

Rockleigh's Resident Council Kicks Into High Gear

Sunni S. Herman, Executive Vice President, Jewish Home at Rockleigh

In everyone's own neighborhood and community we have representatives to assure that our own environs reflect the kind of lifestyle we want. It's no different for residents at the Jewish Home at Rockleigh. Every month, a group assembles and holds its own Resident Council meeting. Their input into everything from dining room selections to entertainment choices not only provides a great sense of pride and purpose for the residents but also provides an invaluable conduit for the staff to learn of the unique requests and preferences that would add to the residents' day to day quality of life.

Over the years, members were reticent to step-up and assume the presidency of the group...until now! At a recent meeting, Director of Recreation Charlene Vannucci, suggested that we have an Executive Committee of the Council and sure enough, six hands in the audience flew up and our Executive Committee was instantly formed.

The Committee, now known as Resident Link (aptly named as they reside on Link Drive), meets monthly for lunch with Administration, and the Directors of Recreation and Nursing in the Administrative Conference Room. The Resident Link lunch conversations have been both enlightening and productive. There is energy and purpose for each member, and a satisfaction that they are helping to contribute to the welfare of their fellow residents.

As one of their first initiatives, the group has been working on a plan to roll out a series of continuing education classes for the residents. Resident Helen Schultz jokingly agreed to participate in the education program on the condition that she did not have to write a thesis paper! At a subsequent lunch meeting, resident Shirlee Stern suggested a series of lectures be entitled "First Ladies, from Martha to Michelle." (This topic will be voted on by the full Resident Council.) The luncheon discussion quickly turned to Eleanor Roosevelt, as resident Jeanne Dorn reflected on her own personal history as a senior in high school and a member of the Arista Honor Society, spending time on several occasions at the First Lady's home in Hyde Park.

Resident Link conversations have turned to ways to welcome new long-term residents by volunteering to be participants in a New Resident Tea, that will be held every six weeks and include both new and current residents. Members talked about their own experiences and feelings when they moved into the Jewish Home and said that they would have felt better had a peer been there to "show them the way." "I hope I can be helpful," said Mrs. Dorn.



Sunni Herman (EVP-JHR), Shirlee Stern, Ann Katz, Jeanne Dorn, Charlene Vannucci (Dir.-Recreation), Eric Rigueria (Dir.-Nursing)

Recently, Ms. Stern suggested that the residents form an Actor's Club to read and enjoy one-act plays on a regular basis. Resident Ann Katz even volunteered to help integrate "Yiddishisms" into classic plays such as Romeo and Juliet.

At the end of the lunch meeting, the smiles on each member's face said it all - it is a testimonial of how each resident who has taken part in the Resident Link feels their efforts are beneficial to all, that there is an investment and sense of belonging, and that their participation empowers them to make a difference.

Donors Can Enjoy Tax Savings

Melanie S. Cohen, CFRE, Foundation Executive Director

Donors ages 70 1/2 or older can again enjoy tax savings by making charitable gifts to the Jewish Home directly from their IRA accounts. On December 17, 2010 President Obama signed this 2010 Tax Relief legislation into law. The act extends legislation originally adopted in 2006 and extended in 2008. Among the many features of this legislation is the extension, through December 31, 2011 of the Charitable IRA Rollover provision previously enacted by former President Bush.

The provision exempts from taxable income any funds transferred ("rolled over") from an IRA to a charitable organization. The following limitations apply:

- ◆ The donor must be age 70 1/2 or older.
- ◆ The cap on annual IRA rollovers is \$100,000.
- ◆ The contribution must be a direct gift to the charity.

The distribution would neither be treated as taxable income nor produce a charitable deduction; in some circumstances this "non-event" for income tax purposes may provide a better overall income tax result than reporting the withdrawal as income and claiming a charitable deduction.

Members of the community who wish to support care and programming for the elderly in our area may be able to take advantage of this unique tax provision while at the same time benefiting the many who are the recipients of the Jewish Home's exceptional services - those seniors whose lives we touch each and every day.

