



River Garden News



75 ACTS *of* CARING

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Fall 2021
Volume 80

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.

Front Cover Photo:

Allison & Ken Jacobs,
Chairs for '75 Acts of
Caring' initiative.

If you have a resident story or feedback you'd like to share, please let us know. We also welcome opportunities to meet with senior groups in the community to discuss our programs & services.

Please contact Kari Bell.
kbell@rivergarden.org or (904) 288-7855

Boards and Officers

River Garden Senior Services

Gloria Einstein, President
Janis Fleet, Vice President
Harvey Schlesinger, Vice President
Marsha Pollock, Secretary
Ed Grenadier, Treasurer

River Garden Hebrew Home

Larry Goldberg, President
Randy Kammer, Vice President, Co- Chair of Admissions
Debby Kaye, Vice President, Co-Chair of Admissions
Bruce Horovitz, Vice President, Co-Chair of Admissions
Morrie Osterer, Vice President, Chair of the House
Rachelle Gottlieb, Secretary
Cindy Demri, Treasurer

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Ellen Rubens, Fundraising
Michele Steinfeld, Membership
Nancy Mizrahi, Treasurer
Betty Fastenberg, Recording Secretary

River Garden Foundation

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Susan DuBow, Vice President
Jeff Edwards, Vice President
Adam Frisch, Vice President
Debbie Parker, Vice President
Andrea Mail, Secretary
Michael Price, Treasurer

The Coves at River Garden

Denny Lafer, President
Michael Price, Vice President
Malcolm Bloom, Vice President
Shirley Bielski, Secretary
Susan Cohen, Treasurer

Sam Garrison Visits River Garden

Freshman Florida Representative Sam Garrison visited River Garden in September. We are grateful for his time and willingness to listen to our concerns facing seniors and long term care in Florida.



Board members and administration leaders enjoy vibrant discussion with Rep. Garrison, followed by a tour of the Home.



Inside Line

By Mauri Witten Mizrahi, Chief Executive Officer

As we enter the season of Thanksgiving, we pause and take an accounting of what we have which allows us to acknowledge the blessings in our lives. At River Garden our blessings are many.

Newsweek has rated River Garden as the #1 Nursing Home in Florida again! River Garden continues to be rated “5 Stars” by the Federal Government and is a preferred provider to area hospitals and insurance companies. We are a nine time recipient of the Governor’s Gold Seal Award for Excellence in Long Term Care and we are fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations.

The River Garden Foundation is creatively sharing the beauty of River Garden through the 75 Acts of Caring initiative chaired by Allison and Ken Jacobs. Thank you for the \$262,974 we have raised so far. We are grateful for Allison and Ken’s leadership and your support which allows us to care for our elders with respect and dignity. Mark your calendar for the return of the River Garden Gala scheduled for December 10, 2022. On October 29, 2021, we officially thanked Linda and David Stein for their generous commitment to name our campus with a sign reveal and a small outdoor reception.

On October 1, 2021, we made the COVID-19 vaccine a condition of employment. We are proud to announce that 98% of our staff are fully vaccinated and the other 2% have appropriate reasons for not being vaccinated. Those who are not vaccinated will continue to test routinely and will wear personal protective equipment. With the overwhelming majority of staff, River Garden residents, and Coves members fully vaccinated and the decline in community transmission, we have been able to slowly and deliberately start to re-open programs and

services on the campus. We re-opened the Adult Day Program in July and outpatient therapies to our Coves members and discharged short stay patients in October. We are growing our short stay rehabilitation program. The growth is controlled due to the nursing workforce shortage and our commitment to providing high quality care.

We are welcoming small groupings of volunteers back onto the campus and the River Garden Auxiliary Gift Shop has re-opened for our staff and residents. River Garden residents and Coves members will be able to celebrate Thanksgiving with friends and family on the campus this year too.

After 21 years of service, Margaret Davis, our Coves Administrator, will be retiring on November 15, 2021. She has led the Coves with love and patience and will be truly missed by the staff and members. We welcome Sarah Dymond as our new Coves Administrator on November 1, 2021.

We are getting closer to the day that visitors can once again participate in the vibrant life on our campus. Please mark your calendars for River Garden’s 76th Anniversary Day on Sunday, March 27, 2022.

As I reflect on Thanksgiving, I am thankful for our residents from whom we learn each day. Thankful for our caring, hardworking staff. Thankful for our supportive families and community. Thankful for our history of excellence inspiring our continued excellence.

I hope you enjoy this season’s issue of the River Garden News. Our future is bright.

Mauri



Earlier in 2021, David & Linda Stein announced a generous commitment to the River Garden Foundation that both names the campus and endows its medical program. Just last month, we celebrated their gift and revealed our new monument sign with their names.





Champions of Jewish Life

Together, we are proud to continue the traditions of our Hebrew Home.



Leslie Held, Director, Jewish Life



Laura Platzer, Assistant, Jewish Life



Steve Meisel, Service Leader

We are thankful for those who have come before us and remain guided by the basic tenets of Jewish Tradition

BIKKUR CHOLIM – (Caring for the Sick) | Tend to the needs of the elderly and infirm with the highest possible quality of care.

CHESED v'EMET – (Compassion and Truth) | Work and make decisions guided by truth, tempered with compassion.

KAVOD – (Respect) | Respect our elders, families, staff and community. Respect diversity in values, beliefs, lifestyles, customs and traditions while working together towards a common goal.

AHAVAT SHALOM – (Love of Peace) | Care for people in ways that promote peace and goodwill in our community.

TIKKUN OLAM – (Repairing the World) | Act in ways that help to make our world a better place.

