

CHAILIGHTS

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Patti and Alan Masarek and Dr. Kenneth Fine Receive Awards at Fall Gala

On Wednesday, October 30, 2024, the Women's Auxiliary will hold its Fall Gala. Mozaic Senior Life will honor Patti and Alan Masarek and Dr. Kenneth Fine, three individuals who have made outstanding contributions to our community, here at Mozaic Senior Life and throughout Fairfield County. The memorable evening will be held at the Inn at Longshore in Westport, with festivities beginning at 6:00 PM. There will be a fabulous auction, elegant dining, a celebration of our honorees, and a toast to our bright future. This event is co-chaired by Cindy Epstein, of Norwalk, Vivian Epstein, of Ridgefield, and Vanessa Rosenberg, of Trumbull.

of Columbus, OH. She earned her undergraduate Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from the University of Cincinnati, her Master's Degree in Social Work from New York University, and embarked on decades of working with at-risk communities. Patti started philanthropic organizations in her early years and later, worked at several social service agencies involved in domestic abuse, sexual violence, and adolescent case management.



Born in Miami, FL, Alan was raised in Atlanta, GA. He graduated from the University of Georgia, and earned his Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School. Alan's business background spans 40+ years across enterprise communications, information technology and business, and financial services. Alan serves as CEO and Board Director of Avaya Holdings, a global enterprise communications company where he is leading its business transformation. Prior to Avaya, Alan served as CEO of Vonage Holdings Corporation. Before Vonage, Alan served as Director, Chrome & Apps at Google, Inc., following Google's acquisition of his prior company, Quickoffice, Inc., in which Alan was co-founder and CEO.



We are proud to announce that the 2024 recipients of the Arthur and Gladys Lunin Humanitarian Award are Patti and Alan Masarek. The Lunin Award recognizes outstanding public and community service as exemplified by the good works of Arthur and Gladys Lunin. In addition, the Louis Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service, which recognizes devoted long-term service to Mozaic Senior Life as demonstrated by the late Louis Lotstein, will be awarded to Dr. Kenneth Fine.

Patti's passion for helping others started at a young age, volunteering at a children's residential treatment center in her hometown

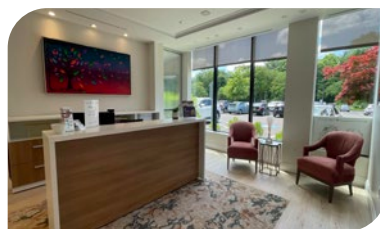
Described by Patti's family and friends as the most selfless person they have ever met, her

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Mozaic Concierge Living Welcome Center Opens!

The Welcome Center at 260 Long Ridge Road is now open and engaging Charter Members and prospects to learn more about Mozaic Concierge Living. The office is home to our Sales and Marketing team - Amy Ferrarie, Janice Kohn, Sandra Steeves, and Ray Hays - who are happy to share with everyone many of the visual tools to help explain the plans for our future Life Plan community. When you enter the Welcome Center, you will see the meeting space where presentations are held, and, in the near future, samples of the design products will be displayed during construction selection. There is a model kitchen that represents the actual counters, cabinets, appliances, etc. that will be standard features of the kitchens in each

residence. There is also a scale model of the entire campus that helps everyone visualize the future construction on Long Ridge Road. Finally, renderings of many of the spaces to be built, as well as the computer systems to help individuals and couples made a reservation deposit on their specific residence, are all now in place.



We welcome you to visit and share this information with friends and family that might be interested in the latest (and greatest) Life Plan community to be built in Fairfield County!

For more information, please contact Amy Ferrarie, Director, Sales & Marketing at aferrarie@mozaiccl.org or 203-396-1140.

For more information on Mozaic Senior Life services call 1-833-MSL-LINK (675-5465)

Visit our website at mozaiccl.org

Chairperson and President's Remarks



Jon August

Each time we work together to prepare the next issue of *Chai Lights*, we are reminded of the incredible work being done on and off The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus. You will read about our Women's Auxiliary and Men's Club events, the 1st annual SHARE event that we hosted for the community, more about our Stamford development of a new Life Plan community, and of course the many Resident and client activities throughout our many programs and services. We are so proud of the nearly 1,000 caregivers and hundreds of volunteers who make this all possible, and the longstanding commitment to helping seniors and their families achieve the highest possible quality of life. We try to recognize our staff throughout the year, and you will read some of the specific ways this happens during Senior Care Week, and also the commitment to education through our CNA Training program, and the Dale Carnegie course.

