



RIVER GARDEN

NEWS

River Garden Hebrew Home/Wolfson Health & Aging Center
Eight-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 2014-2016 2016-2019

Join Us As River Garden Celebrates Anniversary Day 2017!

by Skip Willbach, Director of Marketing and Communications



(L to R): Rabbi Avi Feigenbaum, Marc Raitt, Art Sherman

March 26, 2017 from 3:00 – 6:00 PM: River Garden Hebrew Home will celebrate its 71st year with a wonderful, fun-filled Anniversary Day festival. Everyone in the community is invited – River Garden residents, members of the Coves, family and friends, volunteers and staff, and of course members of the greater community. In recent years,

upwards of 500 people ranging in age from infants to seniors have spent the afternoon together, reveling to their hearts' content.

The afternoon will include a delicious barbecue and terrific musical entertainment. Attendees have the opportunity to purchase ceramics made by our residents,

Continued page 9



Mauri Mizrahi recently joined River Garden Hebrew Home as Assistant Administrator. Mauri has a long association with River Garden, and she's excited to be part of the team. Welcome, Mauri!



Are you following us on Facebook?

If not, we invite you to "like" our page, and be part of our online community! The River Garden Senior Services Facebook page is a forum to keep you up-to-date on all of our services and related events on our active campus and in the surrounding community. Please take a moment to "like" us, and share our Facebook content with family and friends.

Golf Classic Just Around the Corner

The 21st River Garden Classic tees off **Wednesday, April 26th** at Deerwood Country Club. The event, co-chaired by **Mark Lodinger** and **Michael Price** and proudly sponsored by Hardage-Giddens Funeral Homes & Cemeteries, supports The Albert Z. Fleet Geriatric Training Center at River Garden. Since the first tournament in 1997, more than \$1 million has been raised.

The tournament promises a great day of golf in support of River Garden. The day begins with complimentary practice balls and a delicious deli lunch. Following the 12:30 p.m. shotgun start, players have the opportunity to participate in contests throughout the course with skill prizes awarded on every hole. Golfers then return to the clubhouse to join spouses, friends and colleagues for the evening Awards Reception.

Sponsorships available - \$500 to \$5,000 including player spots, luncheon, reception, and signage. Individual player - \$300. Contact Michelle Branly, 904-886-8431 or mbranly@rivergarden.org, for more information. Reserve your spot today! www.rivergarden.org/golf-classic

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A beneficiary agency of the
Jewish Federation of Jacksonville

OUR MISSION

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.

RIVER GARDEN NEWS

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Skip Willbach

Be sure to visit our website for
the latest River Garden news
and information.



INSIDE LINE

by Martin A. Goetz, Chief Executive Officer



In a few short weeks, winter will draw to a close and warmer weather and longer days will return. As we welcome spring, we also celebrate River Garden's 71st Anniversary Day. I hope you'll mark your calendars for Sunday March 26th, and join us for a wonderful afternoon that celebrates all that is good in our Jewish community. Anniversary Day will also be an opportunity for our community to thank **Marsha Pollock**, who is completing a three year term as president of River Garden Hebrew Home. During Marsha's presidency, the Home has been recognized with its 8th consecutive Gold Seal Award for Excellence in Long Term Care and has completed its transition to electronic health records.

All successful organizations engage in ongoing strategic planning, and River Garden is no exception. It was thoughtful strategic planning that led to our 1989 relocation from Riverside to Mandarin and that recently resulted in a 10,000 square foot addition to outpatient programs, refurbishment of the entire nursing facility, and \$7.5 million in philanthropic support to fund the project. Our boards are now focused on strategic initiatives that lay the groundwork for generations to come. Expansion of home and community services, additional capacity to serve hospital partners through short-stay care, and a feasibility study on assisted living are all in process.

In December, River Garden Home underwent an unannounced state/federal licensure and certification inspection with no deficiencies!

Congratulations to the finest care community in the state and to the finest caregivers in the field. What's especially noteworthy is that this was the first inspection where government surveyors utilized River Garden computers to review resident clinical records. There is no question that electronic health records will continue to expand and play an ever more significant role in clinical care. A special thank you to **Carol Thomas**, Chief Nursing Officer, who has championed electronic health records throughout the Home, and to all who have played a role in helping us advance this new technology.

In January we welcomed **Mauri Mizrahi** as River Garden's newest assistant administrator. Mauri is a longstanding member of our Jacksonville Jewish community and we look forward to working with her in the years to come.

