



A beautiful day on the golf course

Similarities and differences among allergies, colds, the flu, and COVID-19

By Kaytie Olshefski,
BSN, RN-BC

As the weather gets colder, the days get shorter and the nights get longer, so we heat our homes and the viruses survive longer in the warmth. Windows are closed in the colder months, making us more susceptible to different circulating viruses because we breathe recirculated air. Cold weather also dries out nasal mucus membranes, which contributes to people “catching” a virus.

In today’s pandemic, everyone is concerned about the symptoms of COVID-19. But do you know the symptoms of an allergy, cold, or flu compared to COVID-19?

Symptoms of these viruses overlap, and it is not always easy to differentiate among them. Below is a brief overview of these illnesses:

Seasonal allergy sufferers typically experience sneezing, a runny nose, itchy eyes, scratchy throat and a cough. Allergies are not contagious but may run in families. They tend to recur about the same time every year. Allergies are treated with over-the-counter allergy medications and/or medications prescribed by a physician.

The common cold is an upper respiratory viral infec-

tion. It is contagious and spreads from person to person. The incubation period after being exposed to the virus and experiencing symptoms is one to seven days, with the cold itself lasting from seven to 14 days.

Symptoms include a runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat, cough, mild to moderate chest congestion, body aches and a mild fever. A cold is diagnosed by clinical observation and symptoms. A cold is typically treated with rest, fluids, and taking over-the-counter medications.

Influenza, commonly, known as the flu, is a viral infection affecting the upper and/or lower respiratory system. It is caused by the influenza virus. The flu is contagious, and symptoms are generally worse than a common cold. It is spread from person to person, and by touching flu virus contaminated objects such as door knobs, railings, keyboards, handles, etc.

Flu symptoms come on quickly with an incubation period of one to four days. One moment you feel good, but in a matter of hours, you will be feeling ill. The duration of the flu lasts from five to 14 days. Symptoms in-

clude cough, extreme fatigue, body aches and pains, a fever as high as 102°F, and a moderate to severe headache.

The flu can be diagnosed by a rapid influenza diagnostic test performed in the doctor’s office with results available in 10 to 15 minutes. There are four antiviral medications: Tamiflu, Relenza, Rapivab, and Xofluza. If one of these medications is taken within 48 hours after developing symptoms, it will shorten the severity of symptoms and help prevent complications. It is recommended that we all get a flu vaccine to protect ourselves and our family members from getting the flu. Seek medical treatment if you develop difficulty breathing, if symptoms seem to worsen, or if an underlying medical condition worsens.

COVID-19, also referred to as “coronavirus,” is a highly contagious respiratory illness. Some of its symptoms and characteristics are similar to the flu. It might be hard to differentiate between the two based on symptoms alone. COVID-19 testing is needed to confirm a positive diagnosis.

The incubation period of COVID-19 ranges from two to 14 days. It spreads from person to person through respiratory droplets from talking, coughing, or sneezing. A person can also develop COVID-19 by touching contaminated objects and then touching his or her mouth, nose, or eyes.

There is much to learn about COVID-19. Researchers are studying to learn how it spreads and to develop possible treatments. COVID-19 seems to spread more

(Continued on page 17)

Dear Republicans, Dear Democrats, Dear Independents, MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

By Carol De Haan

Governor Phil Murphy announced on Aug. 14 that a mail-in ballot for the Nov. 3 election will be sent in early October to all 6.3 million registered New Jersey voters. We can choose to vote by mail or in person.

The next day, however, The United States Post Office warned 46 States that it cannot guarantee that all mail-in ballots would arrive on time to be counted. Post Office employees are no longer funded to work overtime, and we hear reports of undelivered mail piling up until staff can get to it.

But your vote is important

How can you be sure it is counted? You have two options:

- The day you receive your mail-in ballot, immediately fill it out and put it back into the mailbox. If not possible, do it the next day. This will

give the Post Office time to deal with the heavier than normal load.

Or,
• You can bypass the Post Office entirely and take your mail-in ballot directly to one of the 10 drop boxes provided by the Middlesex County Election Commission. These big red and blue drop boxes are available 24/7 right up to Election Day in the following convenient locations:

Jamesburg Municipal Complex
131 Perrineville Road
In the parking lot

Piscataway Municipal Complex
455 Hoes Lane
On sidewalk near Police Station

Sayreville Borough Hall
167 Main Street

(Continued on page 3)

Board of Education candidates introduce themselves

By Linda Bozowski

Nov. 3 is an important date for many reasons. We will select a president, members of the House of Representatives, one senator, and three members of our Monroe Township Board of Education. Each BOE member is elected for a three-year term, so that means that each year we, the voters, may select three volunteer candidates to fill these important seats.

We here in Monroe Township are in tough times, as is every one of the 557 school districts in New Jersey. Our administrators, teachers, and

all our support staff (cafeteria workers, custodial associates, bus drivers, nurses, counselors, and others) contribute their efforts to making our schools run well. As they struggle with hard decisions, so do the members of the Board of Education and all of the behind-the-scenes folks who keep the wheels turning. We are dealing with more expenses with less funding while trying to keep educating our nearly 7,000 students.

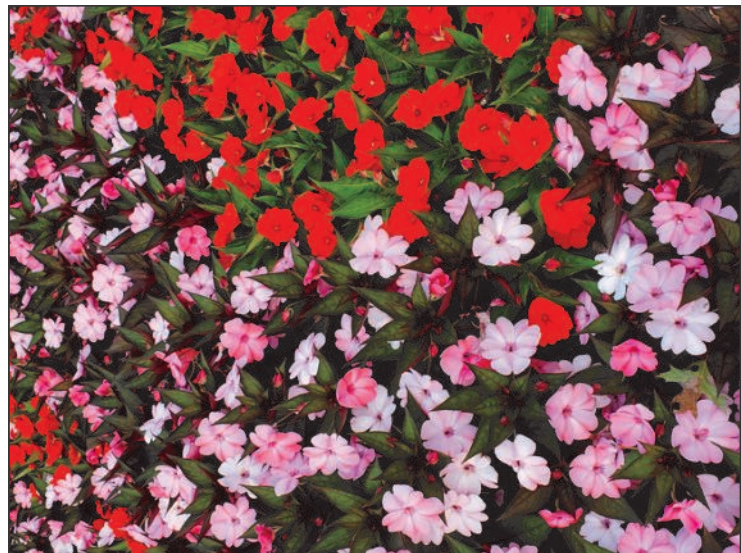
The candidates’ questions

Eight residents are volun-

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September’s summer colors at the Rossmoor Clubhouse
Photo by Deb Kieselowsky

at the governors' meeting

September 17, 2020

The RCAI Board of Governors Zoom meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2020, by Mr. Daniel Jolly, President. The Zoom meeting was open to Owners and Stockholders that wished to participate.

The Minutes of the Board of Governors meeting on August 20, 2020 were unanimously approved by the board.

Mr. Gerald McQuade, Finance Committee Chair, announced that the financial reports for Period Ended July 31, 2020 reflected a surplus but it is too early to tell how the year may end.

The board passed the following resolutions:

Resolution #20-23, Authorization to Enter into a Five-Year Extension with High Tech Landscapes, Inc. for Landscaping and Snow

Removal Services

Resolution #20-24, Authorization to Renovate the Tennis Court

Resolution #20-25, Authorization to Engage the Services of FWH Associates to Draft Repair Plans for the Open-Air Tennis Court Pavilion

If you are interested in further details, please contact Administration in the Village Center at 609-655-1000 or email

janebalmer@rcainj.com.

Directors and participants questions regarding delegation of the landscaping contract, pickleball, voting, flu shots, and indoor work orders were answered.

There was no other business for the Board to discuss and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

HEALTH CARE CENTER FLU SHOTS UPDATE

The Health Care Center is offering flu shots by appointment only. Consent forms can be picked up in the HCC foyer.

Wednesday, October 7, 11am - 6pm
Clubhouse Ballroom

Participants must enter through Terrace doors.

1. Log onto: SPPANJ.com/FLUCLINIC
2. Call (609) 439-3783

Thanks to a joint effort by
the Healthcare Center and E&R staff
Residents attended
the first 2020 Flu Clinic

It is not too late to make a reservation
or the next Flu Clinic Wednesday, October 7



Our Website

Rossmoor now has an improved website: rcainj.com.

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

Notice

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR CANCELLATION DUE TO HEALTH CONCERNS. VISIT THE MONROE AND ROSSMOOR WEBSITES AND TUNE INTO TV CHANNEL 26 FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION. www.monroetwp.com www.rcainj.com



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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

considered as space permits. Unscheduled volunteer writers should contact Rossmoor News Chairman Joe Conti about any article they wish to contribute. All copy and pictures are subject to editing and are accepted with this understanding.

