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Rossmoor IN News



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Monroe Township, New Jersey

APRIL 2026

Celebrating America!

By Jim Wilson

The Spirit of America is flying high over Rossmoor.

At its March 10 meeting, the Rossmoor Veterans Group raised two "Spirit of 76" flags, to celebrate America's 250 years of Independence. Both flags will fly from the Clubhouse and the golf course flagpoles throughout

this year. The two flags were donated by Mike Macagnone, a member of the Veterans Group.

Spokesman Joe Salzano has said that those who fought for our independence fought for an idea. They didn't even have a country yet. And that our nation and our military "stand upon their shoulders."

We are thankful for them, thankful for all who serve, and thankful for this land where freedom rings!

All Rossmoor veterans are invited and encouraged to be part of the Veterans Group, which meets at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse Ballroom on the second Tuesday of every month.



Long may it wave! Joe Salzano (left) and Mike Macagnone hold one of two special flags flying over Rossmoor.



Here are just a few of the wonderful gift baskets you could win at the Dance Club's "Pretty in Pink dance" on Saturday, April 25, at 7 p.m. Pictured from left are the Executive Board: Debbie Sills (Secretary), Barry Jacobsen (Vice President), Armen Devivo (President), and Lucille Ricci (Treasurer).

Dance the Night Away for a Good Cause

By Debbie Sills

The Rossmoor Dance Club is participating in Rossmoor's 2026 yearlong breast cancer initiative, "Paint the Town Pink," and we are excited about our dance.

We are including a silent auction as a fundraiser at this "Pretty in Pink" April 25 dance. We have a selection of fun-filled baskets to auction, and tickets will be on sale at the dance. For \$2 you get three chances; \$5 gets you 10 chances; and \$10 gets you 30 chances to win one of our wonderful baskets. We can only accept cash for the silent auction, so please come prepared.

There will be the usual snacks and refreshments included in the entry charge of \$10 for 2026 paid members and \$15 for non-members.

Reservation and membership forms are available from the E&R carousel. Members receive a reduced entry charge for the remainder of the year. Anyone who wears pink and purchases auction tickets will receive one free ticket towards a basket.

If you want to sit with friends, please make sure you clearly state the full names of each person in your group on the reservation form. We will try our best to seat you all together.

Burgers, Beer & Backstories of Colonial Taverns

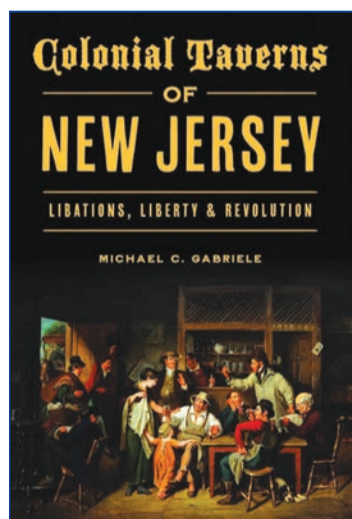
By Josephine Genovese

New Jersey earned its nickname as the "Crossroads of the American Revolution," and its taverns were the beating heart of those crossroads. They served as political hubs, recruitment centers, meeting places for committees, and even makeshift headquarters where George Washington drafted letters and planned strategy with his officers. Author and historian Michael C. Gabriele describes these taverns as the "seedbeds" of the Revolution, where ideas

of independence were debated, refined, and carried out.

These were places where everyday colonists rubbed shoulders with influential figures. Where news traveled faster than any newspaper, and where the earliest sparks of American identity took shape. It's a story that becomes even more vivid when shared inside a historic place like the Cranbury Inn.

As America approaches its 250th birthday, the Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society (CHPS) invites you to



The cover of "Colonial Taverns of New Jersey."

enjoy an evening that blends good food, good company, and the spirited history of New Jersey's colonial taverns. On Friday, April 17, Gabriele takes the stage at the Cranbury Inn, 21 South Main Street, Cranbury, for a look at the backstories behind the taverns that helped shape Revolutionary-era New Jersey.

Gabriele brings more
(Continued on page 15)

Free Wine and Cheese Tasting: May 6

Back by popular demand, Rossmoor's second Wine and Cheese Tasting event will be held on Wednesday, May 6, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in the Hawthorn Room. Returning to this event will be Nishil Parikh of Vairuni Wines (101 Park Avenue, Manalapan) and the Wine Locker (211 Applegarth Road, Monroe Township). Providing the cheese appetizers will be Tuscany of Old Bridge, an Italian market and provider of specialty foods (155 Texas Road, Old Bridge). This event is free and registration is not required. Linda Esposito, on right, was one of the nearly 300 residents who participated in our



first Wine and Cheese Tasting this past November. She had a blast and hopes even more residents will take advantage of this opportunity to share good wine and good cheese with good friends.

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at the governors' meeting

March 19, 2026

The meeting, held in the Clubhouse Hawthorn Room, was called to order at 9 a.m. by Vice President Josephine Schwegel. Secretary Lori Moses called the roll. A motion was made to accept the Thursday, February 19, 2026, Board of Governor's meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

President's Report

Vice President Schwegel thanked everyone for attending and wished all Josephs and Josephines a Happy St. Joseph's Day.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Craven reported the annual Audit is underway and financials will be available after the audit is completed.

Management Report

Mr. Curry noted the annual draft audits for twelve of the eighteen mutuals have been completed. The first group of 10 Mutuals will meet with the Auditor on April 9. RCAI's audit is near completion. Administration sent out the Mutual annual meeting nominations to all residents.

Mr. Curry discussed Maintenance's main event over the last month, the 24-inch Blizzard. He provided a synopsis of the equipment, manpower, and labor required to manage the storm. He praised the demanding work of the maintenance crew and the contractor. The Board of Governors also applauded the work efforts. Mr. Curry then discussed the 2026 snow budget, explaining the blizzard cost was \$177,000 which, combined with the other recent snow events, has nearly used the entire snow budget for 2026. Fortunately, Rossmoor has adequate funds set aside. He noted that last month Concordia needed to specially

assess all owners \$300 each for snow removal costs.

M10 Director Judith Sforza asked about snow-damaged carport repairs. Mr. Curry explained our contractor has inventoried needed repairs with Maintenance and the damage will be addressed. M17 Director Debra Stasik asked about turf repairs. Mr. Curry explained that High Tech will make the repairs and they will be paid for either by the contractor or RCAI based on who caused the damage.

Mr. Curry reviewed RCAI upcoming project work. He stated the 2026 asphalt and concrete bid specifications have been prepared by FWH and are going out to bidders. He explained how the 54-inch backflow preventor to be installed on Nautilus drive will prevent the Applegarth basin water from backing up into the court during floods. High Tech is scheduled to install it in the first week of April. Curry praised the ongoing Clubhouse renovations citing new flooring in the north end of the building. He discussed the repair occurring at the Meeting House gutter on the south side of the building that fell due to an abundance of ice.

Mr. Curry reminded everyone to check the website, watch Channel 26 and read the numerous emails sent about the dozens of education and recreation events scheduled for this spring. He noted the golf course experienced tree damage during the storms including three trees that were blown over during the recent windstorm. The course has reopened and is back in business for the season.

Committee Reports

Barbara Kyrsiak reported on behalf of Community Affairs Committee Chair Joann Casper. She reported on upcoming

health center and E&R events. She reported that the committee reviewed the 2026 Pool Rules and voted to request the Board of Governors approve the rules. The committee also voted to start the Thursday meetings immediately after the 9:30 a.m. Maintenance meeting. Therefore, Community Affairs meetings will be starting at 10 a.m. instead of 10:30 a.m., beginning in April. If Maintenance meetings run over, the Community Affairs meetings will be delayed.

Old Business

M7 Director Barbara Jensen warned residents about possible malicious vendors soliciting residents to do business with them for items such as water and electrical services.

New Business

Resolution 2026-09 Final Accounting of Mutual Domestic Water Line Repairs in 2025

A motion was made and seconded to approve 2025 expenditures for the replacement of Mutual domestic water lines, in the amount of \$384,969.12, be authorized and charged to RCAI reserve account #4110. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2026-10 Final Accounting of Sanitary Sewer Pipe Reconstruction in 2025

A motion was made and seconded to approve 2025 expenditures for sanitary sewer pipe reconstruction in the Mutuals, in the amount of \$58,668.13, be authorized and charged to RCAI reserve account #4110. The motion passed unanimously.

M10 Director Judith Sforza questioned if the 2026 budgets have accounted for the large sums needed for both water and sewer line budgeting. Mr. Curry explained the reserve study is being re-

(Continued on page 3)

Bits & Pieces

By Sue Ortiz

Decisions, decisions.

According to the Laboratory of Neuro Imaging at the University of Southern California, an average brain generates 48.6 thoughts per minute. That's about 70,000 thoughts per day! And the average adult human brain can store the equivalent of 2.5 million gigabytes of digital memory. That's one *big* computer. Add to that, Caltech researchers figure the speed of human thought runs at the rate of 10 bits per second. Now I can't imagine all that, but I guess my brain knows what it is doing!

I was thinking - let the race begin - about decisions and decision making. Even when I'm not thinking that I'm thinking, my mind is deciding what I should do next. Some things are automatically decided, such as moving a leg this way or that, not the involuntary tick or muscle spasm. The leg feels uncomfortable; it should be moved for my comfort, right? The brain makes this decision for me. But if someone is coming at me, I'll kick to save myself. Well, in that case, my bad knee might make the decision for me. (You ain't doin' that, stupid!)

While our bodies' sensory systems collect data around 100 million times faster than our thought processes, we only seem to think of one thing at a time. Do I sling my purse from my left shoulder to free my dominant arm to open the car door or hang it on my right shoulder so I can throw it into the car before getting in the driver's seat? I assume my "computer" is running in the background and makes that decision before I get to my car. It all works out in a matter of seconds, and I'm on to the next thought.

As I left work the other night, I found myself wondering if I should stop for a gallon of milk on my way home or wait until tomorrow to go to Stop & Shop. If I stop tonight, I'll have milk. Then, would I really need groceries tomorrow? If I do skip the milk tonight, will I have enough for breakfast? If not, I'll need it tomorrow anyway. I had this long conversation with my inner self. I decided to wait to tomorrow and spend \$100 on "milk."

Another day, mid-afternoon, I was feeling hungry. This made me think of "what's for dinner?" I could see my freezer in my mind and was picking through my choice of homemade TV dinners.

Hmm... mac & cheese, turkey soup, or chili. Then a friend called and asked me to meet her for dinner at a local eatery. One decision made - no freezer meal. Now, on to the next decision: picking something from a menu!

On my way to work each morning, I take a side street that leads to the main road. If I make a right, I must maneuver traffic at a tricky intersection, possibly invoking the crossing guard's shrill whistle and a stop sign evader's honk. If I make the left, going through town, the traffic is slow, there's another crossing guard with an attitude, and the red lights make the commute even slower. If I linger at the stop sign too long, I start overthinking my choices: Will I win the lottery if I turn left, the safe route, or be late for work if I turn right, the risky way? Or vice versa. Inevitably a honk from behind brings me out of my reverie, and I go the way my steering wheel takes me.

This reminds me of an episode from my favorite TV series, "Doctor Who," entitled "Turn Left." The main character is driving to town and comes to a crossroads. She turns left. She subsequently goes through an entire period where strange and terrible things happen to her, her family, and the world in general. Someone during the story asks her, "What if you had turned right?" Being the science fiction story that it is, she was in a parallel universe but ended up back at the original crossroads. This time, she decides to turn right. Everything is back to normal, well almost.

Decisions will be made. Good or bad. Left or right. Tiramisu or spumoni. Vanilla or chocolate.

B&P

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing." - Theodore Roosevelt (American president, 1858-1919)

"I think most of us are raised with preconceived notions of the choices we're supposed to make. We waste so much time making decisions based on someone else's idea of our happiness - what will make you a good citizen or a good wife or daughter or actress. Nobody says, 'Just be happy - go be a cobbler or go live with goats.'" - Sandra Bullock (American actress, b. 1964)



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Unscheduled volunteer writers should contact

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Letters to the Editor must be emailed to PES at pescmd1@gmail.com and clearly marked *Rossmoor News*.

