Majestic Isles News
January 2019
Volume 22
Issue 4

Happy New Year

Cover by Gail Shatzkamer
WHO'S #1 IN MAJESTIC ISLES?
STEPHEN KARTEN & ALENE KRISTAL
MAJESTIC ISLES RESIDENTS

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MANAGER’S CORNER

Dear Residents,

Hopefully, by the time you read this, we will have reopened the clubhouse and left the trailer behind. There are a large number of contractors we needed to deal with in order to accomplish this task, and it was a complicated scenario. First, we had to coordinate with our IT vendor to have all the wiring set up in our new office. Believe it or not, prior to the renovation, all the wires were just hanging in mid-air! We now have a box that will be the main hub for channel 63, security cameras, phone lines, and modem.

Comcast needed to come out and switch our lines back to the clubhouse, a project we hope will have been completed by the time you read this. We also have to set up the cameras in our new office, and Priscilla and I will have a screen to see the interior of the clubhouse. Prior to renovation I did not have any screen to see what was on the cameras.

Yes, there’s more! We had to make sure all phone and Internet lines, as well as ADT and the fire alarms, were up and running prior to moving back. My thanks to Mark Jaffie and Bob Edinger, both of whom have been hands on every step of the way, helping make sure everything fell back into place. Coordinating all these vendors was sometimes tedious, and making sure there were no mistakes was also challenging. Nonetheless, we are excited to be back in the clubhouse.

We needed to close the office for a few days prior to the move just to get everything organized. We understand this is a hectic time of year, and thank everyone for their understanding.

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season, and Priscilla and I wish you all a peaceful and healthy new year ahead. Stop by our new office to say hello when the clubhouse reopens!

Regards,
Jay Peskoff
Property Manager
Email: jpeskoff@castlegroup.com
Phone: 561-734-8738

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

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Annual Meeting,
December 13, 2018
Submitted by Claire Deveney

(Editor’s note: This is an unofficial summary of the Annual Meeting of December 13.)

Jay Peskoff called the meeting to order with 80 residents in attendance. Jay thanked Priscilla Nieves, Castle Assistant Manager, and three additional Castle Services staff who helped with the meeting.

Jay stated there were four director positions open, each for a two-year term on the seven-member board; he read the names, in alphabetical order: Joel Cohen, Bob Edinger, Jerry Ehrlich and Mark Jaffie. He indicated that they were duly elected for a two-year term on the Board of Directors.

Jay also stated that the board officers’ positions in 2018 would continue in 2019. Jerry Ehrlich commented that the board works well together.

Joel Rosenthal, treasurer, stated that the renovation of the clubhouse was expected to be completed for $1.4 million, and reserves would be used to complete the project, and that sufficient funds remain in the operating budget.

President Bob Edinger said, “Our best guess is that the clubhouse may be opened the first week of January.” He complimented Mark Jaffie for working tirelessly on the clubhouse renovation for the community.

The 2019 Majestic Isles Board of Directors are Bob Edinger, President, Mark Jaffie, First Vice President, Joel Rosenthal, Treasurer, Al Spampinato, Second Vice President, Alan Stevens, Secretary, Jerry Ehrlich and Joel Cohen, Members-at-Large.

A BELATED CHRISTMAS JOKE
Submitted by Alene Kristal

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer, however, retain their antlers until after they give birth in the spring.

Therefore, according to every historical rendition depiction of Santa’s reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen had to be female. We should have known this. Only women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night, and not get lost!

HELP FEED THE HUNGRY WITH YOUR KEYS
Submitted by Joan Baron

Drop off your old keys in the bucket in the trailer (and later in the clubhouse). The Key for Hope Foundation collects these keys, recycles them, and sells the end product to purchase food that goes directly to local food pantries. So check your junk drawers for old keys, and help feed those less fortunate than us.

HAPPY NEW YEAR from the MAJESTIC ISLES Newsletter Team

From our hearts to your home we would like to wish you and your families:

12 months of success
52 weeks of laughter
365 days of fun
8,760 hours of joy
525,600 minutes of good luck and
31,536,000 seconds of happiness

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Package Coverage</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Air Conditioning (including compressor - up to 4 tons)</td>
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<td>Heating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thermostat/Humidistat</td>
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<td>Refrigerator</td>
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<td>Icemaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cold Water / Ice Dispenser</td>
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<td>Oven/Range (includes self-cleaning)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microwave Oven (built-in)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garbage Disposal (replacement - 1/2 HP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plumbing &amp; Electric (2 Baths)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Dishwasher</td>
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<td>Washer/Dryer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Heater (up to 40 gallons)</td>
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**Total Basic Package Price:** $230.00

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COMMUNITIES

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<th>NAME</th>
<th>BOD MBR</th>
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<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>Mark J.</td>
<td>Ed Mordis</td>
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<td>Bob E.</td>
<td>Sally Galan</td>
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<td>Calendar</td>
<td>Mark J.</td>
<td>Priscilla Nieves</td>
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<td>Jerry E.</td>
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<td>COBWRA</td>
<td>Joel C.</td>
<td>Steve Bayer</td>
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<td>Bob E.</td>
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<td>Joel R.</td>
<td>Ken Keller</td>
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<td>Jerry E.</td>
<td>Bob Luther</td>
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<td>Bob E.</td>
<td>Stan Davidson</td>
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<td>Al Stevens</td>
<td>Ken Keller</td>
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<td>Joel C.</td>
<td>Bob Rosenhouch</td>
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<td>Al Stevens</td>
<td>Barbara van Asselt</td>
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<td>Mark J.</td>
<td>Bill Broth</td>
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<td>Technology</td>
<td>Bob E.</td>
<td>Nissim Attali</td>
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If you are interested in being on a committee, call the resident chairperson and volunteer.