At our Board meetings we always share some of the letters we receive from grateful clients and their families and want you to know how much that is appreciated. We always share those letters with the staff involved directly and encourage nominations for our Staff Customer Service

Recognition Program, and annual Employee Award Celebration which takes place in September. If you have not seen the names listed near the Community Services Entrance for the many individuals who have been recognized, we would encourage you to do so – and to nominate someone that you believe is deserving.



Andrew H. Banoff

Finally, we thank all our donors who continue to make the work that we do possible for your generous and ongoing support. Each year we not only raise money for our Annual Campaign and special events through the Women's Auxiliary and Men's Club, but we are raising funds for the future of our organization through the Vision 2031 Fund for the Future as we work to prepare for the pending Baby Boomers who will start to turn 85 in that year. For further information, please contact Dayna Hayden, Director, Development, at dhayden@mozaicsl.org or 203-365-6409.

As always, thank you for all that you do!

Jon & Andrew

Fall Gala continued from front page

life-long commitment to volunteerism and helping others has greatly influenced Alan over their 36-year marriage. Over the last several years, Patti has been intensively involved with The Center for Family Justice. Patti and Alan served as co-Chairs of the Empower House Project, dedicated to the building of a new domestic violence safe house that opens this summer, aptly named 'Patti's Place'. Alan was heavily involved in the project's fundraising, and personally rode his bicycle across the United States, from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean, raising vital funds. She has also served as four-time tri-Chair of CFJ's event, "Speaking of Women," their largest annual fundraising event.

The Lunin Award states that any individual who by his/her sacrifice, effort and service to the Fairfield County Community deserves to be recognized and held up as an example for others to follow. Of special merit are those individuals who have furthered the cause of justice, fostered understanding between Jews and non-Jews and made voluntary and significant efforts to care for those unable to care for themselves. Mozaic Senior Life knows how lucky we are to have the Masareks as part of our extended family. Not only have they become involved with Mozaic Senior Life, they have been involved in many volunteer service initiatives, often funded through their family foundation, whose mandate is to support child health, welfare, and education, but often extends to other worthy causes. Organizations including local synagogues and chabads, Jewish Federations, Jewish Family Services, ADL; multiple local food banks including Nourish Bridgeport; the University of New Haven; Hole in the Wall Gang Camp; the Jeff Masarek Center for Behavioral Health; the Crohns and Colitis Foundation; and multiple mission trips to Israel supporting the IDF following October 7, have all benefitted from their kindness and incredible generosity. Together and separately, they have been advocates, leaders, entrepreneurs, and philanthropists.

Patti and Alan are proud parents of two adult children and a wonderful son-in-law, as well as loving grandparents to three amazing grandchildren. They currently live in Milford, after raising their family and living in Weston for many years.

Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO of Mozaic Senior Life, shared, "Patti and Alan Masarek are among the few philanthropists in our community who truly lead by example. We are privileged to have their energy, support, and friendship connected to our organization. I am personally grateful to them for their warmth and loving-kindness, and obvious commitment to Tikkun Olam – making the world a better place."

Andrew continued, "Dr. Ken Fine has been an incredibly important part of the clinical and administrative teams at Mozaic Senior Life for many years. He has been instrumental in so many aspects of the lives of countless people we have been privileged to serve – including through the most challenging era dealing with COVID-19. Most importantly, he is a true gentleman who I am honored to call a colleague and a friend."

Dr. Kenneth Fine, this year's recipient of the Louis Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service, is being recognized for his long-

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Coleman Lecture Series 2024

Family members, Board members, donors, staff, and friends gathered for this year's Joel and Lois Coleman Lecture Series, featuring speaker Dr. Allison Ostroff, Mozaic Senior Life's Chief Medical Officer.



An Honorary Doctorate from SHU



On Wednesday, May 8, Sacred Heart University in Fairfield held its 2024 Graduate Commencement ceremony. Among those receiving degrees was our very own Andrew H. Banoff. He was bestowed with a Doctor of Humane Letters (*Litterarum*

humanarum doctor) degree, which is awarded to those who have distinguished themselves through humanitarian and philanthropic contributions to society.

