

Celebrating 50 Years with a New Name!!

When The Jewish Home for the Elderly of Fairfield County, Inc. opened its doors in 1973, it began its Mission to “serve frail elders with the highest possible quality of care and quality of life”. Our Mission has not changed in 50 years, and our services have expanded greatly in the past 20 years. In the early 2000’s, the Board of Directors and Senior Management team embarked on a journey to accomplish three very specific goals: 1) to offer home and community-based services to allow people to age in *their* own homes; 2) redefine quality of care around a person-centered philosophy that has re-designed our entire operation; and 3) to introduce the first (and still only) Household Model Nursing Home and Assisted Living community in the State of Connecticut. As part of this transformation, our name was changed to Jewish Senior Services in 2013 to reflect the broader scope of services that we provided to our community. The move to our Park Avenue campus in 2016 completed the tasks identified, and we continue to grow our commitment to meet the needs of our beloved Residents, clients, and their families. COVID-19 has been an enormous challenge for the past three years, but it did not stop us from either meeting our Mission or continuing to find ways to



expand it (see article below).

Now, as we celebrate 50 years of service, we are proud to announce our new name that will serve as the linkage for all that we do. **Mozaic Senior Life** will be the umbrella name for all our services, which will be renamed in turn. Mozaic Jewish Home, Mozaic Assisted Living, Mozaic Home Care, etc. will

tie everything together so that the community will understand that we are all connected. **Mozaic** was selected because of the meaning of the word, its beauty, inclusiveness, and the very diversity on which our community was created. Mosaic designs have been part of Judaism and Christianity since the beginning of time, and a trip to the Promised/Holy Land is filled with examples of this history. Moses, and his venture from Egypt, has countless examples

of mosaic design. For us, it is a representation of the beauty and diversity of the people who comprise our organization – Residents, clients, family members, staff, and volunteers – which all bring their unique colors, flavors, ideas, and spirit to the collective community we are.

There will be a formal introduction of the new name in the coming months, and we look forward to celebrating the next 50 years of service to our community with you!

Mozaic Concierge Living Pre-Sales are Underway!!

Thanks to a successful offering of tax-exempt Bond Anticipation Notes, which “closed” on December 1st, **Mozaic Concierge Living** is now moving forward with its pre-sales effort for the Life Plan Community in Stamford! The plan is to construct 168 Independent Living residences with an additional 42 units in a dedicated Health Center (Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living) for those who live there. The new community will be built at 210 Long Ridge Road – with construction to commence once we have achieved a benchmark of 70% of the Independent Living units under contract.

The first step in the process is for us to design the community with Perkins Eastman Architects and Pike Construction. That process began on December 6 and is expected to take six to eight months. Simultaneously, we have begun the Priority Reservation Program, which will allow individuals and couples to place a \$1,000 (fully refundable) deposit to secure their place on the waiting list. The waiting list will be sequenced and they will have access to select their specific apartments when the design is completed. A Priority Reservation Deposit guarantees access to the Charter Membership Program, which will have enhanced benefits for the first 118 apartments. This will include discounted fees, enhanced design elements, higher refundability on the Entrance Fee, etc.

Amy Ferrarie is the Director, Sales and Marketing, for Mozaic Concierge Living. She has a distinguished career in this industry, and for the past 10 years has served in those capacities for a Life Plan Community in Southbury, CT.

Amy will be working closely with JSS staff, including the current Senior Choice at Home® team, and our colleagues at Greenbrier Development to build our Priority Reservation Program in the coming months.

There are going to be many opportunities to attend informational sessions with the marketing team in the coming weeks and months. **To learn more, please contact Amy Ferrarie, Director, Sales and Marketing, at 203-365-6441 or aferrarie@jseniors.org. Or visit the website at mozaicconciergeliving.org.**

MOZAIC Concierge Living
 Life with Community



Amy Ferrarie presenting Mozaic Concierge Living to Senior Choice at Home Members.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Slice of Life
 pg. 3



Fall Gala
 pg. 4



Fall Gala
 pg. 4



Holiday Party
 pg. 7

For more information on JSS Services call
1-833-JSS-LINK
(577-5465)

