

Overlook Outlook

Volume 7
Issue 11

President's Corner

By Barry Lubin

Well, here we are again. Thank you all for your vote of confidence in re-electing your board of trustees.

Thanks also, for your patience in parking outdoors in the rain while our contractor replaced our garage walkways. This is a much more effective and slightly wider surface and at the same time removes the unsightly yellow path.

Condo living is an exercise in community togetherness and we must all do our part in working for the good of all. However, a few of us are forgetting common area and hallway courtesy.

Please do not leave items in the halls such as carts, trash (that you plan to take to the trash room later), wheelchairs, and umbrellas, etc.

We thank Leisure World Management for responding to our request and replacing the second section of the concrete walk around the water feature. The new wide section with a bench overlooking the lower waterfall is a welcome addition.

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Property Manager's Notes

By Beverly Chaconas

Articles for Newsletter

Please be advised that submissions of articles for the Overlook Outlook, starting for the December 2011 issue, should be sent to the Overlook Management Office.

Brenda Souto has done a wonderful job in receiving articles, researching information for articles that she submits, and editing the entire newsletter for the last several years.

She has requested to be released from some of these duties due to her increased hours working outside the community and other commitments that leave her less time to devote to the newsletter. Brenda has agreed to continue with the editing and the layout of

the newsletter. Thank you, thank you, Brenda for a wonderful job.

Future submissions may be dropped off at the Management Office or submitted by email to: overlook3100@hotmail.com.

Did you know???

Did you know that the Management Office has a lost and found? Residents will find items in the common area and bring them to the Management Office. So, if you have lost an item, don't forget to check with the Management Office. You may be pleasantly surprised to find your item in the lost and found!!!

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We Give Thanks!

Restaurant Review: The Big Greek Cafe

Submitted by Aggie Eastham

A new eatery has appeared behind White's Ace Hardware. While not large it is very decidedly Greek in décor as well as in it's food offerings. The decision to try it was prompted by one of our neighbors, who was impressed and suggested that I give it a try. Sooooo, I invited a friend, who I knew loved Greek food, (not Forrest) and off we went.

Although we both had the Gyro, she ate only half of hers. I was a little piggy and ate all of mine! The selections are many. For instance, under the starters there is the traditional Chicken and Rice Lemon Soup, Grilled

Shrimp Aegean, and ten other items to choose from. There are seven salads among which are Crispy Calamari Salad and The Big Greek Salad. Sandwiches include a Hercules Burger and several Greek favorites. Platters are so large, that two can easily share. If Roast Greek Chicken is your choice, it is available in a quarter serving for \$8.50 and half serving for \$13.50.

The Baklava had just come out of the oven when we arrived, but we did not yield to that temptation! There are three other items on the dessert menu but we chose not to indulge. After all, a

girl has to watch her waist!

The Big Greek Café also caters. Humm, maybe an Overlook Greek dinner? Just saying!

All in all this restaurant holds true to it's Mission Statement: "To provide delicious, traditional, Greek food for a reasonable price quickly and with great service, in a friendly and comfortable atmosphere that makes our guests feel at home".

Menu Price Ranges are:

STARTERS/SALADS: \$3.89-\$10.75

SANDWICHES: \$6.75-\$7.99

PLATTERS: \$9.50-\$13.50

SIDES: \$2.75

DESSERTS: \$2.99-\$3.99

I've lost track of how many restaurants have been located in this identical spot in this strip mall...since we have moved into Leisure World there have been at least four. I really hope this cafe stays for a long time!



Your Name Here

Submitted by Sheila Campbell*

Have you always wanted to see your name in print?

Well, you don't have to be an ax murderer, or a philanderer, or an embezzler to be famous.

You can contribute to the *Overlook Outlook* with an article of interest to your neighbors. If you're new to the building, especially, we want to hear from you. Send your submission to the Management Office, and the *Overlook Outlook* will be glad to

give you fame (or notoriety, depending on how scandalous your story is!).

Send your articles to e-mail:

overlook3100@hotmail.com or drop printed copy off at the Property Management office.

Just go for it!

*former *Overlook Outlook* Editor

Activities Committee Tidbits

Submitted by Aggie Eastham, Co Chair, Activities Committee

As if caught in an avalanche, we are sliding into the final months of 2011 and the Overlook Activities are lined up nearly to the end of the year!

The monthly Kaffee Klatsch is set for the first Monday of the month beginning at 9:30.

