

Golf Classic brings together family, friends, and community to celebrate the life of **Susan Love**

It was a breezy overcast day, but everyone in attendance at the 1st Annual Susan Love Family Golf Classic was all smiles. Nothing was going to dampen the mood as the community gathered to warmly remember beloved mother, daughter, and friend, Susan Love, CEO of Lions Gate for many years.

“Our family is so honored that everyone has come together for this special event,” said Ashley Freedman, Susan’s daughter. “It shows just how much my mom meant to everyone.”

As eager golfers signed in at their tee times, the air was filled with music and laughter. The event committee gathered at the first green for a ceremonial putt with Gina Gannon from 6 ABC News. While not everyone made it in the hole, it was an exciting start to a day of fun.

“Susan would have been so thrilled with this golf tournament,” said her younger sister, Roberta Budman.

“She always wanted to host a family-friendly event like this. It is so heartwarming to talk with people who all loved my sister so much. She was just a wonderful person.”

Kids raced around the picnic area with bubble wands, and after their round of golf, adults kicked back with a cocktail and a delicious lunch. Food trucks wowed the crowd with everything from rich falafel to buttery Bundt cake. Golfers strolled into the silent auction tent, where they enthusiastically bid to win one of eight original paintings, all celebrating Susan’s life of service.

“Our entire extended family works in non-profit,” smiled Judy Love, Susan’s mother. “With the name ‘Love,’ I guess we were all born to have a heart for service. And no one had a bigger heart for service than Susan. Lions Gate was her second home. Her priority was everyone else’s well-being.”

As more and more golfers filled the links, kids happily clamored for water ice treats as they enjoyed truck tours and safety talks by the Voorhees Police and Fire Departments. There was even a quick air horn blast to set the kids squealing with laughter.

“My sister would have thought that air horn blast was hilarious,” smiled Sylvia Love Miller, Susan’s older sister. “She was a practical joker with a great sense of humor. She was kind, and had the biggest heart. The name ‘Love’ truly fit her.”

“Susan knew every Lions Gate resident by name,” said Lisa Goldwasser, Director of Philanthropy, “and she made everyone feel valued. She truly loved her job, and worked to make Lions Gate a wonderful place to live. They were lucky to have her, and

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The sign-in table was busy all morning as volunteers checked in the eager golfers. From left to right: Larry Gottlieb - Jewish Senior Housing Board Member, Dillon Miler - Volunteer, Judy Love, Amanda Kaminer - Sponsorship Chairperson, and Felisita Benton - Accounts Payable.



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she felt lucky to work there. She would have been so grateful for this beautiful event.”

As the photographer worked his way through the crowds, snapping photos of happy golfers, he often stopped to take pictures of friends clustered together sharing memories of Susan.

“Susan was so caring and compassionate,” said Nancy Perilstein, Lions Gate Board Member. “She was a great listener. She got that from her dad, Don Love. Years ago she worked at the Jewish Geriatric Home, and she spent her career continuing to work on behalf of seniors and for the Jewish community. Her loyalty was unwavering. She loved her job. She loved her friends and family. And for her work life and her personal life to come together at this event is just a beautiful thing.”

“I agree,” said Alison Platt-Tarnopol, Event Co-Chair. “Susan was unflappable, and she had such grace and integrity. She was always thinking of how she could best serve her residents, her community, and her family. This golf event truly honors her in the way she deserved. On a personal note, she was my friend. She was my mentor. And she was an inspiration because she brought love to everything she did. I’m so touched to see everyone coming together today to share their memories of Susan, her love of golf, and her love of the senior communities that she worked her whole career to support.”

“Everyone loved Susan,” said Aimee Levin, the Event Co-Chair. “She always had time for everyone. And today we made Susan’s dream come true by holding this inter-generational golf outing. As co-chair for the event, this was a labor of love. It has been a joy to be able to bring together all of the people who loved Susan so much, and have the event benefit Friends of Jewish Senior Housing. The Lions



The Love Family celebrates Susan Love’s life of service and her enduring legacy at Lions Gate. From left to right: Roberta Budman, Sylvia Love Miller, Judy Love, and Ashley Freedman.

