

Volume 4 February 2022



We hope you are all well and enjoying this wonderful winter weather. December turned out to be relatively mild, but the new year has brought some chilling temperatures. We just need to keep looking ahead to March 20th. Spring can't come soon enough. The clubhouse has been pretty quiet as residents have stayed away because of the weather and the continuing pandemic. Hopefully in the next few weeks the surge of infections will be over and we can once again work towards normal. In the meantime, find a good book, watch some movies, and take a walk on those days when the weather permits. If you have a few minutes, we would like feedback from you and some ideas that we can use to add to future newsletters. Stay healthy

Lois, Suhas, Morris, Don

A reminder to all DWFP residents.....

The US Postal Service requests:

Please be sure to place a legible label of your name(s) on the *inside of your mailbox*. For those using the outdoor clusters, include your street number.

The mail carrier is required to ensure delivery to the correct recipient, which is very difficult without proper labeling. Some mail is being held at the post office for many days due to this uncertainty. If you want to receive your mail reliably, labeling your mailbox is critical.

#### IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Front Gate - 973-845-2098

(7AM-11PM Daily)

Associa (Management Company) -

973-773-6262

**Pulte Warranty** - 877-686-4379

Police, Ambulance & Fire - 911

Police Non-Emergency - 973-377-2200

Fire Non-Emergency - 973-377-3241

Borough of Florham Park - 973-410-5300

JCP&L (Electric Co.) - 800-662-3115

PSE&G (Gas Co.) - 800-436-7734

New Jersey American (Water Co.) -

800-272-1325

Florham Park Post Office - 973-377-5652

Bill Pryor Disposal Services (Trash) -

973-377-0176

Trash pickup occurs every Monday and Thursday except for certain Holidays

**Morris County Municipal Utilities** 

**<u>Authority</u>** (Recycling) – 973-285-8383

**Clubhouse Hours Open Daily 5AM-10PM** 

(subject to change)

**Indoor Pool Hours 9AM-5PM Daily** 

Associa (Management Company) –

info@delwebbfp.com

Lifestyle Director -

lifestyle@delwebbfp.com

Architecture Review Committee -

arc@delwebbfp.com

**HOA Board Residents Members:** 

Mark Gersten (mark@delwebbfp.com)

Stan Perla (stan@delwebbfp.com)

**COA Board Resident Members:** 

Alan Englander (alan@delwebbfp.com)

David Fox (david@delwebbfp.com)

# **Standing Committees:**

## **Architecture and Grounds Committee**

Michael Fauls (Chair)

**Greg Cousland** 

Jerry Krassner

George Lipari

Carl Schlotfeldt

# **Facilities and Security Committee**

Helen Jacobson

Harry Laster

Mark Reiner

Steven Grundleger

# **Social Committee**

Lynn Abrevaya (Co-Chair)

Barbara Konel (Co-Chair)

Diane Silvestri

Barbara Gersten

Sharyn Henslovitz

Andrea Beinhaker

Patrick Carmelengo

Cookie Lipin

Joan Cregan

Lynda Sapperstein

Michael Goldberg

# Communications/Newsletter

Suhas Ketkar

Morris Glazer

Lois Livreri

Don Hoffmann

Alan Englander (Board Rep)

# **Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee**

Joel Rachmiel (Chair)

Susan Rynar (Vice-Chair)

Brianne Donohue (Vice-Chair)

Stephen Sunshine

John Levitt

Arnie Litt

# **Del Webb Florham Park HOA Update:**

# MESSAGE FROM THE RESIDENT DIRECTORS

With 2021 officially behind us, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on what an eventful, unprecedented year it has been for our community, fellow residents and our Association. While no one could have planned for every drastic change and effect that the pandemic would have on all of us, we were pleased and encouraged by the commitment of the volunteers who became part of the Architectural, Facilities and Security, Social, Communication and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Committee. They have been working hard to get up to speed on their roles, and all have shown a great willingness to lend a hand to help build a better community for all of us.

Unfortunately, some tough decisions had to be made at the beginning of this year regarding the Clubhouse. With the continued surge of the COVID virus, rather than close the facility, we curtailed hours, removed the beverage station and strictly enforced a mask mandate for the entire facility.

At Board meetings held in January, the management agreement with Associa was not renewed. A new management company, First Service Residential was approved effective March 1, 2022. More news about this transition will be forthcoming. For those who are not familiar with the role of a management company, please see the description below. In addition a new budget was approved for 2022.

As a reminder, you can stay up to date via our community website, <a href="www.Delwebbfp.com">www.Delwebbfp.com</a>, for helpful information. Make sure to check it out!

As you can see from the above, it's been a busy period, and we know there is much more to do and much more to share with you. We are excited about the progress and feedback we have received so far from our neighbors. Please keep suggestions and feedback coming, as we all work to build a better Del Webb Florham Park, together!

Mark Gersten Stan Perla

# **Management Company Responsibilities**

Running a community association is, in many ways, similar to running a business — it takes a great deal of work. Most HOA boards bring in a management company to assist with day-to-day operations. While the role of a management company is to offer assistance, the boards retain all decision-making tasks. The management company reports directly to the respective boards of directors.

