



# Happy Mother's Day



Rossmoor resident Shay Davis enjoys a visit with daughter Diana. Social distancing is a reality and a necessity. It's good to see it observed. Photo by Tom Teaman

## A brave man who knew too much

By Anne Rotholz

Dr. Li Wenliang was born on Oct. 12, 1986, and died on Feb. 7, 2020. He was an ophthalmologist at Wuhan Central Hospital, Wuhan, Hubei, China. He was a very intelligent man with a stable profession.

On Dec. 10, 2019, Dr. Li went online to warn some of his colleagues to take precautions because they had several cases of pneumonia in the hospital where he worked, and that seven people had been quarantined with a SARS-like illness. He noted that all the sick people had worked in stalls in the Wuhan fish market.

He tried to change the post a few hours later to omit the SARS reference but it was too late as it had already gone viral.

In the middle of the night he was summoned by hospital authorities and accused of spreading rumors that would “disturb the public order.” He signed a paper agreeing to be quiet about the matter but as we know he just went on to warn people. Later he and some of his colleagues were

(Continued on page 2)

## Monroe Township Staff move to online learning in amazing ways

By Dr. Dori Alvich, Superintendent of Monroe Township Schools (Middlesex)

This March, school districts were given the daunting task of moving to remote learning for all students during the COVID-19 crisis. Within days, staff identified online resources,

began changing their lessons to provide online instruction to all students, and to find ways to connect and support students and families during this unprecedented time. It was no easy task, but Monroe Township School District stepped up to the plate and have created many innovative and creative ways to continue the learning for all 7000 students.

Here are a few examples of how this is happening:

**Elementary Schools**

During this time of remote learning, the staff at our six elementary schools continue to find innovative practices that allow us to stay connected to our students in a virtual world. Routines and procedures

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## Memorial Day is May 25 21 Steps

By Allan Kaufman



The badge worn by the Guards of the Unknown Soldiers Photo (tombguards.org)

The soldier walks 21 steps across the tomb. This alludes to the 21-gun salute, which is the highest honor given to any military or foreign dignitary in America. The weapon is always on the shoulder opposite the tomb on the side of the gallery watching the ritual. On the 21st step, the soldier turns east and faces the tomb for 21 seconds. The soldier then turns to face north, across the tomb and moves the weapon to the outside shoulder. After 21 steps, the first step is repeated. This is what is known as “Walking the Mat.”

The tomb guards are soldiers of the United States Army. It is considered one of the highest honors to serve

as a Sentinel at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The soldier “walking the mat” does not wear rank insignia, so as not to outrank the Unknowns, whatever their ranks may have been. Non-commissioned officers (usually the Relief Commander and Assistant Relief Commanders), do wear insignia of their rank when changing the guard only. They have a separate uniform (without rank) that is worn when they actually guard the Unknowns or are “posted.”

There have been 663 honor guards, four of them women. The last woman to have the honor, and the first since 1998, was Staff Sgt. Ruth Hanks. She joined in 2013 and her last walk was in 2018. “Veterans see that soldiers will never be forgotten, Hanks said to reporter Martha C. Koester in an interview that appeared in the NCO Journal in 2017. “It’s a big thing.”

Hanks continued, “I am always trying to bring it back to the unknowns so that everybody remembers what we

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Liam Glinane from Mutual 11 Runs Old Nassau Rd marches every day with Old Glory. It keeps our spirits up! Photo by Greg Policastro

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The Golf Course has been closed until further notice.

Photo by Walter Gryskiewicz

## Zooming right along

By Bob Danehy

The Rossmoor Great Decisions program scheduled for this February and March got sidelined by the March virus.

Thinking out of the box so that classes could continue, Steve Marcus investigated distance learning as a way to keep the classes going without the entire group being present in the Clubhouse.

Steve, along with Bob Gleason this year's program director, investigated the distance learning program called ZOOM. Steve has taken courses using this technology and thought it could work here at Rossmoor. With all participants willing to give it a try, we had our first class on March 24 at 7 p.m. The class lasted about 40 minutes and covered the topic of the

Influence of China on Latin America. While the group did not solve this issue, it did have a lively discussion about this topic.

To many of the participants, distance learning was very new. We all have heard about this but seldom if ever participated in it. Nevertheless, all gave it their best shot, and we had perfect attendance. We plan to continue this for three more weeks so we can complete the course. Our leader Bob said we did so well he was going to give everyone an "A." We seniors will try anything to get perfect attendance.

### GOLF COURSE CLOSED

◆ No Golfing ◆ No Walking ◆ No Bike Riding

### May RCAI Meetings Postponed

All Standing Committee Meetings.  
Maintenance Committee  
Community Affairs Committee  
Finance Committee

**HAVE BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE**

The Board of Governors Annual Meeting  
and Election of Officers scheduled for May 21  
**HAVE BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE**

*Please watch Channel 26 for any  
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### Brave man

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detained by local authorities, but they were not charged.

On Jan. 8, he treated an 82-year-old woman, a patient with glaucoma who had no fever. She, too, had a stall in the fish market. It turned out that she was suffering from the newly-recognized COVID-19. Dr Li believes that he contracted the disease from her because he was not wearing a mask.

His next move was to send his pregnant wife and his 4-year-old son to his in-laws who lived 200 miles away, where he hoped they would be safe. His own parents got the virus but they both survived.

By Jan. 10, he had a cough and other symptoms and was back in the hospital, this time in an isolation ward. On Feb. 1, he tested positive for the virus.

His illness did not stop him from speaking out about the

new virus. By now he had become famous and the whole world wanted to talk to him. He had interviews with people as far away as The New York Times.

His message was always the same: there has to be more transparency, that truth is important, that a healthy society should have more than one voice. After his death, the Chinese government spoke out about how unfairly he had been treated by local authorities.

Tom Inglesby, Director of Health Security at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, made the following observation: "One of the most important warning systems for a deadly new outbreak is a doctor's or nurse's recognition that some new disease is emerging and then for them to sound the alarm. It takes intelligence and courage to stand up and say something like that even in the best of circumstances".

## UP 4 FUN Collecting

By Sidna B. Mitchell

Admittedly, I am a collector. Some things are decorative like little owls to represent my college sorority (Kappa Kappa Gamma) and some things are useful like pretty teacups and champagne flutes. However, after moving to Rossmoor where I have limited space, I started a different type of collection.

When we began traveling to Florida, I noticed the vanity license plates and thought about writing them down. We chose Venice, Fla., because of the six-wicket croquet club. Sure enough, we found vanity plates on cars parked by the court: CROQUET, I CROW K, CRO CAY, PEG OUT and CRO K.

Then I just started writing down any vanity license plate that caught my eye. Soon I was putting those into categories. For example, there seem to be a lot of golfers out there: GOLFNT4, GOLF CART, TEEFOR-2, ACE ON 5, 3 WOOD, EVEN PAR, EAZY PAR, GOLF ME, 70 PAR, 5 IRON, UP 4 GOLF and CATTY V.

Of course, there are other sports and hobbies: OUT SKI2, SWIM50, HOCKEY1, 2 THE BCH, FISHING, BECH LVR, SAIL, JST FSH, FL SWIM, I CANOE, FLY FISH, JUST RUN, YOGA4, I SKI, TRY SAIL, A SEAFAN, J CRIBB (cribbage player) and SKIPPER.

Some folks like to mention states or places: CT LAKES, IM 4BAMA, VT ER, JERSY, BOCA GR, BOSTON 6, KOREA, IDAHO 07, I VENICE, OSPREY 1, BY BY VT, A VENICE2, SPEN 4 and BRKN GRL.

Naturally there were the grandmothers on the road: GRMAJOY, NANNA P, GRANIANI, IMAGRAN, NANA 03, FL MEMA, GRAN MA II, IM GRAMI, GRAM 411 and NANNA.

Some professions were

obvious: T LAWYER, TImBER JK, DRFOG, HOSS DR, DOG DOC, COACHK, SELLS 2, DR MAX, CHIEF ER, CHI DOC, JUDGE 2, DOC Q, OPEN HSE, PRE K+1 (teacher?), UO ITOW, DEM POL, CHIEF 97, DR BEA, RN TLC, FIRE RSQ, MR BRICK, DRMORSE, HAIR PHD, 435 BAIL (bail bondsman), NBA STAR, and REMAXO.

Some people just had to comment: IL DO IT, GO LONG, MAKME, DONT NO, GOT TEA, LVACOP, I SEE YOU, JSTBKIND, JST RIDE, UPICK, DO BTTER, UP-BEAT 1, LV TALL, OLD MAN, BULL, GO BAD, SMART, JUMP UP, FUN4US, SO JOYFL, 4MY-WIFE, LUVOMOM, YS HEDID, GO VEGAN, SEEA-PLAY, A MONKEY, GEEZER 2, FUN SOUL, FABLIFE, MY GSUS, MOB BUY, DOGGONE, IDIDIT, OH DEER, ME2YOU, WANAPUP, LUV MY4, NESTEGG, 2 HEAVEN, CATTER, LUVELVIS, HNG OUT, SLIM, GOOD RUT, STND FRM, 2 DRIVE 4, WHY FLY, U ME AND 3, MAD BRD, RIP BMW, OH HI A, CAKEWALK and UP 4 FUN.

I have to admit this is the easiest and cheapest collection I've ever had. All I need is a pen and paper to write down the crazy things people want on their license plates. Besides I usually get a lot of laughs and don't have to worry about displaying or storing my collection.

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



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

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# Memorial Day is May 25

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are here for. I am there for the unknowns, and I will perform to the best of my ability. The three soldiers whose tombs we guard gave everything for our country,” she added. “Even their names. The least we can do is go out the door and be as perfect as possible for them. And that’s what we do.”



The Last Walk, Staff Sgt. Ruth Hanks, Sentinel  
Photo (U.S. Army)

The oldest living sentinel of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is 100-year old Jack S. Eaton of Burton, Mich. Eaton stood guard by the tomb from 1938 to 1940, but had not been formally recognized for doing so. In October 2019 he flew to Washington, D.C. for a ceremony to see a recently erected plaque recognizing his service at the tomb.

Eaton had been to the tomb in 2018, only to realize a plaque in his honor (every living member of the Honor Guard has a plaque by the tomb) was not present. “The first time was pretty nice, but this is much better because this time I know it’s in a permanent position,” Eaton told radio station WWJ’s Stephanie Davis. The problem was that official records do not date that far back.

Tomb Guards are part of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), serving the U.S. since 1784. It is the oldest active infantry unit in the military still in service. Tomb Guards are handpicked and rigorously trained.

An example of the discipline of the Tomb Guards, from recent memory, was from 2011. During Hurricane Irene, the Old Guard continued to stand watch over the tomb. As we are reminded, by a Sentinel at that time, “There is a shelter the soldiers could use, but they have consistently declined to do so. The tomb,” they said, “has been guarded continuously since 1948.” This was not more evident when, during Hurricane Sandy, when the Sentinels were offered the opportunity to use the shelter, but as they did during Hurricane Irene, declined to do so.



