



COMMUNITY NEWS & VIEWS

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100 Fireside Blvd., Toms River, NJ 08755

March 2026

**March
2026**



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Best wishes to those celebrating birthdays in March!



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RENEE'S REMINDERS

TENANT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

In an effort to maintain a five-star reputation, the owners of Homestead Run and the Business Office will be publishing a series of reminders and modifications to standard lease, rules, and regulations. This column will be called Renee's Reminders, and Renee means business!

Holy crap, it's March already! Time flies when you're having fun. Are we having fun? We don't know, because people are still not showing up for stuff. I know I spoke about this in February, but people don't read. You know how I can tell? Because you still put your garbage cans out when you're not supposed to, but back to attendance. We have chair aerobics. Started out with a whole room full of people. Everybody wanted it. Couldn't wait for it to start, and now, we have three people. What's wrong with this picture? We offered you Hi-Lo. We used to have 50-60 people. We ended up with 30. What's the issue? You've got something to say, say it. Our doors are always open. We're not as scary as we look. We do listen, and we help when we can. ..but we're not Miracle Workers.

We made it through the first storm of the winter in January. Let's hope Mother Nature was just making up for all of the years we had mild winters. You must remember we are not here on the weekends. If you freeze up on a Friday night, call somebody. Do not wait until Monday morning for us to come in. The longer you wait, the deeper the freeze, and the more likely you are to have broken pipes. Again, we ask if anyone is interested in shoveling for those who can't, let us know. We'll keep your name on a list. This is assuming the winter weather comes back around the way she sometimes does.

Is everybody tired of hearing the same thing? Same sarcasm. Same digs. I don't know what else to talk about, because it's obvious people don't listen. They don't read. They don't follow the rules. And we get the phone calls. We're not out there letting our dogs crap on other people's property. We don't have loud mufflers. We're not having neighborly disputes. Did you catch the common word? Only you can prevent forest fires, like Smokey the Bear used to say. And hey, Laura is still complaining about checks folded up like accordions in envelopes. Give me a break, will you?

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Luck...or something better?

When March approaches, I always find myself leaning in to writing about spring, about rebirth. I do like to wax poetic that way, and in thinking of what to write about, I realize I haven't written much about the good ol' luck of the Irish...or luck in general. March, after all, does bring us St. Patrick's Day, and the word luck can start to float around like confetti (which isn't as bad as glitter). You know what I mean, right? Lucky shamrocks. Four leaf clovers. Lucky pennies. Some people have lucky socks, which I don't want to think about. Do they wash them? And we can count on Renee to almost paint the clubhouse green. We all know it's coming!

It does make me wonder, though. Do we really believe in luck, or might we have discovered something better? When we're young, luck feels magical. We're lucky to win a game, lucky to get the bigger half of a cookie, lucky to find a dollar on the sidewalk, but as we grow older, life teaches us that most of what matters isn't luck at all.

Maybe it's love that has stayed and lasted the test of time. It's friendships that are rooted not only in the good times but getting through the bad times. It's strength we didn't know we had. Sometimes, it's even the mornings we woke up and simply kept going. That doesn't feel like luck, does it? It feels like resilience, gratitude, and grace. As we get older, that's something we have to live by, even if we do still like magic.

Most of us didn't make it this far by stumbling into good fortune. (Although if anyone does have that winning lottery ticket tucked away, I keep telling you not to forget about me!) We got here by showing up again and again, through our losses, changes, reinventions, and the hard lessons of learning to let go. That last one is still a work in progress for me. My iron grip can be unrelenting.

But we still have those "lucky" moments, don't we? Running into someone we're genuinely happy to see (not the kind we dodge down the next aisle in Home Goods). Finding the remote exactly where we left it. Getting the good parking spot. A friend reaching out at just the right time. Those moments feel magical. Maybe they're not luck versus something else. Maybe they're gratitude meeting attention.

Gratitude is quieter than luck. It doesn't sparkle, doesn't wear green. It sits with you at breakfast, shows up in a warm room on a cold day. It's the comfort of a familiar chair, the sound of your favorite song, the laughter of someone you love. My favorite part about that is the more we practice gratitude, the "luckier" we begin to feel.

It's not because life becomes perfect. It doesn't and never will. When we start noticing what has been steady all along like the roof over our heads, the routines that anchor us, the stories we carry, the people who know our names, we see that isn't chance. It's a blessing.

March sits between seasons, almost as if it's waiting for something. Maybe instead of waiting for luck to find us, we can practice noticing what already has. That, Homestead, is something far better than luck.

Until next time,

Laura Langone
(LLANZONE@HOMESTEADRUN.COM)

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2PM IN THE CLUBHOUSE**

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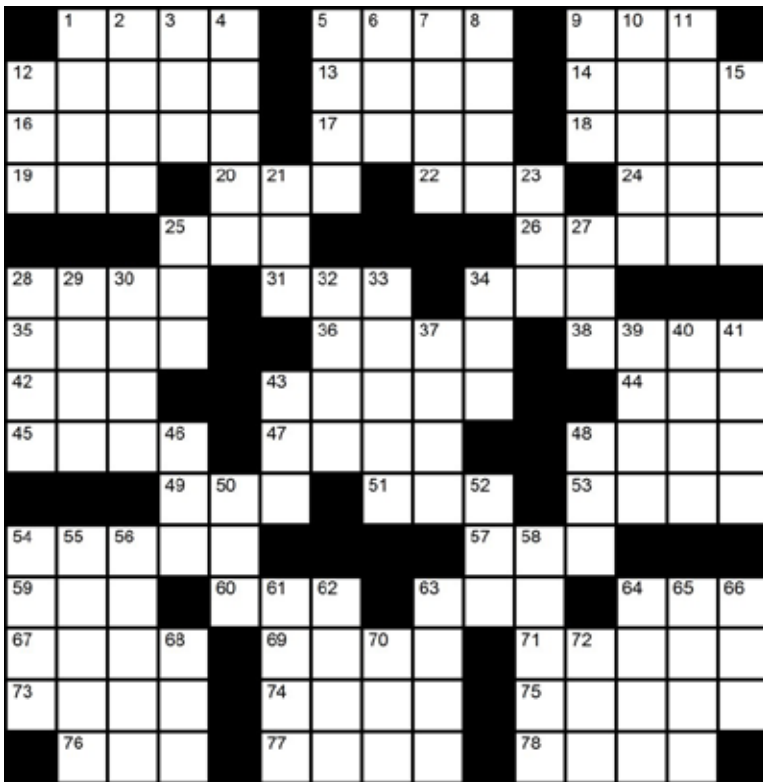
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer on page 14