TZEDAKAH – (Righteous Acts) | Give generously of ourselves and our resources to support those most in need.



PARTNER PAINTING RETURNS

By Leslie Held

After a long hiatus, our beloved intergenerational art experience returned with a slight modification due to the virus. Historically, a few times a year, students arrived to jointly create a work of art with those living on our campus. Each student and senior would work together on one canvas which, when completed, was hung in our Art Gallery upstairs.

In October, residents and members of The Coves each received a uniquely painted canvas that the students from the Jacksonville Jewish Center had pre-painted with various backgrounds. The students were provided a subject matter and had full autonomy on using their creativity to bring the canvas to life. Each new session always begins with a unique theme. With Fall approaching our theme was “veggie painting”.

With the backgrounds completed our artists were given only vegetables to paint with.

From “Joseph’s Coat of Many Colors”, The Garden of Eden, a Hamsa, and Landscapes, their combined efforts resulted in beautiful pieces. We

welcome you to stop by our Art Gallery on the second floor and see our artists’ current works.

The completed canvases will rotate in the Gallery every few months and perhaps student artists will be able to attend the next session in person, sitting side-by-side with their partner.



Yvonne Lempke



Doris Fagan



Debby Katz



Lois Chepenik



LaVada Haldeman



Roma Heaven



My deepest gratitude to Michelle Penson at the JJC for coordinating the student artists.

GARDENING CLUB

"Happy is he who performs a good deed: for he may tip the scales for himself and the world" — Talmud: Kiddushin 40:2



Thank you to these ladies of The Coves for sharing your time and gardening talents . The raised beds on the Adult Day patio are looking so much better already!
(L-R) June Meinstein, Linda LaRock, LaVada Haldeman, Harriett Dame & Ann Marie Shrader.

COMING SOON

UGLY SWEATER HANUKKAH PARTY AT THE COVES



We look forward to reconnecting with Rabbi Shira Rosenblum and the youth from the Jacksonville Jewish Center for our annual 'Ugly Sweater' Hanukkah Party. (Photos from 2019)

Recognized again as the best nursing home in the state of Florida by Newsweek for 2022, River Garden sets a high bar for what is possible in skilled nursing and rehabilitative care.



WELCOME BACK!

VOLUNTEERS



Janice Hayflick & Judy Mizrahi



Rande Steinberg, Shirley Bielski & Debbie Kaye



Leslie Held, Kim Marsh, Bunny Witten, Laura Platzer, Maxine Romo & Susan Connors

Fortunately, we are able to slowly welcome back our beloved volunteers!

For anyone that is interested in becoming a River Garden volunteer in any capacity, you will need to be vaccinated for flu & COVID, plus you will need to complete a volunteer orientation & infection control class. The River Garden training time is about two hours, and may be on separate days.

Q? Contact Leslie Held, Director of Volunteer Services
lheld@rivergarden.org or (904) 886-8429

River Garden Receives Grant from The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida

By Christina Levine

River Garden received a first time grant from the Grace H. Osborn Endowment at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida. The \$10,000 grant was awarded to assist with the reopening of our Adult Day Program (ADP) and specifically address challenges precipitated by COVID-19 isolation.

River Garden has provided a successful outpatient adult day program for almost 30 years, focused on the care of persons with dementia and other chronic illnesses, including supervision, activities, meals and supportive personal care services. The program was closed from March 2020 until it reopened on July 19, 2021. As we prepared to reopen the program families shared how the isolation due to COVID-19 wreaked havoc with their loved ones functional and cognitive abilities and contributed to a decline in the person's activities of daily living.

The plans to reinvigorate our program involve a more focused and holistic approach to activity programming, evaluating all current activities against the six dimensions of Hettler's Model of Wellness (physical, spiritual, social, emotional, occupational and intellectual), as well as considering the functional capacity of the participant. Funding from the grant will enhance our wander walk area with more outdoor seating and shade, purchase equipment to upgrade interaction with more hands on activities, and provide extra educational opportunities for our staff through the Teepa Snow Positive Approach to Care Organization.

Families are counting on us to assist them in their quest to improve their loved ones quality of life. We are grateful to The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida for investing in River Garden's Adult Day Program and supporting our philosophy of continual evaluation and improvement towards excellence.



Christina Levine, CFRE
clevine@rivergarden.org

Finish The Year Strong

Looking to make an impact and reduce your taxes before the end of the year?

Making an IRA charitable rollover gift is one of the easiest ways you can help support River Garden and receive tax benefits at the end of the year. If you are 70 ½ or older, an IRA charitable rollover gift might be a great option for you.

Here are some reasons why:

- You will not have to include the distribution in your taxable income.
- Your gift may count against your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.
- Your gift will not be subject to the normal limitations on charitable deductions.
- You will experience the tax benefits of charitable giving even if you do not itemize your deductions.
- You can make a significant gift to support our work and help further the mission of River Garden.

Employee Holiday Fund

The River Garden Employee Holiday Fund is a wonderful way to recognize and express gratitude to the staff. There is no doubt that because of the incredible River Garden staff we are a highly-regarded leader in senior care.

River Garden's policy does not permit staff to accept tips or gifts in any form. By contributing to the Employee Holiday Fund you are able to show your appreciation to more than 300 employees who are dedicated to providing excellence and compassionate care to your loved ones and all the seniors we serve.

Your gift will add joy to the holiday season for our staff and their families. Please make your gift online at www.rivergarden.org/foundation or mail a check to River Garden Foundation, 11401 Old St. Augustine Road, Jacksonville, FL 32258.