Andrew gave the commencement address with 3,000 graduates, faculty, staff, family, and friends in attendance at the Martire Family Arena. He asked that the graduates remember three points-tomorrow, next year, and, hopefully, beyond. First, fight ageism as this is a risk to everyone and our collective efforts will make aging easier for all of us. Second, live a life of legacy. Be mindful of your actions and ambitions. What you do today will form the chapters of your legacy. Lastly, pursue your passions. Pay attention to what touches your heart and follow that. Happiness lies there. Andrew reminded the graduates to celebrate the sweetness of their accomplishments and to work to make the world a better place.

Mozaic Senior Life takes pride in having Andrew as our President & CEO and extends a hearty Mazel Tov to him on this achievement.

SLICE OF LIFE



1. Purim celebrating with masks and Mishloach Manot 2. Mozaic Adult Day client Nancy Slagle enjoys the Fairfield Garden Club class 3. Mozaic Adult Day clients Thelma Gillis and George McGuigan having fun with music and maracas 4. Mozaic Assisted Living Resident Marilyn Diamondstone being interviewed by student Zach Fierman 5. Residents enjoy the sunshine and delicious BBQ lunch in the courtyard 6. Bennett Household lunchtime socializing with Judith Richman, Phyllis Mirsky, Bobby Africk, Mollie Gleit, Joan Heck, and Hannah Oelsner 7. Hannah Oelsner poses at Captain's Cove during a recent Resident outing 8. Arnold Fischer and student Sarah Lacugna crafting during a Better Together class 9. Robert Pate enjoys matzah and charoset 10. The Daffodil Project in the Meditation Courtyard, part of the Living Holocaust Memorial in memory of the children who perished 11. Shirley Cohen gets ready to make hamantaschen 12. Mozaic Child Development Center students Kiera Marlow and Simone Voldman along with Mozaic Adult Day client Carol Nicola showed off their creativity on Crazy Hat Day 13. Janet Landgrebe, Lucy Shola, and Karla Hall along with Mozaic Child Development Center students Teagan McGivney, Ezra Patrick, and Tyler Vilanova created quilt squares at the Gees Bends intergenerational event 14. Laurie Farrell, 15. June Redman, and Rosa Rosado delight in Mother's Day gifts from the Women's Auxiliary 16. Mozaic Rehabilitation Center team members show support during Pride Month 17. Staff members at the Purim Parade 18. Shelton High students entertain Mozaic Assisted Living Residents.



FOUNDATION



Spring Luncheon & Boutique

Photo credit: Regina Madwed, Capitol PhotoInteractive

Guest speakers, Emily Liebert, 6-time award-winning novelist, and Samantha Yanks, Editor of the *Westport, Wilton, and Weston Magazine*, shared an introspective look into their careers and lives at the Women's Auxiliary Spring Luncheon & Boutique on Monday, May 6 at the Inn at Longshore in Westport. Over 170 members and friends of the Women's Auxiliary attended the event, co-chaired by Betsy Baron, Lydia Gerard, and Vanessa Rosenberg. The event raised over \$38,000 to support Resident programming.

2024 Boutique Vendors

Adorn Accessories • Brian's Country Carpentry • The Chintz Giraffe • Gioiella • Hopscotch • JL Rocks • Knots on Euclid
Little Bee of Connecticut • Peace Love Light • Phyllis & Rosie • Pure by Shasha • Scents of Empowerment • Subooka Handmade
Sunny Collins • Suzanne Einstein Collection • Sweet Creations • Two B's Accessories • Wonnaful • The Write Stuff

Fall Gala *continued from page 2*

term outstanding dedication to Mozaic Senior Life. Ken joined our organization in August 2007, first as a primary care physician, then the Medical Director of the Institute on Aging and Center for Elder Abuse prevention, and finally in 2012 as the Chief Medical Officer, always embracing Residents, clients, families, caregivers, and co-workers with the utmost respect, professionalism, sensitivity, and compassion offering extraordinary comprehensive medical care. Ken is retiring at the end of this year. The Lotstein Award is a small token of our gratitude as we thank him for his enormous gifts of knowledge and expertise to the Mozaic Senior Life team.