Donations can be directed to the Jewish Home Foundation, 10 Link Drive, Rockleigh, NJ 07647. For more information, contact the Foundation office at 201-750-4231.

*The Jewish Home Foundation of North Jersey, Inc.
makes no claims in providing tax advice.
Donors should consult with their tax or financial advisor
on how these provisions affect their individual circumstance.*

A Letter from a Jewish Home Assisted Living Family, Reflecting and Giving Thanks

Barry and Debra Blecher, Family Members

"Our father was a resident of the Home for 5 weeks, from September 29 to November 4, 2009, where he proudly celebrated his 92nd birthday.

Dad enjoyed 2 wonderful marriages of 25 and 30 years respectively and had been taking care of himself and his home since his second wife passed in 2001. He was a very active member in his synagogue, usually on the 'bima' and often reading the 'Haftorah' on Shabbat. He spent several afternoons each week at the Y-JCC for lunch, conversing with friends and playing bridge (he was an excellent bridge player). He was still able to safely drive his car, clean his house and shop for himself. He'd enjoy Shabbat dinner with us every Friday and celebrated many other festive occasions with us. In short, he was active and able to get around by himself and he certainly did.

In November 2008 he was diagnosed with bladder cancer and was given one year to live. He decided against surgery, radiation and chemotherapy, which probably would have killed him, and decided to let nature take its course. We agreed

with his decision. We urged him to seek assisted living but at the time, he would not consider that. He didn't want to give up his home nor his independence. But after his physical health suffered and after 3 medical procedures over the next several months, he became weaker and very depressed. He reached the point where he could not take care of himself and finally agreed that he did need assisted care. In our minds, he needed more than that...he needed a positive atmosphere in which to live his remaining time. That's what the Home gave him.

We were very impressed with the staff of JHAL, the premises, the many activities, the quality of the activities, the health care provided, and the gourmet food (we enjoyed several meals there with Dad and his new friend. I suggested that there be a 'take-out window'). I know that Dad was similarly impressed with the Home. But what most impressed us was the tender loving care which was provided my Dad. The concern, affection and gentle conversation put him at ease which put and kept a smile on his face. You could see the joy he experienced

by the gleam in his eyes. He was alive. Thank you all at the Jewish Home Assisted Living for providing not only a comfortable home for Dad, but a real caring (both in the physical and emotional sense) environment for him to live out his remaining time. Providing him with an atmosphere where he was able to laugh, joke and enjoy his last weeks is a credit to the Home and to the staff.

But your concern was not only for Dad's well-being but also for us, his family, as exemplified when a staff member paid a Shiva visit and spoke warmly of Dad and his stay at the Home. This helped to ease our grief at our time in need. Dad came to the Home to die, but in fact he lived. And with the hospice care provided, his final few days were calm and peaceful.

Dad was given the opportunity not only to live his last weeks in comfort, but to 'really enjoy his last weeks'...and for this the staff of JHAL has our deepest appreciation and affection."

**Message from our
President & CEO, Jewish Home Family
Charles P. Berkowitz**

**Proposed Jewish Home Family
Administration Building**

The Board of Directors of the Jewish Home Family is exploring, along with the Boards of Directors of the Jewish Home at Rockleigh (JHR) and the Jewish Home Foundation, the development of an addition to the Rockleigh facility.

This building, renderings of which are below, is projected to be approximately 5,000 square feet. The expansion/construction committee is being chaired by Charles Klatskin and consists of the following members representing our Boards of Directors: Bernie Bober, Carl Epstein, Ary Freilich, Dr. Sandra Gold, Richard Goldstein, Steven Morey Greenberg, Dennis Gralla, Stan Shirvan, as well as Sunni Herman, EVP of JHR, and myself.