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Open RCAI Meetings in April

Standing Committee Meetings

Thursday, April 9

Maintenance Committee - 9:30 a.m.

Community Affairs Committee - 10 a.m. Please note that a change in starting time from 10:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. is now in effect for Community Affairs meetings.

Board of Governors Meeting

Thursday, April 16 - 9 a.m.

It will be an in-person meeting and will be held via Zoom.
Please watch Channel 26 on your TV or on www.rcainj.com for more information.

Around the Clubhouse

By Melissa Barnard,
Clubhouse Manager

Here are just some of the many activities planned for the coming months. We're always adding to our schedule, so be sure to check out Channel 26 and the Rossmoor Clubhouse Facebook page for the latest and greatest. Registration is required for everything through E&R unless otherwise noted.

Special Events

Come to a free seminar on "Tips on Inheritance Tax" to learn about a tax nobody wants to talk about, but everyone needs to understand. This program is being held twice: Wednesday, April 15, at 2 p.m. and Wednesday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m.

Who wants to be a contestant on a blind date dating show? Auditions for Rossmoorites interested in being a contestant on "Still Got It," hosted by Bob Scott of Game Show Night, will be held at Rossmoor on Monday, April 27, from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. and on Wednesday, April 29, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Clearbrook. You can audition at either site. To sign up for an audition slot, contact Melissa Barnard at melissav@rcainj.com for Rossmoor or Krystal Graves at kgraves@taylormgt.com at Clearbrook. The event will take place in the Cultural Center at Clearbrook on July 8, at 7 p.m.

Are you new to Rossmoor or perhaps a newly retired resident? If so, the Activities Expo is a free must-attend event. Come mingle with E&R staff and the residents who make it all happen - from sports, to games, to dances, and more. No registration required. Just come and sign up for some fun on Thursday, April 30, from 5 - 7 p.m.

Come sell your wares out of your trunk and/or shred your documents at our annual Trunk Sale/Shred event Saturday, May 16, from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. A shredding trunk sponsored by Allied Universal will be in the Clubhouse parking lot; just dump your documents, and they'll do the work. It's free. If you plan to put your sales hat on, the cost is \$5 per vehicle, and we can accommodate up to 60 cars. Bring your registration and \$5 to reserve your space. If you're just shredding, registration is not required. However, plan to get there early because if the shredding truck is filled prior to noon, the truck leaves. Allied will provide light refreshments.

Save the Dates

Discover Pennsylvania's past through mansions, manors, and historic dining on Thursday, June 11. Details to come.

Come to Monmouth Park Racetrack for the Italian Festival and Wine Tasting on Sunday, July 26. Details to come.

Trips

Come take your chances on the Windcreek Casino trip in Bethlehem, Pa. Tickets are \$38 per person and include bus, gratuity, and a \$25 slot credit. Bus leaves poolside at 9:15 a.m. on Monday, April 13.

The "Joshua Live" spectacular at Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pa., on Friday, May 1, is sold out. You can be added to the wait list. Tickets are \$192 per person, which includes orchestra seats, lunch at Hershey Farms, bus, and gratuities. Be poolside by 8:30 a.m. since the bus leaves at 8:45 a.m.

"Ragtime" on Broadway at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre is now sold out. You can be added to the

wait list. Tickets are \$140 per person which includes an orchestra ticket, transportation, and gratuity. Check-in is poolside at 9:45 a.m. Departure is at 10 a.m. Lunch is on your own.

Games

Tara's back and another evening of Musical Bingo awaits those looking for a wild night out. Tickets are \$10 per person. Tuesday, April 7, from 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Music

Pianist Jorge Tabarés will be performing on Friday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Meeting House. His concert was rescheduled from Sunday, March 22 at 3 pm. Pianist Xiyue Huang will be performing the music of Schumann and Ruo on Sunday, May 17 at 3 p.m. in the Meeting House. Rossmoor resident Seiran Chapman, a talented pianist, and her husband, Professor David Chapman, will be treating classical music lovers to an evening of Debussy in Context on Friday, June 5, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for each concert are \$10 per person.

Clubhouse Renovation Project

Renovation of the E&R wing is underway. Thanks for your patience as the work continues.

Board of Governors

(Continued from page 2)

viewed and the budget amounts will be increased accordingly.

Resolution 2026-11 The 2026 Pool Rules

A previous Board decision to hire lifeguards and allow guests at the pool prompted a community survey regarding pool guest rules. The survey results, along with committee deliberations, resulted in a Community Affairs Committee motion for the Board of Governors to approve the

2026 pool rules. To meet deadlines and publish the rules in the April Rossmoor News, the Board of Governors voted via email to approve the 2026 pool rules with twelve approval votes and six no response. The email vote was ratified at the meeting. The final vote to approve was sixteen yes, one no, and one director absent.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am.

See New Pool Rules and Regulations for 2026 on Page 20



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Snow Removal: It Takes a Village

By Tom Curry, General Manager
 With the big snowstorms of the season hopefully behind us, it's important to take note of the snow removal process, and the role we all play in clearing the streets, walkways, carports, and fire hydrants. As the saying goes, it does indeed take a village when nearly two feet of snow hits our community in a 24-hour time period.

Our snow is moved by both a contractor and the Rossmoor Maintenance staff. The division of worker responsibility is crucial to the success of our snow operations. Specifically, at the end of the storm, the snow shovelers' responsibility is to clear the 1,840 resident entrance walkways from the common walk to the door. In total, they clear 5.6 miles of sidewalk.

During a storm our priority is plowing the 14.4 miles of roadways beginning with primary roadways, secondary roadways, and 267 carports, parking lots, and 275 drive-ways. At the same time, 40 miles of common walkways are being plowed with skid steer machines. As the areas are cleared, we move onto salt applications.

Some of the Rossmoor staff then begin to clear the Clubhouse lot where we asked everyone to park their cars that would normally be parked on the streets. That operation includes using snow blowers to clear in-between and behind the cars. Other Rossmoor staff are making sure handicap parking spaces are open, and they are clearing around 110 trash collection dumpster areas, making sure hundreds of fire hydrants are accessible, and clearing around dozens of cluster mailboxes.

In a large accumulation storm, our plows go back out to widen roadways; they clean up intersections and carports, and open storm drains. If it's a major storm, we eventually hire large equipment and trucks to move tall snow piles that are

obstructing intersection views for drivers. This results in snow piled along the edge of the golf course on Rossmoor Drive and Old Nassau Road.

In the end this year, we missed some entrance walks, left too much snow behind some cars in carports, missed a few trash areas and mailboxes, and even a fire hydrant or two. With the help of our workers and observant residents reporting problems to the Maintenance Department, we take care of it all in as timely a manner as possible. We thank residents for moving

their cars to the Clubhouse parking lot prior to the onset of the storms, thereby facilitating street plowing, and for alerting us to areas that needed additional snow removal.

And for those who want to understand the snow removal process from start to finish, we print the Snow Policy and Procedures in its entirety in the Rossmoor News from October through February of every year. If you don't save your past copies of our publication, you can always find them online at www.rcainj.com.

The Information Highway: Voting Procedures to Elect Mutual Directors

By Christina Smith, CMCA, AMS, Resident Services Manager

The Annual Election for Mutual Directors begins in April. Residents will begin to receive their election packets in the mail.

There are two ways to vote:

- Vote in person at the annual meeting.
- Complete the absentee ballot you received in the mail.

Please note:

- If you complete your absentee ballot, you cannot vote again in person.
- Only one vote per manor is allowed.

How to complete the absentee ballot:

- Each packet will come with a sample ballot for your review.

- Two envelopes are included in the packet.
- Place your sealed absentee ballot in the envelope marked 'Absentee.'

Next place your sealed absentee ballot into the larger envelope and include your return address on it, and either mail it back to the Administration Office or drop it off in one of the payment boxes at the Clubhouse or Administration building.

Absentee ballots will be opened and counted along with any ballots cast in person at the annual meeting.

If anyone is still interested in running for a Director position, nominations can be taken from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

Please call the Administration Office 609-655-1000 if you have any questions.

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Chorus to Screen a Cinematic Songfest

By Joan and Jason Salt

- "Casablanca"
- "A Walk to Remember"
- "Good Morning, Vietnam"
- "The Rose"
- "Sister Act"
- "Carousel"
- "The Sound of Music"

What do these movies have in common? They all feature songs that the Rossmoor Cho-

rus will perform on Monday, April 20, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 25, at 2 p.m. To find out which songs, you'll have to come to the Meeting House once. Or twice. Or, you can guess them all correctly now and win a subscription to the Rossmoor News.

The concert will feature much more music than that, but there is only so much space here, so some of it won't be revealed until you get there. However, the Chorus promises to stop singing for "Claire de Lune," a piano solo by accompanist extraordinaire Moriah Kam, and "Take Five," a piano duet by Moriah and Aimee Coleman. Are 88 keys enough for that? We'll see.

This concert may not have everything. But it will be close.

The movie songs listed above? They are only about half of the program you will hear that night and that afternoon. If you hear a "rumble," it's just the Jets and the Sharks stomping on their turf and threatening to ruin Tony and Maria's romance. Can love survive? By the conclusion of the stunning West Side Story medley, you'll know.

That's Monday, April 20, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 25, at 2 p.m. at the Meeting House. Practicing your finger snaps ahead of time is advised.



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Meet Our RCAI Unsung Heroes

By Susan Peters

Most Rossmoorites have had the pleasure of interacting with a Rossmoor staff member during a sponsored event, answering a question, or just exchanging pleasantries. How about the Rossmoor maintenance plumber that fished that fork out of your garbage disposal, a still-running electric toothbrush out of your pipes, and, of course, a hearing aid out of a drain!

Then there are the folks in Administration who prepare the necessary paperwork to enable us to move into our manor and listen patiently to

questions and concerns. Of course, we can't forget the wonderful E&R staff who cheerfully sell us tickets to events, listen to our every activity desire, and try to come through whenever possible. How about those who serve our golf community, maintain our beautiful pool, and the aesthetics of our community?

Regardless of their positions, this staff is a vital part of our community. In this first in a series of articles, you'll be introduced to many of them.



Dave Salter

Meet Dave Salter- Maintenance Department Manager (15 Years)

Dave Salter comes with an impressive background, first in wastewater management in 2010, climbing maintenance ranks and earning his CMCA (certified manager of community associations) in 2016, and finally becoming Rossmoor's operational manager in 2017. He added several more certificates, including AMS (association management specialist) and PCAM (professional community association manager). He manages 16 employees in the areas of HVAC, electrical, as well as roofing and siding for the co-ops, and manages more than 7,000 work orders a year.

Dave and his wife have four sons, who range in age from 12 to 22, and two dogs. He grew up in Monroe, graduating from Monroe High School in 1996. He is an Eagles fan, and he and his wife enjoy attending concerts.

I asked Dave what changes he has seen over the years, and he said as

Rossmoor's demographic increases in working residents, late or after-hour requests have increased. He said there is always a new challenge such as "Maintenance stole my tree" and there's never a dull moment when it comes to repairs.

Meet Chris Smith- Resident Service Manager (10 years)



Chris Smith

Chris comes with a diversified background, first in banking and then education in both the Howell and Jamesburg school systems. She went on to manage resident services in Leisure Vil-

lage East in Lakewood before assuming the Resident Service Management position in 2015 at Rossmoor. Chris also obtained the CMCA and AMS certifications and is enrolled in the continuing education courses to maintain these certifications. She was also required to receive co-op and condo association training. She is the liaison for the Association and the attorney for co-op purchases, and her office prepares the closing papers, mutual orientation, and distribution of the automobile bar codes.

Chris will tell you her most important title is "Granny." She is the proud grandmother of three with a fourth on the way. She brags about her three wonderful sons and their accomplishments as music teacher, chemical engineer, and marketing/finance manager. She enjoys skiing, especially in Breckenridge, Colo. Because her husband is an avid train collector, many of their travels include train shows.

