

RIVER GARDEN NEWS

River Garden Hebrew Home/Wolfson Health & Aging Center

Six-Time Recipient of the Governor's Gold Seal Award for Excellence in Long-Term Care

2002-2004 2004-2006 2006-2008 2008-2010 2010-2012 2012-2014

vol. 67 | July 2012

Adult Day Care

By Robin Conway, Adult Day Program Manager

Thank you to everyone who participated in our "Mad Hatter's Tea Party". The event was a great success, and I'm proud to say we set a great example to keep the tea party going each year with a new theme. Our participants enjoyed working together doing crafts, baking yummy goodies to share and sewing projects in preparation of the special day.



Hats off to all who participated in the Mad Hatter's Tea Party!

Summertime is in the air in Adult Day Care. We feel the warmth as we enjoy our morning exercises on the dock and our afternoon strolls outside. We welcome the months of June, July and August with open arms. As always, we start each month by celebrating with a bang. Some of the upcoming celebrations will include Patriotism Week, a banana split social, sand crafts, putting on the greens, marbling marveling, yarn winding, corn shucking, string bean snapping, and even a yo-yo contest.



Every day provides our Adult Day members with stimulating activities.

A few of the many advantages for those who attend River Garden's Adult Day Care are: socialization between peers; professional programming; and our ability to match people with similar interests and abilities. Elderly adults benefit mentally from interaction with others in a structured environment of planned activities and events. Socialization can enhance self esteem and promote wellness. People can work in groups or individually on projects such as wood working, ceramics, art, sewing, beading and cooking with safety and supervision. This outlet for creativity is a great value to many. Come visit us in the new David A. Stein & Family Adult Day Care and Activities Pavilion, and perhaps join our

wonderful Adult Day Care Program. We look forward to seeing you soon. Have a terrific summer! For information, please visit us at www.RiverGarden.org/adultday, email Robin Conway, Adult Day Program Manager at rconway@RiverGarden.org, or call 904-288-7858.

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inside line

by Martin A. Goetz, MS, MPA, Chief Executive Officer



We're told throughout our lives that "the future belongs to those who prepare for it." River Garden has been busily preparing for its future – one that allows River Garden to utilize its 37-acre Mandarin campus to create a "nursing home without walls" that will provide state-of-the-art care to the next generation of seniors, whether they receive care in their own homes, at The Coves or in our skilled nursing and rehabilitation center.

Refurbishment of our nursing center is moving along at a rapid pace, so if you haven't visited yet please make plans to come and experience "the new River Garden." And of course, if you haven't yet made a pledge to our Capital Campaign, "*Building our Future... Together,*" it's not too late to become a real stakeholder in the Home. All contributions to the campaign are meaningful and we are grateful beyond measure to the community for embracing the project and helping us secure the future.

A perfect "10": In April we had an unannounced four-day federal & state inspection by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). Following the most rigorous review of our entire care system, we were notified by regulators that we had a deficiency-free survey. Deficiency-free nursing home inspections tend to be rare events nationwide, so when they do occur it is cause to celebrate. Interestingly, none of the five inspectors who spent four days with us had ever previously been to our campus. They were impressed. A copy of the most recent inspection report is available in our lobby.

A 6th Gold Seal Award is coming: On May 21, the Governor's Panel on Excellence in Long Term Care met in Saint Petersburg, Florida, to review credentials and question nine applicants being considered for recommendation to Governor Scott for the most coveted award available to a Florida nursing home. Included in the panel's deliberations was a site visit report by a member of the Governor's panel, a presentation by staff, and a Q/A with the panel concerning existing programs and services as well as a look ahead to visions of the future. The panel voted that River Garden Hebrew Home be recommended to Governor Scott for an unprecedented sixth Gold Seal Award for Excellence in Long Term Care. We expect that the award will be formally presented to our community in early July. The coveted Gold Seal Award is currently held by only 19 Florida nursing homes, and River Garden is the only Jacksonville nursing home to receive this distinction. River Garden Home has continually held this designation since the program's inception in 2002.

There has never been a better time to get involved in River Garden life. Please join us as we create the future of Jewish Aging Services in Northeast Florida.



RIVER GARDEN NEWS

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Skip Willbach

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To provide...

A wide range of quality, cost effective elder care services in residential, outpatient, and community based settings.

