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Monroe Township, New Jersey

DECEMBER 2022





Donate Warm Coats for the Needy, now in two convenient locations

By Alyce Owens

Once again, the Community Church is collecting warm coats and there's still plenty of time to look in your closets for those gently used coats and jackets you haven't worn for a while and no longer want or need. The collection started Nov. 28 and will run through Monday, Dec. 12.

This year for your convenience there are two locations where donations can be made: You can bring warm coats and jackets in all sizes to the Big Red Box in the front vestibule of the Clubhouse or to the box on the sheltered patio area outside the Fitness Center.

Kindly put all donations in plastic bags before depositing them in either of the two

Please note that because of space constraints, our collection this year is limited to winter coats and jackets only (no other clothing please) in men's, women's and children's sizes. There is just one exception to this: new or gently worn men's shoes and boots also are especially needed and will be appreciated.

Please bag shoes and boots separately from the coats.

As in the past, the coats we collect will go to Your Grandmother's Cupboard, a caring, non-profit organization in Toms River that collects and distributes life's necessities free of charge to folks in severe need throughout New Jersey. Your donations can help warm someone living a life we can't even imagine.

With the continued help of our generous Rossmoor residents, we hope to keep making the holidays a little happier and a lot warmer for those in need.

The Community Church sincerely thanks all residents who contribute their gently used outerwear to this very worthwhile outreach, and especially appreciates the help of Sal Gurriero and Greg Policastro for their devoted assistance in collecting and delivering your donations to those who will distribute them to the needy.

The Community Church extends sincere wishes and blessings to all residents and your families for a very happy, healthy Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and New Year.



Autumn in Rossmoor

Safety concerns

By General Manager Tom Curry The clocks have been turned back; it's dark by 5:30 p.m. If you're out for a walk, drivers might not see you. Night walkers are urged to wear reflective clothing, carry a flashlight, and stay on the sidewalk. Bike riders, also, need to observe safety

We have obtained 96 reflective arm/leg bands that are available at the Clubhouse E&R office for night walkers in Rossmoor.

measures.

Please be aware, we are not suggesting these reflective bands will protect you from harm. They are not magical;

they do not form an impenetrable force-field around you. They are simply an inexpensive way to remind night walkers that they need to be careful while walking on or across roadways.

The bands should be worn in addition to bright, reflective clothing and flashlights. The bands provide minimal reflective capabilities for drivers to see. We still highly recommend night walkers wear bright reflective clothing, carry a flashlight, stay off the road, and walk on the sidewalks.

Thank you for your coop-

Charity Bazaar exceeds all expectations

By Carol De Haan

"It was a huge success," said smiling E&R Manager Melissa Barnard of the Nov. 5 Bazaar that was run by her department. "We raised \$7,593.11, all of which will go to several charities.

She cited Saint Jude's Hospital for Children in Tennessee, SAVE Animal Rescue in Skillman, N.J., and the Monroe Township Food Pan-

On top of that, \$300 went to Thanksgiving Dinners for homebound residents, right here in Rossmoor.

The bake sale, too, was a big hit: Ye Olde Bake Shoppe sold out before

The charity split sold \$500 in tickets. The winner of the drawing was our good buddy from the front desk at E&R, Sue Ortiz, who turned around and donated a chunk of her winnings to Rossmoor's Thanksgiving Dinners for homebound residents.

Lots of grown-ups, grandchildren, and pets had their pictures taken with Santa and Mrs. Santa, who were -

shh, it's a secret — Dennis and Diane Arce.

It was another fun, worthwhile day in our town, good old Rossmoor.

Township approves new **Master Plan**

By Linda Bozowski

At its meeting on Oct. 27 the Monroe Township Planning Board approved the newly revised Master Plan. Development of the plan was a lengthy 18-month process and involved multiple opportunities for public input. Before the vote was taken, members of the public once again had the opportunity to ask questions. Several residents offered recommendation for revisions and inclusions of points that were felt to be significant. Concern was expressed about whether this plan, which is

expected to offer guidance for about the next 10 years, was far-sighted enough to meet the Township's planning needs.

Following public comments, members of the Planning Board and the Township Council had opportunities for comments and questions. The approval of the document was unanimous. We will provide a summary of the key points in the January edition of the Rossmoor News. The document can be reviewed in its entirety on the Monroe Township website.

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at the governors' meeting



November 17, 2022

The November 17th RCAI Board of Governors meeting was well attended both online and in person. RCAI's Board President and Mutual Five President, Dan Jolly opened the meeting as usual with the pledge of allegiance, BOG roll call and the approval of last month's meeting minutes. During his President's remarks Dan recounted his satisfaction with a frequent community contractor, Amore Homes, who recently honored their warranty on pavement and drainage repairs in Mutual Five. He commented that he was pleased with their work and he recommended utilization of their services. He then reminded everyone about the December 10, 2022, deadline for residents to support the Employee Holiday Gift Fund and urged all to donate. Finally, he wished everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer, John Craven, reported the September 30, financial statements showed an actual budget surplus of \$250,142 which is \$160,000 better than planned.

RCAI Management Report:

General Manager, Tom Curry, summarized the Monthly Management Report. He discussed the continued high rate of sales within the community. He gave an overview of the Maintenance Department's recent work and reported on two new hires in the maintenance staff, one in the administration office and the other within the maintenance staff. Tom reported on recent competed projects including the Bocce Court pavilion and the completion of line striping of two miles of Old Nassau Road. Mr. Curry thanked the E&R department staff and the many residents who volunteered their time to support the recent and very successful Rossmoor Charity Exchange program that raised over \$7,800 for three local charities. He commented on a very successful year at the golf

course and praised the department's season long bookings of Monday golf outing events. **New Business:**

- Resolution 2022-37 Proposed 2023 RCAI Budget. A second presentation of the RCAI FY2023 budget that increases the monthly RCAI carrying charges by \$6.57 per month per manor. A motion was made to approve the budget, it was seconded, and the motion passed 17 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstention.
- Resolution 2022-39 Ratification of Surveying and Engineering services for Revere Way Sewer Basin Reconstruction. A ratification of an expenditure approved by the Executive Committee to hire an engineer for reconstruction of a large storm sewer basin on Revere Way. A motion to approve was made, it was seconded, and passed 18-0.
- Resolution 2022-40 Authorization for replacement of HVAC systems in Village Center. Representing the final phase of Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning system replacements in RCAI buildings. This replaces the three-roof top Village Center HVAC systems and reworks the interior ventilation lines. A motion to approve was made, it was seconded, and the motion passed 18-0.
- Resolution 2022-41 General Manger Spending Limits. A resolution to increase the General Manger's emergency spending limit from \$5,000 to \$10,000 with approval of the BOG Executive Committee. A motion to amend the resolution by removing the word emergency was made and seconded. The amendment was approved 15 yes - 3 no. The amended resolution was then voted on and approved 16 yes - 2 no.

Directors Comments:

• RCAI Vice President, and Mutual Twelve President, Sal Gurriero, thanked E&R staff for a very successful Charity Exchange event. He also thanked all who have contributed to the charity Thanksgiving dinner program he reported that sixtyfive Rossmoor residents will receive thanksgiving dinners made and delivered by Rossmoor volunteers. He also mentioned the upcoming annual coat drive that is from November 28 to December 12. Collection boxes will be located in the Village Center Fitness Center hallway and in the Clubhouse hallway.

- Mutual Eight President, Carol Franks Director thanked the newly hired Administration Office receptionist, Meghan Kelly for her wonderful work.
- Mutual Nine President, Barbara Brumberg, asked about the possibility of changing the Sunday nomove/no-contractor Mr. Jolly said the Executive Committee will discuss the request and bring it back to the December Meeting.
- RCAI Assistant Secretary, and Mutual Ten President, Judith Sforza promoted a recent Mutual Ten sign recently installed next to common front doors instructing delivery services to place items inside the hallway. The sign is available through the Maintenance Department.

Resident Comments

- E&R Department thanked for an excellent Veterans Day celebration breakfast.
- A request was made for RCAI to investigate the possibility of lights at the pickleball court. Mr. Curry will investigate costs.
- Concerns were raised about the status of flood mitigation efforts. Mr. Jolly mentioned another mitigation meeting scheduled between the Township and Rossmoor engineers will occur in December.

There was no further business for the Board to discuss a motion to adjourn was made at 9:57 a.m.

Bits & Pieces

By Sue Ortiz

Is the anticipation worth the wait?

Anticipation is the act of looking forward to a pleasurable experience. Like, anticipating growing up so you can stay up as late as you want, anticipating the birth of a baby, or anticipating the taste of a mouth-watering burger smoldering on the grill.

Notice I didn't say waiting. While anticipation is hard, waiting is harder, in my opinion. It's like standing still for hours on end. It's exhausting. Better to keep moving less tiring on the body and

Worse still is waiting for something that doesn't, or never will, happen.

Case in point: One winter's night vears ago, my Mom. Dad, and I were planning to go to dinner with family friends. They were to pick up the three of us at 7 p.m. Precisely at 6:50 p.m., my Mom handed out our coats, hats, and gloves. We donned them in anticipation of said friends' arrival at seven. After all, we were going to Buxton's on Forsgate Drive. I, for one, was actually looking forward to dessert. Buxton's had great food, but their ice cream was out of this world.

Well, 7 p.m. became 7:15. Now, being a few minutes late could be called fashionable, but the coats came off at 7:30. At 8, my Mom called "Martha," not expecting an answer (this was eons before cell phones and answering machines), hoping they were on their way (they only lived in Monroe, though). Surprise! Martha picked up on the third ring. "Where are you?" my Mom asked. The groggysounding voice at the other end of the line said, "We're all in bed." What the heck?! They could have at least called! We were too steamed to go out ourselves at that point. No shoestring fried onions on a burger, no ice cream sundae, and no hottle of coffee that night. We probably opened a can of soup and called it a night.

My Mom anticipated my birth around the first of November. Her doctor was waiting for me to be born so he could retire. The first came and went. Thanksgiving was tense. Everyone waited, including me, I guess! I finally arrived on Nov. 30. Whew.

I don't know why I waited so long, but I recently ordered a new mattress to replace the one I had since 1988. (For years I anticipated what a new mattress would feel like.) The store could have had it delivered next day, but I wasn't available. I didn't have to wait long, though. They could bring it in three days, on a Friday, with a delivery window between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Five hours I would have to stay home and wait for a text message saying they were on their way. Of course, they came later rather than sooner. But the kicker is, the mattress came damaged! I had to wait until Monday to talk to someone to schedule delivery of a replacement. I was able to keep the damaged mattress until the replacement came, thank goodness -- because the next available delivery date was two weeks later, on a Saturday, when I was home. Again, I had to wait through a five-hour delivery window. Sigh. There's more to this story, but there's not enough room on this page. You'll just have to wait ...

I anticipate new episodes of my favorite television show, but I must wait more than a year for it to return. Who knows what the new season will bring? That's going to be harder than (younger) me waiting for Santa and anticipating all the toys he will bring.

B&P

"There is no terror in the bang, only in the anticipation of it." - Alfred Hitchcock (British director, 1899-1980)

"I like to compare the holiday season with the way a child listens to a favorite story. The pleasure is in the familiar way the story begins, the anticipation of familiar turns it takes, the familiar moments of suspense, and the familiar climax and ending." - Fred Rogers (American celebrity, 1928-2003)

Our Website

Go to rcainj.com to access the Rossmoor website.

