

Del Webb®

FLORHAM PARK

Webb Happenings

Volume 6 April 2022



Spring has arrived and slowly the world is turning green again. A large part of our community is now complete and it will be a little less noisy and dusty. The sales office is gone and Applegate Drive will be extended in the near future. We can look forward to the pool being open for the entire summer. Our new management company is in place and we are moving toward the new normal at DWFP. Enjoy the longer days and the coming warmer temperatures.

Lois, Morris, Suhas, and Don

At the February 17th HomeOwners Open Board Meeting of Del Webb Florham Park, the Directors approved the following policy effective **Tuesday, March 1, 2022.**

- a) Vaccinated individuals - Mask usage optional
- b) Non Vaccinated individuals - Mask usage mandatory
- c) Food and beverages will be allowed. The beverage station will be reopened.
- d) **Clubhouse use Restricted to Residents only. No friends, No children or grandchildren.**
- e) COVID waivers required for admission to Clubhouse.
- f) Continuous monitoring of COVID situation and readjustment of rules if warranted.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Front Gate – 973-845-2098

(7AM-11PM Daily)

First Service Residential (Management Company) – 973-845-2040

[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](#)

[Authority](#) (Recycling) – 973-285-8383

Clubhouse Hours Open Daily 5AM-10PM
(subject to change)

Indoor Pool Hours 9AM-5PM Daily

First Service Residential (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

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)

Barbara Gersten

Sharyn Henslovitz

Andrea Beinhaker

Patrick Carmelengo

Cookie Lipin

Joan Cregan

Lynda Sapperstein

Michael Goldberg

Jeff Bergstein

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

Maintenance and Infrastructure Committee (COA)

Alan Abramson

Tom Cedrone

Mel Nutkis

Ken Sunberg

Del Webb Florham Park HOA Update:

MESSAGE FROM THE RESIDENT DIRECTORS

March 2022 has been an extremely busy month for your Resident Directors.

1. We welcomed First Service as our new management company and they've hit the ground running and we've seen significant improvement over our previous management company. Any resident issues, other than Home Warranty issues, should be directed to the new Community manager, Stefany Durland.
2. We terminated our existing agreements for Pool Maintenance, Gatehouse attendant and Clubhouse Janitorial services.
3. The Facilities Committee working with the board entered into new contracts for the Pool, Gate Concierge and Janitorial services, effective May 1. While we may not see significant dollar savings, we expect the quality of service to be far superior to what we have seen in the past.
4. The only remaining contract to be renegotiated is Snow Removal and that will begin in the next month or two. At this point we have either renegotiated or entered into new contracts for a majority of HOA vendors.
5. As we move closer to 75% of Closed Homes, estimated to be July, we will prepare for Transition from the Developer to the HOA and COA. More to come on this over the next few months.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

1. We have seen an increase in the number of resales and rentals of homes. In accordance with the HOA By-Laws, it is incumbent upon all residents to inform the Management Company and Board of Directors of any plan to Resale or Rent a Single Family House, Townhouse or Apartment. There are specific rules that need to be followed before a sale can be completed. Failure to do so can result in a Violation and Fine. First Service will be sending out more information on this.
2. We encourage all Residents to utilize the First Service website <https://delwebbatflorhamparkhoa.connectresident.com/> and to register their names, addresses and contact information on the site. This information will be used by the new Gate Concierge service to contact you for visitors.
3. Links to www.delwebbfp.com and the Del Webb Florham Park Facebook page can be found on the First Service website.

We are excited about the progress and feedback as we all work to build a better Del Webb Florham Park, together!

Mark Gersten
Stan Perla

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 - <https://delwebbfp.com/community-news/>

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



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.

Del Webb Florham Park COA Update:

MESSAGE FROM THE COA RESIDENT DIRECTORS

The Condominium Association's open Board meeting was held on March 22nd.

In opening remarks Stefany Durland, FSR DelWebb Property Manager, and Michael Canberg, FSR Director of Property Operations were introduced to the meeting attendees.

- The Board reported on the review of the Condominium Association draft financial statements for the year ended 2021 prepared by WilkenGuttenplan noting that no material deficiencies had been identified to date but that several adjustments are pending finalization of the report. The report will be posted to the Florham Park DelWebb community website for review by owners once it's finalized.
- The Maintenance and Infrastructure Committee and its members (Alan Abramson, Mel Nutkis, Tom Cedrone and Kenny Sunberg) were approved. Committee members are responsible for identifying, evaluating, and recommending actions regarding on-going maintenance issues as they arise both pre and post developer transition and for reviewing contracts for services provided.
- The Board approved Adamas to provide janitorial and maintenance services for the condo apartment buildings beginning May 1st replacing All Seasons maintenance, the current provider.

The next open Board meeting is scheduled for April 19th.

