

# CHAILIGHTS

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For more information on Mozaic Senior Life services call 1-833-MSL-LINK (675-5465) .... Visit our website at [mozaicsl.org](http://mozaicsl.org)

## Bradford Perkins and Jon August Receive Awards at the Fall Gala

On Thursday, October 23, 2025, the Women's Auxiliary will host its highly anticipated Fall Gala, a night of celebration, community, and impact. Mozaic Senior Life will honor Bradford Perkins and Jon August for their outstanding contributions to our community, here at Mozaic Senior Life and throughout Fairfield and Westchester Counties. The memorable evening will be held at the Inn at Longshore in Westport, with festivities beginning at 6:00 PM. There will be a fabulous auction, elegant dining, a celebration of our honorees, and a toast to our bright future. This event is tri-chaired by Barbara Kauders, of Milford, Linda Lazinger, of Fairfield, and Mazi Scherban, of Milford.

We are proud to announce that the 2025 recipient of the Arthur and Gladys Lunin Humanitarian Award is Bradford Perkins. The Lunin Award recognizes outstanding public and community service as exemplified by the good works of Arthur and Gladys Lunin. In addition, the Louis Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service, which recognizes devoted long-term service to Mozaic Senior Life as demonstrated by the late Louis Lotstein, will be awarded to Jon August.

Brad Perkins is the Founder and Chairman of Perkins Eastman Architects, a New York based architecture, interior design, planning and strategic consulting firm that was founded in 1981. Under his leadership, the firm has grown to 24 offices worldwide, with a total staff of 1,000, designing over 2,000 projects across

North America as well as in over 60 countries around the world.



Brad earned his BA from Cornell University in Latin American History, an MBA from Stanford University, and a B.Arch from Cornell University and The City College of New York. He has been a pioneer in designing for the senior population for over four decades. The firm was among the first to approach aging not just as a care issue, but as a design opportunity - to create environments that promote

dignity, independence, and quality of life for older adults. Perkins Eastman became a global leader in senior living design, working for more than 600 senior living clients and completing over 1,000 projects worldwide. Among the key early clients that helped the firm's growth



were several of the Jewish Homes, including ours. Brad's work with our organization began over 20 years ago, helping shape the vision of The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus, and continues to guide us on our new Life Plan community in Stamford.

An accomplished author of nine textbooks and over 100 professional articles, Brad also served on the faculty of Cornell University for 10 years and frequently lectures around the world. He has received many awards during this long career and was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects over 30 years ago. He is part of the first grandfather-father-son trio to receive this honor.

*continued on page 4 ->*

## Mozaic Concierge Living Construction Update

July was another productive and busy construction month on the job site in Stamford, as more and more sub-contractors started working their trades. Most notably, the concrete sub-contractor mobilized and started pouring the foundations and footings in the "A" wing of the building, which was another important milestone. The dirt separation and rock crushing work continue in multiple locations as more areas of the building are getting ready for the concrete foundations as well. There are other trades



getting their work started as well, including electrical and waterproofing, as there will be more people working each month. The next few months will continue to focus on the foundations and supporting infrastructure. Please also note that the bulk of the Long Ridge Road sidewalk project has been completed by the City of Stamford (some spots yet to be filled in). All of this is consistent with the overall construction schedule being managed by our general contractor, KBE Building Corporation.



Chairperson and President’s Remarks



Jon August

We hope that you are enjoying the summer, as it has been extremely busy on and off The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus. There is much to read in this issue of *Chai Lights* about these activities, our colleagues and so many volunteers and donors who make our community vibrant and exciting. We always want to say **thank you** to the multitude of constituencies who are part of the Mozaic Senior Life family.

There is an update about our ongoing construction in Stamford, as we work to build the newest Life Plan Community in the region – Mozaic Concierge Living. We are now more than 90% “pre-sold” and are actively engaged with our future Members to bring this future campus to life. The highlights from the summer were the pouring of foundations of the building, and the Personalization Sessions with our Members as they select the color palettes, appliances, flooring, etc. for their future residences. There is still much more work to do, and we are excited to see continued progress. While opening is still two years away, the future Members are already creating a new community that is forming the basis of what will be something very special.