Players Present Plans Publicly

By Joan and Jason Salt

If you long to sing or otherwise perform, the Rossmoor Players offer you an opportunity at their Open Mic on Friday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Ballroom. We'll remind you closer to the date to bring your verve and your nerve.

June 18, 19, and 20 are the dates for the world famous - at least in Monroe - "This 'n' That" show. You'll see songs, skits, and sometimes both at the same time. If you'd like to audition, know that the details will be in subsequent issues of the The Rossmoor News.

Another event for which audition dates will be posted is the original musical comedy "Between Engagements" by Bill Strecker and Bob Huber. (This is not the original musical comedy - that makes it sound like it was the first one ever. This isn't ancient Greece.) Performances will be on Oct. 15, 16, and 17, with auditions in August.

Pop A Capella Concert

By Mary Jane Brubaker

A special concert featuring Monroe Township High School (MTHS) student singers is coming our way on Sunday, May 3, at 3 p.m. at the Meeting House. Sharing the spotlight will be the Rolling Tones and Soulfege, both a capella groups, along with several accomplished soloists. As an audience member, you'll not only have a chance to hear talented singers, you'll also be supporting graduating seniors as 100 percent of ticket sales will be donated to the MTHS music scholarship program.

The Rolling Tones is an auditioned group that has competed in the International Competition of High School A Capella, twice at the quarterfinal level. Soulfege is an after-school, 40-student tenor/bass ensemble that pulls in students from throughout the high school on a non-audition basis. The soloists are seniors who have been recognized at the regional, state, and all-eastern levels.

Tickets are \$10 per person and are available in person at E&R or by calling 609-655-3232. This concert is being brought to you by the Rossmoor Music Group.

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Disco Nights: You're Invited!

By Josephine Genovese
Reminiscing about those disco nights, dancing the night away?

Well, just about every third Friday of the month, E&R turns the Ballroom into our very own Disco Night Club, complete with lights, music, and all. It's always emceed by talented DJs who can get even the "I never dance" folks up on their feet.

Tables become little party hubs, and the night rolls



At the "Party Hearty Dance" are from left: Ivette Aguayo, Rob Lewin, and Cathleen Collins.

through great music, good laughs, and plenty of friendly faces. Make a table with your crew or let E&R seat you with new pals. Bring your own beverages and snacks to share with your table, and then party hearty on the dance floor.

Whether you're brand new or you've been here a while, the monthly dance is a fun

way to meet people, get out, and enjoy a night of great music and good company.

Check with E&R for the call-in date to reserve tickets for the next dance; it won't disappoint.

A special shout-out to E&R for always bringing the right mix of fun and excitement to Rossmoor. Thank you!

Rutgers Speakers Bureau: Coming This Spring



Shaun Illingworth



Leslie Danehy

By Terre Martin

Just one exit north on the Turnpike is a treasure trove of expertise. It's called the Rutgers Speakers Bureau. It is made up of professors and administrators who are eager to share their knowledge beyond the classroom. Among them is Shaun Illingworth, Director of the Rutgers Oral History Archives, and Leslie Danehy, EdD, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs. Both will be coming to Rossmoor to meet and speak with our residents.

The Rutgers Oral History Archive (ROHA) began as a collaboration between the Rutgers College Class of 1942 and the History Department. The goal was to document alumni life experiences, first and second-generation immigrant upbringings, the Great Depression, World War II, and beyond. It eventually opened up to all Rutgers University affiliates, and finally, to all New Jersey residents as a public service to the state.

Shaun Illingworth has conducted and recorded thousands of interviews relating to the history of our country, state, and Rutgers alumni. He will be speaking with our Rossmoor Veterans Group, but he will also address the Memorial Day luncheon with stories spanning our lifetime and more. Because everyone has a story to tell, he is also interested in interviewing Rossmoor residents who are willing to share their life experiences. More information will be forthcoming as the speaking engagement is finalized.

While Leslie Danehy was also serving as the Executive Director of the BOLD Career Center for Leadership, Career, and Personal Development, she helped develop and manage transformative programs in leadership development, mentorship, career readiness, and personal growth at Douglass College, the women-centered unit within the university.

(Continued on page 7)

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Trivia Night: No PhD Required



Members of "The Mob" at January's Trivia Night, from left are: Deb Casper, Diana Gatto, Hope Madden, Cathleen Collins, Louise Ayers, Steve Rothchild, Rob Lewin, and Judie Sforza.

By Josephine Genovese

Are you interested in a night of laughter, snacks, and brain-teasing fun? Look no further than Trivia Night at Rossmoor. Hosted by the one and only CJ the DJ. It happens four times a year - January, April, July, and October - and it's the perfect excuse to gather your crew or make new friends. The date for is April 21 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Here's the lowdown:

Each table is a team (up to 10 players)

Pick your own name - we're "The Mob" - or let E&R give you a fun one, like "Always Wright."

Bring snacks to share.

Seven rounds, 10 ques-

tions each, covering history, geography, music, pop culture, movies - something for everyone.

Don't worry if you don't know it all; it's teamwork that makes it work. Each round

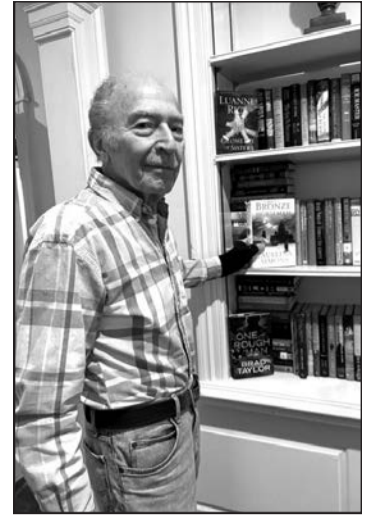
has a winning team, and everyone at the winning table gets a prize!

So, next time you see Trivia Night pop up, join in. Make a team or let E&R seat you with new pals. Trust "The Mob;" it's a lot of fun



Hello, Neighbor!

Vera Voytko moved to Rossmoor in 2020. She works as a Crossing Guard for South Brunswick, which she loves because the children are adorable. She enjoys Rossmoor because it's quiet, the people are friendly, and she feels safe. Joining Vera on her walk is Princess.



Rossmoor's Book Guy

You can usually find Tony Zanghi reading a book in the Red Room. He estimates he's read at least 500 books since moving to Rossmoor 20 years ago. He helps find homes in our bookcases for newly donated books as well as those returned after being read. If you're donating books, please leave them in the brown box in the library or in a bag near the box on the floor.

Rutgers Speakers Bureau

(Continued from page 6)

She is planning to present a panel discussion on "The Value of a Women's College Education Across Generations." Anyone with a daughter or granddaughter will find the discussion valuable since current students and young alumnae will offer their insights on how the skills, confidence, and community gained from women-centered programs influence their life and career today. Hopefully, the audience will offer their perspective as well. As we see more and more women taking on leadership roles in government and the workplace, it's important to understand how they got there and why it matters in today's world.

Look for more information about the dates and times these speakers will be here. Mark your calendars and come to listen, learn, and even participate. We all have a story to tell, and yours is an important one.

Please note: No dogs are allowed in the Clubhouse or in other Rossmoor buildings. Only service dogs will be permitted.

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A Magnolia Tree Planting - The Journey



The Golf Course Tree Legacy Project continues. From left are Tom Tucci, Rusty (the golf course dog), the Magnolia tree, Josephine Genovese and Paul Mueller.

By Josephine Genovese

Sadly, grief is something we all experience sooner or later. It doesn't move in a straight line, and it doesn't look the same for any two people.

Tribute dedications, tree plantings, and remembrance plaques are all ways we honor our loved ones. These gestures help us grieve and, as the saying goes, move forward with our lives.

This is the story of my own journey with grief and healing.

In 2023, Joe Mangiapane, who lived in Mutual Six, passed away. Joe was a Vietnam War veteran, a retired bread baker extraordinaire, my brother-in-law, but truly a brother, and one of my best friends. His last name in Italian literally means "eat bread," and friends and family affectionately called him Joe Loaf after his delicious loaves of Italian bread. He was always a stand-up guy to everyone who knew him. He loved living in Rossmoor, loved bocce and the pool, and most importantly, loved that we were neighbors again. Now you know Joe.

To help me in my grieving process, I tried getting his name on the Remembrance Veterans Wall in the Clubhouse. But I was told that because he was not a member of the club at the time of his death, that wouldn't be possible. I offered to pay the club three years' worth of past dues - the length of time he lived in Rossmoor - so he could be added posthumously. But I was told that wasn't acceptable either.

Two years flew by, but I never stopped thinking about a tribute marker in Rossmoor for him or, maybe, if I'm honest, for me. Then, during a conversation with Paul Mueller, president of Mutual Six, about Joe, Paul said, "Why don't you speak to Tom

Tucci, Golf Course Superintendent, about planting a tree?" So I did just that. I called Tom, and just like that, I was on the path.

Tom was incredibly helpful, talking me through tree choices and planting locations. I chose a magnolia tree. Magnolia trees symbolize beauty, dignity, perseverance, and love - qualities Joe had in abundance. Tom showed me several available planting spots on the golf course, and I was lucky enough to find one facing the pool area and within eyesight of the bocce courts. I chose that one. The total cost for the tree and planting was \$213, but the comfort it brought was priceless!

The tree was planted in November 2025. Its roots now grow in the same soil Joe once walked near, and its blossoms will remind me, friends, and family of his enduring spirit and love. It's a reminder that the people we've loved don't disappear from us. They stay in our memories, in our stories, and in the markers or tributes we leave in their honor help us move forward with our lives.

My story is another reminder that the Golf Course Tree Legacy Project continues to offer a beautiful way to honor the people and moments that have shaped our lives.

Rossmoor Wants to Know...

By Penni McOlvin and Helene Gray

What are your goals/aspirations for this long-awaited spring?



Ray Rivera

To spend as much time outside as possible during the good weather.



Carolyn Sgromo

I'm looking forward to the weather warming up after such a cold winter. For me, it's a profound sense of relief, renewal, and increased optimism. Warmer weather and longer days to boost my mood and my desire for social interaction and outdoor activities. I like to plant and clean up outdoors, which is like a fresh start, seeing the trees start to bloom and flowers come up with all their bright colors.



Barbara Butler

Spring is my favorite time of year. I'm looking forward to hearing the birds sing and watching the trees bloom. I'm planning to spend a lot of time outside working in my garden.



Lucille Conti

I like walking in the sunshine while adding up my steps.

Scenes from a Strauss Operetta



Did you know Johann Strauss was the Elton John of his day? That was one of many interesting tidbits learned at The State Opera of New Jersey's (TSO NJ) one-hour concert highlighting songs from the comic operetta, Die Fledermaus, on Feb. 10 at the Monroe Twp. Public Library. The concert was sponsored by the Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission (MTCAC) as part of their Opera Concert Series and in collaboration with the TSONJ. The Opera Concert Series is free, and the next concert will showcase the influence of jazz on Broadway on April 29. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. From left: TSONJ performers Nicole Woodward and John Easterlin. For information on the MTCAC events and join their mailing list: www.MonroeTownshipArts.com



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The Queens of Rossmoor Come Out for "Queen"

On Saturday, March 7, the ladies of Rossmoor gathered for a night of pure rock nostalgia - no matching shirts this time, just beautiful smiles and their excitement to see XTREME QUEEN at the Clearbrook Cultural Center. This New York-based tribute band is known for their meticulous, theatrical recreations of Queen's most iconic performances. Big shoes to fill, yes, but they did not disappoint. The Queens of Rossmoor, first row from left are: Joanie Demarco, Terri Enz, Susan Carr, Janis Genovese, Rosemary Masella, Phyllis Last, Valerie Lauer, Josephine Genovese. Second row from left are: Antoinette Santangelo, Judie Sforza, Karen Sylvester, Janet Taranto, Nancy Unger, Barb Tidona, Marlene Atlas-Giovino, Marcy Kaschak, Desiree Gerasi.