Management company duties include assisting with day to day administrative work, finances, accounting, recordkeeping, engaging vendors, contract negotiations, inspecting the community, overseeing vendors and communicating with residents.

Management companies also assist with HOA maintenance projects. Management companies do not perform repairs and maintenance but they make sure maintenance vendors engaged have proper insurance and perform as required.

# **Helpful Links on the Community Website:**

Delwebbfp.com

New Homeowners - https://delwebbfp.com/new-homeowners/

Documents - https://delwebbfp.com/documents/

Events (maintained by Colby) - https://delwebbfp.com/events/

Community News - <a href="https://delwebbfp.com/community-news/">https://delwebbfp.com/community-news/</a>

FAQs - https://delwebbfp.com/faqs/



An aerial shot was taken in the 60's of the ESSO (later Exxon) company facility. Today it has been transformed into Del Webb Florham Park. A little less green space.

# **Del Webb Florham Park COA Update:**

# MESSAGE FROM THE RESIDENT DIRECTORS

The Condominium Association resident directors want to wish all residents a Happy and Healthy New Year! The pace of sales of both condo apartments and townhomes exceeded the developer's expectations in 2021 and continued at a brisk rate into the new year with transition from developer ownership to resident ownership of the community now anticipated at the end of the second quarter this year.

With the March 1<sup>st</sup> appointment of FirstService Residential as community property manager, replacing Associa property managers, and the adoption of the Condominium Association 2022 Budget we've taken important steps to lay the foundation for creating the community lifestyle experience that all residents have a right to expect. There's much to be done going forward however, including near term review and potential renegotiation/replacement of significant contracts and most important, along with the Homeowner's Association, planning thoroughly for and executing a seamless transition to community ownership.

To that end all residents are encouraged to continue to volunteer for participation in community committees. As a community we possess expertise in a broad spectrum of skill sets which can be leveraged through the committee process to make important contributions to the community – stay tuned for announcements regarding more opportunities to participate!

Looking forward to a fruitful and productive year in 2022.

Alan Englander & David Fox

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TOWNHOME OWNERS

As first-time new construction buyers the walkthrough of our Townhome before closing was a blur. Intent on making sure we were getting everything we were entitled to and following the stories of those that closed before us we had our own detailed punch list which in retrospect was like inspecting the trees and not stepping back to see the forest. As part of the walkthrough, I think we were told about required maintenance but what we were told didn't register, and to be honest, I'm not sure if it was ever discussed. Just a few maintenance requirements that may have slipped your mind as follows:

# Fire Suppression System

As Townhome owners we're required to have the backflow preventer that separates our domestic water from the sprinkler system tested annually. This can be done by Quick Response Fire Protection (the vendor that installed the systems), or any licensed plumbing contractor certified in backflow prevention.

There's also a wall mounted plate in laundry rooms labeled "Fire Suppression Drain". The good news here is that the plate covers a drain should the system need to be serviced – no maintenance required.

## Outside Dryer Vent

Best practice is for Townhome owners to have their clothes dryer vents cleaned out annually. Failure to do so not only degrades the performance of our clothes dryers but represents a potential fire hazard. Many Townhome communities require annual owner certifications that the work has been performed which will be considered and possibly instituted here in Del Webb Florham Park.

Recommendations based on first-hand experience for either the vent cleaning or backflow testing (licensed plumbing contractor) are welcome. The names of recommended vendors based on your feedback and additional research will be provided in the next issue of the newspaper.

Alan Englander

#### **COLD WEATHER TIPS FOR YOUR HOME**

As we are in the winter season, there are several tips we can use to reduce our energy bill as well as feel more comfortable in our home.

Here are just a few:

## Get a furnace tune-up:

Although this would ordinarily be a given, perhaps some of us have yet to have our furnace serviced properly since moving in. Not only is it wise to change the filter monthly, it is also a good idea to have a reputable company service the heating (and AC when the season is upon us) system annually.

# Protect your pipes:

When the weather falls below 15 degrees during the night, it is smart to leave indoor faucets trickling to keep water flowing. This should be done in your indoor sinks while leaving the cabinet doors open for added warmth. In addition, the outdoor faucets should have the shut-off valve closed but open the spigots to drain any remaining water, then leave them open until spring.

# Thermostat settings:

Install programmable thermostats where you can set them to lower the temperature during the night or when you are away. Many new "smart" models can work with your phone apps so you can make any adjustments when not at home. For each degree you lower the thermostat, you can save 1%-3% on your energy bill.

#### Let the sun shine:

Some of us are lucky to have sunrooms! Use them for what they are designed for – letting in the sun!! Open the shades/blinds and allow the room to be warmed by nature's rays. In the evening, close the window coverings to keep the heat in. For those of us who don't have sunrooms, you can accomplish the same thing for your other windows.

## Fireplace:

For those of us who have fireplaces, make sure you know how to properly use the damper, making sure it is closed when you aren't using it. An open damper is like having a hole in the wall.

