

VOLUME 59 / No. 1 Monroe Township, New Jersey **JANUARY 2023**

Board of Governors approves RCAI budget for 2023

By Carol De Haan

The Board of Governors unanimously approved the proposed RCAI budget for 2023, at its Thursday, Nov. 17, meeting.

Anticipated expenses for the coming year amount to \$5,972,692, which is 3.14 % higher than last year's budget. "This increase comes mainly from insurance and contracts," says General Manager Tom Curry. "To give you just one example, liability insurance costs are expected to increase 25% for the coming year."

Each unit in Rossmoor contributes to RCAI expenses through its monthly maintenance payment. Last year, that contribution was \$209.55 per manor, per month. For this coming year, the contribution will be \$216.12, an increase of \$6.57, which will be added to each unit's monthly maintenance cost.

They walked in together,

slowly but steadily, three at a

time, two at a time, seeking

seats at the tables prepared

for them. I had the privilege

of attending the Veterans

breakfast on Nov.15. I came

not to report on the break-

fast, but rather to report on

By Allan Kaufman

"Considering that the current inflation rate is around 9%," adds Curry, "we think our budget process shows good planning. We made thoughtful cuts and careful budget adjustments."

Residents should note that in the RCAI budget, every unit pays an equal amount. This is not the case with the Mutual budget, in which each unit owner is charged by percentage of ownership.

The new RCAI budget includes a 3% increase in the cost of annual membership in the golf course. Golf Pro Ray Bridy advises there were 33 new members as of Sept. 1. This is very much to the credit of Bridy and Superintendent Tom Tucci, who keeps the course in excellent condition.

Residents who might be interested in further details can get a copy of the complete RCAI 2023 Budget at the Village Center.

Reserves from 1963 to 1992.

He was an aviation machinist

mate, while Robert had been

drafted in 1966 and eventu-

ally spent six months in the

Mekong Delta section of

Vietnam. Manny served on

the flight deck carrier, enter-

I found myself sitting next

quently, spoke about The

ing the Navy in 1969.

One winter morning heralds a fresh new day.

Photo by Youngae Lee

New Jersey strives for energy efficiency

By Carol De Haan

"New Jersey is a leader in energy efficiency among our 50 states," said Ben Witherell. Ph.D., Chief Economist for the Board of Public Utili-

Witherell and Chance Lykins, BPU Director of Government Affairs, spoke to a standing-room-only crowd in the Gallery on Nov. 17. Energy policy, especially regarding climate change, was the focus of their discussion.

The primary function of the regulate the companies providing such essential public services as municipal water, gas, electricity, telecommunications, and cable television. Because these companies function as monopolies, the BPU is needed to protect consumers from the rate escalations that might occur in an unregulated market. The BPU further requires reliability from utilities and regulates their infrastructure.

To afford to maintain and upgrade its infrastructure, a utility must sell bonds, attract investors. Because of government regulation, investors see public utilities as low risk, with a steady customer base, and a reliable rate of return. In other words, a good investment. Therein

comes the money for the upgrades.

The New Jersey Energy **Master Plan**

This was inherited from the Christie administration and then updated by the Murphy administration. It calls for 100% clean energy, i.e., no carbon emissions, by 2050. Getting rid of fossil fuels focuses on four main areas:

· Solar energy: Lykins noted that solar panel installation is now half the price it was in 2007;

- Wind power: This refers to offshore wind power, which tends to be substantial;
- Energy efficiency: This pertains to light bulbs, LEDs, and efficient appliances;
- Electric vehicles: Reducing CO2 emissions from trains, automobiles, buses.

Mike Markel from Mutual 8 asked how long it might take to balance the month-tomonth savings against the high purchase price of an

(Continued on page 4)

the men who were being to Lou Allen and his wife, honored that day. Joan. Lou was a Korean War Roard of Public Utilities, ac-Unfortunately, I was not veteran, having served his cording to Witherell, is to

able to talk to every veteran, time in the Army from 1949 but did have the opportunity to 1953. He was a staff serto get to know some of the geant working on experimental electronic surveillance. proud veterans as they told me their stories. Then there was Denny While waiting to enter, I O'Malley, the former Navy Lieutenant who, so elo-

Veterans: Brothers-in-Arms

came across Robert Pupkin, Jack Spear, and Manny Pinto, Jack was in the Navv

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School expansion - A Board of **Education top priority**

By Linda Bozowski

A referendum on school expansion had been planned for this spring. It was announced, however, at the Board of Education meeting last December that we have not yet received approval from the N.J. Department of Education. That approval is expected in very early January. Should there be no issues with the proposal, the Board will then be able to give the public information on the cost of the project.

The proposed expansion would add classrooms to the middle and high school build-

ings, and offer a complete renovation plus an addition to the Applegarth School, which serves elementary school students. The previously estimated cost for these projects was approximately \$105 million.

Until the announcement at the December Board meeting, the public had expected that the referendum would be offered for voter consideration this April. Then it was announced at that meeting by Attorney Vito Gagliardi that the referendum would be moved

(Continued on page 4)



at the governors' meeting



RCAI December 15, 2022, **Board of Governors** Meeting

The final 2022 meeting of the RCAI Board of Governors was held on Thursday December 5. All eighteen Mutual presidents were present along with an in-person audience of approximately 20 residents and another 17 watching online via a Zoom webinar.

RCAI's Board President -Mutual Five President, Dan Jolly opened the meeting as usual with the pledge of allegiance, roll call and approval of last month's meeting minutes. In his president's remarks Dan proposed a change to the rules and regulations regarding Sunday deliveries into the community. He requested the BOG to consider the possibility of allowing deliveries and move-ins to occur on Sundays. He recommended a continuation of the exclusion of contractors. Dan plans to bring it up next month for a vote. Mr Jolly then wished everyone a very happy holiday season.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer John Craven, reported on the financial statements stating that as of October 31. The associations actual budget surplus stands at \$294,210 which is \$234,930 better than planned. He mentioned that the surplus is mainly due to the snow budget and early 2022 COVID restrictions effect on expenditures.

RCAI Management Report:

Tom Curry, General Manager, summarized the Management Report reporting on closings, maintenance items, projects, events, golf course status, landscape maintenance, health services and Allied Security. He mentioned attending all 18 Mutuals budget meetings and stated that the new carrying charge amounts for each manor will be sent out next week.

New Business:

- Resolution 2022-42 Authorization to Engage the Services of FWH Associates for Engineering Services and Oversight of the Bid Process fro the 2023 Paving Project.
- Mr. Gleason, Secretary, read the Resolution. A motion to approve was made to approve, it was seconded, and the motion passed 18 yes, 0 no.
- Resolution 2022-43 Authorization to proceed with Clubhouse Bathroom Fixture Upgrades
- Mr. Gleason, Secretary, read the Resolution to complete hands-free bathroom fixture installations by the maintenance department. A motion to approve was made to approve, it was seconded, and passed 18 yes, 0 no.
- Resolution 2022-44 Holiday Gift Fund Distributions
- Mr. Gleason, Secretary, read the motion to approve the distribution rules for the Holiday Gift fund. The fund is a voluntary contribution from residents to RCAL staff solicited by the resident managed Holiday Gift Fund committee. A motion to approve was made to approve, it was seconded, and passed 18 yes, 0 no.
- Board of Governor's 2023 meeting schedule was approved. All meetings will be

the third Thursday of each month.

Directors Comments:

Vice President Gurriero thanked everyone for donations to the Thanksgiving dinner, seventy-five residents received dinners. He also thanked everyone for their coat donations. 19 bags of coats and suits were donated to several local community organizations.

Mutual 3 Director Haggerty questioned Club House Ballroom HVAC issues. Mr. Curry explained TLP is in the process of making repairs.

Mutual 8 Director Franks questioned who receives the robocalls regarding winter weather issues.

Mutual 9 Director Brumberg questioned how tenants learn rules and regulations. Gina Genther of Administration came into the meeting to provide a full explanation of the way tenant orientations occur. **Resident Comments:**

Several Residents raised concerns regarding the August 2021 flood and the forthcoming State grant for remediation efforts. In general, the residents requested RCAI to move faster with the entire process and communicate progress with the residents more frequently. Much discussion resulted.

