

The Changing Face of Senior Living is defined by the Four H's ...

Baby boomers are revolutionizing the marketplace, and demanding a retirement living experience that is much different than that of their parents. They're healthier. They're more active. They're more cultured. They want a vibrant senior living experience that encompasses their passions, their values, and their traditions.

Their search for the best in retirement living options is highly personal. Is the location appealing? Are the amenities offered ones you are truly interested in? Will the lifestyle of the community keep you active in body, mind, and spirit? Does the community you're looking into offer a spectrum of continuing care so you never have to worry about being a burden to your family?

The most vibrant retirement communities across the country invest in the Four H's — Housing, Hospitality, Holistic Wellness, and Health Care. Lions Gate is at the forefront of innovation in senior living, constantly building upon our commitment to a wellness-focused, engaging retirement experience. We're raising the bar on worry-free living, offering everything the next generation of modern seniors expect, and more!

Housing

Housing is the cornerstone of every great community, and the more options the better. Lions Gate offers 152 apartment homes in 13 distinct layouts ranging from 680 to 1,730 square feet. We also offer two different cottage floor plans, which is a semi-detached home featuring a garage, patio, and all the things people love about their current home, but with no maintenance worries. Our apartments and cottages cater to the diverse tastes of today's seniors, and afford them the opportunity to customize. "Beyond stylish and modern homes, Lions Gate's club-like amenities and common areas allow residents to engage with their neighbors, and enjoy the culture of a tight-knit community," said Susan Love, Lions Gate CEO.

Hospitality

Hospitality addresses the services provided to Lions Gate residents such as dining, housekeeping and maintenance. "Today's retiree moves into a community with high expectations," said Donna Coonley, Lions Gate Move-In Coordinator. "We cater to the day-to-day life of our residents." Lions Gate meets these hospitality needs with attentive, service minded professionals that embrace a hospitality spirit.



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Holistic Wellness

Holistic Wellness addresses all eight dimensions of well-being — physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, social, vocational, environmental, and financial. At Lions Gate, our Great 8 Wellness Program serves as a guiding philosophy in every aspect of our community. “With our proprietary Great 8 Wellness Program, our residents discover the inspiration and the means to enjoy an invigorating lifestyle,” said David Thompson, Lions Gate CFO. “It’s our hope that this unique program adds a touch of kindness, a spark of creativity, and a cheerful approach to each and every day. Our goal is to help others find that balance between enjoying the present, and looking forward to the future.”

Health Care

Like Lions Gate, a quality continuing care retirement community offers multiple levels of **Health Care** from comprehensive nursing and assisted living to memory care and short-term rehabilitation. “Consistent high-quality ratings and state-of-the-art wellness-centered design, is a must,” said Susan Love. “Once you’re a resident of Lions Gate, priority access to higher levels of care is available. Now that’s worry-free living!” Of course, you don’t have to be part of our independent living community to be admitted into Assisted Living, Memory Care, Skilled Nursing or Rehabilitation. We welcome direct admissions into all levels of care on our campus from outside of the Lions Gate community.

The future is HERE! As Lions Gate sets the standard for premier retirement living, we’ll continue to grow and evolve to exceed the expectations of Lions Gate residents — today *and* tomorrow. Join us!



Meet Jackie Levitt: LIONS GATE’S Resident Art Show Upcoming Artist

Meet Jackie Levitt, the next featured artist in the Lions Gate Resident Art Show Series. An 11-year resident of Lions Gate, Jackie can often be found in the Eugene & Evelyn Bass Art Studio, which has become one of her favorite offerings. She started oil painting at the age of 12, and has always found joy in the pursuit of art. “My father would pay 25¢ an hour for my art lessons,” said Jackie. “That was quite a lot at the time.”

Jackie went on to a long and productive career as an early elementary teacher as well as a speech pathologist. She earned her BS in K-8 Education from Kean College with a minor in Speech Pathology. She later earned her Masters Degree in Speech Pathology from The College of New Jersey. From public school to private practice, Jackie worked with everyone from autistic children to adults with Down’s Syndrome, and would often incorporate art into her sessions as a way to connect with patients. “I used to love to do illustrations on the board for my elementary students,” said Jackie. “It never failed to grab their attention.”

Jackie later got married, and had two children. Her daughter, Johanna, now lives in Pennsylvania, and her son, John, currently lives in Toronto. “I took a short break in my career to raise my children,” said Jackie, “but I never took a break from making art. During the ‘70’s I taught art to elementary-aged children in an after school program. We would do everything from print-

making with a mushroom to loom-weaving. It was tremendous fun!”

Jackie retired from her private practice in speech pathology shortly after moving to Lions Gate.