To create...

A comfortable, caring, and dignified home for the frail elderly serving both rich and poor with excellence.

To serve...

People of all faiths, while maintaining an environment supportive of Jewish identity and informed by Jewish values.

To act...

As a valuable educational resource in elder care for the entire community.

Imagine...

A Walk Through Our Emerald City

A Walk Through Our Emerald City

By Kathy Osterer, Director of Development

The River Garden Gala is celebrating its 20th year of fundraising history. This year's event, sponsored by SunTrust Bank, will be held Saturday, November 17, 2012 at the Renaissance Resort at World Golf Village. *Imagine...A Walk Through Our Emerald City* will benefit the residents of the jewel of Jacksonville - our Home - River Garden Hebrew Home/Wolfson Health & Aging Center.

This year, Foundation Board member Jeanine Rogozinski is heading the amazing Gala committee. Jeanine is not new to the job, having chaired the event in 2007 and 2008. She is a powerhouse of energy, enthusiasm and determination, and makes every endeavor a complete success. Jeanine has set an example of leadership and hard work for the entire community. We are delighted that she has once again offered her talents!



Gala Chair
Jeanine Rogozinski



Chéz-zam performers will dazzle at this year's Gala.

The committee has been hard at work for months creating a memorable evening. Guests will ease on down the yellow brick road to cocktails and the Emerald City Gift Emporium silent auction. The Chéz-zam Event Group, based out of New York and Orlando, will welcome all into the ballroom as our Emerald City comes to life. The group is a burst of energy, coming to life through the talent, vitality and versatility of their world-renowned theatrical dance troupe. These enthusiastic entertainers will create a magical and memorable experience, engaging patrons with multiple costume changes and music that will keep guests on their feet as they are encouraged to join in the celebration.

The Gala is the Foundation's major annual fundraising event in support of River Garden's mission to serve the community with caring and excellence. Approximately 50% of River Garden's residents receive Medicaid, and the facility must raise roughly \$1.3 million annually to make up the difference between the actual cost of care and the amount reimbursed through Medicaid. The philanthropic support of caring friends and members of the community is essential to the success of the Home. Since its inception in 1993, the Gala has raised more than \$2.8 million for the frail elderly of our community.

Don't miss out on the fun - the entire community is invited. Individual tickets begin at \$250, a special Junior Patron price of \$175 is available to the 40 and younger crowd, and sponsorship levels range from \$1,000 to \$20,000. For more information or reservations, call Kathy Osterer at 904.886.8430 or e-mail kosterer@RiverGarden.org.

Check out our website: www.RiverGardenGala.WordPress.com. You can even make reservations online. Like us at our Facebook page: [river garden gala](http://rivergarden.gala).

the auxiliary

by Karen Backilman, Auxiliary President

Auxiliary members enjoyed celebrating our 90th year in 2012, and we were able to match our financial commitment of last year, with \$39,000 going to the Home in cash plus additional gifts.

Our Donor Luncheon, held in January and chaired by Fran Albert and Debby Katz, with assistance from Marilyn Mass and Ina Taffet, took us on a world tour. We traveled musically - with member Arlene Newman and an Ensemble of the Jacksonville Harmony Chorus; and gastronomically - with an international menu.

In March we provided desserts for Anniversary Day and awarded the Tombola prize to employees of River Garden. Lew and Evelyn Meisel once again chaired Tombola.

We honored Dr. Ira and Judy Dushoff at a truly memorable Special Event, held in April and chaired by Rhoda Goldstein and Sandy Selwitz, where we presented the Dushoffs with the prestigious Minnie Schreiber Award. This award was created in memory of long-time Auxiliary member and volunteer Minnie Schreiber, and goes to an Auxiliary member who has demonstrated outstanding service, support and dedication to the organization. If you have ever visited the River Garden Gift Shop, you know how much the Dushoffs have done for the Auxiliary, and for River Garden.

The Closing Luncheon, held in May, was chaired by Ina Hall and Deanna Lissner. The event sent us into summer with a Sweet Summertime Sing-Along featuring Edward Mallow on the piano and Candace Leonard, professional actress and singer.