Please take the time to read the handout enclosed with this issue of The River Garden News. It is critically important that the community continue to successfully partner with us in advancing good public policy for all Floridians.

I hope you enjoy this issue of The River Garden News and look forward to welcoming you to the campus on March 26th to help celebrate the 71st anniversary of River Garden Home and the annual meeting of River Garden Senior Services.

Marty

PS. Don't hesitate to reach out to me to let me know how we're doing. I can be reached at mgoetz@rivergarden.org or (904) 886-8409



River Garden Outpatient Services

Adult Day Care Program:

Our focus is to provide physical and emotional support for each client every day.

Our staff is committed to the well-being of each individual while in our care. We provide activities for socialization and stimulation based on individual functioning level.

Meals and snacks are provided throughout the day and morning transportation for pick up is also available.

Available Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM with extended hours available until 6:00 PM.

Please call 904-288-7858 for additional information.

Outpatient Rehab:

We are committed to quality clinical services and outcomes. With diverse training and many combined years of experience, our therapists provide exceptional care with programs ranging from outpatient orthopedic to inpatient medically-clinically complex. They evaluate and treat each patient on a one-on-one basis, and they are committed to help each patient reach his or her optimal level of function. River Garden Rehab measures and reports quality outcomes continuously to demonstrate improvement in function for patients who receive care in their programs. Whether returning to work, to the community, or just returning to function, patients can expect superior therapy at River Garden.

Physical Therapy: Helping Patients Regain Strength and Control

Probably the most commonly known form of rehabilitation therapy, physical therapy is the treatment of disease or disability through therapy and exercise.

Occupational Therapy: Helping with Daily Living

Occupational therapy helps with “occupations,” or daily living activities. Individuals may require occupational therapy if, as

the result of an illness or injury, they have difficulty completing tasks such as dressing, housekeeping or grooming.

Speech-Language Pathology: Helping to Communicate

Our speech-language pathologists work with patients to help them regain or strengthen their ability to swallow and speak with ease and clarity. They utilize the latest technology and clinical processes to help our patients regain the ability to communicate.

For additional information, please call 904-886-8454.

Home Health Care:

Our Home Health Care agency offers both Medicare skilled and Private Duty services. Our nurses are available to educate the patient and caregivers, as well as to provide oversight for various chronic health problems. We also offer advice and support to family members when caring for their loved one.

Medicare Home Health Care Services are offered through our very capable and experienced staff of nurses, therapists and home health aides. These services are covered by Medicare when one is in need of services requiring a skill (nursing or therapy) that meets Medicare guidelines.

Private Duty Home Care Services include assistance with daily living activities by very seasoned home health aides as well as a Registered Nurse (RN), available 24/7 for case management and medication management.

We are also available to provide consultation and assistance when changes to living arrangements become necessary and the family is unsure of next steps, as well as the availability of services in the community.

Call 904-288-7851 for additional information.

Don't Miss our Next Open House!

Take a tour, ask questions and learn how
River Garden Outpatient Services and Programs help make lives better!

[River Garden Rehab](#) // [River Garden Home Health Care](#) // [River Garden Adult Day Program](#)

Please join us

Thursday, February 23rd • 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Questions? Call us at 904-260-1818

Hope to see you there!

22nd Coves Anniversary

by Cheryl Fisch, Life Enrichment Coordinator

In December, we were thrilled to celebrate the 22nd anniversary of The Coves. Part of River Garden Senior Services, The Coves was added to River Garden's campus as it became evident that there was a need for a retirement community in the Jacksonville area where active, vital seniors could live an elegant yet affordable lifestyle. The Coves was designed to provide active seniors with a vibrant, independent retirement community that would enable them to live life to the fullest without the burden of a buy-in, entrance or community fee. The model has been successful for the past two-plus decades!

The 22nd Anniversary celebration was truly wonderful. The dining room looked beautiful, so warm and welcoming, as Coves members, friends and other guests took their seats at tables set with fresh flowers. **Marty Goetz**, River Garden CEO, opened the evening's program by enlightening the crowd about the history of the Coves, how we have come so far, how we've achieved 22 years of success, and even discussed plans for the future.

The food was fresh, delicious and lovely to look at as well! Our chefs produced an exemplary menu, beginning with delectable

hors d' oeuvres, and a bar served assorted drinks and beverages. The ambiance and intimate feel of the evening were enhanced, in part by the performance of **Bella Voce**, a group of talented singers, performing arias and Broadway show tunes as they mixed and mingled with Coves members seated at their tables.

