



# Rossmoor IN News



VOLUME 62 / No. 5

Monroe Township, New Jersey

MAY 2026

## Debussy in Context: The Chapmans Bring History and Piano Mastery to Rossmoor

By Mary Jane Brubaker

Rossmoor residents will have a rare opportunity to experience one of classical music's greatest composers through both heart and mind when pianist Seiran Chapman and her husband, Professor David Chapman,

present their special program, "Debussy in Context," on Friday, June 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Meeting House.

The evening will be divided into two engaging halves. In the first, David will lecture on the surprising connections between Debussy and Beethoven, followed by Seiran's performance of Beethoven's iconic "Moonlight Sonata" and Debussy's beloved "Clair de Lune." After intermission, David will explore the links between Schubert and Debussy, setting the stage for Seiran to perform Schubert's sparkling "Impromptu in A-flat major" and a beautiful selection of Debussy works, including "La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin," the "First Arabesque," "Le Petit Nègre," and "Golliwogg's Cake-walk."



Pianist Seiran Chapman and lecturer David Chapman at the piano for their upcoming concert.

(Continued on page 5)



## Spring has Sprung at Rossmoor!

Rossmoor Community Church members proudly display their Easter flowers, bringing the season's vibrant energy to a new month. From left: Betty Anne Clayton, Mary Dieker, Bill Gumersell, Marj Patten, and Linda Appleby.

## The Great Easter Egg Hunt

By Mary Jane Brubaker

Preparations kicked off on March 19, when Sebrena Jinks of E&R began carefully stuffing 1,050 eggs with candy and tiny toys. Then, on the chilly Saturday morning of March 28, Clubhouse

Manager Melissa Barnard and her crack team of eggcellent concealers, arrived at 8:15 a.m. on the grounds of the Meeting House. Before long, the Village Mall was adorned with a colorful array of candy-colored eggs hiding in plain sight.

Two unusually tall and lively figures soon appeared on the front steps: the Easter Bunny himself (Greg Policastro), accompanied by his bright yellow sidekick, the Easter Chick (Sal Gurriero). These festive characters

(Continued on page 5)



Dolly Daly and her granddaughter, Annabelle, visit with the Easter Chick.

## The Power of a Woman's Education — Across Generations

By Terre Martin

Join us on Tuesday, May 19, at 3 p.m. in the Ballroom for light refreshments and a special intergenerational conversation featuring students, alumnae, and leaders from Douglass Residential College at Rutgers University. We will explore how a woman's education continues to shape lives, values, and communities across decades.

Founded more than a century ago with a bold vision

from Mabel Smith Douglass to promote intellectual growth, cultural breadth, and leadership, Douglass has evolved with the times while remaining deeply rooted in its mission. Today, it stands as one of the nation's few historically women's colleges embedded within a major public research university, empowering diverse students to lead in STEM fields, the arts, public service, and beyond.

A lively panel will bring



Leslie Danehy

together voices from multiple generations: A Douglass administrator offering perspective on the College's enduring mission; a current student reflecting on what it means to come of age in a women-centered learning community; a young alumna sharing how Douglass shaped her professional and personal path; and Rossmoor alumnae providing their own perspective on women's education over time.

(Continued on page 4)

## Help Us Honor Those Who Gave Their Lives for Our Country

By Diane England

Once again, the Interfaith Council and the Rossmoor Chorus warmly invite you to join us as we lift up our voices, in both word and song, to honor those who gave their lives in service to our country. Our special Memorial Day Service will be held on Thursday, May 21, at 1:30 p.m. in the Meeting House. And this year, it will be somewhat unique.

Since on July 4, our country will be celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding, we wish to especially acknowledge those who gave their lives during the Revolutionary War for the

idea of what a new country might become. We owe so much to the approximately 25,000 who lost their lives in the course of this war. While most names have been lost to us, there are some stories and names we'll share with you at this service.

Of course, we will also in-

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## at the governors' meeting

### April 16, 2026

Beginning at 10 a.m., the April meeting of the Rossmoor Community Association's Board of Governors was an hour later than usual. President Jolly changed the starting time from 9 to 10 a.m. after several requests by various directors. Secretary Lori Moses called the roll. A motion was made to accept Thursday, March 19, 2026, BOG meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### President's Report

President Jolly thanked everyone for attending and introduced Joe Chorba, CPA, from the accounting firm WilkenGuttenplan to report on the RCAI's 2025 draft audit.

Mr. Chorba stated the RCAI financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as of December 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted. He stated the association is in a good financial position and provided a brief overview of the audit.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Craven reported on the unaudited February variance report explaining how some portions of the variance report are complicated due to how the expenses and income are presented. He gave the example of snow expenses which occurred in January and February, yet the variance report compares it to the total budget spread evenly over the entire year

making it look as though it is terribly over budget when it is not.

### Management Report

Mr. Curry reported that the Administration office and WilkenGuttenplan held all 18 Mutual Association audit meetings in two long days. He mentioned that Mutual Annual meetings begin next Monday, April 20, with one meeting at 10 a.m. and the second at 2:00 p.m. for the next two weeks.

Mr. Curry then reported on Maintenance Department efforts to collect delinquent billings from residents. He stated that letters were sent to a dozen or so owners with deadlines to pay. A few are still delinquent and as a result their gate opening bar code stickers have been disabled, forcing them to use the visitor entrance.

He mentioned that the Maintenance Department completed a lot of work in March including 640 work orders and 97 calls for HVAC service. He noted that two new employees were hired to help improve maintenance mechanics work request response times. The staff is currently working on snow damage repairs with carport cleaning and gutter cleaning beginning in May.

Mr. Curry apologized for the short notice of the recent water meter replacements by the Monroe Utilities Authority. We have since drafted an email to the MUA expressing our displeasure with their planning and notification regarding the project.

Mr. Curry discussed the upcoming asphalt pavement projects for 2026. Meetings with Mutuals 1,2,4,5,6,7, and

12 will be held to evaluate the bids. Asphalt costs have increased.

He mentioned upcoming E&R events and reported on Pool pass renewals beginning Tuesday, April 21 after 1 p.m. The pool opens on Friday, May 22 at 9 a.m.

Mr. Curry then discussed Golf events and spring course maintenance activities.

The Maintenance and Community Affairs Committees did not meet in March and therefore had no report.

There was no old business to deal with, so Mr. Jolly moved on with the agenda.

### New Business Resolution 2026-12 Disposal of Assets, RCAI Property List

A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution to remove various items from the RCAI depreciation list. The motion passed unanimously

### Resolution 2026-13 Disposal of Assets, Golf Maintenance Department

A motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution to remove various items from the Golf Maintenance Department depreciation list. The motion passed unanimously

### Resolution 2026-14 2026 Concrete Sidewalk / Curb Replacement and Storm Inlet Reconstruction.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2026 Concrete /Sidewalk Replacement and Storm Inlet Reconstruction Project to be completed by Johnson and Baron Corporation at a cost not to exceed \$176,155, and charged to the Capital replacement fund account number 4110. The motion passed unanimously

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

## Bits & Pieces

By Sue Ortiz

I didn't know Charlie Brown lives in Jamesburg!

The other day, on my lunch hour, I visited Thompson Park in Jamesburg. I found my favorite shaded place to park my car and settled in with my Chobani Greek yogurt and Dunkin Donuts unsweetened iced tea. While I ate, a gaggle of geese grazed at the edge of the lake, a couple of seagulls (or terns?) swooped overhead thinking I had a treat for them, and one lone mallard duck paddled quietly on the calm water, occasionally poking his head under water, probably grabbing quick nibbles on underwater weeds.

I've parked in this spot on numerous occasions through the years. I've watched the seasons change year after year. Watched the surrounding landscape change ever so slowly. Got acquainted with the trees and watched them grow. Watched the little goslings follow their parents both in and out of the water. Watched them grow. Watched my life change. Watched time fly.

This day, the sun was smiling cheerfully in half the sky, while the other half was clouded in rain-threatening gloom. An errant plastic bag blew past my car's windshield like a miniature hot air balloon caught in an updraft. It soared over the tiny waves that suddenly started crashing upon the lake's shore. A strange sort of day, weather-wise.

The bag's trajectory led my gaze to the only tree growing on the shore. It stood there, like a lone sentinel guarding the lake against time, to no avail. Its branches were bare waiting for the first buds to burst free from their winter hibernation. But, something was stirring among those empty limbs. What was it? Curiosity lured me from the car. As I approached the tree, I

saw what looked like tattered fabric draped over some of the lower branches, as if they had reached out and grabbed the tee shirt off some passing jogger.

Upon closer examination I realized the shredded material had bones. Purple and white fabric was torn away from wooden dowels and strings. It was the remnants of a child's kite! What little boy tried to fly his new kite only to have it snatched from her grip and devoured by a mean, kite-eating tree?

Everyone knows Charlie Brown, from the Peanuts comics, and his determination to finally get a kite up in the air, only to have each one disappear, time after time, into that dreaded "Kite-eating Tree." Poor Charlie. He may get angry and frustrated with that darn tree, but he never gives up hope. Ever optimistic, he believes he'll succeed one day. He doesn't let life's little hang-ups get him down ... for long.

I'm sure that little boy, whoever he is, had his daddy buy him a new kite, and is just waiting for the next windy day.

It's funny, I grew up with Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and the rest of the Peanuts gang. But, I didn't know they lived in my hometown!

**B&P**

"I fully appreciate the ability of trees to attract kites. They have special powers that way." - Charlie Dunton, kite designer, age unknown.


**B&P**

"The optimist pleasantly ponders how high his kite will fly; the pessimist woefully wonders how soon his kite will fall." - William Arthur Ward (American writer, 1921-1994.)

**B&P**

"Kites rise highest against the wind, not with it." - Winston Churchill (British statesman, 1874-1965.)

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



# Rossmoor News

<p><b>News Board</b> Mary Jane Brubaker, Chair Allen Kobezak Terre Martin Sidna Mitchell Susan Peters</p> <p><b>Proofreaders</b> Helene Gray Penni McOlvin</p> <p>The <i>Rossmoor News</i>, a monthly periodical, is mailed to every home within the Rossmoor community. News items are welcome. Appropriate news items from outside organizations will be considered as space permits.</p> <p>Unscheduled volunteer writers should contact</p>	<p>Rossmoor News Chair about any submission. <b>We reserve the right to edit, limit, or reject any materials/submissions according to the directives of the Editorial Board and Publisher.</b></p> <p>Letters to the Editor must be emailed to PES at <a href="mailto:pescmd1@gmail.com">pescmd1@gmail.com</a> and clearly marked <i>Rossmoor News</i>.</p> <p><b>Editorial Office:</b> 2 Rossmoor Drive, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:news@rcainj.com">news@rcainj.com</a></p>	<p>The Rossmoor News and Princeton Editorial Services (PES) are not liable for any typographical or printing errors that may appear, including in its display or classified advertising, over the cost of the space of the advertisement. The advertisements here are, to the best of the publisher's knowledge, accurate representations of the products and services offered. However, no endorsements are intended or implied. Acceptance of all materials is at the discretion of the publisher.</p> <p><b>Email display ads to:</b> <a href="mailto:pescmd1@gmail.com">pescmd1@gmail.com</a> <b>Telephone:</b> 732-761-8534</p> <p><small>© 2025, PRINCETON EDITORIAL SERVICES, INC.</small></p>
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**Visit the Rossmoor website at [www.rcainj.com](http://www.rcainj.com)**

## Open RCAI Meetings in May

### Standing Committee Meetings

Thursday, May 14.