2019 MAJESTIC ISES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bob Edinger</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:edingerhoa@gmail.com">edingerhoa@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>738-0069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documents, Grounds &amp; Technology committees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Jaffie</td>
<td>1st V.P.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:snailsny@aol.com">snailsny@aol.com</a></td>
<td>733-2312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar &amp; Kitchen committees</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joel Rosenthal</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:cooldad10@aol.com">cooldad10@aol.com</a></td>
<td>739-6439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance committee</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Al Spampinato</td>
<td>2nd V.P.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:spampis2@gmail.com">spampis2@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>914-414-2843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts committee</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan Stevens</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:adstevens.ta@aol.com">adstevens.ta@aol.com</a></td>
<td>336-4223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance, Painting &amp; New Neighbors committees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry Ehrlich</td>
<td>Member-at-large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:na_gerry@bellsouth.net">na_gerry@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>737-7369</td>
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<td>Fitness committees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joel Cohen</td>
<td>Member-at-large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:jocoh11@aol.com">jocoh11@aol.com</a></td>
<td>742-9695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security &amp; Lighting committees</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

GOOD AND WELFARE

THINKING OF YOU
Seena Calder
Enid Gerard

SYMPATHY
To Enid Gross on the loss of her sister.

MESSAGES
To all my friends and neighbors who thought of me during my recent surgery, called or visited, I thank you. Alan Stevens

Please note: Notices are reserved for members of the Majestic Isles community. We reserve the right to edit for length (30 word maximum) and clarity. Submit items to Bobbe Greene by email at grambobbe@gmail.com with Good and Welfare as the subject, or call 561-738-9983. Acknowledgement of each email will be sent as verification of receipt.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS

The Majestic Isles Art Class will be starting up when the clubhouse opens up again. Whatever your medium, come paint with us or sketch: oil, acrylic, watercolor, etc. We will meet the first and third of each month from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Instruction by Joyce Milbauer, the "Art Teacher"
For more information, give me a call, 561-731-3164.

JANUARY MEETING

BOD workshop Jan 7th 2019, 10 a.m. Pool area
Watch Castle eblast for notices of other meetings.

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The Arts

By Stephen Karten

The Arts, as described by Wikipedia, are “a vast subdivision of culture, composed of many creative endeavors and disciplines” encompassing “visual arts, literary arts, and the performing arts - music, theater, dance, spoken word, and film among others.”

As a child, I remember first becoming exposed to classical music by my father. After purchasing a new combination TV, AM/FM radio/record player/turndtable for our apartment, he began collecting, and playing, what was to become a vast collection of both semi-classical and classical recordings. Frequently, as I listened to these works, my reaction, rather than what many might consider those of a young boy - ugh, yuck, etc, I found myself enjoying them, even playing many of the classical pieces when alone. My love of classical music grew even during the years when I, like many of my generation, latched on to the rock n’ roll wave, then the English invasion and also heavy metal rock. In my mid-thirties, although still enjoying contemporary and rock music, my love of classical music seemed to re-emerge, and expand to composers and styles I hadn’t listened to before. Two areas where I was unexposed, though, were opera and ballet. Although I had gone to numerous classical concerts over the years, opera and ballet were never really part of my interests.

Fast forward to the turn of the twenty-first century. Alene and I, living in central New Jersey, were invited by a friend in our neighborhood to go to the opera at Princeton University. We both enjoyed it immensely, and I was hooked. Princeton wasn’t far. We went there often for dinner. So it was that we continued to go and enjoy opera occasionally, with me wondering why it had taken me this long to become a fan.

Not that much later, another friend/neighbor, an even bigger opera buff, told us about Fathom Events: https://www.fathomevents.com/. This company that came into existence in 2002, as an experiment to test whether a movie theater could flourish while showing direct broadcasting of studio blockbusters and one of a kind entertainment events. These include live, high definition performances such as the Metropolitan Opera, other performing arts, and the Bolshoi Ballet (direct and live from Moscow). There are moderators who are themselves major stars in the art form being performed at the event, who offer the opportunity to be fully immersed in content that is awe inspiring, while, at the same time, providing the best seats in the house that one could have. During intermissions, they take one backstage to show all that is done by the crews of stage hands in putting on a production and preparing for the next act. One actually watches as they move scenery and transform the stage. Also, they interview, at length, these world famous stars who are performing in the production that day. They also offer a brief history of the work, and how it evolved and where it was first performed, etc.

These events have become a regular part of our lives. We find ourselves attending at least six or so of them a year. Recently, we have seen two performances of the Bolshoi Ballet, and we have tickets for another one or two events in the next month or so. To say the opera is superb is an understatement. The voices are incredible - the best in the world. And, as impressed as I am, and as much as I’ve enjoyed the operatic performances, I must say I’ve come to enjoy the Bolshoi Ballet even more, if possible. Getting the very close-up view, as if one was sitting in the first five rows or closer at the actual theater, is astonishing. I never, ever thought a human being could perform, could dance, could “fly” as these, the universally recognized best dancers in the world do. I sit there mesmerized, with my mouth agape, in disbelief of what I’m seeing with my own eyes. Everyone should see this at least once in their lives. In my opinion, there aren’t enough superlatives to describe it. Let me just say superb, and extraordinary.

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THE BULLETIN BOARD
By Ellen Nelson

Are you looking to join a card game, form a card game, need a card player, tennis partner, have an item to sell, place to rent, show tickets to sell, need a travel companion, etc. etc. etc.? Put the word out, submit your request via email to ellenelson@aol.com no later than the 10th of the month. No soliciting or commercial business of any kind – strictly neighbor to neighbor. Your email must contain your name, phone number and email address. Replies will be sent directly to you. Limited to MI residents only.