#### ON A PERSONAL NOTE.....

Some of you may be familiar with the Yiddish word "kvell". Technically, it means "to be delighted" but more commonly it means to "burst with pride".

And so, for this new monthly column, we would like to ask our residents to provide us with news of family that makes you kvell!!! Perhaps you have reached a milestone birthday or anniversary? Maybe you have a new grandchild (or great-grandchild) or one who has accomplished something very special!!! In any event, please let us know so we can all share the news and "kvell" with you.

For starters, congratulations and mazel tov to Lois and Joe Livreri on the engagement of their son Mark Chernev to Nicole Smahlik. Mark and Nicole live in San Francisco where Mark practices landlord/tenant litigation at a local law firm and Nicole, having recently gotten her master's degree in museum studies, volunteers at a museum. She is still active in her family's business of manufacturing squeegies and is the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation to do so. They are planning an October wedding somewhere in California.

Our sincere condolences to Addie Some on the recent death of her husband Aaron.

Also, our sincere condolences to Susan Raviv on the recent passing of her husband, David.

We also extend get well wishes to all those who are recuperating from recent illnesses as well as those facing future surgeries and medical treatments. You know who you are!!!

# **Architecture and Grounds Committee- Update:**

The Architecture and Grounds Committee has revised our community guidelines. This is the second revision of the Guidelines and Instructions since the original was introduced two years ago.

There are some important changes and we encourage all homeowners to take the time to familiarize themselves with the content. This is especially important if you are contemplating a modification to your home.

Please be aware of the following noteworthy content changes and additions:

- Retractable awnings for townhomes are now permitted with prior approval
- Plantings between townhome patios are now permitted with prior approval
- Attic fans for singles and townhomes are now permitted with prior approval
- Air conditioning unit relocation are now permitted for townhomes with prior approval
- Baluster spacing limitations on newly installed decks and patio
- House signage location and type better defined

You can view all ARC documents on our website under the ARC tab located at <a href="https://delwebbfp.com/documents/">https://delwebbfp.com/documents/</a>

Any completed applications or forms associated with this process should be forwarded to Management.

Please direct any questions regarding this document or anything related to this process by sending an email to <a href="mailto:arc@delwebbfp.com">arc@delwebbfp.com</a> or contacting the Management Office.

# **Facilities Committee Update:**

# AED demonstration - Monday, February 7

The Facilities Committee invites you to learn how to use our Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The AED can often save someone's life if he is experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest. This device will provide simple verbal cues about each step, so you will know how to proceed. Clear instructions will also be attached to the AED.

This demonstration will be provided by our representative from Team Life, the company that distributes the Powerheart G5 AED in our region.

The demo will be held in the clubhouse on MONDAY FEBRUARY 7 at 10:30 a.m. In the case of inclement weather, it will be postponed one week until Monday, February 14.

You can RSVP to this event by emailing Colby at florhamparklifestyle@gmail.com.

For further information, please contact Helen Jacobson at helen.jacobsonrn@gmail.com or (201) 230-4999.

Community Update (estimates)	Apartments						
Single family homes	Building 5-not sold yet						
2 lots available and the three models	Approximately 36 apartments						
Total 104	Total 180						
95% sold	80% sold						
Townhomes							
15 available and the three models	As of 1/20/22, 251 or 59% units closed.						
Total 141							
87% sold							

# **Social Committee Update:**

January was a challenging month with the weather, COVID spike and restrictions at the clubhouse, but we hope that February and the spring bring more opportunities to enjoy the amenities. Although many of our scheduled events were postponed or changed to Zoom we still enjoyed getting the community together for some different events.

Our Welcome Committee of Andrea and Sharyn have been busy meeting new residents as they have closed and helping to get their feet planted in the community. We also held a Zoom meet and greet which allowed for both our new residents, soon to be residents and those traveling to join in. We will hold another two Zoom meet and greets in February on 2/2 and 2/16 at 5PM. The Zoom link will be sent closer to those dates.

On January 13th our Trips and Travel Committee arranged for a presentation on a Viking River Boat cruise up the Mississippi from New Orleans to Memphis for April 2023. Over 50 homes participated in the online presentation and if anyone else is interested in finding out more information, please contact Colby.

For February we are looking forward to being back in the clubhouse with regular hours again (subject to change, keep checking those community emails).

On Wednesday, February 9th we will have a "Match Your Mate" event where we welcome everyone to the clubhouse and see how well three couples know one another. This is sure to be an entertaining evening.

On Friday, February 11th at 7PM you can help solve the mystery as we host a Valentines Day themed Mystery Night, "Passion for Murder."

Join us for a showing of "King Richard" the newly released Will Smith movie on Friday, February 18th at 7PM. Will Smith portrays the father/coach of Serena and Venus Williams and their rise to tennis fame.

Get your thinking caps on for a Virtual Zoom Trivia Night on Saturday, February 26th at 7PM. We will be joining two other communities, Sterling Pointe in New Jersey and Del Webb Chauncy Lake from Massachusetts.

More information will follow on signups and registration for upcoming events.

