

AT HOME

FOR RESIDENTS OF THE JEWISH HOME OF SAN FRANCISCO

JULY/AUGUST 2013

Art Exhibits

Music

Lectures

Fashion Show

Summer Arts Fest 2013

Explore our history, experience our culture

The Summer Arts Festival is made possible by the George & Dorothy Saxe Family Fund – a named fund at the Jewish Home.

Museum Visits

Cultural Events

Films

**FOURTH OF JULY AND BBQ LUNCHEONS AND
MORE SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL FUN, OH MY!**

PAINTING BY RESIDENT ARTIST PATSY LEVINSON

AT HOME

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AT HOME contents are for the benefit of residents of the Jewish Home. At Home is based on the tradition of free expression; submissions made by residents should be viewed as not necessarily representing the opinion, position or policies of the Home.

EDITING without approval of the author is a reserved right, due to space and time constraints. Only content written or submitted by those connected with the Home will be accepted.

SUBMIT TO AT HOME!

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS by the 15th:

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iglaun@jewishseniorlivinggroup.org

HANDWRITTEN SUBMISSIONS to staff or switchboard by the 15th, or ask recreation staff for assistance.

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Residents Write

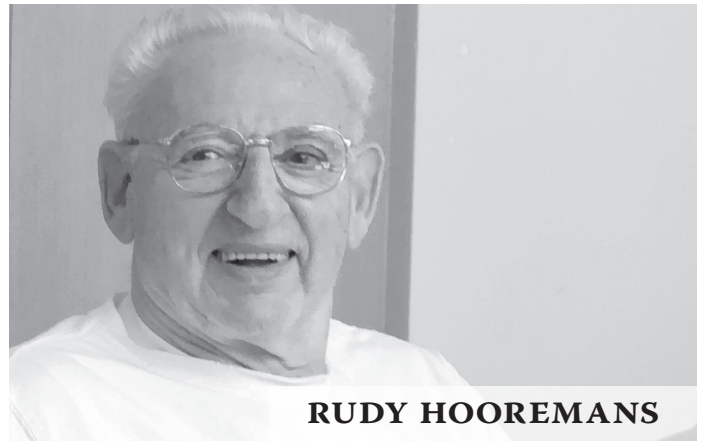
ADAPTED FROM MEMORIES

By Rudy Hooremans

BOYS WILL BE BOYS: PRANKS WITH COUSIN LEO

When I was about 9 years old, my cousin Leo came to live with us. Moeder told me that Leo's father, Oom les, had some financial difficulties and therefore had to break up his household. Leo, who was 12 at the time, lived with us for about three years. We got along very well. He also started going to the same grammar school as I did.

I remember what happened one day on our way home. On Galvanistraat, opposite the school, was a row of three-story residences characteristic of many in The Hague, with the stairs to the second-floor apartments in an open well at the street-facing side of the building. In the center of those stairs stand handrails, the wooden tops of which made terrific slides for us. On this occasion, after we had climbed up and slid down one or two of them, Leo raced up a third one and swung his leg over the rail. Before



RUDY HOOREMANS

I could yell "Stop!" he slid down. Suddenly, a loud sound of fabric ripping emanated from between his legs. What I knew from experience, and what I had wanted to tell him, was that at this particular stair, every fifth vertical baluster had a protrusion above the handrail, most likely to discourage little boys like us from sliding down. While Leo's bottom remained sore for a few days, to say that Moeder was vexed at having to do the repair on his pants was an understatement.

When Sinterklaas (the Dutch celebration of December 5 and 6 to commemorate the life of St. Nicholas) was approaching during one of the years Leo spent with us, he bought a pair of gloves for Moeder. He didn't get around to purchasing them until the day of the feast. We quickly went up to the attic to wrap them. Leo took two sheets of brown wrapping paper, tore them into long strips, and started to roll the gloves in them, using a generous amount of glue to tack the wrapping strips together. Unfortunately, when we opened our gifts that evening, the glue hadn't dried yet and it became quite messy for Moeder to open her gift. She really lit into him!

Occasionally Leo and I engaged in rather unacceptable teenage behavior. A favorite was seeking out a third-floor residence that had an electric bell. (Those "modern" gadgets were starting to proliferate at that time.) We would insert a sliver of wood into the button, causing

the bell to ring continuously. The resident then had to walk down the two flights of stairs to remove the wood. In the meantime, we had fled to a safe observation point.

