



# The Bugle

Dick Wexelblat, Editor

A News Monthly For FVB Residents

## **FVB Scholarship Fund** **Breaks Records**

You donated over \$75,000 to the Fund this year. (All tax-deductible, by the way.) That's a new record! The scholarships will be awarded at a ceremony in the Auditorium on Friday, May 30, at 3:30 pm.

Next month, we'll tell you the winners and perhaps even give you a photo or two.

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## **Mother's Day**

Ann Reeves Jarvis was a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers during the Civil War and organized Mother's Day Work Clubs to address public health issues. Following her death in 1905, her daughter, Anna Jarvis, initiated the first official Mother's Day service at a church in West Virginia. The observance gained popularity, leading President Woodrow Wilson to proclaim it a national holiday in 1914.

Several remarkable local mothers have left enduring legacies:

- Rebecca Lukens (1794-1854): Rebecca took over her family's iron mill after her husband's death and transformed it into the largest ironworks in the country. She managed it while



raising her children, proving that multitasking isn't just a modern buzzword.

- Ann Preston, M.D. (1813-1872): Hailing from West Grove, Ann was a physician and women's rights advocate. She graduated first in her class from the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania and later became its dean. She organized Pennsylvania's first Women's Rights Convention in 1852.
- Martha Gibbons Thomas (1869-1942): A suffragist and dairy farmer from Chester County, Martha was among the first women elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1922. She balanced politics and farming, demonstrating that breaking glass ceilings pairs well with milking cows.
- Mary Ann Shadd Cary (1823-1893): Raised in West Chester, Mary Ann was a trailblazing African American educator, journalist, and abolitionist. Recognizing the limited educational opportunities for Black children, she established a school in West Chester in 1840 and another in Wilmington, Delaware. She later became the first Black woman in North America to publish a newspaper advocating for abolition and equality.

These women exemplify the profound impact of mothers and mother figures in shaping their communities' social and cultural fabric.

## ***A Celebration of Life***

**Monday, May 5, 2 pm**

**Greg Welch Memorial Auditorium**

Please join us for our annual memorial service as we come together to honor and remember our friends and neighbors who have passed away over the past year.



Family members of those who have passed on are especially welcome, and all Freedom Village

residents are encouraged to attend.

Together, we'll celebrate the enduring impact these individuals have had on our lives and our community. The service will be led by members of the Spiritual Life Committee, with readings and reflections shared by fellow residents.

We hope you'll join us in honoring our cherished community members.

## ***Mother's Day Flower Sale***

As you know, the efforts of our Outreach Committee exemplify our commitment to community service.

Outreach's popular Mother's Day plant sale is among the most important fund-raisers. This year's sale will benefit the Chester County Food Bank Backpack Program.



- Thursday, May 8, 10 am to 5 pm.
- Friday, May 9, 9 am to 4 pm.
- Saturday, May 10, 9 am until sold out.

Orchids are a specialty, but there are oh-so-many other plants and arrangements. Come early. The best will go fast.

## ***Look, Up In the Sky!***

**It's a Bird! It's a Plane!**

**No, It's Bob Kuhn's Photo-drone...**

...with a brand-new aerial view of Freedom Village! Thank you, Bob! If you look very carefully, you can see... Oh, never mind. We can't see into that window, after all.



## ***Honoring Our Heroes: Memorial Day 2025***

**Monday, May 26, 10:30 am  
Auditorium**

Memorial Day stands as a solemn reminder of the sacrifices made by our nation's brave servicemen and servicewomen. Originally called Decoration Day, it was established by the Grand Army of the Republic in 1868 as a day to remember those who gave their lives in service to our country.



This Memorial Day, we come together to honor the heroes here at Freedom Village and beyond—those who dedicated their lives to preserving the freedoms we hold dear. Their courage and sacrifice are the foundation of the liberties we enjoy today. We gather as a community to express our gratitude with deep respect.