Soldiers of the 3rd Inf Reg. continue to stand guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, despite the worsening weather conditions surrounding Hurricane Sandy.  
Photo (First Army Division East/via Facebook)

## The Tomb

The idea of honoring the unknown dead originated in Europe. The first country to honor its unknown was Great Britain which laid an unknown soldier after World War I. After seeing the service, the U.S. Secretary of War delegated the U.S. Army to find four potential soldiers, for burial in Arlington National Cemetery. After finding four “unknowns” the bodies were taken to Calons, France. The Quartermaster had the responsibility to ensure that there was no evidence of identification and that no indication that their identity could ever be

established. On Oct. 21, 1921, in view of his outstanding service, U.S. Sergeant Edward F. Younger, who was on duty in Europe, was given the honor of making the final selection. In November 1921 the body selected was taken by ship to Washington D.C. where it lay in state under a guard of honor. The following day, the body was taken to Arlington National Cemetery, where President Warren G. Harding presided over a brief ceremony. A simple marble crypt was placed over the WW I Unknown.

Over the next few years, a lack of decorum was noticed at the Tomb, resulting in the institution of civilian guards. In 1926, Congress allocated funds to build an elaborate sarcophagus, the one that is currently seen by thousands. The Tomb was designed by Lorimer Rich. It is made entirely of white marble and was completed in 1931. The Tomb is broken into seven different parts.

On the north and south panels of the Tomb are six wreaths which are inverted to represent mourning and the

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Wishing you a beautiful Memorial Day weekend.

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 out in the community at night.

## Bob's Almanac

By Bob Huber

It's the merry month of May, the true arrival of Spring in most people's minds. Spring lambs are gamboling on the green, and in many locations, there are special events to celebrate the arrival of a new growing season, such as dancing around the Maypole.

No one knows for sure why lambs gambol. It appears they are just having fun. The source of Maypole dancing is equally obscure. Historians believe the custom began with ancient Germanic cultures as a Spring celebration. Sigmund Freud felt that the dance had a sexual connotation with the Maypole being a phallic symbol around which young maidens danced to promote fertility. Sigmund thought everything was related to sex. He really needed to consult a psychiatrist.

Whatever the reason, most people look forward to May as warmer weather arrives and Mother Earth begins to bring forth her bounty.

Historically, May is also an important month, harboring many events which have illuminated and altered our times. A short list includes:

May 4, 1494, Christopher Columbus discovered Jamaica on his second voyage to the New World.

May 6, 1937, the German dirigible Hindenburg crashed and burned in Lakehurst, N. J., killing 36 of the 97 people on board. The tragedy doomed the future of airship travel.

May 9, 1945, World War II in Europe officially ended.

May 8, 1884, Harry S. Truman was born. One of the few American presidents not to have a college education, he was faced with some of

the most difficult decisions of his time, including the dropping of the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

May 10, 1869, the East Coast and West Coast of the United States were united by railroad. The final Golden Spike was driven into place at a ceremony in Promontory Point, Utah.

May 12, 1607, the first permanent English settlement in the New World was established in Yorktown, Virginia.

May 15, 1804, the Lewis and Clark expedition opened the upper Mid-West to further exploration and eventual settlement.

May 20, 1862, President Lincoln signed the Homestead Act, opening millions of acres of government land for settlement.

May 24, 1844, telegraph

inventor, Samuel Morse, sent the first official telegraph message from the Capitol building in Washington to Baltimore.

May 25, 1787, the first Constitutional Convention took place in Philadelphia with delegates from seven states forming a quorum.

You may not feel like creating an event that would alter our life and times. You may not want to gambol with the lambs or dance around the Maypole, but May is a great time to get out of the house and enjoy what the season has to offer, as long as you avoid crowds. And if you do feel inspired to make your own contribution to the season, why not plant some flowers. Mother Nature will be pleased and so will your neighbors.

## Memorial Day is May 25

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six major battle campaigns of WWI: The battle of Ardennes, Belleau Wood, Chateau-Thierry, Meuse-Argonne, Oisieu-Eiseu, and Somme. On the east side of the Tomb, facing Washington, D.C., are three figures carved into the marble. The figures represent Peace, Victory and Valor. On the west face of the Tomb there is the famous inscription:

**Here Rests in  
 Honored Glory  
 An American Soldier  
 Known but to God**

Interment of a soldier from World War II was scheduled to take place in 1951, but with the outbreak of the Korean War, the interment was placed on hold. At the end of Korean War, it was decided that the unknown soldier from WW II and the Korean War would be interred together and that took place in 1958. A soldier from the Vietnam War was interred in 1984.



Photo -(abc12.com)

In 1994, the family of U.S. Air Force Captain, Michael J. Blassie (missing in action since 1972) was presented with overwhelming evidence indicating he was the Vietnam War Unknown. The decision to exhume the Vietnam War Unknown was made by President Reagan so a DNA test could be performed.

In 1998 the test results confirmed that the Vietnam War Unknown Soldier was, indeed Michael J. Blassie. In July 1998, he was re-interred at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in Saint Louis County, Missouri.

May 25, Memorial Day, is a day when we should honor not only the memory of those who served and gave the ultimate sacrifice doing their duty, but we also honor all who have served. We honor the three Unknown Soldiers, the soldiers that lie side by side in the graves at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as my dad Moe Kaufman, his twin brother Hesh and their older brother Lou, as they all served in World War II and my best friend from college, Lt. Col. Mitch Kaphan, who served in Desert Storm. They are all buried in the same local cemetery in New York.

Let's remember Memorial Day for what the day should mean to all of us, not for the Memorial Day sales at the mall. It's a time to remember the many who have served, from the untrained George Washington's Army to today's men and women preserving our freedom every day of the year. Take a minute to say thanks the next time you see a man or woman in uniform. It will make them feel good and I guarantee you that you will feel even better.

Your comments are most appreciated. I can be reached at allan.kaufman0125@gmail.com.

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## Our Website

Rossmoor now has an improved website: rcainj.com.

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





Sound Advice

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

Boomers working past age 65 are a surprise boost

Americans over age 65 are staying in the labor force more often than expected, brightening the U.S. economic forecast and the outlook for U.S. stocks.

Turns out, the offspring of the Greatest Generation, those who served in World War II, deserve some respect, too. Baby boomers are characterized by a strong work ethic, and they are electing to work longer than government experts expected. Boomers are a key reason the economy continues to grow even as the labor market has tightened.

The Congressional Budget Office's long-term growth forecast did not count on so many boomers working past age 65. With new jobs continuing to be filled by a larger than expected number of workers in the 65-plus age group, U.S. GDP (gross domestic product) is benefitting from an unexpected boost, and it's no small thing.

Labor force growth is a key fundamental in math economics: total growth of the U.S. economy is the product of the labor force growth rate and productivity growth. The unexpected addition of workers in the labor force improves forecasts for economic growth in the years ahead.

Historically, the economy is unable to continue to create new jobs because we run out of people to fill them. Newly created positions drive wages

higher, increasing inflation, and then the Federal Reserve makes a monetary policy mistake, which results in two consecutive quarters of shrinkage in economic activity, aka, a recession. But these times are different.

The Congressional Budget Office, a federal agency widely recognized as an authoritative non-partisan source, in January 2017 forecasted a decline in the labor force. The stair-step decline in the labor force that the CBO expected is not happening. The labor force participation rate has continued to grow since 2017, when it was expected to flatten and start a long decline, and no one is certain how long the trend will continue.

The labor force participation rate is reflecting the improved longevity of Americans, which the CBO economists did not figure into their estimates of the future. If the trend since 2017 were to continue, the U.S. labor force could contribute a totally unexpected boost of growth in consumer spending in the years ahead, and consumers account for 70% of GDP. Higher consumer spending boosts earnings of corporate America and that's good for stocks.

We hope and expect this trend to continue in the second half of 2020 and beyond after the Coronavirus government shutdown of small business has ended.

Norman J. Politziner, CFP, a resident of Encore, is an Investment Adviser Representative of Kingsview Asset Management. For more information, questions, or comments, visit our website at [www.poltziner.com](http://www.poltziner.com) or call us at (732) 296-9355.

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Bridge

By Ken Thomas

From Go Fish to Poker, we play card games, childhood to adulthood. In between, the name of the game might be Gin, Uno or Hearts, graduating to Canasta or Pinochle. The real serious players wind up with Bridge. It's a lifetime of fun playing cards. Today, my game is Bridge also. Unfortunately, the number of bridge players is dwindling. They're hard to find, look for gray hair. Additionally, bridge partners will probably be male and female. Mixed partners can be a problem, especially married partners. An incorrect bid or questionable card play may lead to a disagreement or argument. Husbands and wives have enough problems to fight about and a bridge solution is not in the cards.

When the cards are dealt, the name of the game can change; Monday Night Bridge, Party Bridge, Duplicate Bridge, Couples Bridge, Sunday Brunch Bridge, Ladies Bridge or Men's Bridge. WARNING! Again, a husband and wife, playing as partners, may have a few teeny, weeny disagreements. However, she'll come around, because she probably loves the game more than he does. We've played Bridge with our friends for over 40 years, the men against the women mostly. We should have recorded all those games, because "who bid", "who won",

"who knows". Our games have been a source of unending fun and friendship; vacations are relived, family stories are retold, birthdays are planned, our children are discussed, gossip is gossiped, problems are brought to the table and fun is automatic. Learning Bridge never ends and a "slam" can make your day.

**Wednesday Night Ladies Bridge**

My wife joined the Ladies

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## Here's to Mom

By Bob Huber

With all the concern over the coronavirus and the upcoming elections, we hope you have not forgotten that Sunday, May 10, is Mother's Day: the one day in the year that we pay homage to the lady who gave us life, protection, and guidance through our formative years, influencing our lives forever.

It was the ancient Greeks who first celebrated motherhood. They held festivities to honor Rhea, the mother of the gods. Early Christians chose the fourth Sunday of Lent to honor Mary, the mother of Christ. Later, the occasion was expanded to include all mothers. They called it Mothering Sunday.

Down through the ages most cultures have held special events to celebrate motherhood. Strangely enough, Mother's Day was not officially recognized in the United States until 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday in May as a national holiday in honor of mothers.

It would be a difficult task to list all our nation's famous mothers. Who would we include? Who would we omit? It might be more illuminating to examine one of our most infamous mothers who left a special footnote on the pages of American history. Her name was Ma Barker.

The Ma Barker gang consisted of Ma's four sons. They were a one family crime wave during the Depression years, participating in murders, kidnappings and robberies. They joined such other notables as Bonnie and Clyde, "Machine Gun" Kelly, and John Dillinger on the FBI's Most Wanted list. The FBI vilified Ma Barker after gunning her down in a shoot out in 1935, claiming she was the steel hearted brains of the Barker gang, but from a historical perspective, it now appears that Ma had little or nothing to do with her sons' criminal mayhem. Her only crime was her attempt to protect her boys. As one person put it, "Ma couldn't plan breakfast, let alone a bank robbery."