Also look for some Zoom presentations including ones on Heart Health, Nutritional Labels and an AARP presentation on Health as we celebrate Heart Health month.

# **MONTHLY QUOTE:**

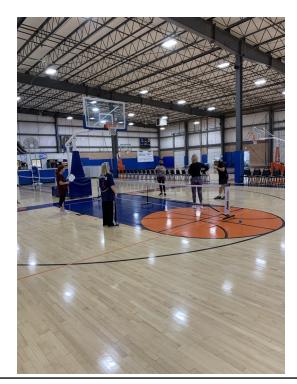
Travel isn't always pretty. It isn't always comfortable. Sometimes it hurts, it even breaks your heart. But that's ok. The journey changes you: it should change you. It leaves marks on your memory, on your consciousness, on your heart, on your body. You take something with you. Hopefully, you'll leave something good behind.

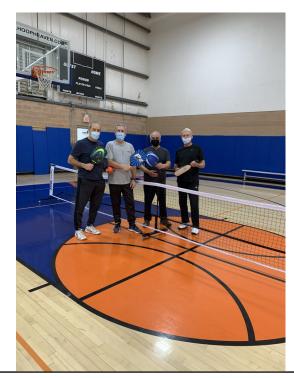
- Anthony Bourdain

## **MONTHLY HUMOR:**

My mother is 90 - she's dating a man who is 93. Everything is going great – they never argue. That's because they can't hear one another!!!!

ZEF LOYALTY CARD





# Indoor Pickleball-Hoop Heaven

Pickleball is a very enjoyable sport. The game has the right amount of competitiveness and socialization that we Del Webbers are looking for. Pickleball is a great three season sport - enjoyable in the spring, summer and fall. Once the temperature begins to fall and the cold winter winds begin to blow, the enjoyment rapidly comes into question.

Luckily several die hard Pickleballers, explored ways to continue playing throughout the winter months. This resulted in finding Hoop Heaven – an indoor sport's facility located on Algonquin Parkway in Whippany, fifteen minutes from Del Webb.

At Hoop Heaven, Michele Dabal, a certified PPR Coach and Instructor, operates an indoor pickleball program at the facility. Ms. Dabal offers pickleball clinics, instruction and a variety of practice opportunities for Pickleballers. As part of the program there are also scheduled times to register for pickleball games. Games are scheduled for novice, intermediate and advanced level players. The games are for an hour and half. Each week we try to reserve a game for our Del Webb residents. The cost to participate in a game is \$10 per person. Interested players can sign up online <a href="https://bit.ly/3xMSVII">https://bit.ly/3xMSVII</a> or

# WWW.MDPickleball.net

Of course, in these crazy Covid times playing indoors does bring some concerns. These concerns should be dispelled by the program's respect for safety – proof of vaccine is required to play! Also, masks are optional but we Del Webbers all agreed to play with masks.

If you enjoy pickleball and miss playing in the winter, stop by Hoop Heaven – it's your serve!

Mark Gersten

Patrick Camerlengo

#### Del Webb Florham Park Football Pick'em Resident Winner

Congratulations to resident Mel Nutkis, who was the leading resident with 172 correct picks of winners in this NFL season for our ESPN Football Pick'em. With Mel's picks, he ranked in the top 95.8% of all players on ESPN.com.

# Winter Olympics: Beijing 2022 February 4 – 20th Fast Facts

- -The Olympics kick off on February 4th and will go until February 20th.
- -This year's Olympics will feature 109 events.
- -Beijing becomes the first host city to have both the Summer and Winter games.
- -91 Nations will be represented including Haiti and Saudi Arabia, who will be participating for the first time in the Winter Olympics.
- The Fifteen different event categories include: Alpine skiing, Biathlon, Bobsleigh, Cross-country skiing, Curling, Figure skating, Freestyle skiing, Ice hockey, Luge, Nordic combined, Short track speed skating, Skeleton, Ski jumping, Snowboarding, Speed skating.
- NBC holds the television rights to both the Super Bowl and Olympic Games this year.
- -The United States will send 222 athletes to the Olympics, the most of any country.
- -Due to the ongoing pandemic this will be the second Olympic Games that will be closed to the public with limited spectators by invitation only.
- -The 2026 Winter Games will be held in Milan, Italy.

What sport do you most look forward to watching? What Winter Olympic Sport do you find most dangerous, ski jump, downhill skiing, skeleton, luge or other?





## **Indoor Pool Reminder**

The indoor pool and hot tub is open daily from 9AM-5PM at the clubhouse. To enter go through the locker rooms and have your FOB available to swipe in.

# **8 Ball Pool Tournament**

Congratulations to Tommy Rackley who won our first 8 Ball Pool Tournament on Sunday, January 23rd. Tommy had a close game against Tom Ermenville in this 8 person, double-elimination format tournament. Thanks to those who came to participate, watch and enjoy an afternoon of pool and playoff football in the clubhouse.

# **GROUNDHOG DAY!! February 2nd**

What is it and who cares???

