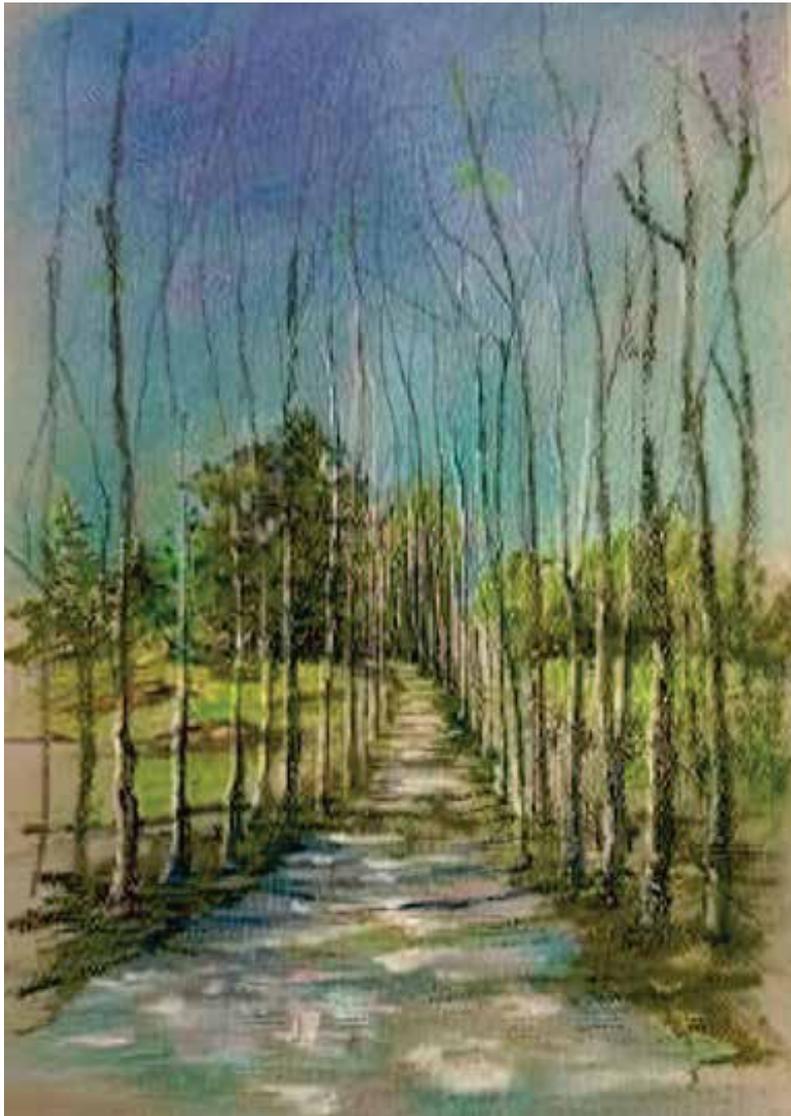


Vol. 1, No. 11 - February 2026

Greenbriar at Whittingham PULSE



Nature's Alley by Stonewyck Place Resident Audrey Roth

PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
LAKEWOOD, NJ 08701
PERMIT NO. 211

GW Pulse Staff

Mark Surks

Editor-in-Chief 609-655-5065

Editorial staff:

Mimi Gruber, Janet Horowitz,
Phyllis Kundel, Arlene Lazar,
Harvey Lazar, Sharon Nachimson,
Gayle Shpirt, Linda Surks

The **GW Pulse** encourages residents and clubs of Greenbriar at Whittingham to submit articles, stories, recipes, or photos that would be of interest to the community. Additionally, clubs are welcome to submit flyers for upcoming events.

The deadline for material is the 7th of the month prior to the month of publication. Send .pdf .doc .jpg files to:
GWMonroePulse@gmail.com

We reserve the right to edit all materials.

Community Information

Greenbriar at Whittingham
100 Whittingham Drive Monroe Township, NJ
08831

GPS 160 Half Acre Road

Matt Lubas
General Manager
609.409.9292 x228
matt.lubas@fsresidential.com

Suzie Weingartner
Property Manager
609.409.9292 x223
suzie.weingartner@fsresidential.com

Kristin Puriza
Lifestyles and Facility Director
609-409-9292 x227
Kristin.puriza@fsresidential.com

Renata Slova
Resident Services
609-409-9292 x231
renata.slova@fsresidential.com

Britani Hatcher
Administrative Assistant
609-409-9292 x259
britani.hatcher@fsresidential.com

WHOA Board of Trustees

Tom Clark, President
Jay Respler, Vice President
Bob Brown, Secretary
Kathrine DeDonno, Treasurer
Joe Atanasio, Trustee
Cathy Clarcken-Gleason, Trustee
Jeff Simonsen, Trustee

Greenbriar Board of Directors

Chester Trubinski, President
Alan Greenberg, Vice President
Mark Surks, Treasurer
Ron Parisi, Secretary
Cliff Durlacher, Trustee

Minutes of open board meetings are available via the resident portal at gwmonroe.net
Video of open board meetings are available on You Tube. Search for WHOA Recreation

The Marvin Bachman Book Club

The book club meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 4PM in our own Library.

They will meet on Monday February 23rd at 4 PM to discuss **Anxious People: A Novel by Fredrick Backman**

Looking at real estate isn't usually a life-or-death situation, but an apartment open house becomes just that when a failed bank robber bursts in and takes a group of strangers hostage. The captives include a recently retired couple who relentlessly hunt down fixer-uppers to avoid the painful truth that they can't fix their own marriage. There's a wealthy bank director who has been too busy to care about anyone else and a young couple who are about to have their first child but can't seem to agree on anything. Add to the mix an eighty-seven-year-old woman who has lived long enough not to be afraid of someone waving a gun in her face, a flustered but still-ready-to-make-a-deal real estate agent, and a mystery man who has locked himself in the apartment's only bathroom, and you've got the worst group of hostages in the world.

Each of them carries a lifetime of grievances, hurts, secrets, and passions that are ready to boil over. None of them is entirely who they appear to be. And all of them—the bank robber included—desperately crave some sort of rescue. As the authorities and the media surround the premises, these reluctant allies will reveal surprising truths about themselves and set in motion a chain of events so unexpected that even they can hardly explain what happens next.

Contact Harriet Bachman for details. 609-409-5464

BOOK CLUB

Deadline for material for the March issue is February 8th. Get going! It will be here before you know it.

HONEY-DO-LIST? CALL THE SENIORS HANDYMAN

No Job Too Small

Painting, sheetrock, tile & grout repair, hanging TVs, pictures & mirrors, assembling furniture

Lots more

Owner operator

Call Jim @ 908-216-8853

ad-8815

Smart Technology & Computer Services by STETNET TECH Reliable Setup • Support • Solutions

Need help with your computer or smart technology?
Get friendly, one-on-one support from a knowledgeable individual you can trust.

Services Offered: * Computer setup & troubleshooting * Phone, tablet & device syncing * Software installation & updates * Virus removal & performance optimization * Smart home device setup (Wi-Fi, TVs, speakers, cameras, thermostats) *Data backup & basic security setup * Personalized tech help & training

Perfect for: * Seniors & beginners * Homes & small businesses * Anyone who wants technology to *just work*

Call or Text — Eric Stetson @ 732.718.2236 for a free consultation.

ad-8826



Lauren Rubenstein

Virginia Bauman

Rao & Lalita Yelamanchili

James & Gregory Nowacheck

Debra Kaufman

Attention Artists

If you have a piece of art that you would like to share in The Pulse, The GW Camera Club has agreed to photograph it for you. If you would find that helpful contact Rich Lewis 609-642-6770 or email richlou08831@comcast.net

Traveler with a Camera

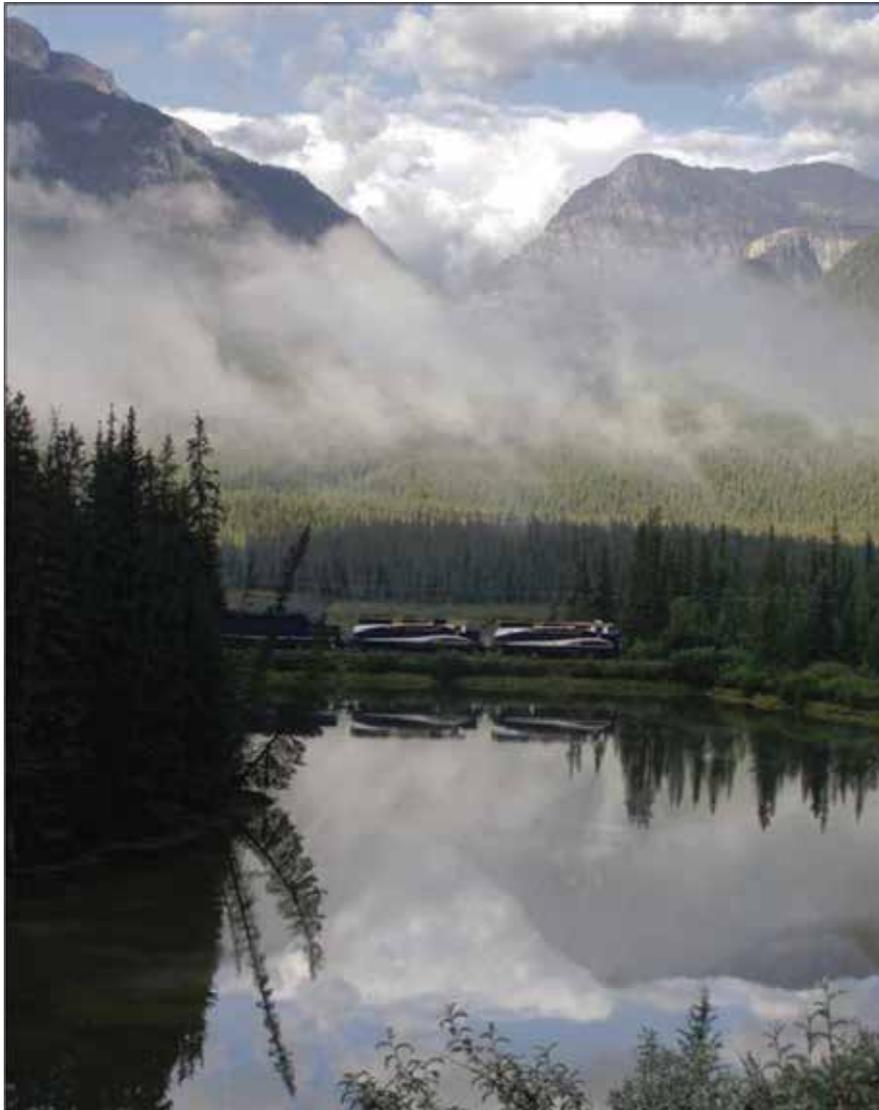
Rocky Mountaineer

by Rich Polk

I arrived at the Banff, Alberta, Canada train station about a half-hour before train departure time and found the train parked at the platform. Supplies and passengers for the westbound run were being loaded. I had ridden the eastbound, arriving the previous evening. The trip from Vancouver had taken two days, *the Rocky Mountaineer* operators wisely scheduling the train to put the passengers in a hotel in Kamloops, British Columbia so none of the incredible scenery would be missed due to darkness. I congratulated myself for riding the eastbound so that the views out the train's large picture windows would only improve with each mile traveled.

I made a record photograph of the train in the station, but that was not my primary mission. I had less than a half hour to conduct a frantic search for a setting for the westbound *Rocky Mountaineer* before it left Banff—being careful not to be so picky as to end up with nothing. I left town on an unfamiliar road that loosely followed the tracks. After a few miles, I came around a bend in the road and knew immediately that I had found what I was looking for.

Before me was a lake, its shores lined with fir trees with just the right “window” to allow the train along the far shore to be reflected on the lake's surface. Above the rails, a low cloud screened the distance, but not so much that two rocky peaks were unobstructed as they reached into a sky filled with cumulus clouds. Soon enough the train arrived and I made the image.



The Rocky Mountaineer tourist train heads west through the Canadian Rockies near Banff, Alberta.

The Shalom Club
is not your Bubbe's Club
Anymore!



- THE - SHALOM CLUB ♯

Highlights from 2025



-UPCOMING EVENTS:****

- **February 1:** Breakfast Event at 9:45 AM - *The Word Mavens*
- **March 1:** Breakfast Event at 9:45 AM - *A Multicultural Perspective on Passover*
- **March 15:** Special Event at 1:00 PM - *Book Folding Craft Class*
- **April 13, May 11, June 29:** Susan Addelston Seminar Series 2026

Contact: shalomclub0224@gmail.com

Barry Geffner After Hours Club

By Harlan Tuchman

We've said goodbye to 2025 and here at home we welcomed in the New Year with a fabulous bash in the Towne Centre. It amazes me that I've become such an "old" timer having been the last original purchaser of a GW home some 25 years ago.

My point being, I get to see so many new faces at every clubhouse activity I attend. That was especially true New Years Eve.

Now, our After Hours functions are basically New Years Eves on a smaller scale but that doesn't have to be considered so. We serve the same food, although we try to make it better. We have musical entertainment. We mix that up featuring live bands along with our great DJ's. Think of it as a New Year's bash every month.

Having a smaller crowd generally means the dance floor is not elbow to elbow. That still leaves room for our energetic line dancers along with our dancing couples (or ladies). And our regular 50/50 gives you the opportunity of leaving with a few dollars in your pocket.

So with our new administration in place, we're ready to take on 2026 with full steam ahead.

Once again I welcome Lori Filik and Joni Kaiser and the rest of our new fearless leaders.

Please join us and rock on in the new year on Friday evening, February 28th. Doors open at 6:30.



Hadassah News

By Joanne Sacoff

"In February there is everything to hope for and nothing to regret".

Hoping everyone had a wonderful start to 2026 and here we are almost at spring and so much to look forward to (besides some nicer weather).

We start with our Purim Pizza Party on Wednesday, February 25th at 6 pm in the Towne Centre upstairs in the Poker Room. Please make sure you sign up for this event

Also, I hope you all have placed your orders for your annual Purim gift bags. The cut off date is February 18th. If you have been gifted a bag, you will receive a call around February 23 asking you to pick up your bag at a central location. The pickup date is February 27th. Our Purim Bags are always the highlight of our year, so do not miss out on this wonderful event. Net proceeds will go to support Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

Another interesting February event is our discussion of the movie "Eleanor the Great" at 2:00 pm on February 26th. This will be conducted via Zoom. If you have not seen the movie, it is available on Netflix. This should be a fascinating and informative afternoon. Please let Suzanne know if you are coming.

For those of you spending time in southeast Florida, our annual Florida reunion brunch will take place on Tuesday, February 17 at 11:30 AM at Skillet in Delray Beach Market Place. Please contact Sharon (nachim311@yahoo.com) to let us know if you will be there.

I know everyone is looking forward to a very special Passover program this year. Join Alisa Hadassah on March 25th in the poker room of the Town Centre for our very first Chocolate Seder. As for me, I never had a piece of chocolate I did not like. Call Michele Sandler for details. (973-202-9788)

And all of this is just a smattering of what our fabulous programming ladies have planned so far. There will be more Lunch Bunch outings, speakers, a terrific game day and lots more. Remember, this is NOT your mother's Hadassah.



Cookies For Charity

By Susan Kaplan

In our November Pulse there was an article about a Cookies for Charity event that was being expanded from the Concordia community to the other the adult communities in our area. When I learned that Elijah's Promise was to be the recipient of the funds raised, I immediately got in touch with Dan Slobodien, the gentleman that created the Concordia event, and volunteered to solicit bakers and coordinate Greenbriar at Whittingham's response. Nine of you came through.

On Saturday, December 13th the sale took place. The event raised \$1,200 for Elijah's Promise, almost double what it had raised the prior year. There was a total of 73 bakers and 116 trays of cookies.