Among most species, protecting and nurturing the young is a prime objective. Nature obviously planned it that way to guarantee survival of the species. In the matriarchal society of an elephant herd, protecting and nurturing the young is a group responsibility, and we've all heard stories about mother bears who will fight to the death to protect their cubs.

Happily, most of our Moms were never called upon to go to such extremes, but who wouldn't say that kissing hundreds of boo-boos to make them well, showing infinite patience with adolescent angst, and guiding us on the road to adulthood isn't just as heroic?

## Fionn MacCumhal's poem in praise of Mayday

By Anne Rotholz

While growing up in Ireland we had lots of Mother Goose rhymes but Irish mythology also played an important role in our childhood. We heard stories about the Fianna, the famous giants of old who protected Ireland from its many enemies. Fionn was their leader. Their great mythical achievement was building the Giants' Causeway between Ireland and Scotland.

Apparently, there was a very threatening rival giant, named Benadonner, who lived in Scotland. He was determined to get rid of Fionn. When Fionn heard Benadonner was coming to kill him, he became apprehensive. His wife Saidhbh (meaning "goodness") told him that he did not have to worry because she had a plan.

She told Fionn to lie on the ground where she swaddled him in robes and blankets and made sure that his head was well wrapped. Benadonner's roaring could soon be heard. "Where is Fionn?" Saidhbh approached him, put a finger to her lips and said "Shh, the baby is sleeping."

For most of us in Rossmoor, it is the grandmothers and great grandmothers who weave the fabric that binds families together.

It's disturbing to note that the Sunday following Mother's Day marks the beginning of National Pickle Week. I have nothing against pickles. After all, they've been a staple of the human diet for more than 4000 years, but it seems unconscionable that pickles should be honored for a week (ten days, actually), while Moms only get one day. It's an affront to motherhood!

For my part, I'll honor the memory of my mother every day of the year by applying the thousand and one life's lessons she taught me. They've served me well so far.

Here's to you, Mom!

Benadonner took one look at "the baby" and thought "If this is the baby..." He took off with great leaps over the Causeway on his way back to Scotland. He never set foot in Ireland again!

The following poem has always been ascribed to Fionn.

**Fionn MacCumhal's poem in praise of May**

*May Day! Delightful day!*

*Bright colors play the vale along.*

*Now wakes at morning's slender ray,*

*Wild and gay, the blackbird's song.*

*Now comes the bird of dusty hue,*

*The loud cuckoo, the summer-lover.*

*Branching trees are thick with leaves,*

*The bitter, evil time is over.*

*Loudly carols the lark on high,*

*Small and shy, his tireless lay.*

*Singing in wildest, merriest mood,*

*Delicate-hued, delightful May.*

(Like most Irish poems, it has several more verses.)

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## Bridge

(Continued from page 5)

Night Bridge group, playing every other Wednesday; two tables, eight women. The ladies became very close friends. I often wondered about those Wednesday nights. These women were so very different, but became sister-like. They even went to London, England, on a vacation together. For one of those Wednesday nights, I was asked to substitute for a player. After a few jokes about my manhood, the first hand was dealt. I was "Dummy," so I went for some homemade hors-d'oeuvres. The food was plentiful and tasted like a tailgate banquet, so my plate was full. There were several bottles of wine to try also. Wine glasses were never empty at any table. When opponents didn't make

their bid, the celebration was loud and sarcasm was part of the response. Were these women friends or enemies? Thank heavens, I made my bids or the manhood jokes may have continued. Conversations started and the bidding slowed. During the game, "your play" was a constant reminder. Obviously, the trump suit was not as important as the new swim suit. The wine flowed and the first hour became "gossip hour." My attempts at conversation were ignored. Their intimate conversations brought laughter or serious problems to the tables. Another bottle of wine was opened. Exasperated, I kept repeating "your play," but was again ignored. The ladies barely finished two rubbers, but they did put a big, big dent in the wine. The husbands re-named Wednesday "Drunk Bridge."



# Grandchildren

By Ken Thomas

These little people are now the main focus of my wife and me. We visit them or they visit us with regularity. After retirement, grandma and grandpa moved from Virginia to New Jersey for these visit possibilities. Today our only purpose is to ensure that these little people love us more than the other grandparents. For birthdays, holidays, or any visit we purchase presents to ensure their love. Price is not a consideration. "Special Treats" entice them to visit

and stay overnight. Any telephone call to our children has to include a conversation with our grandchildren, whether they can talk or not. Each achievement or intelligent sentence from these little people gets our enthusiastic praise. Pictures detailing memorable moments are displayed on our refrigerator for months until others arrive. My wife shops constantly for clothes, so they look "cute" in the pictures. Our house has designated grandchildren areas. Each child has a bedroom. Nearby

is a bookcase holding 100 children's books for us to read. Kitchen cabinets contain mostly grandchildren food. Anything they want to eat is designated on our menu for that meal. The promised special treats are everywhere. Cheerios, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly or hot dogs are always available. If they "taste" the green beans, broccoli or sausage, we celebrate. Boxes of toys are stored in a room for their enjoyment. First, they dump the box of toys all over the floor, then they play with the toys for fifteen minutes. Crayons, pencils and paper are plentiful in case they feel artistic. A television is set up for cartoon watching. Grandma or grandpa is required to play

with the grandchildren, while they visit. Grandma and grandpa can never say the "no" word. If she screams for an hour at bedtime, no problem. If he poops in his training diaper, no problem. If she spills her orange juice on the rug, no problem. If he or she throws a tantrum, no problem. Then, grandma and grandpa must use the disciplinary methods of the grandchildren's parents, our children. We can't say "no", but we start counting 1.2.3. After 3, he or she can be placed in a "time out" area for some varying period of time. Words like "stupid" are questionable. "Sorry" is encouraged. Spanking is never a consideration and each grandparent must maintain a moderate decibel voice range.

Grandma and grandpa have a list. Car seats are required. Furniture has to be childproof. Diapers should be readily available. An extra "binky" must be on hand. Any medicine must be blessed by a doctor before usage. A favorite stuffed animal at bedtime is paramount. Grandma must prepare any requested food and sing children's songs. Grandpa must be able to build "Lego" bridges, repair trucks, catch balls, and race cars. Haircuts are optional. After eight grandchildren, grandma and grandpa rules are subject to change. However, they must always kiss each grandchild and say I love you before they go home. "Grand" is part of a word that means love.

# Happy Easter

By Ken Thomas

Although the tradition of decorating eggs and an egg hunt are part of Easter, I hate hard-boiled eggs. My celebration is a "chocolate" hunt. Before or after church, I hide chocolate Easter Bunnies near our house. At first the "chocolate" hunt was just for my son and daughter, but soon a few friends and their children joined us. We lived on a dead-end street with an entrance to a park. Our house faced an empty lot and about 40 other homes lined our street to the park. Hiding places were plentiful. The children gathered on our front porch and I gave each an Easter card with clues to guide them to an Easter Bunny. One at a time, the children read the clues aloud (parents read for the younger ones) and went to

seek Mister Rabbit. One year, the clues led the seeker to a Dogwood tree. The child learned what a Dogwood tree looked like and found a "his" or "her" bunny in the branches. Some clues were difficult, some easy depending on the child. As the years passed and the children grew, I added a compass. Using compass headings, the hunters found their chocolate. Orient your compass

- Go fifty paces at a 90 degrees compass heading
- Orient your compass
- Go fifty paces at a 180 degrees compass heading
- Orient your compass
- Go fifty paces at a 270 degrees compass heading
- Stop and reach for your Easter Bunny

If the seeker is correct, the compass bearings bring him or her back to the starting point (90 degrees triangle). There, I would be seated in a comfortable lawn chair holding Easter bunnies. If the seeker could touch me at the end of the hunt, he or she earned a bunny (everyone gets a bunny anyway). The children had a great time. Every year the parents accused me of various devious directions and clues. I love Easter.

# The Hallelujah Chorus

By Ken Thomas

How is it possible to fill almost all the churches in your town? The answer is simple. Make every Sunday an "Easter Sunday." On Easter Sunday everywhere, the pews get crowded as those who seldom worship attend church. It is a special Sunday; the sermon is special; the music is special and the reason for Easter Sunday surpasses special, "He has risen". Religion is a problem word in many ways and all the books or all the arguments will never have the words to define religion, worship or spirituality for everyone. Yet, on an Easter Sunday years ago, our choir director added a part to our worship service that made "special" a 20-lettered word. Traditionally, our choir sang the "Hallelujah Chorus," music that lifts the spirit and certainly is Easter music. That year she invited everyone in the pews to join our choir. The size of the choir tripled as singers from the congregation found their place at the altar with our sopranos, tenors, altos and basses. Did they sing the "Hallelujahs" before in school, in college, in other choruses or in other churches? Over 100 singers followed our choir director as she led us in the "Hallelujah Chorus". AMEN!

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## Is it possible?

By Allan Kaufman

The beginning of the Major League Baseball season. To start in May, in Arizona. Is it possible? You can ask the same question regarding the continuation of both the National Basketball Association and the National Hockey League seasons.

Additionally, the PGA has announced a very compact golf season, starting with the Memorial Tournament in Ohio, without fans, in June followed by the three major championships scheduled. The PGA to be played in August, the U.S. Open in September and the Masters in November. Is it possible?

And, the most aggressive of the major sports, the National Football League plans to start the 2020 season on time in September. Is it possible?

While these plans are not etched in stone, each professional league must have con-

tingency plans to get their seasons re-started or started. The leagues are losing television money by not playing. They are losing money by not having fans in their stadiums. Do you think my daughter and I will feel comfortable going into MetLife Stadium to sit with 80,000 fans to watch the Giants play in September? The leagues commissioners are hoping that the COVID-19 virus will be under control and that normalcy will return. Is it possible?

It may be one thing to play the games without fans in the stands, but what happens if one player develops the virus in September or October? The leagues will have to shut down again. With the scientists from the CDC stating that there may be a resurgence of the virus in the fall, can the players feel comfortable in taking the risk of playing? Athletes being athletes,

they want to play. Is that the wise decision?

To me all the contingency plans are dependent, not upon controlling the virus, but on developing a vaccine. Unless we have a vaccine, why take the chance of catching the virus and passing it along to a teammate, who in turn passes it along to family members, who in turn pass it along to friends? Then the cycle of what we are experiencing now starts its cycle all over again. As much as we miss our teams playing, as they are part of our everyday discourse, it's foolish for any league to start playing without the vaccine. Is it possible? Yes, but hopefully science will win over being foolish.

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

## Julia Pierpont Day

By Jean Houvener

In Fairmont, W.Va., Julia Augusta Robertson Pierpont is recognized as being the originator of Decoration Day, now known as Memorial Day (officially changed in 1967). Her husband, Francis H. Pierpont, is considered to be the father of West Virginia, which became a state in 1863. Francis, born in what is now Morgantown, W.Va., was a staunch Republican and supporter of Lincoln. Julia was born in Dryden, N.Y., in 1828. Both were ardent abolitionists.