The building will house the corporate offices of the Jewish Home Family, the CFO, Brandy Stefanco and the Finance Department, which currently serves the needs of JHR, Jewish Home Assisted Living (in conjunction with their bookkeeper-Chris), the start of the newly formed agency, Jewish Home at Home (JH@H), and the Jewish Home Foundation. A newly created full time position of Director of Volunteers will work with JH@H and our other agencies to assist in the development of a group of volunteers who will help us serve the elderly living at home in our catchment area, which will incorporate the geographical area of UJA-NNJ. In addition, Melanie Cohen, Executive Director of the Jewish Home Foundation and the Foundation staff, will move their corporate offices into this building. The other component of our services which will be housed there is the Admissions office headed by Annette Myers, as they too, are currently working with all components of the Jewish Home Family.

The move to do this is for a number of reasons, the first of which is the lack of space in the existing building in Rockleigh. The movement of some existing offices to this new building will enable us to expand some of the existing departments, especially the Rehabilitation Department. With the growth of JH@H, the outpatient department for rehabilitation services will require additional space. By regulation, the outpatient services must not integrate with the inpatient services. At this time we separate them by scheduling outpatients at a different time and in a different area, and this has become quite limiting. The projected space requirements for these departments, including accounting for the growth of JH@H, are being projected for a 5 year period. This is mainly housing the administrative offices for JH@H as the service personnel will be in the field.

This process requires two important steps before we can proceed. The first and foremost is the funding of this project. We are currently exploring a naming opportunity with long-time friends of the Home for a portion of the \$2,500,000 estimated to complete this project. The balance of the cost will also be obtained through a combination of gifts from other friends of the Jewish Home and funds set aside for this purpose by the Boards of Directors of the Jewish Home.

The second step is acquiring the approvals of the Township of Rockleigh. As no variances are required, we believe that this will be accomplished without any problems arising. We hope to get our approvals for the Berkowitz Garden at the same time.

We would, of course, welcome the support of all for this project.



HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES

Residents, families and members of the community are invited to celebrate birthdays and simchas, or honor/remember loved ones by sponsoring either a Shabbat or Yom Tov Kiddush (\$150), or by dedicating a Large Print Holiday Prayer Book (\$36). For further information, contact the Development Office at 201-784-1414 x5538.

We really hope you can make it, so . . .

**SAVE THE DATE !
Monday, May 23, 2011**

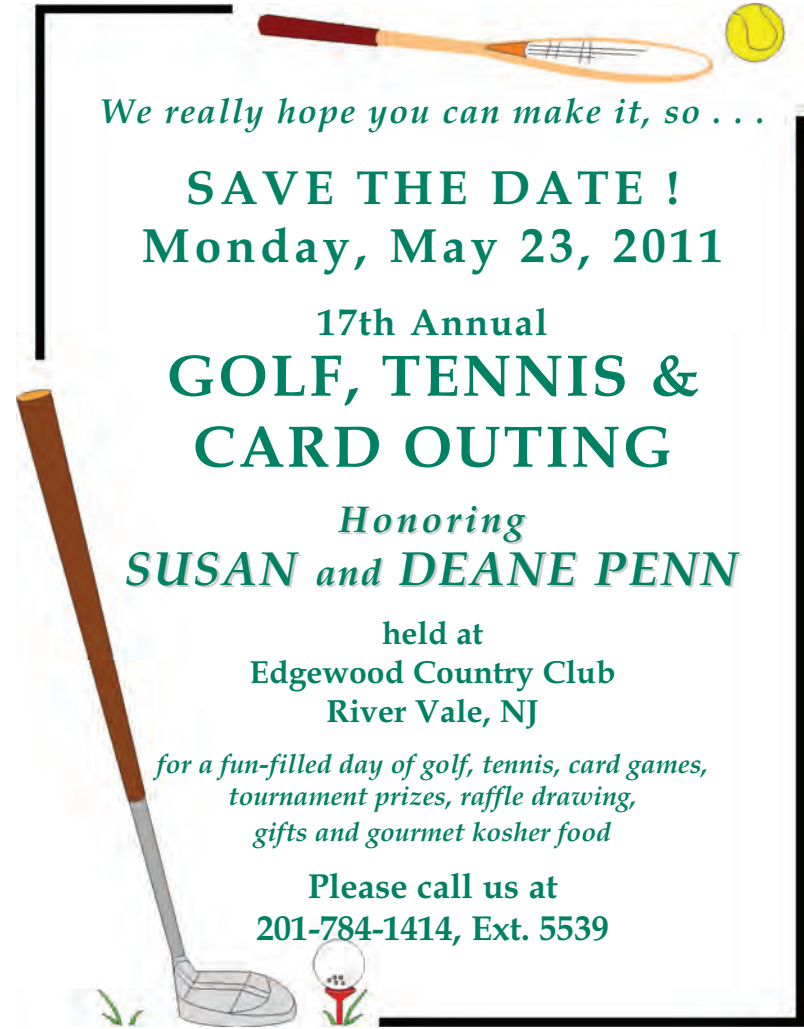
**17th Annual
GOLF, TENNIS &
CARD OUTING**