There was no further business for the Board to discuss a motion to adjourn was made at 9:50 a.m.

Open RCAI Meetings in January

RCAI Board of Governors Meeting Thursday, January 19 - 9:00 a.m.

It will be an in-person meeting and will probably be held via Zoom

Please watch Channel 26 on your TV or on www.rcaini.com for more information

The Rossmoor News Deadline is the 7th of every month.



News Board:

Joe Conti, Chair Carol De Haan Mvra Danon **Bob Huber** Jean Houvener Anne Rotholz Linda Bozowski Walter Gryskiewicz

Editorial Assistants Alex Monaco

Linda Monaco

The Rossmoor News a monthly periodical is mailed to every home within the Rossmoor community. News items are welcome. Appropriate news items from outside organizations will be

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Bits & Pieces

By Sue Ortiz

I dislike driving in the dark. Between the large floaters in my eyes and my car's windshield with its 20 years of wiper and road debris scratches, driving in the dark has become a difficult task for me. Those oncoming headlights are like supernovae, the stop lights like fireworks. When the road is wet, the world becomes Van Gogh's Starry Night.

Then, when the traffic subsides, the darkness turns into an abyss. My old Xenon headlights are cloudy, so I turn on the high beams. When my car was new and I was younger, those lights blinded other drivers. Now they have a hard time seeing at night, just like me.

I got my first new car in 1978, straight out of high school, and called him Herbie. Just Herbie. He was named after "Herbie, the Love Bug" movie, even though he was not a Beetle. He (yes, all my cars have been males) was an AMC Concord, silver with red interior. Only cost \$4,900 fully loaded. I enjoyed that car for 14 years before I gave him to my cousin who drove him for another couple of years.

I call my current car Herbie 2. This car is not a Beetle, either, but a Nissan Maxima. He is named now more for my favorite author H. G. Wells than for the Love Bug. Back in the early 2000s, the Home News Tribune used to run annual contests where one lucky entrant would win a car. The year 2003 was my year to win! My name was plucked out of 1.2 million entries, and I was able to select any car from a local dealer. I was so thankful that my parents were able to share in my joy, at least for a little while.

Herbie 2 and I like to go exploring. Long rides around parts unknown (to me), even if it's only a few miles from home. There's more to Middlesex, Monmouth, Mercer, and Ocean Counties than you think. Once, on a whim, I took a left, and found myself in Roosevelt. After driving through this quaint little town in Monmouth County, I found myself at beautiful Assunpink Lake, a photographer's dream hidden away at the end of a long, winding road. If you have a GPS or Google Maps, you shouldn't get lost. And even if you do, all roads lead home.

In between the two Herbies, I had Douglas Bean, a Ford Taurus, so named 1) because he was green and 2) it was a reference to an episode of one of my favorite Britcoms, "The Good Neighbors." (If you know, you know.) Alas, Douglas Bean was sold to pay the prize taxes on Herbie 2.

Hopefully, Herbie 2 will hang on a few more years. I'll pamper him: I'll keep him shiny, polish his headlights, change his oil, and keep his windshield clean. And I'll try not to travel too far in the dark - two miles or ten minutes, tops.

I think my next vehicle will be dark blue, travel in time and space, and I'll name her "Sexy." (If you know, you know.) Time to enter some more contests.

Happy New Year!

B&P

"It's like driving a car at night. You never see further than your headlights, but you can make the whole trip that way." - E. L. Doctorow (American author, 1931 2015)

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." - Marcel Proust (French author, 1871 - 1922)

Thanksgiving Dinner

By Sal Gurriero

The Community Church would like to thank all who donated generously to make this event a great success.

Seventy-five dinners were delivered to Rossmoor homebound residents on Thanksgiving morning.

We would like to thank all the volunteers:

Dennis Haggerty Michele Trechek Sue and Larry Archambault Lou and Joan Russo Joe and Lucille Conti Henrietta Adochio **Tommy Croake** Sal Gurriero **Greg Policastro** Audrey Tesora Debbie Stasik and family



Spotlight on Sue and Sebrena in E&R



Sabrina Jinks

By Rosemary Masella

Today I had the pleasure of interviewing Sue Ortiz and Sebrena Jinks from E&R.

Sebrena is one of the longest serving people in Rossmoor, having joined us 42 years ago, when she saw an ad in the newspaper for a housekeeper. At the time, she lived on Route 1. There was a pay phone across the highway. So she ran across the highway, jumped the median to the pay phone, and called Rick, who scheduled an interview. Then she ran across the highway again, jumping the median. She was hired as a housekeeper and held that position for 18 years.

One day her manager told her to dress for office work on Monday. A coworker gave her a week's worth of dress clothes to start her new position. Sebrena has worked in E&R ever since.

Right now, she runs the bus reservation service, taking calls and holding space for residents who want to go shopping, or on trips, and special events. She helps set up parties and facilitates most everything that makes Rossmoor so enjoyable for the rest of us.

Sebrena recalls the good old days when elderly residents had nurses to care for them, not aides. People wore evening gowns and tuxedos for New Year's Eve. They seemed to be older, wealthy people who dressed up to sit at the pool, and often wore diamond jewelry.

Our Website

Go to rcainj.com to access the Rossmoor website

The Amenities page features the ability to access Channel 26 slides anytime. Check it out.

The men belonged to the Old Guard, a club that held elegant breakfasts and spaghetti dinners. The weekenders planned parties in the Clubhouse for many years. At the time, drinking whiskey and smoking were allowed in the Clubhouse.

Sebrena's family moved from Ohio to New Jersey when she was in the sixth grade. One day, the entire family was on its way to Thompson Park to go sledding (where she slid into a tree, hit her head, and ended up in the emergency room). As they passed the Leisure World globe that faced Forsgate Drive, young Sebrena asked her Dad, "Is that where the old folk live?" Little did she know that she'd be working there, 42 years later!

Sebrena tended bar before coming to Rossmoor, and worked two other jobs as well. She has two children and a big dog named "King," who believes he is the king of her house. (Probably is.)

Sue Ortiz came to Rossmoor as a temp 14 years ago. She then started working full time, around the time when clubs and groups were starting to form, which kept her pretty busy responding to their needs. In 2011, she became editorial assistant for The Rossmoor News. She is endlessly creative, writing the popular Bits & Pieces column.

Sue is the front desk coordinator for E&R, where she takes reservations for trips and other events. She handles everything that more than 2,000 residents can think up to ask about. Sue, who is self-taught, loves to design posters and graphics on the computer. The man who at that time printed The Rossmoor News wanted to know who did the graphics for us. Hearing that it was done in-house, he said, "You can hardly find anyone who knows how to do that work anymore." Sue is our own private whiz kid.

Sue is also the newsletter editor for the local chapter of Sisters-in-Crime, a national organization for mystery writers. Many members have had books and stories published. Sue was president of that chapter for two years.

She has lived in the same house in Jamesburg all her life and she graduated as valedictorian from both grade school and Jamesburg High School.

When she has time for a hobby, she makes jewelry.



Sue Ortiz

Spring and fall, she spends a lot of time re-setting the numerous clocks in her collection for daylight savings time.

Sue and Sebrena are good friends who like being part of the Rossmoor team. They both like Melissa, the manager for E&R, and they enjoy the atmosphere in their office. Sebrena comes in an hour early to set up for the day. When they retire, they plan to do it together. But not for a long, long time, we hope.

Take a break

By Babs Burford-O'Reilly
Everyone has been so busy
over the holidays – time to
take a break. Here are a few
ideas to help you unwind
after the hectic holidays:
Listen to music,

Take a nap,
Take a bath,
Write a letter,
Write in your journal, and
Color with crayons.



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What is that smelly stuff they are spraying on the roads and sidewalks before a snow or ice storm?