These were the outstanding events we've had so far in 2012. In addition, many members volunteer on a regular basis. This spring, our funds helped provide support of the residents for Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Remember - your financial support of the Auxiliary directly benefits the residents of River Garden. We need and appreciate your support. Help us make a difference in the lives of River Garden residents. Please send in your dues, and watch for our summer fundraiser. Our opening membership meeting will be in October. For additional information, please visit us at www.RiverGarden.org/auxiliary, or email Karen Backilman, Auxiliary President at kbackilman@aol.com.

chaplain's study

by Rabbi Mark Wieder, Campus Chaplain

"We're not even Jewish," she said very quietly. "But it didn't make a difference; your staff was so wonderful." River Garden, she told me, had made an incredible difference in her mother's life. The doubt she expressed due to her mother's religious background can still be heard from those who don't know River Garden. This is no different than concerns a Jewish person may experience going to a hospital run by a Christian denomination. Hopefully in that case, too, it is a matter of people of faith doing good work, and trying to be godly in their own lives.

the coves

By Margaret Davis, Covs Administrator



Eddie and Lissette Halpern with guests at new Clubroom opening.

Over the past few months, Covs members celebrated many wonderful occasions. We celebrated The Covs' 17th Anniversary of providing elegant, yet affordable, independent retirement living on River Garden's beautiful 37-acre campus in the heart of Mandarin; and in January, we threw a party, complete with entertainment and a bartender, to help commemorate the Grand Opening of our new Clubroom.

The new Clubroom houses the library, public computers, kitchen area with bar, and a large flat screen television. Covs members have been using the new Clubroom for their Saturday Happy Hours, Ice Cream Socials, Current Event discussions, Birthday Parties, an Earth Day Party, a Cinco de Mayo Celebration, Brain Trainers, Trivia and many other events.

Now that the Clubroom is complete and in full use, Covs members look forward to the upcoming renovation of the dining room and the lobby. Both projects are slated to be completed later this year.

To learn more about becoming a member of The Covs, please visit us at www.RiverGarden.org/covs, email Margaret Davis, Covs Administrator at mdavis@RiverGarden.org or call 904.886.8935.

Do we celebrate Jewish holidays here? Most certainly. And it has been an avenue of exploration and curiosity satisfied, not only for our residents, but staff as well. I received an outpouring of gratitude from one non-Jewish family when they experienced a Passover Seder, something they thought they'd never have a chance to do.

Beyond the Jewish holidays, we provide many resources for our non-Jewish residents. While we haven't been called upon

continued next page...

yet to provide services for Hindus, Muslims, or Buddhists, we have monthly services for Protestants and Roman Catholics, a Christian Bible study (called "Strength for the Journey"), and have regular visits by Eucharistic Ministers.

My role as chaplain is to provide resources for the spiritual wellbeing of all our residents. In this I am aided by our wonderful Social Work, Nursing, and Activity staffs, which identify needs and refer people who might want to talk to the Chaplain.

In the case of the woman I first mentioned, her physical needs predominated. For others, issues of the mind, whether dementia or mental illness, may predominate. And yet others are longing

for spiritual fulfillment and growth. River Garden has a firm commitment to serve on all three levels. Please email Rabbi Wieder with any spiritual needs or questions at mwieder@RiverGarden.org, or call 904.288.7850.

Calendar of Events July, August, and September 2012

July 28	Tisha B'Av
Sept. 16	Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sept. 17,18	Rosh Hashanah
Sept. 25	Erev Yom Kippur
Sept. 26	Yom Kippur
Sept. 30	Erev Sukkot

the activity department

By Vanessa Warner, Director of Activities

Everyone, including the residents and the staff of the River Garden Activity Department, has gotten caught up in the excitement of what spectacular events 2012 continues to bring. When morning breaks here at River Garden, it holds the mystery of the unknown for what's happening today. We continue to strive for renewal and adventure as we plan and share our activities with our residents.

Art Exhibit at River Garden

In the past few years River Garden has had an Art Exhibit featuring our residents' and staff's paintings and creative artwork. This year we featured the Resident Artists' First Art Exhibit, hosted by the Activity Department, on June 29, 2012, in the Cohen Auditorium. We were amazed and thrilled to experience the immense talent possessed by our very own River Garden residents, volunteers and staff. A newcomer to our art world, Kathleen Tufts Stahl - Activity Coordinator and painting instructor here at River Garden, was proud to display her students' artwork. Be sure to look for future River Garden Art Exhibitions!

