

# TACOS & TEQUIA 2024 is a HUGE Success!

Once again, Friends of Jewish Senior Housing and Health Service (JSHHS) has thrown a truly amazing event — Tacos & Tequila 2024 was nothing short of spectacular. "What a great night!" said Melissa Leibowitz, Director of Engagement, Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey. "This was my first time partnering with Friends to help throw this event, and I have had such an amazing experience. The food was wonderful. The tequila tasting bar was packed. And the mariachi band kept things lively all night long. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all the guests who supported this wonderful fundraiser. I am truly overwhelmed by everyone's generosity. It was a night to remember!"

Guests had nothing but compliments about the event.

"It was wonderful to speak with so many guests who genuinely want to help raise valuable funds to support our seniors in need," said Sarah Zalcmann, Philanthropy Associate for Jewish Senior Housing and Health Service. "The work this community does on behalf of its seniors is so inspiring."



Judy Love, Heather Kramer, Robin Rubin, Dave Thompson

"This event is always great fun," said Dave Thompson, Lions Gate CEO, "and I just want to give a shout-out to the selfless dedication of our volunteers and the generous contributions of our sponsors. Their commitment to our cause is truly commendable and deeply appreciated."

Tacos featured 41 silent auction raffle baskets, featuring prizes like The Shore Thing (with gift cards to favorite restaurants and stores at the shore), Pickleball Paradise (with gift cards and merchandise for pickleball enthusiasts), and dinner for four in your home prepared by a private chef. So many lucky guests were thrilled to take home one of the many prize baskets.

# SAVE THE DATE! Fourth Annual Susan Love Family Golf Classic is coming soon! Sunday, September 22, 2024 from Noon – 3:00 pm We can't wait to see you on the links this fall! Come celebrate Susan's love of golf, family and friends, and the Lions Gate & Saltzman House communities. Additional information about tickets and sponsorships to come.







**Tequila Tasting Table** 



Mark & Heather Kramer, Aimee Levin,
Dave Thompson

Another hub of activity was the At Your Service (AYS) booth. "With the At Your Service program, Friends of JSHHS has made it easy to support seniors living on a limited income," said Aimee Levin, Friends of JSHHS Committee Chair. "Donors choose to sponsor an event or activity from our wide menu of options. So, whether you're interested in sponsoring a resident's newspaper subscription or if you're excited about sponsoring monthly manicures or haircuts, all of the donation options are unique and very budget friendly. By the way, AYS is a year-round program. People can donate to this program at any time. Whether guests want to give during Tacos or if a teen wants to donate to AYS as their Mitzvah project, we are so happy to give this amazing program the spotlight. Tzedakah changes lives."

"My daughter, Gabby, and I chose to sponsor a lunch for 10 residents," said Nanci Epstein. "When my mother, Sis Levy, celebrated her 50th birthday, my father asked her what she wanted for a gift. She said she wanted to take Jewish Geriatric Home residents out to lunch.

For many years, that was her monthly tradition, and Gabby and I wanted to do the same in honor of MomMom."

Adam and Amanda Kaminer were co-chairpersons for this spectacular fundraising event. "We'd like to thank Aimee Levin, the Friends of JSHHS Committee Chair, for all of her hard work," said Adam. "Amanda and I would also like to thank our committee members for all of their time and support — Robin Cohen, Neal Cupersmith, Nanci Epstein, Michael Frankel, Larry Gottlieb, Laura Gottlieb, Heather Kramer,



#### We would like to thank our Tacos & Tequila 2024 Sponsors:

- Platino: Judy Love; Michael Freedman, Ashley & Jared Mandel
- Plata: Forman Family Foundation; Fox Rothchild LLP; KMF Food Distribution; Platt Memorial Chapels; Nexdine Hospitality; Samaritan Healthcare & Hospice; Scrub Daddy
- Tequila Tasting: Brian K Zell, MD, LLC; Fox Rehabilitation; Carolyn & Mitchell Davis
- Entertainment: Kaminer Financial Group; Universal Technical Resource Services, Inc. & the Zalcmann Family; Elaine Waxman & Joanna Samson-Greenfield; The Epstein Family, Michael, Nanci, Ethan, Kimmy, Gabby & Aidan; Suzanne Friedman, Aimee & Stan Levin; Byron Home; Heather & Mark Kramer; Larry & Kelly Gottlieb; Creative Print Group, Inc.; ACRISURE (FNA Odell Studner Group); The Greenspan Family
- In-Kind: Kramer Beverage; Studio K; Quaker Chroma; Caffe Aldo Lamberti

Thank you again to all who attended. We hope everyone enjoyed Tacos & Tequila 2024 and look forward to seeing everyone next year at Taco's 10th Anniversary.