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

Lossmoor

News Board:

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

Editorial Assistants

Alex Monaco Linda Monaco

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

considered Unscheduled volunteer writers should Editorial Services (PES) are not liable for contact Rossmoor News Chairman Joe any typographical or printing errors that Conti about any article they wish to may appear, including in its display or contribute. All copy and pictures are classified advertising, over the cost of the subject to editing and are accepted with space of the advertisement. this understanding.

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

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Visit the Rossmoor website at www.rcainj.com

Open RCAI Meetings in December

Thursday, December 15 Board of Governors Meeting......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

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

Art exhibit in the Clubhouse Gallery



Angel Espinosa

By Pam Neece

The paintings of Angel Espinosa will hang in the Clubhouse Gallery during December.

Angel is a self-taught artist who began drawing at the age of 4 in his native

Cuba. In his 20s, with no art supplies available, he painted old diapers with house paint to stiffen them to form a "canvas" for his

He came to this country in

Unique event you don't want to miss

Bv Carol De Haan

A former prisoner of war held in the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" will visit Rossmoor on behalf of our Veterans Group.

USAF Captain David Drummond was the pilot of a B-52 bomber that was shot down over enemy territory, leading to his capture and imprisonment. His story should not be missed.

Captain Drummond will join us on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 10 a.m., in the Ballroom. We are honored to have him.

Please RSVP your attendance to E&R (609-655-3232) so they can plan for this event. Light refreshments will be served.



Our new firehouse on Schoolhouse Road is lit up in pink lights in sympathy with the importance of Breast Cancer Month.

Monroe Fire District #3 built this new facility (without raising taxes) in 2021 because today's larger equipment would not fit in the old building. This new facility consists of four bays, one of which is reserved for the Township's emergency services ambulance.

Rossmoor Resident Telephone Directory

CHANGES & DELETIONS ONLY

Please mail or bring this form to the Rossmoor Community Association, Inc., Village Center 128 Sussex Way, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831 with any changes or deletions to your name, address or telephone listing.

> Information as it now appears: DIFASE DRINT

TELASE I KINT
NAME:
ADDRESS:
PHONE:
Changes for the 2023 edition:
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ADDRESS:
(1) PHONE <u>OR</u> (1) CELL:
All Changes would be presided by DECEMBED 30, 2022

All Changes must be received by DECEMBER 30, 2022

If your name, address and/or telephone number in the 2021 – 2022 edition are correct,

it is not necessary for you to complete this form.

1971. At age 58, he was disabled with back issues and so had more time to take up painting.

Angel moved to Rossmoor in 2014. He paints all during the winter months (leaving the warm weather months free for Bocce and other outdoor pursuits).

He works directly on the canvas, painting quickly. He begins a painting when he envisions the scene he wants to paint. Sometimes he references pictures or objects at home to help him get the shape or form of something just right, and he only works in colors that please him.

Do stop by the Gallery and see his lovely paintings.

Think about this

"The trouble with the world is that the stupid are cocksure and the intelligent are full of doubt."

Bertrand Russell Philosopher 1872-1970

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Spotlight on Cathy Nicola

By Rosemary Masella

Cathy Nicola lives her life to the fullest; she greets you with a big smile; she is happy to see you.

Cathy is an avid golfer. She plays tennis and mahjongg, is on a pickleball team, belongs to a book club, is a wonderful hostess, and always entertains with a theme.

A fairly new resident, Cathy moved here two and a half years ago. She loves Rossmoor and its New England charm. Cathy is also an alternate director of Mutual 16 and along with her directors, Jim Murphy, Russ Howard, and Josephine Schwegel, has put together a community group that bakes once a month and a disaster group. They also have a phone chain so they know which residents need assistance, wheelchairs, walkers, etc.

Mutual 16 has an Ameri-

canism committee that celebrates all the holidays and puts up flags. The social committee is planning a holiday party. There is a book club, a hospitality committee to welcome new residents with a welcome basket and an invitation to join their group, the sunshine committee sends greeting cards for different occasions. They had a barbecue recently for all their residents.

Cathy was a councilwoman and council president for 14 years in North Brunswick. She has served on numerous committees helping others - there are too many to list here. Her favorite quote is "A successful life must include service to others" and she lives by that motto. She feels her purpose in life is to help people, and she does. I had a problem with the library that I couldn't resolve. I called Cathy, never

having met her before. She didn't know me but resolved the problem because that's what she does.

GPS snafu?

By Carol De Haan

Scenario: You offer directions to Rossmoor to your first-time guest (delivery person, contractor).

Response: "No thanks, my GPS will get me there just fine.'

Outcome: Your guest sits at the South Gate, wondering why he or she cannot get in. Eventually, some kind-hearted person stops to explain that your guest must drive up to the North Gate on Forsgate Drive to enter Rossmoor.

Solution: Tell your guest to key in "One Rossmoor Drive" so the GPS will direct him or her to the North Gate for visitor entrance. Once inside, your guest can key in your house number and street.

Know Your Township - A look at how our government boards serve our community needs

By Linda Bozowski

Beginning in the January Rossmoor News, we will present information about the many Boards and Committees that provide services to our community. Volunteers participate in

many organizations in the Township, and help is always needed. Perhaps you, the reader, may find that you could volunteer your time as a member of a committee that interests you.

We hope that you will find

this future information helpful. Our community depends on its residents to share their talents. Let's learn more about how our government serves us all and how you may be able to participate.

Winter Solstice

By Anne Rotholz

Winter Solstice, also known as "Hibernal Solstice" or "The Longest Night," occurs when either of the earth's poles reaches its maximum tilt away from the sun. It happens twice yearly, once in the Northern Hemisphere, and once in the Southern Hemisphere.

This year Winter Solstice in the Northern Hemisphere will be celebrated on Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 4:47 p.m. On this day the noontime sun will be at its lowest point above the horizon, giving us the shortest day and the longest night of the year, and leaving the North Polar area in total darkness.

The Winter Solstice has particular significance since it

celebrates the rebirth of the year. Mankind has always celebrated important points in the annual cycle of the earth. Written accounts from various parts of the world describe the celebrations, rituals and festivities that took place around the solstice.

Neolithic structures built over 5,000 years ago such as Stonehenge (England) and Newgrange (Ireland) indicate that those who built them were very familiar with the Solstice.

Many Solstice celebrations in early times were centered on the rebirth of the sun goddess whom they believed was responsible for the return of the sun and the longer, brighter days.

Examples of such festivals were the Saturnalia in ancient Rome and the old

Scandinavian festival of Juul. It is no coincidence that organized religions have placed some of their most sacred festivals around the winter Solstice. Hanukkah and Christmas are both celebrated at this time and both are closely associated with light.

Other Solstice festivals include:

DONG ZHI in China, meaning winter arrives.

SHAB-E YALDA in Iran celebrates the triumph of the sun god Mitra over darkness.

TOJI in Japan, when people light bonfires to encourage the sun's return.

SHALAKA, the ceremonial dance of the native American Zuni to celebrate the beginning of the year.

INTI RAYMI, a Peruvian festival (celebrated in June) honors the sun god, INTI.



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Rossmoor events

By Babs Burford-O'Reilly

Having moved in October 2019, we really did not have a chance to participate in much before COVID-19 shut everything down. This year my husband Ray and I are enjoying getting to know all Rossmoor has to offer.

We started off this spring by playing Bocce. We enjoyed it and met so many nice people. We enjoyed the pool all summer and took advantage of the extra weeks as well.

This month we attended our first Spaghetti Dinner,

sponsored by the Community Church. The food and company were both excellent! This past Sunday I attended the Sing Along sponsored by the Rossmoor Chorus. So much fun and so many talented people. I encourage everyone to

get out and enjoy all this wonderful community has to



A family Christmas

By Ken Thomas

With two married children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, scheduling a family Christmas can become interesting. Other holidays like Thanksgiving and Easter are included. Now, in-laws also want to celebrate with their sibling and the grandchildren. Underline the importance of grandchildren. The schedule for other family gatherings and holidays is also complicated. Anyway, a family Christmas today becomes a holiday event.

My wife and I moved to Virginia, when I accepted another job. Our daughter and her two boys remained in New Jersey. Our son was stationed in Florida (Air Force) with his family, wife, five girls and one boy. With Christmas about two months away, I could see "lonely" in my wife's eyes. She invited them all for Christmas at our home. Not a bad idea, but I wondered how to accommodate 14 in our little house.

First, we bought or borrowed air mattresses, then sat down at the kitchen table to map out sleeping arrangements. Every leaf was added to the dining room table and two borrowed high chairs for the babies just fit. Every chair we owned was pulled from the closet and lined up leg to leg around the table. Trimming the tree became a family decorating deliberation, and Santa

was short six Christmas stockings. I won't mention the cost of a Christmas menu. A week before the holiday, our oldest grand-daughter asked if she could bring a friend. Now, 13 visitors would join us and I swear our house groaned.

Everyone placed presents under our tree and filled stockings. Hugs and kisses were distributed as needed. The family was together for the first time in many months. Christmas Eve, everyone went to church, filling two pews. Our crying babies joined other crying babies. We sang Christmas carols and listened to the story of a very special crying baby.

After the traditional eggnog and a reading of "The Night before Christmas," most of us found a comfortable place to sleep. The children didn't sleep. In the morning, each child received many presents from Santa. A child opening presents is a picture taking event. Grandchildren and great grandchildren are Christmas. Next, the stockings were emptied. I filled three large garbage bags with Christmas wrapping paper and ribbons. Santa was very generous at our house. Celebrating the "Twelve Days of Christmas" would exceed gift generosity.

Grandma made pancakes for breakfast and the coffee pot was refilled often. I read

(Continued on page 6)







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Christmas

(Continued from page 5)

some stories from my book to give the children a little history of the Thomas Family, my Christmas present to everyone. The children played together continuously and the adults smiled all day. We ate special Christmas food and celebrated the holiday family style. My stories after dinner started a couple of "Daddy did that" questions from his kids. Everyone watched "It's a Wonderful Life" on television and I shared "Miracle on Thirty-Fourth Street" with the children.

Could someone please extend the holiday this year? Too soon, Christmas was over and the family packed for their trip home. My wife and I waved goodbye to them from our porch, the end of a wonderful family Christmas. My wife was still lonely, me too.

Fire prevention at the Computer Club

By Jean Houvener

At the October meeting of the Computer Club, Fire Chief Wayne Lyons and Fire Marshal Michael Lubertazzi of Fire Department District Three gave an interesting talk on fire safety in our homes. They augmented the presentation with a video, "At Our Age with Tom Bosley," (whom many of you may remember from Happy Days), both entertaining and full of useful information. Since October was Fire Prevention Month, this was most timely. The tips they gave us are, of course, useful at all times.

District Three is staffed 24/7, at both the Centre Drive and School House Road locations. Among the services available to residents year-round is the Battery Replacement Program. If you need your batteries replaced, simply call the Fire House at 609-409-2980, ext.

4, to set up an appointment. Be prepared for the possibility that your appointment may need to be rescheduled, as other more pressing matters might arise. Be sure you have newtteries before your appointment.