Maintenance Committee – 9:30 a.m.  
Community Affairs Committee – 10 a.m.

### Board of Governors Meeting

Thursday, May 21 - 10 a.m.

(Note new start time for BOG meetings)

*It will be an in-person meeting and will be held via Zoom.*

Please watch Channel 26 on your TV or on [www.rcainj.com](http://www.rcainj.com) for more information.



# Around the Clubhouse

By Melissa Barnard, Clubhouse Manager

Here are some of the many activities planned for the coming months. We're always updating our schedule, so check Channel 26 and the Rossmoor Clubhouse Facebook page for the latest details. Registration is required for all events through E&R unless otherwise noted.

## Special Events

### Wine and Cheese Tasting

Our second Wine and Cheese Tasting takes place on Wednesday, May 6, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Hawthorn Room. Enjoy a delightful evening of fine wines and gourmet cheeses from local vendors. The event is free and registration is not required.

### Trunk Sale & Shred Event

Join us for a Trunk Sale/Shred Event on Saturday, May 16, from 9 a.m. - noon. A shredding truck sponsored by Allied Universal will be in the Clubhouse parking lot; just drop off your documents, and they'll handle the rest. Shredding is free.

If you'd like to sell items from your trunk, bring your registration form and \$5 to reserve a space; there are spaces for up to 60 cars. No registration is needed if you're only shredding, but arrive early since the truck leaves once full. Light refreshments will be provided by Allied Universal.

Note: E&R will remain open from 8 a.m. - noon during the event for pool passes, registrations, and general inquiries.

### Friday Night Dance Party: Let's Be Frank

Tickets for the Friday, May 22 Dance Party are \$20 per person. The event starts at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom. Call-in registration begins at 12:15 p.m. on Monday, May 11.

### Create Your Own Spring Flower Box

Our Master Gardener Indoor Gardening Series continues on Tuesday, June 2, at 2 p.m. in the Gallery. Come make a beautiful flower box for your front porch or steps. Plant materials, soil, and container provided. Tickets are \$20 per person and the class is limited to 15 people. Registration closes on Friday, May 22.

### Still Got It: Cancelled

Given the lack of interest in the Still Got It Blind Dating Show, auditions and the show (originally scheduled for July 8, have been cancelled.)

### Martin & Lewis Tribute Show

Get your tickets now for a Dean Martin (Lou Dottoli) and Jerry Lewis (Angelo Capone) performance that takes you back to the early days when they appeared in Las Vegas. Show is June 10, doors open at 6 p.m. with the show starting at

6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$45 per person and include a buffet dinner.

### Patio Night – Live Jazz Under the Stars

Kick off our first Patio Night of the season on Wednesday, June 24, at 6:30 p.m. with a live jazz trio on the Clubhouse patio. Peter and the Master Keys specialize in American jazz and blues from the 1940s through the 1960s. The event is free with no registration required. Tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Feel free to bring your own chair, snacks, and beverages.

## Trips

### "Ragtime" on Broadway

The trip to see "Ragtime" at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre on Wednesday, May 20, at 2 p.m. is now sold out. You can still join the waitlist. Tickets are \$140 per person, including an orchestra seat, transportation, and gratuity. Check-in is poolside at 9:45 a.m.; departure is at 10 a.m. Lunch is on your own.

### Pennsylvania Mansions & Historic Dining Tour

Discover Pennsylvania's rich past through beautiful mansions, manors, and historic dining on Thursday, June 11. The cost is \$145 per person, including bus transportation, lunch at the King George Inn, and driver gratuity.

### "Beaches" on Broadway

Be among the first to see the new musical "Beaches" on Broadway on Wednesday, July 15, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$165 per person which includes the cost of an orchestra seat, transportation, and gratuity. Check-in is poolside at 9:45 a.m.; departure is at 10 a.m. Lunch is on your own.

### Italian Festival at Monmouth Raceway

Mark your calendar for the Italian Festival and Wine Tasting at Monmouth Park Racetrack on Sunday, July 26. Tickets are \$50 per person and include transportation, general admission into the park, access to private picnic area, book, and pencil. Bus departs Clubhouse at 9:30 a.m., poolside.

### Yankees at the Orioles

Tickets go on sale on Wednesday, May 6 for the baseball game at Oriole Park in Camden Yards, Baltimore. Game day is Thursday, August 20, first pitch at 6:35 p.m. Tickets are \$220 per person and include a third baseline under-cover seat, bus, lunch at Phillips Seafood, and driver gratuity.

## Games

### Left, Right, Center Tournament

Hosted by the Gardens, a Left, Right, Center Tournament will be held on Friday, June 12, from 2 - 3:30 p.m. in the Ballroom. Winners receive prizes, and snacks and refreshments will be pro-

vided. Tickets are \$5 per person.

## Music

### A Cappella Concert

An exciting a cappella concert featuring students from Monroe Township High School, the Rolling Tones, Souflege, and several soloists will take place on Sunday, May 3, at 3 p.m. at the Meeting House. All ticket proceeds benefit the MTHS music scholarship program. Tickets are \$10 per person.

### Masterpieces by Schuman, Ru, and Chopin

Pianist Xiyue Huang will perform works by Schumann and Huang Ruo on Sunday, May 17, at 3 p.m. in the Meeting House. Tickets are \$10 per person.

## The Information Highway: Guest List and Visitors

By Meghan Kelly

The Administration Office is responsible for the upkeep of your guest list for the North Gate. If you need to make a change or revision, you can see us at the Administration building or email us at [info@rcainj.com](mailto:info@rcainj.com). The hours are from 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon, then from 1 - 5 p.m.

For any type of contractor or someone that will visit irregularly, please call the North Gate at 609-655-1868 when you expect that person. On your guest list, there is a space for emergency contact. If you can fill that out as well, it would be helpful for us in case of emergency.

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### Monroe

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420 Forsgate Drive  
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10:00am | 2:00pm | 7:00pm

### Freehold

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Wednesday, May 6th  
10:00am | 2:00pm | 7:00pm

### Morganville

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

Most attendees choose to make an appointment at the end of the presentation, so please bring your calendar with you.

## Meet Our RCAI Unsung Heroes

By Susan Peters

Last month, in the first of a series, I had the pleasure of introducing you to two RCAI employees who serve as a vital part of our community. I hope through my interviews, that you, like me, gain a greater appreciation for the wonderful people who try their best to make your life in Rossmoor special.

**Meet Susan Ortiz- Front Desk Coordinator - E&R (18 years)**



Sue Ortiz

Just the pretty lady at the E&R desk who sells you tickets for events and classes? Think again. In so many ways, Sue represents the heartbeat of E&R. In addition to the busy phone, Sue's many responsibilities include coordination of clubhouse events, such as room reservations and setups for our clubs and parties, Channel 26, register transactions, and Clubhouse bulletin boards, to name just a few of the many tasks she tackles on a day-to-day basis. "I handle many forms and spreadsheets," claims Sue.

But who is Sue Ortiz? If you have ever read her monthly column, "Bits and Pieces," in the Rossmoor News, you will know her for the talented writer she is. She can humor you with an article about the contents of her handbag, or educate you on the "average thoughts per day" generated by the adult human brain.

Sue is a lifelong resident of Jamesburg, the second-to-last valedictorian of Jamesburg High School before it closed in 1979. After high

school, she lovingly cared for her parents and grandparents and ran her own craft store, "Susie's Crafts," in Jamesburg before starting her career at Rossmoor as a summer temp 18 years ago.

Sue is a proud member of the "Jersey Sleuths" of Jamesburg, a mystery writers group of more than 50 members, and a chapter of "Sisters In Crime." She is a past president, responsible for their newsletter, and designed the "Jersey Sleuths: Born To Write" logo. Sue is currently working on a story for the group's anthology, a curated collection of works. She hints about publishing her own mystery novel in the future.

**Meet Sebrena Jinks - Office Assistant - E&R (45 years)**

On the day of our interview, Sebrena was filling more than 1,000 plastic eggs for the Rossmoor Easter Egg Hunt. Sebrena describes her position as someone who assists everyone. She also manages the bus line schedule, updates addresses, answers the busy phones, and coordinates special trips.

I attribute one word to Sebrena, and that is "perseverance." Her work life began as a bartender, and on her days off, she worked as a housekeeper for her bar customers. One day, 45



Sebrena Jinks

years ago, she answered an ad for a housekeeper at Rossmoor and was immediately hired. Her then supervisor was so impressed with her work ethic that Sebrena was quickly promoted to office assistant. She took computer classes, worked hard, and tributes her peers for helping her along the way.

Sebrena says there have been many changes at Rossmoor throughout the years, but what came shining through is her love for her coworkers and what she describes as a wonderful working environment. She is in love with her blue and brown-eyed dog King - ask to see his picture - and is an avid shopper. Be sure to ask her about the Rossmoor squirrel, "Jordan," that she named and has quickly become Rossmoor's mascot.

## Help Us Honor

(Continued from page 1)

clude the traditional laying of the Memorial Wreath. We want to remember and honor all those who have fallen throughout our country's history, including those whose lives were recently lost in the Middle East.

Please, though, just don't put this Memorial Day service on your calendar. After all, there is another service the Interfaith Council and the Rossmoor Chorus will be holding on July 2 that you'll want to attend as well. It will be in remem-

brance of our country's founding with the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This service will also be at 1:30 p.m. in the Meeting House.

After both services, refreshments will be served. This is a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbors. So, please do mark both dates on your calendar now.

## Woman's Education

(Continued from page 1)

Together, panelists will reflect on leadership, mentorship, confidence, and the lasting impact of women supporting women - then and now. The discussion will highlight traditions that endure, programs that innovate, and a community that mentors, challenges, and prepares women to meet the world with purpose.

Whether you are a lifelong advocate for women's education, an alumna yourself, or simply curious about how today's young women are being prepared for leadership and service, this program offers a meaningful opportunity to reflect, connect, and be inspired. Come celebrate the legacy and the future of a woman's education. You must RSVP by Wednesday, May 13, at the E&R office, or call 609-655-3232 to reserve your spot.

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## Easter Egg Hunt

(Continued from page 1)

warmly greeted the young egg hunters (ages 10 and under) along with their parents and grandparents. While the adults snapped photos in the joyful atmosphere, the children eyed the lawn eagerly, practically chomping at the bit to start the hunt.

Melissa gathered everyone's attention and explained the rules. With a twinkle in her eye, she asked, "Is anyone here a really fast egg hunter?" A

few excited hands shot up. "Okay then," she announced, "everyone else gets a head start!" It wasn't quite the news the speedy hunters hoped for, but the Great Easter Egg Hunt was officially underway.

In just about 15 minutes, those 1,050 eggs had mostly disappeared - either scooped up by little hands or left for the grounds crew to find later. The cold morning had everyone ready to head inside for cupcakes, juice boxes, water, and coloring sheets.

By 10:30 a.m., the hunt -

and the inevitable sugar rush - had wrapped up. What took more than a week to prepare delivered 30 minutes of pure, spectacular fun.

Same time, same place, next year!



Ellen Ciacciarelli and granddaughter, Ayla, relax after the big hunt with a session of coloring.

## Debussy in Context

(Continued from page 1)

Seiran Chapman, well known to many as a long-time member of the Rossmoor Chorus, is an accomplished pianist and music director. A native of South Korea, she began piano lessons at age six and earned a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the prestigious Hanyang University in Seoul. After emigrating to the United States in 1995, she received a Master of Historical Musicology degree from Rutgers University. She currently serves as organist and music director at Simpson United Methodist Church in Old Bridge.