Visit our website at
jseniors.org

Chairperson and President's Remarks



Jon August

This is a particularly exciting issue of *Chai Lights* as we report on the progress of our new master brand identity, the new campus development in Stamford and our overall achievements of the past year. We are so proud of the accomplishments of the entire community – especially the direct caregivers and support staff who have made 2022 such a productive and positive experience for those we are privileged to serve. You will read more in this issue about the detailed development of the Life Plan Community on Long Ridge Road, the rollout of our new name – **Mozaic Senior Life** – and all that we hope to accomplish

in our 50th anniversary celebration year. We are so very grateful to everyone who has made Jewish Senior Services a premiere provider of senior living services for five decades now – and we are ever more committed to expanding the scope and quality of the work that we do for this community for the next half-century.



Andrew H. Banoff

Jon August

Andrew H. Banoff

Dignitaries Visit JSS

In October, Governor Ned Lamont, his wife Ann, and State Senator Marilyn Moore, took some time out of their busy schedules to stop by Jewish Senior Services to visit with Residents, family members, clients, and staff.



Annual Campaign

"My mother lived with my family for 21 years and we never expected her to leave our nest. As she aged, we adapted our lifestyle to support her needs. I've experienced firsthand how the care at The Jewish Home transformed my mother's and my life for the better. Now, that I am not my mother's "everything" I'm able to be her daughter again."

-- Randi Oster, Current Family Member

The community's generous support has helped us to sustain our mission of providing a safe, secure, and beautiful Jewish home, while also bringing the quality programs and activities to Residents that are so vital in enhancing their lives. These gifts to the Annual Campaign also help to ensure that despite an ever-challenging healthcare environment, combined with a growing aging population, we can continue to take care of our community's seniors for this and future generations. In one unexpected moment, you or someone you love may require healthcare assistance. Jewish Senior Services is here to help when that moment happens.



Please consider making a gift to the Annual Campaign today by scanning the QR code, calling 203-365-6407, or logging on to seniors.org and click donate. Thank you.

Celebrating Our Volunteers!

The quality of life for our Residents is greatly improved and enriched by the compassion of our volunteers. These individuals take time each week to offer help and companionship throughout the year. JSS was able to acknowledge those contributions at the annual Volunteer Celebration Luncheon in November.

We have many volunteer opportunities available here at Jewish Senior Services including transporting Residents throughout our facility to the Beauty Salon, Clinic, and Recreation activities, assisting Residents at activities such as Bingo, card games, knitting, ceramics, art, and sometimes just being a friendly visitor to talk to.

If you have interest in volunteering, please contact Ellen Ashkins, Director, Resident Life, at 203-365-6417 or eashkins@jseniors.org, or Fran Sanchione, Therapeutic Recreation and Volunteer Services Coordinator, at fsanchione@jseniors.org.

Let Us Handle Your Mailing Needs While You Support a Worthy Cause!

The **Work Activity Center** at **Jewish Senior Services** offers a full array of accurate and affordable business services and by placing a project in our hands you are providing JSS Residents meaningful job opportunities.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Pick Up and Delivery • Direct Mail • Letter Personalization
- Labeling of Newsletters, Envelopes, Postcards, etc.
- Bar Coding • Establishing Pre-Sort Rates
- Collating, Folding, Stuffing Envelopes and Sealing
- Kit Assembly and Packaging • Quick Turnaround

With 40+ years of mailing service experience, projects are monitored to ensure all aspects are done to perfection and on time.

Contact us for a free quote at 203-396-1008 or pgarmun@jseniors.org

"How's your Dad doing?"

"He's doing well now, thanks. He goes to the Early Memory Loss program at Jewish Senior Services. They do brain games and lots of other programming to keep his mind active. Gives us a break and he really enjoys the socializing too."

"Jewish Senior Services... of course, of course."



Mazel Tov!