Smoke detectors can be smoke only or combination smoke and CO. They can be battery only but must have a 10-year sealed battery. They can be hard wired, with or without a battery backup. All smoke detectors must be replaced at 10 years old. CO detectors can be battery only or plug in and cannot be older than seven years. CO detectors can also be a combination smoke and CO, and if battery only must have a 10-year sealed battery. If you purchase them, the Fire Department will replace them for you if no drilling or wiring is required.

The Fire Marshal inspects homes for resale, as required



Fire Chief Wayne Lyons and Fire Marshal Michael Lubertazzi of Fire Department District Three respond to questions from the attendees.



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by state law, to determine whether the unit has the required detectors. The fire extinguisher must be 2A;10BC rated and no older than one year for a resale. The seller makes an appointment with his office to inspect the home, for which there is a fee.

CO detectors are required in Rossmoor if your home has a garage, or fireplace, or has gas. The newest smoke or smoke plus CO detectors are self-contained with a 10year sealed battery that will not need replacing. The entire unit needs to be replaced at 10 years. If you cannot hear your detectors when they sound, there are detectors that cause vibration or flashing light to alert you. Test your detectors every month.

In the event of a fire, call 911. not the Fire House. Kitchen fires are the most common house fires. Recommendations are to never leave a stove unattended while cooking, particularly when grease or oil are being heated. If the grease or oil start to smoke, a fire is not far behind. Put a lid on the pan (to starve it of oxygen) and turn the burner off (to stop the heat). Keep a lid handy when you cook. Do not wear loose clothing, long sleeves or shirts, or bathrobes near the stove, and keep flammable items like towels away from the stove. In the event of an oil or grease fire, do not put water on it as that will cause the oil or grease to spatter and spread the fire. Do not carry the pot anywhere, including to the sink, as it will likely burn you and further spread the fire to the rest of the house.

While the state code requires the presence of a fire extinguisher in every unit, they recommended rather than trying to use it, if there is a fire, to get out, closing the doors behind you to re-

(Continued on page 7)

Thirty-one words

By Allan Kaufman

While Francis Scott Kev is best known as the author of our national anthem, it was a Baptist minister, whose name no one knows, who gave us our Pledge of Allegiance. Francis Bellamy's family moved to Rome, New York, where his dad, a Baptist Minister took over a Congregation in the first part of the 19th century. His son, Francis was born in 1855 and decided to become a minister, just like his father.

Through his ministry, Bellamy traveled around the country, winding up in Massachusetts where he penned the original Pledge. It was in 1892 when the Pledge was published in The Youth Companion magazine. It was written in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America. The original Pledge read as follows:

"I pledge Allegiance to my Flag and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Bellamy firmly believed in the separation of

Fire prevention

(Continued from page 6) duce air flow to the fire, and to call 911.

Another source of fires in the home is dryer lint build-up. This with the heat from the dryer can cause a fire, along the vent, or in the attic where the venting was not to the outside as it should be. It is important to have lint vents cleaned on a regular basis.

The video took a different tack. A basic point was that as you age, you need to change how you do things. Also, you need to be fit enough to get out in a hurry if there is a fire. Falls are a warning sign for the need of better fitness and especially balance. Exercise, especially tai chi, can improve balance. If there is a need to get through a fire, keep low so as to be below the smoke.

If you smoke, never do so in bed. Be sure you use deep ashtrays so ashes and butts don't flip out. Before emptying an ashtray into the trash, be sure to soak the butts in water to be sure they are fully out.

Have an escape plan with at least two ways out. If you escape through a window, be sure you close any doors behind you to delay the fire and possibly reduce damage. Keep your phone and a flashlight by your bed. In the kitchen and bath if you use floor mats, be sure they have a non-slip backing. Install grab bars in bathrooms and railings on stairs.

Keep yourself fit, your home safely outfitted, and you will avoid most problems related to fires as well as keeping yourself healthy. church and state and he deliberately left the words, "under God" out of the Pledge.

There were minor revisions to the Pledge over the years, but the one that is most important was the one change made in 1954. Congress added the words, "under God" in response to the anti-Communist opinion taking over the country during the Cold War. Eventually, we recited these 31 words during our time in school and now, at various community meetings. They are:

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of American and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

We honor and celebrate Francis Bellamy's work on Dec. 28, Pledge of Allegiance Day.

My favorite carol

By Ken Thomas

Choose a favorite from all the Christmas music. One selection only would probably be difficult. Christmas music contains a list of selections that are still growing. Almost every singer, chorus or orchestra adds to the list. Christmas carols easily outnumber all holiday choices. My favorite is a carol often sung by male or female, tenor or soprano. The melody and words are beautiful and spiritual. The carol is "O Holy Night."

As a young boy, I heard this carol for the first time in our church, sung by our choir with a solo by a tenor named Paul. His voice was admired by the whole congregation, especially my father. Presbyterians do not normally applaud for a great performance or a terrific sermon, but Paul's rendition of "O Holy Night" raised the roof every Christmas Eve. The entire congregation responded with admiring "Amens." In the carol, he uses two voice octaves and sings an impossible note for the word "Divine" that would inspire the agnostics sitting in the last pew.

Dad always had a word of praise for Paul and "O Holy Night" every Christmas. Growing up, I became his other admirer. Our church choir was one of the finest around and Paul was the tenor soloist. The community packed the pews for our annual choir concerts. Paul also helped out with the Junior and Senior Youth Choirs. He was our favorite. For an hour, we concentrated on singing instead of dating. We sang for him, not our parents or congregation. Perry Como sang "O Holy Night" on his TV Christmas specials and he could give Paul a little competition, but he wasn't Paul.

The choir performed at my wedding. Paul sang the hymn my wife and I selected. I'll never forget that hymn. My father and I became part of the church music program, adding our trumpets to the choir for hymns or Christmas carols. When my wife and I moved to

Virginia, others sang "O Holy Night" in other churches, but they weren't my tenor.

Sometimes, I tried to sing the carol, but my attempt was more "O Come all ye faithful," faith I could sing. As the years passed, the voices of Paul and Perry sadly changed with age. About eight years later, we visited our old church at Christmas. I eagerly waited for the hymn as the choir sang other carols during the service. Paul's voice was not strong anymore and I was apprehensive as the carol began. That inspiring note for the word "Divine" was sung by the whole choir that Christmas, not as Paul's solo. I felt like a part of Christmas was gone.

Our family stopped to greet Paul after the service. I realized he had been a member of the choir for over thirty years, singing every Sunday, thousands of Sundays. Dad and Paul hugged. I shook hands with tears in my eyes. I have to choose another Christmas Carol as my #1. "O Holy Night" belongs to Paul.



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Enough already!

By Allan Kaufman

They started arriving during the first week of October. Like locusts, they multiplied. The first came from Lands' End. Then one from Hammacher Schlemmer, the Thursday Boot Company, and Fair Harbor adorned my postman's bag. Through Nov. 1, I received 20 catalogs, mostly showing items I have no use for.

I ordered a pair of boots from the Thursday Boot Company only to be disappointed as the leather was not soft and dug into my foot. Back they went. I guess Lands' End thought that I missed the boat as they sent me five catalogs, each containing the same items. They were trashed. Similar to Lands' End comes L.L. Bean. The only difference is that L.L. Bean does not offer any discounts. Out it went.

Then came a catalog from a company I never heard of, Johnnie-O. Similar to Lands' End, but you would need to take out a second mortgage if you wanted to buy some of their items: shirts, cashmere sweaters, and flannel shirts. And the companies get fancy when they name their products. Lodge shirting, Belmore sweaters, The Robinson sweater, and the Saltaire hoodie are a few of the choices you can make.

I figured that I had received all of the remaining holiday catalogs. I figured wrong. J. McLaughlin has

Santa oops

By Steven Gray

Santa and his elves are getting older, slower and a bit forgetful. Let's listen in over Zoom on a conversation between Santa and his head elf, Crabby (spoiler alert that is not his name, just what he is called for some reason).

"I don't know, Santa, how well the reindeer will do this year. Heck, Comet is slower than that powdered detergent, neither Dancer nor Prancer can step out like they used to, Cupid no longer shows any love, not even to Vixen, and I have no ciue what Donner and Biitzen are up to. Don't even get me started on Rudolph."

"Ah," Santa replied, "take it easy, Crabby. Rudolph and Blitzen are still getting blitzed together - that is why Rudolph's nose stays so red. The others will follow along behind Rudolph with no problem, I got my sleigh updated and it is now all electric - a CUV. They do not have to pull, just stay ahead of the sleigh."

Crabby immediately asks, "What is a CUV?"

"Aha," said Santa, "it is a cookie powered utility vehicle. I have to make use of all those stale cookies somehow. Did you really think I ate all of them?"

"SANTA!" Mrs. Claus screamed. "You left Zoom on again!" click

twenty-four pages of women's clothes and two pages showing three items for men. I have never heard of Westport Big and Tall. Given the fact that I'm 5'7" and just a little bit overweight, I have no idea how I got onto their mailing list. I also never heard of Carbon 2 Cobalt. I thought this was a catalog dealing with chemical reactions. A Bend in the Road Leather Jacket for \$599 was not in my budget, even if I was going to buy it for myself.

Finally, the ultimate catalog came to me from the place bearing unique gifts, Hammacher Schlemmer. The first item I came across was the Hypnotic Jellyfish Aquarium costing \$99.95. Then, taking a step into a higher cost category, there is the Virtual Therapist's Luxury



Seven-person tricycle

Massage Chair for \$12,000. But the ultimate gift, maybe I'll order two, is the 7-person Tricycle for \$20,000. These items are for people who live in Scarsdale, not Rossmoor.

I'm sure by the time you read this, a few dozen more catalogs will grace my mailbox. Like the others, they will go into the recycling bins. Don't worry, my kids and grandkids will get their Hanukkah presents, but they won't be from any of these catalogs.

Do we need this?

By Carol De Haan

We live in a place and time of great abundance compared with much of the rest of the world. We have too much stuff.

Then comes Christmas. Hanukkah, Kwanzaa - all occasions for gift giving. For children, there should be no limits: we can give extravagantly to them. But for grown -ups, do we really need more stuff?

Enter a few thousand retailers who want nothing more than to tempt us to buy their wares. Here are a few examples:

- How about a knitted beanie with dual speakers in it and a built-in microphone so you can listen to music and take calls while jogging? A mere \$80.
- Who wouldn't want a battery powered nose hair trimmer including protective

travel cap for only \$50?

- A piddling \$70 can get you an ice cream scooper with thermal handle that will make it easier to serve frozen ice cream.
- How about a \$100 ultrasonic eyeglass cleaner that uses vibrating soundwaves to remove smudges from lenses. No more troublesome tissues to deal with.
- For a measly \$70 you can buy a lost item locator that will create a beam to find your car keys or missing cell phone.
- \$80 will get you an antisnore pillow.
- Have fun with the \$80 rechargeable wine opener that can uncork 30 to 40 bottles on a single charge. Wow.
- · Let's not forget the electric marshmallow heater for only \$80. Oh great. Plenty more S'mores.

Uniqueness of December 21

By Allan Kaufman

There are so many things to celebrate on Dec. 21, let's get started.

Winter Solstice: At the winter solstice the sun travels the shortest path through the sky, and that day therefore has the least daylight and the longest night. Imagine being in Alaska. Sunrise is at 10:25 a.m. and sunset is 1:35 p.m. Twenty-one hours of darkness. Time to binge watch the great series Yellowstone and then the prequel, 1893. In 1893, I did not think Faith Hill had the chops to handle the role she's in. I was absolutely wrong.