Letters to the Editor must be emailed to PES at pescmd@aol.com and clearly marked Rossmoor News.

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Bits & Pieces

Sue Ortiz

Which came first, autumn or fall?

The word *autumn* came first. It was derived from the 1300s Latin word *autumnus*, possibly meaning "increase" or "drying-up season," but no one is exactly sure. *Harvest* was used in England until the word *autumn* appeared to denote both the season and the time to reap.

Starting in the 1600s, writers and poets became enamored with the phrase "the fall of the leaves," which was eventually shortened to just *fall* to denote the pre-winter season in their writings:

- "October" by Robert Frost starts with, "O hushed October morning mild, Thy leaves have ripened to the fall; Tomorrow's wind, if it be wild, Should waste them all."

- "Autumn Fires" by Robert Louis Stevenson finishes with, "Sing a song of seasons! Something bright in all! Flowers in the summer, Fires in the fall!"

Why do we say wintertime, springtime, summertime, but not autumntime or falltime? According to Merriam-Webster.com, autumntime is not a word, but falltime is, indeed, a word meaning . . . autumn.

I'm not a big fan of fall, but I love the way the sun illuminates the cascade of brown, gold, orange, and red leaves against an azure background, like a Kodachrome photograph from the 1970s; a walk in the park with an orange canopy protecting me from the elements of a cool autumn afternoon; watching "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" for the millionth time and still enjoying it like the first time I saw it; and seeing the little kiddies' costumes and spooky decorations on Halloween. It's apple picking time, and who doesn't like a slice of delicious homemade apple pie with some decadent vanilla ice cream piled on top? Yes, October is here. Already.

Again, autumn is not my favorite time of year. I get melancholy when the brisk mornings remind me of the start of school years from days gone by. (I did not want to go!) Clocks get changed

back to Standard Time, and night creeps in earlier and earlier each day. I don't care for the gruesome decorations that "celebrate" Halloween. I don't like candy corn, and I'm not too keen on pumpkin spice, either (pumpkin flavor, yes, but not the spice). The house gets winterized – screens are raised and storm windows are lowered and sealed, as the summer breezes turn to cold drafts. (Yes, still have *those* kinds of windows in my house. Old-fashioned *Mor-Tite* is my go-to caulking.) My allergy kicks in with all the moldy leaves on the ground. It means winter is on the way – heavy coats, sweaters, snow, ice, and heating bills. It is also a sad time of year for me, as both my parents passed (years ago) at the end of September. I guess fall time is my SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder) season instead of January, these days.

Leaves are changing, soon to be no more than a memory, just like yesterday. I would like to be at the right place at the right time to see the last leaf fall from a tree. I once kept an eye on one crumpled brown maple leaf, but it wasn't budging – until an autumn storm blew it away one day while I was at work, and I missed it.

Whether you call it fall or autumn, whether you like the season or not, let's put on a warm scarf and raise our hot chocolate mugs in a toast to a better future.

Oh well, fall's back, but spring's ahead!

B&P

"In October, a maple tree before your window lights up your room like a great lamp. Even on cloudy days, its presence helps to dispel the gloom." – John Burroughs (American author, 1837-1921)

"The spring, summer, is quite a hectic time for people in their lives, but then it comes to autumn, and to winter, and you can't but help think back to the year that was, and then hopefully looking forward to the year that is approaching." – Enya (Irish musician, b. 1961)

RCAI Board of Governors Open Zoom Meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2020
9 a.m.

Watch Channel 26 for Invitation Details



A revised start to the school year in Monroe Township

By Dr. Dori Alvich, Superintendent of Schools

Since I last communicated with you, school reopening plans have changed again. In response to the New Jersey Department of Health's guidance document "The Road Back – Restart and Recovery Plan for Education" (released on June 26, 2020), the district developed a Restart and Reopening Plan, which can be found on our district website, that includes plans for health and safety, continuity of learning, technology deployment, and budgeting/funding and policy revisions. The plan required districts to provide for a return to in-person education in some capacity for the fall 2020. Several challenges were identified as we worked to accommodate our plan for reopening, including staffing challenges and reductions in cleaning supply availability.

On Aug. 12, Governor Murphy announced that school districts were now able to begin the school year "all remote" if they can document that they are not ready to open per the NJDOE health and safety criteria. Immediately, the District Restart Committee met to review the reopening checklist. On Aug. 20, a request was sent to the County Superintendent to open the school year fully remote through the first marking period, Nov. 13. This required our schools to revise class schedules and class placements, which were then shared with all parents prior to the opening of schools. The district is now planning for full remote teaching and learning for all students for the first marking period. Classes begin Sept. 3.

As you read through the Monroe Township School

District Restart and Reopening Plan, it is important to understand that the document serves to provide a high-level overview of our district's reopening strategies. The Restart and Reopening Plan is a living document that will be modified as health circumstances, guidance, and conditions shift within our communities, the state and nation. We are hopeful that we can return to in-person classes on Nov. 16.

Throughout our planning, every effort has been made to ensure the health, wellness, and safety of our students and staff.

Some highlights of our plan include:

- Daily screening for all staff and students including a screening questionnaire to be completed online before coming to school;
- Temperature checks at the door of all buildings;
- A hybrid option for parents which allow students to attend school for some days while learning virtually on other;
- The option for any student to choose the fully remote option where all lessons will be taught by a teacher over the computer; and, to help minimize the number of students on buses and in physical classrooms;
- Parents can opt for a transportation waiver and drive their children to school;
- Students will attend schools on a half-day schedule in person with additional remote schooling in the afternoons. Cohorts of students will be identified and cohorts will only attend in person two to three days per week; and
- The district has increased

expectations for the remote learning times to include live interaction between students and teachers daily.

Every aspect of the plan is flexible and dependent on staffing and health conditions. The district will continue to monitor all updates and make adjustments as needed. I look forward to sharing some of the exciting learning that is happening with our students and teachers in the next issue.



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MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

(Continued from page 1)

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39 Washington Ave.
Side entrance from parking lot

Metuchen Municipal
Complex
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Back of parking lot

Plainsboro Municipal
Complex
641 Plainsboro Road
In front of steps to Building

Woodbridge Municipal
Building
1 Main Street
Curbside near main entrance

Edison Municipal Complex
100 Municipal Boulevard
Under awning, main entrance

East Brunswick
Municipal Complex
1 Civic Center Drive
Parking lot near Police entrance

Middlesex County
Administration Bldg.
75 Bayard St., New Brunswick
At building entrance

Please wear a mask and stay physically distant in public

Coronavirus is transmitted primarily through droplets as we cough, sneeze, talk, sing, and even breathe. Large droplets generally fall to the ground within six feet of our mouths, hence the six feet physical distancing. Smaller droplets remain in the air for a longer time and a greater distance. The masks keep exhalations closer to the person wearing a mask.

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- Advocate for increased mental health programs for students and families

By Bob Huber

There is much more to October than bright blue weather. Colorful foliage, beer guzzling contests and Halloween also take center stage. As a matter of fact, historically, the 10th month of

Bob's Almanac—October 2020

By Bob Huber

the year has harbored some of the most significant events that have shaped our lives.

Just to mention a few:

- Oct. 1, 1908, Henry Ford's Model T, a universal automobile designed for the masses, went on sale for the first time, putting America on wheels and opening the door to the development of suburbia.

- Oct. 4, 1957, the space age began when the Russians launched the first satellite into orbit. It was called Sputnik.

- Oct. 6, 1927, the first talking picture, The Jazz Singer, starring Al Jolson, opened in New York, launching America's long-standing love affair with Hollywood.

- Oct. 8, 1871, as the legend goes, Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked over the lantern in her barn, igniting that Chicago fire; however, the tragic event paves the way for the rebuilding of one of America's greatest cities.

- Oct. 12, 1492, after a 33-day voyage, Christopher Columbus made his first landfall in the New World.

- Oct. 13, 1775, the United States Navy was established.

- Oct. 19, 1781, British

troops surrendered to the Americans at Yorktown virtually ending the Revolutionary War.

- Oct. 21, 1879, Thomas Edison successfully tested the first electric light bulb.

- Oct. 24, 1861, the first transcontinental telegram in America was sent from San Francisco to President Abraham Lincoln in Washington.

- Oct. 29, 1929, the stock market crashed, triggering the great depression.

Rather than leave you with that disturbing recollection, we take a moment to review some of the unusual October events that may be worthy of your attention. Did you know that October is American Cheese Month, Bat Appreciation Month, and, if we needed reminding, Squirrel Awareness Month?

As a matter of fact, October is crammed with special events and observances. There is something for everyone, so get out there, enjoy the weather and participate!

And if it is your job to keep an eye on the little ones for trick-or-treat this year, please make sure they are escorted and safe. After all, this is also Halloween Safety Month.

