



# Rossmoor IN News



VOLUME 59 / No. 11

Monroe Township, New Jersey

NOVEMBER 2023

## Happy Thanksgiving



Mutual 4B had an end of summer barbecue that was well attended.

Photo by Youngae Lee

## Monroe earns AA+ bond rating, showing strong financial footing

Monroe Township has once again demonstrated its strong fiscal position, earning a Standard & Poor's "AA+" bond rating for the eighth consecutive year. The Township's short-term borrowing rate remained as SP-1+, the highest rating available in that category.

"With a strong AA+ bond rating, the Township has refinanced much of its existing debt over the past few years, when rates were historically low, saving several million dollars," said Monroe Mayor Stephen Dalina. "As a result, debt service is down again in 2023."

According to the S&P Global RatingsDirect report issued for 2023, "The rating reflects our

view of the Township's healthy financial performance and liquidity, supported by economic expansion."

This exemplary rating is the second highest bond rating assigned by the company and only awarded to 10% of municipalities nationwide.

Such a strong rating underscores the creditworthiness of Monroe as an issuer

of bonds, signifying the municipality has strong financial backing, excellent credit reserves and limited debt.

"Our exemplary bond rating reflects our strong administrative management, consistent financial operations and low debt," explained Mayor Dalina. "We've continually tightened our belt and focused on opera-

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## Daylight Saving Time ends

Before you go to sleep on the night of Saturday, Nov. 4, be sure to set your clocks back one hour. That way, when you wake up on Sunday, Nov. 5, you'll be in sync with the rest of the country

(well, most of the country. There might be a rare hold-out.)

Most Americans find this time change to be onerous. In a 2022 poll conducted by Monmouth University, 60% of respondents would end the twice-yearly time change.

Then, in 2023, a CBS News/YouGov poll found that 46% of Americans support year-round Daylight Saving Time.

Last year, the U.S. Senate passed the Sunshine Protection Act, providing for year-round Daylight Saving Time. The House of Representatives could not agree. So it's all up to Congress which, these days, seldom agrees on anything.

## Music Association offers a bit of jazz and "Gift of Music" gift cards

By Linda Bozowski,

As the saying goes, variety is the spice of life, and the Rossmoor Music Association is trying to mix up the season a bit with its planned performances.

On Friday, Nov. 10, at 7:30 p.m., we will be entertained by the Marty Eigen/Amani ensemble and their "All That Jazz" presentation. Vocal, piano, woodwinds, bass, and drums will fill the Meeting House with a variety of selections that may bring back memories or cause toe-tapping enjoyment.

For those who have not purchased season tickets, tickets will be available at the door for \$15, a great bargain

for an enjoyable evening.

"Gift of Music" gift tickets will also be available for purchase at \$15 per gift card as well. A new offering from the Music Association, these gift cards make lovely and unusual gifts for friends, neighbors, and family members who may be celebrating birthdays, recovering from illness, or have done a favor like feeding the cat, walking the dog, or watering the plants. With holidays coming up soon, these "Gift of Music" cards offer a nice opportunity to spend time together at a music event and are a nice modest-cost change of pace from the usual candle

(Continued on page 15)

## Warm coats and jackets to be collected this year

By Alyce Owens

The Community Church is collecting gently used warm coats and jackets in all sizes (no other types of clothing please) for people in N.J. who will suffer through another nasty winter unless they get some help.

Donations can be made between Nov. 26 and Dec. 10.

You can deposit your donations in either of the two

big red boxes located in the front vestibule of the Clubhouse or in the sheltered patio area outside the fitness center.

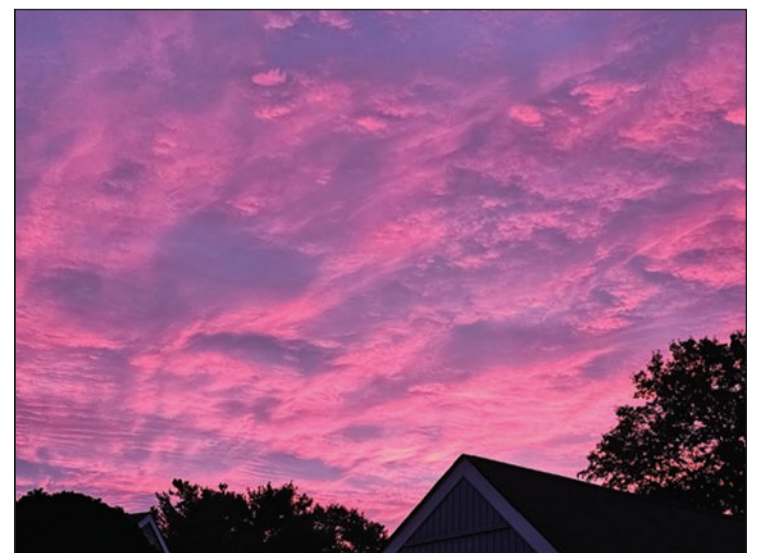
Please place all donations in plastic bags before depositing them in either donation box.

Can we do it again this year? Every year for the past 14, caring residents have donated many hundreds of

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Sunrise over Rossmoor

Photo by Youngae Lee

# at the governors' meeting

## September RCAI Board of Governor's Meeting

The September Rossmoor Community Association Board of Governors meeting was held on Sept. 28, a week too late for this article to be in the October Rossmoor News. The Meeting was held in Clubhouse Ballroom rather than the Village Center; it was the second evening meeting of the year allowing working residents a chance to attend.

At 7 p.m., President Dan Jolly opened the meeting with a salute to the flag followed by a minute of silence to honor the passing of long time Association Director, Louis Russo. Secretary Bob Gleason called the roll. A motion was made and approved to accept the August RCAI BOG meeting minutes as written.

### President's Report

Dan announced the appointment of Barbara Krysiak as chair of the Employee Holiday Fund Committee, along with Joann Casper and Brenda Burrus. He also announced the October meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 9 a.m. in the Village Center to allow Board members and residents time to attend the annual New Jersey CAI Convention and Expo on Oct. 19. Dan reported Monroe Township is currently running electric to Golden Pond, located between Yale and Thurman lanes. They are installing three fountains to aerate the water. Dan also mentioned that Comcast provided notification of cable work in sections of community overnight which will affect some residents. Dan then wished everyone a wonderful Columbus Day Holiday.

### Treasurers Report:

John Craven reported on the July 31, 2023, and the August 31, 2023, RCAI budget variance reports. He stated there is a continued positive variance in the

budget, an increase of \$38,000 since last month. John explained that E&R and Golf are bringing in greater than expected income, that combined with a lack of snow, are the main reasons for the positive variance.

### Management Report:

General Manager Tom Curry reported on the monthly management report provided to the Board of Governors (BOG). He discussed several Administration department statistics and provided the monthly sales numbers for condominium and cooperative closings in August. He explained that late September and early October are budget creation season and provided some insight into the upcoming budget. Our comptroller Linda Rainy will be working with Mutuels to develop their 2024 budgets. He commented that the FY24 budgets are in their early stages, however many expenses have increased substantially due to inflation.

He reported on the Maintenance Department's volume of work, status of ongoing projects in the Mutuels, and reported on the second monthly report from FWH engineering on flood mitigation grant engineering progress.

He discussed pavement projects including the Revere Way drain basin replacement which is currently in progress. Tom also explained the construction delays in the completion of Thurman Lane and Rockport Way. He announced the upcoming start date of the HVAC rooftop system replacements in the Village Center.

Curry discussed upcoming E&R events, discussed ongoing Golf course maintenance and upcoming golf events. He finished his report with a discussion of RCAI's EV charging stations located next to the pool, shuffleboard, and bocce courts.

### New Business:

- **Resolution #2023-27 – Authorization for pool lifeguard services for 2024.** A motion was made to authorize management to hire AquaSafe pool management for the 2024 season. The motion was seconded. Sixteen community members voiced their opinion. The final vote was 3 Yes, 14 No, and 1 abstention. The resolution failed.

### Residents Comments

Sixteen residents asked questions including concerns of a broken gate arm, a question about the resolution voting process, a notification that political soliciting is being permitted in some Mutuels, a concern regarding the New Year's Eve party, a concern about vehicles failing to stop at intersections, a concern about Comcast internet's poor connections, an appeal for residents to attend Mutual meetings, two appeals for installation of hearing aid amplification systems in meeting rooms, and five questions regarding propane grill rules.

There being no further business for the Board to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

## October RCAI BOG Meeting

The October RCAI BOG meeting was held on the third Wednesday rather than the usual Thursday to allow board members and residents to attend the Community Association Institute New Jersey Chapter annual conference.

The Wednesday, Oct. 18 meeting was held in the Village Center Meeting Room at 9 a.m. President Dan Jolly opened the meeting. Secretary Bob Gleason called the roll. A motion was made and approved to accept the September BOG meeting min-

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## Bits & Pieces

By Sue Ortiz

No sun — no moon!  
No morn — no noon!  
No dawn — no dusk — no proper time of day —  
No sky — no earthly view —  
No distance looking blue —

No warmth, no cheerfulness,  
no healthful ease,  
No comfortable feel in any member —  
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,  
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds,  
November!

These are the beginning and ending stanzas of Thomas Hood's humorous poem "No!" Hood was British, and in November 1844, when the poem was written, London was cool, overcast, and frequently foggy. Isn't it always?

New Jersey Novembers are usually cool, occasionally overcast, but rarely foggy. Farmers are evaluating their harvest and planning next year's crops. Leaves have turned a rainbow of colors and now crunch beneath our every step. If you haven't raked them by now, might as well wait for spring. Snow will soon blanket them, anyway. Maybe.

Unlike the lines of "No!" the days here are frequently very sunny with bright blue skies. If warmer weather holds up, you might find a November rose in bloom. I've seen bumblebees still hovering and butterflies dancing over winter pansies in November. Winter birds flock to our feeders. By the way, have you seen the wild turkeys? No, not at the feeders, silly! Maybe at the polls, though!

Ha Ha! November begins with Election Day: the Tuesday after the first Monday. We honor Veterans on 11/11. (By the way, don't forget to make a wish at 11:11 (a.m. and p.m.) on 11/11!) Thanksgiving is on the fourth Thursday. A lot of calculations, right?

November is a time of giving thanks and overeating. And dieting. Or not. Remember, Christmas is only several short weeks away ...

It's time to drag out those Christmas decorations again. Sometimes even before Thanksgiving. And, don't forget Black Friday the day after and Cyber Monday after that. Unless you've finished your holiday shopping. Then stay home, relax, eat some more, and watch football. (I'll watch a movie, instead, thank you very much!)