National Therapeutic Recreation Week – July 12-18, 2012

National Therapeutic Recreation Week, established by the National Therapeutic Recreation Society (NTRS), has been celebrated the second week of July ever since 1984, and this year is no different. National Therapeutic Recreation Week is aimed at educating internal and external audiences about the benefits of Therapeutic Recreation.

Therapeutic recreation has been shown to:

- Heighten Self-Awareness
- Sharpen Cognitive Skills
- Increase Short & Long-Term Memory
- Reduce Heart & Lung Risk
- Reduce Stress
- Enhance Self-Control
- Build Self Esteem

The Benefits of therapeutic recreation are endless.

Be sure to come visit us in the David A. Stein & Family Adult Day Care and Activities Pavilion during Therapeutic Recreation Week, where a table of Therapeutic Activity materials will be displayed for you to see. As always, please feel free to call or stop by and ask questions.

Mother's Day Celebration

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy, they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

-Marcel Proust



Marianne Dietsch and her son Fred enjoy celebrating Mother's Day at River Garden.

On May 9th River Garden celebrated its Mothers, who truly make River Garden a Home. Sons and daughters came to show their love and gratitude for all the years our mothers have dedicated, and continue to dedicate, to their children. The Steve Chapman Trio performed, enhancing

our lovely Mother's Day program. Punch and pineapple upside-down cake were served in the midst of a garden of beautiful plants. We are ever so grateful for all of our Mothers, here and everywhere. They have given us so much, including the very foundations upon which we have built our lives.

We, the staff of the Activity Department, resolve that you will find us better today than ever before, as we continually strive to develop and share the best activities with all our residents. For additional information on activities throughout the Home, please email Vanessa Warner, Director of Activities, at vwarner@RiverGarden.org or call 904.886.8416.

16th Annual River Garden Golf Classic is a Success Once Again



Co-Chairs Mark Lodinger and Michael Price make an impressive fashion statement.

It was a fabulous day at Deerwood Country Club on Wednesday, April 18th for the 16th Annual River Garden Classic, sponsored by Hardage-Giddens Funeral Homes & Cemeteries. In celebration of *The Golden Age of Golf*, players arrived to traditional bagpipe music, and were greeted by volunteers dressed as flappers and 2 beautiful vintage cars on display, courtesy of Dana's Limousine. After registration and lunch, golfers took to the course where they tested their skills at chipping contests and other games. The day ended with a reception and awards presentation emceed by Jacksonville radio personality Robbie Rose of 99.1 WQIK.

This year's tournament raised more than \$72,000 to benefit The Albert Z. Fleet Geriatric Training Center at River Garden and the students who graduate into a new caring profession as Certified Nursing Assistants. Since the tournament's inception in 1997, more than \$975,000 has been raised.

A very special *thank you* goes out to long time event Co-chairs, Mark Lodinger and Michael Price, for their leadership and dedication. This marked Price's twelfth year as chairman and Lodinger's sixteenth. River Garden also extends a special thank you to all of our generous sponsors, committee members, volunteers, players and staff who worked together to make this event successful. To learn more about the River Garden Foundation and our Golf Classic, visit www.RiverGarden.org/foundation, email Michelle Branly at mbranly@RiverGarden.org or call 904.886.8431.

16th Annual River Garden Classic

To benefit The Albert Z. Fleet
Geriatric Training Center at River Garden
Mark Lodinger and Michael Price ~ Tournament Chairs
Title Sponsor

Janne and Jody Brandenburg –

HARDAGE G GIDDENS
FUNERAL HOMES • CREMATION SERVICES

Dignity

Reception Sponsor: Greene-Hazel & Associates, Inc.

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Mark Green • Susan & Martin A. Goetz
'In Honor of Symme Price' – *By Her Five Children*
'In Memory of Bill Goldstein' *With Love From*
The Goldstein, Maiman & Sever Families
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Native Sun Natural Foods • Osterer Construction Company • Pajcic & Pajcic
P.F. Chang's China Bistro • Deena & Jim Richman • Kim & David Robbins
Howard Roey Family • Lorry & Paul Rothstein • Roy Miller, CPA
Sekine, Rasner & Brock, OB-GYN • Linda & David Stein • Sysco Jacksonville
The Jacksonville Bank • The Parts House • The Tree Amigos Outdoor Services
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Thank you all for making this such a special event!