Guardians of Tomorrow

SIMPLIFY YOUR CHARITABLE GIVING

A beneficiary designation gift is a simple and affordable way for anyone to make a gift to support River Garden and other causes you care deeply about. Beneficiary designation gifts are among the most flexible of all charitable gifts. You can designate the River Garden Foundation as a beneficiary of a retirement, investment or bank account, or your life insurance policy. For more information or to learn more about other ways to give, please contact Christina Levine at (904) 886-8430 or clevine@rivergarden.org.

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO OUR GUARDIANS OF TOMORROW

Janet & Norman Allison	Herbert W. Gartner	Louis Kottle*	Bessie Schriebman*
Josh Ashby	Sheldon Gendzier	Lillie Ray Levy	Hyman Selber*
Helen Avchin	Susie & Marty Goetz	Rose Lind*	Hannah Setzer*
Karen & Frank* Backilman	Michael Gold*	Deanna & Michael Lissner	Beth & Mark Shorstein
Jack I. Bear*	Rose Lee Gold*	Jill & Mark Lodinger	Marilyn & H. C.* Sims
Jack Becker*	Hilda & Sol* Goldman	Alberta Marks	A. C. Sinclair*
Sally & Paul* Becker	Marguerite Goldstein*	Gail Meltzer	Irene Sloat
Vera & Morton* Benjamin	Sara E. Green	Irma Michelson*	Michael Solloway*
Frances Berney*	Chary & Michael Greenburg	Mildred Mizrahi*	Linda & David Stein
Gary Bloom*	Edwin Greenfield*	Evelyn & Ralph Mizrahi*	Shirley Stone*
Rene Bonnett*	Ann & Ed Grenadier	Edith Mohre*	Martha & Fred Tromberg
Becky & Benjamin Bromberg*	Doris Gross*	Minnie Moss*	Brent Turbow*
Laverne & Andy Cantor	Polly & Arthur Gutman*	Vincent Narducci*	Dorothy & Harry* Verstandig
Susan & Norman Cohen	Ray Hardy*	D. N. Oppenheimer*	Dora Weil*
Ronald S. Cohen	E.J. Helow	Carole & Lawrence Ort	Sylvia L. & Isidore Weiss*
Marilyn & Bernie Datz	Irma & Joe Horn*	Lucille & Irving Oster*	Beth & Howard Wolpoff
Nancy* & Robert Dean	Leah Horovitz*	Kathy & Morrie Osterer	Arlene & Evan Yegelwel
Theresa & Fred Dietsch	Freda Isenberg*	Donna & Elliott Palevsky	Eunice & Barry Zisser
Anne DuBow*	Robert Jacobs*	Anne & Ed* Presser & Family	
Raymond Ehrlich*	Sam Janover*	Neil N. Presser*	
Gloria Einstein	Evelyn & Milt Kaden	Sue & Ned Price	List as of 10/26/2021
Sue & Ron Elinoff	Frank Kahn*	Susan Price	*Of Blessed Memory
Helen & Joseph Ellis*	Randy Kammer	Barbara & Harold* Resnick	
Rose & Sidney Entman*	Louis Kaplan*	Sondra Resnikoff	
Dorrie & Lanny Felder	Irving Kaplan	Ina Richter	
Leonard Fink*	Isador Kaplan*	Jeanine Rogozinski	
Phyllis & Robert* Fischer	Josephine J. Kaplan*	Della Rosenberg*	
Lilo* & Harry Frisch	Mimi & Martin Kaufman	Howard Rosenblatt	
Miriam Frist*	Mildred Kaufman*	Lorry & Paul* Rothstein	
Rose Galin*	Marilyn & Marvin Kay*	Harriet* & Edwin Safer	
Esther & Samuel Galinsky*	Susan Kay	Marion Schaul*	

It is a tradition of giving and sharing that enables River Garden to maintain the highest standards of quality care, and serve the entire community with excellence. To assure that philanthropy merits the respect and trust of the general public, and that donors and prospective donors can have full confidence in our not-for-profit organization, River Garden is pleased to honor a Donor Bill of Rights. You can find it on our website: <https://www.rivergarden.org/river-garden-foundation/donor-bill-of-rights/>

River Garden is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation and Foundation of Northeast Florida



75 ACTS *of* CARING



Tzedakah, based on the Hebrew meaning righteousness, refers to the religious and ethical obligation to do what is right and just. River Garden Hebrew Home for the Aged was in itself a gift based on these ideals. In the early 1930's the Ladies' Hebrew Sheltering Aid Society recognized a need for a haven for elderly Jews and set a goal to establish a home for seniors in the City of Jacksonville.

River Garden's 75 Acts of Caring campaign offers an opportunity for those who want to honor its history, celebrate its success and invest in its future. Acts of caring have transformed River Garden into a loving home and family for so many generations. Your act of caring will help sustain River Garden's enduring legacy of excellence for years to come. For more information, please contact Christina Levine at (904) 886-8430 or clevine@rivergarden.org.



'HUB International has supported River Garden philanthropically since 1983 and it's in the hardest of times that it matters the most. We have been fortunate to have experienced both a corporate and family partnership with the agency and its excellence across the board.'

– Chip Greene, HUB International Florida



'River Garden has cared for our family and so many of our loved ones. In a time of greater need due to COVID-19, it's our time to care for River Garden.'

– Berman Family Foundation



'Support for River Garden is more critical than ever. We increased our giving because, every day, the staff at River Garden demonstrates unlimited acts of caring in this difficult environment.'

