



Vintages



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Editor: Gail Knight

June 2020

FOUR SEASONS AT CHESTER OBSERVES MEMORIAL DAY



At noon on Monday, May 25, 2020 Tom and Robin Morley conducted a military ceremony to honor our veterans. The bell tolling ceremony followed a military tradition used at funerals. A bell was rung/tolled 7 times with 7 seconds in between each toll.

The seven tolls represent the Seven Stages in a Veteran's Life.

- ♦ Toll #1 The Choice to Serve (willingness to serve)
- ♦ Toll #2 Camaraderie (friendships)
- ♦ Toll #3 Patriotism (pride in Country)
- ♦ Toll #4 Respect (given by Community)
- ♦ Toll #5 Dignity (with which the community treats their fallen hero)
- ♦ Toll #6 Honor (Honor that is due a veteran)
- ♦ Toll #7 The Value of Life (the ultimate sacrifice that a veteran has made)

Tom concluded the ceremony by playing The Parting Glass as recorded by Face.

Rich Dishinger then raised the US Flag from half mast to full mast and again at the clubhouse.

The 50 residents attending (proper social distancing observed) were very moved.

NOTE: The community thanks the resident(s) who supplied the replacement flag that is flying proudly from the flagpole by the gazebo.



THANK YOU

Tim Stewart
for the Board

We are all affected by the unfortunate circumstances of the pandemic. Thankfully, our community has fared well through the past 10 weeks. Sure, we lost much of our Spring, (but, to be honest, until recently, the weather was not very appealing). Through the lockdown, we all cleaned out closets, finished projects and took vacation in the basement. Now, New Jersey is moving through the stages of reopening and the weather is terrific! We all got through this with minimal problems.

Many thanks to:

-Dr. George Kline for helping the Board understand the risks and for distributing information electronically to residents.

-Valerie Kent, Betty Busciglio and Martha Hatch with help from several other residents kept up-to-date with as many residents as possible to assure they were well and that the community could respond if anything was needed.

-Michelle Off made masks

-Attila Toth delivered food.

-Several owners volunteered to help neighbors and everyone checked in with each other.

We are proud of our community and are pleased that everyone seems to have done a lot of walking and weathered the lockdown.

Well Done!



CLUBHOUSE AND POOL UPDATE

Unfortunately they are both closed and we still don't know when they will open.

Opening will be determined by the rules put in place by the State, the Municipality and insurance.

Mark Your Calendars

Thursday, June 11, 2020 Annual Meeting

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 Open Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 Open Board Meeting

OWNER GARDEN REVIEWS

Our annual Owner garden Surveys will be conducted in July.

A significant part of the beauty of our community is because of the gardens by your home.

We are proud of the flowers and plants in these gardens and the fun you have with them.

PRIMARY ELECTION: JULY 7, 2020

VOTE BY MAIL INFORMATION

Diana Schlesinger

As of now, the New Jersey Primary election is still scheduled for July 7, 2020.

You may wish to skip the trip to the polls, and vote by mail. While NJ does not have a huge Vote by Mail system, voters can request and use an absentee ballot without providing a reason why one is needed. An absentee ballot must be requested using a form available on the Internet.



The website is **www.morriscountyclerk.org**.

Choose "Elections" from the menu at the top of the site.

Then Choose "Vote by Mail" from the menu on the right hand side.

Step 1 is a link to the "Mail-In Ballot Application".

Print it, complete it, and mail it in. Our printer did it two-sided so it looks like a ready-to-mail folder.

Please note in the directions, once you apply for an absentee ballot, you MUST use that. You will NOT be allowed to vote in person.

If you have any issues obtaining or printing the "Application for Vote by Mail" you can contact me and I will leave one in your mailbox.

Diana Schlesinger

12 Wyckoff Way

dschles@comcast.net

BOOK CLUB READING LIST

Submitted by Lisa Resnick

The following is the Four Seasons book club list.
There are no set meeting dates scheduled at this time.