Another one of our pranks was to go to a joke store and buy a couple of stink bombs – tiny glass urns filled with a foul-smelling sulphur dioxide liquid. Our favorite target was a neighborhood milk salon called De Sierkan (The Decorative Tankard). It was basically a dairy store where they sold milk, cream and butter. The raw milk was stored in giant shiny copper pans (hence the name), the butter in wooden barrels. This ‘salon’ also served coffee, tea, hot chocolate and pastries to patrons who could sit at a few small tables. The two middle-aged ladies, in their black dresses with starched white aprons, kept the store scrupulously clean, the copper pans polished like mirrors.

Leo and I would park our bicycles against the tree in front of the store, slightly open the front door, and hurl the tiny capsule inside. It would then smash on the terrazzo floor and release its acrid odor. We, from a safe distance of course, would gleefully watch as one of the ladies would try to scoop up the small puddle with a dust pan and wipe the floor with a wet mop.

But the next time we committed this misdeed, the ladies sent their delivery man after us on his bicycle. I, being more familiar with the neighborhood than Leo, quickly got away from him by cutting through some back alleys. Leo was not so fortunate. The man caught him in a dead end and dragged him back to the store, where they made him clean up the mess. Then the man took Leo home and lodged the complaint with Moeder. We got quite a talking to! But as far as mischief goes, that was about the worst of our transgressions.

Read more of Rudy's memories in the next issue of AtHome.



EDIE SADEWITZ

Edie Sadewitz submits some puns, for our smiling (and perhaps a groan or two) pleasure.

PUNOLOGY

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

A soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

Broken pencils are pointless.

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.

I dropped out of communism class because of lousy Marx.

All the toilets in New York's police stations have been stolen. Police have nothing to go on.

Velcro – what a rip off!

I used to think I was indecisive, but now I'm not so sure.

Headlines: Cartoonist found dead in home. Details are sketchy. Earthquake in Washington obviously government's fault.

Residents Write

OCTOPUS LADY

By Bernice Hunold

My version of the well-known Johnny Moses' story. It reminds me of all the times I didn't listen when I should have. ~ Bernice Hunold

A long time ago there lived the animal people – the deer people, the bear people, the mosquito people. They all lived in peace, except for Crow.

Crow thought he knew everything. Nobody could tell Crow anything. You might say he was a know-it-all. A crow-it-all.

Every day Crow went visiting the animal people. This day he went to visit Deer Woman.

Deer Woman said, "You must never go down to the edge of the sea when you see that the tide is out. Because that's when, in her deep dark den, Octopus Lady's about."

"I know," said Crow.

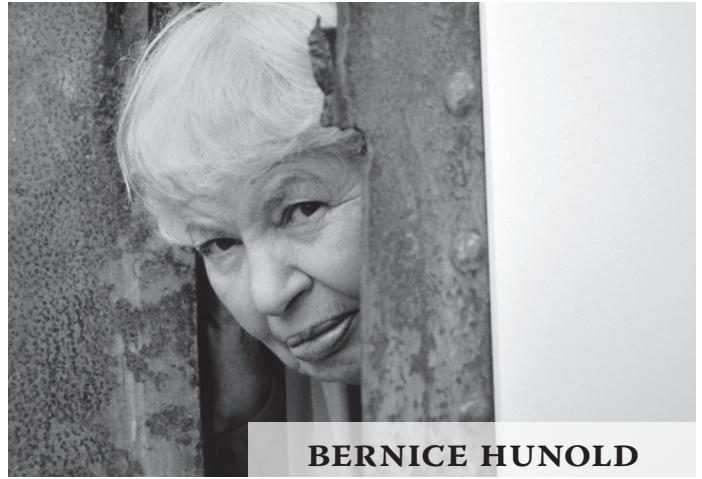
Deer Woman got sick of him and said, "Crow, why don't you go and visit somebody else."

"I know," said Crow. He went to visit Bear Man.

Bear Man said, "Crow, you must never go down to the edge of the sea when you see that the tide is out. Because that's when, in her deep dark den, Octopus Lady's about."

"I know," said Crow.

Bear Man gave Crow a lift out the door with his paw.



BERNICE HUNOLD

PHOTO BY RAY HUNOLD

Then Crow went to visit Mosquito Woman. Mosquito Woman said, "You must never go down to the edge of the sea when you see that the tide is out. Because that's when, in her deep dark den, Octopus Lady's about."

"I know," said Crow.

Mosquito Woman buzzed in his ear to make him disappear.

Crow walked back and forth and back and forth. He said, "Nobody can tell me anything. I will go where I want to go. I will do what I want to do."