Alan Englander

alan@delwebbfp.com

David Fox

david@delwebbfp.com

2 Vanderbilt Townhall Meeting

A Townhall meeting for the residents of 2 Vanderbilt, the most recent condo building occupied, was held during the month to provide important information to the new resident owners, provide community updates and answer residents questions.

The meeting addressed procedures to be followed by owners to ensure that common area premises are properly maintained and reviewed the regulations impacting owners relating to storage, apartment balcony do's and don'ts, and other relevant regulations.

Based on the latest input from Pulte approximately 58% of the condo apartment buildings and 63% of townhomes have been closed to date. Current expectation is that we'll exceed 75% closings in June/July timeframe with the opening of 3 Vanderbilt which will trigger the election for two additional owner Board members.

Instructions on Using the Front Gate-After Guard Hours (11pm-7am)

A visitor should pull up to the box located right before the gate house. They should use the buttons to scroll for the first letter of your last name. Once they have found your name, they should press the call button. This will call your phone number. The phone number that will appear on your phone is 908-923-0564. Once you answer and confirm the caller, press "9" on your phone. That will open the gate. You do not have to be in your house or onsite for this to work. Please know, you are responsible for your guests while they are on the property.

ARC Committee Update:

As discussed last month, a new landscaping company has been selected to service our community. Lawns by Yorkshire was selected based upon price, references and presentation. Unlike previous contracts, this one includes mulch, planting beds and lawn care by a single vendor. Previously, we used a different contractor for mulch and another one for everything else. Combining all services contributes to a lower overall price and simplification of management.

Lawns by Yorkshire will provide planting bed maintenance for townhomes, flats and common areas. In conformance with the Public Offering Statement, this service is not included for the 104 single family homes. Single family homeowners must arrange for service or maintain these areas themselves.

We are aware of two companies that perform this service in our community. Homeowners may contact either for pricing and services. The HOA does not endorse either of these vendors. This information is being provided for your convenience. Homeowners are welcome to contact a different landscaper or do the work themselves. The contractors are:

Sweeney Landscaping - info@sweeneylandscapeservice.com

Lawns by Yorkshire - zjomides@lawnsbyyorkshire.com

Facilities Committee Update:

Spring has come, many new residents have moved in and we have a new onsite manager. First Service Residential began work on March 1st. We are very pleased to have Stefany Durland, our new property manager, on board. She has been very helpful to the committee and the community during her first few weeks on the job.

American Pool Management will be providing services for the indoor and outdoor pools and spas. They will begin work in April preparing and setting up the outdoor pool and spa with plans to have the outdoor pool and spa operational by the Memorial Day weekend. They will begin to manage the indoor pool and spa beginning May 16th. Our objective was to improve services and while reducing costs for the residents. We believe American Pool will help us achieve that goal. More information will be available as we get closer to this date.

Adamas Building Services will be providing our community with gate concierge services and clubhouse janitorial services. Adamas is another example where we are expecting improvement in the quality of the services to be offered to our community. In this case, we are also focused on improving services while managing our costs. We would like to remind the residents to continue to clean up after themselves after their use of the various facilities. Their hours, on site, are limited so please continue to keep the building as clean as possible so there are no extra expenses and the facility looks great for your neighbors.

As a resident if problems are found, such as a broken item, please report it to management. The numbers are listed in the directory. It cannot be addressed or repaired if we do not know about it.

As members of the facilities committee, we have had many requests regarding improvements to our facilities, from our fellow residents. The requests are appreciated, been helpful, they have not been ignored and all requests are taken seriously. Please remember our community is in transition and it will be three to four months until the residents have a majority on the HOA. The committee has had to prioritize each request based upon need as well as cost.

We have an exceptional community and let us all work to make it better.

Thanks,

Steve, Helen, Harry, Mark

First Service Residential Property Manager: Stefany Durland

As most of the residents already know, we have a new property management company. The on-site property manager is Stefany Durland. She will be on location five days a week and available via email.

Stefany started her career in the St. Petersburg/Tampa area of Florida. She was originally a leasing agent, promoted to assistant manager and then became a community manager. After being transferred to the New York/ New Jersey area, Stefany specialized in new construction and development. She recently joined First Service Residential and was selected to serve as our property manager. While taking on a huge task, Stefany has been busy cleaning up what was left undone by our previous management team and is moving us forward in a more organized way. Although very busy, she is available to handle the concerns of the many residents who have stopped by asking for assistance. Stefany has asked us to be patient as she tries to sort things out. If you have account related issues or general issues, Stefany is the person to see.

On a personal note, she is the mother of five children, ages 5-18 and enjoys skiing and snowboarding with them. Stefany is also a certified helicopter pilot working towards a commercial license.

Welcome to our community! We are pleased that you are here and look forward to working with you!

MONTHLY QUOTE

As the sun sets and hills grow dark, as the birdsong ends and fields fall silent, as the people laugh and take their rest, I watch. My heart hurries to the twilight gardens of Ukraine.

