THE MOORINGS AT LEWES

THE FREE PRESS

The Moorings at Lewes Residents Association

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Retiring President's address.

This is the last THE FREE PRESS that my picture will grace so it seems an appropriate time to thank all those who got me through my term as TMALRA president.

In an earlier THE FREE PRESS I expressed confidence in all TMALRA committee chairs and, for once, I was proved to be right. They have served very well. The immediate future will present challenges to their successors. Changes are occurring that might affect how they carry out their roles. The obvious thing to deal with is the construction project and the addition of many more folks in independent living. Changes that have occurred in Springpoint's involvement in the way we live will require attention and active involvement. TK's resurrection of the Resident Life committee offers opportunities to keep Springpoint sensitive to what the residents want and enjoy.

When I became president, the Live Well program was essentially moribund and now we have Linda Wilmont working hard to make it effective. The change in dining services is hard to describe but it seems that residents' insistent complaints in the early months of Morrison's involvement helped drive dramatic improvement.

Maintaining the balance between our desire to be treated as independent residents and management's tendency to think of us as nursing home patients will require continuing involvement and interaction between management and residents. May both groups commit to a condition where the needs of each are understood by the other and given the attention they deserve.

Ed Steiner

It's a free country! and you are free to come in and apply for a permit.

-- Garrison Keillor

Never make someone a priority when all you are to them is an option.

-- Maya Angelou

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TMALRA Free Press (Printed Quarterly)

Copy Editor	Rebecca Brenner
Proofreader	Lana Richards
Layout	David Bleil
Distribution	Joanne Nichols

Board Mtgs	2nd Monday
General Mtgs	3rd Monday



Who is who at the Moorings

Rev. Rebecca Brenner

Perhaps you've encountered this young lady (young for The Moorings, that is) at a committee meeting, or a church service, or Happy Hour, and been uncertain who she is with such energy. In case you did not know, it is Rebecca Brenner.

Born and raised in the eastern Pennsylvania town of Arcola, Rebecca describes her parents: her father a professor at Drexel and metal sculptor, and her mother, a nurse, as Bohemians. Rebecca studied Greek and the history of religion at Bryn Mawr College and went to work in Health Claim Management and Expense Accounting at Prudential Insurance Company, and later as a consultant to small group employers at The Becker Co.

With some encouragement exploring her sense of call, in 1983 Rebecca returned to school at Princeton Seminary and also gained some experience as summer pastor at Marlboro Meetinghouse (VT, 1985 & 1986). Master's degree (Divinity) in hand, she was ordained and became Pastor of the United Church of Christ (UCC) in Jim Thorpe, PA from 1986–1991, Co–pastor at Allegheny UCC and Wyomissing UCC near Reading, PA from 1992–2005, and Pastor at St. Paul's UCC in Pottstown, PA from 2005–2016.

After twelve years at St. Paul's, Rebecca retired from full–time ministry, and wondered what might be next. Her continuing desire to nurture others led her to accept a position as part–time chaplain at a CCRC, Phoebe Berks Village, in Wernersville, PA. With a good feeling for CCRC's resulting from her exposure to older people throughout her ministry, and helpful guidance from a friend that Delaware was a good place to live in retirement, Rebecca searched the Internet and found The Moorings. Several sessions with Karen Kerstetter settled the deal.

Living here in Lewes with her feline family pets, Zora and Liam, Rebecca has continued her mission to nurture others. She is among the cadre of volunteer retired clergy at St. Peter's Church in Lewes, and leads several regular services as well as a couple of small groups there. Here at The Moorings, she has led the Annual Memorial Service for residents who passed the previous year, and occasional on–site memorial gatherings. She is also registered to officiate at weddings in Sussex County, and has done a few, the most interesting at the Lewes Historical Society campus. In addition, Rebecca has been a major contributor to the TMALRA Program Committee, being a most efficient secretary as well as the protem chair and a member of the TMALRA board for one year. She also oversees the non–Quaker materials in the Quiet Room Library, is the "sweep" (a biking technical term for the one that rides last) for the Recyclers, serves as Copy Editor for the quarterly newsletter, and recently began offering a Chen style Tai Chi (adapted for seniors!) class.

After almost 6 years in residence here, Rebecca says this is the best retirement move she could have made. The first town, first state is her "last stop."

We are very fortunate to be able to call Rebecca Brenner our fellow resident.

Gil Kaufman

With great power...comes a great need to take a nap.
Wake me later!
--Rick Riordan

Did you know?

Your library card gives you perks!

• If you can't find it in our library, take advantage of The Moorings bus going to Lewes Library twice a month.