This issue also highlights the Joel and Lois Coleman Lecture Series, successful fundraising efforts by the Men’s Club and Women’s Auxiliary, the outstanding achievements of our dedicated staff including a Top Workplace award for the second year, and the energy of our Resident Life programming. Together, these stories reflect the deep impact our work has on those we serve and the broader community.



Andrew H. Banoff

Finally, as we near the end of Fiscal Year 2025 we are so proud of the work that our employees have done to care for more seniors and their families than ever before. While the nursing home, rehabilitation center and assisted living campus is limited to the number of Residents we can serve, our growth continues in home care and community services to meet the needs of individuals wherever they live. Our Mission has held true for more than 50 years, and as we enter the 10th year of service on this campus, it is clear that the need is stronger than ever.

*[Handwritten signatures]*

Jon & Andrew

Coleman Lecture Series 2025

Mozaic Senior Life, through the Joel and Lois Coleman Lecture Series, hosted Dr. Scott Gottlieb on Tuesday, June 10. Dr. Gottlieb presented “Expectations in the Aging Space Over the Next 10 to 20 Years” to a well-attended crowd of family members, Board members, donors, staff, and friends. His presentation explored the advancements in science, technology, and models of care. Many thanks to Dr. Gottlieb for his presentation and to Joel and Lois Coleman for their continued commitment as sponsors to this annual lecture series.



Thanks to Community Partners

We are so grateful to our community partners for supporting the important work that we do with the following grants:

- NEAR & FAR AID for the Mozaic Center for Elder Abuse Prevention
- The M&T Charitable Foundation for the Mozaic Work Activity Center
- First County Bank Foundation, Inc. for the Mozaic Center for Elder Abuse Prevention



First County Bank Foundation presenting Mozaic Center for Elder Abuse Prevention their grant. Pictured are (left to right) Laura Snow Robinson, Director, Mozaic Institute on Aging, Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO, Mozaic Senior Life, Benedict Peter, First County Bank and Grazyna Landmesser, Vice President & Regional Manager, First County Bank.

Music & Memories Studios

A special kind of harmony is taking shape at Mozaic Senior Life. Over the course of eight weeks, a group of Mozaic Jewish Home Residents, Mozaic Adult Day Program clients, and some of their dedicated caregivers have come together in a collaborative music experience. Led and produced by composer and producer Beth Styles, the program uses the power of music to engage individuals living with dementia. Through shared singing, rhythm, and collaboration, participants benefit from improved mood, reduced agitation, enhanced communication, and increased social interaction. At the conclusion of the series, each participant will receive a professionally produced audio-video recording of the original song they helped to create — a testament to the strength of community and the healing nature of the arts.



WE ARE DEDICATED TO DOING MORE.  
**TOGETHER  
WE CAN**

We’ve created more than just a campus; we’ve built a thriving community where individuals are cherished and supported, where life is celebrated, every day.

For over 50 years, our goal has been to continuously elevate the standards of excellence in caring for our elders. We are committed to providing every senior with the opportunities to pursue their passions and live life fully. We set a high standard for the quality of care that a senior services organization should offer.

Your support is crucial to ongoing superior care for our loved ones and possibly one day, ourselves. If you’re able, please make a donation to the Annual Campaign and help Mozaic Senior Life continue on its path of excellence.

MOZAIOSL.ORG/DONATE/ANNUAL-CAMPAIGN



THANK YOU.  
TOGETHER,  
WE CAN  
MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE.