*Honoring
SUSAN and DEANE PENN*

held at
**Edgewood Country Club
River Vale, NJ**

*for a fun-filled day of golf, tennis, card games,
tournament prizes, raffle drawing,
gifts and gourmet kosher food*

**Please call us at
201-784-1414, Ext. 5539**



Passover Cards

In what has become a welcomed annual tradition, the Jewish Home Foundation offers the opportunity to wish loved ones a sweet and happy Passover holiday by making available lovely Passover Greeting Cards. Last year, members of the community sent over 1100 cards to friends and family.

Uniquely designed for the Jewish Home by Judaic artist Mordechai Rosenstein, the card's artwork joyfully illustrates the family seder. The interior of each card reflects holiday wishes and is individually printed with the

sender's name, indicating that a donation has been made to the Jewish Home in honor of the recipient.

An \$18 donation for each card helps the Jewish Home Foundation continue to provide programs and care to the elderly in the Jewish Home at Rockleigh, the Jewish Home Assisted Living, and the community.

To have cards sent, please contact the Foundation office at 201-784-1414 Ext. 5539, no later than April 1st. The first Seder is Monday evening, April 18th.



2010 - JHR Employee Recognition Ceremony - Honoring employees who've helped us make a difference for 5 years

OUR PATRONS' SPECIAL DATES

Barbara & Norman Seiden	Wedding Anniversary	Mar 3
Janet & Bernie Bober	Wedding Anniversary	Mar 5
Maggie & Bill Kaplen	In Honor of Our Grandchildren	Mar 6
Angelica Berrie	In Memory of Russ Berrie's Birthday	Mar 18
Lovey & Murray Beer	Wedding Anniversary	Mar 23
Jeanette & Seymour Spira	Wedding Anniversary	Mar 30
Bernice & Herb Levetown	56th Wedding Anniversary	Apr 3
Anita & Howard Blatt	Wedding Anniversary	Apr 4
Kathy & Richard Leventhal	Wedding Anniversary	Apr 6
Stephanie & Andrew Pittel	20th Wedding Anniversary	Apr 13
Brach Eichler LLC	Founded in 1967	Apr 15
Norie & Eric Hubner	Wedding Anniversary	Apr 15
Ethel & Irving Plutzer	Wedding Anniversary	Apr 18
Steven Morey Greenberg	In Memory of Rhoda Greenberg's Birthday	May 6
Lynne & Marty Zaikov	Wedding Anniversary	May 7
JoAnn Hassan & Martin Perlman	Wedding Anniversary	May 16
Barnett Design, Inc.	Established in 1991	May 21

JHAL Residents Capture their Histories on CDs

Iris Rosendahl, Public Relations Coordinator

Fran Kramer, a resident of the Jewish Home Assisted Living since 2009, has been an avid genealogist for more than 25 years. She and her husband Robert even put together a book about their two families for their 60th wedding anniversary. So it's no surprise that she's behind a new project at the facility to encourage residents to participate in putting together a personal history that they can pass on to their families. "This project could be a model for other independent living and assisted living facilities to use," she said.