Taras Schevchenko

Ukrainian poet

MONTHLY HUMOR

A bank is a place where they lend you an umbrella in fair weather and ask for it back when it rains!



ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Since we on the communications/newsletter committee haven't received any personal updates from residents as to birthday/anniversary or other family milestones, we are asking for other news. Shy? Don't be!!

Perhaps you have an interesting travel story, or one related to your occupation – maybe something that might be humorous or informative. Have you dined at a restaurant that you especially liked – or didn't? Please feel free to write about it and submit it to one of the committee members.

Don Hoffmann (sailcapeco@aol.com), Morris Glazer (401kman@gmail.com), Suhas Ketkar (slketkar@gmail.com) and Lois Livreri (lois41783@gmail.com)

FROM THE DW LENDING LIBRARY...

Thanks so much for your continued support to stock the Lending Library. As the community grows in population, our library does the same...hence, we limit the donations to the copyright date of 2012 or newer. Additional information about the library can be found at the library desk. By the way, the following locations accept used books:

Thrift Barns of Morris County – www.thriftbarnsofmorriscounty.wordpress.com

The Bargain Barn – 18 Pocono Road, Denville



APRIL FOOL'S – THIS IS NO JOKE!!!!

My first recollection of April Fool's Day was when I was a little kid – I used to put marbles in my dad's shoes!! I would wait and hide while watching him put his feet in the shoes and then jump out and yell "April fool!!". How did I know that this was a day for pranks? Well - here's the story:

A vain cock was fooled by a fox in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales in 1392 when it was referring to The Nun's Priest's Tale. The actual date has been in dispute, but the consensus is believed to be April 1st. It is said in 1561 a French nobleman sent his servants on foolish errands. In Great Britain, people were tricked into entering the Tower of London. Other sources cite the bible when Noah sent the "dove out of the ark before the water had abated" on April 1st.



Many European countries adopted the ritual of doing silly pranks and shouting out "April Fool!" as they laughed at the recipient. In Scotland the day was known as Huntigowk Day which is meant to designate a foolish person (or a cuckoo). It is a long tradition in Poland to perform hoaxes upon people – even by well-respected institutions. Several countries in Scandinavia would publish a false story on April 1st. The day is known as "April Fish Day" in Italy, France and Belgium where the pranks often include fish. False newspaper stories are also printed. In Ukraine (although unlikely this year), April Fool's Day is celebrated in Odessa and has the special name of Humorina. Participants dress up in funny clothing, walk around the city as they make fun of other people passing by shouting out "I trust nobody". The day is acknowledged in most Spanish-speaking countries, Israel and Lebanon as well.

A several-page issue of the Bawl Street Journal made its rounds among brokerage firms on Wall Street - satire, irony and humor throughout!!

As recently as last year, the Thailand police warned that any fake online posting would lead to imprisonment.

This ritual of pranks has not been without controversy. In 1957 the BBC broadcast a program stating that farmers had harvested spaghetti and were selling the plant. Dozens of requests were received until the BBC had to inform the public that it was merely a joke. As a result of this "spaghetti-tree hoax" newspapers and other media have been more cautious in their issuances of pranks. On the one hand, these jokes provided humor and laughter which relieve stress. On the other hand, some were thought to be nasty and manipulative. On April 1st, 2011 Isaiah Thomas was reported to be declared for the NBA draft (not true). In 2009 it was announced that the popular soap opera Guiding Light was to be canceled (not true).

There are those who believed these as well as other hoaxes were true and mass confusion set in. So – the lesson is this – beware!! Not everything you may see or hear on the first day of April will be true!!! Maintain your sense of humor and keep a smile on your face!!!!

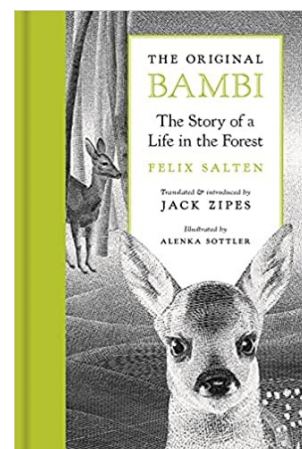
APRIL FOOL!!!

April Book Club

Join us at the clubhouse for our monthly book club discussions. Book club will be held the last Wednesday of each month at 7PM . This month it will be on April 27th at 7PM.

This month's book:

The Original Bambi: The Story of a Life in the Forest by Felix Salten



The Sales Center



Where it all began for most of us.

The Sales Center being torn down in late March to add additional parking, extend Applegate Drive and Del Webb Blvd. The Sales Team can now be found in 1 Hadley at the Arcola Model.

Bingo Night:

Over 70 residents came out to enjoy a night of prize bingo , coffee and desserts with neighbors.