- 57 Applicable
- 59 Entertainment
- 60 Bench with a back
- 63 Letters on Royal Navy ships
- 64 E.g. a street kiss
- 67 Horse controller
- 69 Spanish fashion designer --- Rabbane
- 71 Long
- 73 Aware of
- 74 Overnight stops
- 75 Law
- 76 Fight against underwater threats
- 77 Penny
- 78 U R L starter

DOWN

- 1 Kind of hoop
- 2 Competently
- 3 Cape Town carrier
- 4 One of the Indian majority
- 5 Quarrelsome grouch
- 6 Very fashionable
- 7 Hog-wild
- 8 Recording medium
- 9 Belief system
- 10 Bad weather
- 11 Paved outdoor area
- 12 Karate degree
- 15 Hammer god
- 21 Aim
- 23 Federal fiscal watchdog
- 25 One of a hundred in D C
- 27 Eye cell
- 28 Methods
- 29 Statement of understanding
- 30 The Beatles' lovely meter maid
- 32 Apiece
- 33 Antidotes
- 34 Classic Ford model
- 37 Type of rechargeable cell
- 39 Man-eating giant
- 40 Stimulating South American shrub
- 41 Sit in a tub
- 43 Bank machine
- 46 E.g. Robinson, Doubtfire
- 48 Plump
- 50 Vigor
- 52 Thanksgiving dish
- 54 Spherical hairdo
- 55 --- Vista, Disney brand
- 56 Military groups
- 58 Outguess
- 61 Heroic
- 62 Diminish slowly
- 63 Vast multitude
- 64 Gasp
- 65 Bead
- 66 Newswoman --- Curry
- 68 The present time
- 70 Cable/satellite network
- 72 Dine

ACROSS

- 1 #
- 5 Conversation
- 9 P C to web link company
- 12 Persian Gulf port
- 13 Gypsy people
- 14 Immediately, in hospital
- 16 Edgar --- Poe
- 17 Upon
- 18 Insect destructive of clothes
- 19 Negative
- 20 One coming out
- 22 Big beer can
- 24 --- Grande
- 25 Solar system center
- 26 Casing
- 28 Electrical connector
- 31 Passed away (Abbr.)
- 34 Old card game
- 35 "Would it be ---?" (Presley: "Can't help falling in love")
- 36 Father's sibling
- 38 Physicians
- 42 So far
- 43 Sour-smelling
- 44 Sticky stuff
- 45 Junction
- 47 Not us
- 48 Killer whale
- 49 Rotational speed measure
- 51 Bashful
- 53 Top
- 54 Harsh treatment

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CREAMY RICE PUDDING

Submitted by: Renee Stanzione

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup cooked white rice
- 2 ½ cups whole milk
- ¼ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tbs butter (optional) ¼ tsp nutmeg or cinnamon

INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a saucepan, combine rice, milk, sugar, and salt
2. Bring to a gentle simmer and cook 10-15 minutes stirring often, until thick and creamy
3. Remove from heat, stir in butter and vanilla
4. Serve warm or chilled with dust of cinnamon

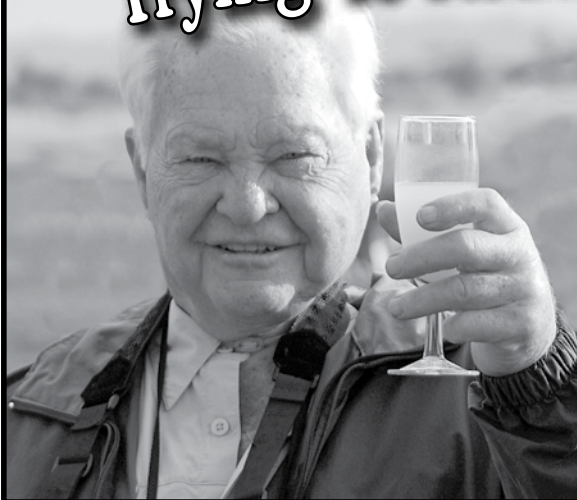
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MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Monday Night Bingo, 7pm (RECYCLE PICK UP) 	3	4	5	6 (GARBAGE PICK UP) 	7
8 DAYLIGHT SAVING BEGINS INTL. WOMEN'S DAY	9 Balance & Strength Class, 9:30am Monday Night Bingo, 7pm	10	11	12	13 (GARBAGE PICK UP) 	14
15 Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, 2pm	16 Monday Night Bingo, 7pm (RECYCLE PICK UP) 	17 Andrea Tarr Series: Life's Luxuries, 2pm Women's Charity Club Meeting, 6:30pm ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18	19	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING (GARBAGE PICK UP) 	21
22	23 Balance & Strength Class, 9:30am Monday Night Bingo, 7pm	24	25	26	27 (GARBAGE PICK UP) 	28
29	30 (RECYCLE PICK UP) 	31				