David Chapman holds a Master of Music degree in Double Bass Performance from the Yale University School of Music and a PhD in Historical Musicology from Rutgers University. He teaches courses in music history, performance practice, and ethnomusicology at Rutgers and has authored numerous articles in leading scholarly journals.

Together, this talented Rossmoor couple has created a unique lecture-recital that promises to deepen audience appreciation of

Debussy's innovative and evocative music.

Tickets for this special evening are just \$10 per person and may be purchased at E&R. Don't miss this one-of-a-kind cultural event right here at Rossmoor on Friday, June 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Meeting House.

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## Welcome to Rossmoor!



Melinda Tone is a new neighbor residing in Mutual 8. She moved here from Lakewood in early March. She was a special education teacher in Point Pleasant Elementary School prior to retirement. No stranger to Rossmoor, Melinda's mother lived here in the 1990s. "This is a beautiful, well-maintained community, and the people are very friendly," says Melinda. "I look forward to getting involved."



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# Game Day: Where the Fun Happens

By Mary Jane Brubaker

Who's up for a game of Mexican Train? Rummikub? Chess? Canasta? Perhaps you want to try out a flight simulator? At Game Day, you can play one or more of these games or you can bring your own Chardonnay Go, anyone? And, yes, that is a game. Not only that, but there's also plenty of food from Bagel Bazaar. We'll have sandwiches, desserts - some homemade - and beverages.

Interested? Then be sure to put Wednesday, May 20, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Ballroom on your calendar. The cost is \$20 per person and registration in advance is a must so we can order the right amount of food. The RSVP date is Wednesday,

May 13.

Game Day is open to everyone in Rossmoor and their friends. Sponsored by the Rossmoor Jewish Congregation, this event is designed as a day of fun and friendship for all.

Checks should be made out to Rossmoor Jewish Congregation and sent with your form to Morty Wall, 450A Roxbury Lane, Monroe Township, N.J. 08831. Forms are available at the E&R carousel.

Come and be in the room where the fun happens; you'll be sure to meet friends both old and new and perhaps learn a new game or two.

For more information, please contact Scott Hoff at 908-705-3422.



Lyn and Morty Wall

# Everyone Has a Story

By Terre Martin

On Tuesday, May 26, at 1:30 p.m. in the Ballroom, Shaun Illingworth, Director of Rutgers Oral History Archives, will present a program about how history is being preserved through interviews with residents of New Jersey and Rutgers alumni. Attendees will learn about the practice of obtaining oral history, how historians use the interviews, and how the interviewees use the experience to share their stories with their families and communities.

Many of us became familiar with oral history through public radio's program called StoryCorps. People entered a recording booth and shared important moments from their lives. The oral history project at Rutgers offers the same opportunity.

Illingworth will play clips from the center's wide variety of collections, including New Jersey history, immigration stories, veteran experiences, and more. Rossmoor residents, Doug and Terre Mar-



Shaun Illingworth

tin, participated in the program several years ago. Both shared their experiences as students in the turbulent 1960s, serving in the Vietnam War, and what it was like to wait for your loved one to come home from the war.

Anyone interested in participating in the Oral History project is encouraged to attend the presentation to learn more. But it will be even more interesting to hear what others have already shared about their own history.

# Successful and Satisfying Soup Contest

By Penni McOlvin

The first annual soup contest was hosted by Rossmoor's Recipe Club on Saturday, March 14, to a very enthusiastic and hungry gathering. Janet Corr, Barbara Herman Hoff, Scott Hoff, Marilyn Rotondella, and Anne Szipszky, did an outstanding job of organizing this yummy, warm event.

There were tables equipped with sternos, cups, spoons, and pots of different soups for the soup connoisseur to sample. A wide assortment of soups was there to savor, such as taco soup (with tortilla strips and cheese toppings), turnip and leek soup, and a short-rib tortellini soup. All creations were delicious; and with such a variety, everyone found something they liked and voted for their favorites.

The winners were Debbie McCauley's Pasta Fagioli for first place; Carol Fava's Shrimp and Crab Bisque for second place; and Patty Rinsky's Stuffed Pepper for third place.

The event was a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society (ACS) to assist in Rossmoor's yearlong support of ACS's mission to improve lives of people with cancer and their families. Through ACS's advocacy, patient support, and research, this all helps to ensure we have the opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

We are all hoping the Recipe Club will host another foodie tasting event real soon. Maybe pie? We could celebrate our nation's 250th birthday with patriotic pies. May I suggest apple?



The soup-er stars of the Recipe Group's First Annual Soup Contest were from left: Carol Favor, Debbie McCauley, Recipe Club Soup Coordinator Anne Szipszky, and Patty Rinsky. Congratulations to all for a wonderful event!

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Game Show Night winners were from left: Wayne Slivenski (sitting), Lorraine Slivenski (sitting), Darren Williamson, Diane Brown, Noreen Tarwacki, Carol Favor, Roy Will (sitting), Frank Trainor, Margaret Will (sitting), Bob Scott of the Game Show. Missing from photo: Mary Trainor. Their table was named "Smartinis."

### Game Show Night Buzzes with Fun

By Josephine Genovese

Have you ever wished you could step right into your favorite TV game show - lights, buzzers, and cheering audience? Wish no more - Bob Scott's Game Show Night is your chance to do exactly that.

When the show comes to Rossmoor, the Ballroom transforms into a full-blown game show studio, complete with dazzling visuals and sound effects. From the moment you walk in, you're not just a spectator, you're a contestant, too.

Tables become teams, and we play our way through a lineup of classic TV-style games we all grew up watching. Think "Family Feud," "Wheel of Fortune," "\$25,000 Pyramid," and "America Says" - all reimagined with a playful twist: "Table Feud" ("Family Feud"), "Spinner of Fortune" ("Wheel of Fortune"), "Clues & Categories" ("\$25,000 Pyramid"), and "NJ Says" (a spin on "America Says").

Each table is a team of up to 10 players, and it's a team effort to win rounds and collect "Bob trophies." At the end of the evening, the team with the most "Bob trophies" wins a cash prize to split among the players. The winning team for the March 11 Game Show Night was the "Smartinis," winning a cash prize of \$200 to split.

Make your own team or let E&R seat you with neighbors; either way, it's friendly competition with big

laughs. Bring your own beverage and snacks to share with your table.

Whether you're new or you've been here a while, Game Show Night is a great way to meet neighbors, get out, and have some good fun. Come for the games and

stay for the snacks!

Many thanks to Melissa and her staff for always bringing the right mix of fun and excitement to Rossmoor.

P.S. The Game Show Night will be back at Rossmoor on Sept. 15. Tickets will go on sale on July 8.

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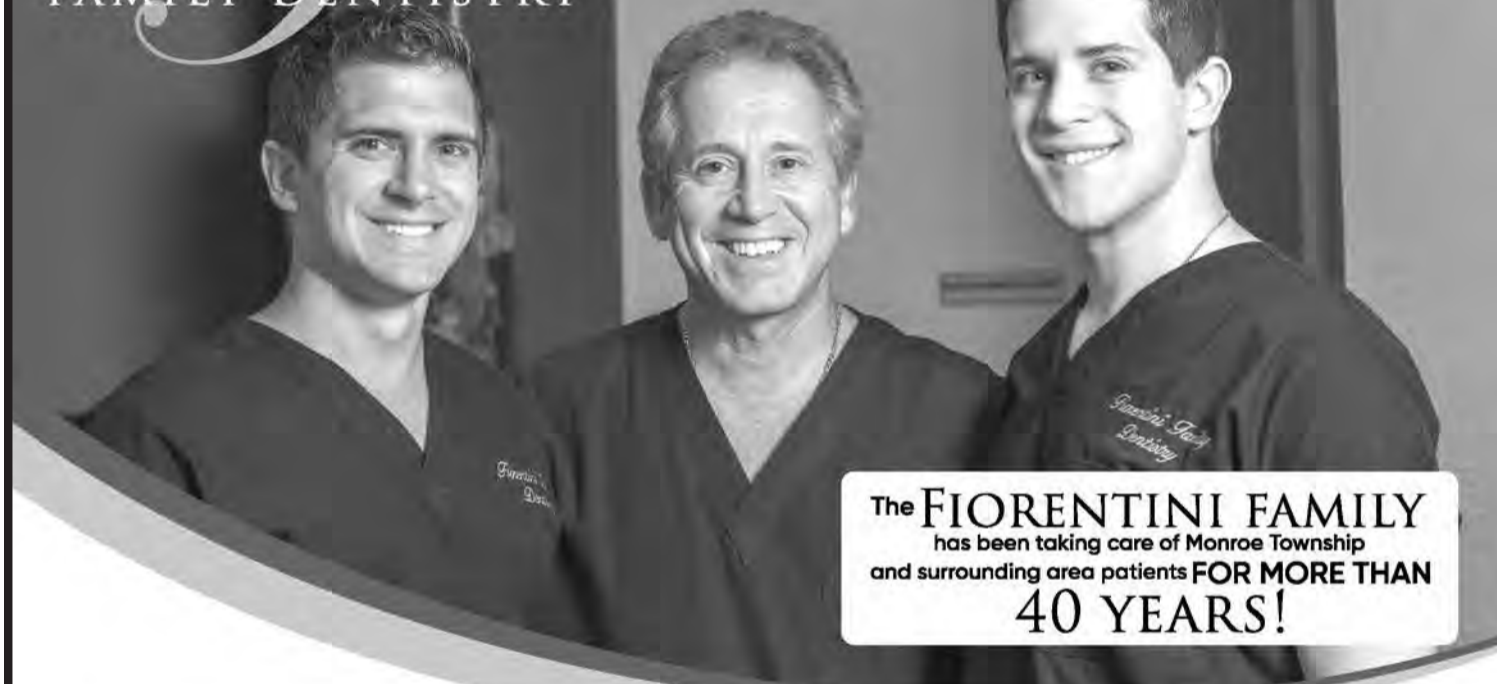
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## Dazzling Swan Song for Chorus Director



Warming up. Chorus small group practices "Only Hope."

By Joan and Jason Salt

The Rossmoor Chorus stormed the Meeting House for its Spring Concerts, held at the end of April, declaring "It's a Grand Night for Singing," and then proved it, never loosening their grip on delighted audiences until they closed with "You Raise Me Up."

After the chorus musically chastised the audience with the lovely and subtle "Turn Off Your Phone Song," favorites like "What a Wonderful World" and "You'll Never Walk Alone/Climb Every Mountain" palpably lifted spirits. Still, even more exciting were the numbers the chorus was performing before an audience for the first time. These included "You've Got a Friend," small group performances of "I Will Follow Him," "Only Hope," "The Child in a Fishing Village," and solos by Lenny Venito

("As Time Goes By") and Russ Howard ("The Rose").

However, what really lifted the Meeting House into the air - don't worry, it came back down - was the dynamic medley from "West Side Story."

The colorfully clad chorus took audiences on a wild emotional ride, from the innocent anticipation of "Something's Coming," "Tonight," "Maria," and "One Hand, One Heart" to the jubilation of "I Feel Pretty" and "America," to the aftermath of a world shattered by violence in "Cool" and "Somewhere."

The powerful voices took a breather only twice each concert: for Moriah Kam's piano solo "Clair de Lune," and Moriah's piano duet with Aimee Coleman, "Take Five."

