

Men's Club of Mozaic Senior Life

CELEBRITY BREAKFAST

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023



Featuring
Gerry Cooney

World-Class Heavyweight Boxer
and Business Entrepreneur

MOZAIC SENIOR LIFE • 4200 PARK AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT, CT

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In the wild and wicked world of boxing, **GERRY COONEY** is a rarity: a fighter who has enjoyed success in and out of the ring. As a world-class heavyweight, Cooney advanced to number-one contender. In 1982, he challenged Larry Holmes in one of the most anticipated title fights in history. As a businessman, Cooney has promoted championship boxing shows, owned a share of several minor league baseball teams, and founded F.I.S.T. (the Fighters' Initiative for Support and Training), a non-profit organization which helped boxers make the transition from the ring to the real world by providing job readiness, training, and career assistance. Cooney was born in New York City on August 24, 1956, and raised in Huntington, Long Island. His amateur boxing career was highlighted by a pair of New York Golden Gloves titles and an invitation to the 1976 Olympic Trials. His overall amateur record was 55-3. Standing 6'6" and scaling 225 pounds, Cooney turned professional in 1977. He won his first 25 bouts, including knockout victories over former world champion Ken Norton and perennial contenders Ron Lyle and Jimmy Young. On June 11, 1982, before a crowd of 32,000 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Cooney faced the unbeaten WBC World Heavyweight Champion Larry Holmes in a title fight of such magnitude that it was hyped on the cover of *Time*. Cooney fought valiantly before suffering defeat in round 13. The bout drew a then-record gate of \$7.29 million. Cooney went on to engage in high-profile bouts vs. Michael Spinks and George Foreman. He retired in 1990, having compiled a pro mark of 28-3 with 24 knockouts and was ranked 53rd on *Ring Magazine's* list of 100 greatest punchers of all time. Cooney has maintained close ties to boxing. From 1988 to 1992, he served as president of Gentleman Gerry Productions, promoting bouts involving ring legends Roberto Duran, Hector Camacho, and Foreman. Today, Gerry lends his support to various charities and is often sought out to tell his story. He is a vocal advocate speaking out against drug and alcohol abuse and domestic violence. On Monday and Friday nights, he co-hosts a boxing radio show *Friday Night at the Fights* on Sirius radio. In his free time Gerry enjoys golf and teaches boxing. Cooney resides in New Jersey with his wife, Jennifer. They have 3 children.

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Mitchell Adelstein, *Event Co-Chair*

INVOCATION

Rabbi Shlame Landa, *Chabad of Fairfield*

REMARKS and INTRODUCTION

Andrew H. Banoff
President & CEO, Mozaic Senior Life

Brian Miles
Men's Club Past President

FEATURED SPEAKER

Gerry Cooney

Q & A and CLOSING

Louis Zuckerman, *Event Co-Chair*

THANKS

A special thank you to all the waiters for making this event successful by filling the room, both literally and virtually, with guests from across the country.

And a sincere thanks to all of you who have supported this event by attending and "tipping" your waiter. Your contributions will make a significant impact in how the Men's Club helps Mozaic Senior Life.

Mitchell Adelstein and Louis Zuckerman
Event Co-Chairs

If you would like to make an additional donation, please visit:
<https://mozaicsl.org/donations/mens-club-donations/special-events/>

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For over 39 years, the Men's Club has nurtured, enhanced and supported quality of life programming to benefit the 330 elderly men and women who reside at Mozaic Jewish Home. As an integral fundraising partner, the Men's Club has contributed more than two million dollars to support programming and services at Mozaic Senior Life and proudly supported the development of The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus on Park Avenue with a \$500,000 gift.