ITEMS FOR SALE

BAR STOOLS, like new, counter height. $200 or best offer. Larry Milbauer 731-3164. Larryjimm35@aol.com

GOLF BALLS for sale, famous makers: Titleist, Callaway, Taylormade and others. Neil Rodin 369-3940. Merrille.Rodin2@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR

Used adult bicycle ready to ride, with helmet. Could borrow, buy or rent for a few weeks in February, March. Marilyn Loshin 739-8579, cell 704-2074. meloshin@yahoo.com

Men and woman who would like to play social water volleyball at our pool. All interested, please call Jerry Ehrlich at 345-1003.

Ladies or gents who would like to play indoor Ping-Pong in the afternoon or evening hours. Please call Jerry Ehrlich at 345-1003.

New Years Eve One Liners
Submitted by Alene Kristal
From the Internet

♦ A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.
♦ My New Year's resolution is to be more optimistic by keeping my cup half-full, with rum, vodka, or whiskey.
♦ New Years Eve is the only acceptable time to wear body glitter without being mistaken for a stripper.
♦ My New Year's resolution is to stop hanging out with people who ask me about my New Year's resolutions.
♦ If you were born in September, it's pretty safe to assume your parents started out the New Year with a bang!
♦ I have only one resolution. To rediscover the difference between wants and needs. May I have all I need and want all I have.
♦ May all your troubles last as long as your New Year resolutions.
♦ New Year's is just a holiday created by calendar companies who don't want you reusing last year's calendar. I'm actually feeling pretty okay about not accomplishing anything this year.
♦ My 2019 resolution is for everyone else to gain the 50 pounds I refuse to lose.
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RV TRAVELS ACROSS AMERICA
By Marilyn Gendoff

We are fairly new to Boynton and to Majestic Isles. One of the first questions I’m always asked is “Where are you from?” Our answer (my husband Barry’s and mine) is a bit more involved than most others. I always start with, “I’m a Jersey girl.”

Well, I started off in Jersey, but spent 38 years in Brooklyn, four months in San Diego, and three and a half years in an RV and 11 years in Palm Springs.

Wait a minute, did you say “three years in an RV?” That must have been interesting - it was! My parents had RV’d and we thought it was a great way to see the country. We are Sabbath observers, so we did have some concerns about travelling throughout the country. But in an RV, you have your own bed to sleep in and a full kitchen to stock up on kosher food, so that lessened the concern.

There were some problems with the RV. We thought that the water needed a special pump, so we had the dealer install one. The dum-dums who installed it weren’t very bright. The RV had two slides. When we were parked, they opened to increase the size of the RV. These smart people installed the pump in the section that moves out, so when we opened the slide to see if it worked, it sliced the hose in half. It turns out we didn’t need it, so it was removed.

In the years that we lived in the RV, we crossed the country six times, visiting 45 states; overall, we have been to 48 states. (And yes, we have been to Alaska and Hawaii, on cruises.) We missed Arkansas and North Dakota.

We have met some really nice people, spent the Sabbath all over the country, and played Jewish geography with all we met. We were always able to find someone we knew in common. The highlight was in Omaha, Nebraska at Friday night dinner with the Chabad Rabbi and his family. As we talked, we realized the Rabbi’s father-in-law had played in the band at our wedding!

We have seen so many National Parks that my National Parks Passport book is full. When asked to name our favorite place, Yellowstone is the first I think of. The park is beautiful, but one cannot adequately describe it. You have to be there to smell the chemicals in the air, to feel the heat of the geysers, to hear the popping of the “paint pots.” It is something everyone should see. Coming from the East Coast, I thought of Utah limited to the Mormons and The Great Salt Lake. I was truly mistaken, as Utah is the most beautiful of states. Barry took over 100 pictures throughout Utah of the National Parks: Zion, Arches and Bryce. We missed the other state parks, but they should also be spectacular.

We spent a Sabbath in an RV park in Salt Lake City where we met an Israeli family traveling the country for a few months. They were having a traditional Friday night dinner. We met another couple from Long Island traveling with their dog “Shayna Punim” (pretty face).

I did all the driving. In those three and a half years, we put 40,000 miles on the RV and 50,000 on the car we towed. Barry drove a total of 20 feet, on three separate occasions.

The friendliest place we encountered, hands down, was San Jose California. We had planned to stay 10 days, but stayed for five weeks. We have been back there four or five times since. We were treated as family, almost from the moment we arrived. It’s such a warm community - I recommend it to everyone.

On our first cross-country trip, we took three weeks to go back east to be with the kids for Passover. We had every night planned. We had reservations in all the RV parks we needed and Sabbath plans in Phoenix, San Antonio and Nashville. After that, we vowed never to plan so much ahead again.

On this trip, we passed places that looked really interesting, but we always had more driving to do, so we couldn’t stop. On every other trip, we drove until we had our fill and then looked in a directory from Good Sam for RV parks. The Good Sam book lists RV parks all over the country - including the amenities, the size RV’s that it accepts, and the price. We paid as little as $6 a night when the park was affiliated with one of the organizations we (continued on page 24)
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Buttons and Bows
By Phyllis M. Cohen

I’m getting dressed to go out, hair done, impeccable makeup when the unexpected occurs. A strategic button, in the most conspicuous place on my blouse, pops off and hides itself in a spot that requires Sherlock Holmes to find it. Now this should not be a problem, but as every woman knows, even if she has saved every loose or spare button conscientiously for 20 years, and even though the needed button is a plain white flat button, no button in her possession will fit. (The corollary to this case, in the event that all you guys are laughing at me, is that when a screw needs to be replaced quickly in some appliance or machine, my husband cannot find one that will fit in his vast collection of hoarded old screws and fittings. So there.)