November is the time for birthdays. (I won't say who, but you may know a couple of us!) Cakes and pies and presents, oh my!

November is the month between autumn and winter. Pumpkin pie sandwiched between Halloween candy and Christmas cookies.

How can you not love November? It is a wonderful month.

### B&P

"Fallen leaves lying on the grass in the November sun bring more happiness than the daffodils"—Cyril Connolly (English critic and editor, 1903-1974)

"No birds; no bees; no flowers; no trees ... no wonder — November!" — Benny Hill (British comedian, 1924-1992)

## Rossmoor Artist wins First Place in New Jersey State Senior Art Show

By Pamela Neece

After winning first place in acrylics in the Middlesex County Art show, resident Daisy Cohen's, "Telling Secrets," has won first place in the N.J. State Senior Art Show.

The N.J. Senior Art Show features all the winners in each category from each county in New Jersey. The show was on view at Meadow Lakes, East Windsor, through Oct. 26. You now can see Daisy Cohen's

prize-winning entry and all the other entries online at <https://njseniorarts.com>

## AA+ bond rating

(Continued from page 1)

tional efficiencies while maintaining outstanding services to our residents."

"I am proud of our AA+ bond rating that directly results in taxpayer savings," Dalina said. "Monroe has once again proven our strong financial position for years to come."



### News Board:

Carol De Haan, Chair  
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 considered as space permits. Unscheduled

volunteer writers should contact Rossmoor News Chair about any submission. **We reserve the right to edit, limit, or reject any materials/submissions according to the directives of the Editorial Board and Publisher.**

Letters to the Editor must be emailed to PES at [pescmd1@gmail.com](mailto:pescmd1@gmail.com) and clearly marked Rossmoor News.

### Editorial Office:

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Visit the Rossmoor website at [www.rcainj.com](http://www.rcainj.com)

## Open RCAI Meetings in November

**Board of Governors Meeting  
Thursday, November 16 – 9 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.rcainj.com](http://www.rcainj.com)  
for more information

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

# History of our Fire Department

By Jean Houvener

Joe Haff, one of the Fire Commissioners for our District 3 Fire Department and a Rossmoor resident, presented some information on the history and details of Monroe Township's Fire Department to the Computer Club at a recent meeting. Until after World War II, Monroe Township was largely a farming community with only some 1700 residents. Fire service was provided by Cranbury and other nearby towns for around \$500 a year.

In 1949, the cost of that service rose to \$2,000 per year. At that point, and as the area increased in population, the residents decided to start their own fire district. The first one to form was District 1 in the northern part of the township, where most of the denser housing was located. The station was originally on Hanover Street and was newly built at 467 Spotswood Englishtown Road in the last four to five



Above are, from left, Fire Chief Wayne Lyons, Steve Gray, Commissioner Joe Haff and Paul Pittari.

Photos by Helene Gray

have slightly longer response times as they need first to get to the fire house.

Each district has five commissioners who are responsible for expenses and running of their respective district. For Rossmoor's district, which we support with our taxes, the Fire Chief is Wayne Lyons and the Commissioners are Les Barta, chairman, Ray Bridy (yes, our very own golf pro), Joel Kaplan,



From the Computer Club are, from left, Paul Pittari, Kristin Michaelson, Joe Haff, Cathleen Norback and Steve Gray.

years.

Shortly after that, partly in response to some fires in the southern part of Monroe Township, District 2 was formed and funded by volunteer residents in the area. Their original station was at 130 Applegarth Road, and is still staffed largely with volunteers. A second more recent station is located next to the Senior Center at 10 Halsey Reed Road, and has paid fire fighters.

Finally, District 3 was formed for the area in the center of Monroe Township. Because many of the residents in this area are seniors, it has a fully paid staff of fire fighters, with their first fire house at 359 School House Road and a second fire house at 16 Center Drive. An identifying characteristic of our fire engines is that they are yellow, not red.

Although they work together as needed, each of the three districts operates with its own commissioners, staff, and fire fighters, and its own budget. The two fire houses of District 3 are each staffed 24/7 with four teams of one captain and three firefighters on rotation, ready to respond immediately to any fire. The districts with volunteers

Gerald Kaplan (no relation), and Rossmoor resident Joe Haff, who gave the presentation. The area covered by District 3 covers 22.5 square miles of Monroe Township, including independent residences, active adult communities, large warehouses, and part of the Turnpike around exit 8A. The district includes Rossmoor, Greenbriar at Whittingham, Regency, and Forsgate, as well as the new Venue community.

Because District 3 has all professional paid fire fighters, our costs are higher than the other two districts. The district handles between 1200 and 1500 calls per year. The greatest cost increases have been for health insurance.

As the population has grown and as technology has improved, the fire stations have been regularly updated. In District 3, the bond issue for one fire station upgrade was continued to permit the second station to be upgraded without needing to increase the cost to taxpayers. The Township of Monroe now includes 47,000 to 48,000 people, quite an increase since those early years.



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100 School Road East  
**Tuesday, November 28th**  
10:00am | 2:00pm | 7:00pm

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**Wednesday, November 29th**  
10:00am | 2:00pm | 7:00pm

#### Monroe

Courtyard Marriott  
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**Thursday, November 30th**  
10:00am | 2:00pm | 7:00pm

You may register by calling our office at (732) 238-6000 or online at [www.levinefurman.com/seminars](http://www.levinefurman.com/seminars).

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## **Warm coats**

(Continued from page 1)

warm coats and jackets for the needy, and I'll bet this year we can do it again! Each time we think, "How can there be anything left in their closets?" But with God's help, the Benevolence Team believe our wonderful folks will find it in their hearts -- and their closets -- to make this another successful drive.

We've learned that some folks also ask their families to participate in this worthy effort. When asked whether children or teen size coats are accept-

able as well, the answer is a resounding "Yes!" All men's, women's, and children's sizes of coats and jackets are much appreciated.

Since the collection starts late in the month -- Nov. 26 to Dec. 10 -- there's plenty of time for you to look deep into those closets and storage areas for items that you might not have worn in a while. They will be ever so much more valuable to someone in need, than they are sitting unused in your closet through another winter. And think of the added space you'll have!

The collection and transportation involved in this benevolent project is a huge job and couldn't be done without the help of Sal Gurriero and Greg Policastro, who make timely collections from these boxes, then transport and deliver everything to the places where distribution will be made. The Community Church sincerely appreciates and thanks Sal and Greg for this generous help.



This will be the 15th year the Community Church has sponsored this drive, with Your Grandmother's Cupboard being the major recipient of the collection. Through their many distribution sites in New Jersey, Your Grandmother's Cupboard, a caring, non-profit organization in Toms River, provides food, clothing, and life's necessities to help keep people warm and make it through our long cold winters. They serve all year 'round, and especially help anyone who might be struggling to survive -- the invisible adults and children in our midst with special needs.

Some of your donations also will be given to St. Peter's Church in Freehold as well as to Habitat for Humanity, for distribution to people in need of warm coats . . . and our love.

This is truly God's love at work and with the continued help of our generous residents, we hope to keep making the holidays a little happier and a lot warmer for those in need. You'll feel better too, just knowing that you've helped someone keep warm this winter. To you, it might just be an old jacket, but to the person receiving it, that coat or jacket will be a gift of love.

The Community Church thanks all who participate in this important effort, and extends sincere warm wishes and blessings to you and your families for a very happy, healthy Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year.

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### **Did you know?**

**Alexander Hamilton**  
 (1755-1804)

Was only 25 when, in 1780, he married the lovely socialite Elizabeth Schuyler of the prominent and patriotic Schuyler family from Albany, N.Y. Over the years, Alexander and Elizabeth had eight children. Hamilton, nevertheless, acquired a reputation as a womanizer.

At the same time, Martha Washington, like most householders of that era, kept as a pet a large, tough tomcat for the purpose of rodent control. Her cat was said to be the father of every kitten born within a three-mile radius.

She named it "Hamilton."

### **Rossmoor's Website**

Go to [rcainj.com](http://rcainj.com) to access the Rossmoor website.

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

## ***Gemütlichkeit* in the Clubhouse**

*By Carol De Haan*

President Chrissy Skurbe made several announcements that are of interest. At a meeting attended by several Board members and Township officials, discussion was held regarding a Shared Services Agreement so that the Township could provide additional financial support to the school district to be used for needed repairs on the Applegarth School. The Board of Education has received additional funding from the State, thanks to the efforts of Senator Greenstein, but those funds are not adequate to move forward with the many repairs needed at that building.

Discussion between the BOE and the Township was also held regarding the discontinuance of usage of school buildings for voting in the future. The State has recommended that voting be held in locations that do not put students at risk during times of voting use. The N.J. School Boards Association also supports this effort. It is not clear when a decision will be made. Some communities have indicated their inability to provide alternate locations for voting. As additional information is available, we will report it.

Although no business was conducted, Board

**A:** A nose knows what smells good.

So, if you came to the Clubhouse on the evening of Wednesday, Sept. 27, your nose would have picked up the tantalizing scent of German *kuchen*. Your schnoz would have wafted down the hall past the E&R office, with the rest of you in tow, then down the long hall into the red room and to the double doors into the Ballroom.

*Voila!* — ten tables with 80 or 90 residents happily pouring beer or wine that they had brought with them, not talking much because they were munching away at the tasty buffet dinner catered by Sebastian's Schnitzelhaus from Wrightstown. The repast consisted of cucumber salad, pierogies, spaetzle, sauerbraten, chicken schnitzels, bratwurst, and sauerkraut. The feast topped off with German chocolate cake and cupcakes baked with chunks of apple, coffee, or tea. It was a dinner to write home about.

It was Oktoberfest!

Enhancing the *gemütlichkeit* (the cheer and good times) was Bernie's Orchestra: four musicians with sturdy Alpine shoes, thick knee socks, *lederhosen*, and leather Bavarian suspenders.

They played an accordion, guitar, drums, and the vocalist alternated singing with playing one of several brass instruments. Their music was so pleasant, so rhythmic that people were dancing in the aisles.

The highlight of the evening came when band member John Mayer brought out a 12-foot-long alphorn on which he played Amazing Grace. Explaining that the alphorn has a limited range of notes, its music is produced entirely by the breath of the player. This was a unique moment: how many people have ever seen or heard a bona fide alphorn?

## The first Oktoberfest

Farming communities often held festivities after the hard work of bringing in the harvest. In 1810, King Ludwig of Bavaria made Oktoberfest an official celebration of his marriage to Princess Therese.