Each year Rossmoor Administration receives calls regarding the color and smell of our ice melt applications. People incorrectly think we are using some sort of nasty chemical. The mixture is sugar beet molasses and a liquid salt mix. If we added flour, butter, baking soda, eggs, and ginger to the mix we might have a cookie mix,

a very salty cookie mix.

It is a mixture maintenance has been using to control ice for the last nine years. We use it because common ice melt products such as rock salt and calcium chloride are expensive, cause metal to rust, ruin sidewalk surfaces over time, and don't always stay where they are applied.



Sugar beet sugar production is a major crop in Minnesota, Idaho, North Dakota, Michigan, Nebraska, Montana, California, Wyoming, Colorado, and Oregon.

Salts are not the only way to melt ice. Salts work by disrupting ice water crystal formation. Sugar beet juice molasses has a similar effect, increasing the effectiveness of the mixture. The molasses is a relatively inexpensive waste byproduct of sugar beet refining. The mixture allows for a reduction in the amount of salt needed to produce the same icemelting effects. An added bonus is the stickiness of molasses helps the salt stick to the road or walkway surface making it even more effective.

The downside to using the mixture, is the color of the beet molasses when first applied. It is reddish-brown and therefore temporarily turns the roads and sidewalks reddish-brown. The mixture also has a somewhat robust fragrance, some say it smells like a Tootsie Roll or cooking molasses. Here in Rossmoor the mixture is not

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used on every walkway or street due to the possibility of shoes tracking it inside. Nevertheless, it is another beneficial tool in our arsenal

of snow and ice control measures that help make our streets and walkways a bit safer for all.

School expansion

(Continued from page 1)

forward to March, forcing a tight schedule for getting information to the voters. The proposed vote has now been set for March 14, 2023. An inquiry made to the Board office confirmed this date. Superintendent Chari Chanley indicated the District's desire to offer many public forums and she said they will work to schedule meetings with various groups. Information will be available on the Board of Education website as well.

Board member Kate Belko said that school security must remain a top priority. She suggested that detailed floor plans of each building not be published, a suggestion that was well received by other Board members.

Additional students to be accommodated

A member of the audience asked about school building capacity following the proposed renovations, but that information was not available at the meeting. Superintendent Chari Chanley stated that she would inquire of the Facilities Director for additional student capacity information and would have the details posted on the District website. She did not commit as to when that information would be posted.

It was reported today that the requested information had been posted on the OPRA (Open Public Records Act) website, since it had been requested by a resident. The OPRA site states that proposed renovations would provide school housing for approximately 1,048 to 1,133 students. Based on review of the details provided on the OPRA site, which includes new and renovated spaces, it appears that Applegarth will accommodate an additional 300 students. the Middle School approximately 400, and the High School about 400. (These numbers are based on this reporter's review of the raw data, and may not be absolute.)

As more information becomes available, the Rossmoor News will include it in future issues.

Energy efficiency

(Continued from page 1)

electric vehicle, a problem for some of us seniors if it were to take ten years to break even. Amid the mild chuckles of recognition, Steve Gray of Mutual 17 said that with his electric car, his electricity bill was up about \$20 per month, compared with the cost of running his previous vehicle that took 40 gallons of gas per month at about \$4 a gallon. Something to think about.

The audience thanked Witherell and Lykins with a long and hearty applause as the evening came to an end. "This was a worthwhile event," commented Barry Jacobsen of Mutual 9. "Very informative."

It was sponsored by the Rossmoor Democratic Club.

Trash and Recycling Reminders

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- Please remember to separate your household kitchen trash from your recycling
- Use the proper trash and recycling dumpsters
- Trash means household kitchen garbage, not construction debris
- NO plastic bags in the recycling Dumpsters. Recycle them at the supermarket



Martin Luther King Jr. Day

By Jean Houvener

On Jan. 16, the nation will celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day in honor of the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr., on Jan.15, 1929. Born into a religious family, his father was a minister at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga., and his mother an active member of the church, and he enjoyed singing in the choir. King was precocious, skipping two grades in school, and passing the exam to enter Morehouse College at the age of 15.

While seriously questioning religion in his teenage years and studying sociology at Morehouse, graduating with a B.A. in 1948, by the time he was 18, he had decided to enter the ministry. He earned his B.Div. at Crozier Theological Seminary in Chester, Pa., in 1951. He married Coretta Scott in 1953, and together they had four children. By 1955, he had earned his Ph.D. at Boston University.

On December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Ala., Rosa Parks, a working woman on her way home after a long day, refused to give her seat on the bus to a white person, violating the Jim Crows laws in effect there at the time. She was arrested, and ultimately the Montgomery Bus Boycott initiated by King and other religious leaders, lasted 385 days, and led to a national awareness of the indignities suffered by Black Americans. King's house was fire-bombed during the boycott, he was arrested during the boycott, but ultimately the court case Browder v. Gayle ended the racial segregation on Montgomery buses.

In 1957, King and others founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) to promote racial equality and justice by nonviolent means in the spirit of Gandhi. The 1963 protests in Birmingham, Ala., against racial injustice and segregation, resulted in the elimination of many Jim Crow laws there, and the dismissal of police chief "Bull" Connors after the violent tactics used by his police against protesters was shown to the rest of the country. This was accomplished with great personal danger to all the protesters.

In 1963 during the March on Washington King made his famous "I have a dream" speech. In 1964 King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to use nonviolence to accomplish justice and fairness. Among the accomplishments of SCLC were the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the 1965 Voting Rights Act enacted by Congress with active support from President Lyndon Johnson. In 1965, King led the march from Selma, Ala., to the capitol building in Montgomery, Ala., in support of voting rights. Because Gov. George Wallace would not protect the marchers, President Johnson sent in Army and National Guard troops to protect them during the march.

In March of 1968, King was

in Memphis, Tenn., in support of black public sanitation workers who were seeking equal and fair treatment. Among other things, when work was cancelled due to weather, white workers were paid for a full eight-hour day while black workers were only paid for a two-hour day. There had been a steady increase in threats against King's life over the course of the strike. On April 4, 1968, King was shot while on the balcony of his hotel room in Memphis.

After the assassination there were riots in many cities, including Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Louisville, and Kansas City, the very opposite of what King would have wanted. Lyndon Johnson declared April 7 a day of mourning. In Memphis, the city quickly settled the strike by the sanitation workers, on terms favorable to the striking workers. At his funeral Mahalia Jackson sang "Take My Hand, Precious Lord." King wanted to

be remembered for helping the poor, clothing the naked, and feeding the hungry.

He worked tirelessly for the rights of black people, using peaceful means and nonviolent methods. After his death, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which included the Fair Housing Act. These are only a few of the amazing things accomplished by King. At great personal risk and cost, he and those who marched with him, strove to change the laws for fairness and to guarantee the rights that are part of this country's heritage for all citizens.

Posthumously, he was given the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal. Rep. John Conyers (D-Michigan) and Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-New York) repeatedly submitted bills to make King's birthday a national holiday. That finally happened in 1983, in legislation signed by President Ronald Reagan, making the third Monday in January Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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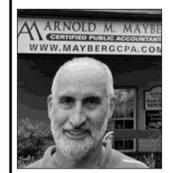
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Sotheby's

The table is empty

By Allan Kaufman

In November, I was fortunate to attend the Veterans Day sold-out breakfast. One of the highlights came when former Navy Lieutenant Denny O'Malley gave an emotional speech on what is known as the Missing Man Table.

Also known as the Fallen Comrade Table, the Missing Man Table is a semi-official place of honor in some dining facilities of the United States armed forces in memory of fallen, missing in action, or prisoner of war military service members. The table serves as the focal point of ceremonial remembrance, originally growing out of the United States concern for the Vietnam POW/MIAs.

Lieutenant O'Malley started his presentation by explaining why the table is set for one. "The small table is set for one, representing the frailty of one prisoner,



Missing Man Table

alone against his or her oppressors, the table is usually set within sight of the entrance to the dining room."