Gate and Saltzman House communities meant the world to Susan, and she would be so proud that the event will give back to them.”

“I always say that Susan was the special sauce that made Lions Gate the special place it is today,” said Sandy Kushner. “Her leadership, her dedication, and her kindness made a huge impact on everyone around her. I admired her. I trusted her. And I was grateful to have a boss that treated me like a friend. I miss her, but all I have to do is look around today to see how much her presence is still here.”

We thank everyone for coming to the 1st Annual Susan Love Family Golf Classic. We look forward to seeing everyone next year on Sunday, September 18, 2022, for the 2nd annual golf outing. See you on the links!



Lions Gate’s residents had a terrific time golfing together and enjoying the breezy Fall weather. From left to right: Jeanette Axelrod and Millard Braunstein.



Love Your Neighbor

An Interview with Rabbi Rayna

There is a beautiful kavanah (an intention, a way to focus one's mind and orient one's self) in our morning prayers. The kavanah affirms that we are ready to accept upon ourselves the commandment of our Creator: to love your neighbor as yourself. This provides us a powerful opportunity to begin our days and our prayers with love, and we can never have too much love! Given the many ways we are all connected to each other here in the Lions Gate community, we have a unique and beautiful opportunity to really engage this mitzvah of loving our neighbors as ourselves.

Q. What does this kavanah mean to you?

A. *To love your neighbor as yourself is more than just a beautiful sentiment. According to Rabbi Hillel, it's the central tenant of Judaism. But how do you love a neighbor? Is it through respect? Compassion? Empathy? Or is the nature of neighborly love simple kindness? G-d doesn't spell it out. I see G-d as asking us to figure out how to love each and every one of our neighbors, in whatever ways best suit them and our individual relationships.*

Q. Why doesn't G-d spell it out? Wouldn't G-d want you to know who you are obliged to "love"?

A. *I think we are being directed to widen our circle as far as we are able. I see it as an obligation meant to make the world a better place. G-d gives us the power to choose and engage with whoever we consider our neighbors, and G-d lets us choose how to show love. That we start each day praying on how best to treat our neighbor shows us how much we need to work on it. Each of us has the capacity to truly love our neighbor no matter how different that neighbor may be from us.*

Q. "If I am not for myself, who will be for me?" How does that tie into this kavanah?

A. *This speaks directly to the last part of the commandment: "as you love yourself." If we cannot love ourselves, if we never make the space or time to tend to our own needs, we will not have the capacity to care for and love others. At the same time, we also cannot solely focus on our own needs, as the next part of that verse (Pirkei Avot 1:14) states: "If I am only for myself, what am I." If we only focus on ourselves, we lose the something central to what it means to be a person in relationship and community with other people. We must love both ourselves AND our neighbors.*

Q. Because Lions Gate is a faith-based community, do you think it's easier for residents to love their neighbors as themselves?

A. *I believe that living in a faith-based community serves as a reminder/touchstone to follow the directive of loving your neighbor. G-d has faith in our capacities to strive to do better, and gives us constant opportunities to try and keep trying, even when we have struggled or missed the mark in the past. In many ways, this pandemic seriously tried our commitment to this directive. For many it has created a fear of our neighbor, fear of the transmission of the virus. It has left many of us feeling vulnerable in new and big ways. This mitzvah is perhaps more important now than it has been in other times. It is directing us to push past the fear, anxiety, and exhaustion and to rebuild relationships with our neighbors. We are being challenged to connect once again through love (obviously while still being safe). It's both beautiful and complicated to feel connected and vulnerable with neighbors amid a pandemic. When the world came together to collaborate and create a vaccine to fight COVID, we built connections in ways we never imagined before, just as when we here at Lions Gate pivoted and found new ways to stay connected as a community. The generosity and selflessness of essential workers worldwide and our incredible staff here at Lions Gate was astounding. It's as if the pandemic created a new level of neighborly love. Now the question is, will we be able to sustain it?*

Q. Doesn't love ebb and flow? How can any of us sustain a specific level of love for any individual?

A. *The expansiveness and versatility of love is important to recognize. First, consider your own needs and capacities. While the obligation to show love doesn't change from day to day, the actual manifestation of love can, and that's OK. Perhaps "love thy neighbor" is more of a sliding scale. "Respect" might be more manageable than "love". "Care" might be more manageable than "support". No one can shoulder the maximum obligation all the time, and I don't think that's what G-d is commanding. G-d is asking that we put in effort every day. Just do your best.*



It's Easy to be the Life of the Party at LG Theme Nights!