Capital Campaign is Still Going Strong

By Kathy Osterer, Director of Development

It is hard to believe that 16 months have passed since River Garden launched its Capital Campaign, *Building Our Future... Together*. Today the future is here. River Garden has added 10,000 square feet and renovated 7,500 square feet of existing space to enable the agency to grow its Therapy, Adult Day Care, Outpatient and Home Health Care programs.

The addition includes the David A. Stein & Family Adult Day Care and Activities Pavilion and the Bernard & Alice Selevan Therapy Pavilion. The new space has the capacity to enable both the Therapy Center and the Adult Day Care program to triple the number of clients served. The new patio and gardens, gifted by Cindy and Dan Edelman, look out on Lake Lea, bringing the outside in.

Renovation on the existing space began in December 2011, and the Trager/Peltz Admissions & Home Health Pavilion, The DuBow Family Pharmacy and the Frisch Family Pavilion, home to the Selevan Wellness Clinic, have been occupied for the last several months.

This spring work began on the Price Welcome Center, the Lorraine and Paul Rothstein Reception Center, Baker Deli, Cohen Auditorium and Parker Chapel. One family member commented "I feel like I am walking into the lobby of a nice hotel. Everything is so beautiful and welcoming."

In May, The Parker and Wilf Families Dining Services Pavilion was redesigned with new furniture, carpet, paint, doors, windows and lighting. When commenting on the new dining space one resident joked "you would think we eat our meals in an upscale restaurant every day!"

River Garden also plans to renovate the Sloat Sheltered Care Pavilion, including new furniture, flooring and wall coverings this fall. Each resident's room throughout the building will get new flooring, paint, window treatments and bedding. Frieda's Place, our in-house beauty salon, will be redesigned as well.

The campaign is chaired by Susan DuBow and Sandy Zimmerman and spearheaded by honorary chairs David and Linda Stein. With the help and support of many members of the Jacksonville Community, River Garden has raised more than \$6.2 million in pledges and gifts to fund the project. The goal for the campaign is \$7 million, so we still have a way to go.

Your gift to the River Garden Capital Campaign is one that will keep giving. It will not only make a difference in our lifetime but also in the lives of our children and our children's children. Join us as we continue on this journey to keep building a strong agency that is recognized nationally as one of the leading Senior Service agencies.

If you would like to make a gift to the Capital Campaign or would like to tour the building please contact Kathy Osterer, Director of Development, at kosterer@RiverGarden.org or Beth Wolpoff, Capital Campaign Coordinator, at bwolpoff@RiverGarden.org or call 904.260.1818.

Building Our Future
TOGETHER



River Garden residents, clients and staff baking in the new David A. Stein and Family Adult Day Care and Activities Pavilion.



Marilyn Datz catching up with Yvette Neal, Physical Therapist Assistant, in the new Bernard and Alice Selevan Therapy Pavilion.



Residents & guests enjoying coffee in the newly renovated Price Welcome Center.

Thank you for your commitment to Building Our Future... Together River Garden's Capital Campaign

Visionaries

\$500,000+

DuBow Family Foundation
Dan and Cindy Edelman
The Frisch Family
Parker and Wilf Families
The Selevan Family Foundation
Irene Sloat
David and Linda Stein
Trager Family Foundation

Pillars

\$250,000-499,999

The Setzer Family

Builders

\$100,000-249,999

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Florida Blue
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\$75,000-99,999

Stewards

\$50,000-74,999

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\$25,000-49,999

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Up to \$5,000

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David and Kathy Teichert
Earle and Ann Traynham
Jerry and Dianne Weitzen
Enoch J. and Diane Whitney
Skip and Wendy Willbach

As of June 18, 2012

Our list is always growing. If you would like to add your name, please contact the Development Office 904.260.1818.

We deeply regret omissions of any kind. Please call if you have any concerns.