Congratulations to Andrew H. Banoff as he celebrates his 20th anniversary as President & CEO of Jewish Senior Services



Providing Quality Care in Connecticut for 50 Years

Memory Workshop: 203-396-1021 or memoryworkshop@jseniors.org

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus • 4200 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604
jseniors.org • 833-JSS-LINK (833-577-5465)

Slice of Life



1. Grasmere Adult Day clients have fun at a Fall Festival 2. Adult Day clients enjoy a planting session 3. Spending time in the sukkah are Marc Frankel and 4. Bonnie and Manny Lobel, Arnold Fischer and Marilyn Levi 5. The Israel trip group floating in the Dead Sea, 6. at the Western Wall in Old Jerusalem and 7. atop Masada 8. Nancy Hackett prepares deviled eggs 9. Mary Ellen Troy, 10. Viola Way and 11. Grace Hazard sport Thanksgiving hats for the holiday 12. The Resident Fashion Show brought out the beauty in Residents and staff alike; Bobby Africk and Elizabeth Herrera, Lead Homemaker 13. Erwin Banoff and Joan Heck 14. Lenke Hargitai and Wilhel Rowe, Lead Homemaker 15. Jean Arcoite and Audrey Heim, 16. and 17. Residents have a blast at the New Year's party 18. Chanukah cards from the Kulanu Hebrew School students 19. Sydelle Schlesinger and 20. Marsha Ryzman light Chanukah candles, along with Ellen Ashkins, Director, Resident Life and 21. Judy Bart and Carol Shapiro along with Rabbi Steve Shulman 22. and 23. Residents and family members enjoy the Special Chanukah Shabbat program in December sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary.

Foundation

2022 Women's Auxiliary Fall Gala

Photo Credit: Regina Madwed, Capitol PhotoInteractive



The 2022 Fall Gala was a huge success! Over 160 members of the community came together in support of Jewish Senior Services to celebrate the achievements of Bill Sims, Debby Hiller, and Barbara Kauders on Thursday, October 13, at The Patterson Club in Fairfield.

Co-chaired by Cindy Epstein and Vivian Epstein, the evening was truly a night to remember. Jon August, Chairperson of Jewish Senior Services, paid tribute to Bill Sims for being a leader and dedicated member of the community and presented him with the Arthur and Gladys Lunin Humanitarian Award. Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO of Jewish Senior Services, presented the Louis Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service, to Debby Hiller and Barbara Kauders for their dedicated volunteer work and as leaders at Jewish Senior Services and the Women's Auxiliary. Guests were entertained by the exciting a capella voices of SIX13, bid on great items at the silent auction, read the beautiful commemorative journal, and appreciated the gorgeous décor by Ruth Ridgeway Designs. \$168,000 was raised to support many important programs for the Residents of Jewish Senior Services with \$14,250 earmarked for ELNEC – End of Life Nursing Education Consortium – Geriatric Training for Palliative Care.

Thank you to the 2022 Fall Gala Auction Donors

Deborah Accurso • ACT of Connecticut Theatre • Aqua Salon & Spa • Andrew Banoff • Alan Berkson • Bigelow Tea Company • Bin 100 Restaurant
Jim Cabrera • Cima Sales Strategies LLC • Yvonne Claveloux • David Mac Hair & Color Group • Cindy Epstein • Vivian Epstein • The Farmer's Table
Fred 06825 • Furnished Quarters, Steven Brown and Gary Brown • Lydia and Scott Gerard • Hansen's Flowers and Gifts • Hartford Healthcare
Amphitheater • Debby Hiller • Il Palio, Bob Scinto • Jean Jacobs Gallery • Junkluggers • Kasson Jewelers • Kenneth Cole • Lady Ming • Rob Lucas, Peak
Wellness • Janice Millman • Morrison Living • The New Canaan Diner • Oak and Almond Restaurant • Pure By Shasha • Pure Poetry • Ridgefield Playhouse
Ridgefield Spa by Darcey • Vanessa and Jerry Rosenberg • Rough + Tumble • Sherry Sopin • Superior Seafood • Suzanne Einstein Collection
Tina Dragone • Laura and Howard Twersky • Two B's Accessories • Valentine's Diamond Center • Sandy Young

Women's Auxiliary Game Day

The Women's Auxiliary hosted another Game Day on Monday, January 23, 2023. Over 40 women gathered in Bennett Hall for a casual afternoon with friends to play Bridge, Canasta, Mahjong, or Rummikub. Desserts and beverages were enjoyed by all attendees. Debby Hiller and Barbara Kauders, Women's Auxiliary Past Co-Presidents co-chaired the event.