When Virginia voted to secede, he along with others in the northern counties of the state, refused to join the Confederacy with them. Pierpont was appointed the governor of the "Restored Government" of Virginia based in Wheeling and later Alexandria during and after the Civil War. After the war, rather than letting Pierpont become governor of the new state of West Virginia as he had hoped, Lincoln required him to stay on as governor of Virginia. In May 1865 Pierpont's government moved to Richmond. During the war Julia protected her family home and children in Fairmont as her husband was forced to flee, and ultimately had to flee herself.

While living in Richmond, Va., in the Governor's Mansion, in May 1866, Julia and a Miss Woolsey, a teacher from New York at a school for African Americans, decided to decorate the neglected graves of Union soldiers who had been buried in Hollywood Cemetery. They, along with friends, family, other teachers, and the school children went to the cemetery with decorations for the graves.

While some approved, others did not; later a Decoration Day was held in Richmond to decorate the graves

of Confederate soldiers, which thousands attended. News of these events spread to other places in the country and more decoration days were held. Decoration Day was born, and eventually ordered to be held on May 30. More recently the day shifts to create a three-day weekend.

There are records of other Decoration Days, both before and after 1866. Some of the earliest were in the south as Confederate state women decorated the graves of their fallen. One of the earliest in

the north was after the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863.

After his service in Virginia was over, Pierpont, with his family, returned to his law practice in Fairmont, W.Va. Pierpont, Julia, and their children are buried and memorialized in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Fairmont, where the beginning of Memorial Day by Julia is celebrated every year. The state of West Virginia, the county of Marion, and the city of Fairmont have declared the Saturday before Memorial Day Julia Pierpont Day.

## Listen to the music

By Ken Thomas

We listen to the music and those moments become special: a concert, on Broadway, at an opera, or watching a premier entertainer. Our memories of each performance sometimes last a lifetime. Daily, we listen to the music, feeling a connection deep in our souls.

The music may have started when thousands of children began to play an instrument or joined a chorus in elementary school. Remember the Flutaphone? They played or sang for two or three years. Some continued the music into junior and senior high school, then college. Even after college, music could still be heard from their windows.

What happened to all those musicians and singers? Look around and you will find them; church choirs, town orchestras, city bands, ensembles, accompanists, etc. All love music and share their talent with us. They are our friends and neighbors who one day stand up and, surprise, the music comes out. None are professionals, but each have continued with their

music and we listen gratefully.

With my C+ talent rating, I've been playing my trumpet almost continuously in a band or ensemble. My churches have heard a trumpet for over 30 years. God bless those Presbyterians, forgiving the notes I've missed.

My music started with Dad's music; the Big Band era of the 40's and ends today with the music of my grandchildren. I'm in the middle with a sizable portion of Rock and Roll and a touch of the classics. My grandson continues the family tradition in his high school marching band. My great grandson has a trumpet lesson from me next week. This musician has played the music with a variety of instrumentalists; a Ph.D. in music, a Julliard trombonist, gray hairs and long hairs, kids and professionals in the Let's Dance band. The very last word in music is the "professionals." They play or sing each note and song perfectly. I can only admire. Bless all the musicians and singers everywhere. We are listening.



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Vinegar – A product of many uses

By Linda Bozowski

One of the bottles that most of us have in our kitchen cabinets or pantries is vinegar – white, red wine, Balsamic, sherry, or maybe even one bottle of each. What is it about this product that makes it so attractive that we would have more than one flavor? What is vinegar, anyway?

Vinegar, a fermented derivative of wine, figs, dates, or other vegetative products, has been made since about 3000 B.C. in Asia, southern Europe and northern Africa. Because it is a fermented product which requires a lengthy timeframe, it was considered so specialized that, in some cultures, there were professional vinegar makers. Vinegar was used in cooking but it was also used for medical purposes in some cultures. It was not until 1823 that making vinegar was industrialized and

faster fermentation processes were developed. When Louis Pasteur discovered that the bacteria now known as acetic acid bacteria was responsible for the fermentation of vegetative products into vinegar, the fermentation process was accelerated from several weeks to one to two days because the bacteria was added to the other raw materials.

So, what is it about vinegar that makes it so valued in our kitchens? Taste is a key component of all cooking, and even an uneducated palate can tell the difference between the tastes of Modena Balsamic and apple cider vinegars – the somewhat sweet compared to the more acidic tastes. The subtle mildness of champagne or sherry vinegars do not add the same excitement to a Greek salad as does a sharp red wine vinegar.

Vinegar is an ingredient

that can change whole milk into an acceptable substitute for buttermilk needed in the pancake recipe. It is a basic ingredient in making pickles, mayonnaise, mustard, various marinades and in hot and sour soup. Vinegar can be used to dress cabbage on St. Patrick's Day or added to certain soup recipes. And salad dressings rely on various vinegars to give them their distinctive flavors.

Is vinegar good for anything else? Its medicinal uses have largely been disproven – it doesn't cure diabetes, despite old claims. At the risk of sounding like articles found in other magazines, there are many other uses for vinegar – not the fancy pantry vinegars, but the good old plain, inexpensive white vinegar. For example, vinegar can be used as an herbicide. Twenty percent acetic acid vinegar can be poured on weeds and will kill the tops but will not be absorbed by the roots of other plants. Vinegar can also be used as a cleaning product. Diluting with water may be recommended, but in general, vinegar can be used to clean such metals as stainless steel, copper, silver, brass, and bronze. Vinegar has a well-deserved reputation as a great window cleaner, and may be wiped away with newspapers. Although vinegar does not have disinfectant properties, it is a good basic cleaning product for ceramic tile, counters, stove tops and tile floors.

Have any uses been left out? Of course. Vinegar, combined with baking soda, can be used as a drain opener. When the two-year-old grandchild decides that more toilet paper may be needed and the toilet isn't flushing well, sometimes a mixture of baking soda, followed by a very generous splash of white vinegar, can help with the unclogging process. And we can't forget about making volcanos. What would be of more interest to a seven-year-old – Greek salad or a good overflowing volcano on the picnic table?

Notable Quotes

By Anne Rotholz

While all of us seem to collect one thing or another, I seem to have succumbed to collecting quotes. I jot them down when I am reading. I clip them out of newspapers and magazines. When I hear a speaker give an interesting quote, I resolve to remember it, though I'm afraid that at this point in my life not every quote survives until I have an opportunity to write it down.

Every now and then I take out the quote folder, decide that it is getting a bit cluttered, and proceed to get rid of the quotes that have less appeal. I later find myself asking why I threw them away.

Why do I collect quotes? Quotes can be inspirational, humorous, or can even make a point about everyday common-sense issues.

Following, for your enjoyment, are some that have withstood the test of time in my collection. You will notice that the quotes come from people in very different walks of life.

"It's surprising how much you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit." *Abraham Lincoln*

"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors." *Plato*

"If you judge people you do not have time to love them." *Mother Theresa*

"An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind." *Mahatma Gandhi*

"Great minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events, small minds discuss people." *Eleanor Roosevelt*

"An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile hoping it will eat him last." *Winston Churchill*

"Those who don't know how to weep with their whole hearts, don't know how to laugh either." *Golda Meir*

"A person who will not read has no advantage over one who can't read." *Mark Twain*

"Half the world is composed of people who have something to say and can't, and the other half have nothing to say and keep on saying it." *Robert Frost*

"Hatred is a great burden to bear. It injures the hater more than the hated." *Coretta King*

"Soldiers' graves are the greatest preachers of peace." *Albert Schweitzer*

"If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito." *Dalai Lama*

"In politics if you want something said ask a man. If you want something done ask a woman." *Margaret Thatcher*

"A pessimist is one who has a choice of two evils and chooses both." *Oscar Wilde*

"I do not know with what weapons World War 3 will be fought, but World War 4 will be fought with sticks and stones." *Albert Einstein*

"Women who seek to be equal with men lack ambition." *Timothy Leary*

For my golfer friends: "Golf is a good walk spoiled." *Mark Twain*

"The only thing of importance, when we depart, will be the traces of love we have left behind." *Albert Schweitzer*



# Memorial Day

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# Who invented soap?

By Carol De Haan

Plain, ordinary soap is a powerful force in our efforts to combat the pandemic that now threatens the world. Where did it originate? Who invented this wonderful stuff?

The first explanation I heard was that Mount Sapo, near ancient Rome, was the site where animals were sacrificed to the gods. When an animal was killed, the priests took home all edible parts, leaving skin, bones, and entrails to be burned. The resulting wood ash and tallow accumulated under the ceremonial altar. Eventually rain water washed down the mountain toward the River Tiber, mixing wood ash with water to create the caustic alkali that we call lye. Then animal fat mixed with the lye, thereby tempering its strong, chemical properties. Voila, soap.

Oh, horsefeathers!  
That neat little legend was cooked up by the ancient

Roman naturalist, Pliny the Elder, in his *Historia Naturalis*, dated A.D. 77. It represents as much as might have been known in his time and place, or perhaps he wanted to depict Rome as the originator of things worthwhile.

Archeologists now tell us that soap was known as far back as 5,000 years ago in ancient Babylonia, (Iraq on a modern map). Scholars found clay pots labeled, “fats boiled with ashes,” which, of course, means “soap.”

In ancient Egypt, a medical document known as the Ebers papyrus, dating back about 3,500 years, tells of mixing alkaline salts with animal fats and vegetable oils to create a soap-like remedy for skin diseases, and also for bathing.

Some ancient Roman emperors built vast complexes in which ordinary citizens could first wash with soap, rinse off, and then bathe in heated pools, daily if they so

desired. The know-how for making soap seems to have spread far and wide in the ancient world.

Alas, the pleasant amenities of the Roman world came to an abrupt halt in A.D. 467, when barbarian hordes conquered Rome and demolished its advanced culture. As Europe descended into the Dark Ages, personal cleanliness deteriorated. Many illnesses proliferated. Historians believe that the lack of sanitary conditions contributed to the spread of the Black Death which, in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, killed up to 200 million people across Eurasia, including about 60% of Europeans.

Nevertheless, human life continued. Soap making became an established craft in Italy, Spain, and France, probably because those countries had an ample supply of one necessary ingredient, olive oil, which is rich in antiseptic, astringent, and emollient properties. During the Enlightenment of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, soap was made all over Europe and as far north

as England. Colonists in Jamestown, Va., continued the practice. Making soap was a household chore in those days.

By 1850, however, soap manufacture had become one of America’s fastest-growing commercial industries, thanks to the research of a French chemist, Nicolas Leblanc, who, in 1791, discovered how to convert common salt into soda ash. Once a luxury enjoyed mostly by the wealthy, washing with soap was now good for everyone. Lavender scent was a major enhancement.

In the 20th century, wartime shortages of animal and vegetable fats inspired chemists to synthesize various raw materials to manufacture detergents, which are now so commonplace in our lives as to be considered “soap.”

Whether you opt for real soap or for a detergent, make sure you use it diligently. Cleanliness is a vital tool in our struggle against the spread of the corona virus.

# History Repeats Itself

Here is a poem written in 1869, reprinted during 1919 pandemic. This is timeless....