Sound Advice

Norman J. Politzner, CFP®, CeFT® President of NJP Associates

Three Easy Ways to Increase Your Chance of Financial Success

Norman J. Politzner, CFP®
President of NJP Associates

Changing your financial behavior can be an important step in determining your long-term financial success. Here are three simple activities that can help.

Automate. Infrequent interventions, such as budgeting once a year, are less likely to bring success than more automatic actions that occur quarterly or monthly. Enrolling in a salary reduction plan which takes money from each paycheck and goes into your qualified retirement plan illustrates the difference between decisions that require your recurring action versus those that are automated. What else might you automate to increase your savings or make sure you pay your bills? Examples include signing up for a newsletter, webinar series, or class about tax and investment planning. The easier you make it to become educated about a topic you might not otherwise research regularly on your own, the more likely you are to seek out the knowledge you need to be more fully engaged in learning and find answers to the important questions.

Write it up. Whenever you make a major financial decision, write yourself a note about your decision. By jot-

ting down your analysis at the time you make a decision, you'll create an introspective record that, over the years, will help reveal successes and failures.

Increase self-awareness. Your financial personality can help or hinder your financial success and you may be entirely unaware of it. Increasing self-awareness can help you avoid sabotaging yourself. The burgeoning social science of behavioral finance can help you learn about your financial personality traits. For example, would you rather receive \$160 today or \$246 in 12 months? How about \$160 today or \$180 in 12 months? Your answer to a series of questions like this can reveal your predisposition toward deferring rewards now in favor of reaping financial benefits from a long-term plan. Similar questions can guide you in determining how likely you are to tolerate losses in bear markets, whether you are overconfident about your financial decision-making abilities, and offer hints of the types of investments that might work best in a long-term portfolio designed to help you accomplish your financial goals.

If you would like to talk

(Continued on page 5)

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Buy vs. rent your cable modem

By Alex Monaco

A number of people have recently proposed that you can save money on your Internet cable bill by purchasing and installing your own cable modem/router. This relates only to your Internet service. If you are a cable TV only customer, the box(es) connected to your TV(s) do not need any modem/router.

I'll give you some scenarios. For all these actions listed below, you need to notify Comcast that you are using your own equipment, and you must surrender the equipment that Comcast supplied. Additionally, unless you are comfortable with doing your own installation, you will need to have the equipment installed by an experienced technician. This cost must also be added into your saving calculation. Finally, you need to use a product that is compatible with Comcast. Comcast does provide a list of compatible products that you may use (see <https://approvedmodemlist.com/comcast-xfinity-approved-modems/>).

- If you use the internet only and do not use wireless connections (Wi-Fi), you can purchase an inexpensive cable modem for \$50 or so, which would be less than one year's rental. Also, depending on your cost to install and the length of time the modem continues to function, it might be a considerable savings over time.
- Using wireless connections (Wi-Fi) in your home requires a cable modem with Wi-Fi capability, or a cable modem and separate Wi-Fi router to get the Wi-Fi configuration, another level

of complexity. This configuration will usually cost you about \$120 up to \$300 depending on your selection, so it may take a year or two to cover your initial costs. Again, you may have to pay a technician to set this up.

- If you have Wi-Fi and "Triple Play" which includes your telephone service as well, you will need a more capable modem/router set up. A battery backup is recommended for this configuration, so your costs start about \$200 without installation. You're now in a two-year payback situation.

Most modem products can last more than two years, so savings in all scenarios are possible, but there are a couple of negatives to doing this as well.

- The Cable company does not support the product that you own. If there is an issue, it is up to you to prove that the problem is not your equipment. You must troubleshoot any issues that are not directly attributable to the cable service.

New Neighbors



By Christina Smith,
Resident Services Manager

Kathy Pesek and Don Patterson, 373A Rossmoor Drive, formerly of North Brunswick, N.J.

Nenita and Jose Francisco, 259A Old Nassau Road, formerly of East Windsor, N.J.

Elaine Beall, 481N Newport Way, formerly of Chertonton, Va.

Marion Bochner, 492B Somerset Lane, formerly of Monroe Twp., N.J.

Marcella and Lee Pinou, 623A Old Nassau Road, formerly of Aventura, Fla.

Shirish and Karuna Patel, 49C Old Nassau Road, formerly of Branchburg, N.J.

Glenn and Laurie Harmer, 87A Old Nassau Road, formerly of South River, N.J.

Margaret Holinko, 226C Manchester Lane, formerly of Newport Beach, N.J.

Svethana Borisonik and Yury Savenko, 422B Onset Lane, formerly of South River, N.J.

Susan Kassack, 12B Village Mall, formerly of DelRay Beach, Fla.

Dorothy Larsen, 152B Providence Way, formerly of Plainsboro, N.J.

Karen Badros, 726A Mt. Vernon Road, formerly of Salisbury, Md.

Charles Bayer, 99D Rossmoor Drive, formerly of Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Amparo and Maria Cruz, 215B Mayflower Way, formerly of Englishtown, N.J.

Catherine Walsh, 475B Rockport Way, formerly of Salisbury, Md.

- Any upgrade or replacement of the equipment is your responsibility.

A couple of positives for rental of the cable modem/router are:

- The cable company provides 24/7 support.
- Upgrades and replacement are no cost to you, so you can keep current with the latest configurations and capabilities of the equipment.

So, if you are confident of your ability to install and maintain your own router/modem go ahead, but be aware of the pitfalls.

Finally, a word on your own security for this, there are two critical points that you need to manage:

- The modem/router has an administration feature. It has a default administrator ID and Password. That ID and password should be changed as soon as the equipment is set up.
- Wi-Fi - Change the name of the Wi-Fi network and its Access Password.

In Memoriam

Nancy Ann Schenk Blumenthal died peacefully on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Nancy was born on June 25, 1950 in Glen Ridge, NJ. She settled with her husband in Colorado, where they raised their only daughter, Anna. Nancy was an avid hiker and talented artist. A decade ago Nancy returned to the East Coast, where she spent her final years living in peace and comfort.

Nancy is predeceased by her husband, Robert David Blumenthal, and her parents, Robert and Nancy Schenk. She is survived by her beloved daughter, Anna Blumenthal; her sisters, Susan Lamond (Robert Lamond) and P.J. Schmerber (John Schmerber); and her brother, Bobby Schenk.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to <https://fairfight.com>. For Nancy's full obituary please refer to www.scanlanfuneral.com.

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Sound Advice

(Continued from page 4)

about other steps you can take to ensure healthy financial behavior, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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

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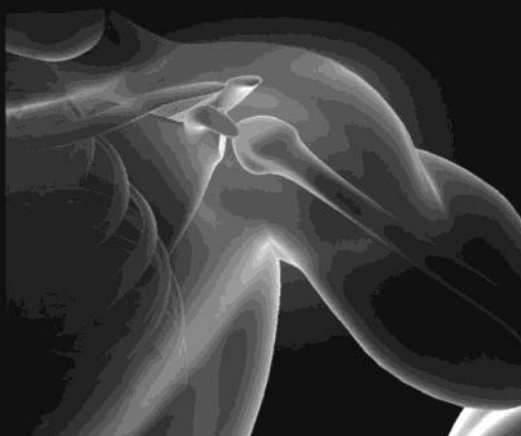
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A hot time in the old town tonight

By Jean Houvener

In October of 1871, Chicago and the Midwest had been suffering through one of the worst droughts in their history. It had been a hot and dry summer, and on Oct. 8, there was a strong, hot, dry wind blowing from the southwest. While there is great debate about the actual origins of the fire, it is known that the conditions were ripe in the dense center of Chicago, with primarily wooden buildings, for a conflagration.

The common tale at the time was that Mrs. Catherine O'Leary's cow had kicked over a lantern while being milked. It was a catchy idea and popular due to the prejudice against recent poor immigrants from Ireland. It does appear that the fire began near the O'Leary's barn at eight that night, probably well past milking time. A different theory held that some men were gambling near where the fire started, and that they knocked over a lantern. There were also several other fires that particular day across the Midwest. The official report indicated they did not know how the fire had started.

The firefighters were initially given an incorrect address, and by the time they reached the correct address, the fire had already spread to nearby buildings. The hot wind blew the flames farther north along the shore of Lake Michigan. Instead of being stopped by the Chicago River, the wind was so strong that it blew sparks across the South Branch of the Chicago River, not once but a second time farther north as the branch wandered to the Lake.

The fire, fed by the strong winds became super hot, and burned the industrial, lumber yard, warehouse, and other structures along the waterfront, burning the contents as well. As the fire approached the center of town, the courthouse, although largely stone, also caught fire and the cupola crashed into the center of the building. The mayor, Roswell B. Mason, sent to surrounding towns for help from their fire departments. The firefighters were already exhausted from fighting fires on previous nights.