On Sunday, November 13 at 12:30 we will be holding our annual brunch honoring Veteran's. (See Linda Tossman's article on next page.)

We will once again be holding a Mah Jongg tournament. The date is November 17. Sign up

will be on Thursday, November 10 from 5-6.

Our Holiday Party will be held on Friday, December 9 from 7-9. Watch for flyers with the date and time to sign up for this event.

A report on the Halloween Party as well as updates on events for January and February will be in the December issue of the *Overlook Outlook*.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Property Manager's Notes (Continued from page 1)

Group email addresses

The Leisure World IT Department has established group email addresses for the LW Management, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee. Residents wishing to contact one of these groups can send an email to the appropriate address, and it will automatically be forwarded to all members of that group who have an email address on record. The email addresses are as follows:

LWCC Management – management@lwmc.com

LWCC Board of Directors – board@lwmc.com

LWCC Executive Committee — execcomm@lwmc.com

Important changes from the MD Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA)

Maryland's MVA announced it has added an emergency contact option to Maryland driver's licenses. Maryland drivers can now add three emergency contacts to their driver's license so police will know who to call if an accident occurs. The emergency contact information is stored



electronically on an individual's driver's license and will be available only to authorized law enforcement personnel.

You can go to MVA's website at www.mva.maryland.gov and add your three emergency contacts in just a few minutes. Go to the website, click "On-line Transactions", then click "More" and then click "Emergency Contacts" to add your emergency contacts. The entire process takes less than 10 minutes.

Thank You to all building residents

The Management staff would like to say "Thank you!" to all the indoor garage space owners and residents who normally park in the outside parking lot for their patience and cooperation while the repair work was being completed in the four levels of the garage.

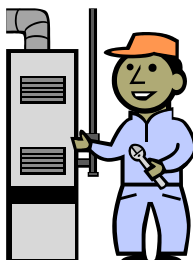
It seems "Mother Nature" is never cooperative when repairs are scheduled for the garages and all the vehicles have to park in the outside parking lot. A vacant outside parking space was nowhere to be found. Thank you, thank you!

President's Corner (Continued from page 1)

The third and final section will be replaced in 2012.

HVAC Repair Reminder

Please remember that your heating and air-conditioning system (HVAC) is cov-



ered by a contract with PPD. The payment for this coverage is included in your monthly condominium fee. Please do not have an outside contractor service your heating/air conditioning unit.

Amazing Africa, Part I—Kenya

By Sheila Gitelson

Kenya lies on the equator bordering Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia. It has been known as The Republic of Kenya since 1963. The country is named for Mount Kenya, second of Africa's highest mountain peaks. The climate is diverse and varies from warm and humid to cool and dry as you move through the countryside.

Nairobi is the capital of Kenya and is the regional commercial hub. Agriculture is the primary occupation and Kenya is known for its coffee and tea exportation, but telecommunication is fast becoming a major economic factor. Nairobi at first glance looks like many major cities with traffic jams and high rise buildings, stylish shoppers and goods. There are fine estates in and around Nairobi, but on the edge of the city are underdeveloped areas of tin shacks with no electricity or running water.

This part of Africa has been particularly popular as a starting point for safaris since the days of Teddy Roosevelt and Ernest Hemingway. And, of course, the place where Karen Blixen worked and then wrote of her adventures in "Out of Africa". There are several draws in this area: "The Big Five", the great migration on the plains and the tribes, particularly the Masai.

We began with visits to the giraffe sanctuary and elephant orphanage to get acquainted with the animals close up before we saw them in the wild.

There are still problems with poachers in Africa and they particularly want ivory tusks so baby elephants and rhinos are orphaned very young and the people at the wildlife center raise them so they can be returned to the wild to live their lives as they should. This was followed by a visit to the Karen Blixen coffee garden and museum.

On our way to Amboseli we drove through Mombasa and an area called the Savannah, a flat land with small trees and bushes and undeveloped villages. Mombasa gets very little rain so not all species can survive here, but it is known for gazelles, giraffes and antelope.



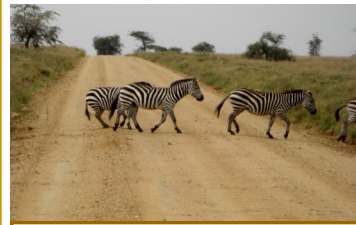
An Orphaned Elephant Being Fed By Gamekeepers

The next day we headed out in our 4x4 safari vehicle to the bush. There are no roads in the bush, just gravelly, pitted dirt, but it is definitely worth the ride. We spotted giraffes, zebras, elephants, hyenas, hippos and wildebeests. They appear so much larger than animals in captivity.