Foundation

2022 Fall Gala Donors

Thank you to all those who supported the Fall Gala - Jewish Senior Services is extremely grateful for your continued support.

BUILDERS

Anonymous
Roslyn Goldstein
Bill and Diane Sims

PATRONS

Greenbrier Development
Morrison Living
Bill and Gloria Paul
Perkins Eastman

PILLARS

Debby and Arthur Hiller
The Kadden Group at
Morgan Stanley,
The Steinberg
Forman Group at
Morgan Stanley
Vanessa and Jerry
Rosenberg
Harold and Anita Rosnick

GUARDIANS

Actual Energy
Jon and Diana August
Andrew H. Banoff and
Adriana I. Campos
Muriel Brown
Steven Brown and Steve
Saide, Gary and Faye
Brown, David and Marla
Brown
Chessco Industries /
The Radler Family
Cohen and Wolf, P.C.
Flagship Networks
Jeffrey and Laurie Gross
The Kauders and Gross
Families
KBE Building Corporation
Linda and Sam Lazinger
Michael and Nancy Marcus
MarshMcLennan Agency
Emil and Toby Meshberg
Caryl Ferber Poser and
Peter Poser
Savings Bank of Danbury
Robert and Mandy Stanton
Kenneth Wirfel and
June Eichbaum

SUPPORTERS

Abraham L. Green and
Son Funeral Home
Bridgeport Hospital and
YaleNewHavenHealth
Canon Solutions America
Jesse Cohen and Laura
Miller, Kenneth and Marilyn
Fine, Robert Neumann and
Vittoria Gassman, and
Pamela B. Hoffman
Facility Compliance
Services, LLC
Philip and Suzan Gaynes
Meryl Greenwald Gordon
and David P. Gordon
Harmony Healthcare
International
Law Offices of
Juda J. Epstein
Jennifer Farmer-Etzel
and Simon Etzel
Marcum, LLP
Sharon and Brian Miles
M&T Bank
RiverSpring Living
Standard Companies
Norton and Anita Waltuch
Zeisler & Zeisler, P.C.

DONORS

Always Caring of Connecticut
Association of Jewish Aging
Services
Joel and Lois Coleman
Marlene and Bob Fischer
Lydia and Scott Gerard
Geriatric Medical
Joel and Virginia Giuffre
Hawkins Delafield &
Wood, LLP
Joseph Sepot Architects
Knecht's Garage, Inc.
Mitchell and Sandra Kornblit
Tom Kruger and
Maureen Bailie
LECESSE Construction
The Madden and
Hiller Families
Sheila and Larry Merriam
Michael and Amy Moorin
Ronald and Renée Noren
Marlene and Mark Polansky,
Sherry and Mark Sopin
Redniss & Mead
Daniel and Laurie Schopick
Linda Valinsky and Family
Sandy Young
ZurickDavis

FRIENDS

The Robert J. Ashkins Family
Lynn Blueweiss, Rob and
Barbara Liberman
Nancy DiNardo
Cindy Epstein and Vivian Epstein
Rosa Applefeld and Ron Farrell
Denise Fenton
Robert and Deborah Frankel
Richard and Sandy Friedman
John and Carol Ghent
Dan and Andrea Gottschall
The Families of Adam, Marc,
and Josh Gross
Terry and Sandy Hayden
Karen Holson
Eric J. Katz
Knecht's Garage, Inc.
Susan and Jay Kotlen
Joanne Lilore
Janice Millman
Alan and Janet Nevas
Barbara Panisch
Charlene Peschel
Ellen Hyde Phillips,
Fairfield Interiors
The Pinto Family
Amy and Glenn Rich
Larry and Lisa Siebert
Doreen Zlotnick Testa
Michael and Ellen Wolfson
Judith R. Zeidel and Family