It was indeed a lovely evening, and we are already looking forward to next year's event!



Skippy Smith and Bill Peek on their way to the 22nd Anniversary Celebrations



Mary Jane Sprouse (L) and Alois Gendzier enjoy a pre-dinner cocktail



Coves and River Garden staff (L to R) Lisa Poremba, Norberto Irizarry, Margaret Davis, Jim Richman, Cheryl Fisch, Kurt Strenger, Harriet Cochran and Martha Quintero get ready for the evening's big event



Bob and Nancy Dean fully reveling in the evening's wonderful ambiance



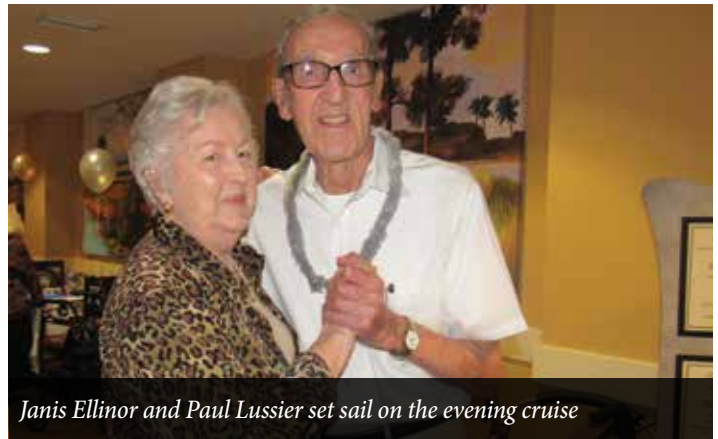
Members of Bella Voce, the evening's outstanding Soprano and Tenor entertainment

New Year's Party

New Year's Eve was celebrated in style on Thursday, December 29th at the Coves with a fun party! More than 60 Coves members, along with family and other guests, attended the festivities. This year's theme was "Cruisin' into the New Year" and the room was decorated to the hilt in full cruise ship style, with balloons, banners, signs, table centerpieces, and more, all set to the theme. Even the food and dessert were created and presented using the cruise theme, including elaborate displays of sushi, fruit, salads, crudité, fish, chicken, cakes, pastries and much more!

Dancing was lively and entertaining as **Dave Medvidofsky** and **Steve Scarborough** sang the night away.

We ended the evening with a traditional champagne toast, wishing all Coves members and their families and loved ones health, joy and good fortune as we venture into the New Year.



Janis Ellinor and Paul Lussier set sail on the evening cruise



Helene Colman and Martha "cutting the rug" on the dance floor



The Eisenberg Family "Cruises in the New Year!"



The beautifully decorated Coves Dining Room was the perfect venue



Marie Eisenberg enjoyed the special occasion with daughter and great-granddaughter



Captain of the party cruise...Dave Medvidofsky, vocalist



The music got Lisette Halpern (R) and Martha Quintero up and dancing

Coves Café - Another Great Reason... Grand Opening of the Coves Café Brings Lots of Smiles

by Skip Willbach, Director of Marketing and Communication

Members of The Coves at River Garden were wowed at the grand opening of the members-only Coves Café! Staff had a few moments to mug for the camera just moments before Norberto cut the ribbon and ushered dozens of Coves members and guests into the beautiful dining room to enjoy samplings of the brunch items on the new menu. Now that the Café is up and running, the menu offers breakfasts, sandwiches, burgers and salads. Yes, Coves members have yet another reason to love the Coves lifestyle!



The dining room was filled as Coves members sampled items from the new Café menu



With an assist by Jim Richman, River Garden COO, Norberto Irizarry, Coves Dining Services Manager, cut the ribbon to officially welcome Coves members to the grand opening



The Coves staff took a quick breather as they got ready for the grand opening



Guests were greeted by (L to R): Lois Schlesinger, Coves Board President; and from River Garden: Marty Goetz, CEO; Jim Richman, River Garden COO; and Mauri Mizrahi, Assistant Administrator

River Garden and United HealthCare

Medicare beneficiaries who have traditional Medicare Coverage with a Medicare Supplement issued by AARP or United HealthCare directly are fully covered during a Medicare Part A admission to River Garden.

However, if you or a loved one has a commercial health insurance policy issued by United HealthCare, or are enrolled in a United HealthCare Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO), it is important to know that you will not be able to access those benefits at River Garden.