*Of Blessed Memory

New Faces at River Garden

Leslie Held Fills New Volunteer Coordinator Position



River Garden Hebrew Home is pleased to announce the recent appointment of Leslie Held to the position of Volunteer Coordinator. In this revamped position, Leslie oversees, supports and is growing an already active and engaged volunteer program with well over 150 participants. "River Garden is blessed to have the involvement of so many residents, their families and community members," said Jim Richman, Chief Operating Officer. "With Leslie's enthusiasm and passion, it will only get better."

And enthusiasm is just what Leslie brings to her new position. "After spending most of my life in the volunteer sector, I have come full circle and am now working at the very place where I always felt I belonged. To be engaged with people throughout the community and bring them to volunteer at this premier facility really is a dream come true."

Our annual Junior Volunteer Summer program is in full swing. An influx of teens from around the city provides additional support to our residents while engaging them in a multitude of activities.

Leslie brings a wealth of experience to this position. She holds a Masters degree in Aging as well as serving the Jewish community as a volunteer for over 25 years. River Garden is very excited to welcome her to the team.

To inquire about volunteer opportunities, please contact Leslie: lheld@RiverGarden.org or 904.886.8429.

Skip Willbach joins River Garden



Saul (Skip) Willbach has joined River Garden as Director of Marketing and Business Development. Skip brings over 28 years of direct marketing, management and leadership experience to the Home. In his new position, Skip will have overall responsibility for communicating the entirety of the River Garden Senior Services system of programs and services to both the community and area health professionals.

With an extensive background in helping not-for-profit charitable organizations succeed in promoting their programs and services, Skip's experience includes over 22 years with Entertainment Publications where he rose to become National Accounts Manager. Skip holds a Bachelor of Industrial Design Degree from Pratt Institute in New York. In commenting upon his new

position Skip said, "I'm excited to join the River Garden team, and look forward to working with staff, the board and the public in ensuring that the entire Jacksonville community is aware of the full scope of River Garden's programs and services."

Prior to joining staff, Skip served for 10 years on the River Garden Home Board where he co-chaired its Admissions Committee and led a workgroup that helped develop and brand the "Therapy Center at River Garden." Skip is happily married to his college sweetheart and they have two wonderful daughters and a son-in-law, all of whom live nearby. Skip and Wendy are longstanding members of Congregation Ahavath Chesed.

Plant Operations hires Micah Barth as Project Manager - New Construction



Prior to joining the River Garden family, Micah worked for Jacksonville-based The Stellar Group, a Design-Build Contractor, and was the Project Manager responsible for River Garden's latest expansion and renovation. During his 9 years at Stellar, he travelled throughout the United States working on projects for JEA, Schreiber Foods, Sara Lee Foods, Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, Duval County Public Schools, City of Jacksonville, Atlantic Dodge, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Brumos Mercedes and Lexus, and Stellar's New Commercial Building. He holds certifications in Quality Control Management through Army Corps of Engineers, and a 30 hour certification through OSHA. "Throughout the past 2 years as I worked on the River Garden project as an outside contractor, I saw how River Garden operates. I am extremely happy to now be a part of River Garden, and look forward to a long career with this outstanding organization."

Micah currently resides in Orange Park, and has been a Jacksonville resident for the past 34 years. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management from the University of North Florida. Micah and his wife Brandy are raising two sons Grayson (2 years) and Liam (9 months).

Introducing Our New Logo...



Volunteer Program

By Leslie Held, Volunteer Coordinator

Teen Volunteers (at least 13+):

Every summer, River Garden offers Junior Volunteer opportunities for teens ages 13 through 17. This is an incredibly successful program that sees students return year after year. In order to provide teens with the ability to participate in such a coveted position, we offer a flexible schedule to meet their needs/busy schedules. This year, due to the program's popularity, we will offer a year-round option for those who would like to continue their relationship with River Garden. It is a great way to complete community service hours in a safe, comfortable and friendly environment.

Volunteers (18 years and older):

The River Garden Campus is home to a legion of distinguished and caring Volunteers who play a vital role in creating the wonderful Home that is River Garden. Our volunteers come from different backgrounds, lending to the sharing of different cultures and experiences with our residents. Volunteers play an integral role, whether directly or indirectly, by supporting the staff to enhance the lives of our residents. Many volunteers participate weekly, and provide assistance in virtually every area of our Home. Opportunities range from ongoing participation to as little as a one day project.