Late in the show came the most emotional moment of all. Janet Wilson announced that this will be her last concert as chorus director, as she will pass the torch to Aimee Coleman. The affection and esteem the chorus holds for both of them was evident. Those who have had the privilege to work with Janet these last few years will never forget what a joy it has been. And those who have worked with Aimee



The Chorus honors dedicated member Laurie Moyer.

know her to be a worthy successor.

The chorus recently presented its annual honor to someone who, in Chorus President Jim Wilson's words, "has always gone above and beyond during the previous year." This year's honoree is Laurie Moyer. Her plaque reads, in part, that she is "consistently one of the first to volunteer to help," and by "taking the reins of leadership in making our annual Christmas caroling such a success, you bring joy to those who need it most." It adds, "You inspire us with your smile and your tireless, upbeat attitude."

Laurie responded, "It's my absolute pleasure to be part of this group. And it is a privilege and honor to do all the things that are mentioned in this wonderful plaque."

## Players Invite You Backstage for "Between Engagements"

By Joan and Jason Salt

By now, you know that the Rossmoor Players' fall show will be, "Between Engagements," a musical by Bob Huber and Bill Strecker. It's the story of a comedy writer/performer who finds himself between gigs and spends some time at a hotel for performers who are between shows. There he meets some, shall we say, characters, some of whom are from, shall we say, far away. And that's as far as we dare go because we don't want to spoil anything.

But what we can say is that the production needs more than a great script to come to life. It needs a stage crew that can get what belongs onstage onto the stage, what belongs offstage off of the stage, and all at the

right time - kind of like the way a pit crew keeps a vehicle on track.

It also needs a sound crew to keep the microphones functioning properly; remember, actors become absurd if they can't be heard.

And the production needs musicians to support the singing that inevitably breaks out during a musical.

So, if any of these activities strikes you as a way you would like to spend some time this summer and fall - and you're "Between Engagements" yourself - then please give Sue Archambault a call at

201-981-5959. But be prepared for fun as well as work; after all, that's why they're called the "Players."



## Rossmoor Wants To Know

By Penni McOlvin  
Photos by Helene Gray

**Teacher Appreciation week is first full week in May. Is there an educator who had an influence on your life?**



**Lois Hurley**

I was school-phobic as a child so I was extremely fortunate to have Mrs. Farwell in third grade. After crying at school every day from kindergarten to starting third grade, Mrs. Farwell sat me down and simply said, "It makes no sense to be miserable every day. Why not try to enjoy the adventure of school?" It made so much sense that I not only began enjoying school, I became a teacher.



**Ray O'Reilly**

Mrs. Agnes, my high school ninth grade algebra teacher, helped me go from a C- mid-term to a final grade of B+. I was a 13-year-old freshman in 1963 who took fourth and fifth grades in one year. Mrs. Agnes saw my problem with algebra and started working with me. She said to practice the work more. She provided me with an answer book to work on at home which helped me a lot. I began to see algebra as a game. And I love games.



**Joyce Gibel**

Wondering what I wanted to do with my life when in my New Jersey high school, they had a medical/dental program with Mrs. Gilroy. I enrolled and the three-year program offered me college credits and early acceptance. I enrolled in nursing and got into ER-Cardio and Open Heart. I loved it for over 40 years. All thanks to a high school teacher who cared and wanted to give back.



**Mary Trainor**

My favorite teacher was my fifth-grade teacher, Mrs. Kenny. She was at the door to greet us and genuinely

looked happy to see us. She was the first teacher I remember who made me feel comfortable and not nervous to raise my hand to participate or to answer a question. When I became a teacher, I learned that I was the decisive element in the classroom. It was my approach that created the climate. I could humiliate or humor, hurt, or heal. I am very fortunate to have had 35 years in a career I truly enjoyed. To Mrs. Kenny and all the other inspiring teachers, I have had, I say thank you.

## Our Friendliest Neighbors Have Feathers

By Youngae Lee

Remember those beautiful handmade birdhouses our Mutual 4B directors created last winter? The ones with each street name carefully carved into the side? Well, spring has arrived, the weather is delightful, and now they're proudly perched right next to our street signs -

ready for their new feathered residents!

In most neighborhoods, you see ordinary signs telling you the name of the road. Sometimes they honor famous people or historic moments. But here in Mutual 4B, we have something much sweeter. Hanging be-

*(Continued on page 10)*

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## Our Friendliest Neighbors Have Feathers

(Continued from page 9)

side each street sign is a charming, one-of-a-kind birdhouse, crafted with care in our very own Woodshop. Each little house proudly displays its matching street name, turning every corner into a cheerful welcome for our winged visitors.

It's such a joy to walk around the mutual these days and spot them! The birds seem to agree; they're already fluttering about, checking out their new addresses. I love imagining a little robin or a chickadee deciding, "This looks like a cozy spot on my street!" They can take shelter from sudden showers, rest their wings after a busy day of flying, and maybe even raise a family right here among us. There's something delightfully romantic about sharing the same road with our feathered neighbors.

What makes these birdhouses extra special is the heart that went into them. Our directors, Mike Doran and Lori Moses, with help from the talented folks in the Woodshop, poured real sincerity and love into every one. After last year's lovely flowering baskets, they came up with this wonderful idea and it shows. Every time I pass

a birdhouse, I can't help but smile. It feels like a gentle reminder that we live in a caring, thoughtful community where neighbors go the extra mile - or extra wingspan - to make things nicer for everyone.

I hope the birds feel the same warmth I do when I see these sweet little houses. May they find safe shelter, good company, and plenty of happy chirps to fill our Mutual 4B days.

Thank you, Mike and Lori, and everyone who helped bring this charming project to life. You've given our neighborhood a touch of whimsy and a whole lot of heart. Here's to a wonderful spring filled with birdsong and maybe a few new feathered friends on every street!



Stratford Lane – Home sweet home for humans and birds alike. Chirp if you need anything!

## Being in the Moment on Mother's Day

By Josephine Genovese

Mother's Day has a way of stirring up so many emotions - gratitude, memory, joy, longing, pride, and sometimes a little ache. As this day arrives again, I've been thinking about all the ways we show love, care, and strength, often without stopping long enough to offer any of that back to ourselves.

I hope every mother - and every fur mother, aunt, sister, and friend who nurtures others - takes a moment to breathe, to rest, and to remember to love yourself fiercely. You are worth the same love you so freely give.

This piece is a reminder to honor the life we live and the woman we are now, in this moment. To remember that you matter, and you are enough.

Sometimes the most beautiful moments aren't captured in photos; they're simply lived. The real connections, the lessons, the quiet presence are where life actually happens.

Funny how it takes almost a lifetime to realize that being present is the only way to truly live. All the self-help books, yoga classes, exercise routines, therapy sessions, and "a little help from your friends" are really trying to teach the same thing.

Being in the moment means stepping inside yourself to find your own peace and believing that the most important thing in your life is you, here and now, in this moment. Things do have a way of working out. Maybe not exactly as we dreamed,

but somewhere in the middle. And somewhere in the middle can be just as good, if we let it be.

Eventually, we all settle into something that brings peace, happiness, love, or a sense of safety. From that place, we can be present. And that simple acknowledgment that this moment matters is what allows us to live

our best life.

Maybe that's the real gift of Mother's Day - not just the cards or flowers, but the reminder that your well-being matters just as much as the people you care for. Being in the moment isn't something we practice only for others; it's something we deserve for ourselves.

Happy Mother's Day.

## Happy Mother's Day

By Barbara Herman Hoff

May's claim to fame is Mother's Day. It is a time to recognize and appreciate the mothers in our lives. My question is what constitutes who is a mother? Is it just women that have given birth or adopted a child? Does it include women who adopt a pet? Does it include men who take on the role of both mother and father?

In my opinion, it is all of the above. And why do we take one day out of the year to appreciate the mothers in our lives? Shouldn't we be doing that every day of the year? Sometimes we take our loved ones for granted and forget to be appreciative for all that they do.

I suggest that we begin in 2026 with an attitude of gratitude. Let all mothers in our lives know what they mean to us and maybe lighten their load a little bit from time to time.

I would personally like to wish all the mothers, fur mothers, and mom/dads, a Happy Mother's Day. Treat yourself to something special. You deserve it!

## Erinys Quartet Performs at Monroe Township Public Library



The Princeton Symphony Orchestra brought the Erinys Quartet to the Monroe Township Public Library for a concert, featuring the music of Webern, Mozart, and Debussy on March 18. This event was made possible by the Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission. From left: Monroe Township Cultural Arts Chairperson Nancy Mitrocsak, Erinys Quartet members Joosep Reimar, Elizabeth Stewart, Stergios Theororidis, Marija Räsänen, and Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commissioner Cathleen Norback.

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## Aline and Her Circle of Friends

By Josephine Genovese

If you've lived in Rossmoor long enough, you've probably seen her. Aline Carroll, our beloved community dog walker, leading her lovely gang of paws and personalities, as she affectionately calls them, through the neighborhood. She turns an ordinary walk into something special, guiding her crew with a

calm that only comes from a true dog whisperer and a whole lot of love and care. It's always a treat to run into the gang on your own stroll through the neighborhood.

Aline's dog walks remind us that friendship isn't limited to people; it's also reflected in the profound bond we share with our pets and in the way we care for each other's animals and look out for one another. She's been



**Aline Carroll and her lovely gang; from the left side back to front are: Foxy, Beau, and Ralphie. From the right side back to front are Foxy (2), Titch, and Charlie.**

doing this for quite a long while; long enough that her presence has become part of the rhythm of our days.

It brings to mind that timeless poem:

**Make new friends but keep the old.**

**One is silver, and the other is gold.**

**The circle is round. It has no end.**

**That's how long I'll be your friend.**

## Good Friends, Dogs, Croquet, and Micronutrients

By Betty Anne Clayton

Inspired by Terre Martin's travelogues, I am sharing a few highlights from my winter vacation in Venice, Florida with my first Rossmoor friend, Linda Metro. For years, Linda and I walked our Bichons, "Sweetums" and "Mikey," around the Rossmoor golf course. We knew every dog owner, every great gardener, and where to find the ripe figs.

One day we saw folks, dressed in white, next to the Clubhouse. Our curiosity prevailed, so Linda and I walked over to the croquet court and introduced ourselves. The Club President, June Brubaker, mother of Rossmoor News Editor Mary Jane Brubaker, welcomed us and invited us to play American Six Wicket Croquet. That was 16 years ago.

Before becoming a full-time resident of Venice, Fla., Linda played croquet on the Rossmoor court, and for many winters, we both played at the Sarasota County Croquet Club (SCCC). This past winter, at the invitation of good



**Editor's Note: Betty Anne, right, and Linda joined Carl Kruse, former Rossmoor resident and croquet player, at the home of Sidna Mitchell and Ken Northrop for dinner and the sharing of many memories together in Rossmoor and Florida.**

friend and snowbird, Sidna Mitchell, we played golf croquet at SCCC and trivia with friends at the club's potluck dinner.

Linda is thrilled with her new home and new dog and invited me to share in her happiness, for which I am incredibly grateful. She survived Hurricane Ian that destroyed her previous home, and, with the help of FEMA, she is now enjoying a new home which can sustain winds of up to 155 miles an hour. I am in love with her new chihuahua, which is a rescue from the

streets of Miami. "Lupita," a frisky little five-pounder, led us on a tour of the creative gardens in Sandalwood, some with water-scapes and ponds with Poi fish.