On the afternoon game drive we came upon a pride of lions. What was so interesting was that they saw us and were unimpressed by our presence. If you don't excite them or make loud noises they will go on about their business. After all, we are the guests and they are the inhabitants of the land, so they are in charge. We watched, in fascination, the different families of animals interact with each other. A few days later we were on our way to the "Mara".



Male Lion



A Family of Zebra

The Masai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya is one of the world's finest game reserves and is well known for its river habitats for grazing animals. It is also home to an abundance of bird species, amphibians and reptiles.

The wildebeests, zebra and buffalo make their seasonal migration across the Mara River. The problem for them is that the river is also home to crocodiles and the animals know this. We watched as they stood on the edge of the river and pondered their fate while their predators waited nearby, each one trying to outsmart the other. Quite amazing.



Migrating Wildebeests



Veteran's Day Brunch

Submitted by Linda Tossman

All Overlook residents are invited to the Veterans Day Brunch Mix, Mingle and Sing-A-Long to be held on Sunday, November 13, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.

We plan to have good food, music and camaraderie in celebration of the military service of our Overlook veterans.

Registration Information

Registration for this event will be held in the Overlook Lobby on Monday, October 31, 2011 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. At that time, you will be selecting a menu item that you will be bringing to share or making a donation for purchase of an item for the brunch.



There is also an Activities Fee of \$1.00 per person for all participants.

Overlook Veterans will be registered for a special name tag, in recognition of their service. Therefore, we need the names of all Overlook Veterans, that will be participating in the event, to be provided at the registration on Monday, October 31st from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

There is a limited capacity in the Party Room. Be sure to sign up early!

For more information contact Ingrid Masi, 240-242-3894 or Linda Tossman, 301-384-5098.

Overlook's Annual Meeting for 2011

by Carlos Souto

For those unable to attend, the following highlights of the annual meeting of Overlook unit owners may be of interest.

Two of three individuals running for the Board were elected. They are Barry Lubin and Ed Alexander. Both were already members of the Board.

The recently appointed Assistant General Manager of Leisure World, Jolene King, reviewed some of the recent events of interest to the Leisure World community.

Ed Alexander, the Overlook's treasurer, gave a summary of the budget for 2012, emphasizing that the Overlook is in good financial position. For this year we are on budget.



Candidates for the Board of Directors at "Meet the Candidates Night" Eileen Booker (left) Barry Lubin (center) and Ed Alexander (right)

The assessment for 2012 will increase by less than 1%. This will be an average increase of \$4.50 per month for each unit.

Barry Tossman, Chair of the Outlook Building and Grounds Committee, provided a presentation on the building maintenance (we were spared any damage from the earthquake). Also mentioned were some of the changes carried out on the Overlook ground's in landscaping. He also mentioned that new people had joined the committee.

During open forum a resident addressed the .7% increase in the 2012 budget. The Budget & Finance Co-Chairman, Bob Moreland and the Board of Directors President, Barry Lubin responded to the comment.

Mystery Novelist: Steve Berry

Submitted by Bob Kerr

Everyone knows that in 1917 Nicholas II, Czar of Russia, abdicated to the Bolsheviks who then imprisoned him and his family.

Then in 1918, in order to eliminate any chance of the Czar's return to power, Lenin ordered the massacre of Nicholas and his family.

Not only were Nicholas and Alexandra slaughtered, but also all of their children. Over the years, there have been many claims that possibly two of the children survived the brutal massacre, the son Alexi and the daughter Anastasia. In fact a woman who lived in London, Anna Anderson, had many people convinced that she was Anastasia. However, upon her death in 1984, DNA tests proved otherwise. The Romanovs, Rasputin, Lenin, Stalin, and the Russian Revolution all are part of this world changing time in history.

Steve Berry's "Romanov Prophecy" combines this historic era with a present-day suspense thriller. The action takes place in present day Russia where the people are attempting to replace the current ineffective and corrupt government with a return to a Czarist government. However, the current power brokers claim to have found the closest heir to the Romanov dynasty. They want this man to be Czar because they can control him.