Volunteer opportunities range from simply arriving with a friendly smile to visit with residents, to arts & crafts, clerical work, sewing, music, exercise, outdoor activities and helping in the Gift Shop. Our goal is to match the talents and skills of our volunteers to the assignments to be done. This ensures a positive experience for our valuable volunteers, as well as guaranteeing that our residents continue to enjoy a high quality of life.

Orientation is held throughout the year for new Volunteers. We're looking for you to join our team! Please visit us at www.RiverGarden.org/volunteer, email Leslie Held, Volunteer Coordinator, at lheld@RiverGarden.org, or call 904.886.8429.

River Garden @Home - the Newest Option from River Garden Senior Services

By Sue Leger-Krall, ARNP, PhD

Director of Research/Community Clinical Services

When you ask most people in North Florida "what is River Garden?" they will tell you it is the best nursing home in the area. And they will be correct - River Garden has been a top award-winning long-term care facility for over 66 years.

River Garden's Administration and Board Members have always been proactive in looking to the future. We began offering nursing case management, and the services of Certified Nursing Assistant care, to our clients in 1999. Now, in order to meet the wider in-home needs of our aging population, we are proud to announce that we will soon offer Skilled Home Care which, upon physician authorization, will be Medicare reimbursable and facilitated by RNs and LPNs.

Offering skilled home care services will enable our home health

Safety for the Aging Adult

By Sheri D. Samuels, River Garden Therapy Center

We all do it...grow a little older each year. However, as we age, our senses experience a decline. As a result, our judgment and reaction time slow down, making us more prone to accidents.

According to the CDC, "one in every three adults age 65 and older falls". These falls can result in lacerations, bruising of tissue and fractures of all types. They can also cause permanent disabilities, restriction of activities, fear of falling and, in extreme cases, death. The CDC further reports "in 2009, 2.2 million nonfatal fall injuries among older adults were treated in emergency departments and more than 581,000 of these patients were hospitalized". With the risk of falls increasing as we age, it is important that we take preventative measures:

- Exercise regularly, focusing on building strength and endurance.
- Wear proper fitting and comfortable shoes appropriate for the type of surface you're walking on.
- Have your vision tested. If you wear corrective lenses or contacts, make sure you are wearing the right prescriptive lenses.
- In the home, make sure hallways, doorways, steps and walking paths are in good condition, clutter free, and well lit. Make sure throw rugs are securely fastened to the floor, or get rid of them all together.
- Light switches should be close to the doors.
- Make sure all medications are clearly labeled.
- Put frequently used items in easily accessible places to avoid over reaching or bending.
- Keep telephones and emergency numbers nearby.
- Implement a medical alert or "buddy" system.

If you, or someone you love, are experiencing frequent falls, or for more information on safety for the aging adult, please visit us at www.RiverGarden.org/therapycenter, email us at ssamuels@RiverGarden.org or call 904.886.8454.

agency to be the agency of choice to serve clients who are discharged from River Garden and still require further assistance after their rehabilitation stay.

Our goal is to become the preferred home health agency of choice for those clients who live in The Coves, as well as those in the surrounding community who might require Medicare skilled services. Clients in our Adult Day Care Program will also be able to access these skilled services in their homes when needed.

The full potential of River Garden's system of services is always evolving. The ability to deliver services where the client chooses, when appropriate and safe, is the fulfillment of the ideal of "a nursing home without walls". For additional information, please email our River Garden @Home program: jglassman@RiverGarden.org or call 904-288-7851.



IN MEMORIAM — MICHAEL DONZIGER

It is with a heavy heart that River Garden mourns the passing of **Michael Donziger** on March 21, 2012. Mike was a member of the River Garden Foundation Board of Trustees since 2000.

Throughout his life Mike was active in many community causes that were dear to his heart. He was the first President of the Jacksonville Jewish Foundation, and served as a member of the River Garden and Jacksonville Jewish Foundation Boards.

Mike made a difference in the lives of countless individuals across the generations. A short time before his unexpected death, he was awarded the prestigious Tree Of Life Award from the Jewish National Fund. In addition to his family and his community, Michael had a passion for his beloved Dodgers baseball team.