– Randy Kammer and Jeff Wollitz



**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN THESE
AND MANY OTHER CARING
SUPPORTERS OF RIVER GARDEN
BY BECOMING A
75 ACTS OF CARING SPONSOR.**

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR COMMITMENT
TODAY
TO BE RECOGNIZED IN THIS
SPECIAL CAMPAIGN.**

WWW.RIVERGARDEN.ORG/75ACTS/

For more info, contact
Christina Levine
(904) 886-8430 | clevine@rivergarden.org



THANK YOU TO OUR 75 ACTS OF CARING SPONSORS

As of October 26, 2021

Achiever

Merle Cherry
Phyllis & Dr. Lawrence Goldberg
Randy Kammer & Jeff Wollitz
Kimberly & Richard Sisisky
Ranee & Marty Steinberg
Vitsky Family

Changemaker

Ackerman Cancer Center
Karen Backilman
Harriet & Ernie Brodsky
Susan & Norm Cohen
Carol D'Onofrio
Gloria Einstein
Susan & Dr. Ron Elinoff
Jerry Funk
Jackie & Stephen Goldman
Marge & Aaron Holzer
Paula & Ken Horn
Nancy & Richard Lantinberg
Jodie & Eric Leach
Drs. Ilene & Jeffrey Levenson
Dr. & Mrs. H. Ronald Levin
Christina & Mark Levine
Deanna & Michael Lissner
Susan M. Masucci & Katie McCaughn
Robin & Jeffery Morris
Michelle Grippi Baker –
Northwestern Mutual
Kathy & Morrie Osterer
Donna & Elliott Palevsky
Jennifer & Rick Plotkin
Marsha & Ron Pollock
Dr. Deena & Mr. Jim Richman
Dr. Emily & Mr. Erik Rostholder
Barbara & Eliot Safer
Barbara & Michael Schneider
Ellen & Dr. Barry Setzer
The Shorstein Family
Haley & Jason Trager
Dorothy Verstandig
Terese Warner & Mike Alford
Arlene & Evan Yegelwel

Champion

Berman Family Foundation
Cindy & Dan Edelman
Sloat Family
Linda & David Stein

Advocate

DuBow Family Foundation

Rock

Janne and Jody Brandenburg –
Hardage-Giddens Funeral Homes & Cemeteries
HUB International Florida
Judy H. Mizrahi
Selevan Family Foundation
Setzer Family
Shari & David Shuman

Nurturer

Anonymous
Baptist Health
The Block Families
Mary & Jeff Edwards
Florida Blue
The Lufrano Family
Mauri & Alan Mizrahi
Rachel & Dr. Craig Morgenthal
Dr. Miriam Finegold Price
Select Rehabilitation

Giver

Sharon & Richard Browdy
Vicki-lynn Gloger
Susan & Martin Goetz
Miriam & David Honig
Allison & Ken Jacobs/
GrayRobinson, PA
Irene & James Jaffa
The Jaffe Group at Morgan Stanley
Jordan and Shirley Ansbacher Family
Foundation
Monique & David Miller
Michelle & Mark Penson
Dr. Chaim & Jeanine Rogozinski
The Ronnie and Jerrold Rosenbaum
Family Foundation
Maura & Alex Silverstein
Betty & Dr. Michael Sorna

Trailblazer

Shirley & Abe Bielski
Regina & Adam Chaskin
Kathy & Allan Cohen
Barbara K. & Albert J. Datz
Marilyn & Bernie Datz
Michelle Dorman Frisch
Emily & Martin Glickstein
Paul Glickstein
Diane & Nathan Goldman
Rachelle & Jeff Gottlieb, Fran Young
Andrea & Christopher Hernandez
Sheila & Leo Jacobson
Susan & Rabbi Jonathan Lubliner
Marilyn Millstone & Bill Apter
Cheryl & Jay Plotkin
Meryl & Dr. Harris Rittenberg
Carla & Nelson B. Sawyer
Hon. Harvey & Lois Schlesinger
Alice & Art Sherman
Joan Waitz
Jean & Beechmond Watson
Karon Dianne & Jerome Weitzen

Shining Star

Roz & Dr. Mark Abramson
Dr. & Mrs. Ernest Barnes
Cecilia & David Cristol
Cindy & Moti Demri
Alois Gendzier
Jan & Bruce Glassman
Ellen & Vince Hare
Kim & Jon Israel
Helaine & Jerry Lazarus
Leonard J. Lipkin
Penny & Jeff Marks
Marti Martin
Mollie & Dennis Mizrahi
Sam Newey
Lauren & Matthew Rickoff
Maxine & Don Romo
Jeffrey Rood
Nina & Dr. Neal Roth
Cathy Rozansky
Mitzi Saul
Amy Schemer
Ilene Schinasi
Debbie & Donald Shulman
Caroline & Rob Smilowitz



TAILGATE PARTY

PIZZA. ROOTBEER. RIVER GARDEN.

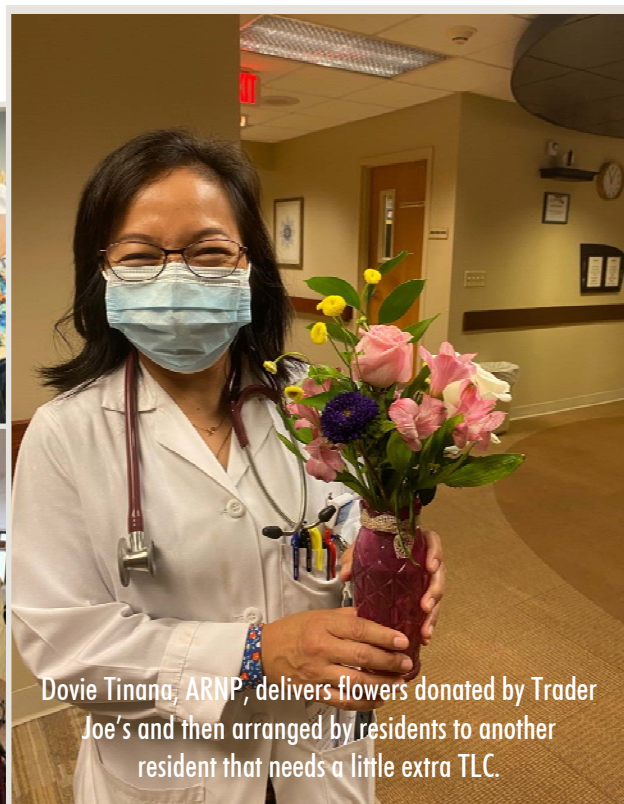
A winning combination.