With the help of a generous donation from Joelle Halperin which enabled the facility to purchase a camcorder, CDs, and a CD burner, the project got underway with an interview with JHAL resident Ben Halperin, Joelle's father. Ben talked about growing up in Passaic, becoming an attorney and working as chief counsel for the Army Department. He and his wife Renee lived in Fair Lawn where they raised three children.

During her interview, JHAL resident Trudy Schloss, a Holocaust survivor, recalled growing up in the Southern part of Germany. At the age of 14 she went to Berlin to train as a nurse in a Jewish hospital because the hospital couldn't hire non-Jewish staff. Her parents and sister were sent to a concentration camp in France and then to Auschwitz where her sister survived but her parents did not. Trudy joined her aunt and uncle who were about to be sent away to Riga in

Latvia; eventually they were sent to Auschwitz too, where they died. Trudy survived as part of a group building roads in Latvia where she struck up a friendship with a young man who eventually became her husband. Trudy and Lewis were married in Germany in 1945. They came to the U.S. together, living first in Washington Heights, NY, then Astoria, Queens, and finally to Teaneck, NJ where her son Steven and daughter Julie grew up.

JHAL resident Leo Mazer, a resident of Harrington Park, NJ and then Airmont, NY, recalled his years as an attorney in Hackensack and Closter, NJ. With his partner Arthur Leseman, they started the Fair Housing Council of Bergen County. As part of that effort, they represented an integrated church in Englewood which carried out the first relocation housing in that city. "That led to the construction of the first integrated housing development in Northern New Jersey," Mazer said.

This very rewarding project will continue until each person, who is interested in doing so, has completed an interview. This project allows families to hold on to memories that are so easily lost, and enables the Jewish Home Assisted Living to build a historical archive of its own community.

Thank you to all those who are helping to make this wonderful project happen.



Frances Kramer


 Ninth Annual
Myrna & Alan Cohen
 Spring Concert
 Sunday, June 5, 2011, 2:30 P.M.
 Swing, Israeli, Yiddish,
 Hassidic Dance Tunes
 Traditional & Contemporary Jewish Music
 featuring
Jeff Pines & Oys In the Hood
 Klezmer Band
 Free Admission
 Community is Welcome
 Refreshments
 at the

 10 Link Drive * Rockleigh, NJ
 201-750-4231


Jewish Home Employee Recognition Honorees
 Program Sponsored by the
 Bella & Martin Himmelfarb Endowment Fund







Campbell McKenna -
JHR December 2010
Roberto Flores -
JHR January 2011
Barbara Sterchele -
JHR February 2011
Gina Viola -
JHAL Jul-Sep 2010
Janet Tinter -
JHAL Oct-Dec 2010

Enjoying Activities at the Jewish Homes!












Top left, to bottom right:			
1. JHR-8th day of Hanukkah celebration	12/10	4. JHAL-Bring your child to work day	4/10
2. JHR-Dreidel game w/Solomon Schechter student	12/10	5. JHR-Masters of Art Program	11/10
3. JHAL-Masters of Art Program-Claire Proctor's artwork	12/10	6. Gallen Adult Day Health Care-Solomon Schechter Hanukkah Celebration	12/10
		7. GADHC-Sassy Ladies Holiday Party	9/10