He walked toward the beach. He saw that the tide was out. But do you think that stopped Crow? That's right, it didn't. Crow kept walking and walking, making his little bird tracks in the sand, all the way to the edge of the beach. And then he heard something coming up out of the water. This big head popped up out of the water, the biggest head he had ever seen in his life. He had never seen anybody's head that big before. He couldn't believe that a head could be that big.

It was Octopus Lady. And she spoke to him. "Welcome, Crow," she said.

"I know," said Crow.

"Come a little closer," said Octopus Lady. "It's nice to see you, Crow."

"I know," said Crow.

He came nearer, and when he came real

close, Octopus Lady put an arm around him. "Oh, you are handsome, Crow."

"I know," said Crow.

"Do you live near the sea? Do you know the sea?"

"I know everything."

Octopus Lady put another arm around him. And as they kept talking along, she put another arm around him and another arm around him.

Crow was getting hungry. He was getting very hungry. "I'm hungry," he said. "When are we going to eat?"

"We're going to eat very soon," said Octopus Lady. She put another arm around him and another arm around him. And now she was down to her last arm.

PLAY READING WITH DEE

By Francine Hament

Since this program at the Jewish Home began (it is run by Dee, Wednesdays, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the cultural center), we thespians have been taking parts in many well-known plays. Right now we are reading *I'm Not Rappaport* by Herb Gardner. Each player takes turns reading parts. We use lots of expression, as the words indicate, and Dee reads the stage directions. A discussion follows, and soon we have dissected and commented on all we have just "acted out." Dee brings out ideas and hidden meanings as we share our comments. All this adds up to a delightful hour.

If you are at all an "actor" or "actress" and love to read, do join this group. You'll love it!

Many thanks to Dee, who does a terrific job keeping us all "stage struck."

As they were talking and talking away, the water began to rise. First it came up to Crow's ankles, and then his knees, and then his belly, until it was all the way up to his neck.

Crow was getting impatient. "What's for dinner? I'm hungry right now. What's for dinner?"

Octopus Lady put her last arm around Crow. "You are the dinner, Crow."

"I know."



FRANCINE HAMENT

BIBS AND BOBS

By Francine Hament

Remember some time back I wrote an article about the word "bib" and how it was proposed by some that we call it a "clothes protector"?

Well, so far no luck and no change; people still ask for their bib.

Social worker Arthur Hofmayer came up with this colorful alternative. "How about 'neck napkin'?" he suggested.

That's different, I thought.

Why don't we have a contest, with the residents sending in their clever substitutes for 'bib'? I'd love to hear from you, and wait with bated breath, of course!

P.S. And while we're on the subject, how about "transporters" for "wheelchairs"?

Happenings *at Home*

THOUGHTFULNESS AND MEANINGFUL GENEROSITY

“My daughter Maya was introduced to the Jewish Home when she came on a volunteer trip organized by our synagogue, Temple Emanu-El,” writes community member Nina Taft-Weidman. “Maya’s experience, visiting the creative arts center [where she was paired with resident Francine Hament], was so meaningful. We came [back to the Home] last Sunday [June 2] as a family and with some friends as well. I organized a concert for middle school kids to play piano and violin music, during one of the Sunday 2:00 p.m. entertainment activities. It was a lovely experience. Maya is impressed with your facility and would like to donate a portion of her bat mitzvah money to [help support] the Jewish Home.”

Notes Sharon Fried, the Home’s leadership gifts officer, who had the pleasure of speaking with Maya’s mother, Nina: “Maya’s experience in the art room was very meaningful and led to her gift to the Home. Creative arts director Gary Tanner teaches her and countless other young people compassion through a direct interaction with an elder that is fun and leaves a lasting impression. Thank you, Gary, for all you do for the Home and community!”

FACE OF THE HOME EARNS A FIRST FOR PHOTOJOURNALIST

Our residents have tales to tell and talents to share. And when they are pleased to impart their stories and be photographed by other talented people, who have their eye on the prize in a national championship, it makes for a great partnership. This is one such story that has a happy, successful ending.

Ohio University student Susannah Kay reached out to some staff of the Jewish Home, with the aim of photographing a resident. Zinoviy Simkhovych (101) agreed to be her subject. Susannah’s images of Mr. Simkhovych (he initiated the chess competition here a few years ago; just one of his talents) formed part of her entry in the 53rd annual Hearst Championships. The Hearst Championships are the culmination of the 2012 – 2013 Journalism Awards Program, which are held in 106 member colleges and universities of the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication with accredited undergraduate journalism programs.