We are committed to informing the Northeast Florida Jewish community that if they have a Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO) or commercial policy issued through United HealthCare, their post-acute care Medicare Part A benefits do not include access into our care system.

If you have additional questions please contact our Admissions Department at 904-886-8420.

Chanukah Celebrations Galore!

by Leslie Held, Director, Jewish Life and Volunteer Services

Chanukah is not simply a reminder of ancient miracles... rather, it is miraculous that Jews in every generation choose to commit to preserve their traditions for yet another generation.

The joys and festivities of *Chanukah* shone brightly and filled our senses on the River Garden campus as *chanukiahs* throughout the building grew ever more radiant with the addition of each new candle throughout the 8 night celebration. We celebrated in a myriad of ways, from the upbeat music provided by the **Kol Train** band to the yummy smells of frying *latkes*.

We were lifted by a spiritually charged *Havdalah* service led by **USY** teens, as well as the laughter of children decorating jelly-filled donuts during the exciting family celebration brought to campus by **rGEN**, Federation's Young Adults division. We also thank the **Jacksonville Jewish Center Religious School**, the **DuBow Pre-school**, and **Chef Harry Shapiro** for contributing to our festivities.



Clockwise from top left: The Hauptman family shares a relaxing moment during rGEN's Hanukkah festivities; Decorating donuts is a delicate art; Elliott Horowitz's rhythm couldn't be denied; USY teens sported their Hanukkah best ready to dance the night away... Who knew dressing for Hanukkah could be so much fun?

Recent Events and Activities Around the Garden





Facing Page, Top Left: Elliott Palevsky (right) was the guest presenter at the Jewish Federation of Jacksonville's Jewish Java. After a continental breakfast, the audience was treated to his presentation on "The Joys of Yiddish". Elliott's depth of knowledge regarding the role Yiddish played in the lives of Eastern European Jews encouraged a lively discussion on the origins of the Yiddish language.

Top Right: After delivering homemade cakes on our campus, 8th grade students from the Martin J. Gottlieb Day School posed with smiling face masks given to them by an appreciative resident.

Middle Left: Taking advantage of a beautiful afternoon, 6th graders from the Martin J. Gottlieb Day School followed Mr. Sachs (center) down the dock to feed the turtles and fish.

Middle Right: River Garden hosted Federation's rGEN for a mini-mission to learn about our agency. During lunch, Marty Goetz (left) addressed the group and opened it up for Q and A. They welcomed the opportunity to learn about current issues affecting senior health care. The visit ended with a tour of River Garden.

Bottom Left: Families from the Temple gathered for a Mitzvah Day outing to the River Garden campus. They embellished popsicle stick frames to give as keepsakes to hold treasured photos. The children gave a musical presentation on stage and performed with guitar accompaniment by Dave Flagler (not shown).

Bottom Right: Kathy Minton's artistry and quilting skills led to a fantastic Rosh Hashanah tapestry that brightened the volunteer office door. Under her vision, each holiday is brought to life with a stunning visual interpretation.



This Page, Top: L-R: Leslie Goldstein, Stephen Goldstein, Rabbi Perras, Lisette Halpern. Rabbi Perras is a welcome monthly visitor for our Lunch and Learn. The community joined us as he spoke on "Introduction to Kabbalah".

Middle: Sharon Rosenblum and friends secure their favorite table for a friendly game of Mah Jongg in the Price Welcome Center Deli on Friday afternoons. On the last draw of the game, Sharon has the winning hand.

Bottom: L-R: Alberta Marks, Bess Saliman, Carole Jaffe, Rabbi Feigenbaum, Elliott Horovitz, Esther Michelson, Manfred Katz, Cheryl Fisch and Libbie Katz. Each month Rabbi Feigenbaum brings inspiring themes to present resulting in lively discussions.



Anniversary Day 2017 *Continued from front page*

and the Auxiliary Gift Shop will be open. And of course, there will be so many activities to keep the youngsters entertained, including face-painting clowns, balloon artists, pony and cart rides and even a bounce house.

In addition to all of this excitement and fun, we will also hold the annual meeting of River Garden Senior Services, which will be conducted in the Cohen Auditorium beginning at 4:30 PM.

The day will conclude with the highly anticipated Tombola drawing, hosted by the River Garden Auxiliary. All monies raised through this drawing directly support the residents of River Garden.