The Clubhouse and community are full of life. As restrictions have began to change around the clubhouse we were able to hold long awaited events with food, drinks, socializing and more. The Social Committee is busy planning the next few months ahead including a Beatles Tribute Show, Comedy Night, Memorial Day BBQ, a spring golf outing, shows and events in nearby Morristown and much more. We look forward to continuing to educate the community through a variety of lectures, presentations and classes. Keep checking the weekly activity emails for more information and details on what is happening.



Bagels and Coffee Social: On a snowy, Saturday morning in March more than 100 residents enjoyed a light breakfast, and socializing at the clubhouse.



Girls Night Out: Wine, light snacks beautiful décor, and more were enjoyed at our first Girls Night Out. Over 105 were in attendance to socialize during the early evening event. Thank you to all who assisted in making this event such a success!

St. Patrick's Day Dinner:

60 residents enjoyed traditional Irish dishes like Corned Beef and Cabbage, Sheppard's Pie, Irish Soda Bread, Guinness, dessert and more. We look forward to holding more themed dinner events in the social room in the future.



Mah Jong Outside in March!

One sign that warmer days are ahead. A group of Mah Jong players enjoying the patio on a nice, sunny day.



Who is bluffing?

A group of residents enjoying the poker table in the game room. Stop by on Thursday nights to check out the group.

FUN FACTS FOR APRIL

1513 – Spanish explorer Ponce de Leon sighted Florida and landed at what is now St. Augustine

1775 – The midnight ride of Paul Revere and William Dawes attempted to warn the patriots of the approaching British

1792 – Congress established the first US Mint in Philadelphia

1806 – Major earthquake at San Francisco led to fires and destruction of over 10,000 acres of property and 4000 lives were lost

1828 – Noah Webster published the *American Dictionary of the English Language*

1860 – First Pony Express service began in Missouri – letters were delivered to California within 10 days – service lasted under 2 years

1861 – Civil War began after Confederates opened fire at Fort Sumter in Charleston, SC

1864 – *In God We Trust* was included on all US coins

1865 – General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant in Appomattox Court House – President Abraham Lincoln was shot and killed shortly thereafter at Ford's Theater in Washington DC

1887 – Anne Sullivan conveyed the meaning of the word "water" to Helen Keller

1896 – After a gap of 1500 years, the first Olympic games was held in Athens, Greece

1897 – First Boston Marathon took place on Patriot's Day – John McDermott of New York won with a time of 2:55:10

1912 – The "unsinkable" Titanic struck an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland and sank killing over 1500 people

1913 – 17th Amendment was ratified requiring senators to be elected by the people rather than chosen by the legislature

1917 – United States entered World War I in Europe

1943 – Jews in the Warsaw ghetto staged an armed revolt against the Nazis

1947 – Jackie Robinson became the first African-American Major League Baseball player

1948 – President Harry Truman signed the European Recovery Program (Marshall Plan) - Palestinian Jews declared independence from Britain and formed the state of Israel – US was the first country to officially recognize it

1949 – North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was established after 12 countries signed the treaty

1961 – Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human being in space – Disastrous attempt to overthrow Fidel Castro failed at the Bay of Pigs

1968 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee leading to the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 by President Lyndon B. Johnson

1970 – Apollo 13 was launched from Cape Kennedy and splashed down safely after a perilous 6 day flight

1982 – Falkland Islands War began as Argentinian troops invaded and occupied the British colony

April Fun Facts Continued.....

1986 – Explosion at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine caused meltdown of nuclear fuel and a radioactive cloud was formed in the atmosphere covering most of Europe

1995 – Car-bombing in Oklahoma City destroyed a federal building killing 168 people

1998 – Politicians in Northern Ireland reached an agreement ending years of violence (*The Troubles*) – *Protestants and Catholics would govern together*

1999 – School shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado

Ramadan begins at sundown April 2

Passover begins at sundown April 15

Easter Sunday April 17

Income Taxes due April 18

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly of Spring

Spring began this year with the vernal equinox on March 20th. Warmer weather and increased daylight hours make it the best season. Exposure to sunlight apparently increases the hormone serotonin in the brain and makes us feel happy. So, in the words of Bobby McFerrin, “Don’t Worry, Be Happy” this Spring, particularly because the deadly Corona virus variant seems to be in retreat. Spring brings growth – plants and lawns turn green, trees suddenly have leaves, flowers bloom, fruits and vegetables sprout, many species of birds reverse the winter migration pattern and return north, and animals reproduce in large numbers.

The sudden increase in animals, however, is not restricted to chickens, calves, and wildlife. All kinds of insects also surface in large numbers following winter hibernation. While they all have a role to play in the ecosystem, who wants them crawling in our homes? I have found that spraying Ortho Home Defense (toxic) around the perimeter of the house and Mighty Mint Insect and Pest Control (non-toxic) inside the house constitute an effective barrier to insect invasion. Yet another hitch in the bright Spring season is the April 18 deadline for filing taxes. But this should be a minor issue for most residents in our community who are likely to have tax accountants filing their returns, unless of course you need to write a big check to Uncle Sam!