We all hear about the infamous groundhog, alias Punxsutawney Phil, who emerges from his hole in Pennsylvania as the media and large crowds gather to watch. According to superstition, if Phil sees his shadow he supposedly gets frightened and runs back into his burrow, thereby indicating 6 more weeks of winter. If he doesn't see his shadow, an early spring is predicted.



How did this begin? Well, it goes back to the old German tradition of Candlemas when clergy distributed candles that were needed for the winter. A hedgehog was chosen to predict the length and severity of the upcoming season. Once these Pennsylvania Dutch Germans settled in the US they changed the animal to the groundhog, a similar creature, but more prevalent.

Groundhogs (sometimes referred to as woodchucks), like bears, hibernate in the early winter and look for a mate when they emerge in February. In 1887 an editor of the Punxsutawney Spirit newspaper decided to make an official event of the appearance of the groundhog and declared February 2 as Groundhog Day.

Most of us don't put too much faith into this day nor do we really care about it! Meteorologists have indicated there is no clear correlation between the shadow and the arrival of spring. After all, to many of us Groundhog Day is just a Bill Murray movie!!

# Super Bowl Time-Sunday, February 13th

Super Bowl 56 is just around the corner. It will be played in Los Angeles at SoFi stadium on Sunday, February 13. It is one of the most watched sporting events and is broadcast in more than 170 countries. It will once again feature a fabulous halftime show and unique commercials which add to the enjoyment. How did this whole spectacular come about? A little history lesson is in order.

The NFL was officially formed in 1920 but the Super Bowl came many years later. In 1960, there was interest in adding new franchises to the NFL. This did not happen and a new league, the AFL was formed. They co-existed as rivals competing for players as well as fans. In 1966 an agreement was negotiated to merge the teams by 1970.

The first Super Bowl was played on January 15,1967 and was called the AFL-NFL World Championship Game. The Green Bay Packers played the Kansas City Chiefs. (Green Bay won 35-10). The Chiefs owner suggested the new name Super Bowl.

After the leagues merged the NFL split into two conferences: the American Football Conference (AFC) and the National Football Conference (NFC). The winners in each conference play in the Super Bowl.

Some interesting facts:

Ticket price for the first Super Bowl was \$12.00 and the game was not a sellout.

The Patriots have made the most appearances of any team, 11.

The Steelers and the Patriots have the most wins, 6.

Dallas and San Francisco each have 5 wins.

The Detroit Lions, Jacksonville Jaguars, and the Houston Texans are the only teams never to have played in a Super Bowl.

The Vince Lombardi Trophy is awarded to the winner.

A 30 second ad for the first Super Bowl cost \$37,500 while today that has soared to \$4 million.

Tom Brady has the most Super Bowl wins (7), followed by Joe Montana and Terry Bradshaw who each racked up 4.

# Carnival-Mardi Gras- Tuesday, March 1st

We started the month with Super Bowl excitement and we can end the month with Mardi Gras. We have attempted to provide a little bit of history of this popular event which is celebrated around the world.

Carnival begins on January 6 and ends with Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Mardi Gras is celebrated throughout that time period but the major celebration is on Fat Tuesday. Mardi Gras became an official holiday in 1582 when Pope Gregory XIII placed it .on the Gregorian calendar on the day before Ash Wednesday.

Jump ahead to medieval Europe, passing through Rome and Venice in the 17<sup>th</sup> centuries to the French House of the Bourbons. The celebration of "Boeuf Gras," or fatted calf, was celebrated in France and followed French colonists to the new world.

In 1699 a Canadian explorer, Jean Baptiste Le Moyne Sieur de Bienville landed near the present day city of New Orleans. He was there to defend France's claim to the Louisiana territory. Bienville established two small villages, the second one, named Fort Louis de la Louisiane was established in 1702. This later was renamed Mobile. In 1703 the very first Mardi Gras celebration was held here.



In 1704 Mobile established a secret society similar to those that form our current Mardi Gras krewes. (There are currently about 70 krewes) The society was responsible for planning the celebration events. In 1710 the Boeuf Gras society was formed replacing the earlier group. Their parade was extravagant and included a live bull, draped in white and signaling the coming Lenten meal fast. This was held on Fat Tuesday, the last day of Mardi Gras.

By the late 1830s, the krewe's members staged wild parades featuring decorated carriages, men on horse-back, masked marchers, and torchlit streets. (Today each krewe designs a float for the parade.) In 1872 a group of businessmen invented the King of Carnival Rex who presided over the parade. The king that year was Russian Grand Duke Alexis Romanoff, whose family colors of purple, green, and gold were used for decoration. Strands of beads were made using these colors and distributed during the parade. These have since become the official colors of the celebration. In 1875, the governor signed the Mardi Gras Act making Fat Tuesday a legal holiday in Louisiana and the celebration has grown ever since.