One Place for All Your Important Documents

By Mary Jane Brubaker

"It's all about peace of mind," says Ruth Mazujian. She's talking about the feeling she and her husband, Harry, have now that they've put all their important documents, including their advance directives and health

care proxies, together in one notebook. "The catalyst for getting this done," says Harry, "is when we needed a copy of our marriage license for my pension plan. We looked everywhere - through our desk files, our safety deposit

box, and our fire box - and we couldn't find it. As it turns out, we never picked up our license, so although we were married in 1979, we didn't get our marriage license until we requested it in 2016."

The search for their marriage license, coupled with the fact that the Mazujians were now empty nesters and getting ready to travel abroad, made them realize it was time to get their important documents together in one place so their three children would have easy access should anything happen to them while Ruth and Harry were traveling.

"Putting our notebook together was a process we undertook over time," says Ruth. "We did not put our-

(Continued on page 10)

March Madness Jewelry Event



With an average cost of \$1.50 per item, the March Madness Jewelry Event held on Wednesday, March 11, raised \$850, which will be added to the proceeds of the 2026 Charity Exchange to be held in November. All proceeds from both events will be donated to charity. Coordinating sales at the event were, from left: Teresa Sannuto, Carolyn Kohlhepp, Paulette Mascia, and Sue Archambault.



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April is Autism Acceptance Month

The author is a retired special education teacher.

By Rhona Friedman

Autism Acceptance Month is celebrated every April with World Autism Awareness Day on April 2. The purpose is to promote inclusion, understanding, and acceptance of people on the autistic spectrum.

According to the website medlineplus.gov, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurological and developmental disorder. ASD begins early in childhood and lasts throughout a person's life. ASD includes what used to be known as Asperger Syndrome and Pervasive Developmental Disorders.

ASD is called a spectrum disorder because people with this disorder can have a range of symptoms. Some characteristics that people with ASD might have are difficulty with eye contact when talking to you, restricted interests, difficulty with sensory issues, and executive functioning difficulties. As Dr. Stephen Shore, a special education professor and advocate who is himself

on the autistic spectrum, has said, "If you've met one person with autism, you've met one person with autism." This quote stresses the wide diversity within autism. Each individual on the spectrum has different strengths, challenges, and personalities.

When Dr. Shore was a youngster, it was recommended that he be institutionalized. He was non-speaking until he was four years old. But he had a tremendous amount of support along the way from his parents, teachers, his wife, and others. He is now a full time professor at Adelphi University. He has earned two Bachelor of Arts degrees, one Master of Arts degree, and a Doctor of Education.

Research suggests that both genes and environment play important roles in the cause of ASD. According to information from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, decades of extensive, very high-quality scientific research from around the world have conclusively shown that vaccines do not cause autism.

Currently there is no one

standard of treatment for ASD. Starting early can lead to better results. Some of the treatments that can help the child with ASD are behavior and communication therapies as well as skills training.

Autistic individuals have shaped our society in many fields such as education, science, technology, and the arts. For example, Mickey Rowe is the first autistic actor to play the lead role in the Tony award-winning play "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time." This makes Mickey one of the first autistic actors to play an autistic character. He is also the founding artistic director of the national disability theatre.

Greta Thunberg, a Swedish teenager, who is autistic, is a climate activist who has started a global movement. She stated that autism is her "superpower."

Temple Grandin is one of the most accomplished and well-known adults with autism. Author of many books, she has a PhD in animal science from the University of Illinois and is a professor at Colorado State University.

She was named one of TIME magazine's 100 most influential people of the year. The HBO movie, "Temple Grandin," based on her life received seven Emmys.

Unfortunately, it is estimated that fewer than one in six adults on the autistic spectrum have full-time work. Information from the Applied Behavior Analysis Program

Guide states that a growing number of small businesses and larger companies are now beginning to realize the value of hiring neurodiverse individuals.

Although there is more progress to be made, for those with ASD who are able to work, this shift in corporate thinking is a positive step forward.

A View from Sunset Park

By Josephine Genovese

People have long called Sunset Park, located on 43rd Street and 7th Avenue, the crown jewel of Brooklyn, and here's why.

The park stretches across nearly 25 acres. From the overlook, the highest point in the park, known simply as "the hill," you get the full show: breathtaking sunsets, sweeping views of the Manhattan skyline, the Statue of Liberty, Governors Island, Staten Island, New Jersey, and the entire New York Harbor.

In the early 1960s, my family lived just a short walk from the park. The hill was part of my everyday world. Some of my clearest memories are of my father taking me up there and telling me the story of the Statue of Liberty - how she, too, was an immigrant, and how she welcomed so many who arrived hoping for a new beginning. The story would always end the same way, with my father saying, "God Bless America," and me saying, "Dad, could you tell me the story again?" If I close my eyes, I can see myself standing beside him, hand-in-hand, looking out at the Lady in the Harbor together.



The Statue of Liberty, New York Harbor. Photo by Carol M. Highsmith, Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.

With the 250th Independence Day celebration on the horizon, I cannot think of a more meaningful place to reflect and celebrate than Sunset Park, a place that has meant something to me for as long as I can remember. It's also one of the best places in Brooklyn to watch what promises to be Macy's most spectacular fireworks display light up the sky.

This year, I'll be celebrating Independence Day on that familiar hill, close to the Lady in the Harbor and close to where my own American story began. Where will you be celebrating yours?

Documents

(Continued from page 9)

selves under any pressure to get it done under a specific time frame. I found an organizing guide called "The 25 Documents You Need Before You Die" online that was put together by the Wall Street Journal. Together, Harry and I put each document in place. In some cases, we provided the original document and in others, like our wills, we put copies in the notebook with instructions for how our children could access the originals from our attorney."

With regard to their advance directives, the Mazujians elected to use "Five Wishes," which also includes a section for designation of their health care proxies.

They serve as each other's proxy with their children as back ups as necessary.

Once their notebook was completed, Ruth and Harry went to see an elder care attorney, who reviewed all their documents and established their estate plan, which was added to their notebook. "We plan to review our notebook every 10 years to ascertain whether any changes might be in order," says Ruth.

"We can now travel the world in peace, knowing that our family is prepared for whatever happens," says Ruth.

National Healthcare Decision Day is on April 16. That might be as good a time as any to start putting your important documents, including your advance directives, in order.

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Ha! I Knew It! Now You Do Too.



Anxious tennis players ready to take the court!

By Terre Martin

People who play tennis live longer. I couldn't believe the information I read in The New York Times was actually speaking to me. Research has shown, time after time, that physical activity lowers our risk of cancer, depression, dementia, Type 2 diabetes, and heart disease. Of course, our pickleball players, golfers, croquet buffs, and shuffleboard fanatics have an edge too, but tennis is the clear winner for having multiple advantages.

Studies in Denmark, Great Britain, and the United States have shown that tennis players tend to live almost 10 years longer than soccer players, swimmers, and various other recreational athletes included in the analysis. There's

one small caveat, of course. It's very likely that people who are already in better health and physical condition are probably the ones playing tennis. Even with that caveat, experts believe that tennis's unique blend of physical, cognitive, and social challenges contribute to healthy aging.

Why tennis? First, it offers a full-body workout. Secondly, it requires quick changes in direction, which can help improve balance and reduce a person's risk of falling. Thirdly, playing regularly can also improve bone density to avoid osteoporosis.

Doctors often recommend weight-bearing exercise, which tennis provides in spades. Running to return a shot puts plenty of weight on your feet

and legs. Fourth, because there are intense bursts of movement and brief periods of recovery, a tennis game mimics interval training, which improves your overall fitness. And lastly, tennis provides a cognitive challenge as the player must make quick decisions during a game.

Of course, other sports in Rossmoor are beneficial too. Golf, our most popular sport, offers more gentle aerobic activity, but it also requires rotational power, balance, and fine motor control. Pickleball, another popular racket sport, offers many of same advantages as tennis. Some of the classes offered by E&R provide resistance training, which helps with cognitive function and develops muscle mass. All of these improve our quality of life and longevity.

The most important advice that comes from the studies is to find a sport that you love and stick to it. Something is better than nothing. Even walking is better than sitting still. The studies also recommend participating in an activity that provides social contacts. Working out or playing with others can provide motivation and accountability. All of it is good.

OK, so I'm prejudiced about tennis. Even being a fan is good. It certainly gets my adrenaline pumping when I watch in person or in my TV room. Now that Spring is here, let's get involved and move our bodies. Tennis, anyone?

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

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

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Hardtack's Contribution to Our Independence

By Allen Kobezak

I might be crossing a line with this article. My topic is a food item eaten by soldiers during the American War of Independence. I also plan to include a recipe that everyone can use to experience what a meal under George Washington's command was like. What better way to learn about the life of the average American Patriot?

My hesitation about writing this article is that I don't have much cooking knowledge. Of course, that never stopped me from writing about other topics about which I knew nothing.

However, there is one other problem. The Rossmoor News already has

Sidna Mitchell, our very capable staff writer, who writes a column called Culinary Corner. This year, she is also highlighting some of the foods enjoyed during the Revolutionary War period.

I hope Sidna, a fellow Rossmoor News Board member, hasn't been planning to write about hardtack, that tasty staple of many military campaigns. She might feel I was invading her territory. I wouldn't want to be the one to turn our friendly little board meetings into a contentious assembly of volunteer journalists. Oh, what the hell; she'll get over it, eventually.

Hard bread, later called hardtack, has long been a

food consumed by sailors and soldiers. It's also known as molar breakers, sheet iron, tooth dullers, and worm castles.

Freshly baked soft breads weren't a practical addition to a nourishing meal for large armies during long campaigns. They would take too long to bake and spoil quickly. An efficient substitute for soft bread was needed that was easy to prepare and, when stored in a dry place, would keep for an extended period.

Hardtack is a flat, biscuit-like alternative made with

only a few ingredients. It is easy to make, and it will last a long time. In fact, if hardtack needed an expiration date, it would be measured in years.

Although hardtack seemed like the perfect solution, there was one small obstacle to overcome before it could be eaten. A few of its alternative names should hint at what that obstacle might be.

That's correct: hardtack is rock-hard. It's because all the moisture must be baked out of the dough for it to last so long. This is done by baking it multiple times.

If you wanted to eat your hardtack and save your teeth at the same time, you had

two choices. You could soak it in water, coffee, or bacon grease, or break it into pieces with your musket butt and add it to your stew.

I know I promised you a recipe for hardtack, but I've gone over my 500-word limit again. Just ask Google for a good traditional hardtack recipe, then gather some all-purpose flour, water, and salt, and you're ready to go.

Now, I think I'll go into the kitchen and ask my wife, Rose, to show me how to turn on the oven. Then I'll bake some hardtack to go with our dinner. I wonder if I could just use the microwave since I already know how to turn it on.

Union's Special Rev War Places

By Sidna B. Mitchell

If you have the opportunity to visit Liberty Hall, on the Kean University campus in Union, or participate in one of its activities such as an afternoon tea, by all means do so. Liberty Hall was originally built in the 1700s as a 14-room Georgian mansion for William Livingston on 120 acres in what was then Elizabeth, N.J.

Livingston, an attorney, served in the First and the Second Continental Congress from 1774 to 1776 and was a Brigadier General in the New Jersey Militia. He became the state's first elected governor on Aug. 31, 1776, and served in that position until he died on July 25, 1790.

However, as governor, Livingston was a target for capture by the British. Thus, from 1776-1779, he and his family moved to safety in the Bowers House in Parsippany (Morris County, N.J.). They returned to a ransacked home in 1779.

After the revolution, Livingston went on to serve as a New Jersey delegate to the 1787 Constitutional Convention and was a signer of the Declaration of Independence; however, his brother Philip, had been one of the 56 signers in 1776.

William and his wife, Susannah French, had 13 children. One daughter, Sarah (Sally), married John Jay, who became the first chief justice of the Supreme Court.

Liberty Hall and the Livingston estate was bought in 1811 by Peter Kean, in trust for his mother, Susan Livingston Kean Niemcewicz, who was William Livingston's niece. Thanks to generations of the Kean family, Liberty Hall is now a 50-room mansion sitting on 23 acres with a museum featuring furniture and other items from the Livingston and Kean families.