BUSINESS CARDS

Angel Commercial, LLC
Stuart Belkin and Maureen Dewan
Alan and Beverly Berkson
The Brant Family
Rabbi Richard Eisenberg,
Congregation Rodeph Sholom
David B. Brown, M.D.
Martin Burger, CPCU, ARM
Abraham M. Hoffmann, Esq.
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kles
Nancy and Dan Magida
Jerry and Lynne Minsky
Retirement Home TV
Carol and Larry Shapiro
Lauren Williams

The Men's Club Annual Meeting

The Men's Club hosted its Annual Meeting on Monday, October 24. A variety of craft beers and light bites were served as over 30 guests enjoyed the camaraderie of gathering together at Jewish Senior Services to schmooze, eat, drink, and say thank you to outgoing Men's Club President, Mitchell Adelstein, and welcome the incoming President, Neil Lippman.



Mitchell Adelstein and Neil Lippman



Emily and Jonathan Green



Marty Burger and Jerry Minsky



Joanne Lippman and Mindy Siegel

save the date
Monday, May 1, 2023
Women's Auxiliary of Jewish Senior Services
annual spring
LUNCHEON & BOUTIQUE
GUEST SPEAKER: CLEA NEWMAN SODERLUND
INN AT LONGSHORE, WESTPORT, CT New Venue!
CO-CHAIRS: LYDIA GERARD AND VANESSA ROSENBERG

SAVE the DATE
The Men's Club of Jewish Senior Services
GEORGE LIPTON
ANNUAL GOLF INVITATIONAL
Monday, June 26, 2023
Aspetuck Valley Country Club • Weston, CT

Lunch
Afternoon Golf
Pickleball
Cocktails
Auction
Dinner

Men's Club All Access Pass @ Hartford Healthcare Amphitheater

The Men's Club will be hosting an outreach event at the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheater in Bridgeport on Thursday, April 20 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. \$50 per person. Join us for an All Access Pass - backstage, food, and tour of the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheater. Space is limited and RSVP is required. **For more information about any of these upcoming events or to RSVP, please contact Lisa Becker at 203-396-1000 or lbecker@jseniors.org.**

For More Information

...on how to become involved with the **Women's Auxiliary** or the **Men's Club**, please contact **Dayna Hayden, Development Director**, at 203-365-6409 or dhayden@jseniors.org. Women's Auxiliary annual membership dues are \$36 and life membership is \$250 (payable over three years). Men's Club annual membership dues are \$75 and \$150. Life membership is \$1,000 and George Lipton Fellow membership is \$2,500 (both payable over three years).

Community Services

Grasmere on Park Adult Day and Memory Workshop Open House

Early November brought lots of new faces to the Adult Day Program and the Memory Workshop. Area Senior Center representatives, the Alzheimer's Association, a geriatric physician, and many interested families attended the Open House to learn more about both programs.

The **Memory Workshop** is a program designed for the individual who identifies with **early-stage** memory loss or cognitive decline and wants to maintain and enhance memory and brain fitness in order to continue an independent lifestyle and quality of life. The Memory Workshop provides stimulating programming such as memory boosting exercise and memory loss prevention activities, these include recall, brain games, and cognitive exercises, as well as health and wellness presentations, entertainment, outings, and chair exercises. The program has two sessions - Monday and Friday or Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Participants can attend one or both days. **For a tour, complimentary trial day, or to learn more, contact us at 203-396-1021 or memoryworkshop@jseniors.org.**

The **Grasmere on Park Adult Day Program** meets the needs of adults with cognitive and physical challenges in a fun, supportive setting. The nurse-supervised program enables adults who live at home to connect with peers and stay active mentally and physically through various activities such as brain games, bingo, discussion groups, men's group, entertainment, outings, chair exercises, bowling, etc. The program is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Participants can attend one to five days a week. **To schedule a tour, set up a complimentary trial visit, or for more information contact us at 203-365-6470 or adultday@jseniors.org.**

Caregivers - You are not alone.

If you are not sure who to call, what to ask, where to go and when to make a move - we can help.