The program will conclude with a silent tribute to our cherished FVB veterans who have passed away since last Memorial Day.

We would be honored to have you join us for this occasion. For more info, contact Fred Schiller: [srlsfcschiller@comcast.net](mailto:srlsfcschiller@comcast.net), 610-918-4784.

### The FVB Veterans Group needs our help for two veterans in distress

As Ed Ferrari shared at April's Village Meeting, Army vets Darnell and Alan arrived home after two tours in Afghanistan, needing a lot of help.

Though receiving good care at the VA Hospital, they need more.

Our veterans group will collect groceries and essentials, including canned meats, vegetables, fruit, soups, nuts & trail mix, peanut butter, crackers, and hand soap for them.

They aim to collect 300 items. One per condo would be wonderful. Two would be even better. Please leave your contribution outside your door on the morning of Friday, May 8. Our vets will pick them up between noon and 1:30 pm.



## Ouch! A Pop Quiz!

### Yup, A Quiz for Longtime Residents and Newcomers Alike

What does IHS stand for at FVB?

- Invisible Hamster Society? (Nope!)
- Itchy Hiking Socks (Nope!!)
- Irrational Hugs Squad (OK, but that's not what we're looking for!!!)
- Innovative Home Services? Yes! You finally got it!!

More questions: Do you need help with housekeeping or laundry? Possibly some aid with your plants or your pets? Maybe some assistance with exercise or shopping? Someone to help you manage your meds and escort you to appointments. Or perhaps you'd like a bit of friendly companionship.

Those are just a few of the things FVB's **Innovative Home Services** group is ready and waiting to help you with.

To learn more, contact Maryanne Gallo or Celia Landis in the IHS Office on the 3rd floor, facing the D-E wing elevators.

(Your editor and his wife are delighted to have an IHS staffer visit every few weeks to thoroughly dust our condo. Even the rungs of chairs and the tops of the picture frames and windows get dusted!)

### A Friendly Reminder: Please Use The Utensils at the Buffets

We love seeing everyone enjoying the open buffets at our parties and brunches. The variety of food and the opportunity to gather together make for a wonderful experience.

However, we kindly ask all residents to use the utensils provided rather than helping themselves with their hands. This simple





practice helps keep the food safe, hygienic, and enjoyable.



We all play a part in ensuring the food stays clean, fresh, and safe for everyone to enjoy. Let's do our best to

follow this basic etiquette and ensure the buffet is a delightful and hygienic experience for all.

Thank you for your cooperation, and enjoy the buffets with your friends and neighbors!

## Say, Gilles!

### Gilles Moret is now our Executive Chef!

Please congratulate Chef Gilles on his new title. And if you would like to pronounce his name correctly, here's some advice.

Gilles rhymes with 'heel.' The G is pronounced as 's' in vision, and 'illes' sounds like 'eel.' So, say 'zheel,' or if 'zh' is too much for you, try 'sheel.'

But however you say it, remember that the 's' is silent, as in Paris (Par-ee').

If you're into IPA: /zil/

His last name is easier: Mor-ay'.

## Notice to Bean-Baggers

Our triumphant Cornhole Tournament champions are none other than the legendary Al Pugliese and Terry Rosfelder! The able but slightly out-of-breath runners-up are Arnie Sten and Walt Hannemann.

Stay tuned for our next tournament. We'll announce it right after the Putting Tournament and Bocce League wrap up in the Fall.

In the meantime, the Cornhole setup is available every Tuesday from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm for informal play, pickup games, and general practice. So grab a bag and aim for glory. Let's keep this fun tradition going.



## Residents Lunching Together

Our lunching-out article has been getting repetitive. Perhaps boring? So we asked our AI friend to write us a poem. It did an OK job, but we had to work on the scansion.

### Lunch Outings with a Twist

When lunch is on, don't fret or frown,  
Single Mingle's heading to town!  
If you fly solo, here's the deal,  
To Shady Maple for a hearty meal.

