

# VOICE



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## LOOKING AHEAD

- Monday, March 4th.  
Movie "The Captain's Paradise" 6:50PM
- Tuesday, March 12th  
Juliet's Noon
- Wednesday, March 13th  
Knitting 2PM Spinelli
- Thursday, March 14th  
5PM Charades
- Monday, March 18th  
Movie "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"  
6:50PM
- Wednesday, March 20th  
Lakeo 2PM
- Monday, March 25th  
Romeos 11:30AM
- Monday, March 25th  
Talk "Gardening with Native Plants" Mark Gormel 4PM
- Thursday, March 28th  
5PM Charades

## RITA'S STORY, PART TWO

We soon outgrew our home in Drexel Hill and in 1960, with eight children and one on the way, Jack was told about a school that was being built out in Chester Heights. He bought 14 acres adjacent to the school with plans to build a house and dreams of having ponies for the kids! At that time, the building business was having difficulty so Jack divided the land into 5 properties built a home on each one and sold them off.

Chester Heights was very rural at that time but fortunately, our new neighbors also had large families so the kids had friends to play and go to school with. The school was practically in the back yard so there were no worries about anybody catching (or missing) the bus until the high school years. We soon discovered that it could also be a problem to be so close to the school!

Our son Daniel, couldn't wait to join his older brothers and sisters at St Thomas the Apostle school. Before he was school age, Danny would joyfully ride his tricycle over there and go up and down the halls until the day came when it was time for him to go! On his first day of school, he joined the others with a spring in his step. Midway through the morning he got up from his desk, got his coat, walked out and came home. When Jack came home for lunch he had to bribe Dan with candy to get him back. This happened a few times before Dan finally surrendered!

We were very fortunate that members of the parish didn't have to pay tuition when the kids were in grade school. Business improved over the years, and the high school tuitions at Notre Dame, Archmere, Salesianum, Padua and Ursuline were reasonable. Jack was intent on paying for college for all of the kids and was very proud to have achieved that!

Frank's market which was just down the road had a butcher shop and housed the post office. Our milk was delivered and we sent the kids down to get eggs from Auggie Reichel, a local farmer. We went in to 69<sup>th</sup> street for other things we needed and took the children to the Media Clinic for regular medical care.

Rural living allowed for lots of freedom and fun adventures for the kids! Inevitably the adventures led to misadventures and once Riddle Hospital opened, the ER staff knew us by name! One year, within a short time span, Jack fell from a ladder in the garage and broke his wrist, Fitz sprained her neck on the uneven parallel bars in gymnastics and Paul all but lost his index finger reaching for a golf ball when the automatic lawn mower was set on auto pilot! There were also plenty of car accidents from fender benders to more serious accidents. Fortunately, what was broken could be fixed and life went on. I became very good at praying, and that has helped me through all of life's struggles through the years!

STOP ROBOCALLS	ACTIVITIES CORNER—MARCH		
<p>The annoying phone calls seem to never stop. Supposedly, Verizon and Comcast are going to enable call blocking but that could take forever.</p> <p>We signed up for <b>nomorobo</b> several years ago and have been very happy with it. It's not perfect but when a spam call comes in that nomorobo detects, all we hear is one ring and nothing more. And it is free.</p> <p>To set it up go to the link below and fill in your carrier (Verizon Fios or Comcast for example)</p> <p><a href="https://www.nomorobo.com/signup">https://www.nomorobo.com/signup</a></p> <p>Then follow the instructions.</p>	<p><b>Bridge</b> 2PM Mondays</p> <p><b>Billiards (Dunwoody)</b> 10AM Wednesdays</p>	<p><b>Gittin' Knittin'</b> 2PM March 13th (Second Wednesday) <b>Spinelli's</b></p>	<p><b>Exercise with Linda</b> 10AM every Tuesday and Thursday</p> <p>Linda is available after class for help with gym equipment or exercise suggestions</p>
	<p><b>Monday, March. 25th</b> <b>Mark Gormel</b> <b>"Gardening with Native Plants" 4PM</b></p>	<p><b>Charades Thursdays</b> <b>March. 14 and 28 at 5PM</b></p> <p><b>Lakeo 2PM Wednesday, March 20th</b></p>	<p><b>MOVIES</b> <b>March 4th 6:50PM</b> <b>"The Captain's Paradise"</b></p> <p><b>March 18th "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest" 6:50PM</b></p>