Caregiving is hard enough and knowing all the resources available for your individual caregiving situation is impossible. Jewish Senior Services has a care navigation service that can address your individual needs by providing personalized assessments, recommendations, and assistance. **Call 1-833-JSS-LINK (577-5465) or email navigation@jseniors.org to get the assistance you need.**

Jewish Senior Services Hosts Two Caregiver Support Groups



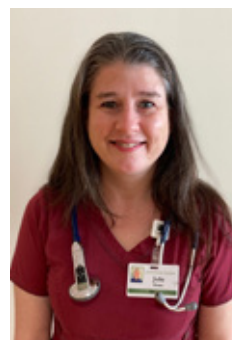
Caregivers, family members, and friends are invited to join us each month for an informative session to navigate changes related to disability or diagnosis. Attendees find guidance, support each other, and have the opportunity to ask questions.

All Caregiver Support Group - sessions are via Zoom and meet on the third Tuesday of each month from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Dementia-Specific Caregiver Support Group - meets in-person on the third Wednesday of each month from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Grasmere on Park Adult Day Program, 4200 Park Avenue, Bridgeport (Enter through the Community Services entrance in the back of the building.) Masks are required. A CNA is on-site if needed to attend.

RSVP to tcolucci@jseniors.org or call 203-396-1066 to receive the zoom link (if attending virtually).

Employee Spotlight



Julie Bruno, RN at Grasmere on Park Adult Day has worked in a long-term care/rehabilitation center and an adult day program setting prior to coming to Grasmere on Park Adult Day. When Julie started as a CNA and did her clinical rotation working with the elderly in Memory Care, she knew that this was her passion. Since Julie had nursing experience in an Adult Day Center, she was able to step right

into the role with the knowledge to be successful in the program. The compassion Julie has for older adults makes her such an asset to the program. Julie also works closely with family members, supports them in their caregiving role, and acts as a health advocate.



In her new role as Recreation Coordinator at Grasmere on Park Adult Day, **Brenda Addison** plans many stimulating activities each day to ensure clients' cognitive and physical muscles are exercised. She coordinates daily programs such as brain games, bingo, chair exercises, etc. Brenda comes to the program with a great deal of experience. She is certified in long-term care recreation, has a bachelor's

degree in gerontology, and has been in the healthcare field for over 20 years. She is also a graduate of the Leading Age Academy. She enjoys working with the elderly and has a knack for getting clients to participate in daily activities.

Jewish Senior Services

Elder Care Services Fair

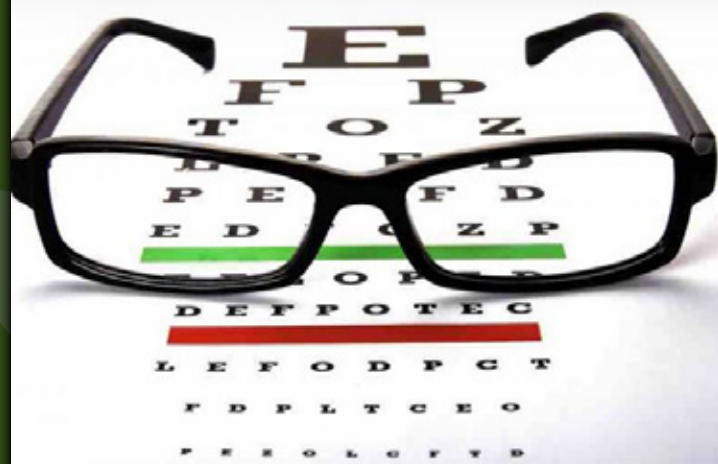
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023 • 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Planning care for your loved one can be overwhelming, come to the JSS Services Fair to see how we may be able to assist with your loved one's needs now and in the future. Representatives from several JSS departments will be on hand to answer your questions including: **Long-Term Care, Assisted Living, Memory Care, Short-Term Rehab, Adult Day Program, Home Care, and many more.**

For more information or to RSVP, please contact us at 203-365-6474 or mpruzinsky@jseniors.org

Are you experiencing vision problems? Low Vision Therapy may be the solution you have been waiting for.