L’Shanah Tovah  
5786 ■ 2025

Artwork by Resident Philip Neufeld

From the entire Mozaic Senior Life family

Wishing you a sweet New Year filled with good health, happiness, and peace

From our home to yours, thank you for your support and dedication



# SLICE OF LIFE



1. The Leading Age 2025 Leadership Summit attendees included Sherry Mercer, Mozaic Jewish Home Director, Nursing (third from the left). 2. Residents Maureen Calcote 3. and (left to right) Elizabeth Petro-Roy, George Kelly, Ruth Pikof, Joan Kopnick, and Laurie Farrell celebrate Cinco de Mayo. 4. Mozaic Adult Day Program Chris Mendez, Program Associate, and client Lucille D'Achille dance to celebrate Memorial Day. 5. Resident Eileen Caldwell with daughter Patty Condon, enjoys her Mother's Day gift from the Women's Auxiliary. 6. Resident Andrew Pacelli enjoys his Father's Day gift, also from the Women's Auxiliary. 7. The Resident Art Show displayed the artwork of many artists, including 8. Resident Wanda Henderson. 9. Mozaic Adult Day Program client Nancy Slage has fun during a handprint craft activity. 10. Shelton High School students do an activity with Mozaic Assisted Living Residents. 11. Caitlin Stroh, Mozaic Senior Life Supervisor, Therapy Program, leads 12. Mozaic Concierge Living Members in mindful movements for cognitive health at the second FINGER Workshop session. 13. The summer BBQs are in full swing. Resident Fani Steinberger as well as 14. Residents Helen Mongelia and Diana Goomrigian enjoy the afternoon. 15. Resident Roberta Africk gets some one-on-one time with a Barnum Festival entertainer and 16. the Ringleader visits with Residents. 17. Volunteers Shirley Baron and Sara Kershenbaum help Barbara Liberman in the newly relocated Woman's Auxiliary Gift Shop. 18. Mozaic Jewish Home Residents (left to right) Edna Francescio, Elizabeth Petro-Roy and Diana Meyer play games using EyeClick, a new technology for activities. 19. Mozaic Jewish Home Residents gather for tabletop bowling in their great room. 20. Mozaic Assisted Living Residents Dan and Ruth Wolinsky celebrate their 75th Anniversary!





# WOMEN'S AUXILIARY



Photo credit: Regina Madwed, Capitol PhotoInteractive

## 2025 Spring Luncheon & Boutique

New York Times bestselling author Georgia Hunter shared the incredible true story of her family separated at the start of World War II at the Women's Auxiliary Spring Luncheon & Boutique on Monday, May 5 at the Inn at Longshore in Westport. Over 200 members and friends of the Women's Auxiliary attended the event, co-chaired by Betsy Baron and Lydia Gerard. The event raised over \$45,000 to support Resident programming.

## 2025 Boutique Vendors

Adorn Accessories • Blank Canvas • Brilliance Fine Jewelry • Chick Magnets • The Chintz Giraffe • Delavignes Gourmet Foods & Gifts  
Excessorize • Gioiella Jewelry • Hopscotch • JL Rocks • The Lady Ming Collection • Peace Love Light • Pure by Shasha • Scents of Empowerment  
Sunny Collins • Suzanne Einstein Collection • Sweet Creations • Two B's Accessories • Well-Comb Home • Wonnaful • Wood Ethos

## Fall Gala *continued from page 1*

Brad and his wife Phyllis are longtime residents of Scarsdale, New York, where they are happily surrounded by their three daughters and their families. Brad's lifelong dedication to thoughtful, community-centered design continues to shape inclusive, enriching spaces for people of all ages.

Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO of Mozaic Senior Life, shared, "Brad Perkins is among the few pioneers who is widely recognized to have helped to create the Senior Living industry. I am privileged to call him not only a colleague but a friend and have benefited from his counsel and guidance over many years. He has been not only instrumental in the design and development of our campus in Bridgeport, but now our new Life Plan community in Stamford".

Andrew continued, "Jon August has been a unique leader as Board Chairperson given his many relationships in the community having spent his entire life and career locally. We are all grateful for his leadership in guiding the Board through the development in Stamford, and the parking lots expansion in Bridgeport. Most importantly, he is a sage counsel to all of us, and I am forever thankful for all that he has done for the community."

Jon August, this year's receipt of the Lous Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service, is being recognized for his long-term commitment to Mozaic Senior Life. His connection to The Jewish Home dates back decades, from the time when various members of his family were Residents, including his aunt Olga and beloved mother Gertude. Since 2011, Jon has been an active member of the Mozaic Senior Life community, first through the JHE Foundation and then as an active Board of Director and Executive Committee member. He is serving as the 24th Chairperson of the Board from 2022-2025. Under his dynamic leadership, Mozaic Concierge Living in Stamford, our new Life Plan community, was brought forward from concept to groundbreaking - an exciting milestone that expands Mozaic Senior Life's impact on senior care in the region. He previously served as Vice Chairperson and Secretary as well as a member of all the Board committees. Throughout his tenure, Jon has worked alongside dedicated colleagues and a passionate staff, all united in

the mission to uphold dignity, purpose, and compassion for seniors. His deep respect for the Mozaic Senior Life team and its values continues to inspire his service.