#### Some additional facts about Mardi Gras

- -Carnival begins on January 6, the Twelfth Night after Christmas. This corresponds to the time the Wise Men visited Jesus and presented gifts. Mardi Gras represents the end of Carnival.
- -The floats in the parade give out "throws" which are usually stuffed animals, doubloons, or colored beads.
- -The bead colors that are standard throws have taken on special meaning. The purple beads represent justice, the green beads represent faith, and the gold represent power.
- -The correct way to ask for a throw—-"throw me something, mister."
- -Fat Tuesday is the last day of Carnival. It got that name because it is the last day for people to eat meat or fatty foods before Lent.
- -King Cake is a standard dessert served on Fat Tuesday. The name comes from the kings visiting Jesus. It is usually circular and braided to resemble a crown. A small statue of Jesus is baked into the cake and the person who finds it is supposed to host the party next year or at least buy the next cake.

# Clubhouse Gym Reminders

- The clubhouse gym is open daily 5AM-10PM.
- Please wipe down equipment after use with the gym wipes provided.
- Please keep your mask on while working out to follow current clubhouse restrictions.
- -Please be mindful of others working out, refrain from cell phone conversations or any loud music while working out.



# **DID YOU KNOW?? Valentine's Day**

We express our love on Valentine's Day by giving our sweethearts flowers or chocolates – or at the very least, a card. But how did this February 14<sup>th</sup> celebration begin?

Originally, Saint Valentine was a Roman priest who became a Christian martyr. According to folk lore, he restored sight to the blind daughter of his jailer. Legends indicate he performed weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry. He must have been quite the romantic since other legends have him involved in love-related themes. He was persecuted and later imprisoned under the Roman Empire in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. Prior to his execution, he signed a farewell letter "Your Valentine".

Saint Valentine of Rome died on February 14 in 269 AD. Many years later Pope Gelasius I established the Feast of Saint Valentine on the anniversary of his death in 496 AD to honor him. Several centuries later this day became synonymous with love and couples began to express their feelings with heart shaped symbols. Cupid, the god of desire and love was often depicted on greeting cards.

Handwritten expressions of love have given way to the massive greeting card industry we have today. In addition, roses have become the standard for the flowers that are frequently given to loved ones. It is the lucky woman who receives a dozen red roses at her home or office!! Candy is also given as another expression of affection – usually in hearts-shaped boxes.

In olden times, the red rose was the symbol of deep love and beauty. It was associated with the goddess Venus and is the mainstay of flowers for Valentine's Day. Nothing says "I Love You" more than red roses!!! The tradition of sending roses began in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Also during that time Spanish explorers brought back chocolate from the New World to the Old World and it too became the candy of choice on Valentine's Day.

Although Valentine's Day is not a national holiday, it is celebrated throughout the US as well as in other countries. Travel to many European countries in mid-February and you will see local shops display various items to celebrate Valentine's Day.

# PRESIDENTS' DAY: -Monday, February 21

George Washington and Abraham Lincoln both have birthdays in the month of February.

There was a time many years ago we would celebrate each of these days separately but no longer. We now have what has come to be known as Presidents' Day and we celebrate it on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.

Washington's birthday, the 22<sup>™</sup> of February, had begun to be celebrated after his death. But it wasn't until President Rutherford B. Hayes declared it a legal holiday in 1879. This continued for many years until Congress passed the Monday Holiday Law in 1968 mandating certain legal holidays to be observed on Monday. The financial and spiritual benefits to the country became apparent and more 3-day weekends were created!

Presidents' Day is one of 11 permanent holidays (there aren't any in August) established by Congress. Traditionally, a US senator reads Washington's Farewell Address during the legislative session.

To be truthful, George never chopped down a cherry tree nor were his dentures made of wood!!!!! The cherry tree story was created by Parson Mason Weems to demonstrate Washington's honesty. As for his teeth – they were made of hippopotamus teeth that were retrofitted for George's mouth!!

And so now we celebrate Presidents' Day not only to honor our presidents but it has become an ideal time to purchase a mattress!!!

#### MARKET STREET MISSION

The Market Street Mission in Morristown is a non-profit meeting the needs of men in the area to overcome their struggles. Their mission statement says it all:

"Our mission at Market Street is to surround our homeless, hungry and those struggling with addiction with God's love and everything they need to get back on their feet – food and shelter, counseling and job training, spiritual guidance and Bible study – to live stable, productive lives in our community."

The Mission was established in 1889 at 9 Market Street by Mrs. Louisa Graves Owen and her husband, the Reverend Dr. R. W. Owen. They saw the need for a free program for men struggling with alcohol. It has since become a place where men come to find help and hope in their lives. Today it is a haven providing meals, lodging, clothing and temporary employment for homeless men.

In addition to reaching out to these men, the Mission has helped others in need as well. In 1926 an explosion at the Picatinny Arsenal left many families without homes and clothing. The Mission stepped up and cared for many of the people displaced.

During the Great Depression, the Mission expanded its services to help those in need in the Morristown area.

A thrift store was added in the 1930s and today, for a small donation, the Mission will send a truck to your home and pick up unwanted furniture and other household items.

Over the years, the Mission has added more alcohol and drug treatment programs as well as addressing spiritual, emotional and physical needs. In addition, there is a new Career Education Center helping men learn computer skills. They have recently expanded to a facility in Sussex County providing meals for homeless men in Newton.