Celebrate Short Fiction Day: I guess this is celebrating the authors of a two-page

Crossword Puzzle Day: | do admire those who can finish the New York Times puzzle in pen. For me, I get about one-third of the way finished and then I get a brain lock or I'm just not smart enough to figure out the other words. Keeping an

eraser with me is important.

International Dalek Remembrance Dav: This is a day to remember the extraterrestrial cyborgs called Daleks in BBC's Doctor Who universe. This is a day, for those who celebrate this day. for these people to get a life.

Make Music Day in Winter: If I decide to sing, this day will be canceled. I did play the clarinet in grade school. Does that count?

National Flashlight Day: The people in Alaska were the reason why we celebrate this day.

Short Film Day: Perhaps 20-minute cartoons. Could they be thinking of the Three Stooges and Abbot and Costello television movies?

Phileas Fogg Win a Wager Day: From "Around the World in 80 days," by Jules Verne. Spoiler Alert, Phileas does win the wager.

Shorts Day: Can be cold in this part of the country. Who's going to take the challenge of putting on the shorts?

Sound Advice

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

Caution when calling IRA Custodians for help

This is a heads up for anyone deciding on how to designate beneficiaries of federally qualified retirement accounts based on advice from an IRA custodian call center.

When you call your IRA custodian, checking your account balance or requesting paperwork for a transaction is usually the most straightforward and simple way to get help. However, designating beneficiaries, paying an IRA to a trust, or leaving someone other than your spouse assets held in your IRA or federally qualified retirement plan (QRP) account is a different matter.

The representative that answers the call is not something you control. Whether you are calling with a question about a complex topic involving a large inherited IRA account or to ask a simple question about the amount of your last withdrawal, your call is routed to a representative on a service team who happens to be free.

Even if the service from your IRA custodian received high rating from consumers, calling in with a question about the disposition of an IRA upon your death may be placing faith in the advice of a recent college graduate new to financial and tax planning. Relying on advice from a custodian call center employee about your IRA beneficiary designations is a gamble unless you're an expert on IRAs. Which brings us to the heart of the issue: the rules on IRA and qualified plans are complex and subject to change.

For example, even if you have a will, your beneficiary designation probably will override it. So, even though your will may say you wish to leave all your assets to your children, if your IRA beneficiary designation names your first spouse, whom you divorced 20 years ago, as the account beneficiary, then your ex-spouse would be entitled to inherit the account upon your death. Designations made years ago at old IRA accounts should be confirmed as correct and in accordance with your wishes.

In addition, under the SE-CURE Act, which became effective January 1, 2020, the beneficiary of inherited IRA or 401(k) accounts is required to deplete the accounts within 10 years. The Act exempted disabled, chronically ill and children. There is a lot to know.

If you own a sizable IRA, 401(k) or other retirement plan account, and your beneficiary is your spouse, an individual with a disability, chronic illness, or minor child, planning properly to take full advantage of the rules can make a big difference. Rules can make a big difference in the life of a loved one who can use help. They can stretch out distribu-

tions over their actuarial life expectancy, thus, leaving the assets to compound tax-free for a much longer period.

Complicating matters, on February 23, 2022, two years after the SECURE Act went into effect, the IRS augmented the rules on distributions from IRA and qualified retirement plans implementing the Act, and the new rules went into effect at the beginning of 2022.

While the rules are only proposed and have not been finalized, it is wise to update personal tax and financial plans based on the rules proposed by the IRS. While they may be changed or augmented yet again, acting as if proposed IRS rules are final is prudent. The new distribution IRA and qualified rules implement new tax Required minimum distribution

- Distributions commencing during an employee's lifetime
- Death before the required beginning date for distributions
- Who is a designated beneficiary?
- Required minimum distributions from defined contribution plans
- Required minimum distributions from defined benefit plans and annuity contracts
- Rollovers and transfers from IRAs and QRPs

The bulleted items above are highly technical and often are important in making decisions about how to take distributions from an IRA or QRP.

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

For more information, questions, or comments, we encour-

age you to visit our website at www.politziner.com or call us at (732) 296-9355.

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This Is Tough - Part 10

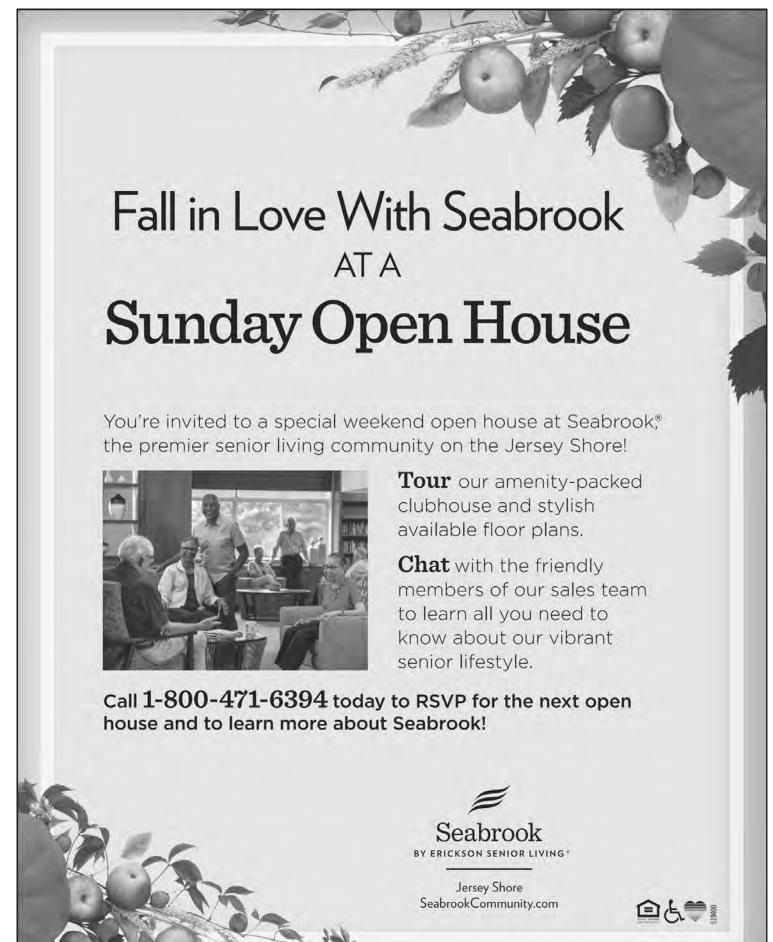
By Thomas J. McMahon (aka J. T. Brian)

As our saga continues (and by the way, later on referred to as "BTW" - that's a shortened version and I can get more useful words into my article before the editor says "NM" - that's a shortened version of 'no more' which is a shortened version of "NO MORE YOU BUM," but I do not wish to cast illusions about our wonderful editor and the fine people who publish this excellent monthly. (Whew, glad I got that out.) Where the heck was I ... oh, yeah, as our

saga of getting the greatest novel of all time finally published continues, allow me to utilize a different tack this month. As the story goes, you all are probably familiar with sampling, the art of seeing what is there in sight, sound, or smell prior to actually purchasing the commodity for sale. I hereby present a sampling for the book:

"The light hit him first. He cried in fear but was quickly rescued and coddled by a caring nurse who felt sorry for the

(Continued on page 11)



This month in pictures







Santa and helper and environs



















At the Spaghetti Dinner



The sell-out crowd at the spaghetti dinner Photos by Youngae Lee



A Sample of the spaghetti dinner fare

Halloween with the Dance Club



Phantom of the Opera Tony and devil Barbara Osmond, the Lady in Red, with Bill Weissman and dapper dancing partner Kinga Flynn, the 2022 Winners at the Dance Club.



Pirate Judy and friends celebrate Halloween 2022.

New Neighbors



By Christina Smith, Resident Services Manager

Robert McCarthy, Anan Colon and Carlos Ramos, 134B Old Nassau Road, formerly of Somerset, N.J.

Ramos Perez, 138C Plymouth Lane, formerly of Manalapan, N.J.

Keven Vanbloem, 663N Yorktown Lane, formerly of Franklin Park, N.J.

Michael and Donna Mur-

This Is Tough

(Continued from page 9)

baby in her arms. His drugcrazed, used up mother died at the moment of his birth. The nurse knew this was a baby who would grow up never knowing the identities or background of his father and mother and would spend the first part of his life kicking a deadly habit he had inherited. Fortunately, after a difficult first two months of life, he started down a normal path of growth and mentality."

WOW! What a start to the ultimate story ever written! This one paragraph took about 24 years and nine months to cultivate, water, and grow into what it is today. What you see before your eyes. What you just read. For free! I know, you're probably picking yourself off the floor after reading such words. You can't wait for the next word, or paragraph, or chapter. I know, I know. I used to feel the same way. Then I remembered I am writing this stuff, so instead of sitting back, doing nothing but permitting the greatest entertaining book in the history of mankind to come before my eyes (that's a whole bunch of words, ain't it?), I have to labor, day after day, month after month, excuse after excuse, for years and years.

The book that sits now in its changed appearance and story, was first conceived and written more than 55 years ago. That's right. The birth of the storyline and characters all started in a medium-sized house on a medium-sized block in a medium-sized part of Brooklyn, New York. A somewhat lonely boy (No, wait a sec ... that's not right), a somewhat distracted young lad (No, that's not it either), a rather bright but stubborn youngster (That's it!) cobbled together words very similar to what you just finished reading 221 words ago. And history would soon be made. In fact, we're still waiting for history to catch up. All right, so I'm waiting here with all of my friends. Waiting... waiting... Hey, everybody, where are you going? we're waiting for history to catch up! perhaps now I have reverted to that boy. somewhat lonely Geez...

phy, 591A Troy Way, formerly of Edison, N.J.

Rohan Patterson, 304C Sharon Way, formerly of Elizabeth, N.J.

Samir and Najwa Barakat Elhajj, 245C Malden Lane, formerly of Monmouth Junction, N.J.

Carolyn and Angelo Holmes, 333A Newport Way, formerly of Jamaica, N.Y.

Mary Ann Nicoletti, 642B Old Nassau Road, formerly of New Brunswick, N.J.

Yi Xian Ziang and Zhao Hui Huang, 302A Sharon Way, formerly of Iselin, N.J.

Peter and Joyce Ann Collura, 190C Malden Lane, formerly of Surf City, N.C.

Salvatore Santorelli, 40B Concord Lane, formerly of Staten Island, N.Y.

Edith Frances, 305B Sharon Way, formerly of Ridgewood, N.Y.

Bhaktiben and Pratap Desai, 312B Sharon Way, formerly of New Brunswick, N.J.

Nadine Lecorchick, 407A Oxford Lane, formerly of Spotswood, N.J.

Steven Lutkowski, 333B Old Nassau Road, formerly of Princeton, N.J.

Ahmed Tarraf and Ebtesam Wafa, 547C Sheldon Way, formerly of Bayonne,

Aiping Gao and Hua Li, 98P Glenwood Lane, formerly of Flushing, N.Y.

Urgent need: Photographer with camera

The E&R Department would be most grateful for the occasional services of a photographer who uses a camera (not a cell phone) to take pictures of their events and send them electronically to the Rossmoor News for publication.

If this sounds like you, please call Manager Melissa Barnard at 609-655-3232. She'll be happy to hear from you.