The big bane or the ugly associated with Spring is the onset of the allergy season. As flowers bloom, allergies flare. Trees and plants produce high levels of pollen as they grow again after being dormant during the winter months. Allergy symptoms include runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, watery eyes, sinus congestion, sore throat, post-nasal drip, headaches, cough, and itchy nose and throat. Seasonal allergies reportedly affect at least 35 million Americans. Luckily, most allergies are mild and can be controlled with over-the-counter medications, such as Zyrtec or Benadryl.

Yet another ugly feature of Spring is the rise in crime, particularly violent crime. My casual observation had led me to believe that many crazies come out of the woodwork following long winter hibernation to commit violent crime. I decided to check out my hunch by examining the long-term data on mass shootings (defined as incidents with four or more fatalities) compiled by Mother Jones. There were 40 mass shootings in the United States over a ten-year period between 2012 and 2021. Of these, 19 occurred during March, April, and May; a whopping 48%. We can only hope and pray that crime, which shot up during the pandemic, will subside in 2022

Notwithstanding more words devoted to the bad and the ugly than the good of Spring in this note, we welcome and celebrate its arrival. After all, nature is at its best in Spring, thereby allowing reaffirmation and renewal of life itself.

Home Care Contractors

Home maintenance is always a concern of homeowners. Whether we have an emergency situation, a regular maintenance need, or a desire to renovate, selection of the right contractor is important. We have put together a list of local businesses that our neighbors have used successfully in the past. We would like to update this list as we move forward. Please send along any names that we can add next month.

Electricians

1. DeLuca Electric 732 381 6262
2. Jason Klein Electrical Contractors 908 391 4305
3. Sergio 973 296 7859
4. Mar Jen Electric 973 377 9131
5. Zinc karat Electrical Ben 973 288 1901

Plumbers

1. Russo Brothers and Company 973 887 1334
2. K. Hoeler 973 882 2803
3. The Real McCoy 973 900 3139

HVAC

1. Ron Jon 973 560 9198

Handyman

1. Michael Turner 973 885 6714
2. Tom Budes a 973-666-1708

Landscape

1. Cardinal Landscape 862 204 9428

General Contractors

1. McMahon Construction 973 948 2356
2. Michael Finelli 973 914 2437

Painters

1. Hue Strong Painting 908 688 2586

Vent Cleaning

1. Crystal Clean 866 837 2662

Storage and Home Organization

1. Tailored Living 917 848 1125
2. Closets to Adore 973-355-7848

Interior Design

1. Mason Barrister Inc. 973 509 3000



DID YOU KNOW???

We always didn't have an Earth Day!

It all began during a UNESCO conference in San Francisco in 1969 as a result of the widespread interest in preserving our planet and to show support for environmental protection. At first it was proposed that we hold it on the first day of spring which would have been in March the following year. Secretary General U Thant of the UN became involved as did US Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin. Added attention was brought to the public via Rachel Carson's book, *Silent Spring*. The young activist and Harvard graduate student Denis Hayes was the coordinator of a nationwide "teach-in" and became instrumental in expanding the event worldwide involving 141 countries. In 1970 more than 20 million people came out of their homes and offices onto the streets to show their support. We now celebrate Earth Day every April 22.

The name "Earth Day" was selected by a Madison Avenue mogul Julien Koenig who proffered various ideas. Some were "Ecology Day", "Environment Day", "E-Day" and "Earth Day". He finally chose the latter because April 22 was his birthday and "birthday" rhymed with "Earth Day". Hayes agreed and Earth Day was created!! An advertising blitz followed and soon millions of people became aware of it and celebrated it.



Did You Know? Earth Day Cont.

Walt Kelly, the cartoonist/creator of Pogo, on a poster promoting the first Earth Day in 1970, featured the character saying “we have met the enemy and he is us”. In the over 50 years since its inception, environmental groups have sought to make this special day one to bring about change to human behavior and provoke changes in public policy.

Earth Day 2016 was the historic date on which the Paris Agreement was signed by the United States as well as 122 other nations – each promising to adhere to the climate protection treaty.

Since Earth Day was established scores of communities throughout the world engage in activities. Although every Earth Day focuses on protecting the planet and fighting climate change, each year there are themes – this year’s theme is Invest in our Planet. The main idea is “accelerating solutions to combat our greatest threat, climate change and to activate everyone – governments, citizens and businesses – to do their part”. Observers are encouraged to “recognize our collective responsibility and to help accelerate the transition to an equitable, prosperous green economy for all”.

New Jersey-Plastic Bag Ban Begins May 4th

-Beginning May 4th, Single Use Plastic Bags like the ones found at grocery stores and retail stores will be banned in New Jersey.