The Mission has said that just \$2.82 can provide a nourishing meal for one person. \$50.76 provides meals for 18 people. A donation will go a long way toward helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

# A Bit Of History...

# Mrs. Twombly's Privacy Wall

By 1911, the Morris County Traction Company had only one critical section of trolley track to build, the stretch that would link Morristown, and destinations to the west, with Madison and towns to the east. Unfortunately for the company, this section ran through the estate of Mrs. Florence Vanderbilt Twombly.

Mrs. Twombly opposed the trolley, arguing in court that it would prove detrimental to her property. She convinced other prominent neighbors, including the Morris County Golf Club and the sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, to join her lawsuit.

In April 1913, the court decided in favor of the

Traction Company and the trolley system was completed. To hide her view of the trolley for the length of its run through her property, Mrs. Twombly used money from her land condemnation to build a tall concrete wall.

This wall still exists today, although some parts have crumbled while others have been replaced. This wall now separates the campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University from the former trolley track. The track has been replaced by a wide walking/bike path that runs several miles. It can be accessed from Danforth Avenue or from the Convent Station depot. A side trip would be a stroll through the grounds of St. Elizabeth University. There is just so much history in this area.



#### Football and Food

Super Bowl Sunday is the second largest day for food consumption in the US, second only to Thanksgiving. So we offer a few fan favorite recipes for the Super Bowl Party, big or small.

#### Slow Cooker Chili

Serves 8 Cooks in about 6 hours

# Ingredients

1 tablespoon olive oil. 3 cloves garlic

2 lbs. lean ground beef or turkey. 1 large yellow onion finely chopped

2 (14-5 oz.) cans diced tomatoes.

3 (8 oz.) cans tomato paste
2 tablespoons chili powder
2 ½ teaspoons ground cumin.

2 teaspoons paprika

1 teaspoon granulated sugar. 2 teaspoons unsweetened cocoa powder

1 teaspoon oregano. Salt and freshly ground pepper

1 (15 oz.) can dark kidney beans, drained and rinsed 1 (15 oz.) can light red kidney beans, drained and rinsed

Shredded cheddar cheese for serving

#### Instructions

1. Heat olive oil in a large and deep non-stick skillet over medium-high heat.

- 2. Add onion and saute for 3 minutes, then add the garlic and saute 30 seconds longer. Pour onions into the slow cooker.
- 3. Return skillet to medium-high heat, add beef or turkey, and cook stirring occasionally until beef has browned.
- 4. Drain most of the fat from the meat (you could leave a little for flavor) and pour into the slow cooker.
- 5. Stir in all the other ingredients except the beans.
- 6. Cover and cook for about 6 hours.
- 7. Stir in the beans and allow to heat thoroughly for about 3 minutes.
- 8. Serve with any desired toppings. (Shredded cheese, sour cream, hot sauce, roasted peppers)
- 9. Serve with baked potatoes, cornbread, biscuits, or tortilla chips.

# **Another Fan Favorite: Buffalo Wings**

# Serves 4 Ingredients

2 lbs. chicken wings. 2 tablespoons vegetable oil

1 teaspoon garlic powder. Kosher salt

2 tablespoons honey. Freshly ground black pepper

4 tablespoons butter. 1/4 cup of hot sauce

Ranch dressing for serving Carrot sticks for serving Celery sticks for serving



#### Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees and place a wire rack over a baking sheet. In a large bowl, toss chicken wings with oil and season with garlic powder, salt, and pepper. Transfer to prepared baking sheet.
- 2. Bake until chicken is golden and skin is crispy, 50 to 60 minutes, flipping the wings halfway through.
- 3. In a small saucepan, whisk together hot sauce and honey. Bring to simmer and then stir in butter. Cook until butter is melted and slightly reduced, about 2 minutes.
- 4. Heat broiler on low. Transfer baked wings to a bowl and toss with buffalo sauce until completely coated. Return wings to rack and broil—watching carefully—until sauce caramelizes, about 3 minutes.
- 5. Serve with carrot sticks, celery sticks, and ranch dressing.

#### ENJOY!

Since there is always room for dessert, this next recipe is a perfect addition to any celebration.

# **Whiskey Cake**

Ingredients

Duncan Hines golden Butter Cake

1 package vanilla pudding

4 eggs. 2 oz. whiskey

½ cup oil. 1 tablespoon each almond extract and vanilla extract

1 cup milk

#### Instructions

- 1. Mix all ingredients in a mixing bowl. Beat well.
- 2. Pour into a Bundt pan or tube pan.
- 3. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour.
- 4. While the cake is baking, combine the following:

1 stick butter

½ cup whiskey

1 ½ cups sugar

1/8 cup water

- 5. Cook for about 5 minutes until bubbly.
- 6. When the cake is done, remove from the oven and fork the cake all over. Then pour the sauce all over the cake and let it soak in.
- 7. After the cake is cool, remove it from the pan. You might want to sprinkle powdered sugar over the top.