Miles Lord is an American lawyer hired by the Russian government to verify their man's claim as the Czar. Miles, however, discovers a more direct descendant to Nicholas and Alexandra.

To locate this actual descendant, Miles must follow a series of clues which relate to a prophecy made by the mad monk Grigori Rasputin. Miles is helped by Akalena a circus acrobat, and a secret Russian society, loyal to the Romanov's. However, those in power do not want this real Czar found and they attempt to kill Miles to silence him. Miles and Akalena follow the clues leading to the Czar, with the killers relentlessly on their heels. It turns out that Taylor Hayes, Miles boss, is providing the killers with the infor-

mation as to Miles every move. It is a wild ride but with a nice blend of history and espionage.

Steve Berry was born in 1955 and graduated from Mercer Law School in Atlanta. He began writing while practicing law.

"The Amber Rose" and "The Romanov Prophecy" were his first books published in 2003. In 2006 he wrote "The Templar Legacy", the first of a series featuring retired operative Cotton Malone. He has since written 12 historic thrillers, which have earned spots on the best seller lists.

Berry currently lives in St. Augustine, Florida with his wife and children where he enjoys teaching writing, golfing, and time on the beach.



Steve Berry

We know the fate of the Russian Czar, but what fates befell on the other revolutionary figures. Match the events to other Russian historical figures.

Famous Russians	Historic Events
1. Leon Trotsky	A. Died 1924 of a stroke after two assassination attempts.
2. Grigori Rasputin	B. Died 1953 of a stroke, other illness, and perhaps poison.
3. Joseph Stalin	C. Died 1940 assassinated with an ice axe in Mexico.
4. Vladimir Lenin	D. Drove the process of de-Stalination in 1956.
5. Nikita Khrushchev	E. Died 1916 poisoned, shot, clubbed, and drowned in the Neva River.

Answers: 1-C, 2-E, 3-B, 4-A, 5-D

Thanksgiving 2011

by Brenda Souto

The economy is stagnant; many of our sons and daughters, nieces and nephews, even grandchildren have been out of work for a year or more.

Homes are being foreclosed upon in record numbers and the stock market has been on a roller-coaster ride this year.

Our national leaders have agreed to not agree on just about everything; and for most of us Americans our pride in our system of government is a little less prideful this year.

So what do we have to be thankful for?

This Thanksgiving, like any Thanksgiving, provides an ideal time for us to reflect on the positive things in our lives. In addition to looking backward on what we have to be thankful for, it provides an opportunity for us to look ahead and determine what we can do to make future Thanksgivings even better.

We can start with what we have to be thankful for today. The gift of life itself, of relative good health and a loving family are an obvious starting point, although perhaps taken for granted. Whatever your beliefs, whatever your station in life, whatever your regrets and disappointments, a healthy life and a loving family are the greatest gifts a person can have, yet there is a tendency to appreciate them most when you no longer have them.

The loss of health or of a loved one is a profoundly difficult loss to experience, so be thankful today for what you have. Whatever the negatives in your life may be, the best way to deal with them is to focus on the positives.

Thanksgiving is a uniquely American holiday. We, as Americans, have more to be thankful for than citizens of other countries. This year's headlines have focused primarily on either ongoing or growing conflicts around the world. Instead of ending our involvement in wars in Iran and Afghanistan they have continued despite what we may have hoped. This gives us all pause to contemplate what the next months, if not the next year will bring.

As Americans, we have freedom of speech and freedom of expression, freedom of religion and freedom of choice. We can say whatever we'd like and vote for whomever we want to elect. Our personal freedoms are complemented by economic freedoms. We have free markets, which provide investors, small and large, with the potential for ongoing profits and we have free trade, which creates competition and makes an abundance of goods available to us from throughout the world. Although the balance sheet may not always be so favorable and debt seems insurmountable, we can hope that the American dream (especially for the middle-class American) will not be extinguished.

Here in Maryland, we can be thankful for four beautiful and varied seasons that allow us plenty of opportunities for boating, skiing, golf, swimming and other activities - including just enjoying the beauty of the scenery in Leisure World.

While some suggest our taxes are high, so is our quality of life. We have plenty of restaurants to satisfy any palate, beautiful parks, world-class museums, theatre, opera, concert halls and libraries in our DC Metro area. Whatever your interests or cultural tastes, you can find what you're looking for.

At times I cannot help but think to myself how lucky I am not to be starting out as a fresh college graduate with a huge college loan to pay down and no job in sight.