-The ban doesn’t cover is single-use plastic bags that you buy. Garbage bags, pet waste bags, and Ziploc-style bags are all still allowed in New Jersey

-Paper bags will also be discontinued in grocery stores.

-More information and exemptions can be found on the State website <https://www.nj.gov/dep/get-past-plastic/> or <https://www.nj.com/business/2022/03/what-you-need-to-know-before-njs-bag-ban-strictest-in-the-nation-takes-effect.html>

KUGEL RECIPE

Kugel is basically a sweet baked noodle pudding that is traditionally served at Jewish holidays, most often at Passover.

Ingredients:

Butter for greasing the pan
16 oz. wide egg noodles
5 large eggs
½ c melted butter
16 oz. sour cream
8 oz. cottage cheese
¾ c sugar
½ tsp cinnamon
1 c golden raisins

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees
Grease 9"x13" baking dish
In large pot of boiling water, cook noodles until al dente (about 5 minutes), drain
In large bowl mix together eggs, butter, sour cream, cottage cheese, raisins, sugar and cinnamon
Stir in noodles
Pour into baking dish and bake until set, about 1 hour
Slice and enjoy!!



What Is Passover (Pesach)?

The eight-day Jewish holiday (7 days in Israel) of Passover is celebrated in the early spring, from the 15th through the 22nd of the Hebrew month of Nissan, April 15 - 23, 2022. Passover (Pesach) commemorates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. Pesach is observed by avoiding leaven (bread), and highlighted by the Seder meals that include four cups of wine, eating matzah and bitter herbs, and retelling the story of the Exodus.

In Hebrew it is known as Pesach (which means “to pass over”), because God passed over the Jewish homes when killing the Egyptian firstborn on the very first Passover eve.

As told in the Bible, after many decades of slavery to the Egyptian pharaohs, during which time the Israelites were subjected to backbreaking labor and unbearable horrors, God saw the people’s distress and sent Moses to Pharaoh with a message: “Send forth My people, so that they may serve Me.” But despite numerous warnings, Pharaoh refused to heed G-d’s command. G-d then sent upon Egypt ten devastating plagues, afflicting them and destroying everything from their livestock to their crops.

At the stroke of midnight of 15 Nissan in the year 2448 from creation (1313 BCE), God visited the last of the ten plagues on the Egyptians, killing all their firstborn. While doing so, God spared the children of Israel, “passing over” their homes—hence the name of the holiday. Pharaoh’s resistance was broken, and he virtually chased his former slaves out of the land. The Israelites left in such a hurry, in fact, that the bread they baked as provisions for the way did not have time to rise. Six hundred thousand adult males, plus many more women and children, left Egypt on that day and began the trek to Mount Sinai and their birth as God’s chosen people.

MATZO – A MAINSTAY OF PASSOVER

Matzo is an unleavened flatbread made from flour and water. The flour can be from whole or processed grains, but it must be either wheat, spelt, barley, rye or oat. Matzo plays a significant role during the Passover festival when chametz (which is leaven and five grains that, according to Jewish Law, can be leavened) is forbidden. The tradition refers to the story of the exodus of the Jews from Egypt when the departing families had to leave their homes before their bread had time to rise. Aron Streit, the founder of Streit’s, was in the matzo business most of his life. He and his wife Nettie arrived in the United States from Austria in the 1890’s. Like many Jewish immigrants, they maintained the Old World traditions in their new homeland, hosting Friday night Sabbath dinners. Another tradition Aron brought with him was his knowledge and ability to make matzo.

Aron founded his first matzo company with a business associate, Rabbi Weinberger, in 1916. The location of Aron’s first matzo company was on Pitt Street in the Lower East Side in New York where they made each piece of matzo by hand. By 1925, a massive increase in the Jewish population resulted in a higher demand for matzo forcing Aron to open a new matzo factory with one of his sons a few blocks away on Rivington Street. His second son joined the family enterprise as it continued to prosper. Soon they bought three adjoining properties to handle the growing business.

The 47,000 sq ft factory produced 16,000 pounds of matzo daily. By the time of its closing, two 75-foot ovens baked 900 pounds of matzo hourly. Strict kosher laws were adhered to allowing only the most religious Jews to touch the matzo dough before being baked. The baking process was under the supervision of a rabbi who ensured that it did not exceed the required eighteen minutes. If it went over the designated time limit the matzo had to be discarded. After using the same machinery for over 50 years, the equipment became slow and outdated and could not be repaired or replaced. The Rivington Street location remained until 2015 when it was sold to real estate developers.

Aron Streit died in 1937, but his family continues to operate the business, the only family-owned and operated matzo company in the United States. Noodles, soup mixes, potato products and cake mixes are sold in addition to its famous matzo. Today, Aron’s granddaughters and great-grandsons now run the company with locations in Moonachie, NJ and Orangeburg, NY.



What is Easter?