The result? Susannah won 1st place in the National Photojournalism Championship and received a \$5,000 scholarship. Our congratulations go to Susannah. Her thanks go to Mr. Simkhovych for providing this portrait-capturing opportunity, Gail Green, director of Volunteer Services for helping with arrangements, and social worker Tetyana Trofimenko for facilitating and translating.

Opposite are what Susannah considers to be the best photos she took of Mr. Simkhovych.



Out & About

LEARNING ABOUT JEWISH ART AND LIFE AT THE MAGNES

With thanks to sponsorship by the Jewish Community Federation's Senior Excursion Fund, a group of residents made the trip across the bridge to The Magnes Museum in Berkeley. They were joined by some staff, including our Rabbi Shelly Marder. Rabbi Marder was under the impression he was there simply to enjoy the exhibitions and collections highlighting Jewish art and life. Little did he know his extensive knowledge of and interest in the subject matter on view would have him leading the group through a tour of the museum and discussing Jewish history with the aid of four paintings. Do we see our rabbi doubling as a docent in the future?

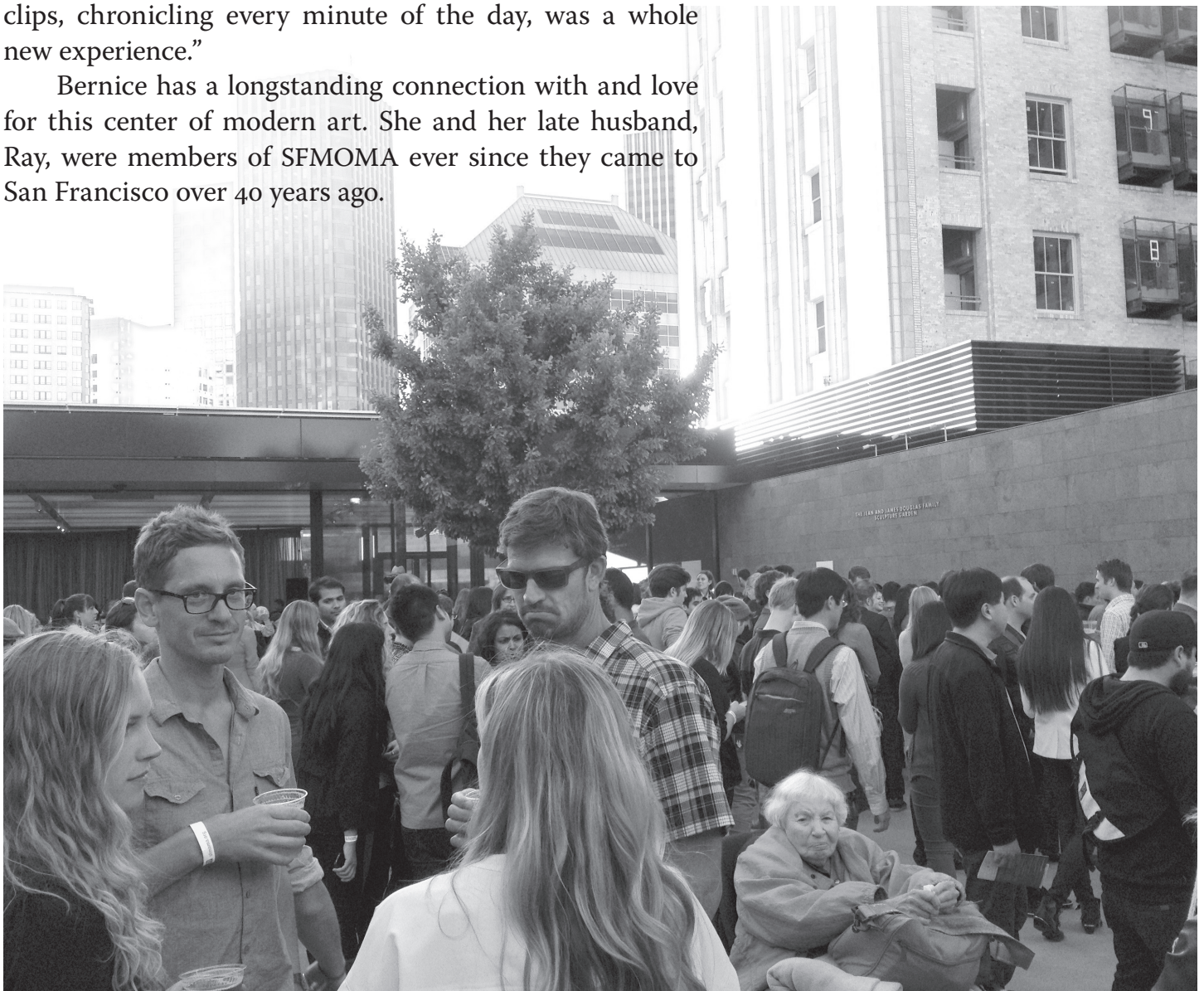


SFMOMA MAKES ITS MOVE – AND SO DOES BERNICE

Before SFMOMA (the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art) closed its building for expansion (exhibitions and events will be at sites around the Bay Area through early 2016), Bernice Hunold arranged for a ramp taxi, settled into her electric chair, and went off to the museum. She made a day and into-the-night of it, culminating in her attendance at the rooftop jazz concert, where this photo was taken.

“We had time to see every exhibit,” says Bernice of her 12½-hour visit, “including the mesmerizing video installation ‘The Clock.’ We had to wait for two hours to see it, but it was well worth it. This series of curated film clips, chronicling every minute of the day, was a whole new experience.”

Bernice has a longstanding connection with and love for this center of modern art. She and her late husband, Ray, were members of SFMOMA ever since they came to San Francisco over 40 years ago.



CUT HERE



BRAVO! EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH NOMINATION FORM

I, _____,

nominate _____

for the Bravo! Employee of the Month Award for the month of _____.

- Performs “beyond the call of duty” to improve service to the residents, or the quality of the Jewish Home’s image.
- Exemplifies professionalism and dedication to excellent service by putting forth the extra effort.
- Makes outstanding contributions of significance to the Jewish Home to fulfill its mission / vision.