Low vision is vision loss that can no longer be corrected by eyeglasses, medicine, or surgery. The Lions Club Low Vision Center at Jewish Senior Services may help with problems associated with Macular Degeneration, Glaucoma, Diabetic Retinopathy, Reduced Reading Vision, Peripheral and Color Vision Issues, Issues Adjusting to Light Level Changes, and Contrast or Glare. **For more information, call 203-365-8454 or email outpatienttherapy@jseniors.org.**



Employee News

Employee Holiday Party

Employees celebrated the holiday season with music, dancing, singing, raffles and lots of laughter. The evening wouldn't have been complete without the feast of delicious foods and treats, all prepared by our talented Dining Services staff. "This celebration is such a special event and a great opportunity to thank the exceptional people who are so committed to the Residents, clients and the services we provide to the community" commented Kara Rodriguez, Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer.

Special thank you to the Residents, clients, and family members who donated to the Employee Holiday Fund.



Employee In-Services

Staff gathered during the annual in-services event in December, giving them the opportunity to learn more about all the services offered at Jewish Senior Services, receive important reminders about safety and protocol, and even spin the raffle wheel for a prize!



Top Five Reasons to Become a CNA at JSS

1. There's a growing need for CNAs. If you are looking for job security, know that an aging population of baby boomers ensures that CNAs will be needed more than ever in the coming decades.
2. You will work with interesting people. Not only will you be working directly with Residents or clients, but you'll get to work with nurses, doctors and other professionals.
3. It's a great first step in nursing. If your goal is to be a nurse but you can't take four years off for nursing school, becoming a CNA is a great starting point!
4. Being a CNA is rewarding. You will spend your days helping people

- something you can feel good about.

5. The program is fast. You can become a Certified Nursing Assistant in as soon as 3-1/2 weeks with our CNA course. You have immediate employment as you work through the training program and then move into a role with skilled nursing on our campus or with home care clients upon passing the exam.

Contact us for more information about the program at 203-365-6457 or log on to: jsecurities.applicantpool.com/jobs

Alzheimer's Association Walk

JSS staff supported the 2022 Alzheimer's Association Walk in October with a "flower power" team. They successfully raised almost \$3,000 for the cause.



ELNEC Graduates



Several staff were recently educated through the End of Life Nursing Education Consortium, a non-profit that trains leaders to then train others in this compassionate care for those nearing the end of their life journey. Graduates include (from left to right): Justine Labate, RN, Stacey Bardin, RN, MSN, Regina McCluster, RN, Liza Mitchel, RN, Karen Vo, RN, Giovanni Jean-Claude, RN, Julie Nuzzolillo, RN, Lynn Sickels, RN, Sherry Mercer, RN, BSN, Jacqueline Wake, LPN, and Nancy Lamachko, RN.

Jon August
 Chairperson of the Board

Andrew H. Banoff
 President & CEO / Editor

Contact us at
203-365-6400
jseniors.org

For address changes,
 to add a friend or be
 removed from the
 mailing list email us at
chailights@jseniors.org
 or call 203-365-6494

Jewish Senior Services
 4200 Park Avenue
 Bridgeport, CT 06604

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 WHITE PLAINS, NY
 PERMIT NO. 2101

**Assisted Living and Memory Care Residences • Long-Term Care • Rehabilitation Services • Adult Day Programs • Home Care • Hospice
 Center for Elder Abuse Prevention • ElderCare Navigation • Long-Term Care Protection • Adult Family Living • Child Development Center • Catering • J Fitness Center**

Israel Trip - Take Three by Donna Quinlan

When asked to sum up our recent trip to Israel, I immediately thought “where do I begin?”. My inner voice bombarded my brain with evocative adjectives...amazing, unbelievable, life-changing, eye-opening, impassioned, heart-wrenching, relationship-forming, humbling, blessed. I just did not know where to begin. But now I do. “It was a feast” is my new response. This journey was a remarkable compilation of experiences that came together as a beautiful banquet.

A feast, in its basic definition, offers a variety of foods and beverages where guests eat and drink sumptuously and the experience provides abounding joy. And that’s precisely what our roving troupe represented. We were a wonderful amalgamation of 22 individuals who came together as a whole, each personality adding flavor and zest to the overall essence of the group. We were fortunate to have within our group people from as far as Mexico, Chile, Poland, and Russia. A range of characters from quiet, shy, and reserved to ebullient, outgoing, and entertaining. Our group was a wonderful mix of representatives from both the Jewish and Christian faiths. We had Residents, spouses, and volunteers, not to mention our amazing tour guides and a very skilled and entertaining bus driver. In the midst of our group, bringing a level of chilling awareness at so many moments, were Hidden Children during the Holocaust...Survivors which made this group so irreplaceably special.