He honored the day with parades, a carnival, singing and dancing, contests of bowling and tree climbing, good food and plenty of beer. Everyone had such a good time that Oktoberfest was held every year thereafter. At the present time, Munich sees six million Oktoberfest visitors who consume two million gallons of beer.

Talk about *gemütlichkeit*!

## November Almanac

**Nov. 1** -- In 1952, The U.S. detonated the first thermonuclear weapon, the hydrogen bomb, on Eniwetok atoll in the Pacific Ocean. It was 1,000 times more powerful than conventional nuclear weapons.

**Nov. 11** -- In 1932, topsoil from tree-less and drought plagued farms in South Dakota was blown as far east as New York City, clouding visibility for days.

**Nov. 15** – In 1988, Benazir Bhutto was elected the first female prime minister of Pakistan.

**In 1925**, General Motors (*not* General Electric) produced the first electric refrigerator at \$285, making it too costly for most families, which continued with a block of ice in their “icebox”

**Nov. 19** – In 1969, Apollo 12 was our second moon landing, this time with pinpoint accuracy. It performed many scientific experiments before returning to earth.

**Nov. 26** – In 1789, President George Washington proclaimed the last Thursday in November to be a day of

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New Menu  
Only In Theaters

Kids Eat Free  
Every Day 4-10pm

For a limited time at participating locations. One free kids' meal with each full-priced adult entrée purchase. Valid every day, 4-10pm. Drinks not included unless otherwise specified. Not valid with any other discounts or coupons. Kids Eat Free not valid with IHOPPY Hour®. Dine-in only. © 2023 IHOP Restaurants LLC. All Rights Reserved.



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## Please Help Israel

The Jewish Congregation of Clearbrook is currently accepting donations to be given to Magen David Adom, which is an organization that solely supports supplies and emergency services to the injured in Israel. If anyone would like to contribute, please mail to: Jewish Congregation of Clearbrook, 1 Clearbrook Drive, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831, or call Michael Katz at 609-619-3762. Make checks payable to Jewish Congregation of Clearbrook with a memo "For Israel" or "For Magen David Adom."

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- ✓ Sharp, electrical-like pain
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- ✓ Sensitivity to touch

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## PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY

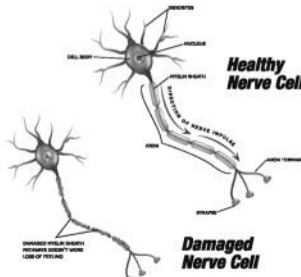
Peripheral Neuropathy is a condition that affects millions of Americans, commonly resulting in pain, tingling, numbness, and other painful symptoms in the hands, legs and feet. This pain changes your life and affects how you work, how you play and how you live.

### NEW FDA-CLEARED TREATMENTS PROVIDE HOPE

AllCure Spine and Sports Medicine is pleased to announce their new program for treating Peripheral Neuropathy, which includes a combination of advanced FDA-cleared treatments with breakthrough technology that aids in healing the damaged nerves. The effects of this program can be felt on the first few visits. This treatment restores, stabilizes, and rebuilds the nerves in your extremities. Treatment has also been effective in addressing painful symptoms of arthritis, MS, and other forms of chronic pain. Patients generally feel relief physically throughout the treatment period and even feel better emotionally after experiencing a reduction in pain.

### HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU HAVE NERVE DAMAGE?

Peripheral neuropathy is the consequence of damage to your peripheral nerves. There are over 100 different kinds of peripheral nerve disorders or neuropathies – some are the result of a disease like diabetes, while others can be triggered by a viral infection. Still others are the result of an injury or compression on the nerves. No matter where the problems begin, it is imperative nerve disorders are resolved as soon as possible to prevent permanent damage. Many people suffer with pain for years, not realizing that their symptoms may be due to Peripheral Neuropathy. Symptoms start gradually, then get worse, including numbness, burning or tingling sensations and sharp, electrical-like pain. Treatment options have been limited to a small assortment of pain medications, which can lead to further issues. Ignoring the problem or masking the symptoms has never been a viable solution. If you suffer from any of the aforementioned symptoms, we can help.



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## Are primaries good or bad for democracy?

By Carol De Haan

Our Constitution does not tell us how to select candidates for public office.

Our mostly elite and well-educated founding fathers, however, seemed to feel the need for some filtering mechanism to keep unsuitable people from seeking political power. To that end, they wanted state senators to be elected by state legislators, and not by members of the public who might easily be swayed by a convincing fast-talker. For the same reason, they supported property qualifications for white males to vote. Further, they created an Electoral College consisting of insider elites who could nullify a popular choice for president if that person seemed unsuitable for office.

### Who selects the candidate?

Throughout the early years of our democracy, candidates for public office were selected

by political insiders. These "party bosses" were careful to avoid backing anyone they thought could not win or who might become a problem. They served an internal gatekeeping function before the public got involved.

You can imagine what happened next: the bosses, usually in smoke-filled rooms, selected candidates who would play along with whatever agenda the party (read: party donors) desired, not necessarily what the public might need. This went on for years. In 1860, Abraham Lincoln was distressed at all the back-room wheeling and dealing that confirmed him as his party's candidate.

### Progressive reforms

If "peace comes dropping slow," as the poet said, so does progress. It was not until the 1890s that a progressive mentality gained enough traction to deal with the injustices of patronage. States began introducing these reforms:

- Initiative – Allows citizens of a state to gather enough signatures to put a proposed law on the ballot for the next election, thereby overcoming a balky or a do-nothing legislature.
- Referendum – Provides for the people to vote at the next election to uphold or overturn a state law with which they disagree.
- Recall – Gives citizens the right to remove an unsuitable person from state office. (Legislators can impeach; only the people can recall.)
- Primaries – Allow the public to choose the candidates

whose names will appear on the ballot, depriving party insiders of this power. The primary exists on the local or national level. Through a national primary a presidential hopeful is pre-selected.

### Here comes the primary!

Taking candidate pre-selection away from vested interests and giving it to the public at large seemed, at first glance, to be a noble attempt to advance democracy. Has it worked out?

Too often, people who are conscientious about voting, nevertheless seem to think a primary requires no input. They let "the other guy" take care of it. As we have seen, the "other guy" might well be an extremist with an agenda at odds with everyone else. Once that kind of candidate gets on the ballot, there's not much to be done. Sometime people say they had no choice but to vote for the lesser of two evils. Democracy should function on a higher plane than that.

### What's the solution?

Political parties should encourage their hopefuls to respond openly to public concerns and to speak forthrightly on the issues, not merely to "smile and smile and be a villain," as Shakespeare put it.

More importantly, voters need to pay attention to the background of political hopefuls, then use their own good judgement, and always to vote in the primary as well as in the general election. That will be the best, perhaps the only, way to make sure we still have a government of, by, and for the people.

## You're a turkey. What's there to be thankful for?

By Allen Kobezak

This month, millions of Americans will be celebrating one of the most popular holidays of the year. On Thanksgiving Day, more than 80% of the people celebrating in the U.S. will be eating turkey. Let's give some thought to the life of this bird that will be paying the ultimate price for the people of our country.

A turkey's life is a short, difficult one. Imagine your first memory is being encompassed in a hard shell, and you must break your way out with your little beak to survive. This exhausting task can take 24 hours to complete. When you're finally out, someone puts you under a heat lamp to keep you warm. You have all the food and water you need. You even meet some cute fluffy chicks your age. Life is pretty good, but the good life only lasts about 20 weeks. That's when you become a special guest on someone's dinner table for Thanksgiving.

The other guests have been looking forward to seeing you, and when the big day comes, they will love your aroma in the morning as you prepare to make your debut. Later, they will praise the cook for your pleasing taste. But, by the end

of their meal, these overstuffed turkey lovers will wonder why they ate so much of you.

It's not all your fault they had to drop their knife and fork and crawl to the couch for a long nap. There also was stuffing, mashed potatoes, and other various side dishes. And don't forget the pumpkin pie covered with whipped cream. It's as much a part of the Thanksgiving holiday as you. They may vow never to overindulge themselves again at the dinner table, at least not until December 25.

However, the end will come slowly for you, Tom. You may be just about gone now, but if it's any comfort, you will "live on" for a few more days as leftovers. You may become a turkey sandwich, turkey casserole, or turkey soup.

So, I ask you again. You're a turkey. What's there to be thankful for? Well, maybe one thing. A turkey only gets stuffed once, but people never learn. They will get stuffed again next Thanksgiving and every special day they wish to celebrate.

This Thanksgiving, let us take a moment to give thanks. Thanks, we weren't born turkeys, only overstuffed humans.

## Aging Rossmoor Well – Install Telecoil Technology

By Betty Anne Clayton, Ed.D.

Before moving to Rossmoor, fourteen years ago, I lived in Texas where I directed the research project *Aging Texas Well* for the city of Houston. All the area aging agencies were involved in the research. Focus groups were held to provide input into what resources were needed to help older adults age well. It was no surprise to learn that they needed accessible health services. However, it was surprising to find that many residents wanted to be able to access educational opportunities to keep them intellectually vital. So, one important outcome of that research was the establishment of the Academy for Lifelong Learning at Lone Star College.

We are blessed with an Education & Recreation program that provides intellectual stimulation. However, the hearing-disabled members of our community are underserved because they have difficulty hearing in the Meeting House and the Clubhouse. That limits their participation.

It is a pleasure for me to be in my art class in the Gallery because I work on projects in a quiet environment. However, when I attend Mutual meetings, Croquet Club social events, line dancing classes, Computer Club

meetings, and other educational events held in the Gallery, I experience frustration when I cannot hear the speakers.

The Gallery used to be my favorite room before the carpets and drapes were removed. Now there is nothing to absorb the background noise, so it has become an echo chamber for me and many others who are also hearing disabled. This problem is easily solved with the installation of telecoil technology, also known as looping, that eliminates background noise.

Some 25% of people over 60 have impaired hearing, according to the Maryland-based Hearing Loss Association of America. That rises to 50% of those over the age of 75. Yet it is all too common to find 55+ communities that are not accessible for people with hearing loss, advocates say. Rossmoor is one of those communities.

Many residents have expressed support for the installation of telecoil technology and the Executive Committee is looking into looping Rossmoor's meeting rooms. Please let your director and the Executive Committee know that you support this project. I look forward to hearing from you and may be contacted at [bettyanneclayton@yahoo.com](mailto:bettyanneclayton@yahoo.com).



### On our side

Senator Linda Greenstein, Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo, and Tennille R. McCoy for Assembly care about Seniors and want to keep New Jersey affordable. *That's why they've supported property tax relief programs like the StayNJ plan - which will reduce most seniors' property taxes by 50%.*

Early voting starts Oct. 28 - Nov. 5th  
and Election Day Nov. 7th.