### RITA'S STORY CONTINUED

**Vacations:**

As soon as school was out, we would go to the shore for 6 weeks. It took three vehicles including a pick up truck (for cribs and luggage) to get us there but it was well worth it! I loved the ease of the shore, sitting on the beach, chatting with friends and watching the kids. Jack worked during the week and joined us on the weekends. His parents had a house in Stone Harbor; my brother Bob and his wife had a house in Avalon and we had a few other friends in the area. The kids loved the Shore and we only lost track of one or two kids for brief (but long enough) periods of time over the years! Thank God for concerned neighbors and the police!

Side note: Fitzer still hasn't met "Jaws" but believes it is her destiny so you won't find her in the water! After we joined Aronimink in the early 70s we continued to go to the shore for two weeks in August for many years. Jack became very active with the 18 holers and once our youngest, Pete went off to school, I joined the Nine holers.

For a few years in the Winter we joined my brother Bob and his family for skiing at Sky Top but those ended when the time spent in the ER and the investment in crutches and bandages exceeded Jack's limit.

In 1989, Jack and I bought a house on Dataw Island in South Carolina and enjoyed many Winters down there playing golf and being with friends. When we sold the house at Dataw, we bought a home here at Springton Lake Village. We sold our family home to our oldest son John and his wife Fay and moved in January 2003. There were only a few houses here at that time and Jack was very proud of the lot he found, across the street from the club house and with a great view of the reservoir.

Our children have always been a blessing to Jack and me. Losing Paul, Mark and Beaner was the most difficult thing I have ever gone through and yet being their mother was an incredible gift. My faith has always been a great comfort to me! I am so blessed by and grateful for the loving relationships I have with all of my children and their spouses and the gift of wonderful grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Rita McManus

## KINDLY OLD DOCTOR MARTIN



John H. Martin, M.D. was known as “kindly old Doctor Martin”. He was also called the Doctor’s Doctor, which is a very great honor. He was a marvelous diagnostician and an amazing clinician. His patients adored him. He was a wonderful teacher and taught scores of successful young doctors to be like him. His sense of humor always came through, too.

John is a very complex man, brilliant, funny, grouchy, stubborn, dry witted and twinkly. There are many stories about him and here are a few: When the children were in grade school and high school, John frightened all their friends. If they called on the phone he would say, sternly “State your purpose!” They’ve never forgotten it.

If any of the kids were sick and didn’t want to go to school, they had to either have a fever or be throwing up. So, they went to school and later the school would call us to come get them because they were sick, usually throwing up. ( I do think some of them could throw up on cue.)

John was working on our Moped with Jeff, our youngest. John wanted to see if there was a spark from the sparkplug, so he had Jeff hold a screwdriver while he cranked the engine. When the shock knocked Jeff across the garage, John said “We have a spark”.

As I was building my sailboat, John helped. I asked him to read the directions so he would know what to do. He said he’d just do what I told him. Of course, he disagreed with almost every step.

John is very accommodating to the grandchildren and delighted them with wearing wigs or being silly in other ways. One day he was babysitting Anna and Grace. He fell asleep and they cut his hair and painted on the walls while he slept. They liked to dress him up, too.

John and I went to San Francisco for a Rheumatology conference. On Sunday morning, I was going to church and John said he would ride down to the lobby to get the paper. When he returned to our room, the elevator door opened, and the maid was just finished cleaning the room which was directly across from the elevator. The maid left and John went in. As he sat on the toilet reading the paper, he looked around and realized it was not our room. He had gotten out on the wrong floor. As he was gathering himself to leave, the phone rang. He answered it and a man said “Bob”?” Is this Bob Silverstein?” John said, “There’s no Bob Silverstein here” and hung up the phone. When John looked out the door, he saw a man a few doors down looking at him. John got on the elevator and went down to the lobby rather than to our floor because he didn’t want the man to follow him.

Later, on that same trip we were on a Cable Car. I realized we were passing our stop so hurried to get off since the car was starting to move. Unfortunately, instead of jumping in the direction the car was going, John jumped in the opposite direction and fell flat on the street. He wasn’t hurt and I held up traffic until we were able to get out of there. The other passengers cheered when they saw he wasn’t hurt.