CULINARY CORNER

By Sidna Mitchell

Definitely time for a Hot Toddy

The harassment began about two weeks before the big game against football rivals Ole Miss (University of Mississippi) Rebels and LSU (Louisiana State University) Tigers. Dr. Hillman Willis, my LSU cousin, started with a phone call to remind me of the 50th anniversary of the 1972 game between the two universities where LSU won an improbable 17-16 win over the Rebels. The Tigers managed to get off two plays in the last four seconds to get a game-winning touch-

Since this year's game was to be LSU's homecoming, I had to remind Dr. Willis of an LSU homecoming game just a few years back when Troy State University was paid one million dollars as what was thought of as a puff team. Lo and behold, under Neal Brown, head football coach for Trov. a cousin on the other side of the family and now head coach at West Virginia University, LSU lost that homecoming game to that "little ole team from Alabama."

Even my Arkansas University cousin, who now lives in Texas, got involved in the back and forth with phone calls and texts during and after the game that, unfortunately, Ole Miss lost. However, for a while, at least before halftime, Ole Miss Rebels were leading LSU Tigers. Then the tide turned and LSU won the game big time!

However, as long as Dr. Willis reminds me of that LSU win over Ole Miss, I'll

suggest he remember little ole Troy State defeating his Tigers in a homecoming game.

After this year's final score, I considered drowning the Rebels' defeat in a martini, but thought maybe I should just have a hot toddy since Ole Miss premier cheer is Hotty Toddy.

All this led me to pull out that recipe for a Hot Toddy in "The Founding Foodies" cookbook. Of course, I made a substitution.

Hot Toddy

2 teaspoons brown sugar 2 teaspoons freshly squeezed lemon or lime juice

1 teaspoon butter

Culinary Corner

½ teaspoon grated nutmeg dash each ground cinnamon, ginger and cloves

1 ounce Bourbon

1 cup hot water

In a bowl combine the brown sugar, lemon or lime juice, butter and spices; stir into a paste.

Add the Bourbon to the hot water in a cup and stir in the paste until it dissolves.

NOTE: Sip slowly. The original recipe called for rum but if you're a Rebel, you select Bourbon. I used fresh lime juice because limes were cheaper than lemons. At first this reminded me of a hot toddy the family doctor recommended when I had stomach cramps as a teenager. However, about half way through the toddy, I decided this drink tasted pretty good, especially on a chilly night.





What happened to the bagel rally?

By Mike Markel, Democratic Club president

This year, the Democratic Club's traditional fall event, the bagel rally, turned into a wonderful brunch. Yes, of course, we had bagels, but so much more.

About a hundred eager Dems gathered in the Ballroom on Sunday, Oct. 22 to enjoy big trays of scrambled eggs, pancakes, syrup, sausages, bacon, roasted potatoes, muffins, rolls, bagels with various kinds of cream cheese, Danish pastries, orange juice, coffee, and tea. It was a spread worth writing home about.

Among the guests were Monroe Council President Miriam Cohen, Vice President Terry Van Dzura, Council members Rupa Siegel and Elizabeth Schneider.

With great intensity Van Dzura urged the gathering to vote on Nov. 8.

Miriam Cohen won the 50 -50 raffle and generously donated the \$92 back to the Club.

The We Care committee signed up several new members to raise funds for one or more needy families with kids, so their holidays will be a little merrier this year.

We are happy to announce new officers: Debbie Sills will be the secretary, Barry Jacobsen will be our DJ, and Pam Neece will produce the newsletter for us.

Happy holidays and best wishes to everyone.

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Clubs and Organizations

Chorus plans Holiday Concert and caroling for homebound



The Rossmoor Chorus takes a bow after a sing along

By Alyce Owens

Were you among the lucky ones to get a seat in the Ball-room on Oct. 30 when the Rossmoor Chorus held a Sing-Along for residents? The sound of happy voices could be heard from one end of the Clubhouse to the other and everyone had a really good time singing familiar golden oldies and favorites from the Broadway stage.

On Nov. 17 those who attended our annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service enjoyed the Chorus performance of traditional Thanksgiving hymns as well as a beautiful new contemporary piece titled "Thankful" with words and music by Carole Bayer Sager, David Foster, and Richard Page.

Now it's December and time for the Chorus to turn their attention to brightening our spirits with their jolly holiday music. Here's the busy schedule they have planned for December.

On Sunday, Dec. 18 the Chorus will present a Holiday Concert for residents in the Meeting House at 2 p.m. As in the past, the singers will present a variety of favorite Christmas and Hanukkah songs interspersed with some novelty and nostalgic numbers by their talented soloists. It just wouldn't be Christmas without hearing songs like "White Christmas," the "Dreidel Song," "Silver Bells," "Silent Night," and many others to which you can sing along, or just lean back and enjoy.

A free-will offering will be gratefully accepted at the concert to enable the Chorus to continue bringing joy and beautiful music to our community and beyond. On Dec. 4, the Chorus will present the same holiday concert for the residents of Springpoint Living at Manalapan, and the folks at Monroe Village will be treated to the same holiday

music presentation at 2 p.m. on Dec. 17.

But wait, there's more. Their initial adventure into outdoor caroling for some of our homebound folks proved so successful last year that the Chorus decided to do it again this year — on two days instead of only one. On Dec. 12, the group will sing familiar carols for some of our homebound in the early afternoon, then do it again the next day in the evening outside the homes of other folks who are similarly pretty much confined to home. Members of the Chorus who participated in the caroling last year are very excited about doing it again and agree that "This truly is the way to spread Christmas cheer!"

The Chorus wishes all its friends and family a joyous and peaceful Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and a very happy New Year.



Music Association offers holiday entertainment on December 9



Princeton Pro Musica Chorus Dec 9

By Linda Bozowski

As we approach the end of 2022, let's join in the festivities of the season and share an evening of wonderful music offered by the Princeton Pro Musica Chamber Chorus. On Friday, Dec. 9, at 7:30 p.m., the Meeting House will be filled with the sounds of the season when the artists of Pro Musica visit Rossmoor once again

About Princeton Pro Musica Chamber Chorus

The Chamber Chorus of

Princeton Pro Musica is a group of between 22 to 30 singers from the 100-member Pro Musica Chorus. The Chamber Chorus was established in the early 1980s so that performances could be arranged for smaller settings, and its music features solos and a cappella pieces, as well as those accompanied by piano or other instruments.

The Pro Musica Chorus was established in 1979 by Frances Fowler Slade. Ryan

Brandau took over the leadership of the group in 2012. The group performs a variety of music from Broadway tunes to Renaissance madrigals, holiday selections and gospel pieces.

Upcoming Events

The Music Association has planned a very exciting second half of this season's programming. Spring programs and their dates are as follows:

April 21, 2023 - Mezzo-

(Continued on page 13)



Members listen to Mr. Tae Y. Kim, Executive Director of New Jersey Korean-American Mutual Aid Association.

Emerald Society's upcoming events



Teresa Kane

By Erin Medlicott

December: In lieu of a December monthly members meeting, we will attend a live theater production of "A Christmas Carol" on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 2 p.m. in Playhouse 22, located inside the East Brunswick Community Arts Center. The address is 721 Cranbury Road, East Brunswick. Make sure you are at the theater by 1:45 p.m. so I can give everyone their ticket before seating. There will be an Intermission and they will have snacks and drinks available in the lobby.

Driving directions to Playhouse 22: Drive out the North Gate, and turn left at the traffic light. Drive along Forsgate Drive until you get to the first traffic light, where you will turn right onto Cranbury South River Road. Drive about four and a half miles. The Community Arts Center will be on the left. It usually takes between 10 and 15 minutes to get there, depending on traffic. And driving time shouldn't be too bad, since it's a Sunday afternoon.

January 2023: I am pleased to announce we have booked

Teresa Kane, an Irish singer/ songwriter from Red Hill, Pa., who will entertain us at our monthly members meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 2 p.m. in the Clubhouse Ballroom. Teresa is a fourth generation Irish American who grew up with traditional Irish music. She sings, plays guitar, and mandolin. She will bring one of her local musicians to accompany her. The duo will also take song requests from our audience. Join us on Jan. 4 for great live entertainment.

Happy Holidays from the Dance Club

By Judy Perkus

Looking back on 2022, the Rossmoor Dance Club is delighted to have been able to dance and socialize and have fun after the too long Covid hiatus. Among other events, we had a BBQ dance, a '50s hop, a Hawaiian-themed dance and a Chinese buffet. Halloween inspired many of our dancers to dress up in costume. "Lady in Red" Bill Weisman, dapper dance partner Kinga Flynn, and Barbara and Tony Osmond, as the devil and the Phantom of the Opera, were

the prizewinners. I found another Judy at the dance, a pirate.

Since this is such a busy month, the Dance Club will have no dance in December. Join us in January at our next dance. All residents are welcome, but priority goes to Dance Club members. We look forward to see what President Armen DeVivo is planning for 2023.

You may send your 2023 Dance Club dues of \$20 per couple, \$10 per person made out to the Rossmoor Dance Club to Armen DeVivo at 449B Roxbury Lane or leave your check in an envelope in the Dance Club folder at the Village Center. New members, singles and couples, are welcome. Call Armen at 609-655-5799 for more information.

President Armen DeVivo and the entire Dance Club wish you happy holidays and a happy and healthy New

Korean-American Group

By Youngae Lee

On Oct. 22, we had our monthly meeting with about 22 members present.

As planned in the previous meeting, Mr. Suh, president of the N.J. Korean-American Mutual Aid Association, gave a lecture to educate our group about enrolling in the Association. Many of our members were very interested in being a member and applied.

Also, our other guest, William Hu (Rutgers Institute for Health), provided a research survey to all members for methods to ensure better health and anti-aging processes.

We also discussed the upcoming meeting and much other useful information about this community and its members' needs. The next meeting is scheduled to be in December, but due to it being the busiest season, it might be postponed until January, 2023.

The Korean population has been increasing quickly with many newcomers joining the group.

Our President Youngae Lee will plan many more good events for the members, providing more useful information to the community.

The overall goal of the Korean-American Group is to expose and introduce the community to Korean food and culture.

Monthly meetings will continue and all are welcome. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Youngae Lee at 201-230-0805, or yalee1980@gmail.com

All are welcome.





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Music Association

(Continued from page 12)

soprano Natalie Megules kicks off our spring season with an array of jazz and Broadway favorites with a bit of classical fare thrown in. A first-time guest at Rossmoor Natalie is a featured artist with the National Chorale. We look forward to her vocal and keyboard skills.

May 19, 2023 - All Seasons Chamber Players, will bring five musicians to Rossmoor. Now in its 41st year, this group plays a wide variety of genres, and includes piano, violin, cello, flute, and harpsichord, offering a lively mix of instrumentation.

June 16, 2023 - Ivory and Gold, a favorite here at Rossmoor, will close out the season. Flutist Anne Barnhart and pianist/singer Jeff Barnhart will surprise us with their exciting repertoire as we thank our audiences for their support.

Concerts will be presented in the Meeting House at 7:30 p.m. Patrons will be notified

of any changes to the schedule. Tickets for individual concerts will be available at the door and will be priced at \$15.

We hope you will join us on Dec. 9 for this exciting

News from The Players



Bv Sue Archambault

The Rossmoor Players monthly meeting will take place on Monday, Dec. 19, in The Gallery. This event will be a holiday party for members. Players need to check their emails, or call Sue Archambault at 201-981-5959, to be informed as to the exact details of the event. There will definitely be games and prizes involved.