It was written in 1869 by Kathleen O'Mara:

And people stayed at home  
And read books  
And listened  
And they rested  
And did exercises  
And made art and played  
And learned new ways of being  
And stopped and listened  
More deeply  
Someone meditated,  
someone prayed  
Someone met their shadow  
And people began to think differently  
And people healed.  
And in the absence of people who  
Lived in ignorant ways  
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,  
The earth also began to heal  
And when the danger ended and  
People found themselves  
They grieved for the dead  
And made new choices  
And dreamed of new visions  
And created new ways of living  
And completely healed the earth  
Just as they were healed.

Reprinted during Spanish flu Pandemic, 1919  
Photo taken during Spanish flu



# Dance with me

By Ken Thomas

Our gig was over, so I started to pack up my trumpet and sheet music. This was probably the first time the retirement facility had been entertained by a band with more gray hair than the residents. The trumpet player next to me was 91 years old. This gig was not unusual except for the last dance, a waltz. Only one couple danced. During fifteen measures rest in my music, I watched this elderly gentleman leave his wheelchair,

walk over to an older woman at a side table, take her hand and dance. The audience was quiet for a moment, then they applauded. I didn’t understand the applause until later.

When I got home, an e-mail from a member of our band explained. “Did you see that couple dancing the last dance”? Their program director told me, “No one has seen that man leave his wheelchair for years. When he walked over to his wife and asked her to dance, we were all shocked and touched. It must have been the music, your beautiful music.”

Music creates many positive moments, just listen.

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Thursday, November 7th, 1918

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF KELOWNA

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All public gatherings consisting of ten or more are prohibited.

Kelowna, B.C.,  
19th October, 1918.

D. W. SUTHERLAND,  
Mayor.



## CULINARY CORNER

By Sidna Mitchell

### Try this easy Crunch Cake

We invited our friend and Croquet Hall of Famer, Jackie Jones, to dinner shortly after her husband Fred, also in the Croquet Hall of Fame, died. Other croquet friends — Irishman Colin Ir-

win is world-renowned for his wins on the croquet court and Jim and Connie Coling, up-and-coming players from Virginia — were also guests.

We sat around with drinks in one hand and hors d'oeuvres in another, telling Fred and Jackie stories before dinner. We all noted how the church for Fred's memorial service was filled with folks dressed in their white clothes — a tradition out of respect for croquet players who have "pegged out" of life. (In six-wicket croquet, once a player has gone around the court twice, he/she can hit the peg and take that ball out of the game for an extra point. Thus, pegged out of the game.)

On another occasion, I had served pork and pears as an entrée that the Joneses enjoyed. Jackie asked for the recipe but later claimed her version was not as good as mine. This time I fixed another old faithful recipe, one for Moroccan chicken, that I

paired with rice and quinoa for the starch, and a vegetable medley for the side. We started with a Moroccan carrot soup that was really good. Dessert was a peach crunch cake served with peach ice cream.

After dinner we played a new game, SarsasotaOpoly, much like Monopoly. The Irishman was in charge of reading the rules since none of us had ever played the game. Jim kept trying to get me to sell one of my holdings so he would own a whole block. Connie, unfortunately, soon went into bankruptcy and was out of the game. The rest of us struggled along except for Jackie. This lady, who admitted she loved playing games, won big time. It was great to see her smile and laugh so we didn't care that we were the losers!

The dessert was so easy to make and delicious—even for breakfast, without the ice cream. Here's my version.

### Peach Crunch Cake

### Culinary Corner

1 can (21-oz.) peach pie filling/topping  
1 package yellow cake mix  
¾ cup chopped pecans, toasted  
½ cup toffee bits  
1 stick (1/2 cup) butter, cut into small pieces  
Vanilla ice cream

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.  
Spread the peach filling evenly in a 9"x9" baking pan.  
Pour dry cake mix on top of fruit filling; swirl with a knife until cake mix is just moistened.  
Sprinkle with nuts and toffee bits.  
Dot with butter.  
Bake in preheated 350-degree oven for 45 minutes.  
Cool for about one hour.  
Serve with a scoop of vanilla ice cream.  
Makes 12 servings

NOTE: I used Duncan Hines Comstock peach pie filling and Duncan Hines classic yellow cake mix. I did not toast my pecans. Also, I used Heath chocolate English toffee bits.

You could use any flavor pie filling for a yummy cake. I can be reached via e-mail at sbmcooks@aol.com.

## In Memoriam

### Betty Emmons

By Denise Cooper

Betty Emmons, of Mutual 1, passed away peacefully at Princeton Hospital after a brief illness. She was 94, having been born on July 18, 1925.

Betty grew up in South Plainfield, graduating from North Plainfield High School in 1943. She had been a secretary for an officer at Camp Kilmer. She married her husband, Bill, in 1947 upon his return from WW II. After their marriage, Betty worked at a local bank, and Bill at Westinghouse, while they resided in Middlesex County until his death in 1983.

In the early 90s, Betty met her loving partner, Jonas Cooper. After her sister Doris' death in 2001, Betty and Jonas moved to Rossmoor, where Jonas passed in 2009, and Betty remained until the present.

Betty was a life-long, active member of the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield and in recent years, served faithfully as a Stephens Minister in the Rossmoor Community Church. She will be remembered by everyone in her life as a kind, loving, honest individual of integrity whose life was positive and meaningful.

She was a keen listener, and had a never-ending prayer on her lips and in her heart, always wishing for a better tomorrow.

Over the years, Betty contributed many heart-warming, and often funny articles to The Rossmoor News.

Betty is survived by her daughter-in-law's family, Norman and Denise Cooper (Stow, Mass.); her grandsons Scott and Michael; her godchild's family, Carlene and Ralph Freehauf (Athens, Ala.); her second cousins, Jeanine Segal and Marsha Connolly (Phoenixville, Pa.); and many, many friends who loved her.

In lieu of flowers, dona-



Betty Emmons  
Photo by Denise Cooper

tions can be made to the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield, 201 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. A Memorial Celebration of her life will be planned in the future, when we are all able to gather.



### New Neighbors

By Christina Smith, Resident Services Manager

Hava Debrovsky, 311B Sharon Way, formerly of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Gregory and Michelle Lawrence, 23B Rossmoor Drive, formerly of Cream Ridge, N.J.

Maureen Jasovsky, 56A Fairfield Lane, formerly of Sayreville, N.J.

Nancy S. Unger and Francis Arrigan, 280B Milford Lane, formerly of South Plainfield, N.J.

Tim Samons and Eleanor Ralph, 698B Yardley Way, formerly of Westfield, N.J.

Paula Grooms, 292B Sharon Way, formerly of New York, N.Y.

Carol Bernard, 527C Terry Lane, formerly of Jamesburg, N.J.

Shirley Warnet, 420A Newport Way, formerly of Monroe Township, N.J.

Muyon Pawlikowski, 17A Old Nassau Road, formerly of Monroe Township, N.J.

### League of Women Voters urges vote by mail option

By A. Pellezzi

Our top priority is the health and safety of our community residents while getting out the vote in this important election year.

The National League has offered the following advice:

Limit your interaction with the public by voting at non-peak hours, such as the middle of the morning and afternoon.

Shorten your time at the polls by doing your research in advance. Check out what candidates think about the issues and in advance on VOTE411.org.

Take precautions by bringing your own sanitizers and disinfectant wipes. Use your own pen when filling out paper ballots and incorporate social distancing by standing six feet apart when waiting in lines.

However, our local Monroe Township League suggests using the Vote by Mail option. When you opt to vote by mail, you will receive your ballot directly to your home prior to election dates. You fill in your ballot and mail it back in the postage-paid envelope provided.

You must make an application to vote by mail. This form can be downloaded from the County Clerk's website at [www.state.nj.us/state/elections/vote-by-mail.shtml](http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/vote-by-mail.shtml). The phone number for elections is 732-745-4202.

Voting by mail will also eliminate any confusion that may be caused by the new voting machines being introduced to the County starting with the June primary. At this writing, there is an onsite demonstration planned for April 27 at the Municipal Building, but it is likely to be canceled.

No matter how you vote, we want everyone to have the information they need to participate in the elections and do so safely.

Until further notice, all LWV MT meetings and events have been canceled.

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Online learning

(Continued from page 1)

that were a fabric of our daily school life have shifted to virtual practices. Instead of morning announcements on the loud-speaker each day, students log into a school Google Classroom to watch daily video broadcasts of the morning announcements by the principal or another staff member. Children listen attentively to hear their birthdays and their classmates’ birthdays announced and use the weather forecast to determine whether it will be indoor or outdoor recess for the day.

We also share lessons on mindfulness to support the whole child. School behavior incentives have shifted to virtual Principal Challenges. Many staff have been conducting book read-alouds for their students or finding authors who have offered this online. Follow-

ing one of the read-alouds, students were challenged with finding ways to “show love” to the people in our community who keep us safe as well as those in our community who are home-bound.

Student responses poured in with letters, pictures, and cards that they created and mailed to community members. Through their efforts, they were able to connect and bring smiles to the faces of many community members. Schools held virtual spirit weeks where students showed their school spirit by wearing their favorite athletic apparel and displaying their crazy hair. Families were encouraged to “Chalk their Walk,” where students and families created beautiful messages of hope on their driveways and walks to keep up the positivity.

Additionally, teachers use their Google classrooms, various apps, and email to connect with their students on a daily basis. They use

functions within Google to hold class meetings and students are eager and excited to see their teachers and friends. Instructional lessons have changed too. Teachers are creating videos for students to review a skill and then given time and examples to practice on their own.

**Middle School**

There is no limit to the creative ways our teachers at the middle school have adjusted and embraced the remote learning environment. The high level of instruction and professionalism our teachers exemplify has not skipped a beat in this transitional period.

Teachers are using many platforms to teach content and keep students engaged, including, but not limited to: EdPuzzle, Explain Everything, Google Classroom, and Zoom. One Social Studies teacher is using Screencastify to record video tutorials for students to support engagement, heighten interest, and provide students with instruction that is a little more personalized. Our chorus teachers are using Flipgrid, to record students’ voices and created an Instagram post. Remote learning is being personalized by our teachers to support students during this unique period of teaching outside of the physical classroom.

**High School**

High school teachers are using two main learning management systems, Schoology and Google classroom. There are some specific courses, like Fine Arts and Photography that are using specialized platforms, but for the most part, teachers are using Schoology. Teachers use applications through Schoology that allow each of them to visually meet with her students during class time.

Through the Schoology conference function, students use the camera and microphones from their school-issued iPads to communicate with the teacher and the rest of the class, just like an in-class discussion. Schoology also has an analytics function that allows the teacher to see who is present in the virtual classroom, when they leave and when they come back. Teachers can give due dates for assignments and know exactly when the assignment is uploaded by the student. Schoology makes it easy for students and teachers to meet, collaborate and produce materials with ease.

One of our High School Mathematics teachers has been creating videos of his lessons on YouTube and downloading them for his students to see using his Schoology virtual classroom. Teaching Honors precalculus, precalculus and AP statistics can be a challenge in a remote virtual setting but the use of this flipped classroom envi-


(Continued on page 13)

# SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019


## Patients with COVID-19 have experienced mild to severe respiratory illness.

### Symptoms\* can include


#### FEVER



#### COUGH




#### SHORTNESS OF BREATH



\*Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

Seek medical advice if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.