The Romeos, once with hats so black,  
Now head to Timothy's. They've the knack!  
Seasoned gents on the hunt for fun,  
Looking sharp, they'll enjoy the run.

Red Hatters follow with flair and grace,  
Timothy's, too, is where they'll race!  
Equal opportunity lunch, you see,  
They follow the Romeos happily.

And while the Romeos make their play,  
Juliets have a cozy day.  
No balcony, no waiting for a beau,  
Just good food and a joyful "hello!"

- **Single Mingle:** A visit to Shady Maple Smorgasbord will depart on Tuesday, May 13, at 11:15 am.
- **Romeos:** Timothy's on Thursday, May 22, departing at 11:50 am.
- **Red Hatters:** Timothy's also. Friday, May 23, leaving at 11:50 am.
- **Juliets:** In-house lunch, of course.

Be sure to sign up in Book #1 for the trips and Book #2 for the in-house luncheon.





## Mother's Day Flower Arranging Workshop

**Tuesday, May 6, 2 pm, Village Green**

Join us in the Village Green for a fun and creative workshop, *weather permitting!*

If the wind picks up like it did a few weeks ago, we're in for an exciting experience. But we're hoping Mother Nature cooperates. So, don't miss out on the chance to make something beautiful while enjoying the fresh air.



Sign Up in Book #2. Your account will be charged \$40 for materials.

## A Special Mother's Day Tea For the Special Moms of FVB Friday, May 9, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm Greg Welch Memorial Auditorium

Each year, our Community Life Services folks outdo themselves by providing a stunning setting for a Mother's Day Tea. The tables are decorated with the utmost precision and creative details, and our kitchen staff prepares a delicious and mouth-watering array of tea sandwiches, appetizers, and scrumptious desserts.



Music by returning favorite Ashley Chen!

RSVP by signing up in Book #2 *by Monday, May 5*. You will be charged for a meal. No walk-ins, please.

## Chester County Choral Society Tuesday, May 6, 7:30 pm, Auditorium

The Chester County Choral Society celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2023.



Founded in 1973 as the Exton Chorale, they have grown to an 80-voice ensemble with a diverse repertoire, which spans classical masterworks to contemporary pieces and holiday favorites. They have also premiered original compositions by local composers.

## Wine Tasting Wednesdays, May 14 and 28, 2:30 pm Chesapeake Dining Room

Spanish red wines are known for their rich flavors, aging potential, and diverse styles, with the flagship grape being Tempranillo. They also offer great value for the price, making them an accessible choice for wine enthusiasts. Come try them. Five dollars at the door.



## Village Singers Spring Concert Wed., May 14, 7:30pm Auditorium

Our talented singing friends and neighbors have stretched their vocal cords to the limit, preparing for this fantastic annual event. Please join us.



## Village Green Opening Entertainment by Kevin Galm

Friday, May 16, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Come join us on the Village Green for an afternoon of delicious food, lively entertainment, and fantastic company!

Please note that the regular dining rooms will be closed for lunch on May 16, and those attending the party will be charged for a meal. If you'd prefer to stay indoors, as usual, the Village Bistro will serve an excellent lunch.

For newcomers:  
The Village Green wasn't really closed. We just like to celebrate its "grand reopening"

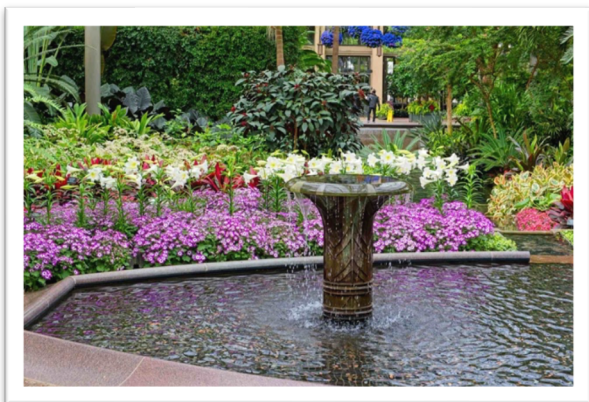
every spring as an excuse to throw another of our legendary parties. (Hmm? How can you "reopen" something that's not really closed? OK, that's a question for another time...!)