Residents, Staff & Members of The Coves all enjoyed kicking-off the Fall & football seasons with an outdoor pizza party on Saturday, September 25th.



Residents now have three (3) thriving indoor **ELDERGROW** gardens. They participate in regular watering & care.



Dovie Tinana, ARNP, delivers flowers donated by Trader Joe's and then arranged by residents to another resident that needs a little extra TLC.





For 2022, we will again be presenting Quilts of Valor to our veterans who have not yet received one.

THANK YOU, ALL, FOR YOUR SERVICE

Joseph Abisch	William Micklewright
Dr. Ernest Barnes	Perry Mibab
Bernard Bush	Richard Nykerk
Alan Chepenik	Don Perlin
Charles Darabos	Herb Plotkin
Bob Dean	Jack Rosner
John Donnangelo	Bernard Sachs
Harry Haldeman	Jack Sawinski
Sharon Higgins	James Schnellbacher
Murray Husney	Arnold Seebol
Dr. Edward Joseph	Tom Smith
Norman Kagan	Bob Stracener
Irving Kaplan	Benu Talpalar
Harley Knack	Byron Thompson Jr.
Robert Long	David Wagner
Tom Long	Lanny Zimmerman

Many thanks to our 2021 Veteran's Day program speaker, Commander Benjay Kempner, MD. His military decorations include three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals and a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Age is not how old you are, but how many years of fun you've had. ~Matt Maldre

BIRTHDAY PARTIES ARE BACK!



SHORT TERM REHAB | POST-ACUTE REHAB

Admissions (904) 886-8420

PHYSICAL THERAPY

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

SPEECH THERAPY

INPATIENT

OUTPATIENT

MEDICARE

PRIVATE PAY

OTHER INSURANCE

Patients and families are ‘wow-ed’ and comforted by the beautiful setting and by the amenities at River Garden. When in need of rehabilitation, please request River Garden, located at the southeast intersection of I-295 and Old St. Augustine Road across from Lowe’s.

- Private rooms with cable TV and complimentary Wi-Fi
- Individualized treatment programs
- 1-on-1 therapy 7 days/week
- Gift shop, beauty salon
- Dock with fishing & turtles
- Professional assistance with post-discharge arrangements

PLEASE CALL DIRECTLY TO DISCUSS YOUR OPTIONS.

NOW OFFERING VSTBALANCE

Technology Reinventing Fall Prevention

The River Garden Rehab team now offers VSTBalance.

VSTBalance is an automated fall-risk assessment tool that utilizes Artificial Intelligence (AI) with machine vision to objectively identify deficits in balance, gait and function—the three main indicators of fall risk.

For more information or to schedule a balance screen, contact Ann Marie Shrader, Wellness Coordinator at The Coves (904) 292-2683, ext. 5866



PURPOSE-FILLED FOODS

Health Benefits of Thanksgiving Dinner

<i>What Food?</i>	<i>Why It's Especially Good For Older Adults</i>
Turkey Breast	Lean protein makes the bones and muscles more robust, and lean protein, like turkey, is better for digestion and lower fat.
Sweet Potatoes	Roasted or baked, sweet potatoes are chock full of vitamins and minerals—like vitamins A and C—for your bone health & immune system. They also have fiber which is good for digestion.
Green Beans	Also a source of fiber and vitamin C, green beans are a Thanksgiving favorite.
Cranberry Sauce	Freshly concocted cranberry sauce is rich in antioxidants. Cranberries will also improve cardiovascular health, urinary tract health, and teeth.



ADULT DAY

Special Care for Individual Needs

River Garden Adult Day program provides a safe, secure and gracious environment for your loved one with flexible availability Monday through Friday, 7:30AM -5:00PM.

Our holistic and individualized social program model addresses the physical, spiritual, social, emotional, occupational and intellectual needs of our clients with activities designed to accommodate their highest functional ability.

Participants are cared for by a dedicated and experienced staff who work with both client and family to develop an individualized care plan.

Our Adult Day center offers a spacious open floor plan with areas designated for a variety of activities including an interactive kitchen and wander walk area for gardening and outdoor enjoyment.

Breakfast, lunch and snacks* are included in our day with attention to special diets when needed.



Meaningful, Dignified Care in a Gracious Environment

Our Adult Day program is an affordable fee-for-service program. Activities are tailored to meet the multi-level needs of our clients with memory impairment.

Daily Activities Offer Many Choices

- Exercise
- Bingo
- Crafts
- News & Trivia
- Games
- Music
- Celebrations
- Cooking & Baking
- Ceramics
- Painting and Art
- Intergenerational Programs

**Jewish dietary laws observed.*

WELCOME, SARAH DYMOND

Beginning November 1, 2021, Sarah Dymond is the Administrator for The Coves. Originally from the northeast (PA & western NY), she has been in Florida since 2005. She loves animals and is the ‘mom’ to two dogs.