For more information: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19-symptoms](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19-symptoms)



Online learning

(Continued from page 12)  
ronment has helped his students succeed. As students work through their lessons and practice problems, the teacher holds one-on-one help sessions with the use of ZOOM, linking his iPad to the computer for students to see solutions that are discussed in real-time.

Across the District

Our technology and professional development departments are providing virtual professional development for all staff to learn new ways to engage with students through technology. Staff created an online portal through Glogster full online resources available to students and staff. This site is accessible by teachers, parents, and students. Administrators are monitoring all classrooms by visiting each Google Classroom or group meeting and holding virtual staff meetings. Social media is being used to share information and show off the work of our staff and students.

While remote learning will never replace our daily interactions with students, the staff in Monroe Township School District has created a virtual learning community where all students feel connected and continue to flourish, but we cannot wait to get back to our classrooms.

Clubs and Organizations

What you need to currently know about the Women’s Guild

By Diane England  
At the time I’m writing this, it’s challenging to predict how Covid-19 may impact our township, county, state, and country in May and early June. We’re currently sheltered in our manors in order to help eradicate the spread of this disease. Then, two nights ago, Governor Murphy said that we can expect to see the outbreak “spill meaningfully into the summer.”

We can all hope that the curve has flattened by the third Thursday in May, the date of our next meeting. However, there could easily be enough Covid-19 cases in our midst to make it still unsafe to congregate in large groups. That could well be the case in early June, too. Therefore, the Women’s Guild is canceling our final two programs for the 2019-2020 program year. Please remove the general membership meeting (Thursday, May 21) as well as the annual scholarship luncheon (Thursday, June 4) from your calendar.

Are you wondering what will happen with regard to the scholarships? That money was sent to the school in early March, or before they closed due to Covid-19.

Since school personnel always determine who’ll be awarded these scholarships, and our contacts have assured us they’ll see to it that the students will receive their checks shortly before they leave for college, we think we have it all covered. Of course, we like to meet the students who’ve benefited from the proceeds from the annual bazaar, but in these uncertain times, this seemed to be the best decision for both the school and us.

Of course, you might also wonder about our 2020-2021

year which kicks off on Thursday, Sept. 17, at 1:30 p.m. in the Ballroom. Let me say that right now, this summer we still intend to plan a typical program year. Probably in late July, we’ll send you a reminder about dues, a date for our meeting for prospective bazaar volunteers which we intend to hold in August, and our kick-off show in September.

Meanwhile, do take care and stay well. After all, we’re counting on seeing you in September.

Italian American Club

By Tony Cardello  
The officers of the club hope and pray that the members and their families have remained free from harm.

Please stick to the guidelines about washing your hands frequently and keeping social distancing.

Because of the virus the membership meeting on April 15, and the Bingo on April 24, were cancelled. The variety show scheduled for April 25 will be postponed to a later date, to be announced.

We will let you know if the regular membership meeting on May 20, and the Bingo on May 22, will take place or be cancelled, as well as the Rossmoor Downs on May 9.

Please stay calm and healthy.

Free piano recital by Abraham Alinea planned for May 15

By Alyce Owens  
*As I write this article in early April, we are nearing the critical peak of the devastating coronavirus pandemic. There’s no way of knowing when we might once again be able to gather together in the Meeting House or even in our homes with loved ones. But, looking forward to better times is important, and therefore, I’ll tell you about what we hope will happen on May 15 in the Meeting House.*

If all goes as planned, residents will have an opportunity to enjoy a delightful evening of music when the Chorus presents a piano recital by their new accompanist, Abraham Alinea, on Friday, May 15, at 7 p.m. in the Meeting House. This is a free concert but a good will offering will be appreciated.

Young Abraham is already well known to those who attend the Community Church 11 a.m. worship service on the third Sunday of every

month, when the Rossmoor Chorus sings. This concert is an opportunity for the rest of Rossmoor to become acquainted with this young man’s amazing talent as a pianist and composer. Still in his first season and already loved by the Chorus, Abraham filled the vacancy left when previous accompanist, Kevin Gunia, made plans to leave N.J. to continue his studies and pursue a career as a composer.

(Continued on page 14)



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## Piano recital

(Continued from page 13)

Alinea is currently pursuing his master's degree from Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University where he also completed his undergraduate studies. He was largely self-taught until he entered the university where he won numerous prestigious piano competitions including a stipend for a week's study in Germany with pedagogue and performer Elena Nesterenko. He was a featured pianist with the ADDO Chamber Choir in Singapore's Victoria Concert Hall, and he currently accompanies the Morris Choral Society under director Jason Tramm. In addition to his affinity for classical music, Abraham loves to surf the Internet, draw, and listen to a wide variety of genres including various forms of American and international pop, rock, and hip-hop.

The youngest of three siblings, Abraham was born and raised in N.J. His parents emigrated from the Philippines and he still maintains a strong sense of his ethnic heritage by occasionally conversing with his parents in Tagalog and visiting his sister and her children in the Philippines.

At his recital on May 15, Alinea plans to include works by Beethoven, Brahms, and one of his own compositions. The theme for his "Variations in E minor" was written as a



**Rossmoor Chorus Accompanist, Abraham Alinea, to perform at 7 p.m. on May 15 at the Meeting House**

gift for the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday of a friend with whom he had grown close during their six weeks at Brevard Music Festival in North Carolina during the summer of 2016. The composition includes several diverse variations which include inside "jokes" referencing such things as her incessant plunking of "Heart and Soul" (var. 5). Of the composition Alinea says, "it is a nostalgic recollection of both an experience long past and of an old friend." (Perhaps "young love"?)

Please plan to come and experience the gift this young man brings us on Friday, May 15, at 7 p.m. in the Meeting House. (If that is not possible, this event will be rescheduled for some time in the future.)

## Let's Dance!

By Judy Perkus

We hope that by the end of May, the world will be getting back to normal. With the Clubhouse ordered closed and all of us practicing social distancing, the Dance Club had to cancel both the March and April dances.

We are being optimistic as we write this in early April and hope that by Memorial Day, we will be dancing again.

Join the Dance Club on Saturday, May 30, at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom. DJ Donny Pesce plays all types of dance music. The décor will

have a Memorial Day theme. Refreshments include coffee, tea, soda, and cake (sugar-free available). Check Channel 26 for up-to-date announcements.

Please send your reservation check made out to the Rossmoor Dance Club (\$8 a person for paid-up members; \$10 a person for non-members) to Armen DeVivo at 449B Roxbury Lane by April 21. ALL Rossmoorites are welcome.

Annual Membership is \$7.50 per person, \$15 per couple. Call Armen at 609-655-2175 for more information.

## Update from the Monroe Township Library

Need a Monroe Library card to access free ebooks, audiobooks, movies and more? Visit the Library's website to apply online at <http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/circulation/library-card/>.

Just a reminder that all book returns are now closed. Please keep library items until the Library reopens, no fees will be charged at this time.

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## Religious Organizations

### Community Church offers comfort and inspiration online

By Alyce Owens

As we greet the sunny warm days of May, we no doubt are still "sheltering in place," observing the advice to stay in our homes, and practicing social distancing — venturing out for food and life's necessities only when protected by mask and gloves. *At least that's the way it was at the writing of this article in early April.*

During this time, we are missing the comradery of friends, the hugs and warmth of our families, and the blessing of being able to congregate in our respective houses of worship. Now, more than ever before in my recollection, we seek divine

help, but the doors of our churches, synagogues and temples are shuttered for our safety. Palm Sunday, Passover and Easter have come and gone without us being able to celebrate these most holy days together with loved ones.

Since March 15, when this devastating crisis first kept us from being physically close, Pastor Robin of the Rossmoor Community Church has created many beautiful programs of worship, comfort and music which have been enjoyed by members, friends and family of the congregation. Now we would like to invite our neighbors and friends in the

Rossmoor community to share in these short ecumenical programs of hope and inspiration.

All you need is a computer, iPad or smartphone to easily access and experience these programs at your convenience in the comfort of your home. Listed below are the dates the services were made available, and the YouTube link that will bring them directly to you. These include beautiful worship programs from Palm Sunday and Easter, with music by the Rossmoor Chorus, as well as services that were presented earlier, as follows:

March 15 — <http://youtu.be/LgN6Uz3aa4o>

March 22 — <http://youtu.be/OQyhfcTZbM>

March 29 — [http://youtu.be/7\\_MsqqQvOmQ](http://youtu.be/7_MsqqQvOmQ)

April 5 Palm Sunday — <http://youtu.be/FT0gdE1oqI0>

April 12 Easter — <https://youtu.be/bJUXVQiebU4>

All you need to do is go to your browser and enter the link as printed above.

For as long as we cannot join together to worship in the Meeting House, the Community Church will continue to produce these worship services and let you know via Channel 26 how you can access them each week. We hope you will be inspired and comforted as you watch these programs and will share them with your family and friends. When we can joyfully meet together again, please join us at our "live" services at 11 a.m. every Sunday in the Meeting House.

A closing word from Pastor Robin:

*Dear friends, you are in my heart as we face this frightening time together. May we be blessed with peace in a time of turmoil. May we be blessed with hope in a time of sadness. May we be strengthened and comforted as we find ways to strengthen and comfort one another.*

## What will be will be

By Marjorie Heyman

Virtual Seders were the order of the day as members of the Jewish Congregation sought to help stop COVID-19 in its tracks. With the closing of the Clubhouse and Meeting House, all services and activities were cancelled.

Optimistically, Services are scheduled for Friday, May 8, at 7:15 p.m. and Friday, May 22, at 7:15 p.m. The Congregation's Annual Meeting scheduled for May 6 has been cancelled. Game Day, which was to take place on May 14 has been rescheduled for October 16. Please

(Continued on page 15)

## Interfaith Council cancels its two May services

By Diane England

As I write this article, we're all sheltered in our manors in order to help eradicate the spread of Covid-19. That said, two nights ago, Governor Murphy said that we can expect to see the outbreak "spill meaningfully into the summer." Therefore, the nine members of the Interfaith Council, representing the Catholic Society, the Jewish Congregation, and the Community Church, are canceling their services for both the National Day of Prayer (May 7) and Memorial Day (May 25).

Perhaps in the safety of your home, you'll wish to pay homage to the National Day of Prayer. The theme selected by the 2020 national task force is: *Pray God's Glory across the Earth.*

With regard to Memorial Day, you'll want to remember

and honor those who gave their lives during military service, however, I'd like to also suggest that this year, perhaps you can remember those who have died in what some, including the president, have suggested is our latest war—the battle against Covid-19.

Certainly, there have been the deaths of those on the front lines, people who strove to save Covid-19 victims, but then succumbed to it themselves. There have been the EMTs, the fire fighters and the police officers who have died. Just last night, I heard of several grocery store employees who became this disease's victims, too. There are other unsung heroes in this war against this enemy. In the privacy of our homes, can we make certain they're remembered and honored, too?