“There is so much to do here, that I felt like I was missing too much if I didn’t truly invest myself in the day-to-day activities at Lions Gate. Work was just getting in the way,” smiled Jackie. “And the first thing I really wanted to immerse myself in was art. The teachers here are wonderful.”

Jackie is planning to share her figure drawings, floral still lifes, and landscapes as part of her personal art show. “I work in both pastels and watercolors these days,” said Jackie. “I focused on oils in my early 20’s, but I really like to challenge myself to try new painting techniques now. I love blending water colors in my landscapes, and it’s fun to try mixing sponge-work with brush-work.”

The Lions Gate community is proud to celebrate the joy of art, and is excited to regularly showcase the many talented artists in our community. With each Resident Art Show, there will be an open bar with snacks, and a pianist. All are welcome!

Check with Kim Clemons, Director of Programming at Lions Gate, to find out more about our Resident Art Show series.



Introducing the new Chef: Shannon Johnson

Executive Chef, Shannon Johnson, Brings the YUM to Every Lions Gate Meal!

Have you ever imagined what you would do if you were on the cooking show “Chopped”? Could you take a basket of random ingredients, and whip up an amazing restaurant-level dish?

That’s exactly how Executive Chef, Shannon Johnson, started her career at Lions Gate.

“When you apply for any culinary position at Lions Gate,” said Shannon, “it is a two-part process. First you do an in-depth interview, and if they like you, you are called back for a cook test. In a cook test, you are presented with a basket of ingredients, and you have to come up with the most delicious meal you can imagine, all while adhering to kosher law.”

And what did Shannon come up with in her Chopped challenge that launched her career at Lions Gate? “Chicken Teriyaki, fried rice, and grilled asparagus,” giggled Shannon. “I was so nervous, and I had no idea where any of the pots and pans were in this enormous kitchen. Instead of speaking up and asking where the cookware was, I just grilled everything. It actually gave my dishes a super fresh flavor profile that I was really happy with. And I guess grilling wasn’t the approach many aspiring cooks took in their test, so that set me apart.”

Shannon continues to set herself apart in every way at Lions Gate. In just 4-1/2 years, she has vaulted through the ranks in the Lions Gate kitchen, moving from Cook to Baker to Lead Cook to Chef Manager to Executive Chef. “When I first arrived at Lions Gate to interview for a job, I almost turned around and walked out,” said Shannon. “It is so beautiful here. I thought I was completely out of my league. But I just took a deep breath, and let my food speak for itself. I landed the job, so I guess my food had lot to say.”

The position of Executive Chef at Lions Gate involves so much more than menu planning, ordering, budgeting, and supervising an extensive staff. “There is an enormous learning curve involved in keeping a kosher kitchen,” said Shannon.

“It is my responsibility to make sure my entire staff follows kosher law. I work closely with the Mashgiach who supervises the Kashrut status of kosher establishments as well as to the Rabbi who comes in annually to evaluate both my staff and the Mashgiach.”

Shannon’s kitchen is a hub of creativity inspired by the beauty of multigenerational friendships. “I just love the people at Lions Gate,” said Shannon. “I love their stories, and I love their feedback. It is my pleasure to take their favorite recipes, and modernize them with a little twist of my own. I absolutely love the matzah ball soup we serve here, and our Jewish apple cake is second to none.”

Shannon originally went to West Chester University to become a dietician, and started cooking professionally just to help pay her tuition bills. After she earned her degree, she just couldn’t bring herself to leave the kitchen. And that seems to be the same story for her 3-year old daughter, Avery. “Avery is my heart,” smiled Shannon. “She is always in the kitchen with me. She loves to wear her hat and apron when we cook together, and she’s always asking me to make cakes. She’s only 3, but she can already crack an egg, and slice fruit. I have a feeling we’ll be seeing her on ‘Chopped Junior’ someday soon!”

We’re all so grateful that Shannon followed her heart, and pursued her passion in the kitchen. Stop into The Bistro for a delicious mile-high Panini sandwich or gather with friends in the Lions Gate dining room for a slice of one of Shannon’s signature pies. The love she pours into everything she cooks is evident from the very first bite!



**SPECIAL
OFFER!**

MOVE-IN SPECIAL!

Let LIONS GATE cover your costs for
packing, moving, and unpacking. All you
do is put your feet up, and relax.
This is the start of the best chapter of your life!



LIONS GATE
Lifestyle. Care. Community. Tradition.

Contact Donna for this special offer at DCoonley@lionsgateccrc.org or (856) 679-4682.