I have been volunteering for Elijah's Promise (EP) for many years. It is a fabulous organization that deals with food insecurity and other social problems. Their mission is to "harness the power of food to break the cycle of poverty, alleviate hunger and change lives." EP provides many essentials, such as toiletries, socks, as part of their social commitment. Their culinary school provides training and job placement.

The soup kitchen in New Brunswick never turns anyone away and "EP On Wheels" delivers hot food to other communities in Middlesex County. Twelve thousand mobile meals are served each month and that number keeps growing. EP operates 12 permanent locations, 6 of which are located in low-income senior housing. During the government shut-down they opened in New Brunswick on Sundays. In October they served a record 37,002 meals and on November 5 they held a 24-hour Sandwichfest with the help of a Rutgers fraternity.

I truly look forward to my weekly volunteering and will surely be involved again with the Cookies For Charity event next year. What about you?



Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Every day, we rely on natural gas to keep our homes warm, heat our water, and cook our meals,

Most of the time, fuel-burning appliances and equipment work as expected to make our lives easier and more convenient. But when they don't work as they should, or are used improperly, they can cause a dangerous buildup of carbon monoxide (CO) in the air.

While CO poisoning is a year-round threat, it is more common in cold weather when fuel-burning heating equipment is in use.

You can't see or smell CO, but small amounts are in the air whenever fuel is burned. These amounts are usually not harmful, but when too much builds up it can cause CO poisoning, which can be deadly. Be familiar with the symptoms of CO poisoning, including headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, and confusion. They can occur immediately or gradually after long-term exposure.

If you suspect high levels of CO in your home:

- **Make sure everyone (pets included) evacuates immediately and call 911.** Seek immediate medical attention if anyone is experiencing symptoms of CO poisoning.
- **Call PSE&G at 1-800-880-PSEG (7734)** to have your appliances inspected.

To reduce your risk of CO poisoning:

- **Install CO detectors in every area of your home.** They are your first line of defense to prevent CO poisoning.
- **Make sure fuel-burning appliances and equipment are maintained and operate properly.**
- **Keep any high-efficiency furnace vent pipes on the outside of your home clear of snow.** Also, clear chimneys and vents for other gas appliances.
- **Never use ovens or clothes dryers for heating.** Don't block vents in the bottom of your oven.
- **Do not allow vehicles, snow blowers, lawn mowers or any gasoline-powered engine to idle in a garage** – especially if the garage is attached to your home or business. CO can drift inside and create a hazardous situation.

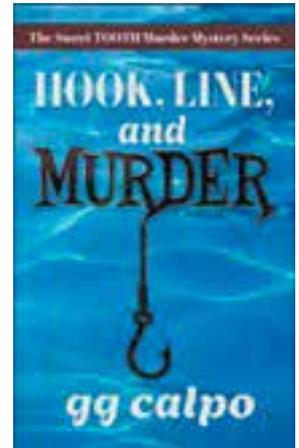
To learn more about gas safety, visit pseg.com/GasSafety.

GW Resident About To Become a Published Author

[Ed. Note: The following is an article written by GW resident Gisella Rivera about her novel available now for pre-order on Amazon for a February 9 release]

By Gisella Rivera

Hey neighbors, this is Gisella from Cameron Ct. My debut cozy mystery, *Hook, Line, and Murder*, will be released on February 9, 2026, the first book in The Sweet TOOTH Murder Mystery Series, published by The Wild Rose Press.



Two years and ten months. How did I get here?

It started two years ago in April. Four in the morning, and I had given up on sleep. I sat by the pool and looked out at the golf course, wondering what could I possibly do to still this restlessness. Sleep was getting harder. No surprise there. My family was shrinking. My mother passed away in 2017, followed by my father in 2020, then my brother in 2022. To top that, my sister, diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer in 2019, was not doing well. And I had just lost another argument with her.

My only sister, Gina, was young, not even Medicare-eligible, when she found out she had lung cancer. She had so many dreams...plans...

Travel the world was one of them. Hard to do when her cancer had metastasized to her spine, blasting holes in it and making a walk around her kitchen something to celebrate. I advocated cruising and the use of a mobility scooter. But then, traveling the world had to shrink to the few ports reachable by cruise from New York or New Jersey.

Watch her grandchild grow into a young woman was another. My words dried up. Not something that happened often when you're a lawyer. There was nothing I could say to her about that.

Write a children's book was one I had to drag out of her. I pounced on it. Told her this was easy. Bought her a notebook. Asked her what her plot was, who the main character would be. Told her we have three art majors in the family. No worries on who's doing the illustrations. Urged her to write it. Dictate it if holding a pen in her hand—she was old school—was too difficult.

But then, like I said, I lost the argument. And it made me incredibly sad. I really wanted my sister to write her book. In my heart of hearts, I thought if she wrote, she'd put bits and pieces of herself in her books. Then maybe I'd never lose her. I'd lost too many of my family, and I couldn't face losing another. Selfish, I know.

But that morning, looking at the Spanish moss dangling, silvery-gray, off the trees while a pair of egrets winged their way to land gently on the green, I thought of something else. What if I wrote a book and put her in it? I got out of my chair and grabbed my laptop. Opened it, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Meagan Brightbook is a retired kindergarten teacher, beloved by the communities of Whitman's Port, Sands Neck Point and The Village of Codling Bay, three north shore towns hugging the coast of Poet's Bay by Long Island Sound. Parents fought to get their kids in her class. Flowers and chocolates sent to the principal were not unheard of. Followed up, not so subtly, by visits and casual one-on-one meetings at parent-teacher conferences. Meg got to see brothers and sisters grow up during her close to forty years of teaching. Just as my sister did.

Then, of course, I couldn't have my sister—my bad, I meant Meg—solve crimes by herself. I surrounded her with friends from school. First came Barbara, the dreaded Caribbean-born principal of Post Elementary School. Then Stefan, the band and choir teacher sporting purple framed eyeglasses; followed by Liz, the fifth-grade teacher twirling her Star of David pendant; and finally Edna, the diminutive Filipino third-grade teacher. The gang got down to business, fully fleshed, from wherever they'd been hiding in the recesses of my brain.

At that point, the sun had risen, and golfers were on the course. My two Corgis started barking. I paused at the sound and said, might as well give my sister—Meg, I meant Meg—a pet. Cannoli joined the gang.

And because I was hurting, I thought, what if Meg had just lost her husband and son to a kayaking accident? And what if Meg insists it wasn't an accident, but the detective ignores her? That would infuriate my sister—Meg, not my sister, Meg—for sure. She doesn't take kindly to being dismissed. She'd show that so-and-so.

But where would the gang meet? They're teachers. They like to talk, make lesson plans. I remembered my sister's

favorite café, the one we went to for coffee and cake...and talks. Sister talks, where nothing is off limits. The gang needed one of those. Sweet Buns Café was born.

And the stage was set.

The towns of Whitman's Port, Sands Neck Point and The Village of Codling Bay are fictional, but they're inspired by real north shore communities my sister loved. Sweet Buns is fictional as well, though I'm sure you'd find one on any Main Street. Meg isn't a professional investigator, and she's not out to teach Detective Storm a lesson—okay, maybe a small one. What propels Meg forward is her caring, her sense of family, her love of life, her curiosity and empathy. And she carries the rest of the gang along in her wake.

She carries me on as well. Which is good, because I lost my sister September 15, 2025. But I'll always have her forever within these books.

My hope is that when my readers turn the last page of Hook, Line, and Murder, they'd have fallen in love with the gang and not want to say goodbye. My prayer is that they pick up the phone and reach out to someone they love, and maybe, talk with that someone like my sister and I used to do.

Visit me at www.ggcalpo.com

Hook, Line, and Murder is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble, in paperback and e-book format.

[Editor's note: If you have been published, even if it was years ago, we would love to hear all about it.]

My New Year's Resolution was to read more, so I turned on the closed captions on my TV.



TOP REASONS TO SELL YOUR GREENBRIAR HOME WITH SUE

- Sue knows the Greenbriar market
- She's been there, done that, and knows how to navigate every quirk of a Greenbriar sale!
- Her real estate expertise comes with a bonus: genuine care for seniors and their unique needs!
- Why sell with Sue? Because you deserve a Realtor® who knows how to make your golden years even brighter!



SUZANNE "SUE" NADWODNY
Broker Associate
609.313.4864 C
609.655.5535 O
Sue@LevinsonERA.com



NJ Realtors® Circle of Excellence Award® Gold 2021-2024, Silver 2020

609.313.4864 | HomesSalesBySue.com
Experience • Knowledge • Expert



Each ERA® Office is independently owned and operated. If you have a real estate services contract with a brokerage this is not meant as a solicitation.

indulge by chari...

Upscale Boutique Apparel

Spring Arrivals Daily!
Winter Clearance

New Winter Hours

Thursday - Friday Saturday
11a - 4p 11a - 3p



957 Highway 33 West • Suite 10 • Monroe, NJ 08831
732.598.9192 • csstuff31@aol.com



@indulgebychari



@indulgebychari

ads-8099

TRAFFIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Please drive slowly and carefully within our community making sure to come to a full **STOP** at stop signs. Use your directions signals and please obey the Greenbriar at Whittingham **SPEED LIMITS**.

Our streets are our sidewalks! Everyone who lives here is upset with the speeding on our streets and yet the vast majority of those who speed **LIVE HERE!**

NO MATTER WHAT THE MONTH ALWAYS THINK "NOVEMBER"

Specializing in Active Adult Communities and all Residential Real Estate



Linda S. November, Realtor® Associate
O. (609) 951-8600 C. (609) 462-1671
LindaNovember@remax.net
www.LindaNovember.com



Greater Princeton Group
of
RE/MAX
Preferred Professionals



Each office independently owned and operated.



ad-8381



LEVINE • FURMAN • RUBIN
ESTATE PLANNING & ELDER LAW ATTORNEYS

Empower YOUR Legacy by attending our... Living Trusts and Wills Seminar

You Will Leave Our Workshop With the Understanding of How:

- You can avoid your family fighting over money and possessions when you are gone.
- You can protect your home and your savings from the devastating expense of a nursing home.
- You can protect your hard-earned assets from your children's spouses.
- You can protect your loved one with substance abuse issues.
- You can avoid the common missteps by families raising children with challenges, disabilities, or special needs.

Now is the right time for you to get your affairs in order with an up-to-date Estate Plan!

Monroe

Courtyard Marriott
Cranbury South Brunswick
420 Forsgate Drive

Tuesday, March 10th
10:00am | 2:00pm | 7:00pm

Freehold

Radisson
50 Gibson Place
Wednesday, March 11th
10:00am | 2:00pm | 7:00pm

Morganville

Levine, Furman & Rubin
1116 Campus Drive
Thursday, March 12th
2:00pm | 7:00pm

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

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

ads-1551

Entertaining Greenbriar at Whittingham

By *Debbie Harbatkin*

2025 was certainly a different year for each of us, to say the least, but we residents at Greenbriar at Whittingham were well entertained together! A favorite quote by singer **Natasha Bedingfield** comes to mind, “The common denominator is a love of music.” So, no matter what else is going on, we can all find our place and our peace in listening to fabulous musicians.

The year in review was a compilation of cover and tribute bands of various genres and styles of music from the mellow sounds of James Gedeon (James Taylor era tribute) and **Wooden Ships (Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young tribute)** to popular songs of the 70’s and 80’s with **Jersey Transit Authority (Chicago tribute)** and **The Doobie Others (Doobie Brothers tribute)**. We grooved to the epic sounds of **Epic Soul (Motown/Funk covers)** and rocked to the rockin’ **Vinyl Madness (popular radio play music)**. We reminisced to the sounds of **Vito Picone and The Elegants** and a cruise through summers by the shore of the past to the sounds of **Yacht Rock Adult Contemporary hits!** Most memorable were the fabulous immediately sold out shows from **Winslow (Eagles Tribute)** and **The Real Diamond Experience (Neil Diamond Tribute)**. We closed out the year with a diverse and most entertaining one-man band, **Barry Jason**, as part of a lovely and delicious Sunday brunch.

2026 is here and there is so much to look forward to. On January 18th, we saw a sensational Sunday afternoon show from **The Sensational Soul Cruisers**, performing the absolute best of the 60’s, 70’s and 80’s classic soul, RNB, Motown & Disco hits.

Next up is a **Carole King Tribute by the wonderful songstress Alice Leon** and her all-star band on Sunday afternoon, February 22nd. They will be playing the timeless music of Carole’s 14-time Platinum selling Grammy winning Tapestry Album, making it one of the best-selling albums of all time. This show is sure to please everyone with hits like “I Feel The Earth Move”, “It’s Too Late”, “So Far Away” and so many more. Tickets go on sale on Monday, January 12, so do not miss out!

With the hopefully warmer weather and longer daylight, March brings the return of our Saturday evening shows, starting with our cover band **Foreign Journey**, a compilation of the hits of the popular bands **Foreigner** and **Journey** over the decades. We can look forward to just a few of their repertoire including “I Want To Know What Love Is”, “Hot Blooded” and “Cold As Ice”, plus classics “Don’t Stop Believin’”, “Open Arms”, “Any Way You Want It” and others.

The following months hold dates for classic tributes from Billy Joel, Elton John, and The Beatles, covers from music of the 50’s and 60’s, home grown Jersey bands and even a taste of Country Music. Watch for flyers and “On Sale Dates”, for another year of great times in our Ballroom.

All show tickets will remain at \$30 for 2026 for acts commanding \$59 higher, plus fees, for tickets at the bigger venues around the area. Great entertainment at home with your friends & neighbors for much less! A full list of show dates for you to save the date will be shared in the March issue of The Pulse.



Never in the history of calm down has anyone calmed down by being told to calm down.

I.C.C. Heating & Air Conditioning
609-655-4647
Located in Monroe Township Since 1974
RUDD, LENNOX DEALER

- Specializing in Heat Pumps
- Central AC Installations
- Furnace
- Coils
- Maintenance, Service, Rebates and Contracts Available
- Financing Available if Applicable

ICC IS A LOCAL, FULL-SERVICE COMPANY

42 Halsey Reed Road
Monroe Township, NJ 08831

ad 8408



More Than a Place to Live— A Place to Thrive

Embrace the freedom of a vibrant, maintenance-free lifestyle—surrounded by opportunities to stay active, connect with others, and focus on your well-being.

And because we're a Life Plan Community, you'll also have the security of knowing that personalized support is available if your needs ever change.

From wellness programs and exceptional dining to a warm, welcoming community—*this is where you belong.*

ads-5537



A SPRINGPOINT COMMUNITY

1 David Brainerd Drive
Monroe Twp., NJ 08831
A Life Plan Community
monroevillageonline.org



Call today or
visit us online to
schedule your
personal tour!
877-719-1106

Scan QR Code to
schedule your visit



Everything Stacey touches turns to

SOLD!



FIRST REALTY

- ✓ Gets You the Best Price
- ✓ Is Dedicated to Your Sale
- ✓ Your Partner in The Process
- ✓ An Agent You Can Trust



33 Brunswick Woods Drive
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
ads-8400



Happy New Year!

STACEY VILARDI
REALTOR® ASSOCIATE

Direct: 732-266-7999
Office: 732-257-3500
staceyvilaridi@gmail.com
www.staceyvilaridi.net



MICHAEL GRIZZAFFI, DMD

Comprehensive Dental Treatment

General, Cosmetic, Implant, Preventive,
Hospital, & Sedation Dentistry

*Most procedures can be completed in a single visit
with or without INTRAVENOUS SEDATION - if desired!*

Cleaning, fillings, root canals,
implants and extractions

(Using the latest technology-
CEREC CAD/CAM)

Day, Evening and Saturday
Appointments Available

Special Financing Plans
Available



B-1 Brier Hill Court
East Brunswick, NJ

732-257-3692

(Located in East Brunswick
near The Fields)



ADS-6606

GW Wheels on Parade for 2026!