Liberty Hall, 1003 Morris Avenue, Union, (908-527-0400) is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Check out the website: <https://libertyhall.kean.edu/>.

Also in Union is the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Ave-

nue (unionnjhistory.com). By calling 908-687-7977 you can get the regular tour times or arrange for a private tour of the home of James Caldwell, the "High Priest of Rebellion," during the Revolutionary War. The parsonage is now the museum of the Union Township Historical Society.

The Rev. James Caldwell was the pastor at Elizabethtown's Presbyterian Church. Among his parishioners were William Livingston and Elias Boudinot, who became President of the Continental Congress. With the British invading New Jersey, Caldwell moved his family to the Connecticut Farms (now Union) parsonage for safety.

In June 1780, British sol-

diers fired shots through the window of the parsonage, killing Hannah, James Caldwell's wife, who was also known as the "Fighting Parson." As a soldier, Caldwell carried a musket all week and preached on Sunday.

When the British returned to the area later that month in Springfield, the Patriots ran out of wadding to fire their cannons. Caldwell broke into the Presbyterian Church, grabbed an armload of hymnals for the soldiers, yelling "Give 'em Watts boys!" Unfortunately, the British burned much of Springfield including the Presbyterian Church where the Watts hymnals played an important role.

Battle of the Blades

By Allen Kobezak

A new event for our community is being discussed that could add some excitement this year to the typically lazy days of summer.

By now, most of our residents have likely heard of the four robot grass mowers that operate on our golf course to assist the human staff in maintaining the course's lawn. They are small, orange, and white unmanned grass-cutting machines that resemble large turtles with wheels instead of feet.

The best way to describe our event is that it would be a Demolition Derby for robots. You remember the Demolition Derby that was so popular in the 1970s. Old cars would gather in the middle of a field and ram into each other until only one, the winner, remained operational.

Rossmoor's event would be a similar match between these four blade wheeling machines. However, the winner of this fight to the finish would be declared when the other three competitors are literally knocked flat on their backs, unable to recover without help, just like a turtle.

In addition to the live audience cheering on their favorite fighter, our event will be filmed for later viewing on YouTube. Of course, no robot mowers will be harmed during the filming of this event, with all fighters allowed only unsharpened blades.

This event is still in the development phase, and cooperation from our golf course management would be needed, not only to allow the robots a well-deserved day off for the event, but also to reprogram them from friendly gardeners to fearless fighting machines.

Suppose this Battle of the Blades event can be successfully accomplished. It would provide another opportunity to demonstrate to everyone why Rossmoor remains the most entertaining and innovative adult community in our area.

Furthermore, if our event lives up to expectations, perhaps next year Monroe Township will add it to the list of Mayor's Cup tournaments where we can compete against other communities.

I'm sure you realize by now that this article was originally an attempt to trick you into believing an April Fool's joke. I didn't think anyone would actually be foolish enough to believe there could be a battle between four lawn mowers.

However, the more I thought about it, the more convinced I became that this would be a great idea if we could actually pull it off. We would need a level, grassy area in our community. The croquet court would be perfect. The robot wars could be held monthly and be free for Rossmoor's residents, as long as they

(Continued on page 13)

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THE HUMAN ELEMENT: SURVIVING BREAST CANCER. MEET DIANE SUTKOWSKI

By Susan Peters

"Today is what we have," says Diane Sutkowski.

If one is lucky, we encounter people that no matter what life throws their way, they become stronger, more resilient, and more passionate about helping others through their learnings and experiences. Meet Diane Sutkowski.

Before moving to Rossmoor, Diane lived with her beloved husband, Walter, in Kingston, N.Y., until his death four years ago. She relates that 11 years ago, thanks to her diligence in obtaining routine mammograms, a small breast lesion was detected. She had been followed for breast cysts although she had no familial breast cancer history. Diane consulted a local surgeon in Kingston and, following a positive biopsy, underwent a lumpectomy.

Even though Diane had the utmost faith in her surgeon, she sought a second opinion at Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston prior to receiving chemotherapy. "I believe in seeking an opinion from a place of excellence. You learn and you pass your experience on." She underwent chemotherapy, then radiation therapy, followed by seven years of hormone suppres-

sive therapy.

During her worst days from side effects, she reminded herself, "I can get through today, every day is a gift, and don't give up." She also kept a brief journal of significant side effects on her calendar to discuss with her medical team.

During my interviews with cancer survivors, each has been eager to share a story of support, often where least expected. Diane told me about a compassionate hairdresser who understood her anxiety about losing her hair and took the interest and time to cut and style a wig that made her feel comfortable.

Diane is not a stranger to supporting others either. For more than 20 years, she was an active educator for a prostate cancer group, educating patients in what they needed to know and do. She stresses that it is important to put a plan in place but also be aware when you are too independent and need to ask for help.

Diane highly recommends an inspirational book, "Man's Search For Meaning" by Viktor Frankl. She also sent me a writing of hers from 1990, which states in part, "To all of you who have touched my life, I thank you and love you for it.



Diane Sutkowski

For those I've yet to meet, I look forward to the sharing. I hope to live with the love of my God, my friends, family, and myself...and I can't wait to see what's going to happen next."

Diane explains that this pretty much holds true for her today. She says that life is indeed a journey, sometimes smooth, sometimes rough, but always interesting if you choose to make it so.

Rossmoor's "Paint the Town Pink" campaign, which is being conducted throughout 2026, is designed to raise awareness and funds to support breast cancer research. Diane's story is the fourth in a series we will be sharing throughout this campaign, hopefully bringing inspiration to others in our community. Please support the monthly "Paint the Town Pink" activities being conducted by E&R.

In Memoriam Dan Krotosek



Dan Krotosek passed away suddenly on Dec. 28, 2025. He was a lifelong resident of New Jersey. Dan and Dolly Daly moved to Rossmoor in 2017 and married in 2022.

Dan was often seen out walking and loved stopping to talk to everyone. He could also be found in the Billiard Room, Sal's, or on the bocce courts.

In his younger days, Dan played basketball and tennis. He and his wife were avid bowlers, even winning several medals in the Senior Olympics. Dan competed in bowling, mini golf, and darts from 2022 to 2025.

Dan enjoyed sporting events, concerts, stand-up comedy, casinos, and traveling. He devoutly followed the Mets, Jets, Knicks, Rutgers' Basketball, tennis, and bowling.

Dan was a member of Rossmoor's Italian American Club and proudly supported his wife, Dolly, at all of the Rossmoor Players' events. He often attended activities at Rossmoor, including the bus trips.

He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Intelligent Anti-virus

By Steven Gray

As some of you know, I am a Microsoft Insider, which basically means I can test out new software before Microsoft sends it out to everyone, sort of a beta tester, which I have done for other companies that I cannot name due to non-disclosure agreements. I can report on a new anti-malware (anti-virus plus anti-spyware, anti-adware, and anti-virtually everything else bad actors can throw at you), code named artificial intelligence malware eliminator, or AIME for short, that is currently under development.

Unlike the present anti-virus programs that are reactive, meaning once a new virus is found, a new virus signature has to be written to stop the infection, then downloaded to millions of computers, AIME is more proactive. If a new virus, or anything else that is bad, is discovered on your personal computer, AIME immediately quarantines it and removes all traces from your computer. AIME then uploads the information so that all computers

using AIME know of this new infection and stop it in its tracks. This is especially useful if the malware came from a flash drive, CD, or was even written by a developer by mistake.

AIME, at this point, needs about 500 MB of space on your hard drive - less than half the space taken by a movie - and will operate with as little as 8 GB RAM, which all but the cheapest computers have these days. AIME is not resource intensive, and you may not even notice it operating until you receive a report on what it stopped from infecting you.

I have been told that Microsoft is working on compressing the operation so that it will work on even those computers having only 4 GB of RAM. Microsoft hasn't yet stated when AIME will be ready to be released as an update to Microsoft Defender, other than sometime in the summer or fall. A word to the wise, however, AIME will only work with Microsoft Defender.

Those of you using any other anti-virus will have to decide whether or not to keep your current paid anti-virus or switch back to the free Microsoft Defender. There is no word on whether or not AIME will be a subscription, a one-time payment, or a no charge update.

If you are excited for the release of AIME, please don't wait too long as everything except the first sentence about me being an insider and a beta tester is totally false. Happy April Fool's Day!

Battle

(Continued from page 12)

wore the traditional white attire for the croquet court.

Expecting enthusiastic support when I told my wife about my plan, I was stunned when she laughed and said that no one was a bigger April Fool than I was. Then I thought, what the hell does she know? Look who she married.

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Trivia Fun

By Peter and Phyllis Braff

1. What percentage of USA population drinks alcohol?
A - 60 B - 70 C - 80
2. What animal does not produce milk for its newborn?
A - snake B - geese
C - hippos

3. What year did the USA government impose an income tax on its workers?
A - 1910 B - 1914 C - 1924
 4. What continent has the most countries?
A - Europe B - Africa
C - South America
- Answers on page 17

The Joy of a Family Visit

By Josephine Genovese

You know the feeling - the countdown begins, days turn into hours, and before you know it, your kiddo and their partner's plane lands, and they're standing in your living room, beaming with hugs

and stories from their life in California. There's nothing quite like it. Having your grown children come home for a visit is a treasure, especially when they live a long flight away. As Ferris Bueller famously said, "Life moves

pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

When Jenna and Mario arrive, the first thing on their minds is usually food - specifically, their favorite pasta dish. It's become a tradition: no matter what time they roll in, I've got a steaming pot ready. They text me when they're 15 minutes away, and that's my cue to put the pasta on. It's a simple dish, but it's a taste of home for them, and for me; it's a way to show love. I make a sauce with sweet cherry tomatoes, onions, and fresh basil, seasoned with salt and fresh-ground pepper, and let it simmer for hours. Toss it with al dente bucatini and easy-peasy, delish.

Their visits are always a mix of adventure and coziness - hikes, skiing at the American Dream Mall, and exploring local gems like the BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham Temple in Robbinsville, which they loved. But it's the quiet moments that stay with me: playing Rummikub after dinner, sipping cappuccinos, and just soaking up the time together. This year we even had a belated Christmas celebration, tree still up, and celebrated their wedding anniversary, too.

The joy and excitement of their arrival are matched only by the anxiety and inevitable sadness when they leave and the hopeful countdown to the next reunion, whether they come here or we go there.

These visits remind us that even though they're grown and living their own lives far away, love always finds its way back. And they remind us to stay thankful, grateful, and blessed for every bit of time we get to share together.

A Sweet Colonial Treat

By Sidna B. Mitchell

If you were fortunate enough to be invited to Liberty Hall, the home of New Jersey Governor William Livingston and his wife back in Colonial times, you probably would have been served syllabub, a drink of the wealthy. At least syllabub started out as a drink, and that was what I had considered it to be before I started my research.

Originally, syllabub was a drink with cider and milk. However, by the 1600s, when wine was added, syllabub had evolved into a sweet dessert. This was a popular dessert or after-dinner drink, depending on how much wine was added, for our wealthier colonists. It became a drink worthy of ballroom banquets and feasts. It was also considered a holiday punch and often thought to be a lady's drink, frothy with cream.

Syllabub, sometimes spelled "sillibub," is from the early British word "silly," meaning happy. Television personality, cookbook-writer

and chef James Beard claimed, "It is a very happy alcoholic dessert indeed." Thomas Jefferson wrote that syllabub "was a sophisticated favorite."

As I made syllabub the first time, I wondered how, without refrigeration, the colonists kept the drink or dessert cold. Perhaps they just consumed syllabub right after it was made. However, research showed that with the wine and added citrus, syllabub could be corked and stored up to three weeks.

My first attempt was messy because I used an immersion blender, and cream went all over the kitchen cabinets and whatever was left out on the counter. However, the results were still delicious. The second time I used a regular mixer with a better outcome that I put in parfait classes and chilled until after dinner. What an elegant and delicious dessert!

Here's a recipe for you to try in celebration of our nation's 250th anniversary.