Michael is survived by his loving wife Karin, his children Steven Donziger (Laura Miller), Susan Sherman (David), and Janet Nield, and his grandchildren Michael Nield, Sylvie Sherman, Keil Sherman, Matthew Donziger, Jennifer Nield, and Alexander Nield. Mike was an extraordinary man and we are a better and stronger community because of him. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends across the country. Mike's memory will forever be a blessing to River Garden, our community and to us all.

Thanks to you, River Garden continues its Mission of Service to the Community
Contributions January 1, 2012 - May 31, 2012. Individual Gifts \$25 and above are acknowledged.

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Please remember River Garden when you would like to honor or memorialize your loved ones. River Garden is extremely grateful for these remembrances. Donations should be sent to:

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 11401 Old Saint Augustine Road
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Donations can also be made on our website: www.RiverGarden.org

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WITH DEEPEST APPRECIATION

River Garden thanks the River Garden Auxiliary for donating \$31,500 to the Home from January 2012 through June 2012. Since 1989 the Auxiliary has donated \$994,808 to the Home.

We are proud to be a Beneficiary Agency of the Jacksonville Jewish Federation. We are grateful for a pledge of \$179,132 from the 2012 campaign.

River Garden deeply appreciates a grant of \$4,480 from the Ruby Diamond Foundation of Tallahassee, Florida.

Thank you to the Weinberg Foundation for their ongoing annual support.

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IN MEMORIAM — THOMAS ANDREW HAZEL

It is with a heavy heart we mourn **Tom Hazel**, past president of the River Garden Foundation, who passed away on January 18, 2012.

Tom retired from the Marine Corps with the rank of Lt. Colonel, serving a total of 40 years of active and reserve duty, including a tour in Vietnam. Tom served as President of the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association and worked diligently on behalf of the Toys for Tots program. In September 2010, he was honored by the Marine Corps for leadership, service and support of the advancement of his Country, Corps and Community with the Non sibi, Sed Patriae Not for Self, But for Country.

Tom and his wife Theresa formed Greene-Hazel & Associates, in 1984. He was active in many local charitable, civic and social organizations including the JU Council, UNF Foundation and served as President of Sales and Marketing Executives of Jacksonville. In 1992 Tom was recognized as Executive of the Year by the Insurance Professionals of Northeast Florida. He was a member of the Rotary Club of San Jose and served on the Executive Committee of the USO of Greater Jacksonville. Tom was an avid Gator and proud of his support of UF as a Bull Gator, while continuing to support his Alma Mater, USF.

He is survived by his wife, Theresa Greene Hazel; sisters, Pam (Ken) Murdock and Vicki (Andy) Dobbs; children, Angela (Keith) Goldsmith and Curtis (Jenny) Hazel; the mother of his children, Mary Ann Hazel; stepchildren, Kevin (fiancée Cheri) Greene and Chip (Ashley) Greene; five grandchildren and two step grandchildren, as well as many other family members.

Tom's memory will be forever a blessing to his family, friends and our community.





River Garden Partners with Baptist Health to Provide Enhanced Senior Care



River Garden is now partnered with Baptist Health, Northeast Florida's most comprehensive health care system, forming a strategic alliance to enhance the care of clients and residents of the River Garden community.

Baptist Health physicians are now providing primary care to residents of River Garden Hebrew Home. Providing medical care at River Garden are Anna Orman, MD, Anthony Malacaman, MD, and Olga Wells, ARNP.

Later this year, services will expand to include providing medical care to residents of The Coves, the Adult Day Care program, and to River Garden employees.

Marty Goetz, River Garden CEO, suggests that the alliance between Baptist Health and River Garden is a natural progression. "The majority of our clients and residents, as well as our staff, use Baptist Health and the majority of

our admissions come from Baptist. We are building upon an organic relationship that has grown, especially since the opening of Baptist South in 2005, which is the nearest hospital to our community."

The primary benefit of the partnership will be enhanced communication and better coordination of care. The affiliation furthers Baptist Health's mission of providing quality care to Northeast Florida residents. "We are fortunate to have high-quality post-acute care facilities like River Garden serving the health care needs of seniors in our community," said Joe Mitrick, president of transitional care at Baptist Health. "Baptist shares a mutual goal with River Garden of comprehensively addressing the physical, cognitive and social issues that older adults face. Our alliance with River Garden is another way we are working with other mission-driven organizations to provide the finest care to seniors in the community."



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a year of peace, health and happiness!