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Daylight Saving Time Ends  
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# Alert: Carport theft

A neighbor from New Bedford Lane was stunned to find that the cover for her golf cart had been stolen.

This is a heavy canvas roof and side walls, made by Yamaha and costing about \$500. Since this vehicle is her sole means of transportation, on a rainy day this neighbor is unable to go anywhere.

She notified the Township Police and her insurance company, but there is scant hope of recovering the piece, or even its value.

This neighbor has a message for anyone who uses a carport: Lock your possessions as much as possible. We don't always know the neighbors, and we have lots of vendor employees working around here. People can be too easily tempted.

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# Say it with Flowers

By Doris C Herron  
for Soonja Nam

Perhaps you have seen a lovely bunch of flowers simply plopped down in a vase and set on a table? Soonja Nam, Rossmoor's flower arranging expert, says that just won't do. With a bit of skill learned in her flower arranging courses, you can get the most enjoyment from flowers, whether from a florist, from the garden, or from wild flowers growing in a field.

Soonja strives to create arrangements which show the character and personality of the flowers, accompanied by carefully chosen greens. For instance, daisies have a personality totally different from roses and gladioli. Each

flower will be happier just as the viewer is, if arranged to its best advantage.

So far three totally subscribed classes of flower arranging have met in the Clubhouse with sessions on ikebana, holiday arrangements, and centerpieces. Another class will be starting in the spring of 2024. The classes are kept small to give maximum attention to all members.

Plans for a flower show in the Gallery with arrangements created by present and former classes are in the early stages of planning.

If you would like to participate in the flower arranging courses, it's time to sign up at E&R now.

# Inquiring Photographer

By Rosemary Masella

*What is your favorite Thanksgiving memory?*

Joe Conti: My favorite Thanksgiving memory is when I was 13, I was served two drumsticks! No one liked dark meat. I was sooo happy.

# El Nino

By Anne Rotholz

For the past few months El Nino has been frequently mentioned in the daily weather news. The question that usually comes to mind is, "What is El Nino and how does it affect us?"

El Nino is a weather condition that usually begins in the Pacific Ocean. While it may start small, it usually gains strength until it becomes large enough to affect worldwide weather patterns.

We know that weather is closely related to ocean temperatures. When the ocean is warm more clouds form, bringing more rain to any given part of the world.

El Nino is a climate pattern that begins when warm water builds up over the tropical Pacific west of South America. This warming near the equator leads to a warming of the stratosphere, beginning at about 6.2 miles above the surface. Scientists are still trying to figure out how this happens.

At the same time, the lower tropical stratosphere cools. This combination can shift the upper-level winds, known as the jet stream. The jet stream is like a river of air through which storms flow as it blows from west to east. Altering the jet stream can affect all kinds of weather patterns, from temperatures to storms and ferocious winds.

El Nino typically shifts the jet stream to the south. It has its greatest impact in winter when it brings milder weather to the northern part of the country and wetter conditions to the southern states.

Weather forecasters agree that El Nino weather is very unpredictable and they are somewhat hesitant when making long range forecasts. Our current El Nino was announced in June and there are still no major forecasts for the winter.

The opposite of El Nino is La Nina, the cold phase which also changes weather patterns worldwide.

The term El Nino was coined by Spanish fishermen in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. While working off the coast of Peru and Ecuador they noticed that their catch was affected by a warm Pacific current that sometimes showed up near the end of the calendar year. Because it happened around Christmas, they named it El Nino or "Little Boy," in honor of the Christ Child.

Pat Garbrandt: My favorite memory of Thanksgiving is going trick or treating. My Mother gave me a purse to use, I would put all my candy in it and then I would rush home for Thanksgiving dinner.

Playhouse 22

the

NICETIES

Two extraordinary women square off in a high-stakes academic debate over race, reputation and who gets the final word on American history is written. A play by Eleanor Burgess

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Lorraine Giaguzzi: My favorite memory is of my daughter who was expecting a baby. At noon she called to say she was in labor. Dinner was at 4 p.m. but she wouldn't leave for the hospital until after dessert was served. The baby was born at 12:30 a.m. Her name is Grace. It was the best Thanksgiving of my life.

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Fran Katz: My favorite memory of Thanksgiving is — my husband and I were married. We were very thankful that my Dad was with us because he was sick. We went to Montreal, Canada, where he lived. All of our five children were in the bridal party and my Dad gave me away. It was the best Thanksgiving.

# More about Cleopatra



By Carol De Haan

Archeologists are likely to find her long lost tomb in the not-too-distant future. What else do we know about her?

**Was she a femme fatale?**  
Hardly.

In the 20 years of her public life, she had two romantic relationships. In her early 20s, the first was with Julius Caesar, whose son, Caesarion, she bore when she was 23. Cleopatra and her son were in Rome when Caesar was assassinated in 44 B.C.E. Fearful of the ensuing mob violence, they returned to Alexandria.

Within a year or two, Roman General Mark Antony, who was now ruler of Rome's eastern empire, was also in Alexandria and in love with Cleopatra. They married according to an Egyptian rite and became the parents of three children. They lived together for ten years until they died.

Does she sound like a femme fatale?

**Was she a great beauty?**

Again, hardly.

Virtually all the ancient scholars wrote about her; not one called her beautiful. She was said to have inherited the Ptolemy family's prominent nose, often considered a sign of strong character.

**What did ancient writers say about her?**

They all mentioned her charm and graciousness, her great intelligence. She was known to be witty.

**Anything else?**

She had the sails of her personal barge dyed purple so we can assume she was fond of dramatic colors. Her clothing would have been the finest of that time. Africa has gold mines that would have given her an ample supply of gold accessories. She wore her dark, wavy hair in a bun at the nape of her neck, with pearls braided into the strands. Ancient Egyptian jewelry often included lapis and aquamarine. One report says she was fond of green gemstones: emeralds, perhaps, or sapphires?

**Was she smart?**

Her father provided her with a top-notch education at Alexandria's renowned Museum and Great Library. She spoke nine languages: the Greek of her ancestors, which was also the language of her court administration. She is the only Ptolemaic Pharaoh known to speak the language of the native people, leading to the speculation that her mother might have been a high-ranking member of the local population. She spoke Latin, she spoke Aramaic, and had dealings with Herod, and obviously she also spoke the languages of many nearby African and Mediterranean countries.

We know of two scholarly papers that she wrote and published. One dealt with skin diseases, and the other with plant poisons. There might have been more that are lost to us.

She served as admiral of

her large navy and is known to have designed ships.

**What kind of ruler was she?**

In the roughly 300 years of Ptolemaic (Greek) rule in Egypt, Cleopatra was the only Pharaoh who never suffered a popular uprising. She must have been good to the common people: in times of crop failure, she opened state supplies of grain to feed them.

**Why did she commit suicide at only 39 years of age?**

In a 31 B.C.E. battle for control of the Roman Empire, Mark Antony and Cleopatra lost at Actium to Caesar's nephew and heir, Octavian. They understood what he would do to them. Cleopatra, in particular, learned that Octavian intended to drag her back to Rome to be paraded through the streets in a "Triumph," in which she would be pelted with trash, and eventually killed. This was not for her.

**How did she die?**

Popular thinking, long after

the fact, posited that she allowed herself to be bitten by an asp. Not likely. The asp is a small snake, hardly capable of producing enough venom to kill an adult human. It is more likely that Cleopatra had easier, more effective means at her disposal. Remember that she studied and wrote about plant toxins. She knew what she was doing.

**What happened to her children?**

She sent her four children to what she believed were safe locations. Unfortunately, Octavian apprehended young Caesarion and had the boy killed. (Remember Octavian's remark: "Two Caesars are one Caesar too many"?) Strangled to death at only 17, Caesarion was Julius Caesar's only son and Octavian's first cousin.

The three younger children, all under 10 years of age, were sent to Rome to be raised by Octavian's sister, Octavia, who was in a purely political marriage with Mark Antony, (yes, it seems

he was a bigamist.) That lady was known for her kindness. She cared for and educated Mark Antony's children by Cleopatra. History does not tell us what happened to the two boys, Alexander and Ptolemy. But their daughter, Selene, married Juba, the enlightened ruler of Mauretania and they both lived long, successful lives. Their son, King Juba, succeeded them. He was the grandson of Cleopatra and Mark Antony.

**What happened to her reputation?**

Octavian, knowing he was on thin ice with her many friends and admirers, went back to Rome and set about ruining her reputation by reducing her to a seductress. Unfortunately, that Roman propaganda prevailed through much of western thinking.

Muslim scholars, however, saw her as an intellectual and an excellent ruler. Shakespeare agreed.

Perhaps her day has come. Perhaps we will find her before too long.

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Sound Advice

Norman J. Politziner, CFP®, President of NJP Associates

What to know about converting to Roth IRAs

The Federal debt is projected to increase to 110% of the size of the economy in 2032 — higher than it's ever been. In the following two decades through 2052, growing deficits are projected to push the federal debt much higher still, to nearly twice the size of gross domestic product. Based on these projections from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, it's fair to say the interest owed on the federal debt skyrockets and becomes unsustainable by 2052.

No one can predict the future, but it seems likely the federal government will need to hike income tax rates in the U.S. in the years ahead to avert going over a fiscal cliff. As a result, converting assets to Roth IRAs is a compelling retirement tax move to consider in 2023.

Converting assets from traditional IRAs to Roth IRA accounts could allow you to pay income tax at today's presumably lower rates instead of at the higher tax rates that are likely to apply in the years ahead, and it would also set you up for tax-free withdrawals later in life.

Tax rates in the U.S. are

low relative to large, developed economies, like Germany and France, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, an alliance of advanced economies. If you believe a tax rate hike is likely, it's wise to consider converting assets now held in traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs.

Conversions from traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs involve selling assets in a traditional IRA, paying income tax on the withdrawn amount, and then investing the proceeds in a Roth IRA, which is not subject to income tax annually or upon withdrawal.

Traditional IRAs are not taxed until you withdraw the money in retirement. At age 73, you are required to start taking distributions, with minimum required distributions set by actuarial estimates of how many years you are expected to live.

In contrast, Roth IRAs have no required minimum distributions. Thus, they can continue to benefit from tax-free compounded growth after you're 73. In addition, unlike traditional IRAs, withdrawals from Roth IRAs are tax-free. Plus, your children and other beneficiaries of Roth IRAs have the option to spread their inheritance in

equal installments over as long as 10 years, giving the inherited Roth IRA additional time to compound tax-free.