Still the avid gardener, Linda plants a new batch of micronutrient seeds each week. She included these nutritious greens in every organic meal she prepared. There is nothing like sunshine, good friends, loving dogs, golf croquet, and nutritious food to restore a person's spirit. I am truly blessed!

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

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

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## Three Ways To Reduce Your Skin Cancer

By Erin Medlicott

May is National Skin Cancer Awareness Month. Skin cancer surgeons and dermatologists who promote skin cancer awareness picked May, because they wanted to make sure we were informed about how to prevent skin cancer before the long summer beach season starts.

Did you know that skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States? In fact, there are more cases of skin cancer diagnosed each year than breast cancer and prostate cancer, combined. It is so common that one in five Americans, including all races, of any age, with any skin type, get it.

Here are three tips to reduce your skin cancer risk, so you'll be protected not just for Memorial Day, but all summer long.

### 1. Use Sunscreen, The Right Way.

When buying sunscreen creams, lotions or sprays, choose a product labeled "broad spectrum," which protects against both UVA and UVB rays. Pick a sun protection factor ("SPF") of at least 30. If your skin is fair, freckled or sensitive, use SPF 50. Don't forget to also apply on your ears and the back of your neck.

Check the label for how often to reapply – if you are outdoors and in direct bright sunlight, each sunscreen application will last somewhere around two hours. And just because it's overcast or cloudy outside, that doesn't protect you from the sun's damaging ultraviolet rays.

When you are checking

the weather forecast, see what it says for that day's "UV Index" for Monroe Township. If you are not sure whether to use sunscreen or not, check the "UV Index" on the Environmental Protection Agency's website, <https://www.epa.gov/sunsafety>. If the index is six or over, use sunscreen. Cover up and wear sunscreen when the index is high, even on gray days.

### 2. Cover Your Head.

There are a few ways to keep the hot sun from hitting your head. When you are sitting by the Rossmoor pool, try to grab a seat at a table that has a shade umbrella. If you are outdoors enjoying the good weather, look for some tree shade. Or, you can wear a sunhat, not only for shade, but to keep the dangerous UVA and UVB rays from hitting your scalp. Broad rim hats will do the trick. Also, there are companies who manufacture cloth-

ing and hats with sun protection built in.

### 3. Make An Appointment For A Skin Cancer Screening.

A skin cancer screening is a visual inspection of your skin by a medical professional. No blood work is conducted at a full body screening. If you have not been screened before, here is the procedure. Before the screening, you'll remove your clothes and put on a medical exam gown. First, the doctor will ask if you have anything that you are particularly concerned about, like a mole, or a red bump, or an itchy area, etc.

Next, the doctor will look at every part of your body, including less visible places like your scalp, even the soles of your feet. The entire screening usually takes just 15 minutes or less. Check the Internet for several places nearby that perform skin cancer screenings.

## George Washington Helme

By Allen Kobezak

If you think this is just another story about George Washington's home, and that I misspelled the word "Home," you're mistaken. I may not be the best speller on the Rossmoor News staff, but we have excellent proofreaders who catch my mistakes immediately.

This story is about a man named George Washington Helme, who was once a Confederate officer in the Civil War. It's also about a small town near Rossmoor, originally called Railroad Mills. The town was later renamed for the Confederate officer's daughter. Her nickname was Eta, and in 1888, the borough's new name became Helmetta.

You might not know much about Helmetta; most people drive through the one-square-mile community of nearly 2,500 residents on their way to or from other places.

But that's not all there is to Helmetta, the quaint little town whose motto is "Small Town, Big Heart," mirroring the community's compassionate, friendly, and family-focused spirit.

The town has a long history linked to George Washington Helme, who was born in Kingston, Pa., in 1822.

In his mid-20s, he relocated to Louisiana to be near his brother, Samuel. There, he studied law and eventually established his own law practice in New Orleans.

In 1856, he traveled north once more to marry Margaret Appleby in Spotswood, N.J., where they began their family, while Helme continued to practice law.

When shots were fired on Fort Sumter, George Helme's sympathies were with the southern states, and in March 1862, he was commissioned as a captain in the Confederate Army. He was

cited for his bravery at the Battle of Shiloh just a month after enlisting.

After the war, Helme returned to New Jersey, where he spent several years building significant real estate holdings.

In 1866, Helme entered the tobacco business with his brother-in-law, Jacob Appleby, and by 1878, George became the sole owner, naming the company the George W. Helme Tobacco Company.

The company specialized in the manufacture of snuff, a popular, finely ground tobacco that people would inhale through their nose instead of smoking for a quick nicotine hit. It was quite a fashionable status symbol in the 18th and 19th centuries.

In the 1880s, the company bought a piece of land between Spotswood and Jamesburg, known as Railroad Mills. Helme renamed the land Helmetta after his daughter.

Helmetta became a classic "company town" where most of the stores, housing, and the factory were owned by a single company. The company grew to become one of the largest snuff producers in the country, employing over 300 people at its peak.

George Washington Helme was the second-richest man in New Jersey when he died in 1893, and 1,500 people attended his funeral. He was buried in the Helme Mausoleum at Fernwood Cemetery in Jamesburg.

Although the snuff mill closed in 1993, some of those homes still remain, along with the main brick factory building, which has been converted into residential units.

The area where the mill was located is now the G.W. Helme Snuff Mill Historic District. It is also recorded on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Just Up the Historic Hills

By Sidna B. Mitchell

On Saturday, May 30, you can watch the Jersey Blue chapter of the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) dedicate a permanent Patriots Marker at the Buccleuch Mansion in New Brunswick. This historic house, sitting high on a hill overlooking the Raritan River, was built in 1739 by Anthony White for his bride Elizabeth Morris, daughter of Lewis Morris, a royal governor of New Jersey.

Their son, Anthony, sided with the Patriots and served as General George Washington's aide-de-camp. Such famous men as Washington, John Hancock, Alexander Hamilton, the Marquis de Lafayette, General Thadeus Kosciuszko, and General Horatio Gates visited the "White House Farm." Unfortunately, the British did occupy the mansion for a time during the Revolution, and now even saber and rifle marks can still be seen on the staircase banister and upper floorboards.

The 16-room mansion, located at 800 George Street, is part of what was known as Colonial Estate, now Buccleuch Park, featuring 78 acres of a playground, athletic fields, a rock garden, a flower garden, a fitness trail, gazebo, and a picnic pavilion.

The name Buccleuch came from Colonel Joseph Warren Scott, who bought the property in 1821, and took the name of his ancestors' home in Scotland, meaning buck or deer and cleugh being a narrow glen or ravine.

For more information about visiting and tours, check out the DAR website at [jersey-bluedar.org/buccleuch-mansion](http://jersey-bluedar.org/buccleuch-mansion).

Not far away, high on another hill at 225 River Road in Piscataway, is the Cornelius Low House, also overlooking the Raritan River. Built in 1741 for the wealthy merchant Low, the stone house oversaw his wharf and warehouse on Raritan Landing. Historically known as Ivy Hall, the Georgian manor was constructed entirely of stone; inside you will find Delft tiles around the fireplaces.

The house was spared during the Revolution because Low, who died in 1777, was loyal to the King of England. However, several members of his family were exiled to England because of their loyalty to the king.

The house now serves as the Middlesex County Museum and is open from Wednesday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from noon until 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, check the website at [www.middlesexcounty.gov](http://www.middlesexcounty.gov) or call 732-745-4177.

After you visit the Low House you might want to cross River Road to walk

through East Jersey Old Town Village in Johnson Park (1050 River Road, Piscataway). Here again admission is free, and the village is open the same hours as the Low House.

You can take a self-guided tour of such historic struc-

tures as the Indian Queen Tavern, the New Jersey Barracks, the Dunn House, the Runyon House, the Six Mile Run House, and the Elias Vanderveer House. Call 732-745-3030 for more information on special tours and events.

## Washington Came to Cranbury: The Story of the Stites House

By Josephine Genovese

Recently, I visited the historic town of Cranbury and met with Linda Schilling, History Center Director, and Karen Kelly, Museum Curator - two very knowledgeable women who volunteer their time to the Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society (CHPS).

The CHPS building at 6 South Main Street is stuffed with stories, artifacts, and pieces of local history that make the town's heritage feel very much alive. As America approaches its 250th birthday, what better place to be to revisit and retell the past?

Linda and Karen shared a lot with me. And yes, the rumor is true: George Washington really did sleep there.

In the last days of June 1778, as George Washington's army pushed across New Jersey in pursuit of the British, Cranbury became a brief but important stop - one that brought three familiar names into the small town within hours of each other.

At the center of this activity stood the home of Dr. Hezekiah Stites, a respected local physician whose house stood at 53 South Main Street. During those tense days, the property served as a waypoint - essentially a temporary stopping place where commanders could rest, regroup, receive messages, and plan their next moves. It was a crucial pause in the fast-moving events that would soon lead to the Battle of Monmouth.

For years, local lore suggested that Washington, Hamilton, and Lafayette gathered together inside the Stites House to plan the coming battle. The real timeline tells a different story.

Hamilton arrived first, on Thursday evening, June 25, carrying the latest intelligence on the enemy. Around 9 p.m., he wrote a

report for Lafayette. But before he could send it, Lafayette arrived. Later that evening, Hamilton left the Stites House to scout ahead for additional intelligence.

Lafayette arrived second, reaching Cranbury on June 25 around 9:30 p.m. with the advance corps - essentially a unit of troops sent ahead of the main army. He read Hamilton's intelligence report, added his comments, and sent the report immediately by courier to Washington. Lafayette stayed overnight, leaving the Stites House early Friday, June 26 at 5 a.m.

Washington arrived the next day, June 26, with the main army. Documentation states he reached the Stites House shortly before 9 a.m. He spent the night and departed around 7 a.m. the following morning.

Their paths crossed, their messages crossed, and their decisions aligned; but they were not all in the house at the same time.

Cranbury's location made it an ideal gathering point to offer shelter, food, and a place for the army to regroup before the Battle of Monmouth two days later.

The site at 53 South Main Street is still marked today with plaques honoring Dr. Stites and the Revolutionary events tied to his home. The building that stands there now, however, is not the original 18th-century structure.

The first Stites House remained on the property until sometime after 1850, when it was replaced by the current beautiful period house, which is now a private residence. As a private home, you can only walk by, read the plaques, and enjoy its Revolutionary history, but you can still imagine the magnitude of the scenes that unfolded there.

For more information about CHPS, call 609-860-1889, or visit <https://www.cranburyhistory.org>.

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**See New Pool Rules and Regulations for 2026 on Page 20**



## Too Much Stuff!

By Allen Kobezak

This is the type of article I enjoy writing. There's no need for any time-consuming research. It's about a problem I face, and perhaps it's a situation to which most people in Rossmoor can relate.

It's about all my stuff and what will become of it when I go through the North Gate for the last time, hopefully headed for those Pearly Gates.

Some of us believe our loved ones will be grateful for all the treasures we've gathered over the years. If you think that way, you're living in a dream world.

Your grandchildren don't care about the toys you still have from your seventh birthday, like your Betsy Wetsy doll that was so life-like she could drink water from a bottle and then wet herself. And if you still have that chemistry set that con-

tained enough dangerous materials that it could poison your sister's Betsy Wetsy, you might want to call the Bureau of Hazardous Waste. They might take it off your hands.