Professionally, Jon is a partner at Miller, Rosnick, D'Amico, August & Butler, P.C., where his primary focus is on workers' compensation and personal injury law. He earned his BA from the University of Connecticut and JD from Loyola University. From 1995 to 2006, Jon served as a Hearing Officer for the Bridgeport Board of Education and continues to serve as a mediator and arbitrator in personal injury and workers' compensation matters.

Jon's broader community involvement includes serving on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Bridgeport, where he played a central role in the acquisition of 4200 Park Avenue. He also served as Chair of the Federation's Annual Campaign and as Chairperson of the Jewish Community Foundation.

Born and raised in Bridgeport and a longtime resident of Easton, Jon is deeply rooted in the local community. He credits his late parents for instilling in him the values of *l'dor v'dor*—from generation to generation. He is a devoted husband to his wife, Diana, and proud father of their daughter, Rachel.

There are many ways to support this year's Fall Gala. Place an ad in the commemorative journal and include a special message to the honorees, a Resident or a special staff member. Or attend the event and join us for the festivities on October 23rd in person. For over 57 years the Women's Auxiliary has played an essential role in furthering Mozaic Senior Life's mission and standard of health care. The overriding mission of the Women's Auxiliary is to nurture, enhance, and support quality of life initiatives for the Residents and clients of Mozaic Senior Life.

For additional information, to receive an invitation, or to register online, visit [mozaicsl.org/donations/womens-auxiliary-donations/fall-gala/](https://mozaicsl.org/donations/womens-auxiliary-donations/fall-gala/) or contact Dayna Hayden, Director, Development at 203-365-6409 or [dhayden@mozaicsl.org](mailto:dhayden@mozaicsl.org).



# MEN'S CLUB



## Annual George Lipton Golf Invitational

A magnificent afternoon was spent with the Men's Club at our 39th Annual George Lipton Golf Invitational at Rockrimmon Country Club in Stamford. The day was filled with golfing, pickleball, lunch, cocktails, dinner, a silent auction, and awards. The third Pickleball Clinic and Tournament took place where we learned new skills and to stay out of the kitchen! Over 110 golfers enjoyed a day of camaraderie and healthy competition. Congratulations to David Oberhand for making a hole-in-one during the tournament! Right before the shotgun, Mike Kolakowski, from KBE Building Corporation, presented Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO, with a \$100,000 donation to Mozaic Senior Life's Vision 2031 Campaign. Special thanks to KBE, all our participants, and event sponsors for their generous and ongoing support of the Men's Club and of Mozaic Senior Life. Co-chaired by Men's Club President, Neil Lippman and Board member Chuck Zwecker, the successful event generated more than \$100,000.



Photo credit:  
Regina Madwed,  
Capitol PhotoInteractive

## Thank You!

Thank you to all of the businesses and individuals who supported the George Lipton Invitational – Mozaic Senior Life is extremely grateful for your continued support.

### COCKTAILS SPONSOR

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The Steinberg Forman Group  
at Morgan Stanley  
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and Vaughn Lipton  
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Amy Rich, Educational Consulting  
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Ken Wirfel and June Eichbaum

### HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSOR

Honda of Westport

Men's Club of Mozaic Senior Life

## CELEBRITY BREAKFAST

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 • 7:30 AM



FEATURING LACROSSE COACH

**Mike Pressler** Three-time NCAA Coach for Bryant, Duke and Ohio Wesleyan Universities; Head Coach General Manager Professional Lacrosse League NY Atlas; Head Coach Gold Medal Team USA; Head Coach Highland Park TX, State Champions

MOZAIC SENIOR LIFE, 4200 PARK AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT, CT  
(LIVE STREAMING OPTION AVAILABLE)  
\$100 SUGGESTED MINIMUM "TIP" DONATION