He continued by explaining the meaning of each item that adorned the table. "The table is round showing everlasting concern for our POWs and MIAs. The cloth is white symbolizing the purity of the intentions to respond to their country's call to arms. The single red rose signifies the blood they may have shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved United States. This rose reminds us of the family and friends of our missing comrades who kept the faith while awaiting their return."

As Denny continued his presentation, I noticed tears being shed among the soldout audience. His words were so moving. He continued, "The yellow ribbon stands for the yellow ribbons worn on the lapels of the thousands who demand, with unyielding determination, a proper accounting for our comrades who are not among us this day. A slice of lemon is also on the table to remind us of the bitter fate of those missing, captured and held prisoners in foreign lands. A pinch of salt denotes the tears of our missing and their families who long for answers after decades of uncertainty."

Denny continued, with even more emotion in his voice matched by the tears of the veterans and guests. "The Holy Bible represents strength gained through faith in our country, founded as one nation under God, to sustain those lost from our midst. The lighted candle reflects everlasting hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home, away from their captors, to the open arms of a grateful nation. The glass Is inverted symbolizing their inability to share the day's toast.

The silence continued until Denny finished his presentation. The audience then stood and gave him a loud and protracted ovation. The memories that came from the presentation, resonated among the many veterans and guests who attended the breakfast. While they celebrated their own service, they took time to remember those who have not returned. This was a memorable event.

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Parker at Monroe Sparker at Monroe

Brothers-in-Arms

 $(Continued\ from\ page\ 1)$

Empty Table, something I wrote about in a separate article. Denny enlisted in the Navy in 1963 and served until 1967. He was a communication cryptology officer.

Three other Korean War veterans crossed my path.

Tony DeVivo became a Marine in 1952 and was fighting along the Imjim River during his time in South Korea.

Then there was Vinnie Piccirillo who enlisted in the Marines in February, 1949.

The last Korean War veteran I spoke to was Paul Falcone who was drafted into the Army in 1952. He saw action on the front lines in the Kumhwa Valley.

Joe Kwiatkowski was drafted into the Army in 1964. He became an instructor in chemical and nuclear warfare.

Drafted by the Army in 1968, Tom Croake went to jump school and became a member of the Screaming Eagles Airborne division. Tom saw combat in the A Shau Valley and the Hamburger Hill area of Vietnam. Tom was wounded in action and was awarded the Purple Heart. The Purple Heart is a United States military decoration awarded in the name of the President to those wounded while serving their country.

The veterans stood at attention during the Pledge of Allegiance and were silent when Denny O'Malley spoke about the Empty Table. These veterans had much to talk about during the breakfast. Some good, some bad. Some suffer from PTSD. Here's hoping they get the help they need. It is hard to believe that the Korean War ended 70 years ago, and the Vietnam War ended 50 years ago, on Jan. 27, 1973, when the peace agreement was signed. Two months later the prisoners of war were returned to the United States.

They are a proud group of men, brothers-in-arms.



Above, Detective Joseph Gentile giving a presentation on fraud and what to avoid.

Photos by Helene Gray.

At the presentation, from left, are Cathleen Norback, Steven Gray, Detective Joseph Gentile, Paul Pittari Domenica (back) and Pavone.

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Know Monroe – A trivia quiz for residents

By Linda Bozowski

As a born-and-raised Monroe resident. I must confess that I don't know nearly as much about our community as I probably should or thought I did. So I'm offering you, my fellow residents, the opportunity to take a trivia quiz and show off, or increase, your knowledge about Monroe. Keep score with hash marks and learn a little or brag about your knowledge to your neighbors. Here we go. Please fill in the blanks.

- 1. New Jersey has ___ municipalities.
- 2. The five municipality types ___, C_ are b_ _, and v_
- Monroe is municipality type
- 4. The Walsh Act of 1911, the 1923 Municipal Manager Law, the Optional Municipal Charter Law (now called the Faulkner Act), and Special Charter are _____ of municipal government.
- 5. Our central local government consists of a t
- 6. Our central governing body is led by a mayor and (how many?) other elected members
- 7. Members are elected for _-year terms.
- 8. Monroe is geographically divided in _ __ wards.
- 9. Monroe is ranked the state in population, according to data presented in Wikipedia.
- **10.** Monroe is the largest municipality in Middlesex County.

Enough already

Ten questions will do it for today. The answers will be in the February edition of the Rossmoor News.

What you may not be aware of is the volunteerism

associated with municipal services in Monroe and most other municipalities in New Jersey. Members of our governing body spend much time attending to caring for our water, roads, finances, and other governmental ser-

Besides the elected officials, we have many dedicated employees and many volunteers who serve on 19 Boards. These Boards include the Cultural Arts Commission, the Environmental Commission, the Commission on Aging, the Planning and Zoning Boards, and the Library Board, along with many others that offer diverse benefits to our residents.

Over the next few months. we will offer more detailed information about what each of these Boards does, and how you can help in supporting the well-being of the citizenry of Monroe as a volunteer, an employee, or an appointed or elected official.

Good luck with the quiz!

Rossmoor's Website

Go to rcainj.com to access the Rossmoor website.

The Amenities page features the ability to access Channel 26 slides anytime. Check it out.

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Concert treat

By Jean Houvener

On Nov. 20, those of us lucky enough to have attended the Rossmoor Music Association's second program of the season had a real treat. The Virtuosi Quintet, who unusually suddenly appeared at the front of the Meeting House main room, welcomed us and expressed how happy they were finally to be at Rossmoor after two scheduled and cancelled performances during Covid closures. We were happy to see them as well.

The group was founded in 1983 by bassoonist James Jeter. Other members were Amy Hersh, flute; Larry Tietze, clarinet; Elizabeth Condon, oboe; and lan Donald, horn. They are renowned as a quintet, performing world-wide and as members of other groups and orchestras, and as guest soloists,

The first piece, J.S. Bach's "Concerto No. 2," which is usually performed on organ, was adapted for the woodwind quintet by Mordechai Rechtman, Israeli bassoon player, who has done many such arrangements. As we learned, most of the early music played by woodwind quintets is rearranged by someone, frequently a wind player, because it was not until the 19th and 20th centuries that this configuration of instruments arose. It was

a delight to the ear and the eye to hear and see the music bounce from one set of players to a different set, around the five musicians.

A gavotte by Jean-Phillipe Rameau, arranged this time by Ryohel Nakagawa and a sextet by Ludwig Van Beethoven, rearranged for five winds by the Philadelphia WW Quintet, rounded out the first half of the program.

The second half of the program included two pieces specifically written for woodwind quintet, and therefore more modern. The first was "Quintette pour Instruments a' Vent" by Frenchman Paul Taffanel. The next was "Miniatures for Woodwind Quintet" by African-American composer William Grant Still, each based on a folk song from the Americas, including the recognizable and joyous "A Frog Went A-courting" and "I Ride an Old Paint." The quintet obviously enjoyed themselves. Also in the series was a beautiful song, "Yaravi," from Peru.

The performance ended with a set of Rumanian Folk Dances by Bela Bartok. The six dances, again arranged by Mordechai Rechtman, were a series of different tempi and impressions, like a series of vignettes, that were over all too quickly.

If you had the misfortune of missing this concert, the spring half of the series will begin on April 21.

Fighting Holocaust deniers

By Allan Kaufman

On Jan, 27 we will celebrate the 78th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp. Auschwitz was a Nazi concentration camp that exterminated more than a million people, mainly Jews.

In the early morning of Jan. 27, 1945, the Russian Army entered Auschwitz to find only 7,000 prisoners left behind by the retreating Nazi army. Most of them were very ill due to the effects of their imprisonment. The Red Army made some gruesome discoveries: 370,000 men's suits and 837,000 articles of women's clothing, to name a few.



Auschwitz Liberation-1945

The liberating forces of the United States soon followed into the camp. They were assisted by the Polish Red Cross in trying to organize medical care. In June 1945,

there were still 300 survivors at the camp who were too ill and weak to be moved.

For those who entered any of the camps, there was no such thing as denying what they saw. Much was written about how General Eisenhower ordered the citizens of the towns near the camps to go in and clean up what was left of the Holocaust victims. The townspeople were made to put on their Sunday best outfits and bury the bodies.