The Long Petal of the Sea by Isabel Allende

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins

A Bookshop In Berlin: The Rediscovered Memoir Of One Woman's Harrowing Escape from the Nazis by Francoise Frenkle



WHO WAS THAT GAL LUCY PAGE MERCER?

Tom Morley

WHAT DOES SHE HAVE TO DO WITH NJ RT 80, EXIT 19?

Lucy was born 4/26/1891 in Washington D.C. the daughter of wealthy and well-connected parents. Her father had fought with Teddy Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders" in the Cuban Campaign. Unfortunately, the family lost their fortune in the Financial Panic of 1893 (a post war railroad boom that triggered a bank failure), Lucy's parents separated, and her mother Minnie raised both Lucy and her sister.

Lucy worked in a dress shop in DC as a young girl and was later hired in 1914 (23 years old) by Eleanor Roosevelt as her Social Secretary. In 1917 and as the WW1 was underway, Lucy enlisted in the US Navy and was assigned to FDR's overseas Office. Franklin was Assistant Secretary to the Navy at this time.

Lucy and Franklin continued to see each other privately which caused widespread gossip in D.C. A daughter of Teddy and a cousin of Eleanor, Alice Longworth, encouraged the affair and had them to dinner often. Upon Franklin's return from overseas, Eleanor, while helping FDR unpack, found letters from Lucy in the suitcase. This ended in spirit the marriage of Eleanor and Franklin. They lived in separate houses and Eleanor soon became very active in the public doing social work.

Lucy left D.C. after the incident and became the governess for the children of Winthrop Rutherford, a wealthy New York socialite and one of NY's most eligible bachelors. A year and a half later, Lucy became Winthrop's second wife (2/11/20). They had one daughter together and were married for 24 years before Winthrop's death in 1944. Their country manor is on the southside of Exit 19 on NJ Rt 80, less than a half hour from here. I will suggest later a lovely local tour which you can do in your car to see the country manor, their chapel in the woods, the railroad depot building to which FDR directed the Secret Service direct the train for a visit with Lucy, and the family burial plot with a 20' statue of an angel carved by David French who also was responsible for carving the Statue of Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial.

The Rutherfurds, sometimes spelled Rutherford, were wealthy settlers in America who came from Scotland in the early seventeenth century. They settled in Bergen County and Rutherford, NJ is named after the family. Another family who were part of the very early settlers would be the Stuyvesant's from the Netherlands. Famous among the Stuyvesant's is "Peg Leg Pete" or, as we know him, Peter Stuyvesant (1592-1672), the Colonial General of Dutch Territory between the Delaware Bay and the Connecticut River which included what is New Jersey and Manhattan today. ("Peg Leg Pete" did lose a leg in an earlier battle on the Continent.) That two families married into each other throughout the many years is evident by the tomb stones at their family gravesites.

As the years went by, Franklin would visit Lucy in Allamuchy, NJ (Exit 19) by train on his way home to Hyde Park, NY. FDR's car was on board and he would drive alone from the depot. I know a local farmer who as a teenager worked on the grounds and told me he saw FDR on many occasions. Lucy was invited to FDR's last two inaugurals. After Winthrop's death, Lucy began to see more of FDR and was present when he had his fatal stroke at Warm Springs, GA in April of 1945. Lucy died of leukemia at the age of 57 on July 31, 1948 and is buried with her husband in the family plot in Green Village, NJ just 5 miles from Exit 19. FDR referred to Lucy as "the only woman I ever loved".



Lucy Page Mercer, circa 1915
Born April 26, 1891
Died July 31, 1948 (aged 57)

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Self-Tour:

1) Rutherford Hall: Rt 206W to Rt 80W to Exit 19 "Hackettstown, Allamuchy". Left on Rt 517 at the bottom of the exit and over Rt 80 to the first driveway on your left past the stop lights. Rutherford Hall is past the modern school building. Look for historical markers along the way.