#### LENDING LIBRARY NEWS...

Books for the DWFP Lending Library can be dropped off at the clubhouse lobby in the bin labeled "BOOK DONATIONS". Once copyright dates are checked, books will be shelved under FICTION, BIOGRAPHY, NON-FICTION, and will be available for checkout. Feel free to borrow as many books as you can read in a timely fashion. Books should be returned to its proper location.

The library is located on the left side of the lobby.

Due to the shortage of space, please adhere to the following when donating books:

Hardcover and paperbacks in good condition of \*fiction with a copyright date of **2012 (for now) or newer** \*biographies, current political writings, current travel books, religion, military, and history.

<u>NO BOOKS</u> on self-help, home improvement, diet, coffee-table, business/legal/medical, journals, hobbies, encyclopedias, cookbooks, textbooks.

Further guidelines may be found at the library desk.

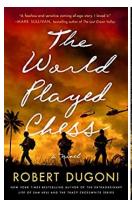
# **February Book Club**

Join us at the clubhouse for our monthly book club discussions. Book club will be held the last week of each month.

"The World Played Chess" by Robert Dugoni. Tuesday, Feb 22nd at 2PM

"The Four Winds" by Kristin Hannah. Wednesday, Feb 23rd at 7PM

Send your March Book Suggestions to Colby at florhamparklifestyle@gmail.com





# **FLORHAM PARK LIBRARY**

Our local library is a wealth of information available to us for free. All you need to do is obtain a card – a simple process!!! It can be done either online or in person.

Once you have a card, you can avail yourself of the many services out library affords. You can download audiobooks, e-books, order regular books online and you will be notified via email when your books are ready for pick-up. The library also has a computer area, research tools as well as study areas.

Passes are available for the following:
American Museum of Natural History
Guggenheim Museum
Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum
Imagine That
Montclair Art Museum
Battleship New Jersey
Liberty Hall Museum
Newark Museum of Art

Digital resources are available through the website. There are book clubs, children's events (for when the grandkids come to visit), programs for adults as well as printing and faxing services.

Library hours are:

Monday through Thursday 9:30am – 9:00pm Friday 9:30am – 5:00pm Saturday 10:00am to 4:00pm Sunday 1:00pm – 4:00pm

(Hours may be subject to change due to Covid)

The library is located at 107 Ridgedale Avenue, phone is 973-377-2694 and the website is <a href="https://www.florhamparklib.org">www.florhamparklib.org</a>

Stop by and see all the library has to offer!! Masks are required!! It's free and it's local!!!



# Why I Like Retirement!

Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Two hours after he falls asleep on the

couch.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?

Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?

Answer: The term comes with a 10% discount.

Question: Among retirees, what is considered formal attire?

Answer: Tied shoes.

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?

Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?

Answer: NUTS!

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?

Answer: Normal.

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?

Answer: The never ending Coffee Break.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

Question: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with?

Answer: He is too polite to tell the whole truth.

Question: What do you do all week?

Answer: Monday through Friday, NOTHING.

Saturday & Sunday, I rest.





# Calendar of Programs and Events February 2022

Saturday	5		12		19				26 Zoom Trivia Night-	E.		Please note that some dates and times are subject to change due to current COVID	e community.
Friday	4 Walking Club –11AM		11 Walking Club –11AM	"Passion for Murder"- Murder Mystery Night- 7PM	18 Walking Club –11AM	"King Richard" Movie Night- 7PM			25 Walking Club –11AM			Please note that some dates and times a subject to change due to current COVID	restrictions within th
Thursday	3 Open Canasta- 3 PM	Poker Night-7PM	10 Open Canasta- 3 PM	Poker Night-7PM	17 Open Canasta- 3 PM	HOA Board Meeting- 5PM	AARP Zoom Live Longer, Live Smarter: Health- 7PM	Poker Night-7PM	24 Open Canasta- 3PM	Poker Night-7PM Singles Club Meet & Greet-7PM			
Wednesday	<b>2</b> Open Bridge-2PM	Zoom Meet & Greet-5PM	9 Open Bridge-2PM	Match Your Mate-7PM	16 Open Bridge-2PM	Zoom Meet & Greet-5PM	Board Game Night− 7PM		23 Open Bridge-2PM	Book Club "The Four Winds" - 7PM			
Tuesday	1 Chair Yoga-10AM	Zoom Heart Health- 1 PM	8 Chair Yoga-10AM	Open Canasta- 7PM	15 Chair Yoga-10AM	Zoom Nutrition Labels			22 Chair Yoga-10AM	Book Club "The World Played Chess" – 2PM COA Board Meeting- 5PM	Open Canasta- 7PM		
Monday			7 AED Demonstration–	10:30AM Open Mahjong –2PM	14 Valentine's Day	Walking Club-11AM			21 Presidents' Day	Walking Club –11AM Open Mahjong –2PM		28 Walking Club –11AM	Open Mahjong –2PM
Sunday			6 8 Ball Pool-1PM		13 8 B 2 11 D 2 11 D W	Super Bowl			20	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		27 8 Ball Pool-1PM	