Syllabub

- 1 cup heavy cream
- ½ cup white wine
- 2 tablespoons sugar

Whip the cream until thick. Slowly add the wine and lemon zest. the wine or cider, sugar, and lemon zest.

Spoon into glasses and sprinkle with nutmeg or cinnamon.

Chill before serving.

Serves four.

NOTE: I actually used a sweet, pink Moscato wine instead of a regular white wine. Also, I found powdered sugar worked better than regular sugar.

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

Culinary Corner

- Zest of one lemon
- Nutmeg or cinnamon for garnish

Forks, Knives and Spoons

By Sidna B. Mitchell

When the alumnae club's past president of my sorority (Kappa Kappa Gamma) invited me to sit at her table at an alumnae association's fundraiser, I was honored and promptly said, "Yes." Besides, the speakers would be authors of such books as "Lost Baker of Vienna" and "Forks, Knives and Spoons." Those sounded like a couple of cookbooks and right up my alley.

Well, I should have checked out the books before I sent my money. The "Lost Baker" is a historical novel about a young woman trying to rebuild her life after World War II. The eating utensil book is a novel about a female freshman at Syracuse University in the 1980s. She puts men in these categories: forks as players, knives as ideal, and spoons as nerds. Additionally, there are sporks that are nerds who act like forks and chopsticks who are just difficult.

Since I had already mailed my check, I started some research on the various cutlery. For example, I found some utensil superstitions in

(Continued on page 15)



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What Makes You Hopeful?

By Terre Martin

It's a great question for everyone. Those of us that have children and grandchildren floundering in the current job market; those of us who live on small, fixed incomes and worry about making ends meet; those of us who are facing medical conditions and rising healthcare costs; those of us who are alone and craving companionship, are all questioning, "Is there hope?" Perhaps the answer is where you look for it.

The world has always been in flux. There is no generation that has escaped turbulent times. World War II and the Great Depression left people in despair. The 1960s were filled with discontent over Civil Rights, the Vietnam War, and the assassination of key leaders. There have been financial crises, the horror of 9/11,

and today we are in the throes of a divided citizenry. Family members, neighbors, and long-time friends must choose their words carefully to avoid confrontation.

So where is that hope? It's all around us if we take the time to notice it. One expert recommends replacing cynicism with skepticism. The cynic sees doom and gloom as inevitable. The skeptic reserves judgment until there's proof. "I'll believe it when I see it." That leaves room for hope.

Another way to open the door for hope is to practice positive gossip. Talk about and listen to the good things people do, rather than the bad stuff. Be mindful of the positive things that happen, even when they seem inconsequential. When someone holds the door open for you; when you're told, "Have a

nice day;" when you see children playing; when you hear real laughter, right from the belly, talk about those things. Internalize and spread the good stuff.

Being a sports fan has its highs and lows, but every sport has a success story that reminds us that there's always hope. Yankee fans should know Derek Jeter's history as a failure, until he wasn't. The current Heisman Trophy Winner in college football has been all over the Internet giving thanks to God, his parents for their support, and his determination. He was passed over for team selection and received low rankings for years before he succeeded. Where did he find the hope? Both athletes admitted that hope germinated in their own desire to keep going, to keep trying, to believe in themselves.

No sooner had I finished writing this article than HOPE showed up on steroids! The Indian Hoosiers football team arose from the ashes of failed seasons to win the Rose Bowl, beat perennially favorite teams, and won the NCAA Football Championships. I watched these self-proclaimed misfits, and low-ranking recruits, do the impossible.

As a long-suffering Rutgers fan, it was so much fun to cheer and enjoy a game where my preferred team actually won! I yelled, jumped up and down, high-fived my husband, and immersed myself in pure joy. The post-game interviews explained it all. These kids, this coach, and that staff were all people that no one believed in, but they believed in themselves and each other. Together they resurrected hope, and it sent a message to everyone who watched. See Rutgers fans? There's always hope!

So, what makes you hopeful? You can depend on outside influences like the stock market, politicians, the weather, or other people, but the answer is the work you put into yourself. Be a skeptic, but when you witness the good stuff, acknowledge it. See it as hope.

Forks, Knives and Spoons

(Continued from page 14)

Irish, American and Filipino cultures. For example, unintentionally dropping a fork means a female visitor is coming to your house. If you drop a knife, that indicates you will have a male visitor while a dropped spoon means a child will visit.

If you drop all the utensils, that means a family is coming to visit. Also, the direction in which the utensil falls indicates from what direction the visitor will come. In some cultures, if you wash the dropped utensil, the visitation will be canceled.

In some cultures, there's a tradition that if you're preg-

nant, have someone tape a fork under one chair and a spoon under another. Without knowing the placement of the utensils, if you sit on the chair with a spoon, you're having a girl. If you sit on the chair with the fork, you're supposedly expecting a boy. Well, I don't think we have to be concerned about that tradition here in Rossmoor!

By the way, a spork really is an eating utensil – a spoon with fork tines. And, for convenience, the Australians have a splayd, a utensil that combines a spoon bowl with fork tines and a cutting edge. That certainly would make table settings easier, but I'll be careful when I get out the flatware, making sure I don't drop one of the utensils.

HEALTH CARE CENTER NEWS

By Lisa DiGiovanni, EdD, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, CHSE, and Elizabeth Caruso, MSN, RN, COHN-S, Saint Peter's Univ. Hospital

Reasons Why Foot Care Should Matter to Seniors

It's been said that "when your feet hurt, everything hurts." You only need to wear an ill-fitting pair of shoes for a couple of hours to understand this cliché very clearly.

Foot health tends to get ignored by older adults, even though it plays a direct role in balance, independence, and overall quality of life. For older adults, small foot problems can quietly turn into serious medical issues. Regular foot checks are simple and low risk. You can get a handle on things to look out for and manage those health concerns before they truly affect your quality of life. **Here Are Reasons Why Foot Care Should Matter to Seniors**

1. Feet carry the full weight of the body. Age-related changes in skin, circulation and even bone structure

(think bunions!) increase the risk of injury.

2. Conditions like diabetes, arthritis, and vascular disease often show early signs in the feet.

3. Poor foot health raises fall risk, which is one of the leading causes of injury and loss of independence in older adults.

4. Untreated foot problems can lead to infections that would have been preventable with early care.

So Why Do Seniors Avoid Foot Checks?

Fear of diagnosis. Some avoid care because they worry a doctor will find something serious. The logic is simple but flawed: If you do not know, you do not have to deal with it.

Normalization of pain. Many older adults assume foot pain is just part of aging.

(Continued on page 18)

Burgers, Beer & Backstories of Colonial Taverns

(Continued from page 1)

than 40 years of experience as a journalist, historian, and New Jersey storyteller. A 1975 graduate of Montclair State University, he has written several books about the state's cultural and historical landscape. His book, "Colonial Taverns of New Jersey – Libations, Liberty & Revolution," explores how these establish-

ments shaped the political and social life of the colony and played a central role in the fight for independence. Gabriele is known for his lively, accessible presentations that make history feel close and personal.

The evening begins at 6:30 p.m., when the Cranbury Inn will serve a special menu: your choice of a burger or grilled chicken, fries, and a beer or non-alcoholic drink for \$20. After dinner, guests will settle in for Gabriele's talk on the taverns that helped shape New Jersey's and America's revolutionary story. And with the Cranbury Inn's own 18th-century roots, there's no better place to hear it.

Events like this offer a meaningful way to reconnect with the places and stories that shaped America. So whether you're a history enthusiast, a fan of early American culture, or simply looking for a fun night out at the historic Cranbury Inn, "Burgers, Beer & Backstories" promises an evening that's both entertaining and delicious!

Reservations for this event are not required. You can purchase tickets at the door. For more information about CHPS, contact them at 609-860-1889 or at <https://www.cranburyhistory.org> if you're interested in volunteering or becoming a member.

Important Reminder

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Clubs and Organizations

Italian American Club

By Tony Cardello

The officers of the Italian American Club extend their wishes to all the members and their families for a very happy and blessed Easter. Enjoy your chocolate bunnies.

The trip to Wind Creek Casino on March 19 was another success for the club.

As usual, there were winners and losers, but all had a fun time.

The next membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15, at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom.

Bingo will be played on Friday, April 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the Ballroom.

Happy 99th Birthday!



Dance Club President Armen DeVivo celebrates former Dance Club President Ann Azinaro's 99th birthday at the club's February dance party.

MUTUAL NEWS

Ladies of Mutual 4 Bee's Valentine's Party

By Youngae Lee

The Ladies of Mutual 4 held a Bee Mine Special Party on Feb. 12, at which one of the highlights was recognition of the birthdays of Terre Martin and Pat Egan. The room was beautifully decorated in a Valentine's Day theme, with red hearts ablaze.

Home-made soups, sandwiches, and sweet desserts were made by many and enjoyed by all. The most fun time was the bingo game. Many people won prizes and a fun time was had by all in attendance.

Special thanks go to all those whose creativity in decorating as well as in cooking and baking made this such a special occa-



4 Bee birthday celebrants Terre Martin and Pat Egan.

sion.

For more information about this group, please contact Pat Egan at 908-812-1428.



A gathering of friends at the 4 Bee Be Mine party.



Computer Club Talk: Helping New Jerseyans

Neil Borenstein gave a very informative talk on what NJ has to offer in assistance to various utility bills and the NJ Save programs. From left: Barbara Butler, Ray O'Reilly, Barbara Boyer, Cathleen Norback, Neil Borenstein (speaker), Steven Gray, Paul Pittari
Photo by Helene Gray

Religious News



Members of the Rossmoor Community Church Benevolence Committee celebrate the success of its recent Souper Bowl. From left: Geoff Appleby, Stephen Biehl, Jan Biehl, Anne Rudolph, and Linda Appleby.

Souper Bowl for the Win

By Jan Biehl

Despite a few initial setbacks, due to harsh weather conditions and other delays, Rossmoor Community Church's annual Souper Bowl Sunday met its goal. Snowstorms and church closings did not deter the Benevolence Committee and church members from completing their mission of collecting as many soup items as possible. Close to 250 cans and cartons of soup were distributed to the Deacon's Food Cupboard at the Jamesburg Presbyterian Church and the RISE Giving Pantry in Hightstown to support their food banks.

These organizations and the people who frequent them are always very grateful and appreciative of the assistance they receive. There is no better feeling than being able to help those less fortunate than our-

selves. The support our church is given from individuals, groups, and the Rossmoor community at large is truly a blessing. Thank you for helping us make this year's Souper Bowl Sunday a win.

Jewish Congregation Happenings



By Steven Gray

Rossmoor Jewish Congregation's Second Night Passover Seder will be on Tuesday, April 2, at 5:30 p.m. in the Ballroom. The cost is \$40 for members and \$45 for non-members. All are welcome, but reservations are required. There will be flyers with details available by E&R.

Yizkor memorial service

will be on Thursday, April 9 at 4:30 p.m. in the Meeting House.

Game Day is Wednesday, May 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Clubhouse. Look for flyers with details available by E&R.

Sabbath services will be Friday, April 24, at 7:15 p.m. in the Meeting House. We will be celebrating Helene Gray's birthday with an ice cream cake.

All are welcome to any and all of our events. For more information about the Congregation, please call Barbara at 973-476-5782. If a member needs a ride to events or services, call Morty at 732-299-7501.

No Speeding
In the
Community



We Are an Easter People

By Sheila McCue

It seems appropriate that we observe Lent during the winter months. Ash Wednesday in February reminds us that we are dust and unto dust we shall return. The world around us during Lent is dark and bare. Many plants are dead or dormant. Indeed, the earth itself sometimes seems to have gone to sleep, covered in blankets of snow. We ourselves are inclined to hibernate along with much of creation.

As I write this, prior to publication date, I would need a crystal ball to know if our flowering trees have begun to bud yet or if the earth around us is already turning green. Never-

theless, we know from experience that just as the night follows the day, with the arrival of spring, these things will happen.

According to Martin Luthor, "Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

Thus, it seems natural when we enter church on Easter Sunday to encounter a recreation of Eden. The altars of our Catholic churches are a mass of flowers (pun intended) signifying that Jesus has restored the Kingdom. By his death and resurrection, we are restored to Paradise.