### Rossmoor Community Church

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| May 3  | Communion Sunday at 11 a.m.<br>Pastor – Rev. Robin Bacon Hoffman<br>Organist – Kevin Bacon  |
| May 7  | Women's Guild Board Meeting at 10 a.m.  |
| May 7  | Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.   |
| May 10 | Sunday Service at 11 a.m.<br>Pastor – Rev. Robin Bacon Hoffman<br>Organist – Kevin Gunia  |
| May 12 | Finance Committee Meeting at 10 a.m.  |
| May 12 | Membership Meeting at 6:30 p.m.   |
| May 13 | Worship Meeting at 10 a.m.  |
| May 14 | Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.   |
| May 17 | Sunday Service at 11 a.m.<br>Pastor – Rev. Robin Bacon Hoffman<br>Organist – Kevin Gunia<br>Reception of New Members<br>Fellowship Hour at Noon |
| May 18 | Council Meeting at 9:30 a.m.  |
| May 21 | Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.   |
| May 21 | Women's Guild Meeting at 1:30 p.m.  |
| May 24 | Sunday Service at 11 a.m.<br>Pastor – Rev. Robin Bacon Hoffman<br>Organist – Kevin Gunia  |
| May 25 | Interfaith Memorial Day Service   |
| May 26 | Library Committee Meeting at 1:30 p.m.  |
| May 28 | Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.   |
| May 31 | Sunday Service at 11 a.m.<br>Service will be a Hymn Sing<br>Organist – Kevin Gunia  |

All events are pending. Please watch Channel 26 to determine location or venue



## SPORTS



## Croquet Club looks forward to Season 31

By John N. Craven

There is a Yiddish proverb; Man plans, God laughs. It is a fitting description for the opening of Season 31 of the Croquet Club. As with every

other activity on the planet, our season has been delayed by the COVID 19 Pandemic. When all of this madness is safely behind us, we hope to be able to salvage

the season, be back on the court playing and enjoying attitude adjustment as we have in the past.

Season 31 still promises to be fun-filled for the club members. Every Friday, there will be Golf Croquet, followed by "Attitude Adjustment." The annual Golf Croquet Match with Meadow Lakes will be scheduled for late summer.

We are all hoping for a swift resolution to this terrible pandemic, followed by a period of normalcy, warm weather and the ability to return to the court and a normal life.

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

## 9-Hole Golf

By Mary Shine

As of this writing, there are many unanswered questions. Most of all, I hope you and your families are well and that we will be able to play some golf this month - with this world-wide pandemic behind us.

Check with Channel 26 for changes and opening of facilities. We will also e-mail any information we receive.

Our first day of play will open with a "Step-Away Scramble," date to be determined. The schedule will be revised accordingly.

If you have not done so, please return the renewal form to Mary Shine or drop in box in the pro-shop lounge, slot marked "9-Holer." Our Membership Fee for 2020



will be \$50. Checks should be made payable to "Rossmoor Women's 9-Hole Golf Assn."

Enjoy beautiful Rossmoor during this lovely month of May.

Full membership in the Golf Club is not necessary, although encouraged. Details of membership in the golf club can be obtained by contacting Ted or Ray at the golf pro-shop. For more information on joining the 9-hole Women's Golf Association, please contact Mary Shine, (609-655-4518), maryshine1@verizon.net or Joyce Cassidy, (609-619-3618), joyce3206@aol.com.

## Ladies' 18-Hole golf league is temporarily closed for the 2020 season

By Arlene McBride

The golf leagues and golf courses are temporarily closed for the beginning of the 2020 season. The efforts in obeying the CDC and state government guidelines are a good thing.

As of this writing, we do not know when a safe period to reopen will be called by the CDC and state government or if there will be sporadic outbreaks down the road, after obeying all guidelines.

We stay in touch virtually and sometimes go out walking together, but keeping a safe distance. Before long we'll be competing in our respective golf leagues.

Stay healthy and safe.  
Happy Memorial Day!!

## What will be

(Continued from page 14)

keep tuned to Channel 26 for latest updates.

The holiday of Shavuot is celebrated for two days the end of this month, May 29 and May 30. Shavuot was the day the Torah was given to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai. Some people stay up all night studying the lessons of the Torah. It is customary to conduct a memorial service on the second day of Shavuot. We will have a Yizkor service at 10:30 a.m., if possible, in the Meeting House on Saturday, May 30.

We hope and pray all Rossmoorites and their loved ones remain healthy and safe. Keep in touch with family and friends electronically. Look for positives, a chance to catch up on overdue projects, and be thankful for what we do have.

Let us all pray for a rapid recovery from this difficult time.

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

## De-stressing from Social-Distancing

By Kaytie Olshefski,  
BSN, RN-BC

There is a new renowned buzzword known worldwide as "social distancing." We hear this new buzzword everywhere; in the news, radio, newspaper, internet, social media, and television. Social distancing made its appearance when Covid-19, also known as the coronavirus, spread to become a pandemic.

Covid-19 knows no boundaries and does not discriminate against age or sex. This virus spreads very easily. The take-away is that everyone needs to stay home to slow down the progression of Covid-19, which brings in social distancing.

We have been mandated by the mayor, governor and president of the United States to stay home. Although it sounds easy to stay home, after a few days you become stir crazy wondering what you are going to do with yourself. Here

are some ways to manage and cope with social distancing.

- Take breaks from watching or listening to the news on television, radio or internet, as too much of this news can increase your anxiety.
- Stay in touch with family and friends by phone. If you have a smart phone, face time that person so you can see each other.
- If you are tech savvy, stay in touch with each other by using the internet through texting, email, Facebook, Messenger, and/or through skype.
- Exercise and keep physically active every day. Dance around the house and have fun with it. There are lots of exercises programs on television and YouTube to follow.
- Watch a favorite movie on television.
- Listen to your favorite music.
- Play board games.
- Meditation and yoga are other ways to relax.
- There are virtual tours of museums, travel site, and safaris. The Metropolitan Opera and the Kennedy Center are streaming



**Golf Pro Ray not letting any grass grow under his feet while golf course closed**  
Photo by Douglas Martin



**The bridge to the green on the 2nd hole of our Golf Course. Perhaps by next issue similar photos will show the greens teaming with golfers and golf carts.**  
Photo by Lorraine Purcell

## HEALTH CARE CENTER NEWS

online.

- Virtual and remote church services are online.
- Listen to favorite podcasts.
- Read a book that you have tucked away or never finished reading.
- Join a virtual book club.
- Write a journal of what is happening. Right now, we are experiencing living history that is going into the history books. Your family and future generations will be very interested in knowing how you managed, how you felt, and what you experienced in this pandemic. Write it down so it will part of your legacy.
- Do activities you have always wanted to do - when you had time. There is no longer an excuse not to try. Maybe you always wanted to learn a new language, try your hand at cooking a new recipe, or learning how to knit or crochet, now you have time.
- Write those letters and notes to friends and family you have always been meaning to do and have been putting off.

- Straighten up or clean out a drawer, cabinet, or a room you have been meaning to get to.
- Get outside and take a walk, but keep a distance of 6 feet between you and the other walkers.
- Meet your neighbors outside at a designated time every day with each neighbor staying on their own front lawn. What a fun time it will be to chat, sing, and/or dance with your neighbors on the front lawns. It will make you smile and laugh; we all need something uplifting to help us get through this. What really is the best part of this is you get to see each other.

This is a trying and anxiety provoking time. Keep your mind occupied and know we are all in this together and we will get through this together.

For the wellbeing and safety of our residents and vendors, the Health Fair scheduled for this year has been canceled because of Covid-19. We are also canceling our lecture scheduled for Monday, May 11.



ROSSMOOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
2020 POOL SEASON

RULES, REGULATIONS, & POOL HOURS

1. Access to the pool and any of the facilities in the fenced area around the pool is permitted only when a lifeguard is in attendance.
2. Upon entering the pool area, all residents must register and present their Rossmoor photo ID. Rossmoor photo IDs are non-transferable and expire annually. A \$10.00 replacement fee will be charged for lost ID cards.
3. As per 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. Persons with open sores, blisters, cuts, and/or bandages will not be permitted in the pool.
4. Radios or other music media are not permitted in the pool area, except those equipped to play through earphones.
5. Only water in non-breakable containers is permitted in the pool area. **No food is permitted.**
6. Pool furniture is available on a first-come basis. Personal furniture is not permitted in the pool area.
7. 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 Aerobic classes. Only US

- Coast Guard-approved life jackets may be used in the pool as flotation devices, and paddles may only be used for lap swimming. Rossmoor residents may use “Noodles” in the shallow end of the swimming pool (as exercise/therapy tools but NOT as flotation devices) except during special events.
8. Management reserves the right to close the pool at any time.
  9. Lifeguards and Pool Staff are required to enforce all Rules and Regulations.
  10. Smoking of any kind, including e-cigarettes, is NOT permitted in the pool area.
  11. No sitting on the pool entrance steps or ladders.
  12. Neither diving, running, continual jumping nor “horseplay” is permitted.
  13. Violators of the Rules may lose their pool privileges.

**LANE SWIMMING**  
**Lane swimming is available on a daily basis, Monday through Sunday. The schedule will be posted on the pool bulletin board.**

- There is a 30-minute time limit when using swimming lanes
- Lanes are to be shared
- Lane ropes will be removed 15 minutes prior to the start of the Aqua Aerobics classes

**GUESTS OF THE ROSSMOOR POOL**  
1. Residents must register their guests at the pool, but

- do not have to remain with guests over the age of twenty-one. Guests are required to abide by the Rules and Regulations. Residents assume full responsibility for their guests.
2. Pool passes are required for all guests during hours of operation on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Only residents may purchase pool passes in the E & R office. The pool pass fee on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays is \$5.00 per guest over the age of fifteen and \$2.00 per child between the ages of four and fourteen.
  3. There is a maximum of four guests, including children, per Manor per day, except for Memorial Day Weekend, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Labor Day Weekend when there is a limit of two guests, including children, per Manor.
  4. Children between the ages of 4 and 14 will be permitted to use the pool and surrounding facilities between the hours of 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. daily and must be accompanied by a resident at all times. Children between the ages of four and fourteen must exit the pool at 2:00 p.m. and exit the pool area no later than 2:30 p.m.
  5. Children under the age of four are NOT permitted in the pool or any of the facilities in the fenced area around the pool.
  6. Children between the ages of four and fourteen should be encouraged to use the restrooms before entering the water and any “accidents” in the water should be immediately reported to the lifeguard.
  7. Children under seventeen years of age are NOT permitted in the Hot Tub.

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

Revised by Board of Governors  
February 27, 2020

Mailing  
Addresses

If you are not receiving mail from Rossmoor, your Mutual, or *The Rossmoor News*, it may be a matter of our not having your correct mailing address. Many residents, over the years, filed “Winter Address” forms with Administration and failed to specify a return date. If you did not contact us when you returned, it might be possible that we still have an alternate or winter address in our system. Please contact Resident Services manager, at 609-655-1000, to verify your address.