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. Easter is the fulfilled prophecy of the Messiah who would be persecuted, die for our sins, and rise on the third day ([Isaiah 53](#)). Remembering the resurrection of Jesus is a way to renew daily hope that we have victory over sin. According to the New Testament, Easter is three days after the death of Jesus on the cross.

Easter follows a period of fasting called Lent, in which many churches set aside time for repentance and remembrance. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Good Friday, the day of Jesus' crucifixion. The 40 day period was established by Pope Gregory 1 using the 40-day pattern of Israel, Moses, Elijah, and Jesus' time in the wilderness.

The week leading up to Easter is called The Holy Week, or "Passion Week", and includes Palm Sunday (the day Jesus entered Jerusalem and was celebrated), Maundy Thursday (the "Last Supper" where Jesus met with his disciples to observe Passover), and Good Friday (when Jesus would be crucified on the cross).

Easter is a very significant date within Christianity and is the foundation of the Christian faith. Jesus, the Son of God, fulfilled prophecy and through his death, has given the gift of eternal life in heaven to those who believe in his death and resurrection. Read the entire Biblical account of Resurrection Day in [Matthew 28](#), [Mark 16](#), and [Luke 24](#).

The earliest Christians celebrated the resurrection on the fourteenth of Nisan (our March-April), the date of the Jewish Passover. Jewish days were reckoned from evening to evening, so Jesus had celebrated His Last Supper the evening of the Passover and was crucified the day of the Passover. The origin of Easter started with early Christians celebrating the Passover worshiped Jesus as the Paschal Lamb and Redeemer.

The origin of some of the Gentile Christians began celebrating Easter in the nearest Sunday to the Passover since Jesus actually arose on a Sunday. This especially became the case in the western part of the Roman Empire. In Rome itself, different congregations celebrated Easter on different days! Easter falls on Sunday, April 17, 2022. Easter is celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon, the Paschal full moon, after the vernal equinox. Since the date of the vernal equinox changed from year to year, calculating the proper date can be difficult. This is still the method used to determine Easter today, which is why some years we have Easter earlier than other years.

How Does Easter Connect to Passover?

The day before his crucifixion, Jesus observed Passover with his disciples. This event is known as the Last Supper. Passover is the time that Jews remembered their freedom and exodus from Egypt. During this Passover feast, Jesus told his disciples that the bread symbolizes his body that would be broken and the wine, his blood, which would be poured out for the forgiveness of sins ([Matthew 26:17-30](#)). The Last Supper is remembered today in churches and religious services through the act of taking [Communion](#) and sharing bread and wine to remember the sacrifice of Jesus.

Clubhouse Gym Reminders

- The clubhouse gym is open daily 5AM-10PM.
- Please wipe down equipment after use with the gym wipes provided.
- Please be mindful of others working out, refrain from cell phone conversations or any loud music while working out.
- If a machine isn't working, please notify the clubhouse staff as soon as possible.
- The AED Machine is now located in the gym for easy access within the clubhouse.
- TVs can't be changed within the gym itself at this time. Each TV has a letter noted on it (A,B,C,D) and these are currently controlled by the TVs with the same letters in the game room and the kitchen side of the social room.

Taxes Anyone?

April is a great month representing the return of warmer days and more outdoor time. However, in the middle of the month, we have tax day to put a little bit of a chill on the spring mood.

This country was tax-free in its infancy because we had no federal government. Instead the colonists had to deal with the British government which imposed a variety of taxes on goods, including the infamous tea tax which led to the Boston Tea Party.

The first federal income tax came about in 1861. It was created to finance the war which had already created a debt for the Union of \$75 million dollars. As the war progressed the Union debt increased to \$500 million in 1862. This is when the Congress established the Internal Revenue Bureau, the predecessor of our IRS. A flat tax of three percent on incomes over \$600.00 and five percent over \$10,000.00 was levied. Rates were raised in 1864. It was rescinded in 1872. In 1894, Grover Cleveland pressured Congress for a new income tax. Congress passed a two percent tax on incomes over \$4000.00. This was not really a problem because less than one percent of the population met that threshold.

The constitutionality of the income tax was always in question until 1913 when the sixteenth amendment was added to the Constitution. It stated:

The Congress shall have the power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration

It was actually passed in Congress in 1909 but it was not ratified until February 3, 1913. (The required number of states had approved the addition to the Constitution.) The first 1040 form appeared in 1914 and was three pages long. The original date for filing was March 1st. In 1918, it was changed to March 15th and in 1954, it became April 15th. The Revenue Act levied a one percent tax on net personal incomes above \$3000.00, with a surtax of six percent on incomes over \$500,000.00. In 1918, the tax rate was increased to seventy seven percent on incomes over one million dollars. This was done to help finance World War I. The average rate for the rich was fifteen percent. The top tax was reduced to fifty eight percent in 1922, to twenty five percent in 1925, and finally to twenty four percent in 1929. In 1932, the top rate was increased to sixty three percent during the Great Depression. It steadily increased in 1944 to ninety four percent on income over \$200,000.00. It was during the war that Congress introduced payroll withholding and quarterly tax payments. After the war, the rate decreased to sixty three percent by 1954.