Participation in the Tridium

during Holy Week is a sure-fire path to a deeper, more meaningful Easter. The Tridium is a three-day liturgy that begins on Holy Thursday with the mass commemorating the Last Supper. Of course, every mass commemorates the Last Supper; however, on Holy Thursday, the scripture readings are specifically chosen by the church to bring us into the Upper Room and walk us through the events of His Passover along with Our Lord and his apostles. Whatever your Lenten experience has been, this will jack it up a notch.

We return on Good Friday for the second stage of the Tridium. Together we hear the passion narrative and

walk the Via Dolorosa along with our Redeemer. The service ends as He is laid in the tomb, and we are encouraged to leave the church in silence, foregoing the usual social chitchat that follows worship. This is a somber moment.

The third day of the Tridium is joyful and triumphant. We follow the women who are returning to the tomb to continue anointing the body for burial - a task that was interrupted by sunset at Passover. How will they move the stone that blocks their entrance, they wonder. But the stone has already been rolled away, and they are greeted by an angel who directs them: "Do not be afraid.... He is not here; for

he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay."

Hindsight is 20/20, and we have the advantage of history knowing what happened next. Consider the shock it was to those encountering the news for the first time. Walking through it liturgically over the course of the Tridium, we have shared the experience of Christ's passion and resurrection, the encounter with the empty tomb.

What comes next? Our altars become miniature Edens; our hearts are lifted as the earth springs again to life. All of nature pokes their heads out the door to re-engage with life. The euphoria of Easter carries us forward to Pentecost.

The Backstory: "In the Garden"

By Mary Jane Brubaker

A native New Jerseyan was responsible for composing one of the most popular gospel hymns of all time, "In the Garden."

C. Austin Miles, born in Lakehurst, N.J., in 1878, attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and the University of Pennsylvania. He was a practicing pharmacist until 1892, when he wrote his first gospel song for the Hall-

Mack Company. He later became the editor and manager of that company, where he worked for 37 years. During that time, he composed 398 songs and music for an additional eight songs.

His most famous composition, "In the Garden," took him less than a day to write. An amateur photographer, he built his own dark room and read his Bible while waiting for photos to develop, seeking ideas for Christian songs.

In March 1912, while in his darkroom, he reached for his Bible and it opened to his favorite chapter, John, which tells of the resurrection. Miles' inspiration was the story of Mary Magdalene who, after finding the empty tomb, later

encounters Jesus in the garden, initially mistaking Him for a gardener.

Miles has said that as he read the scripture, in his mind he saw Mary and Jesus walking together in a garden and immediately put pen to paper. He wrote the poem in full in a matter of minutes. He composed the music later that same evening.

While Miles originally wrote "In the Garden" as an Easter hymn, it has since become a year-round favorite, sung as a hymn of personal devotion. It is also a favorite at funerals.

Miles lived in Pitman, N.J., until his death on March 10, 1946. He is buried at the Hillcrest Memorial Park in Sewell, N.J.

Anyone for Pinochle?



The pinochle crew is looking for more players. No experience necessary – they'll teach you everything you need to know and more. They meet on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4 p.m. Contact Jackie Cristiano (732-666-8323) if interested in joining this charming crew. From left: Jackie Cristiano, Chris Dean, Steve Maltzman, and Geoff Appleby.

Trivia answers:

(Continued from page 14)



1. B
2. A
3. B
4. B

Out for a Walk



Mutual 8 resident Peter McGinnis and his dog, Sophie, enjoy a snowy walk on a January afternoon.



Hello! Tom Tucci and Rusty. First introduced in Terre Martin's December 2023 story, "Rusty the Goose Dog," Rusty joined the course as a young, highly trained Border Collie after longtime goose dog, Rosy, retired. Since then, he's grown into the role exactly as hoped — steady, reliable, and a true working partner to Golf Course Superintendent Tom Tucci. Winter, spring, summer, or fall, Rusty and Tom remain the team that keeps the geese away, essential to protecting the course. And yes — he's still giving the geese a run for their money!

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Keynote Speaker: Bea Lurie

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Candle Lighting, Reflections & Readings
Survivor Remembrance

Reasons Why Foot Care Should Matter to Seniors

(Continued from page 15)

They tolerate discomfort instead of seeing it as a medical issue worth addressing.

Access and mobility barriers. Getting to appointments can be hard. Limited transportation, poor balance, or fear of falling can turn a routine visit into a major obstacle.

Lack of awareness. Some people simply do not know that routine foot checks are recommended, or that podiatric care can prevent bigger problems.

The truth is, having your feet checked regularly can catch small problems before they become more difficult to treat, such as skin breakdown or heel cracks that can become infected. A doctor can diagnose changes in circulation that might signal broader vascular problems. If you are suffering from nerve damage, you may also be experiencing numbness that you are not even aware of – and that can lead to falls and

other injuries.

Taking care of your feet should be viewed as routine health maintenance. It's a necessity, not a cosmetic issue. As you may know, diabetics have a lot to manage in terms of foot care. Get ahead of these health challenges by not avoiding routine visits. Ask your physician to explain what they are going to do before the exam so you can fully understand the process and have time to ask questions if you need clarification. Focus on prevention, assuming you are not already suffering from a condition that needs expeditious care. Healthy feet support mobility, which is one of the keys to independent living.

You only get one pair of feet, and you want them to take you through every great day that's still ahead of you. The easiest way to stay active and stable as you age is by giving your feet the same attention you give the rest of your body.

DO Recycle			Plastic Bottles, Jars, Jugs, and Tub		Glass Bottles and Jars all sizes, shapes, and colors
	Mixed Paper paper, newspaper, magazines, cereal boxes, softcover books		Cans aluminum and steel (tin) cans		Cardboard corrugated boxes
DON'T Put in the Recycling Bin			Plastic Bags, Film, Wrappers, Cups, and Utensils		Greasy or food-contaminated items
	Shredded Paper		Pots, pans, and small appliances		Dishware, glass, and mirrors
	Tanglers i.e. garden hoses, electric cords		Styrofoam		Syringes, batteries, and bulbs

Recycling and Trash

RECYCLING - collected every Friday

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TRASH - collected twice weekly on Mondays and Thursdays.

- Household bagged garbage and trash must be placed in the appropriate Dumpsters (in Mutuals not providing curbside pick-up)

BULK - Call Rossmoor Maintenance 609-655-2121 by noon on Monday to schedule a Wednesday bulk collection. BULK ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED: TVs, electronics, tires, and small engines.

Bundled branches removed by RESIDENTS will be picked up at the curb on Mondays by High Tech (Holidays: Tuesday pick-up). Clippings should be placed in the regular trash.

- Contractors' and private landscapers' refuse is the responsibility of the contractor or private landscaper to dispose of. Contractors and private landscapers may not use the dumpsters.

- Please Note: Medical Waste and Personal Electronics may NOT be placed in either the Trash or Recycling dumpsters. It needs to be disposed of properly.

- If you are not certain as to the proper disposal for Medical Waste, please consult with your physician or medical supplier.

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Veterans Group Welcomes Members
All Veterans! Come to a meeting every second Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Ballroom.

Rossmoor's Website

Go to rcainj.com to access the Rossmoor website.

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

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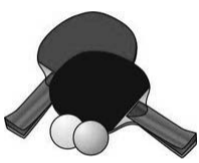






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To schedule Bulk Trash collection please call the Rossmoor Maintenance office at 609-655-2121 before noon on Mondays.

Bulk trash is collected on Wednesdays.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1>APRIL 2026</h1> 			<p>1</p> <p>9:30 AM Yoga CR 10 AM Needle Punch MR 1:30 PM "Titan: The Oceangate Submersible Disaster" Movie BR 3:30 PM Chorus MHP 6:30 PM Scrapbooking Classes MR 7 PM "Titan: The Oceangate Submersible Disaster" Movie BR</p> <p>Joyous Passover</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>9:30 AM Healthy Bones Class HW 10 AM Rug Hooking BR 12:30 PM "Take Control of Your Health" Workshop MR 1 PM Table Tennis HW 5:30 PM Passover Seder BR 6 PM Line Dancing HW</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:30 AM Balance Class by Parker House BR 10 AM Catholic Society Rosary MHP 1 PM Table Tennis HW 1 PM Worship w Communion (Good Friday) MHP</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10 AM Forever Fitness w/ Tracy BR 10:30 AM Indian-American Meditation CR</p>
<p>5</p> <p>11 AM Worship/ Communion (Easter) MHP 2 PM Private Party DW 7 PM Table Tennis HW</p> <p>Happy Easter</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>10 AM Forever Fitness w/ Tracy BR 1 PM Table Tennis HW 2 PM Line Dancing BR 2 PM Korean-American Group MR 4:30 PM Indian-American Yoga CR 7 PM Great Decisions CR</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10 AM Chair Yoga BR 10 AM Shuffleboard-Sign Ups DW 10:30 AM News of the Week Roundtable MR 11:30 AM Tai Chi Class HW 1 PM All in Stitches CR 6:30 PM Music Bingo BR 7 PM Congregation Board Mtg DW</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 AM Yoga CR 10 AM Computer Club Board Mtg DW 10 AM Needle Punch Class MR 10 AM Corn Hole HW 3:30 PM Chorus MHP 6:30 PM Cardmaking Classes MR 6:30 PM Recipe Exchange BR</p> 	<p>9</p> <p>9:30 AM Healthy Bones MHP 9:30 AM Standing Comm. HW 10 AM Rug Hooking BR 10:30 AM Italian-American Board Mtg WR 12:30 PM "Take Control of Your Health" Workshop MR 1 PM Table Tennis HW 4:30 PM Yizkor / Passover Service / Havdalah MHP 6 PM Line Dancing BR 6 PM Republican Club HW</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>9 AM Art Class MR 10 AM Catholic Society Rosary MHP 1 PM Table Tennis HW 1:30 PM "The Bad Guardian" Movie BR 7 PM "The Bad Guardian" Movie BR</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10 AM Democratic Club Bagel Breakfast BR 10 AM Forever Fitness w/ Tracy HW 10:30 AM Indian-American Meditation CR 6 PM AHG "Anniversary Dance" BR</p>
<p>12</p> <p>11 AM Worship MHP 2 PM Private Party HW 7 PM Table Tennis HW</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:15 AM Wind Creek Casino Trip* Bus departs Poolside 10 AM Forever Fitness w/ Tracy BR 10 AM Mutual 12 Open Director HW 10:30 AM Rossmoor News WR 1 PM Table Tennis HW 1 PM Players Board Mtg. WR 2 PM Line Dancing BR 4:30 PM Indian-American Yoga CR 5 PM Bocce Spring League Begins Bocce Ct. 6:30 PM Girl Power Support Group MR</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10 AM Chair Yoga HW 10 AM Veterans Group BR 10:30 AM News of the Week Roundtable MR 11 AM Church Finance Mtg. MHP 11:30 AM Tai Chi Class HW 1 PM All in Stitches CR 1:30 PM Catholic Society Mtg.s MHP 1:30 PM "The Story of Us" Movie BR 7 PM "The Story of Us" Movie BR</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 AM Yoga CR 10 AM Needle Punch Class MR 10 AM Corn Hole HW 10:30 AM Rossmoor News Board Mtg WR 2 PM Tip on Tax: Inheritance Tax Explained BR 3 PM Church Worship Comm. MHP 3:30 PM Chorus MHP 5 PM IAC "Rossmoor Downs" Sign-Up GL 7 PM Italian American Club Mtg BR</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9 AM Board of Governors HW 9:30 AM Healthy Bones MHP 10 AM Rug Hooking BR 12:30 PM "Take Control of Your Health" Workshop MR 1 PM Table Tennis HW 1:30 PM Catholic Society Movies CR 3 PM Book Discussion DW 6 PM Line Dancing HW 7 PM Emerald Society Mtg BR</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9 AM Art Class MR 9:30 AM Balance Class by Parker House BR 10 AM Catholic Society Rosary MHP 1 PM Table Tennis HW 5 PM Progressive Group BR 7:30 PM RMG "Jorge Tabares" Performance* MHP</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>10 AM Forever Fitness w/ Tracy BR 10:30 AM Indian-American Meditation CR 3 PM Private Party MHP 3:30 PM Private Party BR 5 PM Korean-American Group MR</p>
<p>19</p> <p>11 AM Worship/Chorus MHP 7 PM Table Tennis HW</p> <p>ABBREVIATIONS Ballroom BR Bocce Courts BC Cedar Room CE Craft Room CR Dogwood Room DR Gallery GL Hawthorn Room HR Maple Room MR Meeting House MH Shuffleboard Ct. SC Willow Room WR</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10 AM Computer Club BR 10 AM Mutual 16 Annual Mtg HW 2 PM Line Dancing BR 2 PM Korean-American Group MR 2 PM Mutual 3 Annual Mtg HW 4:30 PM Indian-American Yoga CR 7 PM Chorus Concert MHP</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10 AM Shuffleboard Clinic SC 10 AM Mutual 5 Annual Mtg HW 10:30 AM News of the Week Roundtable MR 11:30 AM Tai Chi Class BR 1 PM All in Stitches CR 2 PM Mutual 15 Annual Mtg HW 3 PM Chaplet of Divine Mercy MHP 3:30 PM Church Council Mtg. MHP 6:30 PM Trivia Night w/ CJ the DJ BR</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 AM Yoga CR 10 AM Needle Punch Class MR 10 AM Corn Hole GL 10 AM Mutual 2 Annual Mtg HW 2 PM "Small Cut or Big Deal" HCC Lecture MR 2 PM Mutual 4C Annual Mtg HW 3:30 PM Chorus-MH MHP 6:30 PM Tip on Tax: Inheritance Tax Explained BR</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>9:30 AM Healthy Bones Class BR 10 AM Rug Hooking GL 10 AM Mutual 12 Annual Mtg HW 12:30 PM "Take Control of Your Health" Workshop MR 1:30 PM German American Group CR 2 PM Mutual 14 Annual Mtg HW 3 PM Table Tennis GL 6 PM Line Dancing GL 6:30 PM "Hydrangea Time" Paint Party BR</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9 AM Art Class GL 10 AM Catholic Society Rosary MHP 10 AM Mutual 7 Annual Mtg HW 12:30 PM "Your Life, Your Way" Lunch & Learn Roundtable by The Gardens* BR 1 PM Table Tennis GL 2 PM Mutual 11 Annual Mtg HW 6:30 PM Bingo BR 7:15 PM Sabbath Services MHP</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10 AM Forever Fitness w/ Tracy BR 10 AM Shuffleboard Clinic SC 10:30 AM Indian-American Meditation CR 12 PM Croquet-Mtg. & Luncheon w/ Opening Day HW 2 PM Chorus Concert MHP 7 PM Dance Club BR</p>
<p>26</p> <p>11 AM Worship MHP</p> <p><i>All Events Are Subject to Change.</i></p> <p>Schedule does not reflect changes made after the 15th of the month.</p> <p>*Registration required</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10 AM Forever Fitness w/ Tracy BR 10 AM Shuffleboard Opening Day SC 10 AM Mutual 9 Annual Mtg HW 1:30 PM "Still Got It" Dating Show-Auditions* GL 2 PM Line Dancing BR 2 PM Mutual 10 Annual Mtg HW 4:30 PM Indian-American Yoga CR 6 PM Shuffleboard Play Begins SC</p> 	<p>28</p> <p>10 AM Chair Yoga GL 10 AM Mutual 6 Annual Mtg HW 10:30 AM News of the Week Roundtable MR 11:30 AM Tai Chi Class BR 1 PM All in Stitches CR 1:30 PM "Train Dreams" Movie BR 7 PM "Train Dreams" Movie BR</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 AM Yoga CR 10 AM Needle Punch Class MR 10 AM Mutual 8 Annual Mtg HW 2 PM Mutual 1 Annual Mtg HW 3:30 PM Chorus MHP 6:30 PM Croquet Board Mtg. CR 7:15 PM Line Dancing BR</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>9:30 AM Healthy Bones Class MHP 10 AM Rug Hooking CR 10 AM Mutual 4B Annual Mtg HW 12:30 PM "Take Control of Your Health" Workshop MR 2 PM Mutual 4 Annual Mtg HW 5 PM Activities Expo 2026 BR/GL</p>		