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR RESIDENTS

Shirley Gendelman	Mar 3	Ruth Stein	Apr 20
Beverly Hodes	Mar 3	Leon Parmett	Apr 21
Morris Scharf	Mar 4	Kate Langer	Apr 25
Sylvia Goldstein	Mar 6	Etel Kotlarski	Apr 25
Laurie Weinberg	Mar 6	Ursula Riess	Apr 26
Trudy Schloss	Mar 8	Blanche Taradash	Apr 29
Phillip Wishner	Mar 9	Lillian Naftel	Apr 30
Thomas Lesnick	Mar 11	Anna Knel	May 1
Ruth Kalver	Mar 12	Sylvia Contente	May 3
Jerry Zucker	Mar 13	Rhoda Lipoff	May 5
Beecher Claflin	Mar 14	Saul Rogers	May 6
Aaron Eldridge	Mar 18	Sylvia Kushner	May 7
Shirley Malick	Mar 19	Mildred Berman	May 8
Sara Rosen	Mar 21	Rosemary Boyle	May 10
Sidney Udell	Mar 21	Maxine Cooperman	May 10
Leonora Messer	Mar 23	George Adler	May 11
Shirley Barber	Mar 24	Simon Gorfinkiel	May 11
Ann Katz	Mar 24	George Katzman	May 11
Albert Turtoro	Mar 24	Grace Pleyer	May 12
Leonard Stone	Mar 25	Jeanne Dorn	May 13
Gertrude Sherman	Mar 26	Mildred Hoffman	May 17
Ruth Cord	Mar 27	Henry Loeser	May 17
Selma Cooperman	Mar 29	Helen Brand	May 19
Doris Nirenberg	Mar 29	Julia Abramowitz	May 21
Phyllis Scharf	Mar 29	Helene Adler	May 23
Elizabeth Stasny	Mar 30	Albert Schreibman	May 23
Sophie Beldner	Apr 2	Carrie Hain	May 24
Helen Schultz	Apr 4	Shirley Doller	May 29
Sally Beutel	Apr 7	Frances Georgallas	May 29
Eda Aronoff	Apr 8	Joe Leeds	May 29
Eva Almasi	Apr 14	Stella Seidenfeld	May 29
Leo Mazer	Apr 17	Carl Ginsberg	May 31
Marcella Peiskowitz	Apr 18		



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New York: A copy of JHFoundation's latest annual report may be obtained, upon request, by writing to JHFoundation, Attn: Melanie Cohen, Executive Director, 10 Link Drive, Rockleigh, NJ 07647 or from the New York State Attorney General Charity Bureau, Attn: FOIL Officer, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

Helping Seniors Maintain Precious Independence

Iris Rosendahl, Public Relations Coordinator

Every week day, the Gallen Adult Day Health Care Center makes a difference to the lives of seniors and their families in our community. The Center, located at the state-of-the-art Jewish Home at Rockleigh, is a community based program for frail and impaired participants, offering the opportunity to socialize with peers and maintain their level of functioning so they can remain in their own homes. Whether it's someone living alone with little support or someone living with caregivers who must be out of the home during the day, the Jewish Home's program can help.

One of the participants is Sandra Lewis, an 84-year old resident of Fort Lee, who has attended the program since November 2002. Sandra moved to this area from San Francisco to be with her daughter, who later needed to relocate to Massachusetts with her husband.

Gallen "is a second family to me. It offers me friendship....There are so many activities and the entertainment is fabulous," Sandra exclaims. "She loves music, word games, dancing, holiday celebrations, and enjoys participating in intergenerational programs," says Joan DiPaola, RN, Director of the Center. "Sandra uses our Assisted Transportation Program to get to medical appointments and outpatient services such as visits to the ophthalmologist and podiatrist who

have offices at the Jewish Home." In addition, Shelley Steiner, LSW, Gallen's social worker, helps Sandra manage the benefits she's entitled to, and the registered nurse at Gallen monitors her weight and vital signs on an ongoing basis.

Sandra, who used to work for the Marriott, says she is a 'people person' and likes participating in discussion groups led by Rabbi Simon Feld, the Jewish Home Chaplain, and Rabbi Mendy Lewis. She cherishes her independence and believes that the Gallen program enables her to keep busy and take care of her own health. "I don't want to be a burden to my children," she emphasized.

The Gallen Adult Day Health Care Center is part of the Jewish Home at Home which provides services to seniors who want to remain independent in their own homes. The Jewish Home at Home as well as the Jewish Home at Rockleigh, and the Jewish Home Assisted Living are all non-profits and members of the Jewish Home Family whose mission is to develop and oversee the very best of care, services and advice for the elderly and their families at home and in their facilities, now and in the future, consistent with Jewish tradition and values. For further information about Adult Day Care or any of the Jewish Home Family's array of senior services, please call 201-784-1414.







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