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

Building a dulcimer

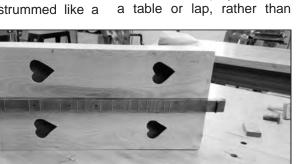


Paul does a first run on his new dulcimer

By Lex Monaco

A while back, as I was working as a monitor in the Woodshop, a man came in to say, "I'm planning to build a box dulcimer using some of the woodshop's resources." He had the plans and the wood he needed to build the instrument and with some guidance, he got started.

A dulcimer is a stringed musical instrument that is plucked or strummed like a guitar. There are many types of dulcimers from the Appalachian, three to five strings, basically shaped like a zither, or a trapezoidal shaped hammered dulcimer, nine to 19 strings and played by striking with small hammers. They are both part of the zither family of instruments. This box dulcimer has three strings compared to a guitar's six and is played set on a table or lap rather than



Box dulcimer built by Paul Falgares

worn or held as are most guitars.

The man, Paul Falgares, an experienced musician and teacher, taught music for the past 46 years. He first worked in the Montclair, N.J., schools. After an early retirement 20 years ago, he moved to Pompey, N.Y., a suburb of Syracuse, and established a second teaching career in the Syracuse City Schools. He was also a middle school band director in the Jamesville-DeWitt Central Schools.

Paul and his wife Linda lived in New York for the last 20 years, until Paul elected to retire (again), when they decided to move to Rossmoor to be closer to their children. Paul, wanting to share his love of music, became a substitute teacher for the Monroe School system.

When Paul started to research making the dulcimer, Linda gave him a birthday present of the "fret board," further encouraging him to start building. Since we have an excellent woodwork shop in Rossmoor, he felt it was a good time to start building one. With guidance and encouragement from the monitors, Paul has successfully made his dream a reality, now putting the finishing touches on this unique instrument.

Hopefully, Paul will share his music with us when he is finished.

Mutual News

Mutual 3 – Budget Meeting reminder

By Marilyn Sliva

The Mutual 3 Budget Meeting for next year will be held on Monday, Dec. 5 at 10 a.m. in the Gallery. All Mutual 3 residents are invited and we hope to have a good turnout. Personnel from RCAI Administration will also be present to answer any questions you might have regarding both the Mutual 3 and RCAI proposed budgets.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Mutual 16 news

By Russell Howard

The Homestead Rebate n o w renamed "ANCHOR." Attention AN-CHOR applicants - The deadline for filing your AN-CHOR benefit application is Dec. 30, 2022. ANCHOR benefits will be paid in late spring of 2023. Payments will be paid in the form of a direct deposit or check, not as credits to property tax bills. Homeowners who filed a Homestead Benefit application last year may be able to obtain their ID and PIN number to file. Visit the Divisions ANCHOR page for all filing information. If you have questions, please reach out to Cathy Nicola at 732-672-5283 for assistance.

Community Affairs: As it's getting dark early and residents are out walking, running, or biking, for safety purposes, please wear reflective arm bands or light-colored clothing so you can be spotted during early morning, dusk, and evening hours. It is dangerous time because drivers can't see you if you wear dark clothing. RCAI has been asked to purchase reflective arm bands.

Upkeeping Notes: Garbage must be put at the curb in a garbage can or dark garbage bags. White or other light colored plastic bags attract birds and "critters" who tear them open and spread debris around. Branches, trimmings, or garden throw

aways, should be put at the curb Sunday night or early Monday morning, for High-Tech to pick up.

Emergency Contacts: We've asked residents to supply us with an emergency contact — relationship/name/ phone — so that we can reach out on your behalf if an emergency occurs. Contact Russ Howard at 732-890-6601, if you haven't already.

Mutual 16 Book Club: Love to read? Join our Book Club. We're hoping to have enough interest to have a monthly or bi-monthly reading selection and discussion. If interested, contact Cathy Nicola at 732-672-5283 or Penni McOlvin at 718-873-4510. Let's beat the winter doldrums.

Hospitality/Visitation/ Wellness Committee: We can't stress this enough: please let your directors know if any of your neighbors are having health issues and need our help in any way.

Social Committee: Our holiday party is fast approaching. Bring your checks to 700A Yardley Way. If you need us to pick up the check, or if you need transportation to the party, email Jo (Ladyski3@aol.com) or call her at 917-612-7729. Don't forget your \$10 wrapped grab bag gift. Your guest from outside the Mutual is welcome. Make checks out to Mutual 16. It's \$30, \$10 grab bag gift per manor and

(Continued on page 15)





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The Interfaith Council and the Indian Club at the Om Sri Balaji Temple

Catholic Society presents "The Nativity Story"

By Lucille Conti

The Catholic Society will present "The Nativity Story," directed by Catherine Hardwicke.

It was the cruelest of times under Herod's tortuous reign: families struggled to survive and yet, in the midst of utter turmoil, a young woman's faith was put to the test, and you know the rest. This film shows St. Joseph as you have never seen him before. We will show the film on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 1:30 p.m. in the Gallery. All are welcome.

On behalf of the Catholic Society, we wish you a most holy and peaceful Christmas season those you love.

We will resume in January with another film that we will announce on Channel 26. Our next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 10, in the Gallery. Keep in touch.

Until we see each other again, pray for peace, stay healthy and enjoy God's blessings!



Lucille Conti processing with Father Nalaka Silva, from **Nativity of the Lord Church**

Mutual 16 news

(Continued from page 14) BYOB (Booze or soft drinks).

Baking Committee: Our first baking club meeting was a huge success. It was simple and easy for everyone, whether bakers or just there for the social aspects. Everyone made an apple crostata that was delicious. For those who are afraid to come because you think you're not a baker, please reconsider. We make it simple and easy that anyone can do it (Baking 101). Jo and Virginia are there to

neighbors. If interested, email Jo (Ladyski3@aol.com) or call her at 917-612-7729 to sign up for the next session. It'll be hosted by Cathy Nicola at 705A Old Nassau Rd., on Thursday Nov.17, at 1 p.m. We'll be making mini pecan tarts called "Teatime Tessie pecan tarts." You just need to bring a tin to take your tarts home.

help everyone. Just think of

the fun you'll have with your

This event should be filled with lots of laughs. We will be working in teams of four.

To reserve a spot, email or call Jo. Sessions fill up fast. Special Note: The Baking Club auxiliary, to be known as "The Taste Testers Consumption Group," has let us know they are available upon request. We will make a decision on this group at some point. (LOL).

Hanukkah — the Festival of Lights

By Allan Kaufman

Hanukkah also known as the Festival of Lights (Hebrew: חַג הַאוּרִים, Ḥag HaUrim), is a Jewish festival commemorating the recovery of Jerusalem and subsequent rededication of the Second Temple at the beginning of the Maccabean revolt against the Seleucid Empire in the 2nd century BCE

Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, this year starting on December 18. The festival is observed by lighting the candles of a candelabrum with nine branches, commonly called a menorah. One branch is typically placed above or below the others and its candle is used to light the other eight candles. This unique candle is called the shammash. Every night one additional candle is lit until all are lit on the 8th day.

The miracle of the one-day supply of oil miraculously lasting eight days is described in the Talmud, committed to writing about 600 vears after the events de-

scribed in the books of Maccabees. The Talmud says that after the forces of Antiochus IV had been driven from the Temple, the Maccabees discovered that almost all of the ritual olive oil had been burned. They found only a single container that was still sealed by the High Priest, with enough oil to keep the menorah in the Temple lit for a single day. They used this, yet it burned for eight days and therefore the celebration lasting for eight days.

Other Hanukkah festivities include singing Hanukkah songs, playing the game of dreidel and eating oil-based foods, such as latkes.



Rossmoor's Website

Go to rcainj.com to access the Rossmoor website.

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

Interfaith Council event

By Sue Archambault

On Tuesday, Oct. 18, The Interfaith Council and The Indian Club cosponsored a trip to Om Sri Balaji Temple and Cultural Center in Monroe.

Attendees were treated to a tour of this beautiful building, an interfaith service, and were served dinner as well. Detailed drawings were shared showing the fabulous Temple/Cultural Center at completion.





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Community Church honors longtime members

By Alyce Owens

In 2022 the Rossmoor Community Church is celebrating its 55th anniversary. Founded by some foresighted original residents in 1967, the church was chartered by the United Church of Christ. Since that time, it has offered ecumenical services in the Meeting House every Sunday - interrupted only by an occasional storm closure or the shutdown of our public buildings in 2020 because of the Covid pandemic.

In addition to worship services each Sunday, the Community Church offers fellowship and volunteer service opportunities as well as pastoral care. It serves as a warm, welcoming spiritual presence in the community and is a member of the Rossmoor Interfaith Council.

Pastor Robin Bacon Hoffman invites all residents to attend worship services every Sunday at 11 a.m. Members come from many different Christian backgrounds, and some are experiencing a connection with a faith community for the first time. Recognizing that some of its members have a hearing loss, hearing assist devices are available for use by those who attend their services.

On Oct. 23 the church recognized the following who have been members for more than 25 years. If not otherwise noted, these folks are still living in Rossmoor and attending church services regularly:

Ethelyn Allison (now in

Texas) 32 years
Sallie Rowland (now in Florida); 31 years
Caroline Terry 29 years
Marie Falger (posthumously)
29 years
Marie Bills 28 years

Marie Bills 28 years

Adele Collier (now in Meadow Lakes) 27 years

Gail Carnevale (at The Chelsea); 27 years

Edith Benning 26 years

Edith Benning 26 years
Merv and Claire Shivers 26
years

Alyce Owens 26 years

Each of the above received a gift and certificate that stated: "The Rossmoor Community Church, celebrating the 55th Anniversary of its founding in 1967, recognizes and honors (recipient's name) for his/her (#) years of faithful membership, support and service. The years have changed so many things, but your unfailing dedication to doing God's work has contributed to making our church a beacon of love and faith in the Rossmoor community."

In addition, the following were recognized for 10 or more years of membership and service:

Margaret Haydu-Walker 23

years
Cynthia Hazen 20 years
Ruth Fitzgerald 18 years
Gasphine Lewis 18 years
Bill Leonard 17 years
Linda Esposito 16 years
Tom Hanlein 13 years
Shirley Bodine 12 years
Ruth Klein (in L.A.) 11 years
Gloria Dawley 10 years
June Hutchens 10 years
Steve Ottinger 10 years
Sonya and Darnel Bacon (in Fla.) 10 years



RJC Oneg honoring Marilyn Pollack with her family before Marilyn moves. Family members are Karen Schwartz, Russell Schwartz, Daniel Schwartz, Jason Schwartz, Larry Pollack and Marci Douglas.

A blessed event!

By Honey Owens

Thanks to all the pet parents who brought my furry four-legged friends to the Oct. 8 Blessing of the Animals in front of the Meeting House. It was a great success and I sure had a fun time seeing all my old friends there, and making some new ones too. Dogs of all sizes, shapes, and colors came to receive a blessing from Pastor Robin of the Community Church.

Since I had appointed myself as official greeter, I tried to count them all as they arrived, but I never learned to count that high, so I lost track. Anyway, there were a lot of 'em - from sweet little Yorkies to stately golden doodles, feisty shih tzus, sophisticated spaniels and ever so many more, some whose names I can't even pronounce. My little chihuahua friend, Pepita - always the diva - came in her lace dress and fancy shoes.