In the office, everyone loved John and there were a lot of John stories. One day the staff were looking high and wide for a chart. It wasn’t in the record room or anywhere they could think of. Finally, someone opened the cupboard where we kept the chocolate candy and there was the chart. John left it there when he raided the candy. We had pharmaceutical representatives come to tell us about their new drugs and familiarize us with uses and possible side effects. (They brought lunch, too, which is why John attended.) One day John told a rep that he had given his new drug to a patient and she died. The rep was stunned and speechless. Then John said the woman died because she had stepped off a curb and was hit by a car.

One day at work I was very angry because I had a bunch of requests from insurance companies questioning my use or continued use of various medications in patients. I got the charts and laboriously answered them all. Furious, I went down to John’s office and asked if he had gotten letters like that. He had. I asked if it made him angry. He said, “I just dumped them in the wastebasket. It’s none of their business.” Which was true.

Since living at Springton I found that John told Walt Fisher we had applied for membership at Merion Cricket Club many years ago. But a requirement for membership was that I (Martina) cook dinner for the membership committee at Merion and I refused to do it. As far as I’m concerned, there was not one true word in the whole story.

You never know what is coming next and it’s a great deal of fun. But you have to laugh!

Martina Martin



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We're on the Web!  
springtonlakevillage.com



3/5 John Peters  
3/15 Joan Staley  
3/21 Chuck Burr  
3/21 Rita McManus  
3/21 Jerry Vogelsberg

## SPRINGTON LAKE VILLAGE

Luxury living at its finest abounds at Springton Lake Village. This "just right" community of 40 single homes is nestled on the Springton Lake Reservoir. Each home offers 2000 square feet of living space on one floor with an additional floor to use as needed. Also an attached two car garage. The spectacular location has breathtaking sunsets complete with birds and wildlife to be enjoyed from your deck or on the walking path by the Lake. Gourmet dinners challenge the best restaurants in the area. Activities include lectures, bridge, poker, movies and many more including holiday celebrations, gourmet wine tasting dinners and many field trips. Cherished friendships are formed with delightful and interesting neighbors. All this and much more are here at Springton Lake Village.

This is worry-free living. The monthly bill includes:

- Taxes, Gas, Electric, Water and Sewer
- Gourmet meals
- Weekly house cleaning
- Heavy house cleaning, including windows inside and out, twice a year
- Landscaping, lawn care, snow removal, salting
- Outside maintenance such as gutter and dryer vent cleaning
- Maintenance staff on site for your daily needs
- Exercise room, personal trainer
- Health care manager
- Capital programs such as roof replacement, water heaters, driveway, paving, etc.
- The only additional check you write is for TV, internet and phone.

We look forward to welcoming you for a visit soon. Call us at 610-356-7297



### MANAGEMENT REPORT

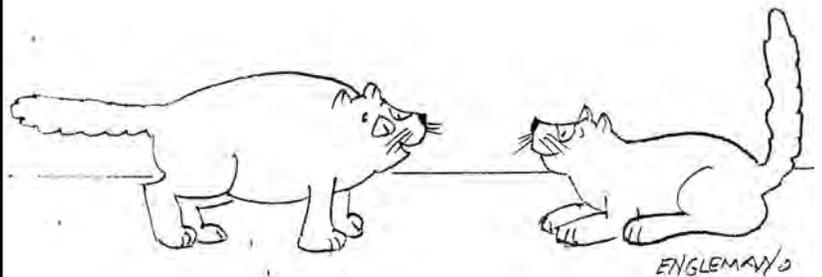
The week of March 11<sup>th</sup> will be St. Patrick's Day  
Menu Week.

Spring is almost here! As soon as the weather breaks  
the Facility Department will start the deck cleaning!!

Downend will be starting the spring clean-up in March.  
This consists of cleaning debris that has accumulated  
during the winter months as well as edging and mulch-  
ing and weeding the beds.

If you have perennials in your gardens you may want  
to identify them with a popsicle stick or other marker  
so they do not accidentally get mistaken for weeds and  
removed.

### CARTOON



"If I had my life to live over, I'd take more naps."