Register using QR code or at: [mozaicsl.org/donations/mens-club-donate/celebrity-breakfast](https://mozaicsl.org/donations/mens-club-donate/celebrity-breakfast)  
RSVP through waiter invitation or contact Beth Tepper at 203-396-1000 or [btepper@mozaicsl.org](mailto:btepper@mozaicsl.org)



Generously underwritten (to date) by:



## A special thank you to our Federations

Mozaic Senior Life 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

## For Further 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@mozaicsl.org](mailto:dhayden@mozaicsl.org).

Women's Auxiliary Annual Membership dues are \$36, Life Membership is \$250, Sterling Life Membership is \$500 and Gold Life Membership is \$1,000 (all Life Memberships are payable over three years).

Men's Club Annual Membership dues are \$75, Life Membership is \$1,000 and Lipton Fellow Membership is \$2,500 (both payable over three years).





# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Mozaic Senior Life Distributes Artificial Intelligence Products to Support Seniors



ELLI-Q is an AI-powered in-home companion device developed by Intuition Robotics, specifically designed to meet the emotional, physical and social needs of older adults and support aging in place. It combines voice interaction, proactive engagement, wellness tracking, and personalized content delivery to

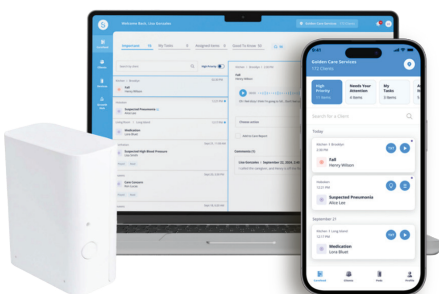
promote independence, reduce loneliness, and improve overall well-being. ELLI-Q is an empathetic and intelligent in-home companion that blends advanced AI with a human-centered approach to support aging with dignity and autonomy.

ELLI-Q is ideal for older adults living alone who want to maintain their independence while benefiting from cognitive support, companionship, and safety reminders. It's also valuable for families and caregivers who wish to stay connected and ensure the well-being of their loved ones without constant physical presence.

The benefits of ELLI-Q include: social engagement and companionship, health and wellness support, cognitive stimulation, proactive and adaptive interaction, and connectivity with loved ones.

To learn more or to refer someone, contact Mozaic Institute on Aging at 203-396-1240 or [ioa@mozaicsl.org](mailto:ioa@mozaicsl.org).

Sensi.AI is an in-home care-intelligence platform that uses non-intrusive audio sensors (audio pods that plug into room outlets) and advanced AI to enhance senior care. Sensi.AI delivers continuous, discreet monitoring that transforms home care from reactive to predictive and personalized. It provides valuable health insights, enhances caregiving efficiency, engages families meaningfully, and ultimately helps seniors age safely and independently at home.



enhances caregiving efficiency, engages families meaningfully, and ultimately helps seniors age safely and independently at home.

The benefits of Sensi.AI include 24/7 virtual care and safety monitoring, early detection of

health issues, personalized and proactive care planning, improved caregiver efficiency and retention, and enhanced family peace of mind.

To learn more or to refer someone, contact Mozaic Home Care at 203-396-1136 or [homecare@mozaicsl.org](mailto:homecare@mozaicsl.org).

## Employee Spotlight



Maria Abreu-Costa started her career at Mozaic Senior Life in 2021 as the Assistant Clinical Manager for Mozaic Home Care. In April of this year, she was promoted to Director, Mozaic Home Care. She was born in Boston, Massachusetts and moved to Portugal when she was 12 years old, then moved back to the United States in 2006

to pursue a career in nursing. Maria has been a nurse for over nine years working primarily in the home care field. While Maria was getting her nursing degree, she was also working full-time in the banking industry. Maria's interest in the business aspects of healthcare led her to pursue an MBA in Portugal. In her free time, Maria likes to spend time with her husband and two children. She also enjoys reading, Zumba, and taking salsa classes. **For more information on Mozaic Home Care, contact us at 203-396-1136 or [homecare@mozaicsl.org](mailto:homecare@mozaicsl.org).**

## What a Small World!



A nice reunion took place a few weeks ago when Joyce Decarli and Jasmine Johnson ran into each other at the Mozaic Adult Day Program. Jasmine, the Client Service Coordinator at Mozaic Companions & Homemakers, was passing through the adult day program and recognized Joyce, who is a client of the adult day program. Jasmine talked to Joyce, and they were excited to reunite after all these years.