• Reserve books at the Delaware Library Catalog to pick up at the Lewes Library.

• Choose music discs of many genres.

• Reserve large print books (many more than we have).

• Reserve DVDs.

• Choose from dozens of puzzles.

Download Libby & Hoopla for books and Flipster for magazines.

Look for Lewes Library current events on our library table. It lists:

• In–person Author Events

• Spanish or Italian Conversation Groups

• Book Discussion Groups

• Lectures and Workshops

• Money School Classes

• Performances and Readings

• Activity Groups like Mah Jong and Poetry Free Write

• Plus, an Alzheimer's Support Group

See the Library of Things to borrow: tools, kitchen gadgets, arts & crafts materials, and more!

If you need help with any of the technology involved, call Kash (302–644–7191).

Sandy Spence



Happy Hour draws enthusiastic participants with the new Kash bar.

With Kash DeMora now dispensing the drinks, one never knows who will show up but they are all happy.

There are still a few bugs in the remote entry system. Here is one waiting to be buzzed in.

Photo by Rebecca Rogers.



NEW MAN ON THE CAMPUS - KASH DEMORA



All you have to do is look around The Moorings and you will see this new young man, Kash DeMora. He may be fixing your TV reception or your computer glitch, leading your morning exercises, or pouring you Happy Hour drinks. He is always a positive contributor.

Kash, TK's right–hand man, is a native Delawarean. He grew up in Milford, Delaware and graduated from POLYTECH high school. Here, he explored various elements of engineering but ultimately decided that it was not for him. He moved on to the University of Delaware for a more rounded education and, still looking for his role in life, Kash took an interest in economics. He majored in economics, picking up a minor in philosophy and a certificate in ethics along the way.

Kash also worked part time during his student years. His mom, Jen Scott, a nurse at The Moorings, encouraged him to take a part–time job here working within the Activities group in Assisted Living. Kash says this work had an important influence on his life, showing him where he might want to focus his career. As a result, he applied for the opening in Resident Services

In Memoriam

John Goebel

Fran (Eva) Baker

Mary Shea

Helen Miller

Carl Jeffers

New & Relocated Residents

Neal & Beth Lane Apt. 235

Margaret Oliver Apt. 111

Judy Burgess from IL to AL 139

Marty D'Erasmo and Robert Rosenberg Apt. 212

Judy & Norm Moore Apt. 104

and successfully nailed the job.

Kash loves music, all kinds of music, from the Beatles to alternative rock. In his quiet moments he is likely to be trying to figure how to balance with tones in some new music he has just heard for the first time. And if you have a favorite kind of music to share with him, he will love to hear all about it.

We are extremely fortunate to have Kash DeMora here with us at The Moorings!

Gil Kaufman



A rather redundant sign on Pilottown Road during the recent nor'easter which left several roads including Coastal Highway closed for a few hours to a few days.. No more worries about drought for a while.

Library Lines Nov. 2026

The Library Committee is working with the Expansion Committee to protect access to as many of our books as possible during construction beginning September 2027 and lasting an estimated seven months. When that work is complete our space will be about double what we have now.

If you have not yet tried it, take The Moorings bus to the Lewes Library every other Thursday from 10:00 AM to Noon. It's a wonderful way to access newspapers, magazines, and books we don't have, including more Large Print books, secondhand books for sale, as well as puzzles and more.

Meanwhile we have a growing collection of classic books in our own library. They are located on the regular shelves and are designated with yellow disks on the spine.

We are compiling an inventory of books donated since 2018 that are still in our collection but not on our shelves. You may have borrowed something a while ago and forgotten to return it. If you are "guilty," please return items you are finished with so they can show up on our shelves again. Thank you.

Sandy Spence and Rebecca Rogers
[302-604-1061]
rebeccarogers@comcast.net

Ping-pong grows in popularity



The Ping–pong table is located in the stairwell on the second floor of the West wing of the Independent Living apartments near Apartment 211. It is open for play almost all the time but if you want an opponent, come at 10:00 AM on Tuesday or 3:00 PM on Wednesday. What started as play between pairs has now grown to at least 6 players per session, sometimes more. We have no league sign ups, just show up and you will have a chance to play. Because we are seniors, the primary goal is to keep from having to bend over to pick up a ball from the floor. It is also good hand eye coordination training. Level of play varies with the individuals but there are a few regulars who will be a challenge to anyone. Come see for yourself.

David Bleil

Spiritual and Religious Library Annex

The residents may not know that The Moorings library has an annex, going back to the founding of Cadbury–in the Quiet Room. The book shelves, made by Dean Hoover, contain many works of philosophy and religion.