By Ken Wagner

In spite of an unexpected early morning snow and temperatures well below freezing, 17 classic, sport, specialty and muscle cars along with their 28 drivers and navigators kicked off 2026 as part of GW Wheels annual New Year's Day parade on January 1st. The cars formed a noisy procession – horns honking, music playing, signs waving, all decked out in holiday decor – as it wound its way through Greenbriar / Whittingham to celebrate the arrival of the new year. Many of the drivers defied the extreme cold and made the ride with their convertible tops down for the entire hour-long ride!



Dozens of residents braved the cold to come out to the street and cheer the drivers along the parade route – covering almost every street in the community. Many held hand-made signs cheering the drivers on, wishing everyone a Happy New Year. Many took pictures and videos. Some added to the noise with their own horns and music. A number waved flags and gave the parade a big thumb up!

The parade was the first event of 2026 for GW Wheels. The club is looking forward to an exciting year with many events already filling the calendar and lots of social opportunities being planned – including their annual car show in June at the Towne Center. Last summer the show displayed over 50 beautiful specialty, sport, classic, muscle cars and trucks to visitors and included live music and food.

About GW Wheels: The club is for those with a love for motorized vehicles with wheels – sports, vintage, muscle, classic cars, trucks and bikes. For more information about the club, or to join, contact them at gwheels@icloud.com or visit the club website at <https://gwheelsclub.godaddysites.com>.



Parade Participants: (L to R) Joe Ferrara, Don Fross, Tom Mulvey, John Amodeo, Bob Russo, Mort Resnicoff, Desiree McBain, Don McBain, Carrie Ferraro, Teresa Iannacchino, Joe Atanasio, Teresa Atanasio, Janet Donnelly, Helen Fross, Joe Paradiso (as Santa), Paul Lenci, Ken Wagner, Sue Lenci, Marc Press, Janet Crowell, and Mona Paradiso. Not shown Ken Freedman, Joy Freedman, Scott Harris, Joe Donnelly, Jayne Press, and Linda Wagner (photographer).

The more I learn, the more I realize what I don't know.
Albert Einstein

GW Friends February News

By Mark Surks

We have no meeting once again in February. Please take the time to send in your check for 2026 dues

Here is what our members will get to do exclusively this month:

Friday, February 6th The **Chess Club** will meet at 2 PM in the former Board Room in the building annex. Contact Anatoly Shpirt at 347-693-8791 or just show up. Beginners are welcome.

Monday, February 2nd Join us for our first Monday breakfast. The always fun and frenetic **GW Friends Breakfast** is at its new time, 8:45 AM (early birds are expected, late comers are mocked but accommodated) at Christos Kitchen. Price is a ridiculously cheap \$14.00, tax and tip included, exact change preferred. We have our own menu and it is always a fun morning.

Monday, February 2nd **History Club** at 4 PM in the Poker Room. The topic will be "The Israeli / Palestinian Ongoing Conflict" and will be presented by Les Linet. The History Club is chaired and curated by Pierre Rein (908-420-4181).

Tuesdays, February 3rd and February 17th The first and third Tuesday of every month the **Alan Hermelee Current Events Discussion Group** is held in the new upstairs Board Room. We cover many subjects including a gentle handling of otherwise divisive topics. Come share your opinion and intellect with us. It is a wonderful way to give voice to your thoughts and learn so much from others. **Politics is not discussed.** Let me say that again. **Politics is not discussed.** Alan Hermelee set the tone and we honor him by keeping it respectful. If you enjoy a stimulating discussion of topical matters, this is the place for you. Arie Markowitz moderates the meetings with moderate success although in his absence Ralph DeVito does a much, much better job.

Tuesday, January 13th **The Finance and Investing Group** will meet at 4:00 PM **now in the Poker Room**. Jerry "Wolf of Wall Street" Gittler and Chester "Never Sell Short" Trubinski facilitate the discussion about today's markets. You can reach Jerry at 609-642-8929. This is an informative and entertaining group of both men and women. It's a good place to learn financial matters. If you need help understanding just what you own, this would be a good place to find out.

Wednesday, February 7th **Pizza and Billiards** (or just pizza or just pool). This is always well attended. We meet at 12:30 PM at Ciro's and then on to the GW Pool Hall downstairs in the Towne Centre. Contact Howard Katz at 609-409-8606, or just show up.

Monday, February 16th The **Socrates Cafe** will meet at 4:00 PM in the Poker Room. Stimulating topics chosen by the group from a list curated by the facilitator will be discussed. Socrates Cafes began in 1996 as a place for an open exchange of ideas. The GW "Cafe" is hosted by Allan Cooper 609-409-3860.

Monday, February 23rd **The Marvin Bachman Book Club** will meet at 4:00 PM to discuss *Anxious People: A Novel* by Fredrick Backman

An instant #1 New York Times bestseller, Backman's new novel is a "quirky, big-hearted novel....Wry, wise, and often laugh-out-loud funny, it's a wholly original story that delivers pure pleasure" (*People*).

Looking at real estate isn't usually a life-or-death situation, but an apartment open house becomes just that when a failed bank robber bursts in and takes a group of strangers hostage. The captives include a recently retired couple who relentlessly hunt down fixer-uppers to avoid the painful truth that they can't fix their own marriage. There's a wealthy bank director who has been too busy to care about anyone else and a young couple who are about to have their first child but can't seem to agree on anything. Add to the mix an eighty-seven-year-old woman who has lived long enough not to be afraid of someone waving a gun in her face, a flustered but still-ready-to-make-a-deal real estate agent, and a mystery man who has locked himself in the apartment's only bathroom, and you've got the worst group of hostages in the world.

The Marvin Bachman Book Club is always expertly facilitated by Harriet Bachman.



My brain has too many tabs open.

News from the Golf Course

By Allan Cooper

Please remember: No one is allowed to walk on the course except people who are playing Golf.

The Golf Course remains open but the Pro Shop remains closed until March. Golfers who want to walk and play must start at the first hole.

During the Winter our Superintendent inspects the entire golf course equipment. He repairs and replaces parts so everything is ready to go when the Pro Shop reopens in March.

The toilets have been replaced in both the Men's and Women's bathrooms.

Shrouded in mystery, built in secrecy, deliberately hidden from view. Concealed in the golf bag during two World Class Tournaments, smuggled back into the hotel room at night and smuggled back to golf course the next day. **Only one golf club was built this way.**

Most golf clubs themselves have had a rather prosaic development, even though there was Royal contact with the sport. Golf is alleged to have begun on the coast of Scotland with shepherds hitting rocks with their crooks. Handcrafted heads with improved shafts followed. Even with the limited production of golf clubs the game apparently became "too" popular. People were playing golf instead of practicing archery so King James II banned the game of Golf in 1457. But in the early 1500s King James the IV reinstated the game, and in the mid-1500s Mary Queen of Scots became an avid golfer. Apparently King Henry the VIII established a golf club during his reign.

In general, hand carved clubs meant that the game was limited to wealthier people. However in 1894 the Spalding Company started to mass produced golf clubs. Improvement in shafts and heads then progressed steadily over time.

However, the one club we're focused on was secretly developed by one person. He was the child of immigrants. He left school after the sixth grade. He taught himself to play golf while working as a caddy to help support his family. He became a world famous golfer.

He met Howard Hughes, when Hughes was the wealthiest man in world. Hughes was a pilot and owned airline companies. He had set several world flying records. Hughes and the golfer exchanged lessons. Golf lessons for flying lessons.

While flying with Hughes the golfer had an insight that led to the creation of a new golf club. When his airplane plane was taking off, the flaps on the wings keep the tail down. This helped the plane stay on the correct angle and insured that the plane would become airborne.

The golfer added metal to the bottom of a nine iron. He used it to hit golf balls out of sand traps. This insured that the back of the club sat lower than the leading edge. This made it likely that the front of the club would not dig into the sand. The club would bounce and cut through the sand splashing out the ball riding on a pile of sand.

Gene Sarazen was the golfer who invented the Sand Wedge. He hid the club out of fear that the officials might declare the club illegal. If not that, they might prevent him from using it until they decided whether it was legal or not.

As it turned out Sarazen won the British and U.S. Open Tournaments in 1932. He is one of the few golfers in history who won all four Major Tournaments in one year. After winning both Open Tournaments the Sand Wedge was no longer a secret and the Wilson Sporting Goods Co. mass produced the new club.

Today most golfers carry the Sand Wedge in their golf bag.



"Try to get some rest. I'll be in every few minutes to make sure you don't."

Health/Fitness & Wellness Club

by *Stephanie Lichtenstein*

On December 17th, the Health, Fitness, and Wellness Club gathered to celebrate the holidays with a festive dinner at Romeo's in Jamesburg. After enjoying a great meal and each other's company, we continued the evening at the Greenbriar Clubhouse for a Tai Chi presentation led by Anne from Devine Spine in Jamesburg. Anne demonstrated several techniques developed by the Arthritis Foundation.



Back at the clubhouse, we shared snacks—including Stephanie's homemade potato latkes and tortilla chips with salsa—before continuing with more movement.

Tai Chi, often described as “meditation in motion,” is rooted in ancient Chinese tradition. Its slow, intentional movements are paired with deep breathing and mindfulness to enhance balance, strength, posture, coordination, and flexibility. It is gentle on the joints and supports cardiovascular health while helping reduce anxiety and promote inner calm.

Stephanie then offered an additional Tai Chi demonstration, showing how the movements flow together and how they relate to familiar yoga poses. It was a wonderful evening of celebrating wellness, movement, and the peaceful strength that Tai Chi inspires.

Sneak peak at upcoming events:

Jan 21st Meditation for a calming New Year

Feb 18th Yoga and Pilates with Stephanie's

March 18th Ann from Hair and Scalp Wellness: Skin and Hair Care.



WE WANT YOU!

To send us your personal stories or recipes-
To send us pictures from your GW events-
To let us know what you would like to see in *The Pulse*

Greater Monroe Chapter



The ORT Report

By Diane Morris-Paff

Welcome to the deepest of winter and the shortest month of the year. Although we don't have any meetings planned until March, we are still working behind the scenes planning events for 2026.

Special Event: Wednesday, February 4th at 7pm, via ZOOM. Alex, from ORT America, will present a program about ORT activities worldwide, as well as, a more specific look at schools in S. America. This event is open to all ORT members who will receive the ZOOM link prior to event.

Next in-person meeting: Wednesday, March 4th. **Guest speaker:** Rabbi Louis Stein. **Topic:** *How did Abraham Lincoln's face land on the penny? How do you think he would feel about "losing face" in 2025?* Rabbi Stein will present his views on this and other interesting looks at American history. **Location:** Towne Centre Poker Room at 7pm. OPEN TO ALL, free of charge.

Mark your calendar for our **March 25th CARD PARTY.** More details in March and in our upcoming flyer.

Don't forget to pay your MEMBERSHIP dues. ORT membership runs from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026. Membership is \$36/year. Checks should be placed into box #18.

KYIV BOMBED AGAIN

Our ORT family in Ukraine is living through another wicked winter in the fourth year of a wicked war. The local ORT chapter members feel that our support of the ORT program is helping to ease the suffering being felt by the students, families, teachers, and staff of the 5 major schools and the 11 outpost programs in the rural underserved areas. A few of the hurdles they face are; safe rooms for air raid shelters, dealing with the trauma of wartime, and schools that are not heated nor have electricity, because the power sources have been destroyed. One student said that she considers it a great day when school isn't interrupted by an air raid. There is so much more needed for Ukraine's survival.

Thanks to all of our members here who believe that we have to keep up our funding while the Ukrainians keep fighting.

December Holiday Party memories



New Kids on the Block

by Maddi Litoff

We wish everyone a happy and healthy new year and we're looking forward to many good times to come.

We had a wonderful dinner in November for the holidays and our scavenger hunt of the little ducks for the holidays in the clubhouse was terrific.

We will not have a meeting in January as you know because we were all celebrating and hanging over from the New Year celebration. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 4. Member appreciation will be celebrated. We will be serving Pizza and have our special speaker Ellen Panzer on welcoming the winter months and looking forward to spring. She will address how to stay healthy and wonderful in our neighborhood.

March and April with the holidays and vacations, we will be taking a break. Our May meeting will be scheduled soon, but please jot down the first Wednesday in June as we will be having a Mardi Gras festival, more information to follow.

Again, we all look forward to seeing you in February. Please come and enjoy the evening with all our best New Kids on the Block committee members and friends.



GW Ladies Club

By Helen Fross

The GW Ladies Club had a very busy year in 2025 and we look forward to more exciting events, outings and meetings in 2026! Some of our events included –

- Lunches and dinners at some great restaurants
- Candle Making
- Wine Tasting/Pizza Night at Working Dog Winery
- Princeton Historical Walk
- Kentucky Derby Event
- Beach Day in Long Branch
- Pool & Pizza Parties
- Picked sunflowers at Holland Ridge Farm
- Minute to Win It Game Night
- Movie Night
- Celebrated Thanksgiving with our favorite cultural foods
- Toured the Make-A-Wish Castle and purchased a patio brick inspiring Make-A-Wish kids
- Winter Wonderland Party and night of giving to Monroe Families



The last event of the year – the Winter Wonderland Party and gift giving to Monroe families in need was amazing. We received the wishes for the holidays from the Mayor's office for 87 school aged children. Not only did our amazing, generous members adopt all 87 children, but many additional gifts were received for other children in the families. We also received a large amount of gift cards for Stop and Shop, ShopRite, Walmart and Target to provide to each family so that they could purchase food or other needed provisions. The Mayor and his wife attended our event to accept the gifts on behalf of the families.

Our Board is working on making 2026 another jam-packed year! New members are always welcomed to join. New membership forms can be found in the Kiosk in the lobby of the Clubhouse. Our monthly meetings are always scheduled for the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 in the ballroom. There will be no membership meeting in February but hope to see new and current members on March 9th.

As a reminder to our current members who have not paid their 2026 membership dues of \$10, please put your check payable to the GW Ladies Night Club in Mailbox #28 in the library at the Clubhouse.

Achieving Balance in Your Life

By Michelle Polk

I have recently decided that my life has become rather lopsided. Many of you my readers are in the same position as I am. I enjoy work and continue to substitute teach at least 4 days each week. I truly enjoy going to work with the children from elementary school through to high school. Any subject and content area works for me successfully.

I was actively volunteering at least 1 day each week but have found it difficult. Let us not forget our grandchildren who we watch 3 days each week after school and before soccer and religious school.

So I decided I needed a change of scenery and responsibility so I decided to book a Viking journey to Portugal and a week away to Williamsburg. The reason being, free time is precious.

I still maintain my morning walks. Before I start it is most important to warm up by doing exercises in bed, on the floor and walking the streets of Greenbriar each and every day. I still do my exercises in bed and warm up before I walk as this is extremely important for me at days' end I have accumulated over 10,000 steps.

Perhaps you too can change or decrease your work to become in better balance. To look and examine each day as a gift and enjoy each day. Try to set aside quiet time during walking or reading each day and maintain a healthy exercise routine. This can eliminate stress, poor sleep, depression or the establishment of poor and unhealthy habits.



MAYOR DALINA'S WELLNESS CAMPAIGN



CHAIR YOGA

Join instructor Steff Gallante from Hope Yoga



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026 6:00 P.M.