Is that a steel drum band you hear? Maybe it's the ringing bells of a winning slot machine. You never know what excitement awaits you at Lions Gate's latest Theme Night.

"I love being a party planner," laughed Kim Clemons, Lions Gate Programming Director. "I always host a monthly cocktail mixer, and residents love that. We have butlered hors d'ouerves and special entertainment. But I also like to put together over-the-top Theme Nights. When residents see a Theme Night posted on my activities calendar, they know they're in for FUN!"

Lions Gate's Programming and Dining Services departments regularly partner to host captivating Theme Nights. These immersive experiences include a special dining menu and custom cocktail, wonderful entertainment, and gorgeous decorations. In October, we welcomed autumn with our Hello Fall gala. Pumpkins and other fall decorations brought a festive feel to the campus, as residents sipped spiked apple cider drinks and sampled a menu packed with all sorts of yummy fall favorites like butternut squash soup and hot apple pie with ice cream. A vocal artist sang a set of fall favorites as the sun set early and everyone enjoyed an evening of fabulous entertainment with friends. Happy Fall indeed!

As the year winds down, residents are looking forward to celebrating the holiday season together with a week of candle lighting ceremonies for Hanukkah at the end of November, followed by our annual blow-out New Year's Eve bash on the last day of December. The Lions Gate NYE party is always epic, with everyone dressed in formal attire, sipping champagne and eating chocolate covered strawberries, and enjoying a delicious lamb chop dinner. There is always wonderful musical entertainment, and a raucous count down to midnight. 2021 was packed with plenty of Theme Night fun, and Kim can't wait to unveil what she has planned for 2022. She certainly keeps everyone looking forward to turning the pages of the calendar!

Here are a few photos from our most recent Theme Night events...



In May residents felt like they had been transported to Las Vegas as they enjoyed their own private Casino Night, complete with black jack tables, slot machines, a roulette wheel, and raffles. Residents tried their luck at games of chance, and posed for photos with a paparazzi photographer. The black jack dealers were calm, cool, and collected, as residents shouted, "Hit me!" and high fived each other as lucky players scored 21. What happens at Casino Night stays at Casino Night, but it's obvious that it was a fun night for all!

In June residents took a stay-cation to the tropics at Lions Gate Luau Night. The bar served delicious tropical drinks that tasted like summer, and everyone dressed in their best Hawaiian shirts. The doors to the dining room were thrown open, and the warm summer breeze made everyone feel like they were at the beach for the evening. There was dancing to the sounds of a steel drum band, which continued to entertain the crowd through dinner. What a wonderful way to welcome summer!



In August we all dressed up for a White Party. What better way to beat the heat than to have everyone get decked out all in white. Festive balloons welcomed party goers, and delicious cocktails were passed around to all. Everyone enjoyed the spectacular singer that performed during dinner. It was the perfect way to head into Labor Day and celebrate the end of a beautiful summer together.

Welcome Meredith Becker, LIONS GATE'S new COO!



For Meredith Becker, taking the position as Lions Gate's COO was like coming home. "I started my career at the Jewish Geriatric Home and then transitioned to Lions Gate where I was Assistant Administrator and Associate Executive Director in the early 2000's. I spent eight years here, learning all the ins and outs of running a thriving non-profit. I left in 2013 to continue to grow and develop professionally, spending eight years in the for-profit sector. When the position of Lions Gate COO became available this year, I jumped at it. For me, Lions Gate will always be home."

Meredith comes to Lions Gate after several high-level leadership roles at major long term care facilities. Licensed as a Nursing Home Administrator with a Masters in Health Services Administration in Long-Term Care Management, Meredith's experience is uniquely suited for the COO position. "In a nutshell, my responsibilities are to grow the community," said Meredith. "That starts with expanding the lifestyle for our independent residents. My door is always open to residents, and I learn a lot about what would be most meaningful for them from those conversations. I work closely with dining, programming, and facilities to take

those ideas and requests, and bring them to fruition. I want Lions Gate to be a true destination neighborhood."