With stock prices and the economy much stronger than expected for many months, this is a good time to consider converting assets to Roth IRA accounts. But don't wait too long.

Planning to take a distribution from a traditional IRA, pay tax on the income withdrawn, and use the amount withdrawn to fund a Roth IRA is a straightforward process, but it can easily take two or three weeks. So doing it before the 2023 tax year ends — the busiest time of the year for tax and financial advisors — is prudent.

The process involves calculating the right amount to convert without pushing you into a higher tax bracket and paperwork must be completed and submitted to your IRA custodian. Plus, the new Roth IRA account will need to specify your beneficiaries.

Keep in mind, to qualify for a tax-free withdrawal, you must own a Roth IRA for five years and it must be made on or after you turn age 59½, or in the event of a qualifying disability, your death, or if you are using the proceeds to buy a home for the first time. State income tax treatment of Roth IRAs also must be planned.

A number of factors should be considered before converting, including whether

paying taxes on the withdrawal today outweighs the benefit of income tax-free distributions in the future. This is an area of financial planning where consulting with tax and legal advisors about your personal situation can pay off and you may decide to begin a multi-year strategic plan to lock in tax-free income for retirement.

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.poltziner.com](http://www.poltziner.com) or call us at (732) 296-9355.

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When Nature Strikes

By Allen Kobezak

We've all heard that old saying that lightning never strikes twice in the same place, but Roy Sullivan has proven that false. If he were alive today, he might tell you it can touch down at least seven times in the same place, and one of those places was Roy Sullivan.

Roy was born in 1912 in Virginia and became a park ranger in the Shenandoah National Park. He earned his place in the Guinness Book of World Records as a person struck by lightning more times than any other human being. His encounters with

lightning were over 35 years, from 1942 to 1977.

You might say that Roy was unlucky because he was struck so many times but very lucky to have lived to tell about every one of those electrifying jolts to his body.

Not that Roy, or the "Human Lightning Rod" as he was also known, didn't have close calls with death, and he had the scars to prove it. Some of the strikes left him with smoldering eyebrows, scorches to various parts of his body, and burnt holes in his shoes or shoes knocked off his feet. Some-

(Continued on page 12)



Dr. Peter DeFazio

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Dr. DeFazio has been practicing for over 30 years, is married, and has three daughters and three grandchildren. He enjoys spending time with his family and at his favorite pursuits which include golfing and vintage cars.

Dr. DeFazio is a graduate of Temple University and UMDNJ. He is a past Clinical Instructor at JFK Medical Center and a past Board Director for the American Red Cross.

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# This month in pictures



Mutual 4B residents filled the terrace at their barbecue. Photos by Youngae Lee

## Mutual 4B celebrates end of summer with a barbecue



Delectable foods, above and below, at the barbecue

## At the Dance Club



Mary Ann Sharkey, below, was surprised by her daughter at the September dinner dance on her birthday



## The Rossmoor Chorus



Russ Howard and Lenny Venito lead a familiar western favorite Photo by Alyce Owens

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# International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict

By Anne Rotholz

On Nov. 5, 2001, the United Nations General Assembly declared Nov. 6 as International World Day for Prevention of the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict. The title is usually shortened to World Day to Protect the Environment in War.

The aim of the General Assembly is to educate people about the devastating effects that war has on our environment.

When we think about the casualties of war, we naturally think in terms of the number of soldiers and civilians who lose their lives. This is the greatest tragedy of all. We also look with great regret at cities that lie in ruins, traces of culture that is gone forever, and livelihoods that are lost.

We are less likely to think about the devastation to our environment. Water systems are destroyed, wells and crops are poisoned and animals, birds and fish are killed. In

many cases vegetation is totally wiped out. Whole ecosystems are gone. Deadly pollution becomes the norm.

In the course of history, war has never been kind to the environment. In the year 146 B.C., at the end of the third Punic War, Roman Emperor Aemilianus had the fields around Carthage ploughed and planted with salt so that they would not produce food.

This practice of salting the earth became an important weapon of war in the ensuing centuries. Pope Boniface used it in 1299 after destroying the city of Palestrina.

Torching the earth has been used widely throughout the years, and unfortunately is still used today.

People, animals, buildings, and vegetation were purposely set on fire to win wars. In more recent years we have evolved to the use of massive doses of herbicides and other poisons to bring about the same result. Hopefully, we will never forget the Agent Orange era.

Intentional flooding was long used as a method of war. In 1584, William of Orange had his soldiers open a series of gaps in the levies and dykes that kept the low-lying lands of the southwest Netherlands from flooding, submerging much of the area.

During World War I flooding was used in West Flanders. The Belgian military opened the Dunkirk Canal locks, covering everything within a ten-mile radius with water and killing 1,500 people.

World War II brought many intentional flooding atrocities, the most notable of which

was The Yellow River Catastrophe. While fighting the Japanese in 1936, the Chinese Nationalist Army, under Chiang Kai-shek, was ordered to unstop a series of dykes on the Yellow River, creating a wave of water that covered an area the size of California and killing approximately one million people.

While discussing flooding, we must remember that Saddam Hussein used the concept in a unique way. During the Gulf War, the Iraqis dumped one million tons of crude oil into the Persian Gulf, causing the largest oil spill in history. They also covered the desert with lakes of crude oil.

We are all aware of the havoc wreaked by modern methods of war. New technology has brought unthinkable ways to damage and pollute our environment. Chemical warfare has been around for a long time and is still in use today. The greatest environmental hazard of all comes from the use of nuclear arms. Even if we had not used them to kill millions of people, their very development and the fact that they still exist creates all kinds of environmental damage.

We need to become more conscious of the Declaration of 1992 U.N. Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro, part of which is "Warfare is inherently destructive of sustainable development. States shall therefore respect international law, providing protection for the environment in times of armed conflict."

## Nature Strikes

(Continued from page 10)

times, he was left unconscious. His hair would often catch fire, forcing Roy to carry water to put out the flames.

Roy's seventh and final encounter with lightning was a double threat to his life. It

came when he was fishing. Lightning again found him, setting his hair on fire and burning his upper body. But before he could seek medical care, Roy had to chase a menacing bear away with a tree branch. I wonder if Roy thought afterward why he was the one struck by lightning and not the bear.

As time carried on, people would avoid Roy. They feared they would be caught in the crossfire of whatever was out to get him. However, Roy's wife stuck by him. And she was rewarded for her loyalty with an electrifying moment herself. She was struck by lightning in a sudden storm while she and her husband hung clothes on the line in their backyard.

It may be common for someone in Roy's situation to fear something was out to get him. After the first few strikes, he was sure that if he found himself outside in a crowd of people when a storm came, he alone would be the helpless victim of nature. He would always be the vulnerable one with no escape from a force that was impossible to run from.

At 71 years old, on a September morning in 1983, Roy Sullivan died from a self-inflicted gunshot to his head. Think how lucky you are not to have lived Roy Sullivan's life.

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## Board Meetings

(Continued from page 2)  
utes as written.

### Presidents Report

Dan reported the Employee Holiday Fund Committee has sent out appeal letters to all residents.

### Treasurers Report

Treasurer John Craven reported on the Aug 31, 2023, RCAI budget variance report. He stated the September report will be forthcoming.

### Management Report

General Manager Tom Curry reported that we were awarded \$12,805. from the EV

Driven JCPL grant program we had applied for with the Jersey Central Power and Light Company. The grant will partially offset the initial \$35,000 cost of the EV station installation. Tom recommended that everyone should open the newly designed Rossmoor website at [www.rcainj.com](http://www.rcainj.com). Tom reported that our Comptroller Linda Rainy is currently meeting with Mutuals to prepare their FY2024 Budgets. The draft budgets for some Mutuals have already been mailed. Individual Mutual Budget acceptance meetings will be held in November. Tom stated the

RCAI budget is nearly complete, we are still waiting on a few insurance numbers. Tom reported on Administration department statistics and provided the monthly sales numbers for condominium and cooperative closings in September.

Curry reported on the Maintenance Department's volume of work, status of ongoing projects in the Mutuals, and discussed pavement projects. He reported that Thurman Lane pavement project is complete, and Rockport Way and Sunset Circle projects are scheduled to be completed next week. He then mentioned that TLP has been working on the HVAC rooftop system replacements in the Village Center.

Tom then discussed ongoing golf course maintenance and upcoming golf events. He reported that the golf course's new goose dog has been replaced due to a dog training issue. The new dog has proven to be an excellent goose dog and is successfully chasing away geese from our course. Our golf pro Ray Bridy reports the fall golf course membership drive has been more successful than expected with 30 new members.

### Directors Comments:

- M11 Director Boyer reported a lack of lighting on bocce court 3.
- M10 Director Sforza questioned why JCPL takes so long to replace fixtures that are out. Mr. Jolly and Mr. Gurriero stated they have been attending township meetings complaining about the same issue. Much discussion followed.
- M3 Director Danehy reported on a rusted cabinet on a JCPL transformer near 124 Rossmoor Drive. M7 Director Jensen reports rotten wooden light poles in her Mutual.
- M10 Director Sforza asked about the Budget Process and the lack of a report in the October meeting agenda. DanJolly stated there will be a special meeting to discuss the Budget before the November meeting.
- M9 Director Sarnecky asked about Committee Meeting times. Much discussion followed.
- M12 Director Gurriero appealed to all directors for Mutuals to donate to the Interfaith Councils Thanksgiving Dinner at home program.
- M6 Director Nobile requested an upgraded sound system in the Clubhouse's Hawthorn Room. Dan Jolly asked the GM to come back with a quote.
- M10 Director Sforza asked about the cost of, and who decided to purchase, the new satellite photo of the community behind the BOG officers in the Meeting Room. GM Curry explained he decided to replace the image at a cost of \$700.

### Residents' Comments:

- M4C resident suggested to further explore committee meeting times, thanked the

Democratic club for a memorial to Ray Redington.

- M2 Director Haggerty requested the BOG explore expansion of the Ballroom. Much discussion followed.
- M4B resident requested the North gate exit arm be re-timed to close faster.
- M4B residents requested the association to fund telecoil technology in the primary meeting rooms.

- M6 resident questioned why the GM did not submit an At the Board Meeting article for the October Issue. She was informed that the meeting occurred on the 28<sup>th</sup>, which was past the article submission period.

There being no further business for the Board to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

## Across The Pond

By Babs Burford-O'Reilly

I do not come from a family of travelers. Growing up we drove two days by car every summer to visit my grandmother in Florida. That was the extent of my travel experience. My first time on an airplane was when I was thirty years old. I never thought I would travel overseas but this past month my husband Ray and I, along with two of my sisters and their spouses, went on the trip of a lifetime for me.