Many great collectibles that were expensive in the 1970s are now worth only a fraction of their original cost. Things like Hummel figurines and Norman Rockwell plates just aren't in demand anymore.

Even some great works of literature, like my father-in-law's vintage Playboy magazine collection, haven't increased in value since I inherited them 20 years ago. Who would have thought that?

And why wouldn't your daughter want that huge antique mahogany cabinet that her grandmother so treasured? What would she do with it, or the handmade quilt and hooked rugs she

worked on so tirelessly? There just wouldn't be any place for them with her sterile, minimalist decor that her generation finds so appealing.

I've tried to give some of my good tools I no longer use to relatives. You would have thought I was asking them to take my kitchen garbage home with them.

Like many of you, I tried to downsize before we moved to Rossmoor. We had a garage sale where potential buyers tried to chisel me down to a few pennies for my good stuff. By the end of the sale, I felt like digging a hole in my backyard and burying my stuff rather than letting them get the best of me. But of course I didn't; I brought most of it to Rossmoor.

Even if your loved ones cared about your good stuff, they don't have room for it in their own homes because they have too much of their own good stuff.

I think the only solution to my dilemma is to let someone else worry about the small stuff when I'm gone and just enjoy my life here in Rossmoor.

One of my enjoyments is finding a good bargain, so maybe I'll see you at Rossmoor's Trunk Sale & Shred Event on May 16 from 9 a.m. to noon in the Clubhouse parking lot. I'll be the one with a large box of really good stuff I just couldn't live without!

## Read the Label

By Steven Gray

Read the label, what a strange thing to rant about. How many times, while doing laundry, you have looked for the care label, but the darn thing always seems to be in a different spot on different clothing. In addition, even though the label is usually in English, it is in many other languages hiding the English which, in many cases, seems to have been translated from another language by someone who spoke neither. I especially like the ones that look like hieroglyphics. Oh, wait, that is probably Egyptian cotton.

A friend of mine - not a Rossmoor resident - found this out the hard way many years ago. Newly married, never having done laundry before, and with a sick wife, he thought he would help her out. He did gather everything together - no separation of anything - and stuffed it all into the washer. Since she was sick, he thought he should use hot water to help sterilize the clothing.

Wash done; now into the dryer on high heat to ensure the sterilization process. Dryer done; in removing the clothes he was wondering why she had so many dolls' clothing. Oops. He discovered three

things that day: always read the label, how comfortable the couch is or wasn't, and that he had a very expensive shopping trip coming up.

The same "read the label" can be said about setting up a new computer; you knew there had to be a tie in somewhere. You are given simple instructions on how to get started and the process is fairly quick and easy. What you are not told is that you need all of your passwords as they do not magically jump from the old computer to the new computer.

You will also need all of the programs you want to use. The data such as documents, pictures, etc., can be transferred; but the actual programs like Word and Excel need to be loaded. If the program is too old, it may not even load or work properly if it does load.

The same can be said for a new car as well. Read the owner's manual; there is information in it that will make driving your new car even better. I owned one car that had the steering wheel adjustment as part of the turn signal. I tried to signal for a left turn and had the steering wheel drop in my lap. It's kind of hard to turn a wheel like that.

Lessons learned; always read first, then do.

## Back Story: "Blessed Assurance"

By Mary Jane Brubaker

Written in 1873, "Blessed Assurance" is widely considered one of the greatest gospel hymns of all time. It was written by two women who happened to be close friends: Fanny J. Crosby, a blind poet, and Phoebe P. Knapp, a musician and philanthropist. Ms. Crosby, who lost her sight at six weeks of age, grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y., in a devout Methodist household. She memorized whole sections of the Bible and wrote the text for her first hymn at age six. She attended the New York Institute for the Blind - now known as the New York Institute for Special Education - where she met her future husband, Alexander Van Alstyne, a musician who was also blind. The two settled into a modest home in Brooklyn.

Ms. Knapp was born in New York City, to wealthy parents who were both prominent Methodist evangelists. Ms. Knapp played piano and organ and was deeply involved in the religious work of her family. Ms. Knapp married businessman Joseph Fairchild Knapp when she was 16, and together, they moved into a

mansion in Brooklyn.

It was in Ms. Knapp's Brooklyn home where the two women, along with Ms. Crosby's secretary to whom Ms. Crosby dictated her texts, met at the piano to hear a new melody about which Ms. Knapp was very excited. Ms. Knapp would normally have played the melody on her organ, but on that day a new large pipe organ was being installed in the house.

Ms. Knapp played her new melody after which she asked Ms. Crosby, "What does this tune say?"

Ms. Crosby's immediate response was, "Why, that says 'Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine, O what a foretaste of glory divine.'" She then proceeded to dictate the entire text within minutes.

In the years to come, both women would recall that moment with great excitement. They knew they had created something special.

In their lifetimes, Ms. Knapp composed the music for 500 hymns and Ms. Crosby wrote the texts for more than 8,000 hymns. Both agreed that "Blessed Assurance" was among their best. History would prove them right.

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**THE HUMAN ELEMENT:  
SURVIVING BREAST CANCER: MEET HELEN BURKE**

By Susan Peters

When lightning strikes twice.

Age 49 was already proving to be a trying year for Helen Burke. She was busy running the local insurance agency she inherited from her mother; her right-hand person and good friend at work had just resigned to pursue other interests; and her Mom had recently passed away. Then, she discovered a lump in her left breast.

"It was an aggressive cancer, but luckily Stage 1," she recalls. "I had radiation and a lumpectomy performed at local institutions; however, I did seek a second opinion at Fox Chase in Pennsylvania." At that time, she relates that fate did step in. Her newly hired office assistant was a breast cancer survivor and quickly became her advocate, along with the support of her loving husband,



Helen Burke

friends, and her church family.

Fast forward to 2022, and Helen faced another health crisis requiring open heart surgery. Then in May 2023, she developed a different, invasive cancer requiring chemotherapy, a bilateral mastectomy, and immunotherapy. She also learned she had the BRCA-2 gene that helps repair damaged DNA and can increase the risk of several cancers.

Helen smiled as she described the loving care she received from family, particularly her grandson who lived nearby and would come every day to cook meals for her and her husband. "He loved to whistle while he cooked, and it still warms my heart."

"When my faith felt shaky, I gained strength from my family." Her biggest supporter became her daughter-in-law, Laura, who saw her through chemotherapy with luncheons, outings, and games.

"I had two goals that got me through the worst times. Two of my grandchildren were being married four months apart. I vowed to be there and dance at both their weddings. I fulfilled both goals."

Laura Burke, Helen's daughter-in-law, is the daughter of the late Rev. Dierdre Thomson, former pastor of the Rossmoor Community Church. Laura is also a Rossmoor resident. Seventeen years ago, Laura, along with her friend, Patricia, formed a 501c3 charity called "Raising Hope For Others" whose mission is to financially assist individuals who are suffering with an ongoing or critical illness. They later invited Helen to join as a trustee.

Helen has happily lived at Rossmoor about a year now and is a member of the Croquet Club and the Rossmoor Community Church. She also loves to play cards.

Rossmoor's "Paint the Town Pink" campaign kicked off in January with monthly activities to raise awareness and funds. Please check with E&R for upcoming events throughout the year. Helen's story is the fifth in a series we will be sharing throughout this campaign to hopefully bring inspiration and hope to others in our community.

**CULINARY CORNER**

By Sidna Mitchell

**Pease Porridge Please**

How many of you are familiar with the nursery rhyme, Pease Porridge Hot? Pease porridge hot; pease porridge cold.

Pease porridge in a pot, nine days old.

Some like it hot; some like it cold.

Some like it in the pot, nine days old.

Just what exactly is pease porridge? And who would like anything after nine days in the pot?

Pease porridge is a form of what we today call split pea soup. It comes from the Brits and was easily prepared by the Colonists. Peas could be dried and saved for cooking whenever needed, especially in the colder months.

Dried peas and various seasonings were added to water in a kettle that was hung over a fire to simmer. Vegetables were added as available, and sometimes the porridge was flavored with bacon or salt pork.

At the end of the day, the porridge cooled, thickened and left in the pot to congeal. The next morning it could be eaten cold and thick; water and additional vegetables might be added to thin the porridge and extend it for that day's meals, and so on for the next day and the next.

It's conceivable that the porridge in the pot would indeed be a few days old by the time it was finished off, or finally given up on and fed to the pigs. Peas were also something that the Patriot troops could carry with them and, with water from a nearby stream, be prepared for one or more of their meals in a pot over an open fire.

I have often made split pea soup, especially on cold, dreary days. The recipe on the back of a package of split peas is really good. However, thanks to a croquet friend from Maine, I now prefer yellow split peas. Of course, I usually "enhance" the recipe so here's my version.

**Yellow Split Pea Soup**

One-pound package dry yellow split peas  
four chicken bouillon cubes  
small onion chopped  
medium carrot, chopped

Rinse and sort the peas; then drain.

In a soup pot or eight-quart pan, combine the first six ingredients and the water.

Bring to a boil and then reduce heat.

Cover and simmer until peas are tender.

Occasionally stir and add more water or chicken broth if soup is getting too thick.

Before serving, remove the ham hock and cut off any meat to be reserved for garnishing.

Pour the soup into a blender and puree until smooth.

Salt and pepper to taste.

Pour into individual soup bowls and top with reserved ham.

Serve with a crusty bread.

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

**Culinary Corner**

stalk celery, chopped  
smoked ham hock  
six cups water  
salt and pepper

**Trivia Fun**

By Peter and Phyllis Braff

1. Who is the co-founder of Microsoft?

A - Elon Musk B - Bill Gates  
C - Mark Zuckerberg

2. How many amendments are there in the U.S. Constitution?

A - 18 B - 22 C - 27

3. Which country has a unicorn as its national animal?

A - Switzerland B - Scotland  
C - Ireland

4. What form of digital communication was first used in 1971?

A - email B - text message  
C - emoji

(Continued on page 16)



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## Clubs and Organizations

### Rossmoor Dance Club News



Francesca and Antonio Furnari bopping at the March dance.

By Debbie Sills

Our Pretty in Pink dance and fundraiser for breast cancer in April was a great success. Thank you for supporting both our monthly dance and the silent auction fundraiser.

The theme of our May dance is Hawaiian Nights, giving you a chance to don your lei and dance the night away on Saturday, May 30, in the Ballroom. Our DJ for May's dance is DJ Mel. Mel will entertain us with a wide range of music, for all types of dancing for solo dancers, couples, and line dancers. The reservation deadline for this dance is Wednes-

day, May 27. Dance reservation forms are in the carousel by E&R.

We set up the tables according to your requests as to with whom you want to sit, and on the night of the dance there may or may not be scattered seats available. If you wait to buy your ticket after the deadline date, it makes it very difficult for the Dance Club Board to sit you with friends.

If you haven't renewed membership, we are still happy to accept your membership dues. Paid up 2026 members pay \$10 for a dance, but if you are not a member the charge is \$15. Annual membership is \$10, and you can still save on the rest of the year by becoming a member. Membership forms are also available in the carousel outside E&R.

Hope to see you in your Hawaiian shirts on Saturday, May 30, in the Ballroom.

### Trivia Answers

(Continued from page 15)

1. B
- 2..C
3. B
4. A



### AI for Humans

By Cathleen Norback and Kyle Johansson

Join the Rossmoor Computer Club on Monday, May 18 at 10 a.m. for AI for Humans—an engaging and easy-to-understand introduction to Artificial Intelligence designed for everyday users. This one-hour presentation will be led by Monroe Township native Kyle Johansson, who serves as Monroe Township's Community Relations and Digital Media Coordinator and holds leadership roles on several local boards and commissions.