There were few rumblings from extremists who denied the existence of the Holocaust over the course of the next 60 years. Then the

white nationalists became brave. In 1964, white supremacists killed Black civil rights worker James Chaney, and Jewish workers Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner.

Then Harold Covington, leader of the Nationalist White Peoples

Party, explained on July 24, 1996, why Holocaust denial is an important tool for anti-Semites: "Take away the Holocaust and what do you have left? Without their pre-

cious Holocaust, what are the Jews? Just a grubby little batch of international bandits and assassins and squatters who have perpetrated the most massive, cynical fraud in human history." (Inspiringquotes.us)

Nazi sympathizer and denier George Lincoln Rockwell also denied the Holocaust, believing that Martin Luther King, Jr., was a tool for Jewish Communists wanting to rule the white community.

Holocaust denial is a form of genocide denial that draws on antisemitic theories that assert the Nazi genocide of the Jews is a myth, a fabrication, or an extreme exaggeration. This is an attempt to trivialize the atrocities committed by Nazi Germany.

And today, we hear the misinformation spewed by certain celebrities, and with thousands and thousands of followers of these anti-Semites, the number of denial conspirators will have the potential to grow.

That is why we as a nation, and we as a people of this nation, on the 78th anniversary of the liberation of the most brutal of all concentration-extermination camps, must maintain vigilance and challenge the deniers at every opportunity.

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This Is Tough - Part 11

By Thomas J. McMahon (aka J. T. Brian)

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year, Everyone. Good to 'see' ya out there in the land of Rossmoor. I happen to still be an umpire (37 years and counting) and make it a habit to visit with all the parents prior to a game. My reasoning is quite interesting for doing this (which is an unusual way to approach the game itself) as I figure that if the fans know me and my name, they won't jump to kill me when I get a call wrong once the game starts. And trust me, I will blow more than my share of calls! It is inevitable, to say the least.

So I had the pleasure of discussing the editing dilemma with the co-author, D. F. Miller. He is one unhappy camper and he should be. I liken his situation as someone waiting outside for a bus with an impending bit of very poor weather approaching. The poor commuter can see the front coming, filled with rain, or snow, or a mix, and lots and lots of wind. And still no bus traveling toward this

person as far as the eye can see.

And just as the bus comes within sight, the storm hits with such ferocity that commuters are violently thrashed by the adverse weather to the extent that they have forgotten where the heck they were going in the first place. The driver leans over as the bus door opens, and asks very sternly for them to board the bus as the rain, snow and wind are coming into the inside of the bus as the doors act like an open invitation. And all the poor people do is stand there, not sure whether or not it's the rain or some tears rolling down their faces.

One last question thrown hastily out there by the driver, and with no response except silence forthcoming, the driver closes the doors and rolls away. The now excommuter longingly peers at the rear license plate as the rear of the bus gets smaller and smaller while the driver floors the gas pedal.

I am so sorry, fans. I have managed to do meaningful

Rossmoor things other than locking myself down to finish editing the greatest American novel of all time. But at least now you know how the coauthor feels. And there is only one other way out of all this with him. Outside of actually doing any work, that is.

It will start with a friendly phone call. Yup, that's the way to go. Then, I'll take a page out of umpiring. I'll introduce myself to Dave. We all know that the umpire will make a mistake. Well, so will the author. Perhaps Dave won't kill me. I will live to continue telling the tale of the greatest novel ever written in world history. This article is now exactly 500 words. Yup, 500. (I needed those last two items to actually land on '500' - uh-oh, okay don't count this aside as I went above the word limit discussing how I made it exactly on the word limit - Now I have to introduce myself to the edi-

Think about this

"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors. We borrow it from our children."

Chief Seattle of the Suquamish and Duwamish Native American people 1780-1866

The deadline for
The Rossmoor News
is the 7th of
every month.



Drive slowly at night - save your own life

By Carol De Haan

In fall and early winter, we see deer carcasses strewn all over New Jersey roads. Just today, I drove past five deer carcasses lying on various roads between our Library at the Municipal Complex and the supermarkets down on Rte. 130 in East Windsor.

Accidents are costly

More than 1.5 million deerrelated motor vehicle accidents happen annually in the U.S., with a heavy concentration in northeastern states, ...at night, ...and in autumn through early winter.

The average repair bill for such an accident is inevitably several thousand dollars. And, sad as it is to kill a gentle animal, statistics indicate that the people *inside* the car are just as apt to die as the deer.

More and more people = more and more deer

Human activity seems to have been the cause of all this mayhem. In the days of the Native Americans, forests offered scant forage, which kept deer numbers down. But since we began chopping down the forests and bulldozing the land, the resulting undergrowth – to say nothing of all our fruit trees and farms – provide for huge increases in the deer population.

Human population and the boom in building leave more and more deer with less and less land. So to solve the deer population problem, in our ineffable wisdom, we've created a "hunting season," which panics the deer and sends them leaping anywhere and everywhere to escape.

Autumn presents its own special problems: the "rutting" season, a time when bucks challenge each other for the right to father next spring's little Bambi. (Pawing the dirt during the fight makes ruts.) It's a time when normally timid deer are so hyped-up as to lose all caution, and they often charge onto highways.

We need to drive slowly at night and keep alert, for our own sakes as much as for the deer.

Difficult Personal Financial

Answering Some

Questions

At age 65, only about 20% of American retirees have family and financial resources to cover high-intensity care for at least three years. About 30% cannot afford any help at all. The remaining half of older adults lie somewhere in between not being able to afford any care and having a long-term safety net should they be stricken by a prolonged health crisis.

These are the grim conclusions of The Center for Retirement Research (CRR) at Boston College. Part of a consortium of research groups funded by the U.S. Social Security Administration since 2018, CRR's research paints a gloomy picture of the retirement struggle most Americans are facing

In a September 2021 research brief, CRR examined the resources available 65-year-olds to meet their needs for different long-term services and support (LTSS). CRR's analysis considered "informal" care from family members, as well as care paid for out of a retiree's pocket, and it categorized older adults by their ability to afford minimal, moderate, and severe care needs.

With about a third of America's retirees lacking resources for even minimal care, and only a fifth able to afford care for a severe personal health crisis, such as a stroke or chronic disease, this problem is expected to cause enormous social and political issues in the decades ahead as baby boomers age. However, even if you have family support and enough money to care for a severe health event requiring long-term care, proper planning requires answering some difficult personal financial questions:

- Can you afford to selfinsure in your old age?
- Have you done the financial math to ensure you could pay for a severe-care event in your retirement years, figuring on living through age 85 or 90?
- Have you paid for longterm care insurance that has grown more expensive or now provides lower benefits than it used to?

The earlier you get started on planning your retirement portfolio and income needs, the easier it is to find solutions and gain peace of mind.

Norman J. Politziner, CFP, a resident of Encore, is an Investment Adviser Representative of Kingsview Asset Management.

For more information, questions, or comments, we encourage you to visit our website at www.politziner.com or call us at (732) 296-9355.

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Volunteers needed

By Barbara Herman-Hoff

Winter is here. Days are shorter. Are you now finding yourself with reduced ways to get out and engage? Have you thought of volunteering, but just weren't sure where to go or felt the options you had didn't fit?

Town Square Adult Day Enrichment Center may just be the thing you are looking for. Town Square, located at Penn Medicine in the Princeton Medical Campus, is an adult day care center that has aptly been described as "Disneyland for Seniors". When you step inside you are immediately transported back in time to a small town in the 1950s-60s. There are 13 different themed activity rooms and spaces that members visit throughout the day to engage in a variety of activities and programs. Town Square features a vintage 1959 Thunderbird parked in front of a faux service station, a Starlite Theater that seats 40 people, and Rosie's Diner where a continental breakfast, hot lunch, and afternoon snacks are served, and so much more.

Our current core of volunteers regularly say how much fun they have and how they enjoy assisting the team provide special

moments of engagement and enrichment to our members. In short, they are a vital part of enriching lives and restoring purpose.