Ken, born in Glasgow, Scotland, attended Dickinson College in PA for his undergraduate studies. He earned his medical degree from the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. Ken returned to the States for an internship at New York Medical College and a Residency at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City. After working in emergency medicine for a number of years, he was recruited to join Columbia Presbyterian as the first Director of Emergency Services at the Presbyterian Hospital. He was also an original member of a newly formed Division of General medicine of which he was an Acting Co-director for 10 years and rose to the rank of Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

After 17 years at Columbia, Ken assumed directorships of the emergency departments at St. Raphael Hospital in New Haven

where he was on the faculty at the Yale School of Medicine as well as at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center in South Bronx where he was a faculty member at Weill-Cornell School of Medicine. His career in fast-paced emergency medicine coupled with working in academic general internal medicine, helped him refine the skills needed for a comprehensive approach to caring for seniors.

Ken, and his wife, Marilyn, lived and raised their daughter in Weston. They now live in Fairfield close to their daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren.

There are many ways to support this year's Fall Gala. Place an ad in the commemorative journal and include a special message to the honorees, a Resident, or staff member. Or attend the event and join us for the festivities on October 30th in person. For over 56 years the Women's Auxiliary has played an essential role in furthering Mozaic Senior Life's mission and standard of health care. The overriding mission of the Women's Auxiliary is to nurture, enhance, and support quality of life initiatives for the Residents and clients of Mozaic Senior Life.

For additional information, to receive an invitation or to register online, visit <https://mozaicsl.org/donations/womens-auxiliary-donations/fall-gala/> or contact Dayna Hayden, Director, Development at 203-365-6409 or dhayden@mozaicsl.org.

FOUNDATION



Annual George Lipton Golf Invitational

A magnificent afternoon was spent with the Men's Club at our 38th Annual George Lipton Golf Invitational at Rockrimmon Country Club in Stamford. The day was filled with golfing, pickleball, lunch, cocktails, dinner, a silent auction, and awards. The second Pickleball Clinic and Tournament took place where we learned about dinks, falafels, and kitchens. Thankfully there was not a lot of poaching or a need for replays! Almost 100 golfers enjoyed a day of camaraderie and healthy competition. Co-chaired by Men's Club President, Neil Lippman and Board member Chuck Zwecker, the successful event generated almost \$100,000. Special thanks to all our participants and event sponsors for their generous and ongoing support of the Men's Club and of Mozaic Senior Life.



Photo credit:
Regina Madwed,
Capitol PhotoInteractive

Thank You!

Thank you to all of the businesses and individuals who supported the George Lipton Invitational – Mozaic Senior Life is extremely grateful for your continued support.

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Honda of Westport

Men's Club of Mozaic Senior Life

CELEBRITY BREAKFAST

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 - 7:30 AM

Featuring **Marty Lyons**
New York Jets Legend, Jets Radio Network Analyst, and Co-Founder/Chairman, The Marty Lyons Foundation

MOZAIIC SENIOR LIFE
4200 PARK AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT, CT
(LIVE STREAMING OPTION AVAILABLE)

\$100 SUGGESTED MINIMUM "TIP" DONATION

Register online at: mozaicsl.org/donations/mens-club-donate/celebrity-breakfast

Generously underwritten by:

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Women's Auxiliary of Mozaic Senior Life Invites You to Attend the

2024 Annual Membership Meeting

Monday, September 23, 2024
4:30 PM

Featured Speaker
Allison B. Ostraff, MD
Chief Medical Officer,
Mozaic Senior Life

Please join us at Mozaic Senior Life as we celebrate the Co-Presidency of Cindy Epstein and Vivian Epstein and install Marlene Polansky and Sherry Sopin as the incoming Co-Presidents

RSVP by September 16 to 203-396-1000 or btepper@mozaicsl.org

You can pay your Women's Auxiliary membership online at mozaicsl.org and click Donate/Women's Auxiliary/Membership or Special Events

Must be a current Annual Member (\$36) or Life Member (\$250) to attend

Refreshments and Lite Bites Served

For Further Information

...on how to become involved with the **Women's Auxiliary** or the **Men's Club**, please contact Dayna Hayden, Director, Development at 203-365-6409 or dhayden@mozaicsl.org.