Sarah brings more than fifteen years of senior living experience to River Garden and The Coves. She is passionate about her work with older adults and has diligently helped hundreds of families select the best communities in which to live. She is focused on creating a caring and enriching lifestyle for our members.

“I am extremely enthusiastic when it comes to senior living and love investing my energy in the different relationships I build with residents and their families,” Sarah shares. “Sarah has worked with several upscale communities and is passionate about customer service. We are confident her knowledge and experience will be a good fit for The Coves,” Mauri Mizrahi, CEO, adds.

Q? Contact Sarah Dymond, sdymond@rivergarden.org or (904) 292-2683



MARTY GOETZ HOSTS NEW MEN'S GROUP



Getting a group of men together isn't always easy, but when you offer Krispy Kreme donuts and invite CEO Emeritus Marty Goetz to lead the group, the guys show up promptly.

Members enjoy an elegant dining experience at The Coves with 'Chef's Table'.

Small groups of members are invited each week to join with Dining Directors for a lovely 4-course meal.



Living at The Coves is certainly not retiring to a recliner to watch TV and occasionally play bingo. Members enjoy plenty of stimulation and a chance to learn something new. Indeed, many find more opportunities for engagement than they ever had before moving to The Coves.

A Myriad of Activities



CRAFTING WITH
CHRISSY



SINGING IN THE ROUND WITH
MINDA GORDON



CREATIVE CONVERSATIONS



CARDS & MAHJONG



WELLNESS LECTURES



PARK OUTINGS

NOT-SO NEWLYWED GAME



Alan & Lois Chepenik, Arnold & Ruth Seebol and Bobby & Linda Rubens joined host Cheryl Fisch, Life Enrichment Coordinator, for a fun evening of the 'Not-So-Newlywed Game.' As you might guess, the three couples aim to answer a round of questions proving how well the spouses know or do NOT know each other after decades of marriage. Along the way, everyone enjoys a few laughs. The Rubens were winner of this most recent contest.

SOPHISTICATED & INDEPENDENT SENIOR LIVING

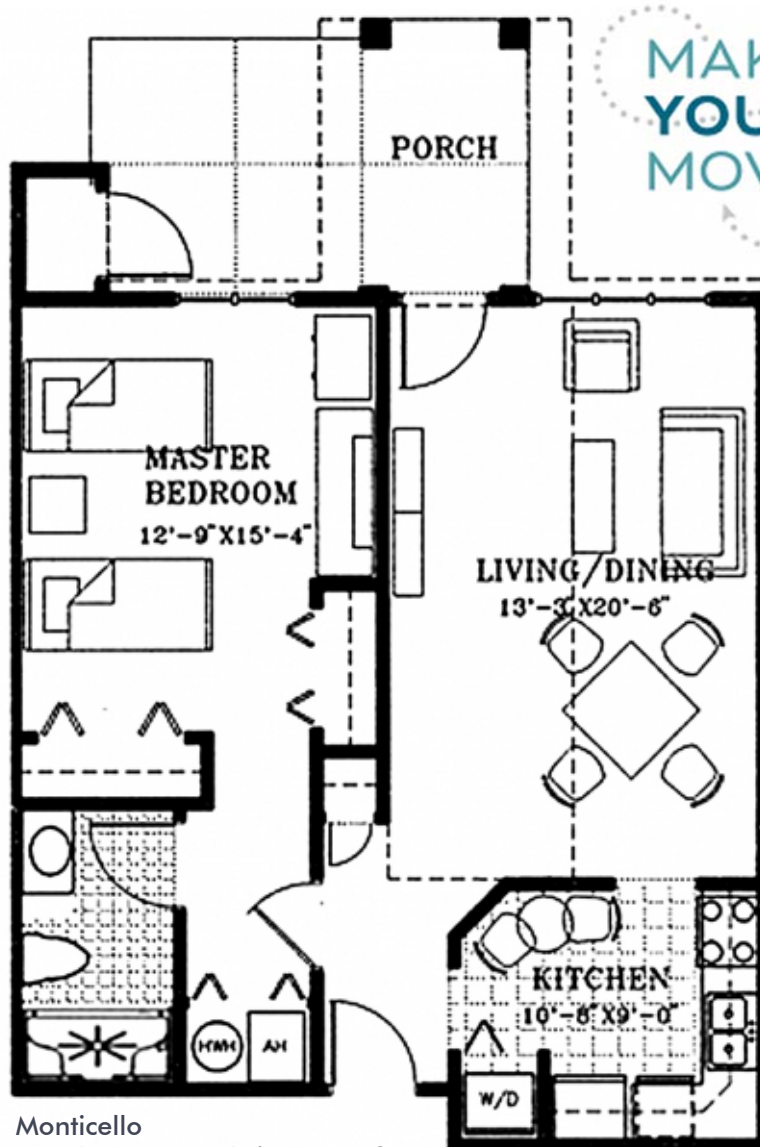


Come & See INDEPENDENT LIVING AT ITS BEST

It's a 'hot market' for real estate and if you are 62+ and considering selling your home, consider a move to The Coves. We think you'll love the spacious garden apartment, and you'll enjoy the company of nice neighbors.

- Spacious, bright and airy floor plans
- Cathedral ceilings
- Complete kitchen with granite countertops includes stove, dishwasher, microwave and frost-free refrigerator
- Ample closet space
- Private patios with storage
- Individually controlled central heat and air
- Washer/dryer in every apartment
- Beautifully landscaped grounds; smoke-free campus

For a tour, call (904) 292-2683



Monticello
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath | 816 sq. ft.