At the heart of the trip were our two brave Residents, Betty Sannino and Steven Snow. Their courage and strength to take on the challenge of an international trip is astounding. Think about the confidence these individuals placed in the group to care for them, keep them safe, and accompany them throughout this amazing experience. Imagine the level of trust it takes to allow someone to navigate your wheelchair up and down hills, through rocky and muddy terrain, and to the brink of a cliff so that you can enjoy the overlook. It was a privilege for each of

us to be by their sides. We were further blessed when Steven allowed the group to assist him into the waters of the Dead Sea. Those moments of courage continued to feed us all and elevated moments that were at their core already amazing.

Take those ingredients and incorporate another element...Israel itself. The history, the scenery, its unique culture, the amazing antiquities we were so privileged to see and the breadth of knowledge of our tour guide were amazing. But what is it that makes preparing a meal more than just the sum of its ingredients? Some transformational process, such as mixing, stirring, or heating. I spoke with many of my fellow travelers to get a consensus on what those cathartic elements may have been. Faith, spirituality, and love were at the top of the list, along with so many moments of awe and many other moments of deep sadness. It’s hard to overstate the impact of a tour through



The group before Shabbat dinner.

the Remembrance Center at Yad Vashem, or the sense of reverence at the Kotel. We shared quietly powerful moments at the Jordan River at Yardenit and marveled at the expansive terrain and history of Masada. We shared time on the bus, dining on local cuisine, times of laughter and times of amazement at the history all around us. From our arrival in Tel Aviv, through Caesarea, to Galilee and all its wonders, to Jerusalem, to the Ein Gedi waterfall and on to the Dead Sea. Perhaps readers can understand why a seemingly simple question such as “how was your trip” stunned me into momentary silence.

Mary Poppins postulates that “Enough is as good as a feast.” Typically, I would never dare to disagree with the practically perfect nanny, but in this case I must. Israel, and how we grew from a group of individuals into a family, was a Feast. It fed each of us in so many ways and continues to do so. Each of us considers ourselves privileged that we were afforded the opportunity to make this life-changing pilgrimage. Our heartfelt gratitude will always be with Andrew and Jewish Senior Services for the gift of Israel.

A special thank you to our Federations

Jewish Senior Services is a recipient agency of the following community organizations. We thank these organizations and the communities for their support.

**Jewish Federation of Greater Fairfield County
 UJA-JCC Greenwich**

**United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford,
 New Canaan, Darien**

Family Mail

I just picked up my husband from the program, and I wanted to tell you about our ride home. How much he enjoyed being there and he couldn't say enough good things about everyone and how gracious everyone was, and I could see that for myself too.

**- N.M., Adult Day Program
 Family Member**

We are so grateful for the compassionate and loving care Mom has received from the staff of Kuriansky House, the second-floor team, and supporting services. Seeing her smiling, content, and well cared for gives us peace. Her environment is not only warm and friendly but always neat and clean. We appreciate the open communication with all levels of staff, and our family's questions and concerns are always addressed.

**- Family of F.Z.,
 Long-term Care**

Save the Dates

MARCH

Thursday, March 16

Women's Auxiliary and Jewish Federation of Greater Fairfield County Honey Cake & Latkes:
 How Food Memories Nourish the Soul Chabad of Westport

Wednesday, March 29

Elder Care Services Fair

APRIL

Thursday, April 20

Men's Club Social Event
 Hartford Healthcare Amphitheatre Tour
 Bridgeport, CT

MAY

Monday, May 1

Women's Auxiliary
 Spring Luncheon & Boutique
 Inn at Longshore, Westport

Friday, May 12

Women's Auxiliary
 Special Israel Shabbat Celebration

JUNE

Monday, June 26

Men's Club
 George Lipton Golf Invitational
 Aspetuck Valley Country Club
 Weston, CT