Joyce was Jasmine's supervisor at her first job when she was just 16 years old. For over 12 years, Joyce was the "Chief of Staff" (as the staff affectionately referred to her) for the Crown Marquis Movie Theatres in Bridgeport. Joyce oversaw the concession stand, box office, the ushers and the kitchen. When Jasmine came to work at the theatres, she really looked up to Joyce because she was someone who had great customer service skills and taught new employees how to work in every part of the theatre. Joyce said that she loved taking on new employees as their first jobs (even her own two granddaughters!) so she could teach them to be reliable, trustworthy and independent, how to manage their money, to work together as a team and gain confidence. She even encouraged them to get their driver's license so they could get to work on their own. Jasmine recalls Joyce being a fair supervisor who was very good to her employees, funny, sassy and a very hard worker. Both Joyce and Jasmine were so happy to continue to have that connection and reminisce about the good old days. We are so happy that Mozaic Senior Life brought them together after all these years!

## CARE PARTNER Support Groups

Virtual Session

**Care Partner Support Group**  
Third Tuesday of the Month  
7:15 PM to 8:15 PM

Open to all those caring for someone regardless of diagnosis.  
RSVP to receive the link.

**Alzheimer's Association Care Partner Support Group**  
Third Wednesday of the Month  
3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Open to those caring for someone with dementia or a related disorder.  
Sessions take place at Mozaic Adult Day Program at Mozaic Senior Life, 4200 Park Avenue, Bridgeport  
A CNA is on-site for those who need it. Call to arrange prior to attending.

In-Person Session



## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Join this safe and compassionate space to share feelings, experiences, and struggles with others who are navigating similar losses. Led by a trained facilitator, these groups offer emotional support and practical tools for coping with grief.

**THURSDAYS**  
September 4, October 9,  
November 6 and December 4  
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Sessions takes place at  
B'nai Israel, 2710 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT

Please RSVP to Selina Ng, Bereavement Coordinator, at 203-396-1136 or [sng@mozaicsl.org](mailto:sng@mozaicsl.org) at least one week prior to the session you plan to attend

## DO YOU HAVE A LOVED ONE WITH A CHRONIC ILLNESS?



For care partners and family members of those dealing with a loved one's chronic illness, such as COPD, cancer, diabetes, heart disease or stroke. Led by trained facilitators, each session provides the opportunity to share challenges, celebrate strengths, exchange tips, and find encouragement.

Second Wednesday of the Month  
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Memory Workshop Room  
Mozaic Adult Day Program  
(Lower Level)  
4200 Park Avenue, Bridgeport

*You're not alone – come find support and community with us.*

Please RSVP to Tiffany Colucci at 203-396-1066 / [tcollucci@mozaicsl.org](mailto:tcollucci@mozaicsl.org) or Veronica Webb at 203-396-1136 / [vwebb@mozaicsl.org](mailto:vwebb@mozaicsl.org)





## Dale Carnegie Graduates 2025



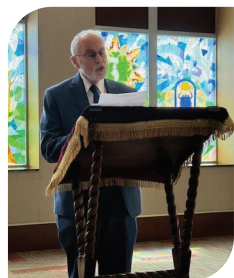
Mozaic Senior Life continues to invest in our staff by offering opportunities to grow and expand skills. Congratulations to the 2025 graduates of Dale Carnegie. Pictured from left to right: (first row) Nicloe D'Alessio, Selina Ng, Lisette Amoedo, Lorina Pettway, Veronica Webb, (back row) Gabrielle Healey (Instructor), Angelo DiRubba, Michelle Del Valle, Marvin Taylor, Frances Outlaw-Jones, Tiffany Colucci, Mary Pruzinsky, Heather McGeorge, Nikki Bohannon, Jessica Daigle, Jennifer Longmuir, Lindsey Denenberg, and Lharaun Jennings.