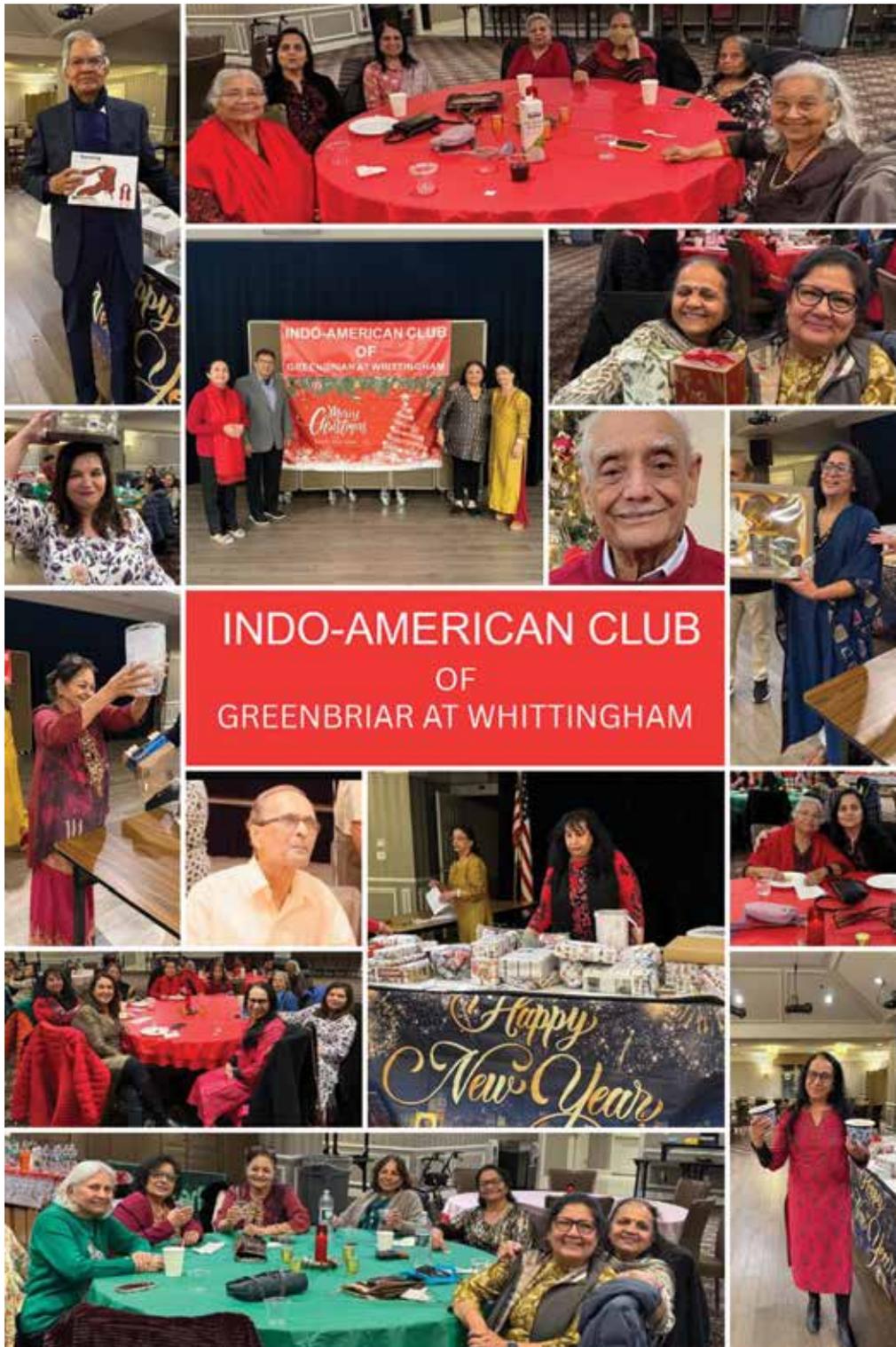
Monroe Township Library

Registration is required, please register by
scanning the QR Code

or email/call ebiennas@monroetwp.com

732-521-4400 ext. 114





By IAC Volunteering Team. (Photos by Lata Shah & Raj Malhotra)

Ah, the twinkling heartbeat of the season – the most wonderful time of the year! 🌲 ✨

We gathered in warmth, a tapestry of smiles, for the year’s final fete. Gifts exchanged, laughter woven, hearts swelled with joy, embracing Christmas cheer and New Year’s whisper.

Yet, amidst the sparkle, shadows touched our hearts. We bid farewell to cherished friends – **RANDHIR DESAI & NIRANJAN SHAH** – their lives a legacy of love and light. 🙏

As old chapters close, new pages beckon. Let hope unfurl like a lantern, and dreams take flight on midnight winds. Here’s to the promise of a wonderful new year. 🥂

A  **2026** 
CASINO BUS TRIPS
SAVE THE DATES!

JANUARY 7* WIND CREEK CASINO * ON SALE 11/25

FEBRUARY 4* AC RESORTS * ON SALE 12/23

MARCH 4* PARX CASINO * ON SALE 1/27

APRIL 15* AC RESORTS * ON SALE 2/24

MAY 6* AC RESORTS * ON SALE 3/24

JUNE 3* WIND CREEK CASINO * ON SALE 4/28

JULY 1* AC RESORTS * ON SALE 5/26

AUGUST 5* AC RESORTS * ON SALE 6/23

SEPTEMBER 2* PARX CASINO * ON SALE 7/28

OCTOBER 7* AC RESORTS * ON SALE 8/25

NOVEMBER 4* WIND CREEK CASINO * ON SALE 9/22

DECEMBER 2* AC RESORTS * ON SALE 10/20

DECEMBER 25* AC RESORTS * ON SALE 10/27

\$30.00 each, checks payable to: WHOA

Bus Leaves GW at 9:00 a.m., please arrive to the bus at 8:45 a.m.
Bus leaves AC & Wind Creek at 5:00 p.m., leaves Parx at 4:00 p.m.

Refunds only if the trip is sold out and seats are resold.

All trips are sold at The Concierge Desk 609-409-9292 x220 or x221.

Heart Attacks Aren't the Same for Everyone: What Senior Men and Women Need to Know

By *Lisa DiGiovanni, EDD, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, CHSE, and Elizabeth Caruso, MSN, RN, COHN-S, Saint Peter's University Hospital*

February is American Heart Association Month. It's the perfect time to get the facts on heart disease and to know how men and women experience heart disease quite differently. Knowing the signs and symptoms based on gender can go a long way to keeping you and your loved ones and friends safe.

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death for both men and women, but heart attack symptoms often look different between the sexes. For senior citizens especially, knowing the warning signs can mean the difference between saving a life or not acting on time.



Why Heart Attack Symptoms Differ

Research shows that men are more likely to experience the “classic” heart attack symptoms, while women often face hormonal differences that can be more difficult to notice.

Internally, of course, heart disease is triggered and exacerbated as plaque builds in arteries. But the actual physical symptoms vary between men and women. Even the way a man or woman perceives pain during these precious moments — and can communicate their needs to others — can make a difference between life and death.

Common Heart Attack Symptoms in Men

Men's symptoms often appear suddenly and are usually more dramatic. Seniors may still experience these typical indicators, although sometimes with milder intensity.

Most Typical Signs in Men

- Crushing chest pain or pressure, often described as “an elephant on the chest”
- Pain radiating to the left arm, shoulders, or jaw
- Sudden shortness of breath
- Cold, clammy sweating
- Nausea or lightheadedness

Important Notes for Senior Men

- Symptoms may come on more gradually with age.
- Some men may mistake the signs for indigestion or muscle strain.
- Even mild or brief chest discomfort should be taken seriously.

Common Heart Attack Symptoms in Women

Women—especially seniors—are more likely to experience silent or unusual symptoms, which can delay seeking help.

Most Typical Signs in Women

- Chest discomfort (pressure or tightness rather than sharp pain)
- Fatigue that feels unusual or overwhelming, sometimes lasting days
- Shortness of breath, even without chest pain
- Pain in the jaw, neck, upper back, or stomach
- Nausea, indigestion, or vomiting
- Lightheadedness or sudden dizziness

Why Women's Symptoms Are Often Missed

The discomfort may be mild or vague, and symptoms can come out of nowhere. They can occur during rest as well as during physical activity.

The truth is that many women assume their symptoms are due to stress, age or gastrointestinal issues. This causes women to often delay seeking medical assistance so they can be diagnosed and get treated.

Shared Warning Signs for Both Men and Women

No matter your age, these symptoms should never be ignored:

- Chest pressure or discomfort lasting more than a few minutes
- Sudden shortness of breath
- Unexplained fatigue or weakness
- Any new, unusual, or intense pain in the upper body

If you or someone you're with is experiencing these symptoms, call 911 immediately. Fast treatment saves heart muscle and lives.

Take Action: Reduce Your Heart Attack Risk

- Maintain regular checkups with your healthcare provider. To find a primary care provider near you, visit SPPANJ.com.
- Keep blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar under control.
- Stay physically active within your comfort level.
- Eat heart-healthy foods (more fruits, vegetables, and whole grains).
- Avoid smoking and limit alcohol.
- Manage stress with social activities, hobbies for mindfulness.

Awareness is the first step to early intervention. When it comes to risk and treatment of heart disease, speak with your doctor right away.

GW Connections

By Michele Sandler



Monday, May 4 • 7:00 PM • Ballroom

Meet Betsy Ross, brilliantly portrayed by the talented Alissa Dupuy — a chance to step into the Revolution and witness a legend. This will be our first general open meeting for 2026.

All groups are ongoing. For information, please contact Carol Cooper, 609-947-4404



When I was young, I admired clever people. Now that I am old, I admire kind people.
-Abraham Joshua Heschel

**HAVE YOUR TAXES PREPARED
BY A PROFESSIONAL CPA**

PICK-UP AND DROP OFF SERVICE
AVAILABLE

732-583-7400
NEIL KRIEGSTEIN, CPA CFP

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>1</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Shalom Club</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Ping Pong 10:00 a.m. Team Weights with Ellen 11:00 a.m. Aquacise 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 3:30 p.m. Tap Dancing 4:00 p.m. History Club 6:30 p.m. Line Dancing with Teri 7:00 p.m. Intuitive Club</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Greenbriar Site Review Committee Meeting 10:00 a.m. Line Dancing 11:00 a.m. GW Woodworking Club Workshop 11:00 a.m. Fab, Fit & Fun 12:30 p.m. GW Ladies Club Board Meeting 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction by TV) 2:00 p.m. The Alan Hermelee Current Events Discussion 3:00 p.m. PAC Board Meeting 3:30 p.m. Tap Dancing 5:30 p.m. Water Volleyball 6:30 p.m. Billiards</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 10:30 a.m. Resident Meeting 10:30 a.m. Team 12:30 p.m. Exercise 2:00 p.m. PAC 4:00 p.m. Isra 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. C 7:00 p.m. New H</p>
<p>8</p> <p>1:00 p.m. The Shalom Club Movie 6:00 p.m. GW Superbowl Party</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Ping Pong 10:00 a.m. Team Weights with Ellen 10:00 a.m. Entertainment Committee Meeting 11:00 a.m. Aquacise 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 3:30 p.m. Tap Dancing 4:00 p.m. After Hours Club Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. GW Ladies Club 6:30 p.m. Line Dancing with Teri</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Line Dancing 10:00 a.m. Brain Fitness 11:00 a.m. GW Woodworking Club Workshop 11:00 a.m. Fab, Fit & Fun 11:00 a.m. PAC Rehearsal 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 3:30 p.m. Tap Dancing 4:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m. Water Volleyball 6:30 p.m. Billiards</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Compu Zoom 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. V 10:00 a.m. Chair Yog 10:30 a.m. Team 12:30 p.m. Exercise 2:00 p.m. PAC 4:30 p.m. Indo- 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Res</p>
<p>15</p> <p>1:00 p.m. WHOA Movie: Wicked</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Ping Pong 10:00 a.m. Provocative Thinking 10:00 a.m. Team Weights with Ellen 11:00 a.m. Aquacise 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 3:30 p.m. Tap Dancing 4:00 p.m. Socrates Café 6:30 p.m. Line Dancing with Teri</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Line Dancing 11:00 a.m. GW Woodworking Club Workshop 11:00 a.m. Fab, Fit & Fun 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 1:00 p.m. GW Connections Book Club 2:00 p.m. Alan Hermelee Current Events Discussion Group 3:30 p.m. Tap Dancing 5:30 p.m. Water Volleyball 6:30 p.m. Billiards 6:30 p.m. WHOA Open Workshop Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Greenbriar Me 10:00 a.m. Th 10:00 a.m. Chair Yo 10:30 a.m. Team 12:30 p.m. Exercis 2:00 p.m. PAC 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. F 6:30 p.m. Health/Fi 7:00 p.m. Camer</p>
<p>22</p> <p>3:00 p.m. GW Show: Carole King Tribute</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Ping Pong 9:30 a.m. Golf Closed Meeting 9:45 a.m. GW Connections Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. Team Weights with Ellen 11:00 a.m. PAC Rehearsal 11:00 a.m. Aquacise 11:00 a.m. Golf Open Meeting 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 3:30 p.m. Tap Dancing 4:00 p.m. GW Friends Book Club 6:00 p.m. Ladies Book Club 6:30 p.m. Line Dancing with Teri</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Line Dancing 10:00 a.m. Shalom Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. WHOA Landscape Committee Meeting 11:00 a.m. GW Woodworking Club Workshop 11:00 a.m. Fab, Fit & Fun 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 3:30 p.m. Tap Dancing 5:30 p.m. Water Volleyball 6:00 p.m. PAC Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Billiards</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. WHOA Cove 10:00 a.m. Chair Yog 10:30 a.m. Team 11:30 a.m. Pa 12:30 p.m. Exercise 2:00 p.m. PAC 4:30 p.m. Sheri 5:30 p.m. Indc 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. Hadass</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Ping Pong Ceramics Yoga with Karen & Dave Joint Civic Club Board Meeting Acting Motion with Ellen (Instruction on TV) Acting Workshop Jelly Dance Class Gin Rummy PAC Rehearsal Health & Wellness Club Photography Club</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 a.m. 3D Art 10:00 a.m. Chorus 11:00 a.m. GW Woodworking Club Workshop 11:00 a.m. Aquacise 11:30 a.m. GW Social Club Board Meeting 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction by TV) 2:00 p.m. Painting Group 4:30 p.m. Ballroom Dancing with Pam 6:00 p.m. Stained Glass Group 6:30 p.m. Billiards</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Ping Pong 9:15 a.m. Meditation Class 10:00 a.m. Greenbriar Executive Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. Beginners Plus Line Dancing with Joan & Sona 10:30 a.m. Yoga with Brian 11:00 a.m. Painting Group 11:00 a.m. Deep Water Aquacise 12:30 p.m. Scrabble 2:00 p.m. Chess Club 6:15 p.m. Italian American Club</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Ping Pong 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga with Karen & Dave 10:00 a.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 1:00 p.m. Irish American Club</p>
<p>Ping Pong Joint Club Meeting – Only Ceramics Writing Group Yoga with Karen & Dave Motion with Ellen (Instruction on TV) Acting Workshop American Ladies Gin Rummy Health & Wellness Club Joint Civic Club</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 a.m. 3D Art 9:00 a.m. Greenbriar Budget & Finance Committee Meeting 10:00 a.m. WHOA Budget & Finance Committee Meeting 10:00 a.m. Chorus 11:00 a.m. Towne Centre Committee Meeting 11:00 a.m. GW Woodworking Club Workshop 11:00 a.m. Aquacise 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 1:00 p.m. GW Social Club Luncheon 2:00 p.m. Painting Group 4:30 p.m. Ballroom Dancing with Pam 6:00 p.m. Stained Glass Group 6:30 p.m. Billiards</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Ping Pong 9:15 a.m. Meditation Class 10:00 a.m. Beginners Plus Line Dancing with Joan & Sona 10:30 a.m. Yoga with Brian 11:00 a.m. Painting Group 11:00 a.m. Deep Water Aquacise 12:30 p.m. Scrabble 7:00 p.m. Canasta Tournament 7:00 p.m. Bingo</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Ping Pong 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga with Karen & Dave 10:00 a.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV)</p>
<p>Ping Pong Ceramics Covenants Committee Meeting Yiddish Vinkle Yoga with Karen & Dave Motion with Ellen (Instruction on TV) Acting Workshop Gin Rummy PAC Rehearsal Health & Wellness Club Photography Club</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 a.m. 3D Art 10:00 a.m. Chorus 11:00 a.m. GW Woodworking Club Workshop 11:00 a.m. Aquacise 11:30 a.m. GW Social Club Board Meeting 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 2:00 p.m. Painting Group 4:00 p.m. GW Friends Board Meeting 4:30 p.m. Ballroom Dancing with Pam 6:00 p.m. Stained Glass Group 6:30 p.m. Billiards</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Ping Pong 9:15 a.m. Meditation Class 10:00 a.m. Site Review Committee Meeting 10:00 a.m. Beginners Plus Line Dancing with Joan & Sona 10:30 a.m. Yoga with Brian 11:00 a.m. Painting Group 11:00 a.m. Deep Water Aquacise 12:30 p.m. Scrabble 6:30 p.m. Canasta Tournament 7:00 p.m. GW Music Club</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Ping Pong 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga with Karen & Dave 10:00 a.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 7:00 p.m. Wine Club</p>
<p>Ping Pong Ceramics Covenants Committee Meeting Yoga with Karen & Dave Motion with Ellen PAC Rehearsal (Instruction on TV) Acting Workshop Lock Holmes Club Irish-American Club Gin Rummy Joint General Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 a.m. 3D Art 10:00 a.m. Chorus 11:00 a.m. GW Woodworking Club Workshop 11:00 a.m. Aquacise 11:30 a.m. GW Social Club Board Meeting 11:30 a.m. PAC Rehearsal 12:30 p.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 2:00 p.m. Painting Group 4:30 p.m. Ballroom Dancing with Pam 6:00 p.m. Stained Glass Group 6:30 p.m. Billiards 6:30 p.m. WHOA & Greenbriar Joint Board Meeting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Ping Pong 9:15 a.m. Meditation Class 10:00 a.m. Beginners Plus Line Dancing with Joan & Sona 10:00 a.m. Greenbriar Covenants Committee Meeting 10:30 a.m. Yoga with Brian 11:00 a.m. Painting Group 11:00 a.m. Deep Water Aquacise 11:00 a.m. PAC Program 12:30 p.m. Scrabble 6:30 p.m. After Hours Club</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Ping Pong 10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga with Karen & Dave 10:00 a.m. Exercise (Instruction on TV) 1:00 p.m. WHOA Movie: The Thursday Murder Club</p>

Italian American Senior Cultural Club

By Joe Atanasio

We wound up 2025 with a fantastic party at the Battleground Country Club with a great dinner and music by the Phil Engle Band. We look forward to 2026 with the same enthusiasm we ended the year with.