But back to my mini tragedy. Without button or replacement, I am left with the dilemma of quickly changing the whole outfit, holding my hand like Napoleon over the gaping spot for the entire evening, or donning a jacket or coat to hide my sudden wardrobe malfunction.

With safety pin to the rescue, the event leads me to ponder how many problems the simple act of dressing oneself can cause. To begin with, buttons in general have become a nuisance. It seems that buttons are becoming smaller and harder to manipulate than ever, especially the top button on slacks that refuses to close for no reason, and those pesky shirt buttons on my husband’s shirt collars that both of us have trouble dealing with. I think it’s all part of that vast conspiracy that includes those childproof bottle caps, the tiny print on packages and the 12-foot high shelves in the supermarket.

Even though scientists can put a man on the moon, there are still challenges in simple everyday tasks, such as dressing oneself. Thinking back to my childhood, I remember that all my little school dresses buttoned down the back. That meant that every morning, I needed to have someone button the dress and tie the little belt in a bow behind my back. And I did a lot of button replacing on an old hand-me-down horse blanket type winter coat I wore as child. (Those were the days when you couldn’t throw a tantrum about the clothes your mother made you wear.) The coat had thick wooden buttons that either popped off when sewed on too tightly, or could not be pushed through the buttonholes.

It was interesting to see that whole problem with dressing repeated when I watched the bridesmaids at a recent wedding button all thirty of the teeny, tiny, covered buttons down the back of the bride’s dress. And we women still run into that common dressing room dilemma in the ladies department where the woman in the next dressing room is looking for someone to button up the back of the garment she is trying on. That is the reason women shop in packs. And if you haven’t thought of it for a while, the whole thing with buttons gets even more interesting when you consider that on women’s clothing, buttons go on the right, and on the left in men’s clothing. Pity the poor sailor, still garbed in the traditional navy pants with 13 buttons to do up the flap (worn by junior enlisted men today).

Obviously most of our costuming problems stem from all the leftover designs and practices of a time when the well to do had people to help them get dressed, (and they needed them), and the blessings of elastic, Velcro and zippers had yet to appear. If you look at clothing in earlier times, there were a lot of lacings and ties to hold shirts and pants and dresses together, since buttons were expensive and hard to find for many poorer folk. (Of course, getting out of clothing was also a problem, but that had some potentially interesting ways of being accomplished.)

Thankfully, there have been some technological improvements that make dressing easier. Goodbye to high button shoes and button hooks and fly front pants with buttons, never properly fastened or opened in time. Hurray for Velcro on everything from diapers to sneakers to clothing. But buttons are not going away yet. So you can still “Button up your overcoat, when the wind is free,” like that old song, or hum, “I’m all yours in Buttons and Bows.” I’ll skip any comments on belly buttons for now.
THE ONESIES

By Barbara van Asselt

Thanksgiving has become a fun-filled event for my family, and by “my family” I actually mean my son-in-law Andrew’s family. For them, once you marry into their clan you, your siblings and your parents all become members of the clan. So, when my daughter Shira, married Andrew we became family by default, and this family loves to get together, cook together, eat together and laugh together.

The family consists of three generations: The Elders (grandparents), The Middles (our adult children) and The Littles (The Middles’ children, our grandchildren). The Elders are older and wiser, The Middles are in their 30’s and 40’s, and The Littles range in age from three to 12 years old.

Our Thanksgiving celebration started this year, as it does every year, at Andrew’s parents’ apartment, where almost 20 of us gathered to be thankful in the typical way, with turkey and all the trimmings plus many extras, because that’s how they do things. As always, the food was way too delicious and we probably all ate too much. This is problem because it’s only day one of a four-day event! As the day wound down, everyone returned home, but not for long.

Simon and I drove directly to our next destination, Shira and Andrew’s summer house in Sag Harbor, on Long Island’s east end. We would spend the next three days there, where we had a 25-person sleep-over. I admit that this is pretty crazy, but it’s not the crazy, nutty part of the story.

At last year’s post-Thanksgiving sleepover, one of The Littles came out in her onesie pajamas looking very adorable. One onesie comment led to another, and before we knew it, “The Onesie Event” was conceived. Right about here is where it gets crazy. Think Secret Santa or Mystery Moshe, where everyone has to buy something for the person whose name they pick out of a hat. Now imagine that it has to be a onesie! The Elders, Middles and Littles all participated.

You would be amazed at how many adult onesies there are in stores and online. There are cute ones, funny ones, cozy ones, and holiday ones. There are onesies featuring movie characters, cartoon characters, political figures, animals and you can even have a custom-made onesie. I know this because we had them all, and there were no duplicates.

The event was hysterical and went something like this: my grandson picked a name out of a bowl. That person got their onesie from The Little, Middle or Elder who bought it for them and had to change into it immediately. The Middles chose “entrance music” for everyone’s onesie debut, which added to the laughter and cheers. (At this point I’d like to note that no one had to drive anywhere because we all slept over, so The Elders and The Middles were all feeling pretty good!) The Littles got a good laugh seeing their parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents looking very silly in their onesies. The Middles got a good laugh because many of them made their onesie choices with the intention of completely and successfully embarrassing their person. The Elders were filled with such love to see their children and grandchildren being so crazy and nutty and thoroughly enjoying each other.

I don’t know if we can ever top the “Secret Onesies,” but I do know that I love my crazy, nutty family!

Green Berets

By Barbara Portnoff

On November 14, 2018, it was announced that the first female soldier had made it through the Army’s Special Forces Assessment and Selection Course. This course involves both physical and mental strength. This soldier could become the First Female Green Beret.