I feel he/she should receive the award because:

SUBMIT THIS FORM to your recreation coordinator by the 1st of the month for the following month’s award consideration. Or you can place it in the nomination box located at the self-service area in the H.R. department, 1st floor, B-building, or hand-deliver it to the H.R. department, or e-mail it to mdeguzman@jhsf.org.



EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH JULY

WHAT YOU WROTE IN YOUR NOMINATIONS:

MARIAN ESTEBEZ, CONCIERGE



The admissions, nursing and social services team in the Friedman Pavilion depends on Marian on a daily basis. In addition, our patients and their families adore Marian and always compliment her on the job she is doing. She is an invaluable member of the team.

GALYNA GEYCHENKO, CNA



Galyna’s attention to each and every detail of her job, her experience, sensitivity, warmth and highly professional skills ensure excellent care for her residents, no matter their problems or illnesses.

Bravo! is generously underwritten by Jewish Home supporters Dana Corvin and Harris Weinberg.



SYLVIA KORN IS HONORED WITH THE CUTTING OF THE CAKE AT JUNE'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON. HER FELLOW HONOREES AND GUESTS HAD THE EATING PLEASURE OF THE FINE CONFECTION.

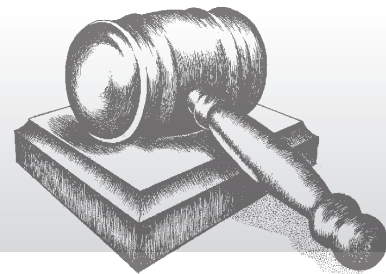
RESIDENTS' BIRTHDAYS IN JULY

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Nikhama Margolin | 14 Raisa Novikova | 23 Anna Robins |
| 1 Sofiya Plyus | 17 Hilda Boucher | 25 Ruth Shapiro |
| 2 Nita Gould | 17 Rosalie Damico | 27 Ellen Mandelman |
| 7 Harold Levinson | 18 Yeva Finkel | 30 Nina Ablin |
| 11 Miriam Hooremans | 20 Leonid Ganopolskiy | 30 Gay Martell |
| 12 Claire Mark | 21 Fira Shafer | 31 Ruth Kuzin |
| 13 Betty Spiegel | 22 Mariya Garbar | |

RESIDENTS' BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Riva Pivnik | 7 Margaret Rex | 18 Rakhil Lantsman |
| 1 Sofiya Spektor | 7 Elizabeth Szasz | 18 Inna Nyurenberg |
| 3 Ita Smolburd | 9 Ben Lubitz | 20 Edward Ben-Eliezer |
| 4 Rebekah Finer | 10 Mary Anne Bowra | 22 Milya Dynina |
| 4 Lillian Mishel | 10 Simion Dashevsky | 23 Yenta Kundysh |
| 5 Deborah Hahn | 10 Fruma Rizga | 26 Betty Frishman |
| 5 Faina Krayzbukh | 12 Margaret Katz | 27 Bernice Hunold |
| 5 Esfir Rutitskaya | 13 Yevgenia Rubin | 29 Desi Evan |
| 6 Arthur Gauss | 14 Vladimir Novitsky | 31 Nora Sakovich |
| 6 Gersh Smolburd | 16 Suse Justh | |

Council of Residents



Council of Residents president Edie Shaffer called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. and introduced the officers in attendance.