Event Update

Our very successful “Cooking With Lenny” series will continue this year via ZOOM. Those who register for the three classes will receive the recipes in advance so you will be able to cook along with Lenny in your own kitchen or just watch the demonstration. Visit the Auxiliary on the website to register. [www/rivergarden.org/auxiliary](http://www.rivergarden.org/auxiliary)

We recently hosted a ‘Chat with Ben Becker’, the Action News anchorman and crime investigator.

Mimi Kaufman, President, announced that there will be more virtual programming this coming winter including a program on exercise and balance , plus book reviews.

Q? Contact Mimi Kaufman at (904) 626-2472 or Ellen Rubens at (904) 651-6607



**Are you looking for a fun way to support River Garden?
Try Tombola!**

In connection with the upcoming 76th Anniversary Day, the River Garden Auxiliary will conduct its well-loved TOMBOLA drawing. The prizes are great and the odds of winning are, too.

The TOMBOLA drawing will be held at approximately 5:00 PM on March 27, 2022, directly following the River Garden Annual Meeting. All proceeds go directly to River Garden Hebrew Home.

Q? Contact Betty Abisch at (904) 683-2222 or Fran Leibowitz at (904) 268-4351

 **TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE**
<https://rivergardenauxiliary.square.site/home>

Your Membership Matters

Membership is a top priority and we urge all of our annual members to renew their membership. We also welcome new members. The Auxiliary is the backbone of the Home. Our mission is to help our residents live here with dignity.

**Q? Contact Carol D’Onofrio at
(904) 519-0924 or (904) 705-1849**

JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE



<https://rivergardenauxiliary.square.site/home>



We are happy to announce that the Gift Shop is open for business and the shelves are well-stocked!

The Gift Shop—the Auxiliary’s largest source of income— has now reopened for residents and staff. Please consider becoming a River Garden volunteer so that you can work with us in the shop.

Will you help? The shop is open Monday through Friday and there are two shifts available each day: 9:30-12:30 and 12:30-4:00.

COVID & Flu vaccinations required. Training provided.

Give us a call or send an email so we can share more details. Thank you!

Q? Contact Evelyn Peck at (904) 268-0597

RECRUIT, RETAIN, RECOGNIZE

Let's start a conversation.

RN	Cook	Activities Aide
LPN	Prep Cook	Housekeeping
CNA	Server	
PCA		

www.RiverGarden.org/jobs

We'll email or call you to share more details and schedule a time to meet.

Now is the time for you to secure a happy & healthy place to work. **Discover River Garden.**

River Garden is located in Mandarin, just off I-295 and Old St. Augustine Road. We are a not-for-profit, mission-driven agency and are proud to serve older adults from diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds while maintaining an environment supportive of Jewish identity and informed by Jewish values. We employ hundreds full- and part-time staff members and we'd love for you to consider joining our team.

Q? Call Human Resources AT (904) 886-8437

HUMANRESOURCES@RIVERGARDEN.ORG

Happy
100
Days!

Starting a new position at River Garden is a great opportunity and we recognize it takes time to settle in. The River Garden culture is deeply rooted in excellence and we know our employees are critical to our success. As a special effort to welcome and support our new colleagues, we have instituted 'buddy' programs and have begun celebrating those who master their first 100 days.

Staff member Jenny Lang receives a 'Gold Medal' from Mauri Mizrahi & Bobbie Jo Mentz. Along with treats, the gold medals were given to show appreciation to all of the staff for their constant commitment to excellence.

Administration is also proud to report that as of October 1, 2021, 100% of River Garden staff were either fully vaccinated or had submitted a vaccination plan.



Our Amazing Staff

MERIT GRAM FOR PAM LAMONTAGNE

She has a welcoming smile and I appreciate her taking time to look in on me. She was a wonderful nurse/friend to my husband in memory care. I trust her completely and appreciate her care.

- *Esther Harkness* -

MERIT GRAM FOR SEMA ERGIN

She has gone out of her way to come to my aid. She is a kind, sincere, honorable, funny & personable staff member.

- *Robert O'Brien* -



River Garden is pleased to regularly celebrate many long-tenured staff members.

Plant Operations

Wall to wall, floor to ceiling, the River Garden Plant Operations team handles all building and grounds concerns with quick and attentive service. Thank you for all you do!



Just a few of the crew: Zach Kueheimer, Soun Daranykone, Randy Davidson, Ben Rayo, Daniel Fricke, Steve Gardner and Brian Freel

Participation in physical, social and mental activities is important to overall senior health and wellness. At River Garden, and we are fortunate to have an excellent team that advocates for our residents and emphasizes activities that contribute to one's quality of life. Their work supports our mission of creating a comfortable, caring and dignified Home—a driving force behind all that we do.



Lisa Poremba, Director

As a 27-year veteran of River Garden, Lisa loves making people happy. On her days off, she enjoys spending time outdoors and playing with her three dogs. She also loves cooking and listening to music.



Samantha 'Sammie' Derrick, Asst. Director

Sammie' brings joy and smiles to others daily. She enjoys making the days better for everyone, even in small ways. When asked about her favorite season, she answered 'Autumn. I absolutely love the fall foliage and the change in temperatures, because I'm a sweatshirt (hoodies) kind of person!'



Cheryl Fisch, Coordinator, The Coves

Cheryl says her days can be instantly better when she's able to make someone smile. Her favorite season is Fall—She especially loves autumn up north in Canada, when the air gets cool and crisp and the leaves are multi-colored.