## CNA Graduates!



Mozaic Senior Life proudly offers Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training classes throughout the year. We are so proud of the recent graduates from the June class. Front Row (left to right) Casey Mulligan and Cynthia Arellano. Back row (left to right) Tiffany Florez and Dayana Xochitotol. The next CNA training class is scheduled for September 2025.

## Mozaic Voices: Initiatives



At Mozaic Senior Life, *Mozaic Voices* is our ongoing commitment to creating a culture where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued, and works to ensure that our workplace and community reflect the rich diversity of those we serve and employ.

The team has led specialty programs for Juneteenth, Pride month, and a Bingo event to raise funds for the Shuk. These efforts help strengthen our shared understanding and build meaningful connections across cultures and backgrounds. We look forward to sharing more in the months ahead.



## Mozaic Shuk Is Now Open

Mozaic Senior Life is proud to announce the opening of our Shuk (Hebrew for Marketplace), now providing essential food support to staff members facing food insecurity. Through Mozaic's food purchases, our partnership with nOURish Bridgeport, generous donations from Food Rescue and private donors, we are now able to provide essential food assistance to those in need. Each week, we distribute packages of shelf-stable food items to help ensure every team member has access to nutritious meals.

If you're interested in contributing, donations of non-perishable goods, such as the preferred items listed below, can be placed in one of the purple bins located at each entrance.

Canned Tuna  
Canned Chunk Chicken  
Spaghetti Sauce  
Canned Vegetables  
Canned Fruit  
Pasta / Noodles

Rice / Ramen  
Canned Soups  
Canned Beans  
Canned Stew / Chili  
Instant Potatoes  
Dried Milk

## Top Workplace for the Second Year in a Row!

We're proud to share that Mozaic Senior Life has once again been recognized as a Top Workplace in Southern Connecticut and in the Health Care sector for 2025! The Top Workplace awards are based entirely on feedback from our team members, reflecting the strength of our culture, our shared values, and the passion we bring to serving others every day.



This marks the second year in a row that our organization has earned this honor—an achievement made possible by the incredible people who make Mozaic such a special place to live and work. This recognition reinforces our ongoing commitment to fostering a supportive, mission-driven environment where our team members, and those we serve, can thrive.

Join our team! Contact us at 203-365-6457, [recruit@mozaicsl.org](mailto:recruit@mozaicsl.org) or visit us at the next Career Fair on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. For a complete list of current opportunities, visit [mozaicsl.org/careers](https://mozaicsl.org/careers).

## Big Win for the Mozaic Concierge Living Sales Team

Please join us in congratulating our outstanding sales team, who were honored with the "Most Valuable Team" award at the 2025 Greenbrier Conference. A special congratulations as well to Amy Ferrarie, Sales & Marketing Director, who received the "Most Valuable Player" award. This recognition highlights their exceptional collaboration, commitment, and results in driving the success of Mozaic Concierge Living. Their hard work and dedication continue to set the bar high and reflect the best of what we stand for.

The Greenbrier Conference, hosted by our trusted senior living development partner, celebrates excellence in projects that span from concept to completion. Greenbrier has played an instrumental role in helping us shape and deliver meaningful solutions in the senior living space, and we're proud to be part of this thriving partnership.



Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. To make a financial contribution, please contact Dayna Hayden, Director, Development, at 203-365-6409 or [dhayden@mozaicsl.org](mailto:dhayden@mozaicsl.org). Thank you for supporting our Mozaic community.



**Jon August**  
Chairperson of the Board  
**Andrew H. Banoff**  
President & CEO / Editor  
Contact us at  
**203-365-6400**  
**mozaicsl.org**

For address changes,  
to add a friend or be  
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## Family Mail

I wanted to express my deepest gratitude for everything you did for my sister during her time at Mozaic. You went above and beyond, making her experience so much more by encouraging her participation in activities she might have otherwise missed. You were there when she needed a voice, and for me when I needed an extra set of eyes. You truly made a profound difference.

– **D.F., Mozaic Jewish Home Family Member**

I would like to thank you all for your kindness and support before, during, and after our mom's passing. Your compassion and guidance truly eased what was a difficult time. We were so fortunate to have a hospice presence as part of Mozaic's excellent elder care services – always prioritizing mom's comfort and peaceful rest.