## Longwood Gardens Trip

Thursday, May 29, depart at 10:30 am

Tickets: \$24.00 per person



Get ready for a delightful day surrounded by beauty and nature! Join us for a relaxing trip through one of the most spectacular

gardens in the country. Whether you're a flower enthusiast or just enjoy a peaceful stroll, Longwood is the place to be.

We'll depart at 10:30 am sharp, so make sure you're on time! We'll have plenty of time to wander through the lush gardens, take in the gorgeous scenery, and maybe even discover a hidden nook.

Lunch will be on your own at the dining places there. Sign up in Book #1 to enjoy a fantastic day in nature's realm!

(Bob Kuhn took that photo during a visit to Longwood Gardens last month.)

*Spotlight on Local Government*  
is over for the season.  
Stay tuned for its return this Autumn.

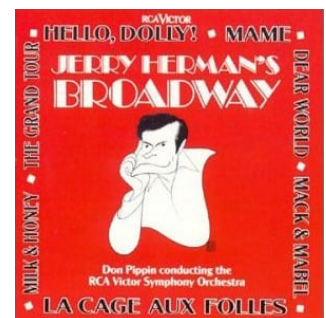
## Lifelong Learning

We don't have any upcoming classes to announce, but stay tuned for new sessions next Fall. We do, however, have one final lecture – and an interesting one at that.

**Jerry Herman – An American Treasure  
With Patti Garver**

**Thurs., May 22, 2 pm, Learning Center**

Jerry Herman (1931–2019) was one of Broadway's most accomplished composer-lyricists. His iconic shows *Hello, Dolly!* and *Mame* are among the most successful musicals ever created, propelling Carol Channing and Angela Lansbury to superstardom.









Herman crafted many memorable works, including *La Cage aux Folles*, *Milk and Honey*, and *Mack and Mabel*. Join us to explore the life and legacy of Jerry Herman.


So, “Before the Parade Passes By,” “Put On Your Sunday Clothes,” and come enjoy the glorious music of Jerry Herman!

## Health, Wellness & Safety

Stroke can occur at any age.  
Learn how to recognize the signs and symptoms.

**B.E. F.A.S.T.**

 <b>BALANCE</b> Sudden Dizziness	 <b>ARMS</b> Arm Weakness
 <b>EYES</b> Blurred Vision	 <b>SPEECH</b> Speech Difficulties
 <b>FACE</b> Facial Drooping	 <b>TIME</b> Time to Call 911

[mainlinehealth.org/stroke](http://mainlinehealth.org/stroke)  Main Line Health®

## Understanding Seasonal Allergies

A recent article in *The Guardian* notes that seasonal allergies are becoming increasingly prevalent due to extended pollen seasons. Perhaps 25% of adults are affected by sneezing, itchy eyes, runny nose, fatigue, and even facial swelling. High pollen exposure affects not only daily comfort but also cognitive function.

Experts recommend proper management through antihistamines, nasal sprays, and lifestyle adjustments, including staying indoors during high pollen days, showering after outdoor exposure, and using air filters.

Preventive measures like starting nasal sprays before the pollen season, wearing wraparound sunglasses, and applying



petroleum jelly around nostrils can also reduce the symptoms.

Try to avoid sedating antihistamines and opt for non-drowsy versions like cetirizine or loratadine. For persistent cases, referral to specialists may be necessary. Experts warn against unproven remedies like eating local honey or relying on recommendations in online ads.