Dorie Norman, Assistant, Memory Care

Dorie has worked at River Garden for 24 years. She enjoys knowing that she keeps her residents happy and safe. When she has an opportunity to take a day off, she spends time with her family and does household chores.



Carol Gurzi, Assistant, Memory Care

Every morning when I come to work, I like to start my day with "Good Morning," "How are you?" or "Let's have a beautiful day." I just give the residents a smile, and show them respect. In return, I receive love back from them. My favorite way to spend my day off is to be with my family.



Jerrylyn Gonzalez, Coordinator, Traditional Unit I

New Year's Day is my favorite holiday and Spring is my favorite season. To me, both bring brand new life and a new start. The past is gone, and it signifies a time to move forward to a new beginning.



Sharonda Williams, Coordinator, Traditional Unit II

Sharonda is the newest member of the Life Enrichment Team. She loves helping people achieve goals and do things that they love to do. She enjoys seeing the smiles on residents' faces after they have completed a task.

MEET AWARD-WINNING CARTOONIST, DON PERLIN

Don Perlin and his wife Becky recently moved into The Coves at River Garden. Originally from a Jewish-Italian neighborhood in Brooklyn, Don is an award-winning cartoonist. He is an example of someone who was able to do something he loved for most of his life. Kindly, Don took a few minutes to share his story:

Did you read a lot of comics as a young boy? Yes. My favorite was Batman.

When did you realize you wanted to be a cartoonist?

When I was a little boy, before I started grade school, I knew I wanted to draw. My father was an artist. I liked to scribble, and when my father saw that, he began teaching me how to make crosshatch lines and different ways of drawing. When I contracted Scarlett Fever and had to quarantine, I just took my crayons and drew all over the walls. Later, when I was a freshman in high school, my friend told me about some cartooning classes that were being taught by Burne Hogarth. Hogarth was an American artist and educator, best known for his work on the Tarzan newspaper comic strip and his series of anatomy books for artists. My father called and signed me up. I made piles of drawings and Hogarth gave me a lot of encouragement.

After high school, I had occasional jobs and was even published in a book at age 18 or 19. But, I was working from home; I think garbage collectors were making more money than me. Somehow God showed me that this was my little slot, and I realized I needed a studio in Manhattan to become more successful. I had to share it with four other guys in order to afford the rent.

By 22, I was doing well, but the Army called me up. I served for two years, giving up the studio. By the time I returned, my work had dried up and so I took a job doing cardboard box design. I was able to work on my comics at night in a back room. That company went belly-up after eight years.

When did you start making comics for a living?

Miraculously, shortly after the box company job ended, the editor-in-chief for Marvel called me up. That's when I began creating comics for a living. I was paid by the page.

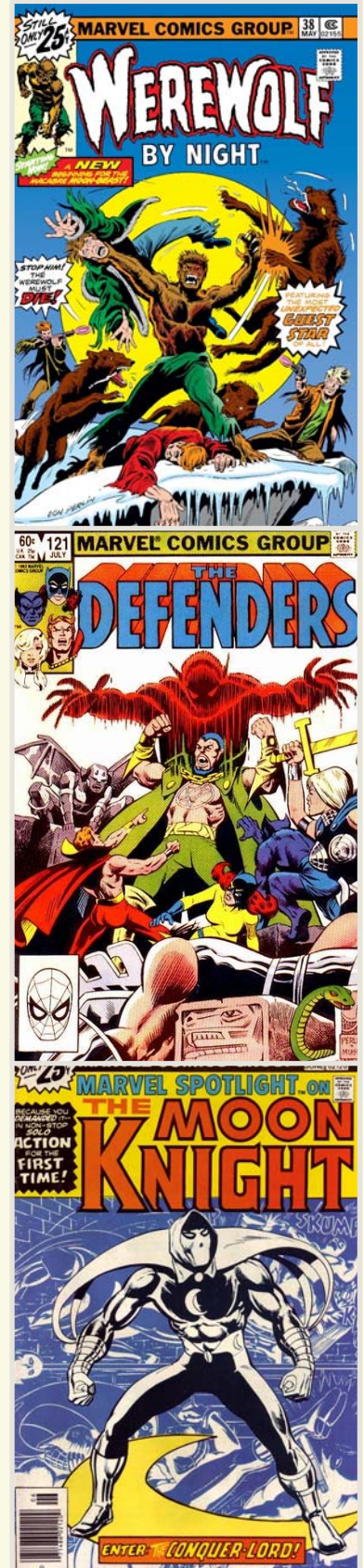
Which is the favorite character you ever created?

I am best known for Marvel Comics' Werewolf by Night, Moon Knight, The Defenders, and Ghost Rider. I am mentioned in the final credits of the movie Bloodshot, starring Vin Diesel, because that was one of my characters. But I don't have a favorite character. I like to draw. I am like a carpenter who builds things. I have the tools and I will take on any project.

When you meet someone new, do you talk about being an artist right away? No way!

What advice would you give to young cartoonists?

Be passionate and persistent. Let me put it to you this way: Ed Gamble (formerly of the Florida Times Union) encouraged me to teach a class once. Thirty people showed up. But they were 'fan boys' only — except one. These people enjoyed the comic books and characters, but weren't committed to the craft. The one exception was a former Navy guy — Le Beau Underwood. He was dedicated to learning and he has become an excellent pencil worker and inker. He had the passion and persistence that sets people apart.





River Garden Senior Services
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(904) 260-1818
www.rivergarden.org



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SAVE THESE DATES

anniversary day
MARCH 27, 2022

river garden classic
APRIL 13, 2022

foundation gala
DECEMBER 10, 2022

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Please remember River Garden and the Jacksonville Jewish Community in your Estate and Legacy Giving