Council secretary Anna Stepp read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved as read.

Edie read the names of residents who had passed away within the last month.

Edie read the names of new residents who were admitted to the Home within the last month.

Treasurer Claire Shor gave the financial report. There were no deposits and no withdrawals, leaving the balance at \$197.31 in the checking account and \$10 in petty cash.

Anna reminded the membership that copies of the Residents' Bill of Rights as well as the Theft and Loss Prevention Procedures are always available to residents, and that copies are on hand at all Council meetings. Residents were reminded that their social worker will follow up with them on the status of all missing item reports. Residents should also feel free to contact their social worker for follow-up issues.

FOOD FORUM

Last month's open Food Forum meeting minutes were distributed.

OLD BUSINESS

F1 residents stated the F1 dining room is often too cold.

Residents expressed the concern that, when calling the reception desk and if the call is not picked up by the operator, they hear the automatic prompts that are not correct.

Furthermore, the phone directory for locating staff is difficult to use when some staff's names begin with the same first four letters.

Rebekah Finer suggested that a generic letter from the residents be given to those staff who are leaving the Home to thank them for all their hard work.

Rebekah also mentioned concerns about programming with reduced staff and suggested ideas that may appeal to other residents. Mediatrix Valera will happily collaborate with residents if they have ideas for new programs.

Rachel Alhadeff suggested the return of the resident book club.

The remainder of meeting was devoted to guest speaker Daniela Yew, who spoke about summer programming and events at the SF Excelsior branch library. She will work with Mediatrix to implement library programs for residents.

Residents requested that the location of Council meetings move back to F1.

NEW BUSINESS

Edie Sadewitz mentioned a delay in receiving her medications when she needs a refill. Anna will notify chief nursing officer Edwin Cabigao and pharmacy about this issue.

Edie Shaffer gave rave reviews for the concerts held on May 27 and 31, noting that "the programs were wonderful and entertaining."

Residents expressed a concern with possible nursing changes when they have outside appointments. Edwin Cabigao will attend the July Council meeting to address concerns.

Mark Friedlander announced a change

COUNCIL OF RESIDENTS OFFICERS 2013-2014



Claire Shor
Treasurer

Edie Shaffer
President

Sylvia Korn
Vice President

to television's Lifetime station, which will broadcast on channel 10 (a change from channel 31) until further notice. Headline News will temporarily be unavailable.

Mark answered questions and concerns from residents regarding changes throughout the Home.

Edie Sadewitz suggested making a donation on behalf of the Council of Residents to the victims of the Oklahoma tornado. Residents and Council members agreed to reconvene at the July meeting to decide if a donation will be made to this cause.

RAFFLE WINNER

Sheldon Friedman was the lucky winner of this month's raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

*Recorded by Anna Stepp
Resident Services Coordinator*

IN MEMORY

KREINA GOLDSTEIN

May 1, 1922 to June 16, 2013

CECIL KIRSCHBROWN

May 4, 1919 to May 29, 2013

MARGARITA KHLEBNIKOVA

September 10, 1916 to June 25, 2013

FAINA LEZNIK

July 29, 1927 to June 16, 2013

JEREMY MERRILL

March 9, 1932 to June 6, 2013

SARRA RACHITSKY

June 13, 1922 to June 6, 2013

MARTA RODSHEYN

March 10, 1926 to June 7, 2013

SHIRLY STERLING

October 9, 1914 to June 6, 2013

WITH A SONG IN OUR HEARTS (AND POSSIBLY A TEAR IN OUR EYES)

Award-winning songwriter Judith-Kate Friedman celebrated the completion of her songwriter-in-residence program with the first of two concerts on June 21. She, together with Rabbi Shelly Marder, co-founder of Psalms, Songs & Stories™, gathered with participants for a contemplative concert celebration of original Psalm songs composed by Jewish Home elders. The program included beloved songs from the Jewish Home's Psalms collection, the honoring of longstanding Jewish Home resident songwriters, and a reflection on residents' experiences of composing sacred music.