– **E.M., Mozaic Hospice Family Member**

## Save the Dates

### SEPTEMBER

- **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**  
Men's Club  
Celebrity Breakfast  
Mozaic Senior Life
- **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**  
Career Fair  
Mozaic Senior Life

### OCTOBER

- **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9**  
Men's Club  
Installation and Annual Meeting  
Mozaic Senior Life
- **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23**  
Women's Auxiliary  
Annual Fall Gala  
Inn at Longshore  
Westport, CT

### NOVEMBER

- **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3**  
Women's Auxiliary  
Annual Meeting  
Mozaic Senior Life

## Family Portrait – Helen Mongelia by Trish Munley

Helen Mongelia was born in 1919 in a small coal mining town in Northeastern Pennsylvania. She was one of 11 children: nine boys and two girls. Being the elder of the two girls, she was taxed with many of the chores, including ironing clothes. It was not unusual for her to iron 45 shirts in a week! Growing up during the depression, her family made ends meet by harvesting their garden, raising animals for milk and food and picking quarts of wild blueberries for sale. Helen worked in a once vibrant garment industry in her hometown. With her brother performing the ceremony, she married her husband Joseph, in 1946. The couple enjoyed “cutting a rug” and were excellent jitter-buggers. They welcomed two daughters, Elaine and Patricia (Trish).

Helen has always been health-conscious and was one of the original devotees of Jack LaLanne's exercise programs. She also could be found “Sweatin’ to the Oldies” with Richard Simmons, enjoying her daily walks, or practicing step aerobics. To this day, at 105 and a 1/2, she can be found participating in the exercise programs offered by Mozaic Jewish Home or walking the Mozaic environs. In November 2022, Helen was featured in an article by Harvard Women's Health Watch, titled “Aiming for Longevity.”

Helen learned to drive when she was in her late 60s. From then on, her skills took her far and wide until she decided, at 101 years young, that she preferred others be the “Uber driver.”

Helen, being the social butterfly that she is, has always involved herself in gatherings and volunteer work, especially at her previous residence in Carbondale, PA. Now she is an avid participant in many of the social programs Mozaic Senior Life offers, including the Work Activity Center.

While living in Carbondale, Helen was known for her cooking skills, particularly her delicious pierogi, Italian twisted cookies, walnut roll, pies and pickled beets. She has shared her

recipes with many, but no one can quite duplicate her flavor-filled creations.

The travel bug was always inherent in Helen. She had the opportunity to fulfill that “itch” when she visited her children in California, where she hiked in Joshua Tree National Park, traversed granite inclines in Yosemite National Park, and sampled trails at the Grand Canyon. Her adventures took her to Hawaii, Russia, Italy, Poland and a cruise, at age 93, to Quebec. On board the ship, she danced through the night as the band announced her birthday. At 103, she was honored to be “Flower Grandma” in her granddaughter Alanna's and husband John's wedding party. Escorted by her grandson Misha, she joyously strewed rose petals along the bridal path and later offered a blessing to the happy couple.

On her 105th birthday, she attended a Full Honors Memorial Service at Arlington National Cemetery to dedicate a headstone to her younger brother, a Purple Heart recipient and USAF F-51 Mustang pilot.

When she was asked what her greatest joy was, she said, “When Elaine and Trish were born.” For years she longed to have children. Today she includes in her joy sons-in-law George and Kevin,

her grandchildren Misha and significant other Molly, and Alanna and husband John. Her secret to her happy life she said is, “Watching her children and their families growing up.” One of her simple pleasures is spending time with her family (or beating them in a game of Yahtzee). She also enjoys dining out, family rides in the countryside, with the crowning touch being a stop at Ferris Acres Creamery for her favorite ice cream.

Helen is so appreciative of Mozaic Jewish Home's amazing staff, particularly those of Tandet House, who lovingly care for her. She stated that she loves her life at Mozaic. She emphasized she “receives good care, enjoys the activities and tries to participate in all of them. Her young-at-heart spirit, positivity, deep faith, and healthy, active lifestyle have contributed to her longevity.



Helen with her family at the Centenarian Celebration in March.