We departed from Newark Wednesday, Sept. 13 and did not return until Friday, Sept. 29. We landed in London on Thursday morning. Our wonderful cab driver, hearing it was my first time, gave me a great overview of the city and pointed out the sights. The rest of our group had arrived on Wednesday, so we wasted no time in setting out to explore. We went to Parliament and Big Ben and saw all the beautiful buildings in that area. The London tube is very easy to use, and we felt like natives in no time!

Thursday afternoon we experienced High Tea at the Savoy. So elegant and yummy – a wonderful time!

Since we are avid Beatles Fans, we could not be this close to Liverpool and not see where it all started. Friday found us on the train from London to Liverpool, about a two-hour ride in a very comfortable train. Liverpool was an amazing seaport city. We took "The Magical Mystery Tour" which passed by all the key points, starting at Albert Dock and ending at the Cavern Club, which if you are a fan of The Beatles, you know that's where it all started.

Saturday was a trip to Abbey Road and further attractions in London. We ended the day on the London Eye and enjoyed seeing the city all lit up! Sunday morning,

we needed to be up and ready for transport to South Hampton to board The Regal Princess. This would be our home for the next twelve days. We easily found our cabin on the Baja Deck and set out to explore the ship.

Monday morning, we were docked at Portland and boarded the bus heading for Stonehenge. I have to say, this was an amazing site and my favorite of everything we saw. How did these huge stones get there? They had no lifting equipment five thousand years ago – my sister is convinced they were giants! Once we finished at Stonehenge, we headed over to the medieval town of Salisbury. Tuesday was a day at sea, so we had a chance to relax a bit and get ready for more excursions.

Wednesday, we docked in Cobh, Ireland and set out to see Blarney Castle! We did not make it to The Blarney Stone, but we enjoyed the castle and the views. The Irish countryside is so beautiful. The tour continued with lunch at a local hotel followed by a visit to Kinsale. Thursday we were still in Cobh and had fun exploring the town and visiting the Titanic Museum. Cobh is the last port the Titanic picked up passengers before it set sail to New York. Friday found us in Belfast touring the beautiful countryside and exploring Dunluce Castle. After another local lunch, we headed to The Giants Causeway in Antrim.

I wish I had the room to detail all we explored. Other stops included Glasgow with an excursion to Loch Ness and Inveraray Castle, Invergordon and the "Best of the Scottish Highlands." The medieval town of Ghent with a wonderful canal tour and the final stop was PARIS! I had to pinch myself as I never thought I would see Paris. The Eiffel Tower is so big and can be seen from everywhere. I can see why people love Paris. The Regal Princess returned to South Hampton and our last tour was of Windsor Castle. Windsor Castle is like a little city unto itself and there was lots to see. All in all, this was a memorable trip, with lots of magical sights and great memories.

## Think about this

The constitution only guarantees the American people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself.

### Benjamin Franklin

Founding Father, diplomat, publisher  
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# New Neighbors

By Christina Smith, Resident Services Manager

Jaime and Jean Anjos, 243A Marblehead Lane, formerly of Piscataway, N.J.

Cynthia Martin, 147A Old Nassau Road, formerly of Edison, N.J.

Scott Alexander, 313D Sharon Way, formerly of Old

Bridge, N.J.

Boyd and Donna Hannold, 630B Yale Way, formerly of Monroe Twp., N.J.

Juan Grijalva and Neeru Arora, 437N Newport Way, formerly of Dayton, N.J.

Thelma White, 261B Middlebury Lane, formerly of



Piscataway, N.J.

Raymond Kruzik and Joan Watson, 721B Mount Vernon Road, formerly of East Brunswick, N.J.

Narina Manukian and Laura Akopian, 461A Roxbury Lane, formerly of Hamilton Square, N.J.

Florence Lorentzen and Anthony Luschinski, 538B Sutton Way, formerly of Aberdeem, N.J.

## League of Women Voters has thought-provoking programs on the agenda

By Linda Bozowski

The League of Women Voters of Monroe Township will not offer any programs in November and December, but will develop an agenda of though t-provoking events for the new year. Among topics under consideration are updates on the traffic study conducted by the County, affordable housing opportunities for Monroe residents, human trafficking risks targeting young people, and mental health support available for those who may need assistance.

The key issue for November is Election Day, Nov. 7. If you have not already cast your ballot, be sure to make your voice heard on Election Day by mailing your ballot or going to your designated polling place. Our township, county, and Federal government count on you.

## In Memoriam

### Louis C. Russo

Louis C. Russo, 87, of Rossmoor died September 28 at the University Medical Center of Princeton at Plainsboro.

Born in Manhattan, N.Y., Russo lived in the Richmond section of Staten Is-

## CULINARY CORNER

By Sidna Mitchell

## Try this different version for scampi

Almost every Sunday Ken and I have two younger friends over for dinner. They seem to appreciate the food and fellowship and I have the opportunity to try recipes out on them. (Whenever folks come to my house for dinner or even just cocktails, I warn them that they will be Guinea pigs, as I'll probably be testing a new recipe.)

We usually start about 5 o'clock with one of Ken's famous martinis — vodka on the rocks with either an olive or onion, and appetizers. Sometimes I'll even try new recipes for the appetizers, especially since we had so much okra and eggplant from our sites in the community garden this year. After about an hour, I bring out the dinner food that sometimes also includes our garden produce.

Then Carolyn and MJ decided we older folks — particularly me — needed some exercise. Ken faithfully exer-

cises every morning and, if the weather cooperates, he's off for a long walk and then a lengthy bike ride. Carolyn is a real jock and MJ routinely walks around Rossmoor about three times a day.

Although Carolyn, Ken and I play six-wicket and golf croquet, she wanted to introduce us to something new. And so, the bocce competition began every Sunday at 4 p.m. with us old folks against the younger ladies. Most of the time Ken and I win.

Since the shuffleboard court was right next to bocce, Carolyn decided we should try that sport. And, guess what? Ken and I beat the youngsters on our first try!

After sports time, we head back to my house for drinks and dinner. One of the easiest and tastiest meals was a shrimp scampi bake. Here's the recipe with my slight changes from the original.

### Shrimp Scampi Bake

1 pound medium raw shrimp, shelled and deveined  
½ cup butter  
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

### Culinary Corner

1 ½ teaspoons lemon juice  
1 tablespoon chopped garlic  
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley

Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine the butter, mustard, lemon juice, garlic, and parsley.

When the butter melts completely, remove from heat.

Arrange shrimp in a shallow baking dish.

Pour the butter mixture over the shrimp.

Bake in preheated oven for 12 to 15 minutes or until the shrimp are pink and opaque.

Remove from oven and serve with garlic bread and a tossed green salad.

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

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Louis C. Russo

her wife Linda Badalamenti, his three sons Richard and wife Jennifer, Michael and his wife Maureen, and Christopher and his wife Patricia, his sister Marie Russo, nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

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Clubs and Organizations



The ladies in the class with facials! Below, the ladies after facials

Photo by Youngae Lee



Facial skincare class

By Youngae Lee

The Korean Group has many activities for not only for members but also for all Rossmoor residents. We offer a class for skin improvement. Through this class we try to improve ladies' skin to be cleaner, fresher, and younger looking. Our class instructor is Grace Chang, one of our club's active members.

We offer K-Beauty, which is trendy these days. This Korean product will help to moisturize women's skin, remove wrinkles, and maintain more youthful skin.

The class began in August. Now, from September through November, classes will be held every Thursday at 2 p.m.

Each class has about 10 people who will learn through videos. The method is very simple and easy and you can follow it yourself at home.

This is a free class and can be attended as many times as you want as long as you register in advance. We hope that many residents will attend and be satisfied with new fresher skin.

Buying a new computer?

By Steven Gray

I have been asked many times for a recommendation on what to buy and I usually defer to naming specifications only, rather than any specific brand, as my most recent desktop I built myself and have rebuilt many times since the original purchase. I thought, however I would do a little research and come up with a more definitive answer, so I took out the crystal ball. That was a no-go as the grandchildren were using it for Halloween and I now have to take it apart and replace the flux capacitor

(Continued on page 17)

Music Association

(Continued from page 1)

or commercial gift card. The RMA gift cards may be used for admission to any of the programs offered by the Music Association during the 2023-2024 season. (The

High School performances are not included in this offering – those are events for student awards.)

Please mark your calendars for this exciting program, and purchase some gift cards as well. Reminders will be posted on Channel 26.



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## Korean-American Group



Korean American meeting with Christopher Cho, Mikyung Sung

Photo by Youngae Lee

By Youngae Lee

On Sept. 16, we had our monthly meeting with about 40 members present in the Gallery.

As planned last month, we had a special day, with the theme of Golden Retirement, and three lecturers attended and lectured on

various topics.

The instructors were Mikyung Sung, Christopher Cho, and Sookhyun Yoon, all independent agents of the National Life Group in Bayside, N.Y. They provided information for the overall financial planning of retirees, and explained useful information about life insurance, living benefits, tax-free retirement, estate legacy plans, annuities, and tax saving plans.

The members listened to the lectures with a lot of interest, and I actively answered the questionnaires to help the organizers' intentions.

Our group plans to serve not only our members, but all the residents of Rossmoor, and as part of that, one of our members, Grace Chang, has been volunteering in weekly facial skincare classes since August. Many people attend each week and are doing well with a lot of good results.

At the next meeting, we plan to play Bingo, with a lot of prizes.

President Youngae Lee will continue to plan many more educational and fun events for the members.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Youngae Lee at 201-230-0805 or yalee1980@gmail.com.

## Italian American Club

By Tony Cardello

The officers of the club extend their best wishes to all the members and their families for a safe, healthy, and Happy Thanksgiving.

We thank all the members who attended the Catholic mass offered for our deceased members on Oct. 12,

in the Meeting House.

The next membership meeting will be held on Nov. 15, at 7 p.m., in the Ballroom. At this meeting there will be nominations for officers for the coming year.

Bingo will be played on Friday evening, Nov. 10, at 6:30 p.m., in the Ballroom.



Joe Conti is seen with his granddaughter Julia Gargano, singer, songwriter, and American Idol finalist.

Photo by R. Massella

## Monroe High School Musicians kick off the holidays

By Linda Bozowski

On Sunday Dec. 3 at 3 p.m., residents and friends will hear the exciting music offered by the Monroe Township High School Chorus. These talented students in grades 9 to 12 will perform pieces from a variety of genres and styles. They are sure to bring smiles and applause from our audience.