Our volunteer program is framed to support your availability and your talents. Did your career or your leisure activities include something vou can share with our members — art, a hobby, music, teaching, cooking? Do you have a collection you can show and talk about? Do you like to sing or dance, or do vou speak a foreign language? Are you a veteran who could lead a conversation for our Veterans Club? If so, we have opportunities for you to present special activities.

If not, there are many options to join planned activities and lend a helping hand to complete a project, play a game, or be a part of a discussion. Town Square and you could be perfect together. Call 609-375-0751 and ask Barbara Herman Hoff. a Rossmoor neighbor, who is our Administrative Business Coordinator to have Linda give you a call.

If you haven't been to Town Square, you can take a peek inside by visiting us at www.townsquare.net/princeton>



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This month in pictures

Veterans Club Holds Brunch



Veterans Club Steering Committee



Veterans who attended the brunch



The Missing Man Table



Dan McOlvin starting the Veterans Brunch



The program and flyer for the January meeting

Gingerbread House Party hosted by Cathy and Nancy Nicola







On left, the table set for the lunch and contest. The Gingerbread House Party was hosted by Cathy and Nancy Nicola. Above, center, are the gingerbread house builders. On right, the Gingerbread Winners.

New Neighbors

By Christina Smith, Resident Services Manager

Mary Kokolus, 36B Concord Lane, formerly of Cranbury, N.J.

Allison Bauer, 169A Portland Lane, formerly of South River, N.J.

Jean and Lynn Altobello, 618A Waverly Way, formerly of Parlin, N.J.

Laura and Edward Burke, 63B Old Nassau Road, formerly of Manalapan, N.J.

Cordell Reid, 120N Rossmoor Drive, formerly of Barnegat, N.J.

Kenneth Duncan and Ruby Nickie, 191B Malden Lane, formerly of Orange, N.J.

Ira, Sherri and Sandy Oskowsky, 568A Thornton Lane, formerly of E. Brunswick, N.J.

Francis Kochanski, 167C Portland Lane, formerly of Bayonne, N.J.

Marie and Leonard St. Fleur, 473B Rockport Way, formerly of Middletown, N.J.

Alicia Semidey and Daniel Haggerty, 373B New Bedford Lane, formerly of South Brunswick, N.J.

Thomas Paul Ryniec, 8-O Sussex Way, formerly of Old Bridge, N.J.

Susan Holland, 9N Sussex Way, formerly of Old Bridge,

Judith Dial, 428-O Redding Lane, formerly of Vauxhall,

Ann Cahill, 303B Sharon Way, formerly of Massapequa, N.Y.

Barbara Fredricks, 385A Sudbury Lane, formerly of Spotswood, N.J.

CULINARY CORNER

By Sidna Mitchell

Holiday bread for any time of year

Once again, we gathered with other "old" - the "babies" are 75 years old - croquet players at Rossmoor friend Carl Kruse's Florida home. Carl always cooks the turkey and dressing and the rest of us contribute other dishes. My responsibility, as usual, was for a sweet potato casserole and a pecan pie.

I also baked bread for the folks. In looking for a pie crust in the freezer, I found a bag of frozen cranberries that had been in there at least one year. I decided to defrost those and make small loaves of bread for our friends since I had several decorative pans from last year's after Christmas sale. Also, I had a small bottle of orange juice that I needed to use, and amazingly, I found a recipe for cranberry orange bread. The recipe, found in the Gulfshore Delights put out by the Junior League of Ft. Myers, Fla., claimed to be "outstanding holiday bread."

I forgot to pull out a pie crust from my freezer so when I went to the grocery store, I cheated, or rather substituted by buying a pecan pie crust in the baking section rather than using the frozen pastry pie crust. This was such a delicious treat that our friend Jim had a big second piece. Here's my version of an easy, but tasty bread.

Culinary Corner

½ teaspoon baking soda

½ cup chopped walnuts

1 bag fresh cranberries

(about 1 ½ cups), chopped

1 1/2 teaspoons baking

powder

Cranberry Orange Bread

1 cup light brown sugar Grated rind of one orange 3/4 cup orange juice

2 tablespoons melted butter

2 cups all-purpose flour ½ teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 325 degrees Beat egg and sugar until smooth.

Add orange rind, orange juice and melted butter.

Add flour, salt, baking soda and baking powder to the egg/sugar/orange mixture.

Stir in nuts and cranberries and mix well.

Pour mixture into four small greased loaf pans or one

Bake for about 35 minutes for small pans or one hour for large loaf pan.

NOTE: This is best made ahead or frozen before giving as gifts or serving. The original recipe called for regular sugar, which I didn't have, so I substituted light brown sugar. Additionally, the original recipe said to sift the dry ingredients but I never bother. You may also add one cup raisins if you wish.

Clubs and Organizations

Balancing two sounds from two different places

By J. T. Brian (Close associate of Tom McMahon of Rossmoor)

I am happy to report that the Rossmoor presence is felt in other areas of life here in Monroe Township. As an associate of a Rossmoor Chorus member, I thought it a nice idea to balance everything by discussing a group of crooners that can run parallel to the wonderful sounds coming from our very own Rossmoor Chorus, as directed by Janet Wilson. Just to remind one and all, by the time you read this article, the Rossmoor gang will have completed multiple concert dates, and gone caroling around Rossmoor to sing for people who cannot travel too

As I wrote this article, the Rossmoor Chorus had already completed a wonderful holiday concert that was warmly received by the folks at Springpoint in Manalapan. Twin concerts were upcoming in Monroe Village and in Rossmoor as well with dates also penned in and taking place in January. We also sing once a month at the Sunday Services (usually the second Sunday of each month).

I hinted at a balance between two outstanding choirs, and to be sure of the interesting parallel I approached our very own tenor, Tom Smith. Going back to 2018, Tom has enjoyed singing with both choirs, and encouraged more than a few people to join either or both, especially after David Schlossberg and Sheila Werfel's take on life with their eight-language concert "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life" in 2019. The "Best of Broadway" concert in November of this year was very well received. Pretty cool stuff, but not as demanding as it may sound, just great entertainment and a lot of fun.

Jackie Watt and Tom McMahon (hey, I know him) took Tom S. up on his offer in 2021, where it concerns Senior Center, and Teresa Sannuto joined the Center choir in 2022. From what I hear there are still others from our community who are planning to similarly try things, if not for both choirs, then settling on one.

Time waits for no one, so as you read this around New Year's Day, the first 2023 rehearsal for the Senior Center Choir is on Jan. 10, with a promised date sometime around May for a concert. Rossmoor counters with a spring concert planned as well, planning to run Broadway tunes as a theme.

Both choirs do something that will bring a lot of us together. By offering heartfelt, solid music, everyone's heart will soften and remain open the wonderful world around us, be they an entertainer or someone entertained. Take it from the people who run with both "gangs," as they will assure you that these activities are simply wonderful. The Senior Center Choir rehearsals take place at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays, and the Rossmoor Chorus meets at 3:15 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Happy New Year, folks

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Rossmoor Players

By Sue Archambault

The Rossmoor Players completed 2022 with a holiday party and much good cheer. The board unanimously voted to make donations to The Monroe Township Municipal Ambulance EMS, The Make-A-Wish Foundation, The Soup Lady of Rossmoor who prepares meals twice weekly for residents, and The Monroe Township Animal Res-

The Players first monthly meeting in 2023 will take place on Monday, Jan. 23, in the Gallery at 7 p.m. We will be showing a DVD of the musical movie "The Greatest Showman," starring Hugh Jackman. All are welcome to attend.



If you are considering join-The Players, please come and see what we're all about. Involvement in singing, acting, dancing, and playing instruments is not a necessity to join. We are a group committed to having a fun time, including enjoying the talents of others.

The Players would like to take this opportunity to thank Dolores Grieff for her many years on our Executive Board and serving as our treasurer. She plans to remain a member of The Players, but her ongoing contribution to our board will be missed.



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Social Security

By Steven Gray

Happy New Year (even though I am writing this in early December).