Introducing the new Sales & Marketing Department:

Susan and Angela

Everyone talks about “downsizing,” but what is “right-sizing?” “In a nutshell, downsizing means drastically purging your possessions so you can make the leap from single family home to tiny apartment,” explained David Thompson, Lions Gate CFO. “On the other hand, ‘right-sizing’ involves reducing the size and scope of your home maintenance responsibilities to a level that makes you feel more comfortable right now.”

If the idea of downsizing and moving is overwhelming to you, the Lions Gate Sales & Marketing team can help — meet Angela Stevens and Susan Josephson.

“As a Sales Counselor, I field inquiries from individuals looking to move to a vibrant, welcoming senior living community” explained Angela. “I’m here to answer questions about everything from special dietary needs to continuing care health services to unique activity programming. The more information I can provide, the easier it is for someone to decide for themselves if Lions Gate is a good fit for the next chapter of their life.”

For those considering a move, it all boils down to two simple steps...

STEP 1: RESEARCH. As you do your due diligence, make sure you not only ask about the features and benefits of a community, but also try to get a feel for the social culture of a place. “A tight-knit community is all about chemistry,” said Susan. “When I give a tour of our community, I always make it a point to introduce guests to all the residents we pass. Who knows...if they move into Lions Gate, this may soon be their new best friend!”

“I love to chat with new visitors, and learn a little about their interests,” said Angela. “There are so many amenities at Lions Gate, that it just takes a little intuition to know exactly where they will feel most comfortable in our community.

Whether I introduce visitors to our regulars in the card room, or take them by to visit with Rabbi Grossman, there’s a little matchmaker in me looking to make everyone feel welcome and comfortable.”

A key component of your research should be to investigate the continuing care aspects of a community. Lions Gate features independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing, memory care, and short-term rehabilitation. Once someone joins the Lions Gate community, they can rest easy knowing they will ALWAYS be assured of access to care should it ever be needed, and NEVER be a burden to their family.



Susan



Angela

“Your health is your wealth,” remarked Susan. “Things can change in the blink of an eye, and when you live at Lions Gate, you know that you will always be assured of quality care. That is by far the most important piece of information you need to know. Once you are here, you are home.”

STEP 2: RIGHT-SIZE. Lions Gate partners with Byron Homes and Caring Transitions to help new residents with getting prepared for their move. “Trust me, Lions Gate has the right-sized home to suit your needs,” said Angela. “We have 13

unique apartment layouts ranging from 680 to 1,730 square feet, and we also offer two beautiful cottage floor plans, as well. Once you’ve chosen your favorite floor plan, our transition team draws up a personalized

design so residents can envision exactly where each piece of furniture will best fit in their new space. We can support them with packing, moving, unpacking, and the placement of every single item in their new apartment or cottage according to that plan, so when the resident opens that front door for the first time, it already feels like home.”

“That’s all there is to it,” said Susan. “I can’t stress enough how Lions Gate makes the transition from

current home to new community absolutely seamless. No matter what the question, concern, or worry, Angela and I will work with you to eliminate that barrier. I absolutely love working at Lions Gate because my job is really just bringing people together and making everyone feel welcome!”

If you’re looking to make the move to a vibrant senior living community, give Angela or Susan a call. They are a wealth of information on all things Lions Gate, and can give you expert advice on right-sizing, moving, and transitioning into a new phase of life. Take them up on their expertise today!



Guess who rolls out the welcome wagon at **LIONS GATE**

Donna Coonley: LIONS GATE's invincible Move-In Coordinator!

Who is the definition of cheerful — Donna Coonley, the Move-In Coordinator at Lions Gate! With a ready smile and a warm laugh, she's one of the very first people who will be standing in line to welcome you home.

"My job is all about making new residents feel comfortable," said Donna. "When someone is looking to make a move to Lions Gate, they meet with Angela and Susan to learn all about our community. The two of them have an encyclopedic knowledge of all the features and benefits of our wonderful community. There isn't a question or concern that they can't answer. Then once a person makes the decision to move here, I step in. And the first thing we do together is assist them in selecting a color scheme and design to incorporate their belongings for a newly designed space."

Donna's office is actually a cozy apartment, so new residents just pull up a comfy arm chair, grab a hot cup of coffee brewing in the kitchen, and have some fun. "This is my favorite part," laughs Donna. "We often select paint colors and carpet/flooring for every room, new countertops and appliances for the kitchen, and any other personal touches a person would want to make their new apartment or cottage feel like home."

Once the apartment or cottage is all set up and ready to be unveiled, Donna's New Resident Program takes "personal attention" to the next level. Residents walk in to find a welcome basket on the kitchen counter bursting with their favorite snacks, a refrigerator stocked with bottled water, toilet paper in the bathroom, and a welcome sign on their front door. Donna includes an orientation handbook jam-packed with pertinent information, and she puts a contact list on the refrigerator with all the names and numbers for services new residents may need.