The fire reached a railroad yard and a tanker full of kerosene as well as the gas works. Once the fire reached the waterworks, the building was destroyed and the water mains for fighting the fire went dry, leaving the town at the mercy of the fire. By late evening on Oct. 9, rain began, and in combination with the fire's arrival at less populous areas, the fire finally was put out.

The damage could not initially be assessed because it was too hot to survey the remains. Ultimately slightly more than three square miles of Chicago was destroyed, including roads, sidewalks, lampposts, 17,500 buildings, and \$222 million in property

losses. In response to looting that had begun, martial law was declared and Gen. Philip H. Sheridan was put in charge of militia, police, and U.S. Army troops to restore order.

It was estimated that of 324,000 inhabitants of the city, 90,000 were left homeless. While only 120 bodies were recovered, there may well have been others, up to at least 300. Many donations flooded in from other states and abroad, for food, clothing, and to rebuild. New York City gave \$450,000 along with supplies. Many other cities also sent money. To prevent such a conflagration occurring again, the fire codes were rewritten and the new buildings were built higher and better, with greater care to ensure against future fires.

On that same day, fire burned Holland, Michigan and the surrounding areas to the ground. Manistee, Mich. also burned that day, and

along the shore of Lake Huron, Port Huron, Mich. burned, as did Urbana, Ill. The worst fire that day, and in U.S. history so far, was in Peshtigo, Wisc., where between 1,200 and 2,500 people were killed and 1.5 million acres burned. There was little coverage of that fire, possibly because the telegraph lines were among the first casualties.

Reporter Michael Ahearn of the Chicago Tribune in 1893 admitted to inventing the story of poor Mrs. O'Leary and her cow, but it was too late for Mrs. O'Leary, her life having been made miserable by this story.

Ironically, the Chicago Fire Department has its training ground on the site of the O'Leary's barn. The song "Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight" originally had nothing to do with Mrs. O'Leary, and the lyrics we all sang at camp arrived some time in 1898, taking advantage of the earlier show tune.

How shy Sparky helped me

By Sidna B. Mitchell

Recently an e-mail has been going around again about Sparky. Sparky was a young boy, then young man, who couldn't seem to do anything right; he often faced discouragement and failure. However, that Sparky became a true success as Charles Schulz who created "Peanuts" and his gang of cartoon characters.

In forwarding the Sparky e-mail to family and friends, I noted, "Thanks to Sparky, a very shy guy, I got a job as assistant editor at Pacific Telephone in San Francisco back in the 60s." The wife of my pastor in Florida, asked how I happened to meet Schulz and get the job. I wrote back to explain.

After working for UPI in London and traveling in North Africa, I moved to San Francisco where I was engaged to a doctor, whom I

rarely saw since as a resident, he had long hours and lived at the hospital.

I searched for a job to no avail — either there were no openings or no one wanted to hire a union member; I had been forced to join the Guild as a general assignment reporter on the World-Telegram and Sun in New York City where I worked before going to London. However, I was able to help a couple of guys at the San Francisco Chronicle with a hate group series for which they won a prize. As a way to say "thank you," they invited me to a local bar to meet all the San Francisco media types. Unfortunately, I had already contacted everyone and once again received a "No."

The next morning, I got a call on the hall phone at the boarding house where I was

(Continued on page 9)

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I don't recognize this game

By Allan Kaufman

I was surfing the channels the other day, with no set agenda as to what I wanted to watch. I figured that something would catch my eye, especially with some 400 channels available. Strangely, nothing caught my eye so I put on ESPN to catch up on the baseball scores. The highlight show was not on. Instead, the final few minutes of the Houston Rockets game against a team I can't remember were being broadcast. It was the NBA Playoffs.

I watched as player after player attempted 3-point field goals, with most of the attempts not finding the basket. The announcer stated that "James Harden, the star of the Rockets just attempted his thirtieth 3-point field goal and the team's fifty ninth." Harden is a great player, one of the top five in the league, but I turned the volume up thinking I heard something that was crazy, but no, the announcer had his information correct.

I stopped watching NBA games about 10 years ago. I was not making a political statement. It was just the fact the game has changed so much to the point the game is not a game but a form of entertainment, similar to a Broadway play.



Houston NBA Basketball Player

Picture courtesy of zimbio.com

There is a beginning, an intermission and then, usually, a climactic finale. But the biggest detriment to the game is the 3-point field goal attempts.

I'm old school when it comes to basketball, having officiated high school games for 25 years. Plus, I do remember the days when the New York Knicks were very good, when they won two championships. I was in college when I attended the four home games of the NBA finals when the Knicks won their first championship. I also remember the Larry Bird, Kevin McHale, and Robert Parish Celtics that played the team game so well.

Today's game, with far

superior athletes to those of the past, is made up of "in your face" dunks and 3-point attempts. There is no team defense, as much of the defensive tactics have been outlawed by the NBA. It's usually the team that gets hot shooting 3-point attempts and has two or three superstars to carry the team.

I ended up watching the last four minutes of the Rockets game, not caring and not remembering who won, only thinking about the days where passing the ball to the open man, working for a shot and playing team defense so I would recognize this game.

I can be reached at allan.kaufman0125@gmail.com. Your comments and questions are most welcome.

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Halloween with a capital H

By Kenneth Thomas

We traveled to my son's house in a small New Hampshire town to celebrate his birthday and Halloween. My son Bill, his wife Laura, and our five grandchildren greeted us with kisses and hugs. After Bill's birthday celebration, everyone prepared for Halloween.

Laura had reserved a "door" in their town's square park for the evening. Old "doors" were set up to indicate "trick or treat" stopping

places for the children along the sidewalk of the town square. This small town celebrated Halloween with a capital "H." From miles around, fifteen or sixteen hundred trick or treaters were expected to knock on those doors for "Halloween in the Park from 5 to 8 p.m."

All doors had been decorated by families from town. We decorated ours and set up a table for a candy chest. The six-month-old grandson was a bunny rabbit. Our two-

year-old was a kangaroo. The four-year-old and eleven-year-old were characters from "Frozen." The middle-school teen was a "flapper." My wife dressed as an Egyptian, my son as Casanova, Laura as a witch, and I was Lord Baden-Powell. The shorts of my summer Boy Scout uniform would not provide much warmth on an October evening, so I prayed for temperatures above 50 degrees. My prayer did reach the clouds. Notice, I have not named my grandchildren. They have heard "Grandpa" stories before, so I've had to promise never to use names or risk losing my "G" title.

The decorated doors were pieces of art, or entrances to a Stephen King horror novel. I was amazed and astonished. The whole town was decorated. Spiders climbed the walls of homes. Huge balloon dinosaurs lined the streets. Pumpkins were everywhere. Cleverly designed white ghosts were visible in tree branches. Grave markers covered the ground. One home on the square became a haunted house. Every residence screamed Halloween.

At five o'clock, streets were blocked off and the very young trick or treaters entered the park, hundreds of children. Their parents urged them to say "trick or treat," "Happy Halloween," and "Thank you." I helped Bill pass out candy as our grandchildren walked up and down the center path of the park for their treats. All the

(Continued on page 9)

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Squirrely October

By Bob Huber

I was sitting on a bench at the corner of Old Nassau Road and Rossmoor Drive, taking in the early autumn air, when a squirrel hopped up on the bench and joined me. Looking me in the eye, he said:

Are you the guy who writes for The Rossmoor News?

I'm one of a number of scribes who contribute to that publication.

Yeah, but you're the only one who talks to animals.

It's a gift.

We gotta talk.

I'm listening.

Did you know that October is Squirrel Awareness Month?

I didn't know that, but I'm certainly aware of squirrels. You guys seem to be all over the place right now.

Exactly! That's why you've got to look out for us in October.

What's so special about October?

This is the month we gather food supplies for the winter, and nothing will stand in our way.

That's a problem. You see, here in Rossmoor, squirrels are considered pests.

Pests? How can adorable furry little creatures like us be considered pests?

You invade our property, and get into places you shouldn't be.

Your property? How long have you been here?

Rossmoor is over 50 years old.

We squirrels have been on this land for thousands of years. We demand the right of prior claim.

I doubt that would hold up in court.

Okay, okay. You can't get rid of us, but we want

to be good neighbors.

How do we do that?

Here's a basic tip: if you don't want us around, don't feed us.

I never feed squirrels.

Are you sure? How about the dumpster with the lid partially open, the half-eaten sandwich that somebody left on a bench, and bird feeders? I pride myself in claiming there isn't a bird feeder I can't crack open after a few tries.

Also, I'd prefer not to have you as a house guest.