Special Forces Soldiers perform discreet missions upon graduation. For this reason, the soldier’s name and military occupation have been withheld.

The only thing I can reveal about this soldier is that I met her, for the first time, when she was a tiny eight year old, at her cousin’s Bar Mitzvah.
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Please patronize our advertisers and tell them you saw their ad in the Majestic Isles News.
Please patronize our advertisers and tell them you saw their ad in the Majestic Isles News.
Do you receive flowers for holidays, a birthday, or anniversary? Do you purchase flowers on a regular basis? The first thing you may ask yourself is, “How do I care for these beautiful flowers?” A simple guide is: (1) purchase flowers that are in tight bud, (2) recut the stems before arranging, (3) arrange the flowers in a warm solution of water and flower food, (4) replenish the solution daily, and (5) keep the flowers out of bright sunlight and away from heat and drafts.

Although some cut flowers do require special care, the following general procedures for the care and handling of cut flowers should do the trick:

**Inspect** the flowers thoroughly at the time of purchase. Check to see that the flowers are crisp and not dehydrated. The foliage should be present on at least ¾ of the stems. No disease should be present and no physical damage evident.

**Careful transportation** to your home is important. Do not leave fresh cut flowers in your car, especially not in the trunk, for a long period of time. Flowers that are wrapped in wet newspaper or polyethylene will stay fresh on the journey home.

**Clean** the vase or storage container with a warm soap/bleach solution to get rid of any diseases that might be present. It is also important to keep your cutting tools clean and sharp.

**Fill** your vase with clean warm water (100-110 degrees Fahrenheit). Because warm water contains less air than cold water, the flowers will be hydrated more quickly.

**Always use a preservative** to provide food to the flowers. Most flowers will last longer if sugar is added to the warm water (one teaspoon to one pint of warm water).

Remove all foliage below the water level so it will not deteriorate in the water and cause a bacteria buildup.

**Cut** the flower stems under water, removing 1 to 2 inches of stem. The stripping of the hollowed flower stem prevents an airlock from forming in the stem, which keeps the flowers from taking on water. The stems should be cut at an angle to create a wider exposed area and allow the flower to absorb the maximum amount of water.

**Arrange** the flowers in a container large enough to allow room for them to open fully and for air to circulate around the flowers. “Cut Flower Care” by M. J. Vaughn is an excellent book on the art of flower arranging.

**Maintain** your flowers. The flowers will take up more water the first day or two as they rehydrate. Check the solution and the flowers themselves daily, and remove any damaged flowers or foliage. Recut the bottom of the flower stems every 3-4 days to maintain water uptake. Remember, never place the arrangement in direct sunlight or on the top of a warm surface such as a TV.

**Admire.** If you remember the above tips, you can sit back and enjoy your beautiful cut flower arrangement in full bloom for a week or even two.

The famous American botanist Luther Burbank once said: “Flowers always make people feel better, happier, and more helpful; they are sunshine, food, and medicine for the soul.”
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BOOK TALKS

By Claire Deveney

Join us on Wednesday, January 16 at 2 p.m. when Donna Shaneson will guide the discussion of “Little Fires Everywhere” by American author Celeste Ng in the clubhouse ballroom. All residents are welcome.

“Little Fires Everywhere” explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, and the ferocious pull of motherhood – and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster.” – Amazon

"I read “Little Fires Everywhere” in a single, breathless sitting." – Jodi Picoult

Published in 2017, it was listed as a New York Times best seller book and named best book of the year by The Washington Post, NPR, Barnes & Noble, Book of the Month and many others. In addition, it won the Goodreads Readers’ Choice Award in 2017 for fiction.

Mark your calendars for future Book Talks. On Wednesday, February 20, at 2 p.m., the Book Talks subject will be “The Paris Secret” by Karen Swan. The discussion will be guided by Claire Deveney.

We hope to see you at Book Talks meetings that are usually held the third Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. Contacts are Claire Deveney (742-7869) and Judy Markowitz (733-1992).
FLAVORS OF FLORIDA

By Donna Shaneson

The local nature preserves are full of flora and fauna this time of year. One can see birds that are native to Florida, turtles, alligators, and if you’re lucky you might spy some playful otters! Take your holiday guests for a stroll on the boardwalk at Green Cay or Wakodahatchee Wetlands, or Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. All these fabulous venues are within 10 to 15 minutes of Majestic Isles. Get back to nature and exercise in a beautiful setting.

If you are a Downton Abbey fan, treat yourself to the exhibition at City Place. Experience the history, the fashions, and the magnificent furniture and décor. The exhibition is located at 575 S. Rosemary Avenue in West Palm Beach.

If you are a book fan, WXEL at 3401 South Congress Avenue in Boynton Beach has a show called “Between the Covers.” This TV show invites the public to attend tapings. Recently I saw Andrew Gross, author of “Button Man,” as well as a previous taping featured Brad Meltzer, who wrote “The First Conspiracy.”

There’s more to Florida than our beautiful Beaches!

COOKING CORNER

By Joan Sorkin

Courtesy of Giada Di Laurentiis

This is a welcome change from pasta with red sauce.

Pasta with Lemon Sauce

1 lb. spaghetti
2/3 cup olive oil
2/3 cup grated Parmesan
1/2 cup fresh lemon juice (about 3 lemons)
Salt and fresh ground pepper
1 TB lemon zest
1/3 cup chopped fresh basil leaves

Cook the pasta in boiling salted water about eight minutes. Meanwhile, whisk the oil, cheese and lemon juice in large bowl to blend.