As COO, Meredith also oversees the day-to-day operations of the Lions Gate campus. "My goal is to always have the facilities, the services, and the staff exceed our residents' expectations in every way," said Meredith. "I am equally focused on recruitment and renovations these days."

Meredith reflected on her career, that all started working with Susan Love. "I learned so much from Susan over the years. She taught me how to be truly involved in my community by always being open and approachable to both residents and staff. Building individual connections with people takes time and effort, but it makes a real difference in my priorities and goals. I am truly invested in Lions Gate, and I can't wait to see all the new and exciting ways I can contribute to grow this community. I'm so proud to be here!"

Welcome back, Meredith! We look forward to your leadership for many years to come.

Meet Gary Morris, LIONS GATE'S new Marketing Director

Gary understands why seniors want to spend all of their time pursuing hobbies. "I was a semi-pro Category 2 cyclist for 12 years, and a NJ State Time Trial Champion," said Gary. "It was beyond challenging, but I was truly passionate about it. And that's how I imagine seniors feel when they move to Lions Gate. Once they're here without any of the burdens of home maintenance, they can spend their time focusing just on things they're passionate about. That's life changing!"

Gary has worked in the senior living industry for a dozen years, and joined Lions Gate as the new Marketing Director in May 2021. He was very drawn to the unique approach the Lions Gate sales and marketing team takes when meeting a potential new resident. "Of course we want the best for every senior," said Gary, "but the truth is, not every community is going to be the right fit. We take the time to get to know the prospect, and their family. We want to know about their hobbies, their interests, their passions, and their fears. We want to know about their professional associations, their friend groups, and their family ties. We will be completely honest with someone if our community

isn't the right fit for them. It's my job to help a prospect through the search process, and come out the other side living in a community that helps them thrive. Not many jobs provide the opportunity to give someone a new lease on life. That is literally my job description, and I love it."

Gary is genuinely excited about taking the helm of the marketing department at Lions Gate. "I want to dig into the question of what are we doing right? How can we make this an exciting destination? How can we better care for residents? If I can answer those questions, I can help take this community to a new level over the next decade. Every morning I get up and think, 'Today I might meet a future Lions Gate resident. I can't wait to show them how great their life is going to be when they move here.' It's exciting!"

Thanks for bringing that enthusiastic attitude Gary. We're happy to have you!



Get moving with **Nancy Dawson,** **LIONS GATE's new Move-In Coordinator!**



What is the best part about moving into a new residence? You get to start with a clean slate, and design your new space to suit your needs and your style. Nancy Dawson, Lions Gate's Move-In Coordinator is the point person who helps every new resident get settled in.

"I love my job," smiled Nancy. "When new residents meet with me, I hope to make it feel like going shopping with a friend. Residents can choose paint colors for each room and their preferred flooring — either hardwood or carpet. For the kitchen, I help them select a granite countertop, cabinetry, and new appliances. I give them options for new bathroom fixtures and lighting. In a few instances I have been asked to make an apartment handicap accessible, and that includes wheelchair accessibility at the kitchen sink, and in the bathroom and shower. I've even put motion sensors on faucets for ease of use."

Lions Gate has developed a move-in process that makes the transition to a new residence as foolproof as possible. "The entire process from start-to-finish takes only 6-8 weeks," said Nancy. "The key to a smooth transition is Byron Home's space planning service. We send Byron to the resident's current home, they take an inventory of the furniture, and create a custom space plan for how the furniture will best fit in the new space. Byron's space

planning team is so creative, and it really gets the resident excited when they see exactly how their new home will look."

Nancy goes above and beyond to roll out the red carpet for new residents. "I want new residents to feel wowed when they get their key, and unlock that front door for the first time," she said. "I put a giant welcome basket in their kitchen, complete with champagne, snacks, fruit, a fleece blanket, and more. Once they've settled in, the Resident Welcome Committee stops by to answer any questions they may have. I also give each new resident several hours of complimentary handyman services so they get help hanging artwork, curtains, shelves, etc. For jobs that are more complex like hanging TVs or building special upgraded closet organizers, I can connect them to contractors that specialize in that work. I do everything I can to help make their house feel like a home right away."