Many of the vocalists have qualified for acceptance into the Central Jersey and New Jersey Music Education Association ensembles, distinctions earned by audition. Membership in the Regional

and All State Choruses are also listed on the resumes of many of these talented students. The Chorus presents several programs throughout the school year.

Directed by faculty members Lindsey Reinhard and Joshua Acampado, students are offered the opportunity to learn music from many composers and from various cultures. Our school music program, which begins in the elementary schools, continues to help students develop their musical skills and earn recognition in regional and

statewide performances.

Next year and for the first time, the Rossmoor Music Association will offer recognition and monetary awards to graduating High School students from funds raised at the upcoming student concerts this year.

The Percussion Ensemble and the Jazz Band will present programs in the spring – to be announced in upcoming issues and on Channel 26. We ask attendees to contribute generously to these student award funds in recognition of the talents being developed by our students. All contributions will be awarded to graduating students.

Please mark your calendars for this December event and plan on celebrating the holiday season and the talents of our students.

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SAFETY,  
NO SPEEDING IN  
THE COMMUNITY**





Brass Quintet with a difference regales Rossmoor with music

By Jean Houvener

At the first concert of the season presented by the Rossmoor Music Association, we were treated to the Trenton Brass Quintet Plus One. You may wonder about their name. Fifty years ago, tubist (and pianist, composer, and arranger) Karl Megules chose to start a brass quintet. Co-founded with his wife Natalie, who provided piano accompaniment, the original members included Peter Reichlin on trombone, who is still with the quintet. The other instruments included two trumpets, and French horn. Feeling that something was missing from the sound, Karl invited a percussionist to join the group, hence the Plus One.

Karl's son Charles is also now a member, playing trumpet as he has for 39 years now. He is also a former member of the U.S. Army Bands. The current percussionist is Mitch Frank, who performs with many other groups. Nancy Ciacciarelli, French horn, performs with several other groups, including St. Peter's Brass Quintet, which will be performing here in June as part of the RMA series. All the members are active in music education and music performance.

The program opened with the "Star Spangled Banner." They chose from a long list of music, starting with various

fanfares from 1500s and 1600s. Many of the early fanfares were meant for the entrance by royalty, and these fanfares did not disappoint. It was easy to envision Elizabeth I or Ferdinand III (Holy Roman Emperor) making a grand entrance.

From the Renaissance we moved to more modern pieces, although still demonstrating the magnificence of the brass. John Williams was represented by his Olympic

Theme and Jurassic Park. Leonard Bernstein was represented by West Side Story with a lovely medley arranged by Chuck Mangione. Steven Sondheim appeared with "Comedy Tonight" from "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

We also had patriotic music – "My Country 'Tis of Thee," which shares a tune with England's "God Save the King" (or

(Continued on page 18)

Computer

(Continued from page 15)

(difficult part to find). I went to my second choice – the magic mirror.

"Mirror, mirror on the wall  
Who builds the best computer of all?"

I received this reply from some geeky looking character in the mirror.

*"Which computer might be best?  
The one that stands out above the rest.  
Lenovo, HP or Dell,  
Any of those would be swell.  
Look instead to what's inside  
As specifications you cannot hide.  
A 64G SSD  
Is much too small for someone like thee.  
The CPU can be Intel or AMD  
Buying cheap is a no-no you*

see.  
*In replacing a rig that is old,  
Spend extra and mark it sold."*

I think I will stay with just naming specifications, it's easier.

- CPU – Intel I3 or above. Avoid Celeron (cheap).
- AMD – I am not sure, as I have not used AMD for over 10 years.
- RAM – at least 4G, preferably 8G.
- Hard drive – an SSD (solid state drive) minimum 128G (I use a Terabyte SSD but that is pricey), 256G is even better.
- Both desktops and laptops are no longer coming with DVD drives, you can buy one for about \$20 that connects via USB port.

I think I will stop listening to magic mirrors and crystal balls.

Dance Club to serve a Chinese Buffet at the Last Dance of the Year

By Judy Perkus

Come alone or bring your friends to the Last Dance of the Year when the Dance Club will provide a Chinese buffet. We'll be dining and dancing in the Ballroom on Saturday, Nov. 25 at 6:30 p.m. In addition to the buffet, we will have dessert (sugar-free available), coffee, tea, and soda. DJ Angelo will provide the music.

Join in on the fun. Send your \$20 per member, \$22 per non-member check made out to the Rossmoor Dance Club to Armen DeVivo at 449B Roxbury Lane. All Rossmoorites, singles and couples, are welcome.

Our Anniversary Dinner Dance in September coincided with Mary Ann Sharkey's birthday. She was surprised by her daughter with a yummy cake.

You may send your 2024 Dance Club dues of \$20 per couple, \$10 per person to Armen. Call Armen at 609-655-2175 for more information.



Dancers at the October dance with Ronni Levine up front and center.

Last Dance of the Year and Chinese Buffet — November 25

Name

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Address:

# Sugar Free Desserts:

RESERVATION DEADLINE: November 17

Please send your \$20 per member, \$22 per non-member check made out to the Rossmoor Dance Club to: Armen DeVivo at 449B Roxbury Lane. 609-655-2175 or leave in an envelope in the Dance Club folder in the Administration Office/Village Center.

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As a reminder!!!

Pedestrians – Please wear light or reflective clothing when walking in the dark.

Also, always walk against the traffic (on the left however you are facing.)

Bikers – Always ride with the traffic (on the right).

Chorus sing-along Nov. 5: a walk down memory lane

By Alyce Owens

Remember when you knew the words to all the popular hit songs in high school or beyond? When you listened to the radio or to 45s endlessly, and spent your last dollar on that new LP just released by your favorite pop singer or group? Yeah, we all did that, and wouldn't change a thing if we had the opportunity to do it all again. Well, here's your chance to walk down memory lane with the Rossmoor Chorus and sing those never-to-be forgotten songs again!

Members of the Chorus will present another of their popular sing-alongs on Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. in the Clubhouse Ballroom. All residents, friends and family are invited to join them. No tickets are needed, but a goodwill donation will be appreciated. Come listen, sing,

and remember the familiar favorites from across the years – pop songs, movie melodies and the hit tunes from Broadway. If you've attended one of these before, you already know you'll have a great time. If this will be your first one, be prepared for a fun afternoon of nostalgia and fond memories. And no doubt you'll go home humming a tune you haven't heard or even thought about in years. Maybe the one to which you fell in love.

The Chorus keeps very busy. On Oct. 15, they were honored to sing at the Celebration of Life service for Rey Redington, who passed away last March 19. Rey, a faithful and much-loved member of the Chorus, was remembered with moving renditions of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," his favorite song, as well

as the beautiful "You Raise Me Up," and "The Lord Bless You and Keep You."

As in past years, the Chorus will sing at the annual Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Service, this year being held on Nov. 16, at 1:30 p.m. in the Meeting House. This is always an inspiring service in which folks from all faiths gather together to recognize and give thanks for all God's blessings.

The Chorus sings once a month (except in July and August) at the Community Church 11 a.m. worship service in the Meeting House. You can hear them sing Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" during the Dec. 17 worship service. All residents are invited and welcome to attend.

Once again this year, Chorus members will spread holiday cheer by Christmas caroling for those who are homebound throughout our community. If you know of someone who might enjoy having their spirits lifted in this manner, please contact Laurie Moyer at 651-343-6565 before Dec. 1. While the Chorus can't promise to get to all who make a request, they will reach as many folks as possible.

The Chorus plans a Winter Concert in the Meeting House in January. Watch for details in the December issue of the Rossmoor News.

The Republican Club meeting was a big success!



By Gail Staiti

The Republican Club opened with a bang! Over 50 residents enjoyed the evening with keynote speaker and candidate for Mayor, Charles Dipierro, and all Column B candidates: Joellen Arrabito, Adam Durando, Anjan Karnati, Patricia Johnson, Adam Elias, and Skye Gilmartin.

Great presentations, deli-



cious food, and a good time was had by all.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Gallery. Membership dues of \$20 per person will be collected at this time.

Come and share fellowship with all your great neighbors. Remember to come out and vote on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Brass Quintet

(Continued from page 17)

for many years, Queen), in a "Spirit of America" medley arranged by Jerry Nowak and "America the Beautiful," words by Katharine Lee Bates, inspired by the view from Pike's Peak, and set to music by Samuel Ward. Both were unofficial national anthems for many years. Either would certainly be easier to sing than our actual national anthem. Both were dramatically and beautifully played by the Trenton Brass. Apparently, Samuel Francis Smith, a young man in seminary who wrote the words for "My Country 'Tis of Thee," had a bounty put on his head of some \$10,000 by the British who took offense at the use of their tune. As it happens, however, he lived to the ripe age of 88, a successful musician and minister.

There were many other pieces, including a delicate

arrangement of George Gershwin's "Someone to Watch Over Me," in memory of Karl's wife Natalie. The program closed with "Barnum and Bailey Favorites" by Karl King, a march still used by the circus. As a good applauding audience for an excellent program, we were rewarded by an encore of "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" (a little night music) by Amadeus Mozart. A recent study which played various pieces of music for subjects all over the world found that Mozart's piece was the second most recognized piece of music. (First was "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," but perhaps no one has yet arranged it for a brass quintet.)

If you missed this excellent and varied program, there is still hope for you to attend the remainder of the season. Next up is Marty Eigen and the Amani Group with All That Jazz.



Veterans Group Welcomes Members

All Veterans, come join us at 10 a.m. on each second Tuesday of the month in the Ballroom.

Mutual News

Mutual 4B News

By Sue Buckley

We are so sad to report that our Mutual 4B President, Lou Russo, has passed away. He will be greatly missed by his family, his many friends, and all of us who were so lucky to have known him. In his absence, Lori Moses will serve as Mutual 4B president, Mike Doran will step in as vice-president and maintenance director, and Joanne Caspar will continue as corresponding secretary and treasurer. We will miss you, Lou.

As a reminder, our next Mutual meeting will be held on Nov. 13, at 10 a.m., in the Gallery. As this is a budget meeting, we urge all to come.

Finally, on a lighter note, we are so happy that so many of our friends and neighbors (over 65 people) gathered for the "End of Summer" Barbecue! Wonderful food, good music, dancing, and games made for a great afternoon. Many thanks to all the hard-working people who made it happen. And special thanks to Youngae Lee for taking these photos and sharing them.

Mutual 8 news

As one of the largest Mutuals in this community, Mutual 8 needs the cooperation of its members. A problem has arisen.