"One of the many advantages of moving to Lions Gate is to free yourself from the burden of home maintenance and isolation," said Donna. "Every name and number on that contact sheet addresses that. If you need a light bulb changed, there's a number for that. If you have a question about the evening meal in the dining room, there is a number for that. And if you have a question about who to call, just call me. That's what I'm here for!"



All department Directors make appointments to stop in over the first few weeks to introduce themselves to new residents, and spend time helping them in any way possible, whether that means teaching people how to work their new washer/dryer, or demonstrating the unique functions of their voice activated TV remote. "Our maintenance team happily contributes several hours toward handyman jobs around the apartment or cottage," said Donna. "They can hang artwork or window treatments as needed to help you feel completely settled in. They are so generous with their time."

Feeling hungry? Donna has that covered, too. "I include coupons for complimentary breakfasts and lunches at The Bistro. I also make recommendations for new residents to dine with Lions Gate neighbors. It's a great way to make new friends!"

But what about classes and activities? How does a new resident learn more about that? "I give new residents their monthly calendar of activities, and walk them through our great line-up of classes and trips," explained Donna. "I think the biggest problem new residents have is deciding what to try first. It all sounds so fun! Honestly, whether they love playing mahjong or want to sit in on an art history class, if they're interested in it we have it."

"Our team works tirelessly to introduce wonderful new people to our terrific little haven here," said Donna. "With every new resident that joins us, I know Lions Gate will continue to grow and thrive for many years to come."

If you're considering a move to Lions Gate, give Donna a call. Her warm welcome will be just the start to a wonderful experience.

Grab a book — It's time to read with



It's hard to tell who loves BookMates Day more — the Lions Gate residents or the children. When 15 residents and 15 students get together to read aloud to each other, the chatter and laughter rings throughout the halls.



"I love BookMates Day!" gushed Abe Zitren. "It's such a joy to share a book with a great kid like Jacob."

The BookMates program is sponsored by Townsend Press in memory of Henry H. Nadell and Marjorie Nadell Schneider. Too many young children right here in South Jersey never have the chance to hear a bedtime story. BookMates is an interfaith literacy program that provides services to Title 1 elementary schools in low and moderate income communities throughout South Jersey. Older adults volunteer for one-on-one reading sessions with almost 600 students in kindergarten through second grade. Usually the adult volunteers go to the students, but once a year the BookMates students come to the residents at Lions Gate. This year the students arrived from Molina Elementary School in Camden, NJ.



"I got to be partners with Miss Gladys today," said Minelys Rodrigues, a smiley 2nd grader. "We read *Fun Dog, Sun Dog* together. She is so nice!"

Students are bussed to the Lions Gate campus for the event, and each child is met at the door by an eager resident. "These students are not only budding readers," said Luz Ramos, Family & Community Engagement Coordinator with Molina Elementary School, "but they are also budding social leaders in our school. These kids get such a boost to their self-esteem from this program, and they share that great feeling with their peers. The more positive attention we give these kids, the more they have to give back to the community as a whole."

"I read *Dragons Love Tacos* with Miss Phyllis," giggled Anthony Rosas. "I liked it so much that we read it twice!"

"I used to be a kindergarten teacher," said Lions Gate resident, Eliane Strip. "Reading is one of my true pleasures in life. There is nothing better than sharing a beautiful book with a child."



Laura Gottlieb, Co-Chair for the BookMates program, is thrilled to count Lions Gate as a regular BookMates supporter. "The kids are truly excited to be here today," said Laura. "Lions Gate makes the event so comfortable for everyone, that it really does inspire kids to put their heart into reading."

Lions Gate is proud to host the BookMates inter-generational reading program. Until next time, keep reading everyone!

The Actor's Guild Takes Center Stage at LIONS GATE!



Lights! Camera! Action! You're never too old to learn something new, especially when it comes to learning something new about yourself. The Actor's Guild is the newest Lions Gate University class to debut here, and the residents are loving every minute of it!

Meet Robb Hutter, Artistic Director of Philly Senior Stage. "Creativity matters

at all ages," said Robb. "An acting class is the perfect way for residents to build a sense of community. We're not just making art here. We're forging true friendships, and that is invaluable. Plus, an educational theater class is like physical therapy for the brain. It pushes you to think quickly, and verbalize in ways that you normally wouldn't. It is one of the most profound ways to keep the mind engaged at any age."