## **Become a Lions Gate Sponsor!**

A Community Sponsorship is your chance to honor a loved one in perpetuity. Simply choose a location within the community, and it's yours to name as you would like. Name it after your family, name it after your children, or name it in honor of a staff member who you feel is particularly noteworthy. All sponsorship money donated is reinvested into the Lions Gate community, ensuring that this unique community will be here to care for our seniors for many generations to come. Your generous donations have made Lions Gate one of the most robust senior living communities in South Jersey. We truly thank you for your ongoing support.

Here are just a few of the Naming Opportunities available on the Lions Gate campus:

Skilled Nursing Residence: \$3,600

Independent Living Dining Room: \$125,000

• Rehab PT/OT Treatment Room: \$50,000 • Campus Roadway: \$150,000

Assisted Living Wing: \$75,000

And so much more!



**Independent Living A Wing:** \$100,000



**Safe Haven Entrance:** \$200,000



**Assisted Living Library:** \$50,000



**Nurse's Station in Rehabilitation:** \$18.000



**Rehab Entrance:** \$100,000



**Independent Living Private Dining Room: \$25,000** 

We'd love to discuss the many Naming Opportunities available throughout Lions Gate Please contact: Sarah Zalcmann • (856) 679-2190 • szalcmann@jfedsnj.org

# Meet our Match



#### Will you help us reach our \$150,000 goal?

The Raymond & Gertrude R. Saltzman Foundation has recognized the importance of the services provided by Lions Gate to our residents and has issued both a reward and a challenge.

Lions Gate is a thriving Continuing Care Retirement Community rooted in Jewish values, tradition and culture. We cultivate a stimulating atmosphere of compassionate care embodying our belief that we are truly "better together." Our resident programs emphasize wellness, inspiring an active and healthy life. From fitness programs and educational opportunities to live music performances, art appreciation and cooking classes, our residents thrive in various enriching activities at Lions Gate.

Our assisted living and skilled nursing residents are enjoying longer lives. Many residents, even with what they believed would be an adequate financial plan, are living longer than their financial resources can support. Nevertheless, Lions Gate is dedicated to ensuring that these residents do not experience any change in their living conditions due to financial constraints.

We are committed to providing exceptional care for our residents, regardless of their ability to pay for their own service. To uphold our commitment to maintaining their current lifestyle and environment, we need your support. Your contribution will help us ensure that these residents can continue to live with grace and dignity.

The challenge—and wonderful opportunity!—from the Raymond & Gertrude R. Saltzman Foundation is that they will match your donation to support our indigent assisted living and skilled nursing residents 1 to 1 up to \$150,000.

Please join our cause by becoming one of 150 donors to give a \$1,000 or more contribution to "Meet our Match". Your support is crucial in helping us meet the needs of our residents and continue providing exceptional care.



1110 Laurel Oak Road Voorhees, NJ 08043

www.lionsgateccrc.org



Generous funding provided by the Raymond **&** Gertrude R. Foundation

## **Lions Gate Common Spaces**

## **Get a Spring Refresh**

Next time you visit Lions Gate, you might notice new furniture in many common areas of the community. Feel free to relax in one of the hallway seating areas in Independent Living or see our Skilled Nursing residents resting comfortably in their new recliners. Assisted Living residents are now enjoying movie theaterstyle chairs in the 2nd-floor media room. As you walk through the community, you'll also notice fresh paint and new carpeting. We are continuing to update other parts of the community in the coming months, including adding new artwork.



"Seeing all the changes is exciting," said Dave Thompson, Lions Gate CEO. "We hope this community refresh makes residents feel even more proud to call Lions Gate home."