Now that the heart of winter is here, it's a good time to crank up the fireplace and catch up on some movies. How about one of the most successful movie franchises in history, The James Bond Series produced by the Italian American film producer Albert "Cubby" Broccoli who has more than 40 motion pictures throughout his career including the 24 James Bond movies to his credit.

Broccoli was born in the borough of Queens, New York City, the younger of two children of immigrants from the Calabria region of Italy, Giovanni Broccoli and Kristina Vence. He acquired his nickname after his cousin, mobster Pat DiCicco, began calling him "Kabibble," eventually shortened to "Kubbie" and adopted by Broccoli as "Cubby." Albert's ancestors originally had the surname of Broccolo and were some of the first people to produce and sell what we now call broccoli during the 17th century in Italy.

At the beginning of the 1950's Broccoli moved to London where the British government provided subsidies to film productions made in the UK with British casts and crews. Together with Irving Allen, Broccoli formed Warwick Films that made a prolific and successful series of films for Columbia Pictures.

When Broccoli became interested in bringing Ian Fleming's James Bond character into theaters he discovered that the rights already belonged to the Canadian film producer Harry Saltzman, who had long wanted to break into film and who had produced several plays and films with only modest success. When the two were introduced by a common friend, screenwriter Wolf Mankowitz, Saltzman refused to sell the rights but agreed to partner with Broccoli and co-produce the films which led to the creation of the production company EON Productions and its parent company Danjaq, LLC, named after their two wives' first names, Dana and Jacqueline.

Saltzman and Broccoli produced the first Bond movie, *Dr. No*, in 1962. Their second, *From Russia with Love* was a breakout success and from then on the films grew in cost, action, and ambition. Broccoli made one notable attempt at a non-Bond film, an adaptation of Ian Fleming's *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* in 1968. Eventually Broccoli put nearly all of his energies into the Bond series. Saltzman continued his focus on other films causing increased pressure on the partnership. Saltzman withdrew from Danjaq and EON after a series of financial mishaps. Broccoli lost relatively little independence after Saltzman's departure and from then until his death, the racy credits sequence to every EON Bond film would begin with the words "Albert R. Broccoli Presents". In 1966, Albert was in Japan with other producers scouting locations to film the next James Bond film *You Only Live Twice*. Albert had a ticket booked on BOAC Flight 911. He cancelled his ticket on that day so he could see a Ninja demonstration. Flight 911 crashed after clear air turbulence. Although from the 1970s onward the films became lighter in tone and looser in plot, the series distinguished itself in production values and continued to appeal to audiences

Broccoli married three times. In 1940, at the age of 31, he married actress Gloria Blondell, the younger sister of Joan Blondell. They later divorced amicably in 1945 without having had children. In 1951, he married Nedra Clark, widow of the singer Buddy Clark. They adopted a son, Tony Broccoli, and soon after Nedra became pregnant. She died in 1958, soon after giving birth to their daughter Tina. In 1959 Broccoli married actress and novelist Dana Wilson. They had a daughter, Barbara Broccoli who would eventually become a mentor to Dana's teenage son, Michael G. Wilson.

Michael Wilson worked his way up through the production company to co-write and co-produce. Barbara Broccoli served in several capacities under her father's tutelage from the 1980s on. Wilson and Barbara Broccoli have co-produced the films since Albert Broccoli's death in 1996 at the age of 87. The Bond films have always been audience favorites but not always favorites in the eyes of the critics. Of the 24 Bond movies there were 14 Oscar Nominations and only 4 wins, *Goldfinger*, *Thunderball*, and *Skyfall* which won two. Another product of the Bond franchise was the introduction of "The Bond Girls" who have always been some of the most beautiful women in the world. The Broccoli family will continue to produce the Bond series and we are hopeful that the films will continue for many years to come.

So, until next time, put on your tux, strap on your Walther PPK, offer your arm to the nearest "Bond Girl" and order a Martini the "007" way. "*Shaken not Stirred*".

Ciao!



DO YOU BELIEVE THAT
YOU ARE ONE OF

MONROE'S MARVELS?



Applegarth Elementary School is looking for members/seniors of Monroe Township to share their life stories. Students will be interviewing and creating a collection of biographies of those who live in our community. Once compiled, a fundraiser will be held to order the book. All proceeds will go to the Monroe Township Senior Center.

If you are interested, you may scan the QR Code to fill out a Participation Form, send an email to Nicole.SHeppard@monroe.k12.nj.us, or contact Applegarth Elementary School at 609-655-0604



Meet Ron Parisi, A David Letterman “Top Ten” Accountant and Our New Greenbriar Board Secretary

By Gayle Shpirt

“I’ll talk to anybody at any time - and that’s fun for me – I got that from my mother. I try to be honest. I just try to be myself.”

Ron Parisi is friendly, relaxed and direct. Perhaps these traits, which make him easy to talk to, won him a spot on the David Letterman Show for six straight years. Or perhaps it’s because he doesn’t fit the “nerdy accountant” mold and the Letterman casting crew noted this. Either way, after a successful audition, Ron made recurrent appearances from 1998 until 2006, to convey Top Ten Things accountants say and do in a variety of situations. His appearances won him local fame at work and in his community, and, in some ways, have had an ongoing impact on his life.

Letterman’s “Top Ten” lists were a popular, frequent component of Late Night and The Late Show. The lists were humorous – sometimes even absurd – takes on serious Top Ten lists and often made fun of celebrity behaviors and popular cultural pastimes. One of the most well-liked segments during tax season was about things accountants say, think and do.

“What happened was that I’d just started a new job. I was a recruiter for an executive search firm.” Ron had been an accountant for about 10 years. “My friend got on the show and asked me if I wanted to be on.” Some people may have been reluctant for the exposure, but Ron was curious and excited. “The idea of being on television was amazing.” His only worry? “Accountants have a nerdy reputation.”

Despite this minor reservation, Ron was enthusiastic at the audition and passed it easily. He was – admittedly – a little nervous before his first appearance. “You’re backstage – you have to be ready to go out when they call you. It’s freezing back there! Letterman kept it freezing to keep us on our toes. And the first time I was on stage, I stood at the wrong place.” Mostly, however, he had a blast.

He read the lines assigned to him, which ranged from cute (“How to make doing taxes fun – do ‘em naked”) to borderline raunchy (“If I help you screw Uncle Sam, can I be next?”) and he got laughs. And it was exciting to partake in the perks of celebrity. Once, when he was in the studio trailer getting his makeup done (“I sat in the makeup chair that Frank Sinatra used to sit in”), a few young women were passing by and he overheard one of them telling the others: “Oh, I know that guy, I know that guy!” They thought they knew him from the movies.

He also met famous people including the rapper, Ice Cube, U.S. attorney general, John Ashcroft, and, of course, Letterman and his crew. One of his favorite memories was when the entire staff of one of his client companies was in the audience. “I didn’t know it until later. After that, I was a local celebrity.”

His family and friends still kid him about his Letterman appearances and to this day, people call him to let him know that they remember seeing him on the show. “I miss it. I’d do it again in a heartbeat.”

When I asked him about whether his brief celebrity status has had lasting impact, he thought about it for a moment; our conversation took a slightly serious turn. “Oh yeah. It got me used to talking in front of an audience. It taught me that if I talk in front of an audience, it’s nice to use humor. It’s funny - I’d never thought about that before.”

Ron has been in public-facing positions for years, first as an accountant, and then, for most of his professional career, as a recruiter of accountants. He thinks that recruiting built his confidence in public speaking (“Before that, I was really shy”) and probably led to his longtime service as a board member of the townhouse community where he lived for forty-four years. He wanted to contribute to the community he lived in, and his organizational and accounting skills served him well in that capacity.

When Ron moved to Greenbriar in the middle of 2025, he knew that he wanted to continue his local community involvement. So, despite his status as a brand new Greenbriar homeowner, he decided to run for the board.

Ron’s Letterman experience kicked in when he was asked to introduce himself to Greenbriar homeowners during the 2025 Board elections. “I did something that might have been unique. I just told people where I grew up. In Brooklyn. People cheered! I got such a warm reaction. Just being yourself, and injecting a little humor, it relaxes the audience.” Once he broke the ice, he talked about his previous accomplishments as a board member and was easily elected to the board, where he now serves as secretary.



Top: TV screen shot of VCR image. Bottom: Sitting at Dave's desk with a producer



What Is Your Motto For 2026 For Your Best Year?

By Victoria Ponte

By now, we know New Year's resolutions aren't going to work. Most of them are finished by February. They can feel especially brittle after upheaval, loss, or illness; common themes in most of our lives. Resolutions ask for outcomes. Life brings us conditions. They are never perfect.

One alternative to making resolutions is to think of a personal motto for the year. Think of it as a way of moving through that imperfect world we live in. Unlike a resolution, it isn't something to be accomplished.

A motto can work as your decision filter. It can help you whenever you are tired or overwhelmed. It will interrupt spirals like an emotional shorthand.

A resolution is something you try to do.

- A motto is something you try to remember.
- A resolution fails once.
- A motto works every day you recall it — even on bad ones.

I first abandoned making resolutions in favor of choosing a single word as my theme for the year. My word for 2025 was "Better." It asked me to make small, achievable changes in most facets of my life that needed work. I could do a little better in most...

Nothing resonated for me this year as my word. Instead, as I lay awake thinking of how to deal with the effects of a devastating injury that is lingering from last year, my motto came to me.

I accepted the limits of what could be done about it and thought of how I could make it a little less troubling. I could do as many therapeutic activities as possible.

My motto guided me through the challenges I faced in a new relationship. Merging two lives when we are past 60 can be tricky. Each party brings a unique set of luggage, and they rarely match perfectly.

"I'm going to make the best of it," is my motto for 2026.

I invite you to write your own motto for 2026:

- not a list of goals
- not an aspirational quote
- not a resolution

Make it a sentence you want to remember on your worst day. It should help you stay oriented. It will work every day you recall it — even on bad ones.



Attention all Veterans

You are cordially invited to Join our group. We are Post 609 JWV of Monroe Township and meet here at Greenbriar/Whittingham. All are welcome, we meet the third Sunday of each month for bagels and a schmear and interesting programs concerning veterans. If interested please call our Membership Chair to reserve a spot. Hoping to see you soon at one of our interesting meetings. We welcome all veterans for lively discussions guests and movies.

Kenneth Brettschneider 914-299-3346



The Sun Descending In The West

By Herb Saperstein

*The sun descending in the West,
The evening star does shine;
The birds are silent in their nest,
And I must seek for mine.
The moon, like a flower
In heaven's high bower,
With silent delight,
Sits and smiles on the night.*

I write this as the sun descends in the West on the first day of winter. The shortest day of the year is now behind us, and the light will grow as the days move on through winter and into the spring. The sun has started its journey north again, a journey I have seen 79 times. Considering the world's long history, 79 does not seem like a very large number. Some unfortunate few don't even get through one journey while a small number of us get through 100 of them. Even 100 seems a pitifully small number in our cosmic history.

When I look East in the morning over a period of weeks or months, I can see the steady movement of the point where the sun rises, and I can see the same when I look to the West in the evening for the setting sun. Of course, these are appearances. Science tells us that our senses deceive us, that the sun does not rise or set. It is all a matter of the spinning earth, but try to write a poem based on that. You will not get very far, and it is bound to be deadly dull.

If I ask someone why it is we have seasons, most people will answer that it's because the sun moves closer and then farther away from the Earth. This makes perfect sense, but it's wrong. It's a wonderful exercise to imagine how this really happens. Imagine putting a wooden skewer through the middle of an orange. The orange is the Earth. The axis of the Earth tilts at about an angle of 23.4 degrees from the imaginary plane that goes from the sun to the Earth, so hold your orange at approximately that angle. Now move in a circle while holding the orange at that angle. The central point you are moving around is the sun. If you move completely around that central sun point, the imagined time is one year. What are you seeing? Where on the Earth is the sun shining at one point and where is it shining 180 degrees later on the other side of the sun? If you can accurately imagine that, you will have seen the seasons change. You will see the sun move from north to south and then south to north. If you can't imagine it, get out an orange and try it. Then work on strengthening your imagination.

So we have art, as we see with the poem above (it's only part of a longer poem), and we have science. There was a time when they were not separate. In fact, science, art and religion were once one, and they worked together to create a satisfying picture of how the human being and the cosmos were reflections of each other. Five hundred years ago, the unity began to break apart. The alliance has since shattered like broken glass.

We human beings have the need to search for meaning and to search for explanation. Science explains, and its explanations often turn out to be wrong even as explanations. Of course, its explanations sometimes lead to material advancement and a greater understanding of the physical world. That's called progress. One could argue that science has become something akin to the old religious idols, worshipped and obeyed, all in the name of progress, material progress. Don't get me wrong. Material progress is a fine thing, but does it satisfy the most important human needs?

Now what about meaning? Science does not give us meaning. Why are we here? What is the meaning of life? That was not so very long ago the area where we looked to religion and art. If we are honest with ourselves, art and religion don't work the way they used to. Yes, there are people who see art as their religion, but it rarely imparts meaning to their lives. As for religion, those attending church and synagogue have been in decline for decades throughout the West. Churches are torn down or are used for other purposes. I used to live next to one of those churches that have been turned to dust. There are still those who accept church dogma, but does that impart meaning to life? For some it does, but it's a dwindling number. Is the meaning of life still important to people, or have people given up on ever knowing such things? Has the power of the scientific worldview damaged the power of religion?

Truth, beauty and goodness used to give meaning, but they are now categories that puzzle most people who see these things as relative. You have your truth and I have mine. You think that's beautiful and I think it's ugly. There can be no meaning in that. Science has nothing to say on such matters. The meaning of human experience is widowed and ignored.

John Donne wrote 400 years ago at the start of the scientific revolution:

*And new Philosophy calls all in doubt,
The Element of fire is quite put out;
The Sunne is lost, and th'earth, and no mans wit
Can well direct him where to looke for it.*

These words still resound in our modern world. Have we reached the point where a new philosophy is needed? Now that's something to think upon.