Sharon Hoover, a Quaker and member of the Library Committee, managed this collection for fifteen years; Rebecca Brenner currently maintains the non–Quaker section (still Sharon's!).

The library is loosely organized into (overlapping) categories: history and theology, biblical studies, devotional and inspirational materials, our neighbors' faiths (religions other than Christianity, their scriptures, and books about them), women's studies, books from the Sacred Ground course, living forward with grief, and much more!

World classics, such as M. Scott Peck's "The Different Drum" and "The Road Less Traveled" are shelved there. Also in this category are Dag Hammarskjold "Markings," Henri Nouwen's delightful "The Genesee Diary" and C.S. Lewis's classic "The Screwtape Letters." "Studies in Zen" by D.T. Suzuki is also on the shelf. Readers can find such classics as Dietrich Bonhoeffer's "The Cost of Discipleship," Viktor Frankl's "Man's Search for Meaning," and "The Garden of American Methodism: The Delmarva Peninsula 1769–1820."

There are many Bibles, in various translations. Also, several sets of multiple copies of the Bible in one translation and Bible Study books are available for groups who use the Bible in worship or for studies about the Bible. Some readers like to compare the same verses in different translations.

Finally, there are several shelves of Quaker literature and history,

especially the Journal of George Fox's and William Penn's "No Cross, No Crown." There is also a row of Pendle Hill Pamphlets, small Quaker booklets, each on one topic, designed to be read in a sitting or two. The most popular of these at The Moorings is John Yungblut's on "Hallowing One's Diminishments." The Quakers have ordered many of these pamphlets and urge residents to take one home and keep it. It is an inspiration to all of us growing older. (In one of those, "the world just gets smaller " moments, Yungblut mentored one of Rebecca Brenner's mentors, George Yoder, many years ago.)

Our borrowing practices are generous! Simply take the book you want to read, study it at home and return it when you are finished. Residents often find it particularly satisfying to read special books at particular liturgical seasons, such as Christmas and Easter. Others find it good to have one thoughtful book to read daily or weekly. However you wish to read, you may want to try out a book from the Quiet Room. We hope you will!

Sharon Hoover and Rebecca Brenner

Changes at the Free Press

This newsletter is a publication of the TMALRA Communications Committee (which also publishes the Residents' photo directory and maintains the TMALRA website). I (David Bleil) have been the publisher and layout person since 2021; this has been fun, and kept me busy. Vision and other issues have prompted me to offer my resignation as of this publication. This is a sad but warranted transition for me! I am glad to have contributed to our collective life at The Moorings, and I'm grateful for your many contributions to the Free Press over these years. This has been a meaningful volunteer opportunity.

One of my goals as publisher has been to have enough variety of subject matter and contributors so that everyone will find something of interest in each issue. That will certainly continue, even if the Free Press may look a bit different going forward.

Many thanks to Ann Raymond, who has volunteered to take this publication into the future, beginning with the February 2027 quarterly issue. Ann will also appreciate your contributions and support. If you have more up-to-date computer skills or composition experience, please be in touch with Ann to offer that support.

The stronger the team, the better the publication! Ann lives in apartment 221. Her email is Ann_Raymond@yahoo.com.

David Bleil

I like to buy stock in businesses that are so wonderful that an idiot can run them. Because sooner or later, one will.
Warren Buffett

Charitable Givers Get a New Tax Break

This year (2026), taxpayers who take the standard deduction may deduct up to $1,000 of qualifying charitable contributions, or up to $2,000 for married couples filing jointly. Only cash contributions qualify, such as gifts made by check, debit or credit card, payment app or payroll deduction. Contributions of property, such as clothing, household items or securities, don't qualify.

Different rules apply for those who itemize. Consult your tax adviser. In either case you may want to make qualifying charitable gifts before December 31. Doing so could reduce your taxable income while supporting causes that are important to you. Keep records supporting any deduction claimed.

Sandy Spence

Use of the TMALRA Email List and the Mailroom Magnetic Board

The purpose of these two forms of communication is to provide a means to disseminate information that The Moorings management and TMALRA deem relevant. They are not to be used for promoting outside organizations or individual views on religion and politics.

These restrictions may seem puzzling unless community harmony is considered. One of the many wonderful things about life at The Moorings is our fellow residents. We are a diverse and interesting bunch with a strong sense of community. We help and entertain each other in so many caring ways. Keeping the uniqueness of our community requires a delicate balance between free speech and not offending others with opposing individual views.