Stay tuned for more updates at Lions Gate!

# You'll feel right at home in our Sycamore Cottage!



## 2 Bedroom / 2 Bathroom 1,712 Square Feet

Sycamore Cottage A features a living room/dining room with a vaulted ceiling, an eat-in breakfast nook, and amazing closet space throughout. This cottage also includes a full laundry room, a large garage, and two patios. The back patio opens to beautiful grounds with a wonderful view.

Schedule a visit TODAY and learn about all the services and amenities residents enjoy, including the full continuum of care available on campus — Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care, Skilled Nursing, and Rehabilitative Care.



Not ready to move yet? No worries. Join our Waitlist with a deposit of just \$1,000.

(All deposits are fully refundable should you ever change your mind.)

Schedule a visit today. Contact Angela Stevens: (856) 679-2357 or AStevens@LionsGateccrc.org

## **JSHHS Board Member Spotlight:**

## Carl Bagell, *Treasurer*

Meet Carl Bagell, Jewish Senior Housing and Health Service (JSHHS) Board member as well as the Board Treasurer. "Zev Rose has been a lifelong friend and mentor to me, and he was the one who recruited me to join the Board," said Carl. "I'm on the Executive Board of three other organizations. but I was happy to join this Board where so many of my friends contribute their time and talent. I was a CPA with my own practice for many years, so taking on the role of Board Treasurer was a good fit. As Treasurer, I'm in charge of the Finance Committee. We review the budget and expenses for the year, plan for community improvement projects, and make the final recommendation for rental rates for each year. A lot of thought and analysis go into those decisions."

Carl has deep family connections with Lions Gate. "My mother, Gertrude Bagel, moved into Lions Gate in 2016 at age 91," said Carl. "She lived there for six very happy years. She was always dancing and took part in all the activities. My in-laws, Marilyn

and Len Freedman, currently live in Assisted Living together. I know how kind the staff is that cares for all the residents in the community, and it is my honor to donate my time to the Board to



Carl Bagell

help make sure this community continues to thrive for many years to come."

Carl, his wife Lori, their two children, and five grandchildren stop into Lions Gate to visit with Marilyn and Len a couple of times each week. "It's so important to remember where you came from and give back in a way that is meaningful to you," said Carl. "Lions Gate means so much to so many in our community, and I hope more people will come out to support it. Whether you give your money, your time, or your expertise, it is all very needed and much appreciated. Thank you!"

### **Meet the New Resident Council!**

The Lions Gate Resident Council is a dynamic group of nine residents who take a leadership role within the community and serve as a bridge between residents and the Lions Gate administration and Board of Trustees. The members include:

- Harvey Richards, President
- Barbara Anderson. Secretary
- Howard Cohen
- Len Feldman
- Rose Glasberg

- Sharla Kanovsky
- June Levine
- Jackie Levitt
- Murray Matez (z"l)
- Lois Goldberg. Past President

"This year, Barbara, Rose, and Jackie completed their three-year terms," said Council President, Harvey Richards, "and Sharla Kanovsky was filling in for another person's term who had to step down for personal reasons, so there are four open seats on the council. We held an election on May 15th, and the following four people were elected to join the council: Muriel Adler, Sharla Kanovsky, Fred Rickey, and Hildred Nozick. We are excited to welcome them!"

What is the next step for the Resident Council?

The Resident Council has committees that include the Finance Committee, the Dining Committee, the Welcoming Committee, the Sunshine Committee, the Music Guild Committee. The Future of Classical Music Committee, and the Environmental & Grounds Committee. "If a resident has a concern or a suggestion, put it in the Suggestion Box or personally speak with a Council member about it," said Harvey. "We've had terrific suggestions that we brought to the administration, and that's how we got new classes added to our programming calendar like Beginner Bridge and Water Aerobics. When we all work together, interesting ideas come to fruition."