Italian American Senior Cultural Club

La Festa Degli Innamorati (The Festival of Lovers)

Valentine's Day

By Helen Fross

Valentine's Day is basically the same all over the world. You reflect on the love you have for your spouse, partner, boyfriend/girlfriend, those you want to love and hope they love you and those you have lost.

In Italy, there are several thoughts on who Valentine's Day was named for. It is believed to be a bishop from Terni, a small town in Umbria, named Valentino. Valentino defied Emperor Claudius II for secretly marrying couples, either because of their Christianity or to spare the husbands from war. Valentino was put to death on February 14, 269. Valentino's story is linked to Valentine's Day as the origin of writing love notes and letters because of the love letters he sent from his prison cell signed-off as "Your Valentine".

It's also believed to have started in the fifth century when the Pope created a feast day for San Valentino, in an effort to stop the Roman fertility festival of Lupercalia!

Of course, Valentine's Day grew over the years as poets such as Chaucer and Shakespeare wrote about this day of love. In Verona, Italy, known as the city of Romeo and Juliet, they host a multi-day celebration with decorations, free concerts and love letter writing contests. They paint a giant red heart in the middle of historic Piazza dei Signori and hang illuminated heart shaped lanterns around the center of the city.

The villagers of Vico del Gargano bless plants and oranges/lemons and eat the fruit and drink the orange juice to ensure joy and happiness. This village is also famous for its Vicolo del Bacio, a very narrow alley in the center of the historic district. Traditionally, lovers meet in the alley to exchange promises of love. According to legend, kissing a loved one in Vicolo del Bacio ensures their loyalty for life!

A sweet Italian tradition includes giving your loved one candy, especially Baci, the Italian word for kisses. Baci is a popular Italian chocolate with a hazelnut filling in an iconic blue foil wrapper which covers a tiny love note with a romantic quote.

Also very popular is Lucchetti dell'Amore. Italian sweethearts profess true love for each other by locking a padlock in a public place, especially on famous bridges in Rome, Florence and Venice and throwing the keys into the water.

Happy La Festa Degli Innamorati!



*The Board of the Italian American Senior Cultural Club at The Battleground
Greenbriar at Whittingham Pulse*

Shalom Club

of Greenbriar at Whittingham

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Doors open: 9:45 AM \$12.00 person Members only



A Multicultural View of Passover

Dr. Murray Spiegel's presentation will cover the history, culture, customs and music used at Seders across the Jewish world. For his book, he collected renditions of the four questions used from Azerbaijan to Zimbabwe. Come for an unusual, entertaining and unforgettable look at Passover.

See how others make their Seder nights...

"Different from all other nights!"

cut

For those wishing to sit together, place names and checks, made out to SHALOM CLUB, in same envelope. (Maximum 10 people per table). Mark envelope MARCH 1, 2026 breakfast and place envelope in lock box #6 no later than February 23, 2026 or mail to Shalom Club, Box #6, 100 Whittingham Drive, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831. Questions ?? Call Robin Zimmerman @ 516-528-2730

NAME: _____
PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____



5th Annual British Invasion Night

On Friday January 16th at 7:00 PM, please join us in the Clubhouse Ballroom for a night of fun and great music with NTO!

This month's NTO will play music of British Invasion bands:

The Beatles	Rolling Stones	The Animals
The Searchers	The Zombies	Herman's Hermits
Dave Clark Five	Manfred Mann	And more

NTO will be joined by your neighbors:

- Terri Haberman
- Karen Gonzalez
- Joe Atanasio
- Matt Krohn
- Gary Filik

Coffee and Cookies will be served. Feel free to bring your own food, snacks and favorite beverages! We look forward to you joining us.

Your non-resident friends are welcome to attend at \$5.00 per person.

All club members are invited to sing or play an instrument with NTO at an upcoming performance. If you're interested in participating, please reach out using the contact information below.

If you have questions, please email us at gwmusicclub79@gmail.com or call Susan at 732-689-1534



GREENBRIAR AT WHITTINGHAM COMMUNITY

SUPERBOWL

★ Sunday ★

FEBRUARY 8, 2026

6PM - BALLROOM - \$20PP
TABLES OF 10 - OPEN SEATING

Included at each table: Assorted Sandwiches, Buffalo Wings and Chips.

Also included: Soda, Water, Coffee and Dessert.

*Please let The Concierge know of any food allergies.

ON SALE STARTING TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH
CHECKS ONLY - PAYABLE TO: WHOA



The Community Theater Arts Consortium (CTAC)
presents the 3rd Annual
"MONROE SENIORS AT PLAY"

Participants include:

- Concordia Players
- Performing Arts Club of Greenbriar at Whittingham
- Ponds Players
- Rossmoor Players
- Stonebridge Drama Club

WHERE: STONEBRIDGE CLUBHOUSE BALLROOM

WHEN: Sunday, March 22 at 2:00 pm (Doors open 1:30 pm)

COST: \$10.00 No assigned seating. First come, first serve.

Tickets go on sale February 1, 2026... Tickets must be pre-ordered and pre-paid. Tickets are limited to 100. Wait list will be created if necessary.

Please submit your order form and check, payable to PAC and place in Box #25. Any questions, call Gerrie Pisapia (732) 837-4950

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Total # of Tickets _____ x \$10.00 _____

The Sherlock Holmes Club

by Paul Hartnett

February's meeting will focus on an exciting classic adventure, *The Musgrave Ritual*. It is one of the master detective's first cases and tells us a little about Holmes's early life and beginnings as a detective. The story takes place before Dr. Watson came to share the rooms at Baker Street.

As Sherlock Holmes first embarked on his career as a consulting detective in private practice, his cases were few and far between. He had left college and come to London, where he whiled away the time studying all manner of obscure subjects in the British Museum. His third case came to him in the form of Reginald Musgrave, a school friend and wealthy member of the landed gentry.

Musgrave told Holmes a tale which apparently involved not one but three mysteries: a missing butler, a missing waiting-maid, and a strange document which had been in the Musgrave family for generations, but which no one could understand. The central figure in all this was the Musgrave family butler, one Richard Brunton. Brunton had been engaged to marry the missing maid, an excitable girl of Welsh heritage named Rachel Howells, but he had broken the engagement in favor of another girl. Musgrave had caught Brunton reading the document after hours one evening, and it cost him his job, because he had been snooping around his employer's private papers.

On the night of the second day after his dismissal, Brunton, who had been given a week to make his departure, vanished. His disappearance was revealed the next morning by Rachel Howells, who went into a fit of hysteria at the butler's absence, and was sent to her bed to recover. A thorough search revealed that Brunton had left his wallet, boots, and other personal items behind, although his black suit and slippers were missing and he himself was nowhere to be found. Then, two days later, Rachel Howells silently slipped out of her sick-bed and also vanished. Her footprints were found leading up to the edge of a nearby lake, but dragging the lake failed to produce her body. Only a linen bag containing some twisted metal and a few rusty disks was found in the lake.

Where were Richard Brunton and Rachel Howells? Can Holmes decipher the meaning of this obscure family document containing an enigmatic ritual that may hold the key to their disappearance and a hidden treasure? Read the short story to discover the surprising answer. The case is available online at Sherlockian.net > *Investigating* > *60 original stories* > *The Musgrave Ritual* > *bibliomania*, as well as other sites.

The Middlesex Constabulary, The Sherlock Holmes Club of Greenbriar Whittingham, is dedicated to exploring and discussing the adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Dr. Watson, and the life and times of Victorian England. One of the 60 original stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is selected for each meeting, featuring discussion, film clips and an occasional guest speaker. There are no dues, no obligation, just an opportunity to escape to a simpler time and place and put your own detective skills to work. New members are always welcome! Please read the short story prior to the meeting.

So join the fun on Wednesday, February 25th at 4:30 in the second-floor meeting room. ??? Call Paul at (609) 642-6314. *The Game is Afoot!*



GW CHESS CLUB

The GW Chess Club meets on the first Friday of the month in the former Board Room in the building annex. Contact Anatoly Shpirt at 347-693-8791 or just show up. Beginners are encouraged to attend.

The Martin Salmanowitz GW Social Club

By Lisa Baruch and Regina Savarese

During the month of February, we will celebrate Groundhog Day on the 2nd, Valentine's Day on the 14th, President's Day on the 16th, and Ramadan on the 28th.

Thursday, January 8th @1:00 PM in our Ballroom – “**Main Street Cabaret**” performed for our club. The group performs all genres of music including but not limited to oldies, British Invasion, classic rock from the 60s, 70s and 80s, ballads and pop music from the 70s, 80s, 90s and contemporary, country music, R&B, disco and much much more. Brunch included: Rolls, Bagels, Fruit Platter, Plain, Cheese, and Vegetable Omelets, Onions, Peppers, Spinach, Potatoes & Onions, NO HAM, Sausage Links, Cavatelli & Broccoli, Champagne Chicken, Beef Bourguignon, Dessert, Muffins, Butter Chips, Cream Cheese, Jam, Coffee & Tea, and Milk. Everyone enjoyed brunch.



Upcoming Shows:

Thursday, February 12th @ 1:00PM in our Ballroom – “**London Fogg**” will be performing for us. They have been performing in the tri-state area since 2012. They have performed at the College of Staten Island, Yankee Stadium, Beatfest at the Meadowlands Hotel, Back To The Beach at South Beach, many venues throughout NY and NJ, and the Monroe Township Senior Center. The menu will include: Spaghetti Garlic & Oil, Potato Croquettes, Glazed Carrots, Chicken Florentine, Oriental Meatballs, Beef w/Broccoli, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Valentine Cupcakes, Decaf Coffee & Tea. The theme is “Be My Love”.

Bingo: The GW Social Club sponsors Bingo on the second Friday of each month, and doors open at 7:00 p.m. Our upcoming Bingo night will be on February 13th. All are welcome. Come join us for an evening of fun and laughter as you play Bingo with friends and neighbors. Enjoy the excitement, the camaraderie, and maybe even win a few extra dollars along the way!

Membership: Our membership year is July 1st – June 30th. If your membership is not current, please make your separate dues check out to the “GW Social Club” and deposit it into our Box #1 in the clubhouse. Our dues are \$20/couple, \$10/all singles.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out with various committees such as Catering, Entertainment and Setup. Please get in touch with us if you are interested.

We look forward to seeing you in the near future.

PAC Theatre Workshops 2026

We're Back! PAC Theatre Workshops return on Wednesdays at 2PM in the Mirrored Dance Room. We invite you to join our wild, wacky and fun loving group as we explore the world of make-believe.

What if you just won the Powerball and all your long lost friends and relatives showed up on your doorstep? What if you were a bohemian princess, a vampire, a Viking, a Good-fella, a TicTok Influencer or the king of the world? What might a support group for retired super heroes look like?

These are some of the questions we like to take on. I'm sure you have some of your own.

Even if you never want to set foot on a stage you still might enjoy our theatre exercises, and improvisational experiments. We laugh freely (sometimes at ourselves) and some of the nicest folks you've ever met show up and participate. Maybe this year you'll be one. We hope so and look forward to playing with you.

Contact Marie France for more information 201-925-2059

GREENBRIAR AT WHITTINGHAM COMMUNITY PRESENTS

A ♣ 2026 ♣ CASINO BUS TRIPS SAVE THE DATES!

- JANUARY 7 * WIND CREEK CASINO * ON SALE 11/25
- FEBRUARY 4 * AC RESORTS * ON SALE 12/23
- MARCH 4 * AC TROPICANA * ON SALE 1/27
- APRIL 15 * AC RESORTS * ON SALE 2/24
- MAY 6 * AC RESORTS * ON SALE 3/24
- JUNE 3 * WIND CREEK CASINO * ON SALE 4/28
- JULY 1 * AC RESORTS * ON SALE 5/26
- AUGUST 5 * AC RESORTS * ON SALE 6/23
- SEPTEMBER 2 * PARX CASINO * ON SALE 7/28
- OCTOBER 7 * AC RESORTS * ON SALE 8/25
- NOVEMBER 4 * WIND CREEK CASINO * ON SALE 9/22
- DECEMBER 2 * AC RESORTS * ON SALE 10/20
- DECEMBER 25 * AC RESORTS * ON SALE 10/27

\$30.00 each, checks payable to: **WFOA**
 Bus Leaves GW at 9:00 a.m., please arrive to the bus at 8:45 a.m.
 Bus leaves AC & Wind Creek at 5:00 p.m., leaves Parx at 4:00 p.m.
Refunds only if the trip is sold out and seats are resold.
 All trips are sold at The Concierge Desk 609-409-9292 x220 or x221.

HELLO FEBRUARY

by Kristin Puriza, Lifestyle/Facilities Director

BALLROOM SHOWS:

Sunday, February 22nd:
Carole King Tribute
Tickets are on sale now!

Saturday, March 21st:
Foreign Journey
On sale Monday, February 16th.

SAVE THE DATE:
Saturday, April 25th:
The Jersey Tenors

**Flyers available as show dates approach.*

CASINO BUS TRIPS:

ON SALE NOW:
 February 4th: AC RESORTS
 March 4th: AC Tropicana

ON SALE 2/24:
 April 15th: AC Resorts

WFOA MOVIES:

1PM IN THE AC/DANCE ROOM:

Sunday, February 15th:
WICKED

Saturday, February 28th:
The Thursday Murder Club

NYC BROADWAY:

4/22/26: Ragtime
On Sale Monday, February 2nd

8/6/26: Les Miserables
On Sale Monday, May 4th.

SUPERBOWL SUNDAY:

SUNDAY, February 8th
6PM - Ballroom - \$20PP
 SEE FLYER FOR DETAILS.

Greenbriar at Whittingham Community Presents



FOREIGN JOURNEY will bring you the best of Foreigner and Journey.
 They will cover the music of the 70's and 80's with hits that include "Don't Stop Believin'", "Who's Crying Now", "Open Arms", "I Want to Know What Love is" and so many more!

Visit their website: www.foreignjourneyny.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026 AT 7:00PM
in The Towne Centre Ballroom

\$30.00 PER PERSON (Check Only, Payable to WFOA)

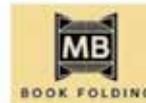
TICKETS ARE ON SALE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH.
OPEN TO NON-RESIDENTS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD.

Call the WFOA Box Office for Ticket Information 609-395-0404 Extension 220 or 221.
**Refunds only if we are sold out and your tickets are resold.*

SPECIAL EVENT Shalom Club

of Greenbriar at Whittingham

March 15, 2026 1:00 - 3:00 PM Poker Room
 Members-\$18.00 Non-Members-\$20.00



Arts and Crafts Book Folding Class Presented by Madison Becker

Book folding is a craft where each page of a book is carefully folded following a pattern. When the book stands up, the edges of the pages form a picture or word.

All of the materials needed to make your Magen David book are included in the class and will be yours to take home.

.....cut.....
 Checks payable to Shalom Club. Mark envelope March 15, 2026 Special Event, place envelope in Lock Box #6 no later than March 8, 2026 or mail to Shalom Club, Box #6, 100 Whittingham Drive, Monroe Twp., NJ 0883 Questions ?? Call Robin Zimmerman @ 516-528-2730.

Open seating. Space limited

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Greenbriar at Whittingham Community Presents
"NOW & FOREVER"
 A CAROLE KING TRIBUTE SHOW



"Now and Forever" starring acclaimed singer songwriter Alice Leon is a heartfelt tribute to Carole King's timeless music—told by someone whose own musical journey parallels hers.

Alice grew up in Brooklyn just a half-mile from where Carole began her life, started her career as a songwriter before becoming a singer & like her, found her voice behind the piano & guitar. Alice's connection to Carole King runs deep: when she was signed to Sony Records, Carole wrote a song for her that she had the honor of recording. That experience forever linked their paths and gives this show a rare authenticity.

In "Now and Forever," Alice shares Carole's greatest songs along with the stories, inspiration, and personal history that make her music so enduring.