Kyle earned degrees from Mercer County Community College and Rutgers University and has closely followed the rapid growth of Artificial Intelligence as it has become part of everyday life. He actively works with a variety of

AI platforms and stays current with emerging tools, trends, and real-world applications.

During this beginner-friendly "AI 101" session, Kyle will clearly explain what AI is and what it isn't. He will introduce popular AI platforms and how they can be used. He will also share practical tips and everyday use cases and discuss potential risks, limitations, and future implications. At the end of the presentation, he will answer audience questions.

Whether you're curious about AI or looking to better understand how it can enhance your daily life, this session will provide valuable insights in a welcoming and accessible format.

All are welcome! You do not need to be a member of

### Rossmoor Chorus Honors Memory of Eliza Miller



Eliza Miller, a member of the chorus, passed away unexpectedly on March 4. Chorus members honored her memory during their monthly performance at the Community Church on March 15. On Eliza's chair was a framed photo of her, along with a rose with pussy willows (she was a cat lover), and her chorus folder. Rest in peace Eliza.

### African Heritage Group Recognizes Women's History Month

By Deborah Jackson

March, recognized as Women's History Month, is a time to honor the extraordinary contributions, resilience, and achievements of women across generations. In celebration of this meaningful occasion, the African Heritage Group hosted an inspiring and beautifully curated program centered around the theme "Women in the Arts."

The program opened with a powerful and moving tribute of the legendary Maya Angelou reciting her iconic poem "Phenomenal Woman." Her affirming words set a profound tone reminding the 65-plus attendees at the program of the strength resilience and beauty, that women embody.

From that stirring begin-

ning, the program unfolded as a vibrant celebration of creativity and expression. Various forms of art were exhibited from music, live liturgical praise and African dance, amazing works of sculptors, writers, and creative artists.

A special moving dedication segment allowed people in the audience to publicly honor women who made an impact in their individual lives. As the microphone was passed around, the audience participated by sharing their gratitude and recognition to these special women whom influenced their life.

Finally, it was time to put the audience's music skills to the test. They took a walk down memory lane, listening to clips of familiar songs and



guessing the artist in a trivia game called "Who Am I." As the music played, the audience sang along, creating an exciting and nostalgic moment that brought everyone together.

The African Heritage Group looks forward to hosting more events that bring all Rossmoor residents together for fun and enjoyable experiences.

Don't miss our "Not Your Typical Game Night" on Saturday, May 16, from 6 - 9 p.m. in the Clubhouse Ballroom.

### Korean-American Group

By Youngae Lee

Our Korean-American Group held its monthly meeting with 35 members in attendance. It's always a pleasure to see one another again. We enjoy getting together to say hello, share our latest news - both the happy moments and the more difficult ones - and enjoy each

other's company.

At this meeting, we discussed whether our condolence fund should be used only for members or also for their parents. After hearing everyone's thoughts, more than half of the members felt the fund should be used only for our own members.

We also enjoyed a special report from retired pastors Kim Hee Ryon and his wife, Kim Young Ok. This lovely couple has been serving as missionaries for many years. They recently spent one month on a mission trip helping Haitian refugees in the Dominican Republic. Their story gave us all a fresh appreciation for the comfortable and blessed lives we enjoy here. It also encouraged us to think seriously about how



The Rev. Hee Ryon Kim shares mission report.

we can make a difference in our later years.

The club continues to run smoothly thanks to the annual membership dues and the generous donations from many kind-hearted members.

In addition, the Knitting Workshop that started last month is going strong. The ladies enjoy both the knitting and the friendly conversation.

If you would like to join our group or the knitting workshop, please feel free to contact me at yalee1980@gmail.com. All are warmly welcome.

the Computer Club to join our General Meeting, which starts at 10 a.m., but first we have the 3 C's - coffee, cake, and conversation - beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Gallery.

We always enjoy seeing new and familiar faces. Hope to see you there!

### Italian American Club News

By Tony Cardello

Our most popular event, Rossmoor Downs, will be held on Saturday, May 9, at 6 p.m. in the Ballroom. Please bring your own food and snacks. Water, soda and beer will be provided. Cost will be \$10 per person.

The next membership meeting will be on Wednesday, May 20, at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom

Bingo will be played on Friday, May 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the Ballroom.

The officers of the Italian American Club wish all the mothers and grandmothers of the club a blessed and Happy Mother's Day.

## Religious News

### Explaining Catholic Beliefs

By Sheila McCue

It's May! This is the month that evokes memories of May crownings in our childhood parishes. Little girls fresh from their First Communion would put on their beautiful white dresses once more as they processed to the music of Marian hymns.

May is the month of Mother's Day, too. So, it seems appropriate to focus on the Mother of Christ who was given to us by her son at the foot of His cross. As the apostle John stood in for us, Jesus addressed him saying, "Son, behold your mother."

Addressing Mary, He said, "Woman, behold your son." This exchange illuminates several particularly Catholic ideas.

First: Jesus was an only child. Scriptural references to Jesus' "brothers" are interpreted as referring to kinsmen, likely cousins but not siblings. Why? Because in the Jewish culture of the time, if Jesus had any siblings, they would automatically have been responsible for their mother after the

death of her first-born son. Jesus would not have needed to entrust her to anyone else.

But if Jesus had no siblings, He would have wanted to ensure that his mother was cared for. So, he entrusted her to John, the "disciple that Jesus loved."

Second: The church views the mother of Christ as a powerful intercessor, a prayer partner of special proportions. Devotion to Our Blessed Mother provides us with a role model, someone who was obedient to God and willing to totally surrender to His will as well as an intercessor – someone to pray along with us as we bring our prayers to Christ.

The Catholic Society has chosen Our Lady of Fatima as our patron. On Thursday, May 14 at 1:30 p.m., we will gather in the Meeting House for mass and our own May crowning.

The rosary is a popular form of Catholic prayer that gathers members of the Rossmoor Catholic Society together weekly on Friday mornings to pray together.

The Book of Psalms was

prayed by monks. The church needed a form of prayer that would be accessible to layman who couldn't read or afford a psalter. The rosary could be prayed by counting with your fingers or with beads.

Five decades of prayers comprised each of the three sets of mysteries prayed in the rosary: the joyous, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries. Thus, a total of 150 prayers in the rosary to match the 150 psalms prayed by the monks. The mysteries provided scriptural events covering the timeline of Christ's birth, life, passion, and resurrection through Pentecost for meditation as one prayed the decades.

As one Catholic mother put it: "It's like sitting with Mary as she shows you the family scrapbook to better acquaint you with her son." In modern times, Pope John Paul II was inspired to add the five Luminous mysteries that shed further light on Jesus' life and mission.

Hold the date: The Catholic Society will host a short program of guided prayer and meditation led by Joanne Malick on Wednesday, June 10, at 1:30 p.m. in the Cedar Room. The Catholic. All are welcome!

### Jewish Congregation Happenings



By Adrienne Brotman

Sabbath Services for the Jewish Congregation will be on Friday, May 8, and Friday, May 22, in the Meeting

House at 7:15 p.m. All are welcome.

On May 8 we will be celebrating the birth of Scott and Barbara Hoff's new granddaughter, Daisy Jean. On May 22 we will be remembering Sylvia Weshnak, a long time member of the Jewish congregation and Rossmoor resident.

For ore information about the congregation, contact Barbara at 973-476-5702.

### Pastor Search Committee is Formed



The Rossmoor Community Church has formed a search committee to find a new pastor. From left: Stephen Serafin, Jean Cooke, Karen Ross, Camille Stahl, and Linda Appleby.

### Obituary: Sallie Rowland

Sarah M. Rowland (Annand), lovingly known as Sallie, died March 18, at Bay Village Community Skilled Nursing in Sarasota, Fla. She passed peacefully, with family by her side. She recently celebrated her 95th birthday.

Born and raised in Highland Park, Mich., she lived briefly in Illinois and Louisiana before settling in Edison, N.J., in 1960. She raised her children and had her career in Edison as a Home Economics teacher for the Edison Township Public School System. Upon her retirement in 1988, she moved to the Rossmoor Community and in 2022 she moved to Venice, Fla.

Sallie received a Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan State University and a Master's Degree from Rutgers University, both in Home Economics Education. While attending Michigan State, she met, fell in love with, and married her husband W. Edward Rowland.

Her passions, in addition to her family, involved active community service as a director of her mutual in Rossmoor and in the Rossmoor Community Church in many leadership capacities. She was an amazing chef and seamstress, and she played golf for many years with her nine-hole golf league. She cherished the hole-in-one she made just before giving up the sport while in her early 80s. She always said she was most fulfilled as a wife, mother, nana, and great nana.

Sallie's beloved husband, W. Edward Rowland, prede-



Sallie Rowland

ceased her by 19 years in 2007. They were lovingly married for 54 years. She also is predeceased by her parents, Marie and William Annand, a brother, Frederick Annand, and a sister Isabel Annand.

Sallie is survived by her three children, Vicki Guarascio and her husband Joseph, of East Setauket, N.Y.; Patricia Taubenslag and her husband David, of Venice, Fla.; and William Rowland of Monroe Township. She is also survived by five grandchildren: Joseph, Mark, Robert, Sarah, and Daniel and six great-grandchildren, Joseph, Daniel, Grace, Luke, Ava, and Mia.

Sallie will forever be remembered as a caring, unselfish, and loving woman to everyone. Our hearts are happy that she is now reunited with her beloved Ed after such a long absence.

A memorial service will be held in the Rossmoor Community Church at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 11. A private burial will follow in Cranbury. Memorial contributions may be made to the Rossmoor Community Church, 1 Village Mall, Monroe Township, N.J. 08831.

### HEALTH CARE CENTER NEWS

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

### Breast Cancer Risk Grows with Age! Go Get Your Mammogram!

If you think that getting an annual mammogram is for younger women, *think again*. As a matter of fact, aging does not *reduce* the need for breast cancer screening; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the risk of breast cancer increases as we age.

Do any of these common reasons for procrastinating or not getting an annual mammogram ring true to you?

"It hurts!" Technology has advanced to make mammograms more comfortable for women. Saint Peter's University Hospital uses the Hologic® SmartCurve™ in its Women's Imaging Center for a more comfortable mammography experience. Smart-Curve is a curved compression paddle that is shaped more like a woman's natural curves. It is clinically proven to increase comfort and decrease the pain associated with the compression of breast tissue during the procedure.

"I'm afraid of possible bad news!" When it comes to medical tests, who isn't afraid of what you might find out? Think about it this way: If people weren't afraid of getting a poor reading, there wouldn't be a need for this article!

Getting a mammogram is the most reliable way to screen for breast cancer. Routine mammograms give

you the best chance of getting diagnosed at the earliest possible time.

Early detection changes outcomes. Cancers found at an early stage are more likely to be treated successfully, often with less aggressive therapies and fewer long-term effects.

In fact, for many women, screening is the difference between a manageable condition and a life threatening one.

#### Did You know?

There is a common misconception that screening becomes unnecessary after a certain age. That assumption can be dangerous. Many breast cancers are diagnosed in women over 60. As life expectancy increases, more women are living long, active lives where preventive care still plays a critical role.

Good health in later years depends on continuing the same disciplined habits that supported health earlier in life.