The history of our federal income tax has gotten even more complicated as the years passed. As administrations change in Washington and the economy goes through cycles, tax rates change to reflect these variables. Today, the federal income tax applies to two thirds of our population. People with lower incomes and dependents pay no income taxes.

And then we do have the State of New Jersey Income Tax

The state personal income tax was enacted in 1976 during the administration of Governor Brendan Byrne. It's revenues were, by constitutional amendment, dedicated to support public schools and to provide property tax relief. It originally functioned with only two tax rates: two percent levied on income under \$20,000.00, and 2.5 percent on income over \$20,000.00. Over the years rates changed and they now range from 1.4 percent to 10.75 percent. The highest rate would be applied to all earnings over \$5 million.

The proceeds from this tax automatically go into a special account in the budget's General Fund. It is called the Property Tax Relief Fund. Funds are used to support direct-relief programs, such as Homestead and Senior Freeze reimbursements. They also are directed to K-12 education, county colleges, and teacher pensions.

Although we have this state income tax, New Jersey has the unenviable distinction of having the highest property taxes in the country. Oh well!!!!

And we have some special taxes that have been added over the years.

1. Estate tax- 1797- It was created to fund the US Navy. It was repealed and reinstated as needed to fund wars.
2. 1916 – Modern estate tax
3. 1924-Gift tax



Taxes Cont.

4. 1921-Sales tax created in West Virginia. Eleven other states followed by 1930, and by 1940, 18 additional states had a sales tax.
5. 1935- The Social Security Act was passed. It was finally collected in 1937 and benefits were paid starting in January 1940.
6. 1978- Alternative Minimum Tax
7. Sin taxes were added over the years on such products as tobacco and alcohol.
8. 1932- Gas Tax
9. 1913-Capital Gains taxes
10. 1936-Dividend taxes

HOW ARE THOSE NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS DOING??

If you're beginning to notice that the resolutions and goals you made at the start of the year have taken a back seat, you're not alone. According to a survey referenced in [The New York Times](#), one-third of people don't make it past the end of January with their New Year's resolutions. Between work, family life and other daily tasks, there are a number of reasons why those resolutions could fall flat. Fortunately, there's still plenty of time to get back on track, and the steps below can help you do just that!

1. Simplify Your Goals

Rather than taking on a robust resolution that might be a bit tough to tackle, try breaking that resolution down into smaller, simpler steps. If one of your goals is to eat healthy by [cutting carbs](#), sugar and processed foods, consider starting with dinner and working your way up to an entire day of healthy eating.

2. Track Your Progress

Not only does tracking the progress of your resolutions on a weekly (or even monthly) basis help to keep you actively pursuing your goals, it serves as a frequent reminder of what those resolutions are. From dedicated apps to progress journals, there are a number of convenient ways to track your resolutions.

3. Reassess Your Resolutions

Sometimes, what may have been a priority in early January may not be quite as high on your list of goals weeks down the road. If you're faltering at your resolutions — and you find that scheduling, motivation and other potential factors aren't the culprit — you should take time to reassess your resolutions. Keep in mind that resolutions aren't set in stone and if you need to tweak your goals to better fit your life, that's absolutely fine.

4. Share Your Resolutions With Friends

Accountability is a great way to keep to your New Year's resolutions. And if you need a little help sticking to the resolutions you started at the top of the year, consider recruiting the help of a friend who is also working toward a resolution. Together, you can keep each other accountable for your goals, share your progress and even celebrate your wins.

5. Give Yourself A Pat On The Back

It's OK to celebrate small victories every now and then, and that's especially true with resolutions. Whether you're celebrating shaving a minute off of the average time of your weekly walk or you're entering your third month on a keto diet, find a special way to celebrate. Treat yourself to a yoga session instead of your usual walk or indulge in a favorite snack.

6. Expect The Unexpected

Regardless of the type of resolutions you have, there's always the potential for unexpected roadblocks to get in the way. These obstacles can be a minor injury that puts you on the sidelines or a dinner that lacks options that fit your diet. But if you plan ahead, these obstacles can be less of a hindrance to your goals.

Calendar of Programs and Events April 2022



Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Please note that some dates and times are subject to change due to current COVID restrictions within the community.		3 4 Walking Club- 11AM Open Mahjong –2PM 8 Ball Pool-7:30PM March Madness Final-9PM		5 Open Canasta- 7PM		6 Open Bridge-2PM Happy Hour Yoga– 5PM		7 Open Canasta– 10AM Estate and Asset Planning Program – 12PM Poker Night-7PM Master Gardener Zoom Presentation-7PM		8 Walking Club –11AM 	