This is not just a tribute—it's a genuine celebration from a lifelong fan who can tell her story from the inside out.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026 AT 3:00PM
 in The Towne Centre Ballroom

\$30.00 PER PERSON (Check Only, Payable to WHOA)

TICKETS ARE ON SALE MONDAY, JANUARY 12TH.
OPEN TO NON-RESIDENTS MONDAY, JANUARY 19TH.

Call the WHOA Box Office for Ticket Information 609-395-0404 Extension 220 or 221.
 *Refunds only if we are sold out and your tickets are resold.



Irish American Club

We are getting ready for our biggest event of the year. Everyone in Greenbriar/Whittingham is invited to come and enjoy.

EARLY ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY
 AT THE BALLROOM - SATURDAY, 2/7/2026
 2:00PM - 4:00PM

THIS WILL BE A DISPLAY OF IRISH ENTERTAINMENT, INCLUDING - STEP DANCERS, BAG PIPE PLAYERS, SINGERS, TIN WHISTLE PLAYER WITH DECADES OF EXPERIENCE, STORY TELLERS, FIDDLE PLAYERS.

NO CHARGE.
COME AND ENJOY
 2/7/26. SATURDAY. 2-4PM

See you there!

Greenbriar at Whittingham Community Presents
FEBRUARY MOVIES



Wicked

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026
1PM in The AC/Dance Room—2h 40m

Wicked: Part One is a visually stunning prequel to The Wizard of Oz, exploring the untold story of witches Elphaba (the future Wicked Witch of the West, played by Cynthia Erivo) and Glinda (Ariana Grande), who begin as rivals at Shiz University but form an unlikely friendship. Their bond is tested after an encounter with the mysterious Wizard of Oz, revealing his corruption and leading them down separate paths, with Elphaba embracing her powers and destiny to become "wicked," culminating in her iconic "Defying Gravity" performance as she flees the Emerald City.



The Thursday Murder Club
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026
1PM in The AC/Dance Room—2h

Helmi Mirren, Pierce Brosnan, Ben Kingsley and Celia Imrie star as a group of senior sleuths investigating a murder in an English retirement community.



Free entry, no sign-up required ~ bring your own snacks!

Have a movie you're interested in seeing? Let me know: kristin.puriso@freeresidential.com

Greater Monroe Chapter

ORT AMERICA

ORT America transforms 200,000 lives yearly through education and training in 42 countries

The Face on the Penny

How did Abraham Lincoln's face land on the penny?
 How do you think he would feel about "losing face" in 2025?



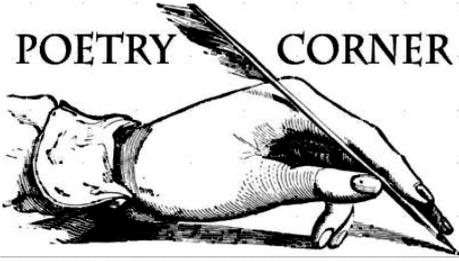
1st Wednesday, March 4, 2026 7:00PM

Greenbriar at Whittingham Towne Centre
 Poker Room (upstairs)

Rabbi Louis Stein will present his take on this and other interesting looks at American history.

Open to all - no charge refreshments & sociability always.

If you have questions, please call:
 Marcia at (609) 619-3994 or Lynda at (609) 409-1099



When Love Visits

By Irwin Dunsky

When I love its forever
 I'm not capable of turning it off
 Love brands me as one of its own
 And wraps its rose petal arms around me
 If you knew how much I love you
 You would probably be frightened
 Love grabs me and squeezes everything else out
 Making me powerless to my feelings for you
 Being angry at you
 Feeling misunderstood by you
 My feelings hurt by you
 All forgiven once I look at you with love's eyes
 Love's grip can mask my eyes to reality
 Rendering me a blind romantic
 Stealing my soul and integrity
 Leaving me broken in a pile of burned out hearts
 Or it can enrich my life
 Empower my heart with possibility
 Let me see the world through smiling glasses
 Making the future something to look forward to
 I poured all of me into into you
 I gave me to you, that's what you do when your in love
 Rushing in absent of logic, love robs you of discipline
 And places you on mountain peaks, to find your way home

If I Had My Choice

By Irwin Dunsky

If I had my choice
 I'd live my life as I have
 Reaching this destination
 Makes it all worth while
 Knowing what I know
 There's nowhere else to go
 I've touched all the bases
 For me there are no more races

In my life
 I have experienced the "Yes"
 Knowing that
 I am not alone
 The gift of free thinking
 And clear understanding
 Has been deposited
 In my corner of the world
 With gratitude
 And a peaceful heart
 I will give away
 What is freely accepted
 For it is in the giving
 That we truly receive
 And in the receiving
 That we are awoken

Heaven Can Wait

By Bill Friedman

He was a weepy sleepy joy to cuddle.
 When mom's milk peaked it was time for the bottle.
 To end a nagging hunger by adding solid foods
 alas a new attitude.
 Slipped into high chair seating
 leading to some self- feeding.
 On to the floor trying to crawl
 oops roll over hitting a wall.
 Finally did it, non stop crawling
 under and over, no more falling.
 A month later with a helping hand
 actually able to stand.
 Wow no balking really walking,
 leaving those who saw him gawking.
 A word here a word there,
 tried to mimic what he'd hear.
 Pre-school the following fall,
 new pals guys and gals.
 Learning some numbers, words as well
 also a version of show and tell.
 Snacks, naps, exercising
 also the need for compromising.
 A year later pre -school,
 learned the meaning of teachers rules.
 Recess time for school yard play,
 different games every day.
 Enough with diapers and wipes for scooping,
 perfect time for potty pooping.

Enlightenment

By Irwin Dunsky

If one happens to find
Their way on life's journey
Doubt will disappear
And instincts will hit their mark
You will begin to understand
Your values will be rearranged
Your purpose will make sense
Learning will become obvious
Finding your way
Requires abandonment of fear
And surrender to acceptance
Less defense and more loving

To enlighten means your path will be better lit
The complicated will become clearer
You will see with a new pair of glasses
You will regularly break out in a smile
Your mind will demand more of you
Each plateau is only a steppingstone
Your evolution is ongoing
In the end you will make a difference
Arriving only means you're less lost
There is always more work to do
The path of enlightenment is cluttered
With hollow shells of your old self

Ascent

By Herb Saperstein

The snow drifts high
And would not melt.
A hawk took flight
To eye shadows
On the blinding white.
There a timid mouse,
Here a squawking squirrel.
The farmer lean and bent
Looked up and then he knelt,
Ready for the ascent.

Next kindergarten, ready to satisfy a yearning
for more disciplined learning.

Some art, music and social studies,
as well as simple projects sometimes with buddies.

Next grades 1 thru Junior High
serious testing with little time for jesting.
Storing knowledge preparing for college.
Some casual dating such as roller skating
Four years of high school buried in work,
never once considered a shirk.

Thank God finals actually in sight
hours of studying every night.

Aced finals remaining calm and really enjoyed Senior Prom.

College apps. sent, accepted by first choice

Wow, had to rejoice.

Great dorm, focused guys,
shared our lows as well as highs.
Hard to believe how much testing,
shun the thought of any resting.

Four years flew choose a career,
resumes sent, waiting to hear.

First interview too thrilled to speak,
began work the following week.

Great choice at first glance
with a gal who also had a wonderful career.

14 months later a son would arrive .

Then 2 more sons now a family of 5.

The kids eventually had families of their own,
leaving mom and dad home alone.

The parents then chose to retire
and enjoy themselves before their time would expire.

Looking back life had many more blue sky's

thank God a lot less grey

As they enter heavens gate

rest assured their lives were GREAT!!



AB LIC.# 00678A

Serving the community for over 38 years!

Your One Stop Auto Shop!

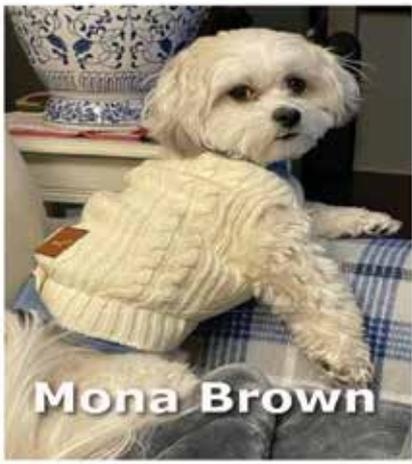
Automotive Service & Repair • Auto Body & Collision
NJ State Inspection & Re-Inspection • Towing

609-655-AUTO (2886)

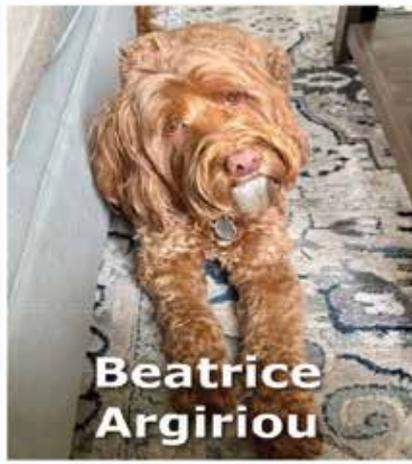
251 Applegarth Road- Monroe Township NJ, 08831

ad 8416

At Greenbriar We Love Our Pets



Mona Brown



**Beatrice
Argiriou**



**Gretchen
Nowachek**



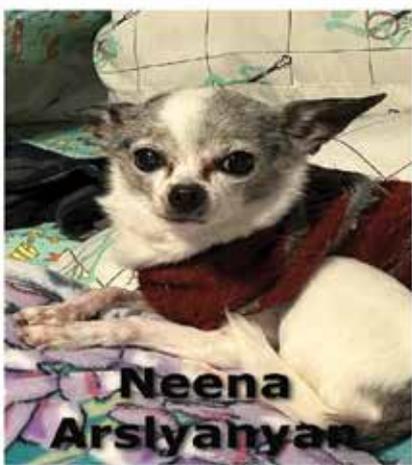
Goldie Press



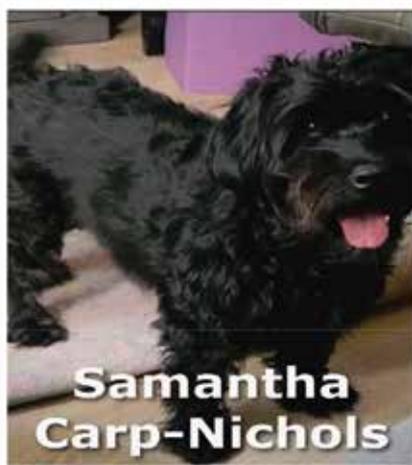
Sam Valent



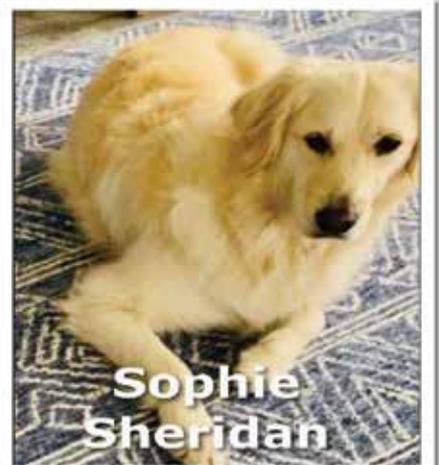
Missy Wapnick



**Neena
Arslyanyan**



**Samantha
Carp-Nichols**



**Sophie
Sheridan**

Carmine Campanella Wins GW Woodworkers Project of the Year

By Linda Wagner

To mark the ending of 2025, the GW Woodworkers set up a competition for Project of the Year. Out of the 12 entries one project gathered twice as many votes as the next closest one. Club members selected Carmine Campanella's display of nine reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh as the winner.

Carmine worked for months on the piece, cutting, sanding, painting and decorating the 3.5 ft. long display. Each reindeer was tailored with a metal studded harness and facial features. One was designated as the leader and adorned with a red nose.

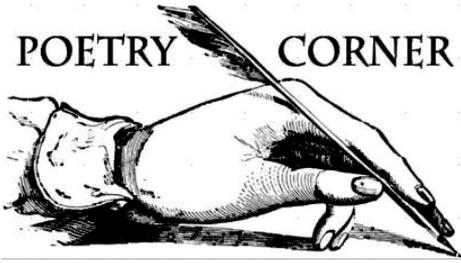
Not to be forgotten, the Man in Red, himself, was seated in a curvaceous red sleigh packed with miniature gifts. To complete the display Carmine showcased the procession by designing a bed of clouds underfoot and twinkling lights surrounding the work.



Carmine's prize for winning was a monogrammed GW Woodworking workshop apron.



CELEBRATING A WINNER: The GW Woodworking Team gathered to award the 2025 Project of the Year winner: (Top Row L-R) Robert Ziegler; Allison Larrain, Nancy Drake, Carmine Campanella, Dennis Marshall, Ken Sariego, Phil Giunta, Russel Munson, Shari Ferber; (Bottom Row L-R) Linda Wagner, Aloha Holloway and Berta Ditillo



Continued

More Sharing Means Better Rearing

By Bill Friedman

Stabbing, shooting, raping and more of this junk
is the depth to which social media has sunk.

Is it any wonder why
so many minors have gone asunder.
Too many parents miss the signs
that their kids are developing altered minds.
So many elected end up impeding
rather than encouraging kids succeeding.
Now is the time, before things get worse
for tougher laws to reverse this curse.
We need more love and family ties
to nurture our future gals and guys.

Internet Romance

By Carol Selick

Your sweet face called out to me,
on a dating site photo gallery.
Took a chance and wrote to you,
Hoping and praying you liked me too.
"You've got mail!" my computer said.
Would you be the one, or just a friend?
Phone calls, bookstores, movie nights,
Strangers became lovers, it felt so right.
Music was our special bond
You blew my mind when you wrote me a song.
When you sang to me, that's how I knew,
I was meant to spend my life with you.
Fate works in mysterious ways,
What's meant to happen can take years or days.
Sometimes kismet needs a helping hand,
A brand new method to push love's plan.
Cause you and I would have never met,
If it wasn't for the internet!

Mother -In-Law Dearest

By Bill Friedman

He met his future mother-in-law
on a cloudy day in Arkansas.
She owned a market and when he came in
she showed a special interest in him.
He bought a bottle of water for which she charged him a
quarter,
and suddenly produced a picture of her daughter.
WOW! She was the prettiest girl he'd ever seen,
with many features of a beauty queen.
As he prepared to say good-bye
she gave him her daughters number and said give her a try.
The next morning he dialed the number
waking her from a very deep slumber.
When he said who he was she didn't doubt him,
cause mom had actually told her about him.
Before the conversation was over,
she texted her address and invited him over.
When he arrived the next evening it felt like a dream,
she was prettier than the picture he'd seen.
As he entered they had a slight brush
causing him a heated blush.
She lead him to a cozy couch
where 2 would fit as good as glue.
He knew exactly what to do
and immediately began a loving woo.
He wrapped his arms around her,
while admitting his luck to have found her.
After hours of cuddling and kissing, she noted it was getting
late
and they both agreed to an actual date.
24 hours later he appeared at the door,
both anxious to extend the night before.
She suggested he come in and skip the date.
he said no our romance will wait.
At the restaurant a scrumptious meal they'd devour,
and were back at her house in a little over an hour.
Soon under the comers neither a slouch,
their love had outgrown the cozy couch.
Days, weeks, months at each other's side,
and finally asked her to become his bride.
As she walked down the aisle with her mom at her side,
he was so overcome he actually cried.
It's hard to believe that a twenty-five cent bottle of water
led him to marry this incredible daughter.

Funny You Should Say That!

By Ken Wagner

Not long ago, my wife and I were planning a trip to southern Germany, with stops in the Bavarian and Black Forest regions. As part of our preparation, we spent some time studying the German language, with the goal of being able to order the two most important food groups—sausage and beer—like natives. Don't worry, we would add a pretzel to make it a balanced diet.