Drain the pasta, reserving one cup of the cooking water. Toss the pasta with the lemon sauce and reserved liquid, adding 1/4 cup of water at a time, as needed, to moisten. Season with salt and pepper. Garnish with lemon zest and chopped basil. Enjoy!!

 Theater and the Arts

By Barbara Portnoff


Save The Date: Grand Opening celebration Saturday, February 9, 2019, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. FREE. Every Friday and Saturday will be free beginning February 9th, 2019.

Lynn University – 1st floor of International Center, 3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton, 561-237-9000, or www.Lynn.edu/events. Saturday January 19th at 1 p.m., free event, Master Class – Dr. Yevgeniy Sharlat conducts his own music performed by select conservatory students. Sunday, January 20th at 4 p.m. Free event, Music of Dr. Sharlat. Enjoy works for duo piano, string quartet, woodwind quintet, and more, by award winning composer Dr. Y. Sharlat.

JANUARY TRIVIA

Submitted by Lois Kaish

January is named after the Roman god Janus, who was always shown as having two heads, one that looked back to the last year, and one that looked forward to the new one. The Roman New Year festival was called the Calends, and people decorated their homes and gave each other gifts. In 153 BC, the Roman Senate declared January 1st to be the beginning of the New Year. During the Middle Ages, however, the Church remained staunchly opposed to celebrating New Year's Day – and, in fact, the holiday has only been celebrated in the western world for about 400 years.

Symbols of January
Birthstone: Garnet
Flower: Carnation

Astrological Signs:
Capricorn: December 22 - January 19
Aquarius: January 20 - February 18

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A NEW BOOK YOU SHOULD CHECK OUT: “HEADS YOU WIN” by JEFFREY ARCHER

By Stan Kaish

Last December I enthusiastically reviewed my first Jeffrey Archer book, “Kane and Abel.” I soon learned that I was late to the Jeffrey Archer party. Any number of folks came up to me and expressed surprise that I was just getting around to reading this most famous of Archer’s novels. “Kane and Abel” appeared in 1979. Well, I may have been late in reading “Kane and Able,” but I am pretty sure I am one of the earlier readers of his latest, “Heads You Win.”

This one opens in the Soviet Union in 1968. The Karpenko family, Father, Konstantin, Mother, Elena, and immensely talented son, Alexander, are living a bleak but typical existence in the workers’ paradise. Konstantin is a war hero and Chief Supervisor of 3,000 longshoremen at the Leningrad docks, Elena, a cook at the KGB officer’s mess at the docks and Alexander, a student, preparing to take examinations to gain admission to the state university. Their lives change abruptly in Chapter 1 when Konstantin’s plan to form a trade union is exposed to the KGB and he is killed in what is ostensibly an industrial accident. Alexander is black balled from the university and sent to work on the docks, and Elena finds herself prey to the sexual ambitions of KGB Major Polyakov. Mother and son decide to try to escape the Soviet Union and, with the help of her brother, will hide in a shipping crate due to leave the port for either New York or Southampton, England. Alexander flips a coin to let fate decide on their destination. Their ship leaves and they safely depart…but to where?

Archer then alternates chapters, telling us of their lives and destinies for the next 30 years, had they gone to Southampton or to New York. For bookkeeping purposes, in Southampton the boy is called Sasha. In New York he is Alex. The mother remains Elena. Differences arise immediately. On the England bound ship they are welcomed by Captain and crew and treated graciously. Elena works with the chef and quickly proves her talent as a cook. Sasha becomes a waiter. On the American ship. Elena is greeted by a bullying “Head Chef” who spends each afternoon drunk. Alex is put to work washing dishes. Attitudes are much less gracious.

And so, Archer imagines each family’s life in its new environment, Sasha winning scholarships and attending Cambridge where he shines on the chess and soccer teams and Alex going to school and playing chess in the park where he wins a dollar a game. Sasha is launched on an establishment course, joining university governmental clubs and Alex on an entrepreneurial course when he buys a vegetable stand in the local market. In both, Elena flourishes as a restaurateur.

Veterans of earlier Jeffrey Archer will recognize some classic Archer plot lines. Each makes a boyhood enemy who plagues them into adulthood. Sasha runs for a seat in Parliament, loses and eventually defeats an opponent who had unjustly accused him of theft. We get the nitty gritty of campaigning and political action in the parliament, as Archer draws on his own time serving in the House of Commons. Alex borrows money to open three more stands in the market, on his way to “becoming a millionaire.” Alex is drafted and serves in Vietnam where he saves the life of his lieutenant who happens to be a millionaire banker. After the war Alex joins him and we get Archer’s love of corporate shenanigans and unscrupulous bank types. Both are exposed to the art world and Archer regales us with tales of art theft, museums and galleries. And, of course, there are devious women who each must deal with, plotting to cheat and/or ruin both of our heroes; all familiar and well executed Jeffrey Archer themes.

At the end of the book, our author, who fantasized these characters as alternative paths one person might take, converts them into two separate people traveling in the same city on the way to the funeral of the uncle who helped them escape. People see one and confuse him for the other. It happens again and again, finally playing a major role in the dramatic climax. It’s sort of bizarre, but I guess all’s fair in the world of Jeffrey Archer fiction.
LUCY IN THE ISLES

By Helene Riffle

Hi Neighbors!

I hope you enjoyed my message in last month’s (December 2018) Majestic Isles Newsletter and that you had as good a time as I throughout the holiday season. My evening walks were extra joyful seeing lit menorahs in windows or festive lights and wreaths beautifully decorating homes.