Mom had told me in advance that this was not the time to bark or fight, so I kind of spread the word around and all the other pups apparently got the message because everyone was on their best behavior. Of course, some of the smallest pups



Kitty before blessing



Kitty after blessing

did make some noise, just to assert their presence (and make believe they weren't afraid).

Three cats even came to the Blessing in their carriers. One of the cats was named Oreo (like the cookie that Mom loves but never gives me because it's chocolate). Oreo must think he's a dog or something, because he walked around on a leash, then jumped up on the table where he lay for the rest of the morning overseeing what everyone agreed was a blessed event.

Mom says that I should be especially good now that I've been blessed because God loves me and is watching over me. (I always thought it was Santa who did that.) Oh well, I guess it's okay for both of them to watch and help me be a good girl since sometimes I do naughty things, like barking when Mom is on the phone. I said

"sometimes" but the truth is, I always bark when she is on the phone. So, I need a lot of help from God to make me a better girl.

If any of you two-legged people would like to get blessed too, just as we animals did, you can come to the Community Church any Sunday morning at 11 a.m. Lots of nice folks will be there to welcome you and Pastor Robin will bless you just as she did me and all my four-legged friends. It's a wonderful feeling to know that God loves you.



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

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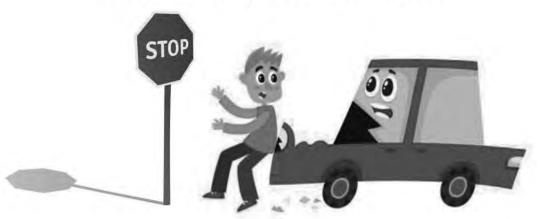
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HEALTH CARE CENTER NEWS

By Marge Drozd, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, FNP-BC, CSN-NJ

First Aid Tips

I have been asked recently about first aid classes for the community and so I decided that perhaps it would be beneficial to write an article pertaining to that topic.

The most important thing to remember when an emergency occurs is to be prepared!

Accidents and injuries can happen to anyone, at virtually any time, but older adults are more prone to certain types of them and may need special care. Don't let an emergency happen because you weren't prepared. Use spare time now to learn selfhelp skills and build the selfconfidence you need to potentially help yourself or an injured person. For most emergency situations, you won't need any specialized training or knowledge. Basic first aid techniques can be enough to help older adults.

To prepare yourself for potentially helping an injured person, you can check online resources like the Red Cross website (www.redcross.org) to see when they are offering first aid classes, including CPR certification courses, in your community.

As a baseline strategy, people should create first aid kits for their cars and homes, making sure everyone in the household knows where the kit is kept. Experts recommend including the following in the first aid kit:

- Adhesive bandages
- Bruise relief products
- Gauzes and other covers
- Liquid bandages
- Sunburn relief products
- Muscle relief products
- Topical anesthetics
- Topical antibiotics/ antiseptics
- Scissors, in case you need to remove clothing, among multiple other uses in first aid
- Butterfly closures, ideal for seniors who have skin too thin for stitches
- nonstick Paper tape, gauze, roller gauze, transparent film dressing, selfadherent bandages and other products that are kinder to more delicate skin

Before a situation arises in which you need to use any of these products, read their instructions and be prepared to properly use them, when necessary. If you ever get into a situation where you feel as though you need professional medical help for an injured person, don't hesitate to seek that medical help by calling 911. You can also reach out at any time to the nursing office in your community.

Some common types of situations where first aid is needed are the following:

- Falls
- Cuts and scrapes
- Cardiovascular problems
- Heat- and cold-related ill-

Because one third of peo-



ple aged 65 and older fall every year, we'll start with basic first aid tips for this situation. If the person who has fallen doesn't seem badly injured, you can help him or her to get into a comfortable position, elevating any injured areas. Then apply an ice pack on "minor bumps and bruises" for about 10 minutes. If you see significant bruising, swelling or bleeding, assist them in getting immediate medical care.

Plus, whenever you aren't sure how seriously someone is hurt, especially if it affects his or her head, neck, back, thighs or hips, ask that person to stay in position and call 911 for help. You can also call your nursing office. Keep this person warm until local emergency services arrive, and then do what you can to keep him or her calm.

You can also learn how to prevent falls in the first place. If there is a local community program explaining fall prevention, it can be very helpful to attend. You can also call the nursing office in your community where they have a booklet entitled "Check for Safety: A Home Fall Prevention Checklist for Older Adults" that they can share with you. You can also talk to your doctor about fall prevention strategies.

Cuts and scrapes are more common in older adults and if someone has a chronic health condition, perhaps heart disease or diabetes, he or she will be more prone to infection. For minor situations, remove dirt and debris from the cut or scrape and then clean it with tap water. If the person is bleeding, place a clean cloth or bandage on top and press firmly. You can bind the area with tape after applying the protective bandage. Then help the person keep the injured area above his or her heart. If blood seeps through the bandage, don't take it off. Instead, add a second layer.

Seek prompt medical care if the bleeding is heavy, the cut is severe or if signs of infection appear, including redness, swelling, wound drainage or increased pain.

Please remember that the nurses in the health care center in your community and the Monroe Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are here to assist any resident with their health needs, including emergencies. If you experience a medical emergency, please call 911 immediately.

Wishing everyone a wonderful and safe holiday sea-

December at the Monroe Township Public Library

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

Sit-N-Stitch

Fridays, December 2 & 16 at 10:30 a.m.

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

Tech Help Tuesdays

Tuesdays, December 6, 13 & 20 from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

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

Virtual Author Talk with **Geraldine Brooks**

Tuesday, December 6 at 7 p.m.

Friends of the **Monroe Township Library Book Sale**

The Friends of the Monroe Township Library will hold their semi-annual Book Sale on Friday, December 9, from 9:30 am - 4:00 pm, and Saturday, December 10, from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm at the library, 4 Municipal Plaza, Monroe Township. Patrons may purchase gently-used books, DVDs, audiobooks, and CDs at bargain prices.

The book sale offers hundreds of donated items including fiction and non-fiction hardcovers and paperbacks, children's books, young adult books, movies, music, and audiobooks.

All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Monroe Township Library. The Friends is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster community awareness of the Monroe Township Public Library's resources, programs and services, and to support the library with membership dues and fundraising activi-

The organization sponsors such activities as museum passes, the American Girl Doll lending program, mobile hot spots, book sales, puzzle swaps, free wireless printing, college scholarships, lectures and book discussions, and youth programs. Contact the Friends via email at friends@monroetwplibrary.org

Join us for an exciting virtual chat with the award winning novelist. Geraldine Brooks about her most recent New York Times Bestselling novel "Horse". Brooks braids a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across American history. This is a virtual program. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetw plibrary.org/authortalks or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Book Café

Wednesday, December 7 at 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

What have you been reading? We want to know! Join other book lovers for a lively discussion. Book Café is a perfect

place to find your next great read or share what you have enjoyed. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www. monroetwplibrary.org/ calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Book Discussion

Thursday, December 8 at 2 p.m.

Join us for a book discussion of "Horse" by Geraldine Brooks. Based on the remarkable true story of the recordbreaking thoroughbred Lexington, "Horse" is a novel of art and science, love and obsession, and our unfinished reckoning

(Continued on page 18)

Paint cans galore?

You can get those half empty paint cans out of your utility closet. Just take them to the Monroe Township Recycling Center at 76 Gravel Hill-Spotswood Road.

Paint cans are accepted every third Saturday of the month between 8 and 11:30 a.m.

You'll see what a nice facility the Township runs, and what helpful people work there. And look at the closet space you'll

Veterans, We Need You!

By Joe Salzano

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



clubhouse, Information is available on channel 26.

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

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

> For Display Advertising In The Rossmoor News

Contact

Princeton Editorial Services

P.O. Box 70 Millstone Twp., NJ 08510 732-761-8534 pescmd@aol.com

Monroe Township Public Library

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with racism. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwp library.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Book Sale

Friday, December from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, December 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Gently-used books for sale at bargain prices. Shop for Hardcover, Paperback, Children's and Young Adult books. Also: DVDs, Audiobooks and CDs. Prices range from \$0.25 to \$2. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library.

New Jersey Library Association Holiday Store Friday, December 9 Saturday, December 10 Sunday, December 11

The New Jersey Library Association Holiday Store will be offering book and library-themed gifts for sale for almost everyone on your list! Purchase literary-themed toys, puzzles, mugs, tees, nightshirts, totes, throws, stationery, character stuffed animals, jewelry, Christmas cards, Hanukkah gifts, Poe, Shakespeare, Harry Potter, Jane Austen, Vonnegut, gifts for the movie. mystery, music, sci-fi lover, and so much more. Drop in to shop during library hours.

MONROE TOWNSHIP FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY **BOOK SALE** FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library

All You Need is Love Book Club

Friday, December 9 at 11 a.m.

Join us for a discussion about "The Bookish Life of Nina Hill" by Abbi Waxman. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration is required for in-person participation. Register to receive the Zoom link. Register at the Welcome Desk, online www.monroetwplibrary.org /calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Winterfest

Saturday, December 10 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Please join us at the library for "Winterfest," an outdoor event sponsored by the Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission. Ice sculpture artist, John Shersick, will transform blocks of ice into works of art, share stories and answer your questions. This event will be held outside in the library's parking lot. Registration is not required.

Virtual Author Talk with Fredrik Backman

Saturday, December 10 at 2 p.m.

New York Times bestselling author of "A Man Called Ove", "My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry", "Britt-Marie Was Here", "Beartown", "Us Against You", and "Anxious People" Fredrik Backman will discuss his outstanding body of work, including his breathtaking new novel, The Winners, the third installment of the Beartown series. This is a virtual program. Registration is required. Register at the

Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwplibrary.org /authortalks or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Open Sewing

Monday, December 12 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday, December 15 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Registration is required. Register at the Welcome online Desk, www.monroetwplibrary.org /calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Caregiver Support Group

Wednesday, December 14 at 11 a.m.

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

What We Offer Wednesday

Wednesday, December 14 at 11 a.m.

Want to know what our library has to offer? Please join us for an overview of our Downloadable Media and Online Resources we provide. The library provides our patrons online access to books, magazines, classes and more. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwp library.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Virtual Author Talk with **Nicole Eustace**

Wednesday, December 14 at 12 p.m.

You're invited to explore early-American history during an online afternoon conversation with Pulitzer Prize winning historian Nicole Eustace as she discusses her 2022 award winning book "Covered With Night: A Story of Justice in Early America". This is a virtual program. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online www.monroetwplibrary.org /authortalks or by phone at

(732) 521-5000.

Genealogy Club with Guest Genealogist Eric Migdal

Wednesday, December 14 at 2 p.m.

Our December meeting will take place virtually on Zoom. Genealogist Eric Migdal will present a virtual guest lecture on the topic of Ethnicity and Migration. This virtual program will feature information about the formation of ethnicity through migration, and will cover family name changes and family name sequences. Eric will also show how ethnicity may get watered down through a few generations. Registration is required to receive the Zoom login information.

Please provide an email address during registration to receive the Zoom link. Register at the Welcome Desk, online www.monroetwplibrary.org /calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Page Turners

Thursday, December 15 at 11 a.m.