Discarding old appliances, furniture, electronics, etc., is the responsibility of the resident. That stuff is not to be dumped as if it were Waste Management's problem. Waste Management disposes of household trash and recyclables only.

When a resident purchases an appliance and arranges for delivery, that resident also must arrange for the old appliance to be taken away by the seller. It is a common practice. Do not dump the old appliance where your neighbors have to look at it.

The same applies to furniture, carpeting, tires, etc. The resident needs to take those items to the Township Public Works Department located on 76 Gravel Hill-Spotswood Road, where the employees are most helpful. Call 732-656-4575 for info.

Certain other items can be picked up by our Maintenance Department. Residents can call 609-655-2121 for information and an available pick-up appointment, usually on a Thursday.

Dried paint cans can go into the household trash bin. Cans that still hold paint can be delivered to the Pubic Works Department on the third Saturday of each month, between 8 and 11:30 a.m.

Please cooperate.

Mutual 8 residents will appreciate the good will of all its members.

Religious Organizations

Thanksgiving and the Jewish People

By Cindy Sigl

Would you think there is a connection between Thanksgiving and the Jewish people? There are some parallels that make us wonder. Two Jewish Holidays that always come in the Fall are *Sukkot* and *Shavuot*. They are based on offering appreciation for the bounty of the harvest.

In ancient times, Jewish pilgrims carried offerings to the Temple in Jerusalem. They brought their first grains and fruits to thank G-d for the rains and the sun. They had crossed the desert and Red Sea and survived. Many years later, the Pilgrims who crossed the ocean and survived, felt the same way and identified with the persecuted peoples of the Bible. They traveled to the "Promised Land" of America and viewed it as an Exodus event that was worthy of dedication.

The tradition during *Sukkot*

is to eat outdoors in a booth called a *sukkah* where you can see the sky. You also welcome guests to join you. The Pilgrims invited the Wampanoag and other Native Americans to break bread outdoors with them. They had befriended the Pilgrims by helping them learn how to plant corn, fish, and gather berries and nuts. The cornucopia, which embodies those items, is also part of our Thanksgiving table. Google says it is taken from a goat's horn, but to me it resembles the ram's horn recently blown during our High Holiday services.

When George Washington declared a National Day of Thanksgiving for the new United States in 1789, he specifically made his day of thanks non-denominational, ensuring that his Jewish supporters could fully take part in America's first national

(Continued on page 20)

Jewish Congregation

2 Rossmoor Drive  
Monroe Township, N.J. 08831



- Services – The Meeting House  
Friday, Nov. 3, at 7:15 p.m.  
Friday, Nov. 17, at 7:15 p.m.
- Torah Studies – The Dogwood Room  
Saturday, Nov. 4, at 10 a.m.  
Saturday, Nov. 18, at 10 a.m.

# A Day to Honor Our Heroes



By Monroe Mayor  
Stephen Dalina

For generations, Monroe residents have answered the solemn call to serve — taking the sacred oath to defend and preserve our country's ideals of liberty and democracy. These men and women — who represent the best of us — will be honored once again on Veterans Day for their tremendous sacrifice and dedication.

We — who enjoy the freedoms that these individuals fought for — are eternally grateful for America's 19 million veterans and the generations of soldiers before them who answered the call to serve.

To those in Monroe who once wore the uniform of our Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard, we owe you our appreciation, our respect and our freedom.

While we can never fully repay the debt we owe our local heroes, we honor their service on Veterans Day, on Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and through many other commemorations each year.

We also support and salute those who ensure our Armed Forces remain strong, united, and unmatched, as America continues to face security issues across our unstable world.

I encourage all Monroe residents to recognize the valor of our veterans, as there are many in our community who served in World War II through the Global War on Terror. On Saturday, November 11 — Veterans Day — their sacrifice must be heralded.

Our veterans returned from the battlefield, removing their fatigues and returning to the camouflage of everyday life in New Jersey. They became part of the fabric of Monroe, opening businesses, becoming teachers, volunteering as first responders, being elected to Township Council, becoming community leaders and earning widespread respect as role models. Even though they are no longer in the military, they still carry that same sense of duty, serving with valor to make Monroe better.

There is a famous Veterans Day essay that was penned by an eighth grader that focuses on why veterans are special. He wrote: "When I think of a veteran, I think of men or women who will be the first to help an elderly lady across the street. I also think of someone who will defend everyone, regardless of their race, age, gender,

hair color, or other discriminations."

I could not agree more. I've seen our local veterans be the first to pitch in; still eager to serve, no matter their age or disability.

They inspire me, as Mayor. When global affairs make you cynical and doubt the future, I think about our veterans, and how their true selflessness continue to make such a difference in this community.

Many of us acknowledge that we can never serve America in the way that our soldiers have on foreign battlefields. But we can learn from them, paying it forward, volunteering in our community, showing respect and protecting one another.

On November 11, join me in proudly displaying the flag of the United States of America and to participate in patriotic activities across Monroe. Together, as a grateful township, let us collectively say, "Thank You for Your Service."

## Rossmoor 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.

Contact Waste Management

609-587-1500

ID# 61565342007

for pick up of household items

NO electronics

NO upholstered furniture

NO mattresses

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Important phone numbers:

Rossmoor Bus.....609-655-4401

Call-in hours are: 9:00 – noon and 2:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Schedule is available at [www.rcainj.com](http://www.rcainj.com)

under "Amenities".

Monroe Township Transportation .....609-443-0511

Middlesex County

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

Recycle information from Waste Management

- No caps on glass bottles/containers in the recycle bin.
- No lids on plastic bottles.
- All numbered plastics are acceptable in the recycle 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.

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No classifieds accepted by phone or email.

- Note: Phone numbers count as one word. Do not count punctuation. Do not abbreviate.
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- One check or money order must accompany insert, PAYABLE TO

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**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.

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### Rossmoor will send robocalls 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.

# Community Church November Schedule

- Nov. 5, 11 a.m., All Saints Holy Communion Service  
Pastor Robin will preach: "Radiant and Blessed!"
- Nov. 12, 11 a.m., Worship  
Pastor Robin will preach: "God Is Still Speaking"
- Nov. 19, 11 a.m., Joyful Noise Sunday Worship  
The Rossmoor Chorus will sing.  
Pastor Robin will preach: "Make a Joyful Noise!"
- Nov. 26, 11 a.m., Thanksgiving Worship  
Pastor Robin will preach: "Still Thankful After All These Years!"

The Community Church Warm Coats & Jackets Drive runs from Nov. 26 to Dec. 10. Please bring donations to collection sites in the front vestibule of the Clubhouse or the sheltered patio area outside the Fitness Center. Please place your donations in a plastic bag.

## Thanksgiving

(Continued from page 18)  
thanksgiving festival.

So when you are sitting around your table with family and friends this November 23 (or thereabouts for those who have a "floating" holiday), say the prayer that Jews say before every meal: Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who brings forth bread from the earth. Amen.

On another note, please remember that our resident,

Barry Jacobsen, will continue his talk and showing of "Your Show of Shows" on Nov. 5. For those who enjoyed Part 1, come to see Part 2. If you missed Part 1, you will not have to do any catching up to get a kick out of Part 2. Find us in the Gallery of the Clubhouse at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7 at the door. Dessert will be served.

Please note that you can follow us on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/RossmoorJewishCongregationNJ](http://www.Facebook.com/RossmoorJewishCongregationNJ).

## Cultural Arts Commission Presents N.J. Festival Orchestra - "A Woman of Affairs" Starring Greta Garbo

By Cathleen Norback

Please join us for an exciting performance by the N.J. Festival Orchestra, conducted by internationally acclaimed Maestro David Wroe. They will perform, with split-second timing and precision, a new live soundtrack composed for the original 1928 movie - "A Woman of Affairs" - starring Greta Garbo. The silent film will be projected above the orchestra.

The score is an exquisitely beautiful masterpiece by Carl Davis (the UK's answer to our renowned John Williams) - a rhapsodic fantasy based on one of Liszt's piano preludes, but composed for an orchestral ensemble, which then accompanies the movie.

The program, sponsored by the Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission, will be offered on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 3 p.m. with doors opening at 2 p.m. at the High School Performing Arts Center, 200 Schoolhouse Road, Monroe Township, New Jersey 08831.

Ticket information is available on our website: [www.MonroeTownshipCulturalArts.com](http://www.MonroeTownshipCulturalArts.com). Please join your neighbors for this upcoming exciting performance.

## Kooky Kroquet winners

By Sidna B. Mitchell

Twenty-five Croquet Club members showed up to compete in Kooky Kroquet on Saturday, Sept. 16. (Kooky Kroquet has Rossmoor's croquet court looking a bit like a golf croquet configuration with obstacles and a miniature golf course.) There were lots of laughs, cheers, moans and even a few curse words as folks tried to make the fewest hits to become winners.

Barbara Wright was the top winner with a score of 37, followed by Jean Durham and Peggy Mankey tied for second place with 39 scores. Tournament Director Ken Northrop presented the winners with bags of chocolates as their prizes.

After the competition, the Kooky Kroquet players were joined by other croquet members on the Clubhouse patio and in the Hawthorn Room for the annual BBQ cookout. Players discussed their attempts over hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, cole slaw, and salads, followed by desserts.

Afterward, greensward Ken Northrop went out to the court to carefully put the flags, bridges, loops and other obstacles in storage for next year's Kooky Kroquet tournament.



The Jewish Congregation welcomed new members. From left are Shlomoh Sherman, Peter and Phyllis Graff, President Cindy Sigl, Joyce and Larry Gibel. Missing are Anna Tannenbaum and Aliza Kendal.

## Yom Kippur observed

By Barbara Hoff

From sunset on Sunday evening, Sept. 24, through nightfall on Monday, Sept. 25, was Yom Kippur. It is the Holy Day that gives all



The Break Fast enjoyed after the final service.

Photo by Barbara Hoff

Jews the opportunity to repent for their wrongdoings and the ability to begin the Jewish New Year with a clean slate. It is customary to fast during that 25-hour period. For information about joining Rossmoor Jewish Congregation, contact Alan Kaufman at [allan.kaufman0125@gmail.com](mailto:allan.kaufman0125@gmail.com).



The Congregation also celebrated a simcha. Joyce and Larry Gibel celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary.

## SPORTS



Rossmoor Croquet Club's Kooky Kroquet winners Jean Dunham, Barbara Wright and Peggy Mankey were awarded their prizes by tournament director Ken Northrop on September 16. Barbara was the top winner with Jean and Peggy tied for second place.

# Veterans Day

## Nov. 11