Last month I shared study findings that dog ownership reduces the risk of premature death and heart disease. Other dogs’ parents may already know why. First, there’s no way around it, dog parents commit to twice-daily walks – and often even more! According to the University of Missouri, “Over the course of a week, this additional time spent walking may be sufficient to meet the World Health Organization’s recommendations of 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity,” which is crucial to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Plus, my canine neighbors and I give more than physical health to our parents. From “Frontiers in Psychology” we know that when people (not just our parents) interact with us, their oxytocin levels shoot up. It’s like a love injection that boosts their psychological well-being, reducing symptoms of depression and helping people handle stress more easily. And when neighbors see me and give me a pat on my head – my Mom and I get that same boost! I may bark a bit, but you’ll see my tail wagging enthusiastically, waiting for that love tap. So, if you see me around the Isles, please come over to say hello (even if I’m barking like a meshugana - crazy one). My Mom keeps telling me that I’m just a little squirt and I’m not really scaring anyone, but I don’t believe it!

“Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.” – Roger Caras, Photographer and Writer

(continued from page 11) were members of, and as much as $65 a night in Jersey City, New Jersey. That park had no amenities at all, but was close to New York City.

While we were on the east coast, we stopped to see places and things we had never thought of when we were living there. There is a Jersey Heritage Tour, which included lighthouses up and down the Jersey Coast. I grew up a few miles from Sandy Hook and had never been there. That was the first lighthouse I saw. We also spent some time in the Catskills, a place we hadn’t been to for more than a day.

Part of the summer, we took four granddaughters to Florida and Disney World for a two-week trip. Our first day, the RV broke down on the side of the road outside Washington, D.C. We were able to hobble over to a repair place about two miles from where we broke down. We wound up being stuck there for two days while they ordered a part. I took the girls into D.C. to sightsee while Barry stayed with the RV. It was finally fixed and we were back on the road, but only for 50 miles. It broke down again with the same problem. This time we were towed 80 miles. We made it to Orlando and enjoyed Disney until Friday. We were supposed to head to Miami on the Sabbath. Again, the RV wasn’t cooperating, so we spent another Sabbath with the Chabad near Orlando. We even baked challah in the RV.

Other trips with the grandkids included Maine and New England with one, and Virginia with two other girls. On our last trip, we took two grandsons for the entire summer. We saw six National Parks: Yosemite, Crater Lake, Arches, Bryce, the Grand Canyon, and Joshua Tree. Our last night was in Las Vegas, parked at Circus Circus, which has an RV Park right on the strip.

The trips with the grandchildren were wonderful, and made for wonderful memories for them and us.

Due to an oversight, the December Majestics column was omitted from the past issue. We regret the error. (Ed.)

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MAJESTIC BOWLING LEAGUE
Spares and Strikes
By Joyce Stoudermire

HIGH GAME  HIGH SERIES

Week 8 – MEN
A. Lynn 197  A. Lynn 493
K. Ramnarine 172  D. Nudelman 454
D. Nudelman 171  K. Ramnarine 448

Week 8 – WOMEN
M. Ramnarine 160  J. Stoudermire 377
J. Stoudermire 135  M. Ramnarine 370
Carol Stevens 128  C. Stevens 342

Week 9 – Men
K. Ramnarine 192  K. Ramnarine 481
D. Nudelman 163  D. Nudelman 429
J. Elefson 159  B. Numeroff 402

Week 9 – Women
J. Stoudermire 168  J. Stoudermire 421
Z. Granoff 146  I. Gross 405
I. Gross 144  M. Ramnarine 403

Week 10 – MEN
K. Ramnarine 211  K. Ramnarine 494
D. Nudelman 171  D. Nudelman 493
B. Numeroff 148  B. Numeroff 421

Week 10 – WOMEN
E. Snyder 192  J. Stoudermire 379
J. Stoudermire 150  I. Gross 371
I. Gross 150  Z. Granoff 333

Week 11 – Men
H. Siegel 198  D. Nudelman 471
D. Nudelman 173  H. Siegel 458
K. Ramnarine 159  K. Ramnarine 452

Week 11 – Women
J. Stoudermire 136  J. Stoudermire 366
C Stevens 125  C. Stevens 353
M. Ramnarine 120  I. Gross 353

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCORERS:

Men: Al Lynn 197 (week 8); Ken Ramnarine 172 (week 8), 192 (week 9), 211 (week 10); David Nudelman 171 (week 8), 163 (week 9), 171 (week 10), 173 (week 11); Howard Siegel 198 (week 11).

Women: Maria Ramnarine 160 (week 8); Joyce Stoudermire 168 (week 9), 150 (week 10); Estelle Snyder 192 (week 10); Ilene Gross 150 (week 10).

Now is the time for the new residents and our friends and neighbors to check us out. Remember, you don’t have to live in Majestic Isles to join our league. We welcome great bowlers and not so great bowlers – remember, you won’t be judged.

Our fall season began on September 4, 2018 and ends on April 30, 2019. Starting time is 12 noon. The cost is $8 per week. There will be no bowling on the following dates: 12/25/18 and 1/1/19.

REMINDER!!! If your friends or family are interested in joining us, please call Alan Stevens at 336-4223 or Al Lynn at 742-9937.

STOCK MARKET JOKES

Submitted by Alene Kristal

"There are two kinds of investors, be they large or small: those who don't know where the market is headed, and those who don't know that they don't know. Then again, there is a third type of investor – the investment professional, who indeed knows that he or she doesn't know, but whose livelihood depends upon appearing to know." – William Bernstein.

"In the business world, the rearview mirror is always clearer than the windshield." – Warren Buffett.

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Singles
By Marilyn Chermak and Renee Stichel

Another month, and more good news from our swinging singles: we saw “The King and I!” It was a great show and we all enjoyed it. After the show most of us went out for Chinese food because, you know, we always have to eat!

We also attended the Harid Conservatory ballet. It was a great show, followed by dinner at La Luna, where we all had a ball. We talked and laughed while we ate a delicious meal.