I can take a hint. If you don't want us in your attic, make sure your house is buttoned up. You might need some professional help with that. If you have a working chimney, it ought to be screened. If you don't want us digging in your garden, plant some mint among the flowers.



Bob Huber's interviewee

Squirrels hate mint. Those are some of the basics.

That's a lot of useful information. Thanks for the tips.

I feel like a traitor to my cause.

You seem like a bright fellow. I'll bet you'll survive.

I hope so. We'll discuss it again in January if I'm not road kill.

Why January?

January is Squirrel Appreciation Month. By the way, you don't happen to have a nut on you?

Sorry, I'm fresh out.

Just my luck.

And with a flick of his bushy tail, he was gone, leaving me a few minutes older and wiser.

Shy Sparky

(Continued from page 7)

living. The man said his name was Charles Schulz and he had met me the night before. The name didn't ring a bell but after the second time he repeated his name and described himself as the guy with a crewcut standing up against the back wall, I said, "Oh, yes," although I didn't really recall him.

He said he knew where there was a job opening, told me the name of a vice president at Pacific Telephone, suggested I call the man right away and tell him that Charles Schulz referred me. I thanked the mysterious man and hung up, wondering how I could make the call when I didn't remember a Charles Schulz.

Admitting that I desperately needed a job, I called the telephone company executive who told me to come down that afternoon. I was so poor that I had to borrow bus money from the houseboy and went down for the interview. I was hired on the

spot. After working a few days and getting some money, I called the Chronicle to thank Charles Schulz for the tip and let him know I was now employed.

Unfortunately, no matter what time of day I called, he was never there. Finally, I called the Chronicle receptionist, told her about my job and asked if Charles Schulz was a night copy editor since I was never able to get a hold of him to thank him. She laughed and said, "Sidna, have you ever heard of 'Peanuts'? Well, Charles Schulz is the cartoonist. He doesn't work here." I was so embarrassed.

At Pacific Telephone, I became friends with the editor of the magazine. I was assistant editor of the newspaper. Bill was a friend of Schulz and told him my story. Supposedly, Schulz, who was very shy, loved the idea that I didn't know who he was, since most folks fawned over him.

By the way, I decided the good doctor was not for me so I broke the engagement and moved back to New York City.

Halloween

(Continued from page 8)


newspaper reporters in the world couldn't describe this costumed procession. Even moms, dads, and babies were costumed. Many of the young children couldn't say "trick or treat," but they understood a proffered candy bar.


At 6:30, the older children entered the crowded town square. Our candy chest emptied faster than a pirates' chest of treasure. A list of the many "whos" and "whats" passing our door would fill the pages of encyclopedias. Anything and anyone were represented in this parade of Halloween costumes; it was unbelievable. My shorts weren't providing any warmth, but my hands were sticky and turning a chocolate brown color. Bill filled our chest with the last bag of candy (1542 pieces gone) as 8 o'clock approached. I took a break and walked down the center path. This town certainly knew how to celebrate Halloween.

My Halloween costume for next year will include long pants and earmuffs.


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It was time to get another pooch

By Allan Kaufman

Our first beagle, Freckles, passed away in December 2009 at 15½ years old. We needed some time to mourn, as he was part of our family. We weren't sure if we wanted to bring another dog into our house. Our kids were out of the house and by having a pet, we had the responsibility of taking care of the pet, every day.

We wanted some time for ourselves to travel, which we did, while not have to worry about who was going to take care of the dog. That thought didn't last too long. Eight

months after we lost Freckles, Diane and I decided that we did want to adopt a "rescue" or sheltered dog.

We asked our middle daughter to help us find an organization where we could adopt another beagle. Lisa was instrumental in picking out Freckles so we gave her this assignment. In a few weeks she found the SOS Beagle Rescue organization based out of Atco, N.J. I called the person in charge, a wonderful woman named Linda Forrest.

Linda said that there was a group of beagles being transported from their Alabama location and that they would arrive in about a week. She said that we would need to make an appointment to see the group and that the appointments were on a first-come, first-serve basis.

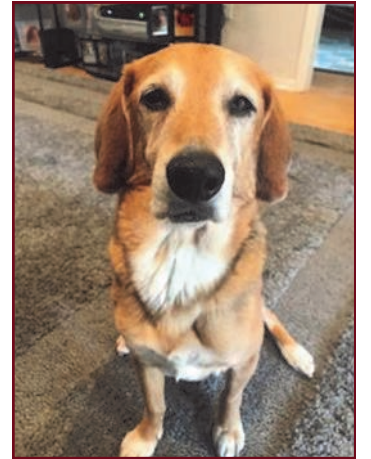
A week later, we called and made the first appointment of the day. There were six beagles in the group and immediately Diane fell in love with the one that had tiger stripes on his chest.



Jackson Filmore at 9 weeks old

We completed the necessary paperwork and gave Linda a check, I think for \$150, and our little guy, named Angus, was ours. My daughter Lisa sat with him in the back seat of my car and I said, "I would like to change his name." My wife and daughter were in agreement. My wife sug-

gested we use the letter "F" in honor of Freckles. I threw out the name "Jackson." They loved the name and then my wife asked why not name him after one of our favorite restaurants in San Francisco called Jackson Fillmore?



Jackson

Jackson has been with us for 10 years and continues to provide us with all the love you can ask of a pooch. After my daughter got married, she too went to a shelter and picked up a pooch named Belle. She is about Jackson's age. When they were younger, they had more energy and were constantly running around the backyards of our houses. Belle has become a welcome guest after we moved to Rossmoor. Jackson and Belle have less energy now, but they still are best friends.



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Thank you for listening, from your friends, Jackson Fillmore and Belle.

I can be reached at allan.kaufman0125@gmail.com. Comments and questions are always appreciated.

CULINARY CORNER

By Sidna Mitchell

Take it easy with this peach pie

When granddaughter Maggie was visiting between camp and school times, Ken decided to head to his old stomping grounds in upstate New York. That way he would give us some bonding time and also a girls' night out with friends for pizza and Uno Attack games. I suggested he bring back some of those delicious New York apples but instead he came bearing a quart of beautiful peaches.

While Ken was away, Maggie went with me to the chiropractor and then I said, "I have a surprise." Off we went to the Princeton Shopping Center where one friend claimed a jewelry store did what I wanted. Maggie and I couldn't find the store so we drove to the Mercer Mall where I was sure I had seen the address for a Zale's. No such luck but we did pass a small jewelry store.

As we got out of the car, I told Maggie my surprise: I had permission to get her ears pierced—something she has wanted for years. Maggie was so excited; she claimed her insides were jumping for joy. Unfortunately, that joy didn't last long for the store was closed.

Being a good Internet

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1 can Eagle Brand (sweetened condensed) milk
1/3 cup lemon juice
1 cup heavy cream, whipped

Culinary Corner

3 large peaches, peeled and chopped
nine-inch shortbread piecrust



Beat the Eagle Brand milk and the lemon juice until smooth.

Fold in the whipped cream and then fold in the peaches. Put into piecrust.

Chill for at least two hours or overnight.

Garnish with sliced peaches and/or mint leaves when ready to serve (optional).

I can be reached via e-mail at sbmcooks@aol.com.

searcher, Maggie found a Kay's jewelry store listed in the Quaker Bridge Mall just across Route One. Off we went, only to be discouraged when the jeweler told us the store didn't do piercing. However, our hopes were raised as she pointed to a kiosk down the way.

We were in for another disappointment. Maggie needed to be 18 or older to have her ears pierced or I needed to be her mother with proof that I was the parent since she is only 13. Bummer. However, this Grammy got good marks for good intentions.

Now back to those peaches. They looked deli-

cious so I decided to make a dessert for us and the three people we invited over for a very mini-Derby party on the upcoming Saturday. Would you believe I forgot to serve the pie!

This pie is so simple to make and so deliciously decadent. You can use whatever fruit is in season or on sale at the grocery or farmer's market, such as strawberries.

Be careful where you leave your car

By Carol De Haan

The big parking lot adjacent to the North Gate is owned by the Heritage Partnership, 1 Rossmoor Drive.

A sign erected at the entrance to the lot, warns that parking in that lot is restricted to tenants and visitors only. It says that unau-

thorized vehicles will be towed to a garage in Cranbury at a charge of \$125 per hour, plus other hefty fees.

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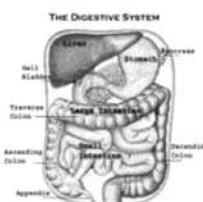
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Clubs and Organizations

Hello Computer Club members

By Steven Gray, Computer Club president

Many times in the past I have warned about email scams. I thought it was time for a bit more definitive information on what to watch for.

You receive an email addressed to you but the wording may be a bit odd, have a misspelled word or two and may even be grammatically incorrect (aren't you glad you paid attention in grammar school - pun intended). The questionable email usually asks for immediate action.