Back row L to R: Murray Matez (z"l), Fred Rickey, Howard Cohen, Harvey Richards, Hildred Nozick

Front row L to R: Sharla Kanovsky, June Levine, Lois Goldberg, Muriel Adler Not pictured: Len Feldman

## Critical Thinking is a Skill for decisions, opinions,

## and managing information

Critical thinking is the subject of an engaging class taught by Steve Pollack. "Critical thinking teaches us to recognize and manage how we think," said Steve. "It helps us perceive our own biases to issues and understand pitfalls found in information that comes to us. First, we used critical thinking skills to discern what information is valid and rational, and to clearly see how we react with our own biases. We ask questions to try to understand opinions different from our own, rather than trying to win an argument. Next, I introduce an issue to the class for research and discussion — in this case, we're currently looking at immigration. We each share our opinions and viewpoints, and then we probe the viewpoint of others to understand what information they used to inform their opinion and provide information that they might be missing. Winning an argument or solving an issue is secondary to listening to other viewpoints and learning how and why we react to issues the way we do. Critical thinking means

putting our passions aside and not immediately responding with a gut reaction. It's learning to respond with curiosity and insight. I hope this class teaches all of us to learn to say, 'I don't know,' instead of feeling pressured to respond when you aren't completely informed on a topic."



Steve Pollack

"This is the BEST class I've ever taken," said resident Harvey Richards. "It's taught me to come across less stridently and be able to learn from a perspective that I might not have considered before. Steve is an excellent teacher. He's very knowledgeable, he tries not to take sides, and he takes the time to research his own facts. It's very eve-opening."

Critical Thinking is taught at 10:00 AM on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Check the Activities Calendar for exact dates.

## Get in the swim of things at

## **Water Aerobics Class!**

Grab your suit and towel and join the water aerobics class with instructor Joan Hall. "In water aerobics, I incorporate all different kinds of low impact exercise," said Joan. "Water aerobics is the ideal exercise because it doesn't put strain on the joints."

Water aerobics incorporates pool noodles and inflated balls for resistance to engage whole body muscle groups in different parts of the body. The resistance of exercising in water builds strength, enhances balance, and improves eye-hand coordination.

"My physical therapist recommends water aerobics to everyone," said resident Lilyan Cralle. "I love it! The music is terrific, and Joan is a great teacher."

Anyone can take this class, regardless of their fitness level. Joan offers modifications to every exercise so that everyone can feel successful.

"Water aerobics is fun," said resident Shirley Srolovitz. "It doesn't feel like you're exercising, and the stretching definitely makes my back feel better."

Joan incorporates yoga as part of the cool down to give muscles a final stretch.



Joan Hall

"This class is the best thing ever," said resident Karen Wallenobrien. "This group of ladies got me started in the pool, and we all really enjoy doing the class together."

The Water Aerobics class also includes social games to keep everyone laughing.

"I haven't missed a single class since it started in March," said resident Lois Goldberg.

Head to the pool every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 AM for Water Aerobics!

Check the Activities Calendar for exact dates.



Lions Gate | 1110 Laurel Oak Road | Voorhees, NJ 08043 | Phone: (856) 679-2357

# Rigoletto & Other Disasters is a hit with residents!

Steve Pollack and Eve Edwards first met 25 years ago, performing Verdi's opera, *Rigoletto*. "In singing together we forged a fast friendship," said Steve. "In calling operatic performance *Rigoletto & Other Disasters*, we're celebrating a long friendship that is built on all the best operatic tragedies."

"Singing with Steve is always wonderful," said Eve. "It is my honor to be part of this disaster!"

Steve and Eve wowed the crowd with spectacular selections from Verdi's *Rigoletto*, *The Jewel Song* from Charles Gounod's opera *Faust*, a selection from Verdi's *Don Carlo*, an aria from *The Tales of Hoffman* by Jacque Offenbach, a duet from Gershwin's *Porgy & Bess*, an aria from Puccini's *Turandot*, and audience favorite *Master of the House* from *Les Misérables*. "The last one is a mandatory sing-along," demanded Steve.

"Steve is our Renaissance Man," said resident Shirly Srolovitz. "He can do anything. He's a great singer and performer, but he is also a great teacher. I go to every class he teaches here and every performance he gives. I wouldn't miss it."

"I am so glad Steve and Eve recognized *Les Mis* as an opera," said resident Sybil Bernstein. "It's one of my favorites. I've seen it many times, and they performed it beautifully."



Check the Activities Calendar for the next Night & Day Entertainment performance with Steve and Co.