Along the way, we learned a lot about the language: the ins and outs of nouns that have a gender (though I understand that some of the feminine nouns have recently decided to identify as neuter...). German is interestingly a language almost completely devoid of words that begin with the letter "C." The Germans have a fondness for creating compound words so long they might not fit on the average page of a paperback novel.

But one of the things I ran across that fascinated me most was the collection of colorful idioms specific to German. An idiom, of course, is a phrase that doesn't literally mean what it says. For a people known for being refreshingly direct, these expressions stand out like a sore thumb. (Notice how I used an idiom to describe idioms...)

One of the first I encountered was the phrase "Du hast einen Vogel." Literally, it means, "You have a bird." What it really means to Germans is, "You're nuts." I suppose the idea is that someone might be acting like they have a bird flying around inside their head. Maybe it's just my twisted way of thinking, but I wondered what you would say to someone who actually owns a bird. Is it rude to say, "Oh, you have a bird"? Maybe not if you wink when you say it...

Another idiom that made me laugh was "Ich verstehe nur Bahnhof." Literally, this translates to, "I only understand train station." What it really means is, "I don't understand anything." Having been in a few German train stations, I know the feeling.

One that I particularly love is "Unter vier Augen." Literally, "under four eyes." This is used when you want to discuss something important, with the understanding that it stays between two people—just four eyes. In this age of social media and constant sharing, the idea of keeping something strictly between two people feels almost quaint.

Germans are often known for being very direct in conversation. I think this is where the less-than-complimentary phrase "Sprechen durch die Blume" comes into play. Literally, it means "to speak through the flower." In practice, it refers to saying something in a roundabout or gentle way. I can't imagine this happens very often in German circles.

I found all of this amusing until I thought back on our time living in the American South and the idioms we encountered there.

Back in 1985, we moved to Salem, Virginia, where we lived for a few years. It didn't take long to learn that idioms can be highly regional in both nature and use. I still remember the first time someone told me we were "sitting in high cotton." Huh? Apparently, high cotton is better than low cotton, and sitting in high cotton meant that everything was going our way. It's a great visual.

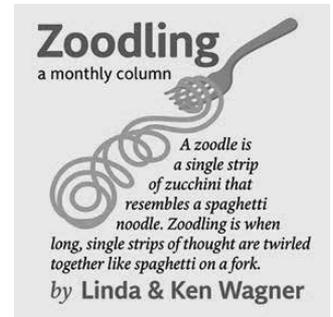
Another phrase we had to learn was "butter my biscuit." As it turns out, this had nothing to do with breakfast. I won't make that mistake twice. Instead, it simply means that someone is very surprised, as in, "Well, butter my biscuit if he didn't win the lottery!" I'm not sure of the origins, but perhaps butter and biscuits together were once considered shocking.

My absolute favorite, though, is "Bless your little heart." Sounds sweet, right? Nope. What appears to be a gentle sentiment is really the iron fist inside the velvet glove of Southern belles. It's the perfect passive-aggressive way to suggest that someone is an idiot. "So, he's planning to sell bags of ice to Eskimos in Alaska? Well, bless his little heart!"

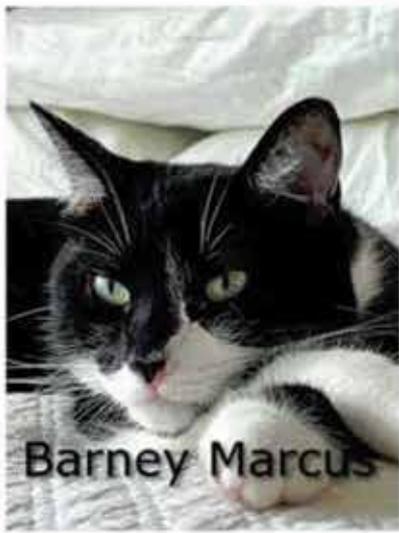
To be fair, the phrase can also be used sincerely, offered as an expression of genuine kindness toward someone you're fond of. That's what makes it so powerful. You can always get away with saying "bless your little heart," because it will sound sweet—at least on the surface. Underneath of course it could be a backhanded compliment. Note – no matter which way you mean the phrase, it should always be delivered with a big smile.

Given everything I now know, the only response to "bless your little heart" is probably just to say "you have a bird" – with or without a wink.

Married authors Linda and Ken Wagner write Zoodling monthly as an attempt to chronicle their experiences, pleasures and hopefully some of the wisdom of growing older. You can reach them at wagnergroup@comcast.net.



At Greenbriar We Love Our Pets



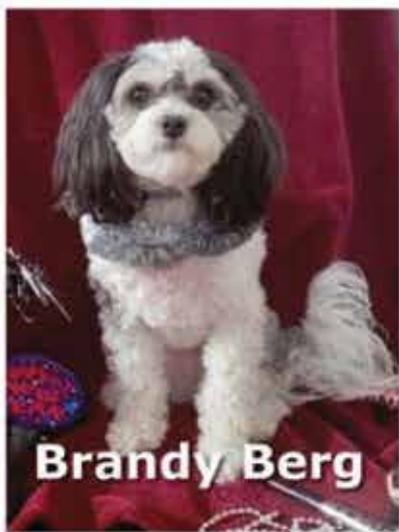
Barney Marcus



Candy Perez



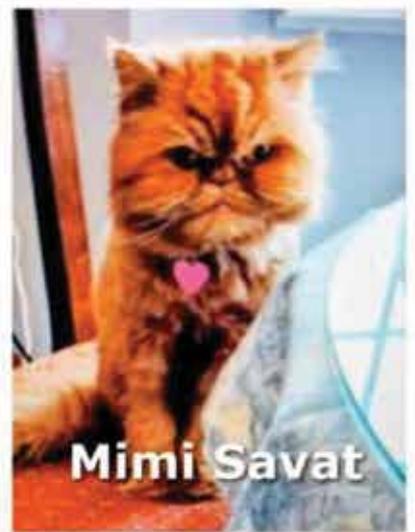
**Angel and
Angela Laboz**



Brandy Berg



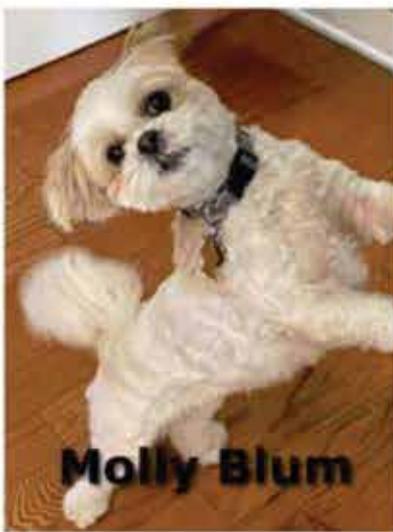
**Charli & Hudson
Cappadona**



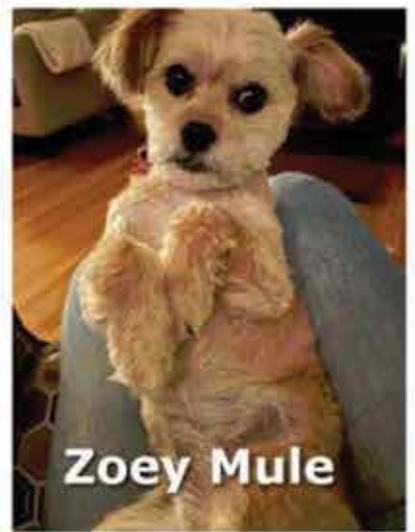
Mimi Savat



**Jewels
Savarese**



Molly Blum



Zoey Mule

At Greenbriar We Love Our Pets



IF THERE IS INTEREST WE WILL DO ANOTHER SERIES OF PETS IN THE FUTURE. CONTINUE TO SEND YOUR PICTURES TO GWMONTROEPULSE@GMAIL.COM AND BE SURE TO INCLUDE THE NAME OF THE PET AND YOUR LAST NAME. PICTURES WITH JUST A SINGLE PET AND NO HUMANS WORKS BEST.

Greenbriar Board Announces Changes in Late Payment Procedure

Note that the information in this article pertains only to Greenbriar residents.

The Greenbriar Board announced that they are updating the procedures for collecting late fees and unpaid balances from residents.

While the vast majority of residents pay their monthly assessments on time, via ACH or Clickpay, there are always some residents that pay late. We had a policy of charging late fees in the past. This was waived during the transition to First Service. Now the Greenbriar Board has determined it is time to reinstate the fee. For 2026 there will be a \$15 late fee. It will likely be raised next year. This is necessary in order to be fair to the vast majority of residents who pay their assessments on time each month.

A very small number of Greenbriar residents fail to pay their monthly assessment at all. While management is diligent in attempting to contact these folks to inform them that they have fallen behind, it does happen that their efforts to collect overdue accounts is unsuccessful. Sometimes this is due to the passing of the resident, sometimes due to foreclosure and sometimes it is simply due to financial difficulties.

At some point on the collection process, a decision has to be made that all of our efforts have been unsuccessful and it is time to turn the matter over to our attorney in order that more strident steps be taken. This is a very rare event, but we must be able to have this tool at our disposal.

As it turns out, since a portion of the monthly assessment goes to WHOA and Golf, we need to give the lawyers the ability to collect for all entities simultaneously. This is a simple legal necessity that will require a procedural vote. This action, of course, would only be initiated after efforts by our own management team fail to bear fruit. This involves legal filings and in the extreme, foreclosure. A very small number of homes end up in this category, but we need to give the lawyers authority to collect the full amount of what is owed. To do so requires this vote.

The vote will roll out shortly. You will see it in an email. If we do not receive a “No” vote from a resident, it is deemed to be a “Yes” vote. “Yes” votes are welcome but actually only “No” votes need to be submitted. This policy was established by the New Jersey State Legislature in order to allow HOA’s to function more smoothly. It is available only for certain types of votes.

Clearly, we want to be able to collect what is owed to us and without the option of using the legal system, we may all end up absorbing losses. A “No” vote is obviously not in anyone’s interest.

In preparing to employ our attorneys for these collections, they advised us that a covenant in our governing documents states that should we incur legal bills in pursuit of collecting long past due balances from residents, we can only require the debtor pay 20% of the legal costs.

This makes absolutely no sense and why that would be in our documents defies logic. Obviously, 100% of the legal costs incurred in the collection of bad debts should be tacked on to the amount owed, to be paid by the debtor. It is absurd that Greenbriar residents would have to absorb 80% of the legal bill generated by the collection of a past due balance. Yet, that is what our governing documents say.

In order to remedy this matter we need to have a vote by the entire Greenbriar community to amend the governing documents to require the debtor be obligated to pay the entire legal fee incurred in the collection of the debt.

To have this amendment to the governing documents enacted requires an additional vote of the Greenbriar community. This vote will require a quorum to be met and “Yes” votes will have to be cast. It will be necessary for everyone in the community to vote and vote “Yes” to allow Greenbriar to pass legal fees on to the debtor. This vote involves amending our governing documents and cannot be accomplished in the simpler way the other vote was described.

Frankly, without this amendment, we will have to pay 80% of the legal costs and it will just not be cost effective to collect bad debts that require any legal action. Those funds will be lost to us forever. Consequently, the rest of the residents will end up paying for those unpaid funds and they will be written off. We want to be able to use our law firm to collect bad debts and we want the debtor to be responsible for 100% of what it costs to collect those funds. That just makes good sense.

When that vote comes we need high participation and a “Yes” vote will be necessary in order to pass on the full legal costs of collecting.

Directory

Garage Door & Opener Installation and Repair Specialists
We service Central and South Jersey
Free New Door Estimate • Same Day Repairs
Call Us And Book Your Appointment Today!

Garage Door Masters LLC

garagedoormastersllc.com
garagedoormastersllc@gmail.com

NJ License #13VH07144300

Call or Text: 732-870-7313

RFJ Sales Co LLC

Computers Built and Repaired
Desktop and Laptop in your home

Monroe Resident

732-723-9537 or 732-967-3400

T.K.S. Home Improvements

A Full Service Contractor

- Basements • Decks • Kitchens & Baths • Tile & Hardwood
- Painting • Windows & Doors • Powerwashing and More

Handyman & Repair Services Available

No job too big or too small

Lic and Insured **609-259-2574** #13VH05970500

HERB PLUMBING

Fast & Reliable Service

Always Available

~ Fully Insured & Bonded ~

(732) 972-7779

Herb Weinberg
NJ License 9844

P.O. Box 493
Morganville, NJ 07751

STORM ELECTRIC

All Phases of Electrical Work

Mike Palladino

PH 732-591-0215 Cell 732-904-5339

Bonded & Insured Lic# 12986

NEED-A-RIDE?

Neil's Need-A-Ride provides reliable service
for all NY/NJ/PA

Travel, Airports, Cruise Terminals, Medical
Appointments and More.

Always on time. Always nearby.

Call 609-642-9877

John Pearl Home Improvement & Landscaping Services

Call 908-208-1150

- * General Repairs * Deck Repairs/Staining
- * Landscaping * Powerwashing - houses,
sidewalks, decks * Painting

Licensed (13VH06515700) & Insured

DOOR QUEST GARAGE DOOR REPAIR & REPLACEMENT

Cable, Spring Roller, Opener

732-507-9988

Lic# 13VH10883700 • FREE ESTIMATES

ARNIE'S DRIVING SERVICE

609-751-1612

In Our 8th Year Driving Safely

A Trusted Name since 2017 in Monroe Township

AIRPORTS • DOCTORS • SHOPPING

NEW YORK CITY FOR BROADWAY SHOWS

ANYWHERE, ANYTIME YOU NEED A RIDE

Specializing in New York Doctor Visits

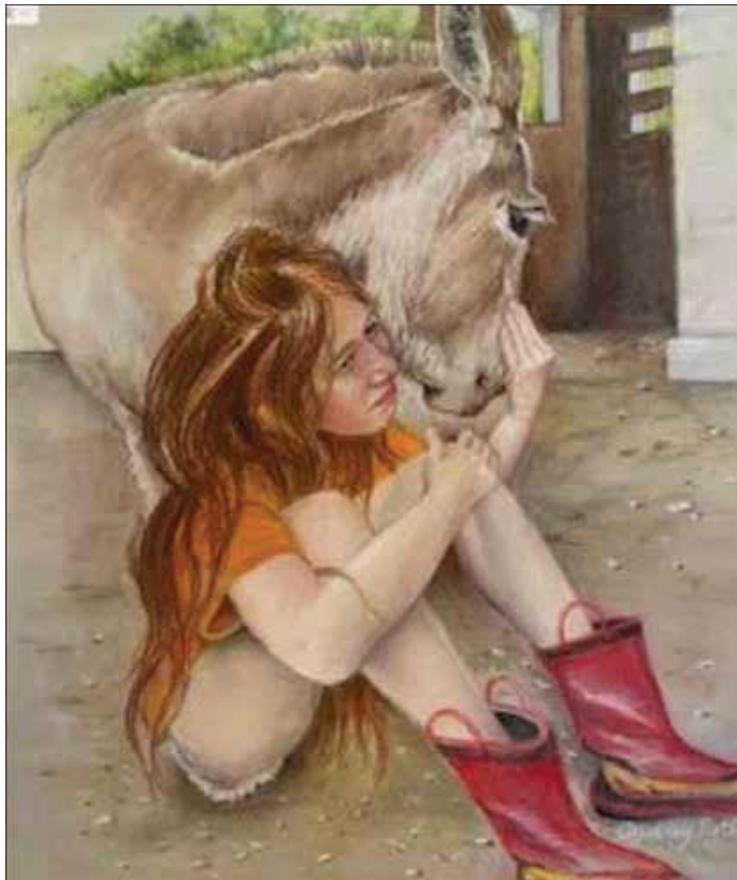
Rebecca Bergknoff, CPA

- Personalized tax preparation services
in the comfort of your home.
- Reasonable rates
- Free consultations

732-718-4359



Heading South” by Harwood Road resident Neil Shapiro



*“Farmyard Friend” by Stonewyck Place Resident Audrey Roth
Greenbriar at Whittingham Pulse*