The TMALRA email list should not be used for personal views, information and comments. TK often sends out information for TMALRA or The Moorings management to avoid them going to Spam. When a resident responds to these mass emails, the response goes to TK. As a result, she gets many emails that do not pertain to her job. If a resident has a comment, wishes to thank or congratulate someone, please do not reply to a mass email but send an email directly to that individual.

In the past permission was given to residents to advertise items "For Sale" on the Mailroom Magnetic Board. The Moorings has established a new system. Kash will post items for sale on a board in the Craft Room.

Jane Bretnall



This Halloween don't drink and fly.

She is soon to be found in the skilled nursing unit.

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Recollections of a kinder America.

On a back road in Bessemer, Alabama, there was a tin roof shed where bands would play. Its owner, Henry Gipson, didn't charge a cover. He didn't sell drinks or food. I drove there one night with a few friends, and we had to swerve around a mattress in the road. We were coming from a wedding and we arrived at Gip's place (as it was called) vastly overdressed. But the unspoken policy was that no one should feel out of place–not even if he were wearing a suit and tie. Before long we had drinks and were dancing to the blues.

The crowd was black, white, all American. The building was almost certainly not up to code. In the absence of rules, things operated on shared understandings. Pass the hat, show your love for the band. Here is a cigarette, thanks for the beer. As ungoverned as the place seemed, four commandments were inscribed on the wall "Love the Lord with all your heart." "Live as if it were your last day." "Always say you are sorry." "Start & end each day in prayer." We drove away the next morning, past the mattress, back to an America where people receive official instructions about how to get along and the atmosphere is uneasy.

From COMPAS publications
Submitted by Ed Steiner

December Holiday Planned Events

12/2 Christiana Mall for Holiday Shopping 8:30 – 4PM

12/3 Lewes Night Out – 5 – 7 PM

12/5 Mid–Atlantic Symphony Orchestra concert "Holiday Joy" 8 PM at CHHS

12/8 "Lights of Love" 5 PM – Chart Room

12/11 All Resident complimentary "Christmas Lunch" – noon – Chart Room and Bistro

12/12 "Breakfast with Santa" – 10 AM – 12 PM – Chart Room and Bistro

12/12 Clear Space production of "A Christmas Story" 2 PM in Rehoboth

12/13 Cadbury Chorus Holiday Concert – 7 PM in the Auditorium

12/15 Gil Kaufman's Program about special Christmas Lights – 7 PM in the auditorium

12/17 Holiday Dinner at the Lewes Yacht Club 5 – 9 PM

12/18 "White Elephant" Happy hour – 3:00 PM in the Bistro

12/31 Happy New Year dinner and celebration

Those who ALWAYS know what is best
are a universal pest.
--- Piet Hein

The Moorings Christmas concert of 2026 will be on Sunday, December 13 at 7 p.m.

Your family and friends are invited for a choral presentation, an audience sing, cookies and coffee and tea, and conviviality! Please come!!!

This year the Chorus will be singing several medleys of songs everyone knows. In one piece, “Christmas . . . In About Three Minutes” there are 23 carol quotations (and 22 carol tunes) with Auld Lang Syne at the very end on the keyboard. How many will you identify?

“’Twas the Night Before Christmas,” with words by Clement Moore, a popular piece by the Fred Waring chorus, beloved by those of us old enough to remember it, will also feature several speaking choral members and a solo by our own Bob Porta.

Another medley “It’s the Holiday Season,” features seasonal songs arranged by Roger Emerson, a prolific choral arranger. These are done in a simple swing style, meant to be enjoyed.

Finally, the medley “On with the Snow,” arranged by Douglas E Wagner, contains the favorites “Sleigh Ride,” "Winter Wonderland” and “Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow”. Just in case we have some snow. Or, perhaps, to call some snow!

As usual, the Chorus will sing a traditional Jewish tune in honor of those of the Jewish faith who live here. This year it is “Hanukkah,” a traditional piece often enjoyed by Jewish celebrants of the Festival of Lights, an eight–night holiday that recalls an ancient miracle and celebrates religious freedom. Hanukkah often falls close to Christmas. This year it is December 4–12.

Although this year the Chorus is not singing any traditional Christmas hymns, it will offer several appropriate lyrical pieces. “Winter Bells,” arranged with new words by Alan Billingsley is based on the much loved “Carol of the Bells.” “The Best Gift of All” and “Christmas Prayer” both remind us that we need to celebrate the spirit of Christmas all year long. Their simple and sincere words make a perfect benediction during the Christmas season.

Carol Bishop & Sharon Hoover

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