kind of Wonderful" at the Florida Stage in Manalapan,

5:30 p.m.: Dinner at Callero's.

No Meetings in August

September 11, Friday

3 p.m.: Board meeting

4: p.m. General meeting, with box dinner and cards or games of choice to follow.

We'll be back "full steam ahead" in October.



SPARES AND STRIKES

By Dave Feinberg



Because this is the last newsletter until October, I would like to remind all bowlers that there will be a meeting on **Sunday, August 23 at 10:00 a.m.**

At that time all team rosters will be announced and posted for the coming season. Snowbirds should let me know their return date so we can resolve any potential problems with team handicaps.

We still bowl on Tuesday at **Strike Zone** on Military Trail just north of Hypoloxo Road.

Please call me at 733-4837 if you need any additional information.

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SOCIAL CLUB

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

Photographs of Majestic Isles residents who were veterans of past military conflicts were displayed at our Memorial Day Party. Guests tried to match names to the pictures, but it wasn't an easy task. We had a wonderful response for this party featuring entertainer Larry Brendler, who put on a marvelous show. All of the guests enjoyed the food and music.

As the hot and hazy days of summer are upon us, the Social Club Board is involved in arranging for future shows and parties. Our first scheduled party for the season is the Labor Day Luau on Monday, September 7, which includes a Chinese Buffet and entertainment. The cost will be \$18 per person. Look for flyers with more information.

Our next event will be a square dance on Saturday, October 31 with caller Burt Sommers. Anyone who has previously attended one of his dances knows it will be a fun-filled evening.

The big gala of 2009 will be our annual New Year's Eve Party with the music and entertainment by "The Poppy Band." Final payment of \$25 per person is due by October 15.

On Saturday, January 23 we will present the first of our 2010 series, showcasing comedian Cory Kahaney and Israeli singer Shalva Berti. Series tickets for all three shows are available at \$70 per person. Single show tickets are also being sold. Contact Arlene Koch (736-4315).

Movies are still being shown twice a month at a cost of \$1 per person that includes light refreshments. Check Channel 63 for film titles.

Anyone interested in joining the Social Club Board, please contact Lee Katz (733-6702). We are an integral part of Majestic Isles and welcome residents to fill any vacant positions.

Have a healthy and happy summer!

MEMO FROM THE MEN'S CLUB

- We are planning a trip to Hard Rock Casino on Wednesday, September 30.
- Bingo will be suspended until October.

WOMEN'S CLUB

By Sandy Gardner and Myrna Levine

Now that the summer is here we are not having any meetings or events during the month of July.

On August 10, we are having our annual Canasta Tournament at the Clubhouse. The charge will be \$7.per person, guests welcome. Each team should place all of its checks in one envelope. Don't forget your card trays. Doors open at 12:15 p.m., and the games start PROMPTLY at 12:30 p.m. Each game will have a 40 minute time limit, with a 10 minute intermission between games. There will be cash prizes for the winners. Coffee And..... will be served.

On September 2, we are going back to **Murder On The Beach Book Store**. Please watch for further information on Channel 63 and on the flyers in the back lobby of the Clubhouse.

On October 12, we'll hold our card party at the Boca Greens Country Club with a buffet luncheon.

Our Majestic Isles cookbooks are still available. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy for herself or for friends and relatives, please contact Sandy Gardner at 740-4079. Price per book is \$10.

We want to wish everyone a healthy, happy summer.



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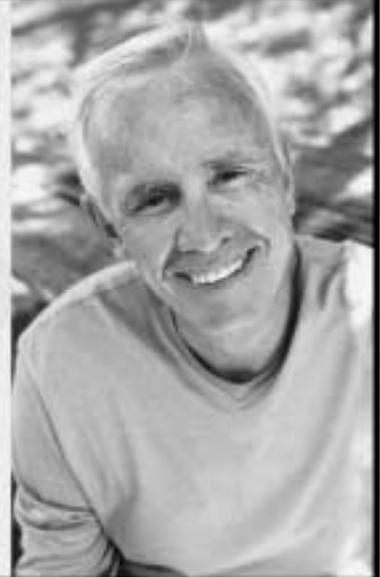
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SPECIAL EVENTS
JUNE 30, 2009 – AUGUST 31, 2009



JULY 2009

July 25, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Showtime** (p, h)
July 27-28, Mon.-Tues., Men's Club: **Lake Wales-Mt. Dora Trip** (p, a)
July 29, Wed. 10 a.m., Men's Club: **Casino** (p, a)
July 31, Fri. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)

AUGUST 2009

Aug. 10, Mon. 12:15 p.m., Women's Club: **Canasta Tournament** (p, h)
Aug. 15, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)
Aug. 22, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Showtime** (p, h)
Aug. 24, Mon. 11:30 a.m., Hadassah: **Summer Sizzler Games** (p, h)
Aug. 28, Fri. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)

SEPTEMBER 2009

Sept. 2, Wed. 11:30 a.m., Women's Club: **Murder on the Beach Book Store**, (p, a)
Sept. 7, Mon. 5:30-9:30 p.m., Social Club: **Labor Day Party** (p, h)
Sept. 12, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)
Sept. 26, Sat. 8 p.m., Social Club: **Movie Night** (p, h)
Sept. 30, Wed. 10am, Men's Club: **Casino** (p, a)

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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