If you're considering a move to Lions Gate, give Nancy a call. Her warm welcome will be the start to a wonderful new chapter in your life.

Set yourself free from home maintenance worries at **LIONS GATE!**

Sybil Bernstein sat serenely on her patio. All was peaceful, with an occasional bird chirp breaking the quiet. Inside her apartment, the noise was deafening. A Roto Rooter employee was hard at work drilling the pipes. Sybil just smiled calmly.

"Apparently there's something wrong with the township sewer line," said Sybil. "I noticed there was something amiss when I was running the water. I called the concierge, who immediately sent up someone from Maintenance. The problem didn't have a simple fix, so he reached out to Roto Rooter. I didn't make any calls. I didn't make any appointments. I don't get any bill. Lions Gate is taking care of all of it."

And that is one of the many reasons why savvy seniors are flocking to Lions Gate — we entirely shoulder the burden of home maintenance.

WE mow the grass.

WE install the landscaping.

WE shovel the snow.

WE paint the building.

WE maintain the sidewalks and parking lot.

WE waterproof the roof.

WE manage the HVAC system.

WE fix all appliances.

WE even change the light bulbs.

That's right. At Lions Gate, our Maintenance Staff does everything from cleaning your shower drain to unclogging your kitchen sink. Are the bushes sheltering your patio dropping a few too many leaves for your liking? They'll blow the patio clean, and trim back the branches. No request is too big or too small. Residents simply call the concierge with their concern, and we take it from there.

So if you're tired of all the yard work, all the repair bills, and all the hassle of home maintenance, now is the time to shed that burden and give yourself the freedom to enjoy your days worry-free. When you live at Lions Gate, our Maintenance Staff works around the clock to keep the campus in tip top shape, leaving you all the time in the world to put your feet up and relax.

2 Fabulous Apartment Floor Plans

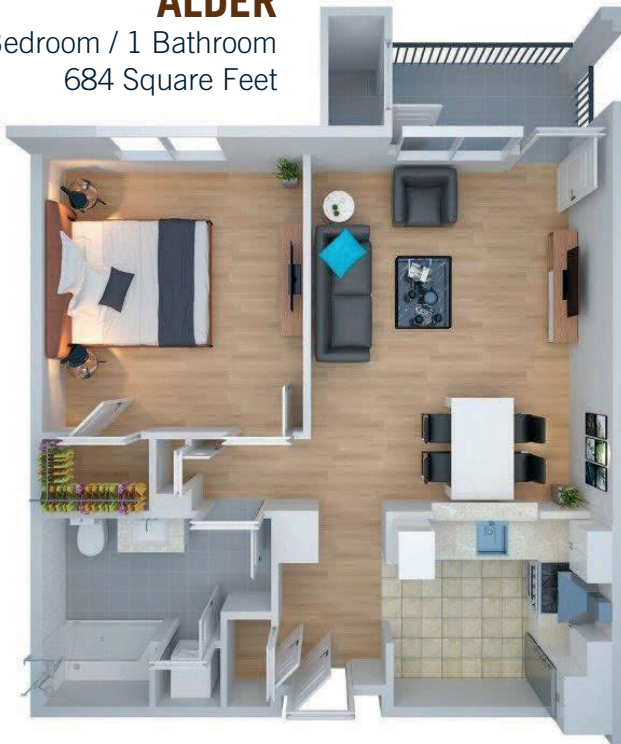
Choices! That idea is at the very heart of why so many people choose to live at Lions Gate. When a potential new resident tours the Lions Gate campus, they are treated to a realtor tour of the various apartment and cottage models available. What fun to imagine the next chapter of your life in one of these wonderful residences!

“As the Lions Gate Sales Counselor, it’s my job to help people find the right fit for themselves here,” said Angela Stevens. “We chat about everything, and I get to know them well. I want to hear all about their hobbies, and if they like to entertain family and friends. All of those details help me guide them to the best space for their lifestyle. A one bedroom/one bath is the perfect size for someone who has family nearby, and doesn’t need a second bedroom to host guests. But some couples want a den or a second bedroom as an office or a craft room. Whatever their interests, I have a cottage or apartment that will accommodate them.”