"Tuesdays with Robb are one of the highlights of my week," said Lois Goldberg, a new member to the Actor's Guild. "I never thought I could do something like this. It's so much fun!"

Robb sets up a large circle of chairs as his eager students file into the room. He pairs them up, and gives each of them a warm-up improv scenario. With a call of "Action!", they're off and running. The banter is as silly as it is startling, and it's all absolutely addictive. Residents are up and moving, gesturing wildly, and laughing frequently. Everyone is engaged, focused, and breathless.

And what a workout it is! "It's a hoot!" laughs Marcia Ryback. "It's more of a workout than I get at the gym."

The Lions Gate's Actor's Guild is planning to perform at least four shows for the community this year. "A person recently told me that this acting class was the most meaningful thing their father had engaged in. It is my honor to have been an influential factor in the latter part of his life. I hope every resident at Lions Gate will give the Actor's Guild a try." The curtain goes up every Tuesday at 2:30pm. Join us!

Love art? Then you'll love Art Appreciation with Professor Irene Sfakianos!



Teaching is an art, and Irene Sfakianos embraces both with a fiery passion. "The more I learn about art," said Irene, "the more I want to share it with others."

Irene has taught a weekly Art Appreciation class as part of Lions Gate University for more than six years. "I'll choose a specific artist or location, and do four or five classes on that," said Irene.

"I include tons of my own slides on art that I have traveled the world to see, then add in videos, and other multi-media so that my students feel truly immersed in the topic. I teach Art Appreciation at the Pratt Institute, and my classes for Lions Gate are just as challenging as those for my college students."

"Irene is one of the most knowledgeable, thoughtful, nuanced professors that I have at Lions Gate," said Kim Clemons,

Director of Programming. "She has such an amazing rapport with our residents, and she takes their conversations to heart. Her classes are really responsive to the residents' interests."

"Oh, I love it when someone asks me a question I don't know the answer to," said Irene. "That's when things get fun, and we all learn together. One of the residents once asked me if the art of the era had impacted the world view held by Theodore Hertzl. Yes, we all knew he was an Austrian Jewish journalist and playwright, and that he was best known for his critical role in establishing the modern State of Israel. But to examine the art of the day and to see if we could make connections between art and the birth of a nation was so energizing. It wasn't necessarily an art history topic I would have thought of before, and it was a really fascinating deep dive for all of us."

Irene knows how to connect art to any subject. She recently did a lecture series on Environmental Art in the 20th Century, Roman Politics in Art, and How Photography Influenced Realism in Painting. "Pull up a chair," smiles Irene. "We have so much to talk about." You're welcome to join Irene's class every Tuesday at 1:30pm. It's a trip!

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Meet Steve Pollack — A Lions Gate instructor who is quite the renaissance man!



Steve Pollack is a lecturer, teacher, vocalist, performer, director, actor, dancer, DJ, and emcee. The residents of Lions Gate do more than listen to Steve. They attend his varied lectures twice a week, as one of the many offerings at Lions Gate University. “Steve’s classes are mesmerizing,” said Don Fletcher, a long-time Lions Gate resident. “He never fails to grab my attention with the

most compelling tidbits of information I never knew before.”

Steve is the founder of Golden Slipper Adult Education and Night & Day Enterprises. He works tirelessly to build an informative curriculum combined with lively presentations, multi-media support, and live performances to enthrall an audience in new and exciting ways. Steve crafts courses that keep the conversations lively at Lions Gate, featuring deep dives into diverse topics including world affairs, film, history, art, literature, music, theater, Jewish cultural interests, and more.

“I like to look at each class as an armchair excursion,” said Steve. “Every lecture brings people together to experience a cultural, historical, or entertainment-themed trip. The more we learn together, the further we’ve traveled in the world!”

Steve hasn’t always been a teacher. He attended Franklin & Marshall and Fairleigh Dickinson Universities, where he studied both music theory and composition & conducting. “I love what music adds to life,” said Steve. “It is my first passion. My second is the pursuit to understand connections in the world. I love to investigate the genesis of a world event, and explore it through the lens of art and culture.”

“Steve is conversational on everything from French symbolist poetry to Duke Ellington and the Harlem Renaissance,” said Lions Gate resident, Jackie Levitt. “He has a way of looking at things that I hadn’t thought of before.”

“Steve’s classes are the perfect blend of information and entertainment,” said Kim Clemons. “He’s one of our residents’ favorite lecturers. Most of them don’t even realize that he was in the original *Man of LaMancha* on Broadway. He brings a theatrical aspect to every presentation.”

Come sit in on one of Steve’s classes on Tuesdays at 11am or Thursdays at 3:15pm. You are guaranteed a thought-provoking good time!