What to look for:

- The subject line is alarming or attention grabbing;
- The sender's name is vague or the address is long and/or convoluted;
- Immediate action needed or your account will be closed, your eyeballs fall out and your pet will be

kidnapped (you get the idea);

- There's an offer of a major discount (free Yugo with the purchase of a Yugo - actually that was a real offer, but not by email);
- There's some kind of reason for wanting personal info or login info;
- You are told to click the link below (don't ever do that).

What NOT to do:

- Don't click on an attachment - may install malware like a keylogger;
- Don't click on a link;
- Don't reply by email or telephone if a number is given.

If the email is from a business that you have used in the past, go directly to their website, not through any links, or else call them directly after looking up the correct telephone number.

Never use the one listed in the email. If you have never used that business, then why would they be contacting you?

Connie Previte reminded me that there are other issues to watch out for, not just emails. The FDA is warning consumers about hand sanitizers -- not just the ones containing methanol which are poisonous, but some hand sanitizers are being packaged in what appears to be food or drink containers. Two examples found were one that looked like a bottle of water and another that was in what looked like a drink container with cartoons on it. They are very dangerous around children and grandchildren, who might not take the time to read or be too young to read.

Stay safe, stay well

News from the Book Discussion and Writers' Groups

By Norman Perkus

Members of the Book Discussion Group have been meeting virtually via Zoom. In September, we discussed "1984," by George Orwell. On Thursday, Oct. 15 at 3 p.m., we will discuss "Plainsong," by Kent Haruf. All Rossmoorites are welcome to join us.

The Writers' Group also

have monthly Zoom chats to discuss what they are writing. Rossmoorites are welcome to join us to discuss what they are writing or thinking of writing. The next session will be on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 10 a.m.

For both groups, call Norman Perkus at 609-395-1552 for the Zoom meeting ID and password.

Dance films from the Dance Club

By Judy Perkus

What was your favorite dance movie? President Armen DeVivo and the Rossmoor Dance Club would love to be dancing in the Ballroom in their Halloween costumes this month but Covid19 shutdowns are still in force.

Instead of telling you who the DJ would've been, I'll mention some films that featured dance.

Do you remember John Travolta in his polyester white suit dancing in "Saturday Night Fever" in 1977?

How about the penguins dancing in the 2006 movie "Happy Feet"?

Do you prefer the films with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers like those from the 1930s, such as "Shall We Dance" and "Swing Time"?

Did you ever watch the mesmerizing film with Moira Shearer as the young ballet dancer in "The Red Shoes"?

How about Gene Kelly dancing with a mop? On the ceiling? With a mouse? "Singing in the Rain"? Etc., etc. etc.

Well, we would all like to be back to our regular activities and we hope that early next year we'll be dancing together.



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Italian American Club

By Tony Cardello

The officers of the club hope and pray that all the members and their families have remained healthy and safe from the virus.

We have decided to plan our Christmas party at Forsgate Country Club for Sunday, Dec. 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at a cost of \$50 per person.

As of this date, the party is fully booked but Sal Gurriero is keeping a waiting list, hoping that the present limitation of 110 people will change by December.

All officers of the club have agreed to continue in their positions for the coming year, 2021. Due to the pandemic, it has been decided to waive the by-laws regarding any member who wishes to serve as an officer.

Until we meet again please stay safe.



This month in pictures

Photos by Joe Conti and Walter Gryskiewicz

Rossmoor Veterans attended the 9/11 Memorial Service at Monroe Memorial Park



The main monument at the Memorial Park



Father Michael Sorial presented the invocation.



The American Legion Post 522 Color Guard



The Township Police and staff



The Township Fire and EMS staff



Memorial wreaths were placed at the monument.



Tommie Croake's statement cap. We know of whom he is proud.



Rossmoor veterans attended the memorial ceremony. In front are, from left, Dan McOlvin and Tommie Croake. Seated in back are Joe Salzano and Denny O'Malley.

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Rossmoor will now send robocalls to advise in case of bad weather or emergencies

The Rossmoor administration will send automated robocalls to residents' telephones whenever it is necessary to advise about predicted snow storms, severe weather warnings, or other emergencies.

If you are not home to answer, a message will be left in your voice mail or on your answering machine.

Please be sure to check your phone or answering machine. All necessary information will be included in the message so you will not need to call the office in return.

OCTOBER 2020

The Rossmoor NEWS

Religious Organizations

The Holiday of Sukkot is celebrated this month

By Adrienne Brotman

The holiday of *Sukkot* is celebrated this month. It is the time of the year when religious Jews build hut- like structures and eat their meals in their *Sukkah* for the duration of the holiday. The *Sukkah* represents the huts that the Jews lived in during the 40 years they wandered the desert after they left Egypt.

The last two days of Sukkot are the holidays of *Shemini Atzeret* and *Simchat Torah*. On *Shemini Atzeret* it is customary to say *Yizkor*, a memorial service, for one's parents, spouses and chil-

dren. The congregation will be *ZOOMING* this service on Saturday, Oct. 10, along with the Saturday, Sabbath service at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome to join the congregation for this service. For information on how to zoom, please contact Judy Perkus.

Simchat Torah is the day when the reading of the Torah, the scroll that contains the holiest books in Judaism, is concluded and begun again. It is a festive holiday when many Jewish congregations empty the ark, the closet where the Torahs are kept, and dance with all the

scrolls.

There will be a semi-annual congregation Zoom meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 21, at 1 p.m.

There will be a Zoom Sabbath service and a Zoom Torah Study class the end of October. Please watch Channel 26 for dates and times. All are welcome

For information on *Zooming*, once again, please contact Judy Perkus. If you would like more information about the congregation, please contact Karen Seiden, vice president of membership or Cindy Sigl, congregation president.

SPORTS

Yorkshire Savory Croquet

By John N. Craven

Since there's no croquet to be played at the moment, it means there's some time for reflection on some fun aspects of the game.

Yorkshire Savory Croquet, popularized by John Prescott, is a game played on a large lawn. Equipment consists of long handled mallets, two sets of balls, and some hoops pressed into the grass. It is quite hard to play when inebriated, but larger beer hoops are used in this instance. The croquet balls are made from a mixture of chopped, cooked bacon, small cheese cubes, and mashed potato.

Combine the mashed potato, egg yolk, onion, bacon and 1/4 cup flour in a large bowl. Roll heaped table- spoons of mixture into 20 balls. Push one cheese cube into the center of each ball.

Mold mixture around cheese to enclose. Brush with whisked seasoned egg and roll about in some bread- crumbs. Deep fry for five minutes and allow to cool.

The balls can then be dipped into epoxy resin compound and left to harden overnight. Paint half the balls blue and the rest red and yellow.

The object of the game is to propel the balls around the lawn by hitting them with the mallet, scoring a point for each hoop made in the correct order and direction.

The sides are made up of either one player per side or two players per side. The rules are the same for singles and doubles. The ways to play doubles are described later.

The players take turns and only one plays at a time. At

the beginning of a turn the player has one shot. After that shot the turn ends, unless extra shots are earned. The turn ends when the striker has no more extra shots to play. Then it is the opponents turn to play.

The winning side is the first to score the 6 hoop points and then finish by scoring one peg point for each of its balls. The winning side will score 14 points.

The Club welcomes all residents. Anyone seeking a form of light exercise, the enjoyment of the outdoors, an opportunity to mingle with friends and neighbors and to learn a simple yet challeng- ing game on a professional level playing court, contact Betty Ann Clayton. Look for us on the Croquet Court any Friday afternoon. Come Join Us, you'll like it.

A look back at a great moment

By John N. Craven

This month marks the 56th anniversary of one of the greatest days of my life. On October 10, 1964, a long- shoreman walked into Galkin's Cigar Store on 14th Street in Hoboken and said to my best friend Bill Doherty, "Kid, do you want two tickets to the World Series Game?"

Within minutes, Bill was at my door and when I asked my father if I could go, I was astounded that he said yes. With \$10 in my pocket (a week's wages from Tucker's Drugstore), we boarded a No. 63 bus to New York City.