For additional tips on managing seasonal allergies, you can refer to the full article: [tinyurl.com/chspcccm](http://tinyurl.com/chspcccm)

Or to the following item from Consumer Reports (but it's full of ads): [tinyurl.com/34xbvwt5](http://tinyurl.com/34xbvwt5)

**Darn! I spilled all my coffee all over my hand!**

## How Leaving a Spoon or Stirrer in Your Coffee Cup Prevents Spills

Leave a spoon or stirrer inside the next time you carry an unlidded coffee cup. This simple act does more than remind you to be careful—it helps prevent spills by disrupting the liquid's movement.

Spills often occur because the liquid sloshes inside the cup, creating a “simple harmonic motion.”

When a spoon or stirrer is left in the cup, it breaks up the rhythmic motion, preventing the coffee from oscillating in a way that leads to spills.

In short, the spoon disrupts the liquid's motion, making spills less likely. It's a small but effective way to keep your coffee where it belongs.

P.S. This works for other drinks, too.





## Everything else

### Friendly Reminder:

We love that our maintenance team is so approachable. We do. But flagging a team member down in the hallway isn't how to fix things. There's a process for submitting maintenance requests. It ensures your needs are logged, tracked, and handled.

Submit your request online using our Community Apps, send it via email, or, if you're feeling nostalgic, grab a pencil and fill out the paper form just outside the Plant Maintenance office on the Atrium third floor. It's all better than ambushing a tech by the hydration station.

Here's the significant bit: If it plugs in, holds your books, or once came in an Amazon box with "some assembly required"—that's a personal item. And personal requests, like fixing a lamp, assembling a bookshelf, or attempting CPR on your cell phone, fall under ancillary services. These come with a small fee because our maintenance techs are not unpaid interns.

Infrastructure and appliance repairs within your condo? Covered. No extra cost. Let's keep things running smoothly. Just submit the request correctly, and our team will handle it.

### Get Out and Vote!

The Municipal Primary Election is coming up on May 20, 2025! Be sure to have your voice heard.

- Last day to register to vote: May 5
- Last day to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot: May 13

For more details about the election, check out the information on the counter in the Resident Business Center (First Floor, E Wing) or the bulletin board in the In-House Mail Room.

## Go, Nursing Staff!

National Skilled Nursing Care Week (May 11-17, 2025) honors the essential role of skilled nursing care centers in providing high-quality care, both short and long-term.



While the recognition events during the week of May 19 are for staff only, residents can show appreciation by expressing gratitude to our nursing staff whenever they can.

## A Note on Our Auditorium

A plaque on the wall just outside the Auditorium reads, "The Freedom Village at Brandywine Auditorium is Dedicated in the Memory of our Departed Friend, Gregory J. Welch, Director of Resident Services, 11/14/2011–6/22/2020." It concludes,



"You May Be Gone From Our Sight, But You Are Never Gone From Our Hearts."

Longtime residents fondly remember Greg, but newer residents may not know his story.

A few years ago, we shared some remembrances of Greg, and this summer, we plan to revisit those memories.

We would love to include new ones. If you have thoughts or memories to share, please send them to Dick Wexelblat, condo 323, or email [dick.wexelblat@gmail.com](mailto:dick.wexelblat@gmail.com). (Photo by Bob Kuhn.)



## ★★Spotlight on★★ ★★The Dream Team★★

### 🔔 Faithful Editors:

- The Bugle – Dick Wexelblat  
(Yes, that's his real name. It took him 3 years to learn how to spell it.)
- The Toot – Marilyn Greist  
(You can trust everything she says.)

### 🎨 Creative Creators:

- Birthday List – Phyllis Patukas  
(Never forget a cake-worthy day.)
- Monthly Calendar – Judy Nicolaysen  
(She controls our time. Be nice.)
- Monthly Movies List – Activities Staff  
(Popcorn not included.)
- Photos – Bill Fifer, Bob Kuhn  
(Caught in the act of snapping.)
- Weekly Calendar – Activities Staff  
(Seriously, how do they keep track?)

### 🔧 Reliable Helpers:

- Production – Kim Ranck, Shana Kelly & the Resident Folding Crew (Origami-level excellence.)
- Proofreaders – Joan Anderson, Rob Jung, Barbara Steidler & Carol Walsh  
(They fix our typos so you don't have to.)