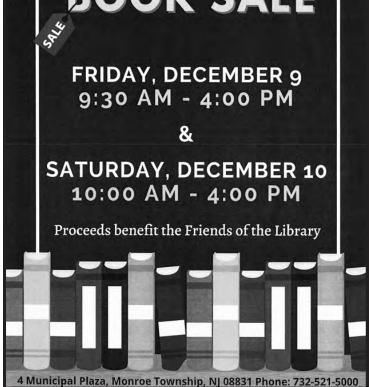
Looking for something to read or add to your reading list? Library staff will present and recommend a variety of titles pertaining to a different topic, both new and old titles. The theme for this session is Fall Into a New Author. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration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

Boheme Opera NJ Performance: Sisters in Voice

Thursday, December 15 at 1 p.m.

Boheme Opera NJ will offer a lecture performance featuring the life and careers of four iconic divas from the opera world. The program will focus on Isabella Colbran, spouse of Rossini, Giuseppina Strepponi, spouse of Verdi, and 20th century sopranos Joan Sutherland and Renata Tebaldi. Sponsored by Monroe Murder and Indigenous Township Cultural Arts Commission. This program will be held inperson at the Library. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome

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ROSSMOO COMMUNITY

COVID-19 Moderna Vaccine Clinic



DECEMBER 12

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Ballroom

First, second and booster doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine are available at this clinic.

How to make a COVID vaccine appointment:

1. Online through ZocDoc: saintpetershcs.com/covid-clinic

2. Call 732.339.7909, Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m to 4:30 p.m.

Please bring your vaccine card and insurance card with you at the time of your appointment.



Lite Gardening REASONABLE RATES

Monroe Township Public Library

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

Short Story Discussion Group

Thursday, December 15 at 2 p.m.

We will discuss "Miami-New York" by Martha Gellhorn in "The Best American Short Stories of the Century" edited by John Updike and "What Terrible Thing It Was" by Esmé Weijun Wang in "The Best American Short Stories" edited by Roxanne Gay. This program is held inperson at the Library. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www. monroetwplibrary.org/ calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Heads-Up Seniors! Fall Prevention

Friday, December 16 at

Learn ways to increase safety in your home and around town. Prevent falls, avoid injuries, walk, bike and drive more safely, and receive a home safety checklist. Presented by Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroetwplibrary.org /calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Health & Wellness Book Club

Monday, December 1 at 2:30 p.m.

We will discuss "Moonwalking with Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything" by Joshua Foer in his yearlong quest to improve his memory under the tutelage of top "mental athletes". He draws on cutting-edge research, a surprising cultural history of remembering, and venerable tricks of the mentalist's trade to transform our understanding of human memory. This title is also available to download in audiobook format from eLibraryNJ through the Libby app. This program will be held in-person at the Library. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, on our website at www.monroe twplibrary, org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Coffee and a Book

Tuesday, December 20 at 11 a.m.

Join us for a discussion of "Have You Seen Luis Velez?" by Catherine Ryan Hyde. Sixteen-yearold Raymond has no friends and is at odds with his family. No one realizes what a sensitive and kind

young man he is until his neighbor, Millie Gutermann, asks him, "Have you seen Luis Velez?" A tender tale of new families born of chance. This is a hybrid program. Registration is required. Register at the Welcome Desk, online at www.monroe twplibrary.org/calendar or by phone at (732) 521-5000.

Friends of the Library

Tuesday, December 27 at 4 p.m.

Blood Drive

Thursday, December 29 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Join the American Red blood donation Cross drive. You can make a difference in someone's life! Registration is not required.

Lobby Display Case

Photography of Monroe resident Iris Jacobson will be on display in the George Ivers Lobby Display Case through December 2022.

(Continued on page 20)

CLASSIFIED AD COUPON

Ads must be received by the 14th of the month preceding publication month. MAIL TO:

| Princeton Editorial Services P.O. Box 70

Millstone Twp., NJ 08510 RATES FOR ONE PUBLICATION \$14 for 10 words, 50 cents each additional word

Multiple: 10 words in two publications = $$14 \times 2 = 28 . 10 words in three

publications = $$14 \times 3 = 42 .

Check those that apply: ■ Clearbrook Courier ■ Concordian ☐ Encore Speaks ☐ GW Voice

☐ Regency Reporter

☐ Renaissance Reflections ☐ The Rossmoor News

☐ Check here for all seven

All ads must be mailed with payment. No classifieds accepted by

phone or email. Note: Phone numbers count as one word. Do not count punctuation. Do not abbreviate. State category/heading, ie., "For

No charge for the heading. One check or money order must accompany insert, PAYABLE TO PRINCETON EDITORIAL SERVICES

Rent", "For Sale", "Help Wanted."

Email your news to: news@rcainj.com

Contact Waste Management 609-587-1500

ID# 61565342007 for pick up of household items

NO electronics **NO** upholstered furniture

No mattresses

TRANSPORTATION TIDBITS

Important phone numbers:

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

Monroe Township Transportation 609-443-0511

Middlesex County

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

St. Peter's University Hospital

On Time Transportation1-800-858-8463

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

Recycle information from Waste Management



- No caps on glass bottles/containers in the recycle bin.
- No lids on plastic bottles.
- Only #1, #2, and #5 plastic is acceptable in the recycle
- Plastics numbered #3, #4, and #7, etc. must go in the household trash bin.
- Other plastic items as well as plastic bags, plastic wrap, shipping film, and Styrofoam go in the household trash bin. Please, no plastic bags in the recycling bin. You can use a plastic bag to dump your recyclables, but take the plastic bag away with you. (Recycle it at the supermar-
- Shredded paper cannot be recycled by Waste Management with their current equipment so put it in the household trash bin.
- Aerosol cans must be empty and punctured before being put into the recycle bin.

Classified Advertising

Home Improvement & Services

T-K-S HOME IMPROVE-MENTS - Full service contractor. Kitchen, baths, basements, painting, tile and more. No job too big or small. License #13VH05970500. (609) 259-2574.

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

THE PAINTER - 30+ years experience, residential/ commercial Rossmoor resident. Free estimates. References available. Call (908) 208-4062.

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

Miscellaneous/ Services

IN-HOME HAIR CARE-My name is Lena, hairdresser with 20 years experience in haircuts, color and styling for women and men. I can come and handle your hair care needs in the comfort of your home. Please call or text me at (908) 239-1790.

COMPUTERS CUSTOM BUILT & REPAIRED - RJF Sales Company LLC.* Time to clean your computer and get educated on protecting yourself from scams. Desktop and laptop repair in your home. I am fully vaccinated; I use a mask. Virus removal and protection. Monroe resident with over 20 years of computer experience. (732) 723-9537 or (732) 967-3400. Please leave message; most calls returned same day.

HAIRCUTS done in the comfort of your home. Call Renee for an appointment. (908) 705-

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

techbuddybarb@aol.com

Help & Health Services

ANNA'S HOME CARE - Certified professional caregiver is looking for live-in/live-out job in Monroe Township. Experienced, references. Driver's license. Accepts long-term care insurance. Low prices. Private care option. Call Anna at (609) 917-4208 or (908) 337-7462.

UKRAINIAN, PROFES-SIONAL CAREGIVER looking for a live-in or live-out position. Experienced. References. (732) 343-4703.

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.

For Free

FREE PLANET MOBILITY ride-on scooter. Needs battery. Must pick up. (386) 503-0833. (Text only.)

Wanted to Buy

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

Transportation Services

AAA TRANSPORTATION— Monroe area. (Encore resident.) Transportation to airports, trains, piers, NYC, and I will drive your car to and from Florida. Reasonable rates. Call Howard (732) 979-3085.

ARNIE'S DRIVING SERVICE. Anywhere. Anytime. Airport and NYC specialist. 609-751-1612.

RELIABLE AND DEPEND-**ABLE** Airport Rides. Please call Gregg Dreyer anytime at (908) 447-0998.

LIMO GUY — Our 20th year. We go almost anywhere. Upgraded SUVs. \$100 to Newark Airport. \$205 Philadelphia. \$205 JFK. We go almost anywhere. 24/7. Call (732) 803-

TOM'S TRANSPORTA-TION—Airports, local appointments. (609) 917-5600.



MONROE TWP. FIRE DISTRICT #3 AT YOUR SERVICE, ANYTIME. www.mtfd3.com 609-409-2980

One Month Left to Apply for ANCHOR Property Tax Relief Program

Township Offers Residents Assistance Completing ANCHOR Applications

Monroe Township Mayor Stephen Dalina and Township Council would like to remind all Township residents that there's one month left to apply for the ANCHOR Property Tax Relief program before the December 30 deadline.

While many residents will be able to complete and submit the forms themselves, the Township encourages those needing assistance to visit or call the Township Tax Collector's office at 732-521-4405 or the Monroe Township Public Library at 732-521-5000.

"Thanks to our efforts over the past year fighting for property tax relief and communicating our needs to the Governor's office, the AN-CHOR program is now in place. We encourage every eligible Monroe resident to take advantage of this meaningful benefit," Mayor Dalina said. "We have been fighting to make Monroe more affordable for our residents and ANCHOR is a big step in the right direction."

Please note: The deadline for application is December 30, 2022.

Residents are reminded to have the following items available for reference when calling for assistance: Anchor application with ID number and pin if available, 2019 tax return and social security number. Staff members will work with residents to complete and submit their filing either via telephone or online.

Some technical questions may still need to be dealt with by the state by calling the ANCHOR hotline at 888-238-1233. Call volumes are high given the number of people throughout the state

trying to get through so residents are cautioned to expect extended wait times and encouraged to keep trying.

"The filing process may not be perfect, but we are here to help, and you have until December 30, 2022, to apply so don't panic," Mayor Dalina said. "We will work with our residents over the coming weeks and months to help get those applications in on time."

About The Anchor Property Tax Relief Program

The ANCHOR program, short for Affordable New Jersey Communities for Homeowners and Renters replaces the Homestead Rebate. The new program income limits and other qualifications are different from the Homestead Rebate so more residents will be eligible. There are no age restrictions.

The program, covering the 2019 year, will provide cred-

its of up to \$1,500 to taxpayers with 2019 gross incomes up to \$150,000, and up to \$1,000 for those with gross incomes between \$150,000 and \$250,000. Tenants with gross income up to \$150,000 can qualify for a benefit of up to \$450.

Benefits are expected to be paid out via direct deposit or check by May 2023, the Treasury Department said. All applicants are encouraged to "triple-check" to ensure that all information entered is 100% correct prior to submitting the application.

If you owned a home in New Jersey on October 1, 2019, you may qualify even if you sold the home. You do not have to be a current resident to apply. Call the hotline If you did not receive a notice by mail or email. New residents must wait for subsequent years to apply. Changes to mailing ad-

dresses can be make when filing the application.

For additional information, visit https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/anchor/general-faq.shtml.

Monroe Library

(Continued from page 19)

Fine Arts Gallery

The Fine Arts Gallery will feature the photography of the Cranbury Digital Camera Club through December 2022.

Holiday Hours

The Library will open at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 15. The Library will close at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, December 23 and will remain closed on Saturday, December 24, Sunday, December 25 and Monday, December 26 for the Christmas Holiday.

www.monroetwplibrary.org

DON'T START YOUR YEAR LIKE THIS!





732-521-9222

ALLCURESPINEANDSPORTS.COM

350 Forsgate Dr., Monroe Twp., NJ 08831