The monthly general meeting of the Computer Club on Monday, Jan. 16, will feature Marcial Hernandez, Jr., a Public Affairs specialist operating out of the Union, N.J., office. The presentation will be by Microsoft Teams (very similar to Zoom) and will be followed by a question-andanswer period, also online. This might be a good time to review a little of the history of the one agency that affects all of us in one way or another.

The Social Security Administration actually began as the Social Security Board

in 1935 under President Roosevelt. SSB was brand new with no staff, no facilities and no budget. The initial staff were essentially donated from existing agencies. SSB became SSA in 1946 under the President's reorganization Plan. In 1953 President Eisenhower created a new agency called the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. SSA became part of that agency.

Way back in the early 1970s when one wanted to file for retirement, the Claims Representative had to send for the workers Earnings Record (ER). This would take about three to four weeks to receive. The ER required a review to ensure there were

no gaps (years with no earnings) and usually necessitated another contact with the retiree making sure everything posted was correct. Retirement claims were supposed to be "cleared," i.e., sent to the Payment Center (now called a Program Center) for final action and payment within 35 days. Payment was usually due within six weeks after the application and all supporting documentation was sent.

Did computerization make any changes? Looking at the same situation 25 years later. The ER is online to SSA offices using a secure sealed system. The retiree can review his record immediately. If the ER is correct and the retiree brought all needed documentation (note - SSA used to require an original or certified copy of a birth certificate - no longer, due to enumeration at birth; SSA already has the proof), payment can be authorized in the local office and the check will literally be in the mail, or rather sent directly to your bank account. No return visit, no waiting any length of time. All hail the mighty computer. Now (and for the past decade or so) the retiree can complete his application online, review his records and apply for payment without ever seeing an SSA emplovee.

What did I do? I held many positions including Service Representative, Technical Assistant, Claims Representative, Temporary Operational Supervisor, Training Specialist, Equal Opportunity Specialist, and Area System Coordinator (ASC). I held the last title listed for 10 years and was the IT person for six offices. The ASC was over each office's sysco and was not considered part of the office staff. In looking over my history it almost looks like I could not keep a job, doesn't it?

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Italian American Club

By Tony Cardello

Happy New Year from the officers of the club to all our members and their families for a safe and healthy 2023.

We look forward to a continued growth of the club, welcoming new members, our many social events and trips, and great entertainment at our meetings.

The first membership meeting of the new year will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom. Please bring your 2023 dues of \$20 per person, which is due by the end of January, to this meeting or send them to Lucille Renda at 645B Old Nassau Road, tel. 917-747-5762.

The first Bingo of the year will be held on Friday, Jan. 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Ballroom.

Join us at the First Dance Club Dance of the Year

By Judy Perkus

DJ and keyboardist Peter Lieberman will be back to provide the music at the first 2023 Rossmoor Dance Club dance. All Rossmoorites, singles and couples, are welcome to join us in the Ballroom on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 7 p.m.

Join the fun with your friends and neighbors. In addition to the dancing and socializing, we will have snacks, dessert (sugar-free available), coffee, tea, and soda.

To reserve your place: please send your check made out to the Rossmoor Dance Club (\$10 per Paid-Up Member, \$12 per guest) to Armen DeVivo at 449B Roxbury Lane by Jan.

Send your 2023 Dance Club dues of \$20 per couple, \$10 per person to Armen, if you've not already done so. You may leave your check and your reservation form in an envelope in the Dance Club folder in Village Center.

Call Armen at 609-655-2175 for more information.

ROSSMOOR DANCE CLUB

First Dance of 2023 - Saturday, January 28

Phone	#:
Addres	s:
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Januar \$	y Dance: \$10 per member/ \$12 per non-member
-	2023 ANNUAL DUES: \$10 PER PERSON, \$20 PER COUPLE
Membe	ership Dues: \$
TOTAL	.: \$
Please	leave your envelope with your \$10 per member.

\$12 per non-member check and 2023 membership dues made out to the Rossmoor Dance Club in the Dance Club Folder in the Village Center or mail to Armen DeVivo at 449B Roxbury Lane. 609-655-2175



Dancers Mary Ann Sharkey, Joann Casper, Lucille Ricci and Norman Perkus



DJ and Keyboardist Peter Lieberman provided the music for our November Dance and will be back in January

Mutual News



Directors of Mutual 2 wished everyone in Rossmoor a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah.



Mutual 2 garden was decorated for the holidays

Mutual 8 news

The budget for 2023 was presented to members at a well attended open meeting last Nov. 28.

Members had many questions about flood remediation efforts and fortunately General Manager Tom Curry was there to fill us in on the latest.

Mutual President Carol Franks would appreciate hearing from anyone who would volunteer to be a Mutual 8 Lamplighter. These are the people who replace a burnt-out bulb in a walkway light, thereby saving the Mutual considerable money.

She also extends greetings to the many new residents of the Mutual.

In the coming year, Mutual 8 will replace roofs on carports in Nantucket, Narragansett, and Northfield Lanes.



Reminder

Please Pick Up After Your Dog.

Mutual 16 news

By Russell Howard - Director SPEEDING on Old Nassau is STILL an issue!

We are FED UP with Rossmoor residents speeding on Old Nassau through OUR MUTUAL. Many of our residents must cross Old Nassau to access their mailboxes and it has become a hazardous few steps.

This has been discussed with the BOG every month and we are told nothing can be done about it. You all saw the Township speed sign that was put in place, across from Yardley Way earlier this year, to make people aware of the speed they are driving, but to no avail. It is up to each of us to hold ourselves accountable for the 25-mph limit. The cars doing the speeding are Rossmoor Residents (mostly). So that means ... they're old enough to know better. SPEEDING must STOP!

A budget meeting was held on Dec. 1 in the Gallery for the directors to present the 2023 budget and its overall effect on our maintenance fees. We reviewed our concerns, financial responsibili-

ties, and an update on what's been done to replace and repair, and make suggestions to prevent future problems.

Mutual 16 book club: Love to read? Join our Mutual 16 book club. We are starting our very own and we're hoping to have an interest in having a monthly or bimonthly reading selection and discussion. If interested, contact Cathy Nicola at 732-672-5283 or Penny McOlvin at 718-873-4510. What a wonderful way to beat the winter doldrums.

Hospitality/Visitation/ Wellness. Please let your directors know if any of your neighbors are having health issues and need our help in some small way.

Sunshine Committee: We continue to send sympathy, get well, and thinking-of-you cards to our neighbors, so please let us know if someone needs a little cheer.

Our holiday party was a huge success. It was catered and the food was outstanding. We had a Santa visit and a grab bag gift exchange. The Rossmoor Cho-

(Continued on page 14)

Religious Organizations

Jewish Congregation

2 Rossmoor Drive Monroe Township, N.J. 08831



By Allan Kaufman

Shabbat Services- The Meeting House

Friday, Jan. 13 and Jan. 27, at 7:15 p.m.

Torah Studies - The Dogwood Room

Saturday, Jan. 14 and Jan. 28, at 10 a.m.

School funding - League of Women Voters presents program

By Linda Bozowski

Rozella G. Clyde, Ph.D., co-chair of the LWVNJ State Education Committee and Linda Kinsey from our local Monroe LWV and member of the LWVNJ State Education Committee will be sharing some information on how our schools are funded and the funding process. This LWV

general meeting will be held at the Monroe Library on Jan. 23 at 6:30 p.m.

The League of Women Voters encourages public awareness and participation. All meetings are open to the public. League membership is not required. Please join us for this informative presentation.

Email your news to: news@rcainj.com

M. David DeMarco, President, N.J. Lic. No. 3203 Thomas J. DeMarco, Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 4651 Peter S. Winther, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 4763 Jennifer L. Burry, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 5172

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Every holiday season three residents decorate their corner and make it look beautiful. They are: Joe Sinsheimer, Steven Brown, and Bruria Miheali. Denny O'Malley places the flags in the garden.

Veterans, We Need You!