Recycle information from  
Waste Management

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

TRANSPORTATION TIDBITS

Important phone numbers:

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

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

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

St. Peter’s University Hospital  
On Time Transportation ..... 1-800-858-8463

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

Your Garden

The Purple Leaf Plum

By Mel Moss

The purple leaf plum (*Prunus cerasifera*) is a member of the Rosacea family of plants. It was first discovered sometime just before 1880 in the garden of the Shah of Persia. There are a number of varieties but the Thundercloud variety is probably the most popular of these ornamental trees.

They are one of the first trees to bloom in spring. In fact, I saw one in full bloom this past March 10, thanks to our super mild winter. Its flowers are small, about one inch, with a delicate pink color. They are very fragrant.

It is not the flowers, however, that make this tree so popular. It’s their 1-1/2 to 3 inch purplish-red leaves that emerge every spring and stay that brilliant color until they fall off in the fall. That’s what makes them so popular. They create a stark contrast to the mostly green landscape.

They are sometimes called the Cherry Plum Tree, because most varieties can produce a small 1-1/2 inch yellow, purple, or red fruit in late spring, depending on the cultivar. This fruit is very edible. Birds and small animals love them and, for us, they can make great jams. This fruit will not always develop because they bloom so early in the season at a time when there are few insects to pollinate the flowers.

To be safe, it is best to plant one of these trees in an area where the branch spread will not be over a driveway, sidewalk, or patio because the fruit is so soft and juicy that it will stain any surface it falls on. The stain

is hard to remove. Purple leaf plums are small, as trees go, growing about 15 to 25 feet tall and 15 to 20 feet wide. They are fast growing and, under ideal conditions, can grow one to two feet in a year. To get their best leaf color they should be planted in a location that gets full sun and only slight shade. Without full sun, their leaves will not reach their full, rich color and will turn to an ordinary green leaf.

Soil conditions should be well drained and slightly acidic. This tree will not do well in compacted soils or in urban areas with a lot of auto or industrial pollution.

Once established, purple leaf plums are moderately drought tolerant. However, they will need a good watering during hot midsummer, either by Mother Nature, or by you, at least once per week.

Unfortunately, they are susceptible to a number of insects, such as Japanese beetles, mealy bugs, scales, and borers. These can be controlled with the use of insecticides. In most cases, the tree will not incur large invasions. Fertilizing every spring will help to develop a vigorous tree. Weak trees are more prone to infections.

The only sad aspect of growing a purple leaf plum tree is its life expectancy: only about 20 years. This is a much shorter life span than most trees have, but there are very few species of tree that will give the same brilliant color to your landscape. The Japanese red maple is colorful but it is slower growing and far more expensive. The purple leaf plum has sometimes been called the poor man’s red maple.

A Message from High Tech Landscapes, Inc.

- We have completed bed edging throughout the community.
- Mowing has started.
- The next round of fertilization will start at the

- end of May or early June. This will be a liquid application of broadleaf weed control with crabgrass preventer using a herbicide with a high potassium formula that will provide broadleaf weed control in warmer weather, and a granular application of fertilizer.
- Carport cleaning will start this month.
  - Summer flowers will be planted later in the month.
  - Spring pruning of the smaller shrubs will start around mid-May through June.
  - Please call the East Gate phone and leave a message with any questions or concerns. (609-655-5134) Please leave your phone number.
  - Please tune to Channel 26 for any new updates.
  - Please note that all of the above is weather pending



Friendly  
reminder

- Pets must be leashed at all times
- Pets must be kept within 3 feet from any walk or curb
- Pet Owners must clean up after their pets



Classified Advertising

Transportation

**EXPERIENCED LIMO DRIVER** – NYC, airports, anywhere. Former Clearbrook resident. Call John on new number (732) 810-2810.

**LIMO FOR YOU** – Taking you wherever you need to go, whenever you need to get there. Clearbrook resident. Edward (973) 725-6688.

**AMERICAN CAB & LIMOUSINE** – We'll take you anywhere. Reservations available. Credit cards accepted. (609) 529-6943.

**MARVIN'S CAR SERVICE** – Low rates. Airports, piers, NYC, Philadelphia. Anywhere 24/7. Ride in style for less. (908) 812-6299.

Home Improvement & Services

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

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

**JOHN PEARL HOME IMPROVEMENT AND LANDSCAPING, LLC** – General repairs, power washing of sidewalks, houses and decks, deck staining, painting, tile, flooring, masonry repairs, landscape projects. Licensed and insured. #13VH06515700. (908) 208-1150.

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

**POWER WASHING** – John Pearl Home Improvement and Landscaping, LLC – Power washing of houses, decks, sidewalks, patios and fences. Licensed and insured. #13VH06515700. (908) 208-1150.

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

Miscellaneous/Services

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

**COMPUTER REPAIR** - RJF Sales Company LLC. Is your computer running slow? It may need a tune-up. Desktop and laptop repair in your home. Custom built computers. Virus removal and protection. Monroe resident with over 20 years of computer experience. Free cordless mouse. (732) 723-9537 or (732) 967-3400. Please leave message, all calls returned same day.

Tax/CPA Services

**YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH STRESS!** Avoid crowds. Have your accountant come to you. Reasonable rates, in home care. Rebecca Bergknoff, CPA 732-718-4359.

**OWE MONEY TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE?** Retired Internal Revenue Service revenue officer (collection division) will represent you before the Internal Revenue Service. Free consultation. Arthur Seltzman (609) 664-2753.

Wanted to Buy

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

Help & Health Services

**JEWISH ROSSMOOR LADY** with car. Available weekday afternoons for shopping, appointments, help around your home. \$35 for 2 hours. 732-484-1779.

**LEASE A NIECE HOME CARE** – Assistance with personal and household activities, cooking, shopping, paperwork, appointments, companionship, local transportation. Companions, CNAs, CHHAs. Tracie (732) 521-HOME (4663).

**CARING ELDER CARE**- We will help you with the care you need including personal care, household tasks and outdoor errands. (646) 413-0813, Elizabeth.

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

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

**PERSONAL SHOPPING** – No contact. Grocery shopping, errands, etc. Responsible, reliable and honest. \$30 per hour. Call Debbie 732-715-9443.

Monroe Township Public Library Offering Online Programs and Resources during Library Closure

The Monroe Township Public Library has seen a significant surge in usage of downloadable digital media, including ebooks, digital audiobooks, movies, TV shows, magazines and music since the Library's closure following outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

"In March 2020, over 100 patrons logged into Hoopla for the first time compared with just 27 first-time users in March 2019. Overall Hoopla checkouts are up by 47% when comparing March 2020 with March 2019. Checkouts are also up 29% in eLibraryNJ and 36% RBdigital when comparing March 2020 with March 2019," says Karen Klapperstuck, Assistant Library Director. "We anticipate seeing similar or more significant increases in usage."

We encourage Library cardholders to use the many digital services available on our website <http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/resources/digital/>. Temporary Library Cards may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/circulation/library-card/> and Clicking Circulation and then "How to Get a Library Card."

In addition to ebooks, audiobooks, and other downloadable and streaming media, other online resources are available on our website, including Mango Languages, Consumer Reports, Morningstar and so much more! Visit <http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/databases/>.

The Library staff is working

CLASSIFIED Ad Information

All Classified ads must be received by Princeton Editorial no later than the 14th of the month preceding publication month.  
Mail to:  
**Princeton Editorial Services**  
**P.O. Box 70**  
**Millstone Twp., NJ 08510**

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

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

to bring you programs for your computer, smartphone and tablet. There are a variety of live programs for kids and teens, adults and programs for all ages/families every day of the week via Zoom. Find more detailed descriptions and Zoom login information on our website at <http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/virtual-programs/>.

**Sundays at 7:00 pm**  
**Pet Chat with Library Staff Members!**

**Suitable for Everyone**  
We love our pets as much as you love yours. Since we have been home with our favorite roommates, we thought this would be the perfect time to share their antics and show them off!

**Tuesdays at 1:00 pm**  
**The Great Courses**

**Adults**  
**Wednesdays at 1:00 pm**  
**P.O.V. Documentary Film**

**Adults**  
We will live stream a different film each week with brief discussion. These films are shown presented in collaboration with the award-winning documentary series P.O.V. ([www.pbs.org/pov](http://www.pbs.org/pov))

**Thursdays at 1:00 pm**  
**History Channel**  
**Documentary Series**

**Adults**  
Each week we will live stream an installment of the History Channel documentary series. It tells the extraordinary story of how America was invented.

**Thursdays at 4:00 pm**  
**Learn the Ukulele**

**Everyone**  
Admit it. There is already a ukulele in your house. You always intended on learning but just didn't get around to it. Well now is the perfect time!

Once a week, our very own Reference Librarian and music enthusiast Tyler, will do a short 15-20 lesson on

the basics of learning the ukulele. We will learn how to tune the instrument, how to read a tab, play a chord and then, the most fun part, learn a song. Each week, we will try to build on what we learned previously, learning more chords and more songs! Join us to learn some tunes and put some songs in our hearts!

**New Programs**  
New programs are being added all the time, so keep checking our website and social media pages.

Due dates on all items will be extended while the Library is closed. Any fines accrued during this time will be forgiven. The book drops have all been closed until further notice. Please hold on to all library materials. No fines will be charged at this time.

The Bookmobile will not be operating. Free WiFi is available in our parking lot.

The Library is offering credible information about COVID-19 and tips and resources for taking care of your health in uncertain times, including protecting your mental health, links to videos on mindfulness, meditation, exercise and yoga.

Follow us on our social media sites for additional trivia games, staff spotlight, and more! Follow us on Facebook at Monroe Township Public Library and on our two Instagram accounts: @monroetwplibrary and @MTPL\_Teens, which has daily posts geared towards teens, including book recommendations and cooking demos!

If you need to contact the Library, please email [webmaster@monroetwplibrary.org](mailto:webmaster@monroetwplibrary.org) or use the contact form on the Library website at <http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/contact>.

Rossmoor Resident Telephone Directory

CHANGES & DELETIONS ONLY

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

Information as it now appears:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Changes for the 2020 edition:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(1)PHONE OR (1)CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*All Changes must be received by July 17, 2020\*\***

If your name, address and/or telephone/cell number is in the 2019  
edition correctly, it is not necessary for you to complete this form.



# This month in pictures

Photos by Joe Conti and Walter Gryskiewicz



Magnolia  
Photo by Beverly Reddan



Signs of spring in Rossmoor  
Photo by Joan Gabriello



My Father's eyes! I lost my dad in January 2020, and I look at beautiful things the same way my dad always did, appreciating its beauty.  
Photo by Ludivina Ortega



Black and red cardinal resting in a tree  
Photo by Youngae Lee



Cotton ball tree  
Photo by Youngae Lee



Hello! We are Charlotte and Joey, and we just moved here from Brooklyn. Our mom is Pam. You can find us walking around Mutual 6.  
Photo by Pamela Combis



Meeting House closed



We have a fitness center?



Golf Lounge closed