Highlights from the 24th Annual River Garden Foundation Gala

Sponsored by  **SUNTRUST**

Chaired by Jackie & Stephen Goldman



Photos by DanHarisPhotoArt.Co



Ladies of the night.....Donna McNett, Penny Marks, Kim Sisisky, Debra Setzer, Jackie Goldman, Ruthie Stein and Dena Heyman



River Garden Foundation President Jeanine Rogozinski and Home President Marsha Pollock welcome the crowd of almost 600



The first ever live ask at the Gala raised more than \$25,000. Thank you to Ackerman Cancer Center for matching the first \$7,000 to get a great start.



Gary and Laine Silverfield and Ossi and Daniel Soffer join their host Leonard and Debra Setzer



All in the family Fran and Russell and Susan and Jack Selevan



David and Linda Stein congratulate auctioneer Senator Aaron Bean and his wife Abby



David and Shari Shuman, Brian Parks of SunTrust, the Premier Gala Sponsor and his wife Karen share a wonderful evening with Irv and Carol Weinstein and Lisa and Michael Hayes



Band leader and singer Anita discovering hidden talents in Gala guests; Jeana Lind, Kimberly Gill and Ivy Mackay

Photos by DanHarisPhotoArt.Co

This year, go for great. Make your generosity permanent.

Do you dream of making a transformational gift? The kind that creates a better future? A gift that leaves a lasting statement to the world about who you are and what you care about?

Consider making a gift through your will or trust.

EASY

All it takes is a simple addition to your existing documents. We can provide you sample language to give to your attorney.

CHANGEABLE

You can easily alter or revoke your gift down the road if needed.

FLEXIBLE

Give a specific asset or a percentage of your estate. Support a particular program or let your gift go where it's needed most.

MEMORABLE

If there's a special person you wish to honor, a gift through your will or trust makes a beautiful tribute gift.

TRANSFORMATIONAL

When you leave us a gift in your will or trust, you build our long-term financial strength and enable us to continue our mission for generations to come.

Guardians of Tomorrow

Guardians of Tomorrow honors those who secure the financial future of River Garden by making a life-income gift or a bequest. We are grateful to the people named below who have indicated to us that River Garden is included in their estate planning.

Janet & Norman Allison
Josh Ashby
Helen Avchin
Jack I. Bear*
Jack Becker*
Sally & Paul* Becker
Vera & Morton* Benjamin
Frances Berney*
Gary Bloom*
Rene Bonnett*
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Eunice & Barry Zisser

* Of Blessed Memory

Make a gift that lasts forever...

**We are here to help every step of the way.
Beth Wolpoff, Planned Giving Manager
904.886.8410 or bwolpoff@rivergarden.org**

Thanks to you, River Garden continues its Mission of Service to the Community

Contributions July 2016 - November 2016. Individual Gifts \$25 and above are acknowledged.

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River Garden accepts, with deep appreciation, a grant of \$4,940 from the **Ruby Diamond Foundation** of Tallahassee, Florida.

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

We appreciate the friendship of THE PLAYERS Championship and the gift of \$7,500 from the Red Coat Grant Committee in 2016.

Special thanks to Stellar for their support by awarding River Garden \$10,000 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Stellar Foundation.

Thank you to Mildred Kaufman (of blessed memory) for her gift of \$25,000 that was a bequest to us through the Guardians of Tomorrow program in memory of Isaac and Anna Kaufman.

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A Summer of Community Service

by Leslie Held, Jewish Life and Volunteer Services

Spring is the season when teenagers plan how they will spend their summer. Some will attend camp, travel, find part-time work; but they all have one thing in common: they need to make a decision about how, and where, to earn community service hours.

River Garden's Teen Volunteer Program provides excellent opportunities for a limited number of teens throughout Jacksonville to earn required community service hours. Students who are accepted into our program quickly appreciate the benefits beyond meeting graduation requirements: for college, it illustrates character and the positive impact on the community; in addition to helping people who may not be able to help themselves, volunteers develop important social skills, and gain confidence and valuable experience for a path to future careers. Through the selfless act of volunteering, teens broaden their horizons and gain important insights into themselves. All of this provides them with a sense of accomplishment, knowing they played a valuable part in the lives of others.

To learn more about this wonderful summer teen program, and to receive an application, email **Leslie Held** at Lheld@rivergarden.org or call 904-886-8429.



Americana was the theme for the Mad Hatter Tea Party and teens were in full regalia.



Sharing a moment in the summer sun.