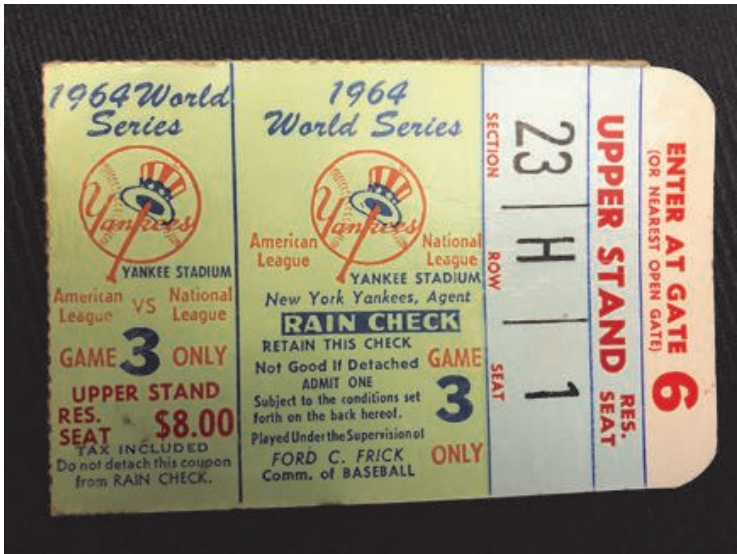
We had no idea where we were going; we just followed the crowd of Yankee fans, straight to the No. 4 train. It was my first time in New York by myself -- my first time on the subway. At 16¹st

Street, Yankee Stadium was like a cathedral. We were in the third tier. At 16 years old, we didn't anticipate how cold it would be in October sitting up that high. Even the pi-

geons were wearing sweat- ers. There was a nice guy sitting in front of us who offered us a nip from the pint of rye he had brought.

Jim Bouton pitched a gem

(Continued on page 15)



The World Series Ticket 1964

Monroe Township Library Saturday Hours and Bookmobile Back on the Road

Effective now, the Monroe Township Library Bookmobile is back on the road, making contactless deliveries. Requests must be made in advance via email to bookmobile@monroetwplibrary.org. Please include the following information: Your name, library card number, telephone number, location of bookmobile stop, book title and author.

Please note that all selections are subject to availability in the Monroe collection.

We ask that you limit your requests to 10 items.

A list of bookmobile stop locations and their scheduled visits may be found on our website at www.monroetwplibrary.org/bookmobile. Please call the Bookmobile office at (732) 521-5000 x.126 with questions.

The hours for Curbside Pickup Service have increased. The expanded hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:00

a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Monroe Township Library resumes Saturday hours from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. effective Saturday, September 12.

Senior hours remain Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. until 11 a.m.

We continue to offer virtual programs for adults, children and teens. All virtual programs are presented via Zoom, accessible from your computer, phone or tablet.

Find more information including registration, meeting ID and password information on our website at <http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/virtual-programs>. In-person programming will resume at a later date.

A message from High Tech Landscapes, Inc.

- Please call the East Gate phone and leave a message with any questions or concerns: 609-655-5134.
- The last lawn application of the year will be done between Oct 25 and Nov. 30. This is a fertilizer and agricultural ground limestone on all turf areas except the outside perimeter along Forsgate Drive and Applegarth Road. Gypsum will be applied to the outside perimeter.
- The second pruning of all bushes and flowering shrubs started in September.
- Fall cleanups have started this month.
- Annual flowers will be replaced with a fall pansy.
- Winter pruning will start Jan. 1.
- Please remember to put any debris out front at the curb on Sunday night for us to pick up on Monday morning.
- Just a reminder: the newly installed soil and seed should be watered at least twice a day for 45 minutes in the morning and afternoon.

Great moment

(Continued from page 14)

of a game that day. It all came down to the bottom of the ninth, the game tied at 1-1. Mickey Mantle was the first Yankee to bat. It has been said that he told Elston Howard not to go to the On-Deck Circle, that he was going to hit one out.

Barney Schultz's first pitch was a flat knuckler and Mickey pulverized it. We had been yelling "HIT IT UP HERE!" The ball landed three rows below where we were sitting.

The crowd went wild; we went wild. We even forgot how cold we were. Mantle had hit his 16th World Series home run, a "walk off" breaking Babe Ruth's World Series home run record.

I don't remember much after that. I guess that we made it home okay. It turned out to be one of the best days of my life. The Yankees were our team; Mickey Mantle was our hero and I got to see him in person, thanks to an anonymous dockworker and my best friend.

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Candidates

(Continued from page 1)

teering to serve on the Board of Education for the next three years. Each is eager to offer his or her skills to this important governing body. We at The Rossmoor News have asked them to write a brief piece about themselves, focusing on three questions and doing so in a very limited number of words.

We asked each candidate to reply to these three questions:

- How long have you lived in Monroe Township?
- Do you have children who attend — or have attended — any Monroe Schools?
- Why do you feel you deserve our serious consideration as a potential BOE member?

The candidates' replies

Their replies are presented in alphabetical order. We are grateful for each candidate's participation in our getting-to-know-you article. We hope that their comments will offer you a bit of insight into each of them.

Sarah Aziz

I have lived in Monroe Township for four years but grew up in Jamesburg and graduated from MTHS in 1995.

I have three children in the school district. I am a CPA with years of professional experience in financial analysis. These skills will be vital when I go through every line of our school budget to make sure we are getting the maximum benefit for every dollar spent, lowering costs where possible, and protecting our taxpayers. As the wife of a geriatric psychiatrist, I also hear about the pressures our seniors face in this difficult economy and understand the toll it can take on them. Finding fiscally responsible solutions is a priority for me.

I am passionate about education. I attend our Board of Education meetings and report on them on my Monroe Township Education Facebook group. As a result, I am ready to hit the ground running on day one to advocate on behalf of students and taxpayers.

Kathleen Belko

I have lived in Monroe Township for 21 years.

I have one 2018 MTHS graduate and one child at MTHS in the TAP program and two graduating in 2020.

Over the years I have attended and viewed many recordings of the BOE meetings. This year the antics, and personal agendas played out during meetings has been shameful. Transparency and communication to the parents is a priority, we need more parental involvement in committees. Currently parents and the BOE members are NOT involved. Restoring integrity is a priority. Board members from surrounding towns, say our BOE is considered a dysfunctional family. I believe our BOE needs change, not change for change sake, change that emphasizes, fiscal

accountability, transparency, and integrity. Greater focus on those attributes, brings a brighter perspective, more in-depth knowledge on how to provide quality education for Monroe.

Karen Bierman

I own a home in MT for five years and have one child at MTHS.

Participating on the Ad Hoc Committee to study student growth sparked an interest to contribute further. I'll read, learn, listen, ask questions and represent a voice for ALL who want the best for our children but also make sure the decisions are sound and aligned with our available resources. We should celebrate the wonderful programs evident throughout our school district yet communicate the significant challenges and help make the process of district policy setting accessible to more voices. I hope you feel comfortable voting for me to be a meaningful part of bringing balance and level headedness to our BOE. I'd be proud to serve – students, parents, educators and just as importantly the residents without children in the school system. We are all paying. We can all benefit. Change is needed and the time is now. www.changeweneedforboe.com.

Jacob Koppel Egierd

I was born in Monroe Township and have lived here for 25 years.

My sister and cousin are in their junior year at MTHS. In addition to myself, both of my parents, four of my siblings, and much of my extended family have moved on to successful careers after graduating MTHS.

Last year I graduated from Rutgers with a degree in Cognitive Neuroscience after studying abroad in Israel and China. Now I'm a researcher at The Rutgers Institute for Health, working on an international COVID-19 study. I can make the right decisions to prepare Monroe students for tomorrow's modern, global, technologically-oriented economy.

I grew up going to PTA meetings with my mother Leslie Koppel, a County Freeholder, and have been locally active ever since. I'm in tune with senior community needs; my grandparents have lived in Encore for over a decade. I know Monroe, and I'm ready to move us forward.

Michael Elgawly

I have lived in Monroe for over 24 years

I currently have three children in our school system. One in elementary, one entering middle school, and one entering high school

I am a parent of three wonderful children currently in our school system and I am an educator. I am honored with the insight to empathize with the needs and concerns of our Monroe parents, to provide our children with a top-quality education, a school environment that is safe, and the resources necessary to make sure ALL of our children succeed. More-

over, as an educator, I understand the concerns and the needs of our teachers, including the resources they require and the tools necessary for them to succeed. This places me in a unique position to provide pragmatic solutions to the problems we are confronting.

Kathy Kolupanowich

I've lived in Monroe for 34 years.

My three children went through the Monroe schools, and I have a young grandson who will attend Monroe schools.

My 21 years of experience on the Monroe Township BOE and 32 years of active volunteerism in our community makes me qualified for another term on the Board. Many positive accomplishments have been made during that time that have enhanced educational opportunities. Our students compete with the best schools in NJ. Families move here because of the quality of our curriculum. But there is more to accomplish. As a senior citizen living outside the gated communities, I understand the balance needed between giving our children a quality education and making sure our district is financially prudent with taxpayer money. If elected, I would be the only senior on the BOE, and I believe it's vital for our Board to have senior representation.

Kate Rattner

I have lived in Monroe for seven years. I am proud to reside here with my husband David, my daughter Samantha

(nine), my son Joseph (three), and my son Benjamin (one). I was a public school teacher for 12 years and I have been a small business owner for the past six years.