New Year’s Eve we went to the Delray playhouse for food, drinks and a great show. It certainly was a great way to ring in the new year, and we were together for our usual marvelous time.

The Singles are anticipating that our new members will return and we are eager to welcome new member, too. Our new dues are $20 for the year, which is used to subsidize the cost of our shows and our dinners in the clubhouse.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a happy, healthy and peaceful year.

News and Views
By Bobbe Rosenfeld

What a busy season it’s been and what a lot of topics we discussed over the last several weeks! Our focus was on the elections, and we also tackled the rise in postal rates, judges, possible programs to consider when the clubhouse reopens, immigration, Trumpism, the Pittsburgh attack, the tone in the country, Amazon, malls and the state of water in Florida. These are just a few of the concerns that drew our attention.

Did we omit topics you care about? Join us and bring them up. We welcome active discussions and are open to your ideas and passions. With the election behind us there will be lots of time to address your issues!

Please join us at 3 p.m. on Mondays at the clubhouse when it reopens. Until then we will be meeting at the home of Irene Solomon.

We look forward to hearing from you and wish you all a happy new year.
Social Club

By Arlene Koch

We are anxiously looking forward to the opening of our newly renovated clubhouse so that the Social Club can continue with the many activities we plan to provide for our residents.

The 2019 Series begins on Sunday, January 13th, and features Jim Witter and the Piano Men, and a trio. They will play some of the music of Barry Manilow, Sir Elton John and Billy Joel, and will include audience participation.

Saturday, February 16th features Vivace, a group of four exceptional singers who will entertain you with their lyrical voices.

On Sunday, March 24th, you will enjoy the humor of Peter Fogel, who has recently appeared on television and in many venues around the area. Along with Peter, Marilyn Sanchez will charm us with her majestic voice.

Tickets are $75 per person for all three shows, and $30 for each individual performance. Flyers with bios and payment forms will be in the back lobby. Return forms and checks to the Social Club box. These are shows not to be missed!!!! For more information call Arlene at 736-4315.

We are also planning Bingo and movie nights; the scheduled movie nights appear on the monthly calendar at the back of this issue. Once it’s reconnected, be sure to watch Channel 63 for other announcements.

As of January 1st we will be collecting dues of $15 per person to enable us to continue providing Majestic Isles with many fun-filled days and nights. Put checks in the Social Club box.

We wish everyone a very happy and healthy 2019.

MEN’S CLUB

By Joel Cohen, President

The first meeting of the Men’s Club in 2019 will be on Sunday, February 6th at 9:30 a.m. We will have bagels and lox with all the trimmings, and there will be a speaker.

As soon as the clubhouse opens, please put your $20 check for 2019 membership dues in the Men’s Club mailbox. If you paid the 2018 dues, your payment will be credited towards the 2019 dues. New members are welcome.

Once channel 63 is up and working we will start planning casino trips and possible baseball games.

We are looking forward to the upcoming year and hope to see you soon.

PAP CORPS

By Marilyn Chermack

It’s hard to believe, but here we are with another year behind us. We are so grateful to our amazing board, our dedicated members and our wonderful supporters. All of you helped make the PAP Corps’ contribution to the Sylvester Institute for Cancer Research possible. In turn, those contributions have led to more breakthroughs in the fight against cancer. Even though we did not have the use of the clubhouse, you supported the fashion show, the first in-house walkathon and the summer smash. Thank you, thank you!

With much excitement and great anticipation, we are planning the first event in our newly renovated clubhouse, which is our annual hors d’oeuvres and wine meeting, which is scheduled for January 24th. There will be delicious delicacies created or provided by our own Board. We will have jewelry and handbag vendors and beautiful PAP tribute cards for sale, as well as delightful entertainment. All members and residents are invited. The cost is $15 per person, which can be left in the PAP mailbox.

You can read about our future events in upcoming columns – so watch this space!

We wish each and every one a joyous and healthy New Year filled with love and promise.
What’s Happening in January

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>M.I.L.T. special event</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Movie Time, Social Club</td>
<td>(p,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Singles Show “Flash Dance”</td>
<td>(f,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Social club 1st show, clubhouse</td>
<td>(p,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Book Talks, at clubhouse</td>
<td>(f,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Hadassah Card Party at Westchester Country Club $38</td>
<td>(p,a)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Pap Corps hors d’oeuvre party, $15 per person</td>
<td>(p,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Pap Corps Meeting at S. County Civic Center. $5</td>
<td>(p,h)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speaker: Harvey Vetstein</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Movie Time, Social Club</td>
<td>(p,h)</td>
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</table>

Weekly Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>News N’ Views, at Irene Solomon’s house until clubhouse reopens</td>
<td>(f,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>(p,a)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon/Wed/Fri</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Pickleball</td>
<td>(f,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon/Wed/Fri</td>
<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Aerobics. Watch for time change when the clubhouse reopens</td>
<td>(f,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues/Thurs</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Water Aerobics</td>
<td>(f,h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read weekly management bulletin for additions, cancellations or changes in date or time. For additional information, please contact an officer of the appropriate club, Or the Majestic Isles Office. f = free, p = paid, a = away, h = home

ACTIVITIES FOR JANUARY AND BEYOND

We strive to provide the most accurate and up-to-date activities calendar. We’re hoping the clubhouse will be open in January so we can begin to enjoy all the activities MI is known for. Please refer to the individual club and organization articles in this and future issues of the “Majestic Isles News,” check the weekly management reports and/or call board members for specific information about what’s happening in the coming months, and pay particular attention to the posted location of any club meeting. Please note that channel 63 will not be operational until the clubhouse reopens.

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