### ❤️ Appreciated Readers:

- You. (Yes, you. Don't look around like I'm talking to someone else.)

### 📞 Contact information for the editors:

- The Bugle: Dick Wexelblat, Condo 323,  
[dick.wexelblat@gmail.com](mailto:dick.wexelblat@gmail.com)
- The Toot: Marilyn Greist, Condo 317,  
[mlgreist@aol.com](mailto:mlgreist@aol.com)

*The deadline for the June issue  
of the Bugle is May 20.*

## Be In the Know What's Happening Now What's Coming Up

May has made its grand entrance—floral, feisty, and fully booked. The birds are belting out their greatest hits 🐦, the flowers are flourishing 🌸, and our calendars? Full. As the temperature rises, so do the chances to connect, explore, and maybe even get a little adventurous. These key meetings in the Greg Welch Memorial Auditorium are your all-access pass to staying in the loop. Yes, there will be time for Q&A. 🗣️



### RAC Meeting

Thursday, May 1 at 10:30 am

Pull back the curtain and get the inside scoop 🕵️. Executive Director Danielle Geyer and the Resident Advisory Council are ready to talk shop and hear what's on your mind. This meeting is for you if you like your updates direct and drama minimal.



### Village Meeting

No Meeting This Month!

For some reason, they've decided that opening the Village Green is more important. (Highly scientific weather prediction: 0% chance of snow, 100% chance of fun.)



### Activities Meeting

Thursday, May 15 at 10:00 am

Spring is showing off, and so are we. Join Community Life Services for the inside line on upcoming outings, parties, and outdoor-friendly plans. Got an idea for summer fun, or just an opinion on where to go? Then definitely attend this meeting.



Our neighbor Vivian Phillips Faust wrote this poem for the May 10, 1946, issue of the Shillington High School *Chatterbox*.

### My Mother

There is someone close to my heart,  
Someone from whom I'll never part,  
Someone dear, loving, and kind,  
My dear mother.

When at times the going is hard,  
And I feel as though I were barred,  
There is always someone to help me,  
My dear mother.

If I find my allowance doesn't last,  
If I find I've spent it too fast,  
There is always more to come from  
My dear mother.

When I find I can't do a task,  
Someone is there and I don't have to ask,  
Someone is always willing to help, it's  
My dear mother.

But most of all when I need a friend,  
I don't have to look in every nook or bend,  
There's always someone loving and kind,  
My dear mother,

Vivian Phillips, 12B



Reminder: Vivian Faust leads our  
*90 Memory Lane Group*. Join us in the  
Card Room at 11 am on Tuesday, May 20.  
No sign-up is needed. Just show up.







Dear New Resident(s),

Welcome to Freedom Village at Brandywine! We are thrilled to have you join our vibrant and diverse community. As part of our efforts to foster connection and celebrate the unique interests of our residents, we invite you to participate in a special initiative designed to showcase your personal treasures and hobbies.

Do you have a collection you're proud of? Whether it's vintage coins, rare books, model trains, art pieces, or anything else that brings you joy, we would love for you to share it with the community.

**This is a wonderful opportunity to:**

- Display your collectibles in a dedicated and secure space.
- Connect with fellow residents who share similar interests.
- Contribute to making our community spaces more engaging and inspiring.

**How It Works:**

- Collectibles will be displayed on a rotating basis in the display cases at Freedom Village at Brandywine.
- You'll have the opportunity to provide a brief description or story about your collection to accompany the display.
- Our team will coordinate with you to ensure your items are safely handled and returned at the end of the display period

If you're interested in participating, please reach out to Kay MacQueen at 610-696-4412. Kay will be happy to answer any questions and discuss how we can best showcase your collection.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to enrich our community's shared spaces. We can't wait to see the amazing treasures our residents bring to light!

Warm regards,  
Freedom Village at Brandywine  
Interior Properties Committee