Lions Gate’s menu of 13 unique apartment floor plans range from 680 to 1,730 square feet of living space. Let’s take an in-depth look at two of them today — The Alder and the Laurel.

ALDER

1 Bedroom / 1 Bathroom
684 Square Feet



The Alder is a 1 bedroom/1 bathroom apartment with a comfortable 684 square feet of living space. When you walk in the front door, you immediately feel at home in the cozy foyer, complete with full coat closet. The living/dining room looks out on the airy balcony, which is the perfect place to relax on a lazy afternoon. The master bedroom is open and roomy, complimented by a huge closet and full bath and laundry. The welcoming kitchen features full-size appliances, and beautiful cabinetry.

“I love the Alder floor plan! The kitchen has plenty of room for my table and chairs, and the closet space is wonderful. I have a coat closet at the front door, a large storage closet in the hall, and a huge walk-in closet in my bedroom. Everything fits with ease!”

— Millard Braunstein, Lions Gate resident

LAUREL

2 Bedroom
2.5 Bathroom / Den
1429 Square Feet



The Laurel is a 2 bedroom/2.5 bathroom with den apartment boasting a generous 1,429 square feet of living space. When you walk in the front door, you are welcomed into the spacious living room/dining room space, complete with a full coat closet. The two bedrooms are calm and restful, and the charming den looks out on a sunny balcony. Each bedroom has generous closet space and their own private full bath, and the roomy half bath includes a washer/dryer. The kitchen comes complete with full-size appliances, and beautiful cabinetry.

“The Laurel is perfect for us! I like that we each have our own space in this apartment. Bernie uses the second bedroom for a home office and gym, and Marcia uses the den as her ‘sanctuary’ away from sports on TV. And the amount of closet space is outstanding! That sold us!”

— Bernie & Marcia Shapiro, Lions Gate residents

Give Angela a call today to book your tour. Residences are going quickly, so be sure to come in soon to get the apartment or cottage of your choice!



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LIONS GATE UNIVERSITY Class Instructors

Dig into the Constitution with Gary Scarpello



Gary LOVES history. “When you study a moment in history,” said Gary, “you break it down to the characters involved and their separate belief systems to try to make sense of it. It can really be quite moving.”

Gary was a history teacher in private and public high schools for 36 years.

He’s now sharing that love of history with the residents at Lions Gate. “The residents here are very knowledgeable,” said Gary. “We have fascinating conversations.”

Gary creates immersive experiences, peppering his talks with short videos and sound clips to build a real connection with his topic of study. “I’m currently teaching an 8-class arc on The Path to the Constitution,” said Gary. “It traces the journey from the absolute power of monarchs to individual rights. After that finishes, I have a terrific presentation that explores the culture and history of the Lenni-Lenape Native Americans. And I am starting to flesh out a study on the Birth of Jazz,” said Gary.

Come take a deep dive into history with Gary Scarpello, Tuesdays at 11am.

Ira Miller Brings Movie Music Magic to Lions Gate!



Ira Miller is a composer, a music scholar, and teacher. “The only thing I love more than music is that I love to learn,” said Ira. “That’s what teaching is to me — a way to share a story with other curious minds.”

Ira’s lecture series on Jewish Film Composers puts the spotlight on 14

amazing men. “The list of Jewish film composers we tackle is quite impressive,” said Ira, “Franz Waxman, Max Steiner, Erich Wolfgang Korngold, Victor Young, Dimitri Tionkin, Elmer Bernstein, Alfred Newman, David Raksin, Jerry Goldsmith, David Grusin, Howard Shore, Hans Zimmer, James Horner, and Bernard Herrmann. Each one was more prolific than the next!”

Ira’s class tackles each composer, and explores their life, their professional career, and their composing style. “I do meticulous research for my classes because the more I learn the more rich the class discussion will be,” said Ira. “The residents here are so smart and engaged. I love teaching here!”

Stop into Commons Hall twice a month on Thursdays at 2pm for Ira’s wonderful class. Come for the music, stay for the conversation!