Rutherford Hall

2) Yellow Depot Station: Leave driveway and make a right back over Rt 80 and a left past the lights into Allamuchy. Bear leftish in town and straight out Rt 602 for a mile. The Depot and historical sign, which are on the right, will describe the FDR visit.

3) Country Chapel. Back into Allamuchy, bear rightish up to the signal light, Left onto Rt 517 for 100 yards, look for only street on your right, Puffer Road, go up road and visit chapel.

4) The Family Graves. Back down Puffer, Right on to Rt 517 for about 3 miles, look for graveyard and church on your left, go up that street for a mile and look for Maple lane on your left. Left there and left into the Cemetery. Go straight, past circle and first left. Statue and graves at end. You will not find Lucy or her husband among the Rutherfurds/Stuyvesants!!!!?? Now turn completely around and look back on the left about 50 feet where there is a 5' white cross. There you will find Lucy, Winthrop, and the children's graves.

Enjoy the tour!

CHESTER LIBRARY VIRTUAL ADULT PROGRAMS FOR JUNE 2020

6/2 - Virtual Book Club: Share What You Are Reading!	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
6/2 Great Decisions Discussion Group	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
6/11 - Singing Bowls Meditation with Miriam Rosenberg	2:00 PM – 2:45 PM
6/11 - Author Talk with Barbara Probst	4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
6/16 Author Talk with Anna Penenberg	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
6/18 Virtual Learning: 10 Things to know about Forgery	4:00 PM - 5:00PM

Register for all programs at
chesterlib.org

Need Help? Contact Donnella Tilery
donnella.tilery@chesterlib.org



COMMUNITY PROBLEMS / QUESTIONS ?

Taylor Management, as our property management firm, creates our work orders and interfaces with contractors about any questions regarding landscaping, maintenance or other problems in the community.

When you have any questions or concerns, please remember to email Dan Fitzpatrick at dan@taylormgt.com or Daniela DeVries at ddevries@taylormgt.com or call them at 973-267-9000 Dan (x304) or Daniela (x316).

Visit our Community Website: www.fourseasonschester.com

Four Seasons at Chester is on Facebook

Dan Hartman has put Four Seasons activities on Facebook.

All you need to do to participate is have a Facebook account and become a friend of "Four Seasons at Chester"

WHO'S WHO?

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President - Tim Stewart (2022)
Vice Pres./Facility - Mike Pelepshin (2021)
Secretary - Karen Newhouse (2021)
Treasurer - Hector Garcia (2022)
Amenities - Steve Schlesinger (2023)

COMMITTEES

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Marie & Charlie Bryant
Jim Daly
Diana & Steve Schlesinger

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Bob Duffy
Ray Lanza
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Gail Knight, Supplies
Betsey Garcia, Supplies
Lynne Melillo, Holiday Decor
Joel Melillo, Exercise Equipment
Library - Rosanne Palamaro
Barbara Newcomb, Advisor

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Debbie Omansky
Peter Spera

Facilities

Colleen Hartman
Fred Karasek
Bob Reigrod
Steve Schlesinger

Finance Advisory Group

John Fuss
Ray McCann
Betsy Mintz

Insurance Advisor

Rick Resnick

Landscaping & Trees

Chris Biava
Herb Maiwaldt
Sylvia McBrinn
Robin Morely
Diana Schlesinger

Pool

Greg Faughnan
Bruce Goldstein
Steve Hansbury
Lynne Melillo,
Louise Saliceti

SUPPORT COMMITTEES

Caring & Newcomers

Valerie Kent, Chair
Betty Busciglio, Co-chair
Martha Hatch, Welcomer

Directory

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Gail Knight, printed

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Barbara Stewart
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Vintages

Gail Knight - Editor
The Klines - Backup

Information Distribution

George Kline, Email
Karen Shuffler, Flyers

EMERGENCIES

Dan Fitzpatrick, Property Manager -
EMERGENCIES ONLY 973-479-3958

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Located in the fitness center at the
Clubhouse — Call 911