Swimming Pool

Rules and Regulations 2026



POOL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Friday, May 22 through
Monday, September 7

Health and Safety Guidelines: New Jersey State Bathing Code

- Persons showing evidence of communicable infection, sore or inflamed eyes, cold, nasal or ear discharges, or excessive sunburn will not be permitted in the pool area.
- People with open sores, blisters, cuts, and/or bandages will not be permitted in the pool.
- Showers are required prior to entering the pool.
- People recovering from diarrhea or symptoms of gastrointestinal disease are encouraged to wait seven days before using the pool.
- Persons suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol shall be prohibited from using the pool area.
- Non-slip footwear is recommended on the pool deck and locker room area.
- Management reserves the right to close the pool at any time.
- Lifeguards are obligated to close the pool in the event of potentially dangerous weather.

Resident Pool Passes

- Upon entering the pool area, all residents must present their blue Rossmoor photo ID with 2026 stickers. No exceptions are permitted. These IDs are non-transferable and expire annually. \$10.00 replacement fee will be charged for lost ID cards.

Food and Beverages

- Food and beverages are permitted within the designated "Picnic Area" only.
- Glass containers are prohibited. Must be in break resistant containers.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
- Water in plastic bottles may be consumed on the pool deck.
- All trash must be removed and disposed of in appropriate trash/recyclable collection containers.

Seating

- Pool furniture is available on a first-come basis. Personal furniture is NOT

- permitted in the pool area.
- Beach towels should be used to cover and protect pool chairs when using suntan oils/ lotions.

General Pool Rules

- No animals, except Rossmoor registered service animals, shall be allowed within the pool area.
- Radio or other music media are not permitted in the pool area except those equipped with earphones.
- Smoking of any kind, including e-cigarettes, is NOT permitted in the pool area.
- No sitting on pool entrance steps or ladders.
- Diving, running continual jumping, or "horseplay" is NOT permitted.
- Noodles, Fins, Pool Toys, etc.:
 - Pool toys – inflatable, plastic, foam or any other material – and swimming devices such as, but not limited to swimmees, inner tubes, fins, etc., are NOT permitted in the pool, except for Aqua Aerobics classes.
 - Only US Coast Guard-approved life jackets may be used in the pool as flotation devices. "Noodles" may be used in the shallow end of the swimming pool.

Lane Swimming Schedule

- Lane swimming is available Monday through Friday, except for holidays. (*Schedule is posted on the pool bulletin board.*)
 - Note: Lanes will be removed 15 minutes prior to the start of the Aqua Aerobics classes.

GUEST PASSES

- Guest pool passes are available for purchase at the Education and Recreation Office during normal operating hours, Monday through Friday 8:30am – noon and 1:00pm – 5:00pm. On occasion, the office will announce weekend or evening hours, when passes can be purchased.
- Guest passes will not be available on-site at the pool.

GUEST PASS OPTIONS

- **Daily Pass** - \$5.00 per person, including children. Each pass can be used any one day during the pool season except for stated holiday times. Maximum of two guests per day per unit. Daily Pass must be surrendered to ambassador upon use.
- **Seasonal Pass** - \$125 per manor. Maximum of two

- guests per day per unit.
- Daily and Seasonal passes expire annually.
- Daily and Seasonal passes are non-refundable and will not be replaced if lost or stolen.

GUEST ATTENDANCE RULES

- Residents must register their guests at the pool and must stay at the pool with their guests.
- All guests are required to abide by the Rules and Regulations.
- Residents assume all responsibility for their guests.
- There is a maximum of two guests, including children, per Manor per day.
- NO guests are permitted on the following holidays:
 - Memorial Day Weekend (5/22-5/25),
 - July 4th Weekend (7/3-7/6)
 - Labor Day Weekend (9/5-9/7).

GUEST AGE RULES

- **Guests over 16 years** of age and older are permitted to use the pool and surrounding facilities Monday through Sunday from 11:00am to close. *Rossmoor Resident must stay with their guests at the pool.*
- **Children aged 5 to 15 years** are permitted to use the pool and surrounding facilities Monday through Friday between the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. *Residents must always stay with their guest children.*
 - Children under 15 years of age and under are NOT permitted in the Hot Tub.
 - Children under 15 years of age and under should be encouraged to use the restrooms before entering the water and any "accidents" in the water should be immediately reported to the lifeguard.
 - Children under 15 years of age and under must exit the pool at 2:00 p.m. and exit the pool area no later than 2:30 p.m.
- Children under 5 years of age are NOT permitted within the pool fenced area.

NOTE: Violators of the Rossmoor Pool Rules and Regulations may be subject to a loss of pool privileges.

The Rules and Regulations are subject to change from time to time due to E & R Special Events.

Golf Course News

By Ray Bridy
PGA Golf Professional

Can we please turn up the heat and bring back the sunshine so we can spring into action? Like all of us, the Rossmoor Golf Course is ready for the snow to be gone so we can get back outdoors in the warm welcoming weather. Once the weather breaks, golfers will be out in a frenzy.

This has been a winter to forget with more snow and freezing temperatures than we care to even remember. Getting back onto the golf course, walking around the community, or seeing the trees and flowers coming back to their vibrant colors will make us all feel energized again.

After coming off a good 2025 season on the links, we are excited to get 2026 started. Our golf membership program is in a positive place as are our bookings for Monday golf outings. We have been fortunate to see a large influx of new members from both our immediate surroundings as well as from 20-30 miles away. For a private 18-hole golf course, the value of our product is unbeatable for this area. It encompasses two main things: course conditions and our mission to create a fun, personalized relationship with our members.

Rossmoor often plays host to charity fundraising events. Our course has served as a venue for these organizations for many years. The reputation for being a well-maintained and challenging golf course has exponentially flourished in the past three to five years. This really shines through when we are asked to be the host site for championships held by either the New Jersey State Golf Association or the New Jersey PGA (Professional Golf Association) Section office. The combination of reinvesting in the golf course and modernizing the structure of our buildings has greatly helped in recruiting new business and members.

We look forward to our men's and ladies' groups returning this spring. The Rossmoor golf membership has a diversity of players forming their own "groups" that play daily and or weekly. This collectiveness brings about the camaraderie golfers look for when they join a private club. Our Rossmoor residents are always welcome to stop by and hit a bag of golf balls on the range or utilize the practice putting green. We welcome all of you to give it a try.

Let us all have a great 2026 in whatever way we choose to enjoy our day!

Spring, Sunshine, and Shuffleboard

By Allen Kobezak

Would you like to leave the dreary days of winter behind and start an activity where you can enjoy warm temperatures and spring sunshine? Perhaps you're looking to try something new this year. An activity where you can meet new friends and get some exercise. Why not try shuffleboard?

You can join our players, who had a highly successful 2025 season, bringing the Mayor's Cup back to Rossmoor.

Our spring sign-up will take place on Tuesday, April 7, in the Dogwood Room of the Clubhouse from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. We will welcome both new players and current members.

New players are also encouraged to attend our Shuffleboard Clinics to gain hands-on experience. The clinics will be held at the courts next to the pool on Tuesday, April 21, and Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Several experienced

members will be eager to teach you a game that anyone can enjoy playing, regardless of skill level.

Anyone who can't attend the sign-up or clinics is welcome to join us at the courts during our morning or late-afternoon sessions for a quick introduction. We play Monday through Friday, and our opening season games begin on Monday, April 27, at 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

You can also meet our representatives at the Activities Expo in the Clubhouse on Thursday, April 30.

Our members aren't obligated to play on any specific day and can play as much or as little as they like. That makes shuffleboard one of the least demanding activities of your time in Rossmoor.

We also enjoy several informal social activities throughout the year.

For more information, call or text our Shuffleboard Representative Jackie Cristiano at 732-666-8323.