By Joe Salzano

The Veterans Group extends an invitation to all residents who served in the United States Military to attend our meetings every second Tuesday of the month at 10 am in the Ballroom of the



clubhouse, Information is available on channel 26.

Our group consists of World War II, Korean and Vietnam Veterans. Anyone who served is welcome whether or not you served during combat.

Among many Benefits, the group supports and offers free Veterans Honor Flights to Washington D.C.

Mutual 16

(Continued from page 13) rus entertained us with holiday music. We are thankful for the talent we have here in Rossmoor.

Baking Club: Our second baking club meeting was another huge success. It was simple and easy for everyone whether they were bakers or just there for the social aspects. It was hosted by Cathy Nicola on Nov. 17. They made mini pecan tarts called "Teatime Tessie Pecan Tarts." It was filled with lots of laughs, since they worked in teams of four.

The December meeting was our first Christmas cookie exchange on Dec. 15, at Jo Schwegel's house. Everyone who came brought three dozen of their favorite Christmas cookies, baked, or bought. For those baked, copies of the recipes were given out. It was a very social and fun event. It's Baking 101. Lots of fun to have with our neighbors. Note: The Baking Club Auxiliary, known as The Taste Testers Consumption Group, made it clear that they are available upon request. However, no one has called us with an invite.

American-ism Committee placed small American Flags on each Mutual 16 walkway in honor of Veterans Day. These flags are for the manor owners to keep and be reminded how grateful we are for our veterans.

Mutual 17 news

By Babs Burford-O'Reilly

Mutual 17 has a monthly Girls Night Out: a fun and simple idea to keep us all in touch. We meet at Sal's Roma Deli & Pizzeria at 4:30. We let Sal know ahead of time how many people are coming and he arranges tables in a conference format so we can easily converse. Everyone orders their own food at their own pace. By the time we all say hello and get settled we are eating around fiveish. We are very casual, and Sal's is the perfect place to be casual. If you remember you have been meaning to ask a neighbor something, you can get up, walk over, and have the conversation.

We are fortunate to have several talented bakers in our Mutual, so our dessert table is always overflowing. The evening ends around 6:30.

The closeness to home and the casual atmosphere allow some to leave earlier if they have a commitment, while others linger and chat. On occasion, we extend the invite to the gentlemen in the community, as we recently did for our December meeting. Mutual 17 extends thanks to Sal for making this evening so easy to do as well as for serving yummy food. Thank you to Debra and Shelly for always sending the reminder email and coordinating the evening. I love Mutual 17!

Monroe Township Public Library

Please note the Library's hours are Monday through Thursday: 9:30 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00

Book Café

Wednesday, January 4 at 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.

What have you been reading? We want to know! Join other book lovers for a lively discussion. Book Café is a perfect place to find your next great read or share what you have enjoyed. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online www.monroetwplibrary. org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Sit-N-Stitch

Fridays, January 6 & 20 at 10:30 a.m.

Socialize with stitchers & crafters of all skill levels. Bring your own supplies. This program is held in person. Registration is required. Register at the Reference Desk, online at www.Monroe twplibrary.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Device Advice

Mondays, January 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesdays, January 10, 17, 24 & 31 at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays, January 11, 18 & 25 at 4:00 p.m.

Thursdays, January 12, 19, & 26 at 3:45 p.m.

Need one-on-one tech help? Register for a 45minute one-on-one session for assistance with your phone, tablet, laptop or any technology device, e.g. navigating our website and online resources, how to use an iPad, tablet, Kindle, smartphone, laptop or other device, download books and media onto your device, how to access your email account. Registration is required. Register by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Caregiver Support Group

Wednesday, January 11 at 11:00 a.m.

A Caregiver Support Group meets at the Library monthly on the second Wednesday of the month. Kat Verdi, Certified Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Trainer, of The Gardens at Monroe leads the group. Her mission is to educate, empower and encourage caregivers. All are welcome. This program is held in person. Registration is not required. Sponsored by The Gardens at Monroe.

Genealogy Club

Wednesday, January 11 at 2:00 p.m.

Beginner and experienced genealogists welcome to discuss research, share findings and resources. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwplibrary.org/ calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Virtual Author Talk: Namina Forna

Thursday, January 12 at 2:00 p.m.

Join us for an actionpacked online conversation with Namina Forna, New York Times bestselling author of The Gilded Ones Series in a discussion about her second installment in the "The Merciless Ones". This is a virtual program. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwplibrary.org/ authortalks or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

International Film

Discussion

Thursday, January 12 at 2:30 p.m.

Hosted by the Friends of the Monroe Township Library. This month we will watch and discuss "The Syrian Bride" (2004, 1hr 36min). A Syrian woman living in a Druze Village in the Golan Heights is to marry a man who is living in Syria. She may never return to her home village once she crosses into Syria. Many complications occur. View the film in advance at your leisure and join us for the discussion. Films are available to stream for free on Kanopy, accessible with your

(Continued on page 16)

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☐ The Rossmoor News ☐ Check here for all seven

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 State category/heading, ie., "For Rent", "For Sale", "Help Wanted." No charge for the heading.

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- Other plastic items as well as plastic bags, plastic wrap, shipping film, and Styrofoam go in the household trash bin. Please, no plastic bags in the recycling bin. You can use a plastic bag to dump your recyclables, but take the plastic bag away with you. (Recycle it at the supermar-
- Shredded paper cannot be recycled by Waste Management with their current equipment so put it in the household trash bin.
- Aerosol cans must be empty and punctured before being put into the recycle bin.

Events at the Monroe Township Public Library

(Continued from page 15)

library card online at https://monroetw.kanopy.com. The discussion is virtual and will be held via Zoom. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000 to receive the link to the Zoom meeting.

3D Printer Demonstration

Thursday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m.

See a 3D printer in action, understand how it works, and learn how it is used at the Library. All ages welcome, but space is limited. This program will be held in-person at the Library. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

International Book Club

Tuesday, January 17 at 11:00 a.m.

Join us for a discussion of

discuss "Convenience Store Woman" by Sayaka Murata (Japan).

A brilliant depiction of an unusual psyche and a world hidden from view, "Convenience Store Woman" is an ironic and sharp-eyed look at contemporary work culture and the pressures to conform, as well as a charming and completely fresh portrait of an unforgettable heroine. This is a hybrid program. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwp library.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Virtual Author Talk: Dana K. White & Watch Party

Tuesday, January 17 at 2:00 p.m.

Start your new year calm

and collected by learning to become better organized and clutter-free. Join us in-person at the library to watch a

livestream of the virtual au-

thor talk with bestselling author and decluttering expert, Dana K. White. Register to participate in person at the Welcome Desk, by phone at (732) 521-5000 or online at www.monroetwp library.org/calendar. If you only plan to attend the virtual author talk remotely, register at www.monroetwplibrary. org/authortalks to receive a link to the virtual author talk.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Boheme Opera NJ

Wednesday, January 18 at 1:00 p.m.

This lecture performance features the songs and stories from the satiric operettas of Gilbert and Sullivan. Sponsored by Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission. This program will be held inperson at the Library. Registration is required. Register

at the Welcome Desk, on our website at www.monroetwp library.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Page Turners
Thursday, January 19 at

11:00 a.m. Looking for something to read or add to your reading list? Library staff will present and recommend a variety of titles pertaining to a different topic, both new and old titles. The theme for this session is New Year, New You (selfhelp, organization, DIY, etc.). This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.Monroe twplibrary.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Non-Fiction Book Discussion

Monday, January 23 at 2:00 p.m.

Join us for a discussion about "In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex" by Nathaniel Philbrick. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. *Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Taking Great Photos

Tuesday, January 24 at 6:00 p.m. (inclement weather date is January 31)

Wednesday, January 25 at 1:00 p.m. (inclement weather date is February 1)

This workshop will help you learn to take better photos and have more fun with photography, regardless of the camera or smartphone you use. Learn the fundamental building blocks of great photos and some useful tips about light and composition that you can apply to all your photos.

Friends of the Library Meeting

Tuesday, January 24 at 4:00 p.m.

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