As a board member, one of my priorities would be fiscal responsibility because I see the strain that rising property taxes have on me, my parents (who live in Four Seasons in Monroe), and my fellow neighbors. I also want to improve the communication between our schools and our active adult communities. I truly believe that our students can learn a lot from the seniors in our town, and I think it would be wonderful to have multi-generational events. I look forward to the opportunity to serve our entire community.

Christine Skurbe

I live in Monroe for the past 18 years with my husband and our three children.

My son is a MTHS 2020 graduate, I have a sophomore

in HS and a first grader at Oak Tree.

In 2008, I founded the Oak Tree PTA and ran it for six years. I was the president of the Barclay Brook/Brookside PTA and I served as an officer on the Middle School PTO. I founded the Monroe Township Middle School Parent Staff Association in 2018 and I am a current member of the High School PTO. Currently I am on the MTHS Pandemic Response Committee preparing for when schools reopen.

I am running for a seat on the Board of Education because we need Board members who are focused on education, transparency and fiscal responsibility. We cannot continue to allow the Board to use the taxpayers as a blank check.

Thanks for reading and thinking about what the candidates have to offer. And please be sure to vote.

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 - * Drop it off at your designated Polling Location (See Attached or contact 732-656-4573)
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Jamesburg Municipal Building - 131 Perrineville Road, Jamesburg

Vote in Person

A limited number of polling places will be open on Election Day 6am - 8pm, but you will only be able to cast your ballot in person using a PROVISIONAL PAPER BALLOT.

For More Information:

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HEALTH CARE CENTER NEWS

Similarities and differences

(Continued from page 1)

quickly and easily among people, especially in certain age groups, and continues to spread through air droplets.

Symptoms of COVID-19 may include shortness of breath, persistent cough, change and/or loss of taste and smell, diarrhea, and vomiting. Researchers have discovered people can be contagious without exhibiting any symptoms at all.

If you suspect you have COVID-19, call your healthcare provider and get tested immediately. If you're experiencing mild symptoms, follow your healthcare provider's directions, which undoubtedly include quarantining for 14 days, resting, staying hydrated, and monitoring your temperature.

If, however, you experience symptoms such as a high fever, weakness, loss of appetite, or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider immediately and seek prompt medical care at an Emergency Department.

Complications from COVID-19 and the flu can include respiratory failure, heart attack, worsening of other medical conditions, inflammation of the heart, brain, and/or muscles, and bacterial infections.

A further complication of COVID-19 is the development of blood clots. Treatment will be based on the severity of symptoms and complications.

Presently there is no vaccine for COVID-19; however, many pharmaceutical companies are working on developing one. Clinical trials are ongoing and testing is being done to ensure the safety and efficacy of the vaccine.

The importance of a flu shot

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends everyone get a flu vaccine in this pandemic. Getting a flu shot will help to reduce the impact of respiratory illness and complications of the flu, such as pneumonia, renal failure, or multi-organ system failure.

If you have not received your flu vaccine yet, you can still avail yourself at our second flu clinic scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. We are following CDC guidelines and limiting the number of residents in the Ballroom.

We are scheduling the flu clinic by appointment. To schedule your appointment,

visit www.SPPANJ.com/FLUCLINIC.

Or you can visit www.saintpetershcs.com, click on "find a medical service" and then click on "flu clinics."

You may also call the appointment line at 609-439-3783. The phone line is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Consent forms are located in the vestibule of the Healthcare Center. Please pick up the appropriate flu consent form and complete it before coming to the flu clinic for your appointment.

Remember YOU are the most important member of your healthcare team!



Rossmoor News seeks photographs

We need pictures.

Please send us pictures you've taken of any Rossmoor event or personality. We're also happy to print your lovely flowering tree, your new puppy, your graduating grandchild, a spectacular sunrise, the blossoms in your garden.

Send them to news@rcainj.com and include your name, telephone number, and a title for the picture. We'll give you credit for it.

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NO mattresses

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- No lids on plastic bottles.
- Only #1, #2, and #5 plastic is acceptable in the recycle bin.
- Plastics numbered #3, #4, and #7, etc. must go in the household trash bin.
- 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 supermarket.)
- 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.

TRANSPORTATION TIDBITS

Important phone numbers:

Rossmoor Bus.....609-655-4401
Hours 10:00 -11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Monroe Township Transportation609-443-0511

Middlesex County

Area Transportation (MCAT)1-800-221-3520

St. Peter's University Hospital

On Time Transportation1-800-858-8463

All schedules are available outside the E&R office (near the copy machine) or via the Web at rcainj.com and following the links Facilities, Clubhouse and Activities, and Bus Info.

Classified Advertising

Home Improvement & Services

RELIABLE HANDYMAN SERVICES – Local resident. No job too small. All labor guaranteed. Call me to discuss – no obligation. Reasonable rates. Call (609) 409-7096 or (908) 385-5869.

MIKE THE HANDYMAN – See my display ad in this edition. (732) 780-0468.

Miscellaneous/ Services

HAVE SCISSORS WILL TRAVEL—All hairdressing services. Will come to your home. Licensed hairdresser. Call Georgianne, 732-985-8129.

COMPUTERS BUILT & REPAIRED - RJF Sales Company LLC. Is your computer running slow? It may need a tune-up. Desktop and laptop repair in your home with precautions due to virus. Custom built computers. Virus removal and protection. Monroe resident with over 20 years of computer experience. (732) 723-9537 or (732) 967-3400. Please leave message; all calls returned same day.

TECH BUDDY – Simple step-by-step help with smartphones, computers and tablets. Large print solutions for low tech problems. Beginner to Advanced. Patience and enthusiasm included. Wireless printers, Netflix, Amazon Alexa setup and training. Have Alexa remind you of your appointments, read audiobooks, more. \$5 off setup. Free quote. (732) 589-4974. techbuddybarb@aol.com

House Cleaning

HENRYKA'S CLEANING SERVICE – Professional house cleaning. Quality work. Call (609) 586-0806.

Keep these contaminants OUT of your recycling bin:

- Plastic bags
- Food and liquids
- Electronics and small appliances
- Textiles, bedding, rugs and carpet
- Hoses, holiday lights, hangers, extension cords
- Plastic bags, film, sheeting, flexible film packaging
- Paper napkins, plates, cups, tissues
- Polystyrene foam
- Tires, auto parts, scrap metal
- Concrete, wood, construction debris
- Yard waste, wood
- Non-recyclable plastics

Adhering to these standards can save you money by reducing Rossmoor's trash pick-up charges.

Help & Health Services

AT ANGEL TOUCH HOME CARE we provide excellent care for the elderly with licensed, insured and bonded thoroughly screened aides. We are a company that cares for our patients and makes sure they are treated by the best. 24-hour care (living with resident). Elderly companionship. Call (609) 907-6059.

COMPANION / DRIVER—Compassionate, experienced Rossmoorite happy to assist. Judy (609) 655-1026.

ANNA'S HOME CARE – Certified professional caregiver is looking for live-in/live-out job in Monroe Township. Experienced, references. Driver's license. Accepts long-term care insurance. Low prices. Private care option. Call Anna at (609) 409-1600 or (908) 337-7462.

SHOPPING-NO CONTACT—Grocery shopping, errands, etc. Responsible, reliable, honest. Local resident. Reasonable rates. Debbie, (732) 715-9443.

Wanted to Buy

BUYING & SELLING GUNS – Call for pricing. (609) 558-9509. Ask for David. Licensed Firearms Dealer.

CLASSIFIED Ad Information

All Classified ads must be received by Princeton Editorial no later than the 14th of the month preceding publication month.

Mail to:

Princeton Editorial Services

P.O. Box 70

Millstone Twp., NJ 08510

RATES

\$14 for 10 words,
50 cents each
additional word.

- Note: Phone numbers count as one word and names as one word. Do not count punctuation. Abbreviations will be counted as one word.
- Check or money order must accompany insert, made payable to Princeton Editorial Services.
- Phone number or address which appears in ad must appear on check or money order to ensure proper credit.
- Type or print your ad clearly and please include any contact information.

Primary and specialty care doctors with one focus...you.



Exceptional care and safety for exceptional times.

Saint Peter's Physician Associates provides primary and specialty care throughout Central Jersey. Our physicians provide primary care and access to specialists in breast health, diabetes, gastroenterology, geriatrics, lung health, pediatrics, women's health, surgery and more.

Our goal is to provide high-quality health care and access to cutting-edge technologies. Our surgeons are board-certified, trained in minimally invasive and robotic surgery for a shorter recovery time and faster return to normal daily activities.

To find a physician near you, visit SPPANJ.com



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