Getting an annual mammogram can provide you and your loved one's peace of mind. Plus, routine screening may reduce uncertainty and allow you to stay in control of your health. And, when you think about it, doesn't having a sense of control feel better than leaving your health to chance? Taking control of your health does matter because it supports confidence,

independence, and informed decision making.

#### Takeaways

- Breast cancer risk increases with age, making screening more important over time
- Early detection leads to higher survival rates and less invasive treatment
- Many breast cancers show no symptoms in early stages and are only found through imaging
- Continued screening supports long term health and independence
- Decisions can be tailored based on personal health status rather than age limits
- Regular screening builds a consistent medical record, making changes easier to detect
- Mammograms are quick, widely available and covered by most insurance plans

#### Finally...

Aging brings changes, but it does not remove the value of prevention. Mammograms remain a practical, effective step in protecting health. Staying consistent with screening is not about reacting to illness. It is about maintaining control, preserving quality of life, and making informed choices that are grounded in evidence in cooperation with your physician.

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

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

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

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Bulk trash is collected on Wednesdays.

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					8:30 am "Joshua" at Sight & Sound Lancaster, PA Departs poolside at 8:45a 9 am Art Class GL 9:30 am Balance Class w/ Parker House BR 10 am Catholic Society Rosary MHP 1 pm Table Tennis GL 2 pm Mutual 17 Annual Mtg HW 4:30 pm Croquet Social GL	10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. HW 10:30 am Indian-American Meditation CE 12 pm Private Party BR
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11 am Worship w/ Communion MHP 3 pm RMGs "Pop Acapella" by Monroe Twp HS Chorus MHP 7 pm Table Tennis HW	10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. BR 1 pm Table Tennis HW 2 pm Line Dancing GL 2 pm Korean-American Group MR 4:30 pm Indian-American Yoga CE	10 am Chair Yoga GL 10:30 am News of the Week Roundtable MR 11:30 am Tai Chi Class HW 1 pm All in Stitches DW 7 pm Congregation Board Mtg DW	9:30 am Yoga CE 10 am Needle Punch Class MR 10 am Corn Hole GL 3:30 pm Chorus MHP 4 pm Wine & Cheese Tasting HW 6:30 pm Scrapbooking Classes MR	9:30 am Healthy Bones Class BR 10 am Rug Hooking GL 12:30 pm "Take Control of Your Health" Workshop MR 1 pm Table Tennis HW 6 pm Line Dancing GL	9 am Art Class GL 10 am Catholic Society Rosary MHP 1 pm Table Tennis HW 1:30 pm "The Life List" Movie BR 4:30 pm Croquet Social GL 7 pm "The Life List" Movie BR 7:15 pm Sabbath Services MHP	10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. BR 10:30 am Indian-American Meditation CE 12 pm Private Party GL 6 pm Italian-American "Rossmoor Downs" BR
						
<b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>					10	11
11 am Worship MHP 7 pm Table Tennis HW	10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. BR 1 pm Table Tennis HW 1 pm Players Board Mtg. Willow 2 pm Line Dancing GL 4:30 pm Indian-American Yoga CE 6:30 pm Girl Power Support Group DW	10 am Chair Yoga GL 10 am Veterans' Group Mtg BR 10 am Interfaith Rehearsal MHP 10:30 am News of the Week Roundtable MR 11 am Church Finance Mtg MHP 11:30 am Tai Chi HW 1 pm All in Stitches CE 1:30 pm Catholic Society Mtg MHP 1:30 pm "The Rip" Movie BR 6:30 pm Democratic Club HW 7 pm "The Rip" Movie BR	9:30 am Yoga CE 10 am Computer Club Board Mtg DW 10 am Needle Punch Class MR 10 am Corn Hole GL 10:30 am Rossmoor News Proofreading Session WR 1 pm Annual Mtg. BR 3 pm Church Worship Comm. MHP 3:30 pm Chorus MHP 5 pm Mutual 16 Social HW/ Terrace 6:30 pm Cardmaking Classes MR	9:30 am Healthy Bones Class BR 9:30 am Standing Comm. HW 10 am Rug Hooking GL 10:30 am Italian-American Board Mtg WR 12:30 pm "Take Control of Your Health" Workshop MR 1 pm Table Tennis HW 1:30 pm Catholic Society Mass MHP 4 pm Democratic Club Political Round Table MR 6 pm Line Dancing GL 6 pm Republican Club Mtg HW 6:30 pm Recipe Exchange BR	9 am Art Class GL 9:30 am Balance Class w/ Parker House BR 10 am Catholic Society Rosary MHP 1 pm Table Tennis HW 4:30 pm Croquet Social GL 6 pm Players Open Mic BR	8 am Trunk Sale & Shredding Event Clubhouse Parking Lot 10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. BR 10:30 am Indian-American Meditation CE 6 pm AHG's "Game Night" BR
						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
11 am Worship MHP 1 pm Mutual 17 Spring Social BR/Terrace 3 pm RMG Concert: Xiyve Huang MHP 7 pm Table Tennis HW	8 am Golf Outing BR 10 am Computer Club GL 10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. HW 1 pm Table Tennis HW 2 pm Line Dancing GL 2 pm Korean-American Group MR 4:30 pm Indian-American Yoga CE 7 pm Players Mtg. GL	10 am Chair Yoga GL 10 am Mutual 5 Open Director HW 10:30 am News of the Week Roundtable MR 11:30 am Tai Chi Class BR 1 pm All in Stitches CE 3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy Narthex 3 pm Rutgers Panel Discussion w/ Leslie Danehy BR 3:30 pm Church Council Mtg MHP	9:30 am Yoga CE 10 am Needle Punch Class MR 10 am "Ragtime" on Broadway Departs poolside at 10am 10 am Mutual 8 Open Director HW 10:30 am Rossmoor News Board Mtg WR 11 am Congregation Game Day BR 2 pm Healthcare Lectures MR 3:30 pm Chorus MHP 7 pm Italian American Club Mtg BR 7 pm Mutual 4C Open Director HW	9 am Board of Governors HW 9:30 am Healthy Bones Class BR 10 am Rug Hooking GL 1 pm Table Tennis HW 1 pm Memorial Day Church Service MHP 3 pm Book Discussion DW 5 pm Progressive Group BR	9 am Art Class GL 10 am Catholic Society Rosary MHP 1 pm Table Tennis HW 4:30 pm Croquet Social GL 7 pm "Stars & Stripes" Dance Party w/ Let's be Frank* BR 7:15 pm Sabbath Services MHP	10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. BR 10:30 am Indian-American Meditation CE
<b>ABBREVIATIONS</b> Ballroom BR Bocce Courts BC Cedar Room CE Craft Room CR Dogwood Room DR Gallery GL Hawthorn Room HR Maple Room MR Meeting House MH Shuffleboard Ct. SC Willow Room WR					Thursday, May 21, 2026 6 pm Line Dancing GL 7 pm Emerald Society HW	
						<b>All Events Are Subject to Change.</b>  Schedule does not reflect changes made after the 15 <sup>th</sup> of the month.  *Registration required
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
11 am Worship/Chorus MHP 7 pm Table Tennis HW	<b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> 10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. BR 1 pm Table Tennis HW 2 pm Line Dancing GL 4:30 pm Indian-American Yoga CE	10 am Chair Yoga GL 10:30 am News of the Week Roundtable MR 11:30 am Tai Chi Class HW 1 pm All in Stitches CE 1:30 pm Oral History Archives Presentation by Shaun Illingworth BR 6:30 pm Croquet Board Mtg. CE	9:30 am Yoga CE 10 am Needle Punch Class MR 10 am Corn Hole GL 1:30 pm "The Fundamentals of Caring" Movie BR 2 pm Healthcare Lectures MR 3:30 pm Chorus-MH MHP 7 pm "The Fundamentals of Caring" Movie BR	9:30 am Healthy Bones Class BR 10 am Rug Hooking GL 1 pm Table Tennis HW 1:30 pm German American Group CE 6 pm Line Dancing GL	9 am Art Class GL 10 am Catholic Society Rosary MHP 1 pm Table Tennis HW 4:30 pm Croquet Social GL 6:30 pm Bingo BR	10 am Forever Fitness w/ Tracy S. BR 10:30 am Indian-American Meditation CE 5 pm Korean-American Group GL 7 pm Dance Club BR
31						
11 am Worship MHP 7 pm Table Tennis HW						
						

# Swimming pool

## Rules and Regulations 2026



### POOL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Friday, May 22 through  
Monday, September 7

#### Health and Safety Guidelines: New Jersey State Bathing Code

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

#### Resident Pool Passes

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

#### Food and Beverages

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

#### Seating

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

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

#### General Pool Rules

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

#### Lane Swimming Schedule

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

#### GUEST PASSES

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

#### GUEST PASS OPTIONS

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

guests per day per unit.

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

#### GUEST ATTENDANCE RULES

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

#### GUEST AGE RULES

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

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

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

## Springing into Croquet

By Sidna B. Mitchell

While most folks think of Spring as starting around March 20, the members of the Rossmoor Croquet Club consider the season beginning with their Spring Luncheon at the end of April. This year the Spring Luncheon and Meeting was set for Saturday, April 26, starting at noon and followed by golf croquet on the court outside the Clubhouse.

And speaking of members, the 2026 dues for active members are \$35, and dues for social members are \$25. Both are payable by check, made out to the Rossmoor Croquet Club, and sent to Membership Chair Karen Kahn at 241-A Mayflower Way.

Golf croquet officially begins on Friday, May 1, and continues every Friday thereafter from 4 - 5:30 p.m. Afterwards the members gather in the Gallery for Attitude Adjustment, a time of fellowship and snacks. However, there are some special Friday nights for pizza, tacos or loaded spuds.

Rossmoorites are welcome to experience this genteel sport, especially older golfers. Although club members are required, by tradition, always to wear white attire on the court, visitors may try out the game in non-white clothing, but they need to wear rubber-soled shoes.

For more information, contact Karen Kahn at 732-501-0286.

## Ladies 18-Hole Golf Returns

By Maria Hogan

Get ready to dust off those clubs and polish up your swing, Rossmoor ladies. The Ladies 18-Hole Golf Group is returning with a big smile and plenty of enthusiasm.

We're thrilled to tee off again on Tuesday, June 2. We can't wait to welcome back all our favorite "Snowbirds" and hope to see some wonderful new faces joining the fun, especially any women from the disbanded nine-hole group who'd like to keep playing and improve their game.

Here's the scoop. We play every Tuesday and Thursday with reserved tee times. We're a lively, supportive bunch of gals who simply love chasing that little white ball around the course, sharing laughs, and enjoying the fresh air, and the camaraderie.

If we have enough newer players or ladies who want a gentler pace while they build

confidence, we'll thoughtfully place them toward the back of the group and pair them with more experienced players who can help nudge everyone to the next level. After all, the best way to get better is simple - just keep playing.

To kick things off right, we're holding an informational meeting on Wednesday, May 6, at noon, in the Pro shop. Jo Schwegel and I will share all the details about our plans for a season filled with better golf and even more fun.

If you're interested in joining the group, or just curious, please reach out. I'd love to hear from you.

Please contact me via email at golfer\_208@yahoo.com or give me a call at 347-217-4910.

So, grab your golf shoes, rally your friends, and let's make this a fantastic season on the course. See you out there. May your drives be long and your putts be true.

## Happy Birthday!



Many happy returns to the ladies of 4B who recently celebrated their birthdays. From left front, are Mary Rios, Joan Henderson. Back: Dee Hebert