But I worry for family members who have lost their jobs...more so than I worry about keeping mine until I can retire...and not so sure when that will be.

Looking at the positive, and hoping you will have many things to be thankful for this Thanksgiving, next Thanksgiving, and even more during the Thanksgivings that follow.



The Overlook Outlook

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Sheila Gitelson Carlos Souto

Ray Williams, Webmaster

Committee Liaison: Bev Chaconas

Featured Columnists: Barry Lubin, Bev Chaconas, Bob Kerr, Sheila Gitelson, and Aggie Eastham

Contributors to this issue: Sheila Campbell

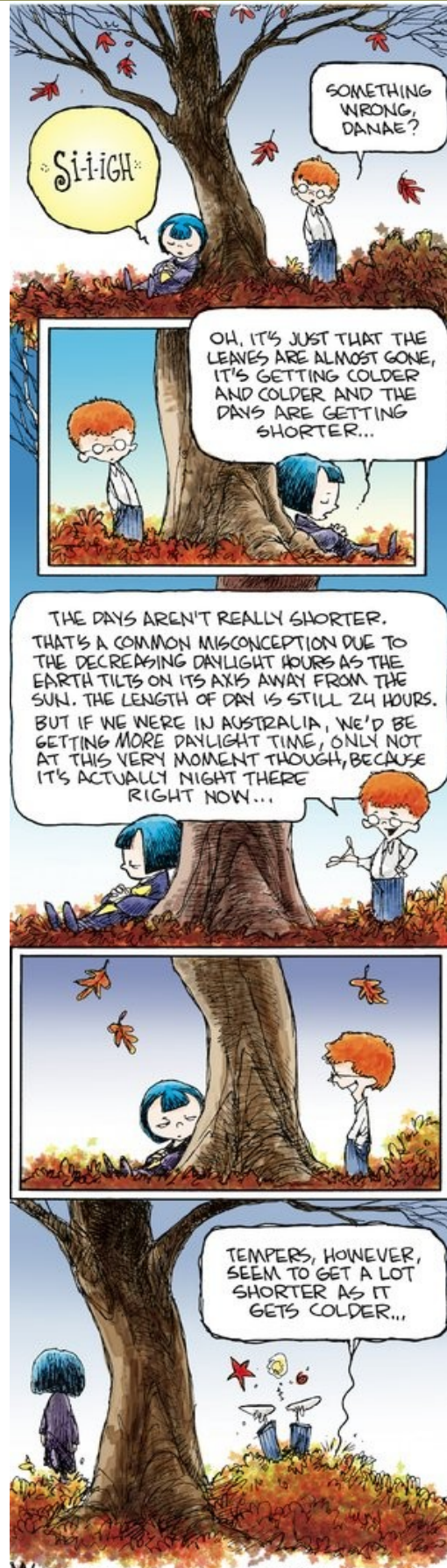
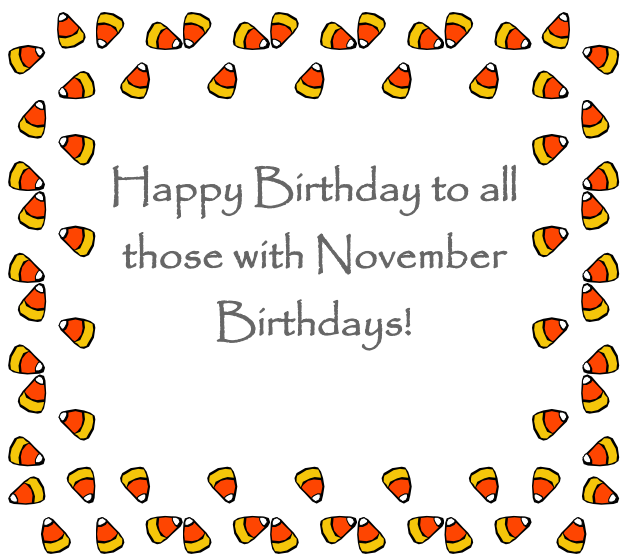
Production Assistant: Patricia Haack

Our thanks to Patricia Haack for the calendar, production and distribution assistance.

Submissions to the newsletter are encouraged and most welcome.

The newsletter can be viewed and shared at www.overlookoutlook.org

A list of Overlook Board Committees and their members and the Leisure World Advisory Committees and their members can be found on the official notice board in the lobby.



Non-Sequitur

By Wiley