Women's Auxiliary Annual Membership dues are \$36, Life Membership is \$250, Sterling Life Membership is \$500 and Gold Life Membership is \$1,000 (all Life Memberships are payable over three years).

Men's Club Annual Membership dues are \$75, Life Membership is \$1,000 and Lipton Fellow Membership is \$2,500 (both payable over three years).

Men's Club Comedy Night



A night full of fun was had on March 14, as the Men's Club hosted friends, food, and laughs at the Stress Factory Comedy Club located in downtown Bridgeport. The attendees enjoyed a private, informal gathering, followed by front row seats to side-splitting amusement.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

PALLIATIVE CARE & HOSPICE

Bringing Valuable Expertise During Serious Illness and End-of-Life Care

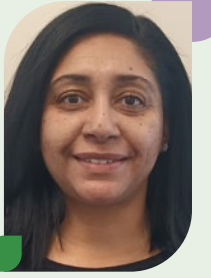
| PALLIATIVE CARE | | HOSPICE |
|--|----------------|---|
| Pain and symptom management to improve quality of life | FOCUS | Comfort and quality of life, support for patient and family |
| During a serious illness, even while receiving treatment | WHEN | Illness is terminal and prognosis is 6 months or less |
| Home, assisted living, and group home facilities | WHERE | Home, assisted living, group home, and nursing home facilities |
| Pain and symptom management, disease education, emotional support in the context of illness and caregiving, navigating treatment options, nurse, therapist, and social worker in-home visits with 24/7 nurse support | CARE | Medical care and oversight of pain and symptom management and end-of-life care; specialized registered nurses, therapists, home health aides; social workers for spiritual and emotional support; music, pet, and other therapies; medications and medical supplies and equipment |
| Based on each patient's individual needs | VISITS | Based on each patient's individualized plan of care |
| Medicare, Medicaid, Commercial health plan, or private pay | PAYMENT | Cost of hospice care is covered by all health plans, Medicare and Medicaid |

Source: Hospice Buffalo Resources

We can help. Contact us at: hospice@mozaicsl.org or 203-396-1136.

Employee Spotlights

Ivonne Griffiths joined Mozaic Senior Life as the Case Manager for Mozaic Adult Family Living in February 2023. She is from Bridgeport and has been an LPN since 2011. Her work experience prior to joining Mozaic Senior Life has been in various types of healthcare including long-term care, assisted living, pediatrics, behavioral health, and home care. Ivonne is known for giving compassionate care to her patients and their families. In her role as Case Manager, Ivonne's excellent communication skills are an asset. With a commitment to cultural competence and as a bilingual speaker, our Spanish speaking clients and families feel well supported. With a focus on health education and caregiver support, Ivonne brings expertise and empathy to her role. In her spare time, Ivonne enjoys self-care and spending time with family and friends.



Selina Ng joined Mozaic Senior Life in January 2024 as the Medical/Hospice Social Worker. With a Master's in Social Work and a Minor in Gerontology from Fordham University, Selina brings over 30 years of experience in the geriatric field. Her impressive career includes roles in the Crime Victims Assistance Program, as the Director of a Senior Center, and with the

Visiting Nurse Service. Inspired by her grandmother's belief in helping others as a path to heaven, Selina's dedication to her work is deeply personal and heartfelt. Selina's compassion and caring nature extend beyond her professional life. In her spare time, she volunteers to evaluate pet therapy animals, reflecting her love for both people and animals. With her previous pet therapy dog, she visited hospice patients and senior centers, and actively promoted the need for volunteer teams to provide comfort and companionship to those in need. Selina's hardworking and compassionate spirit makes her an invaluable asset to Mozaic Senior Life, where she is committed to delivering exceptional care to her patients. Her unwavering dedication and genuine kindness continue to touch the lives of many.

Senior Sense:

Navigating Your Journey



Joining the Podcast Scene

In May of 2023 Mozaic Senior Life's Podcast "Senior Sense: Navigating Your Journey" was born. Every day we are asked questions about aging, Alzheimer's Disease, Home Care and all aspects of the senior care navigation process so the idea to create a library of podcasts to answer questions about each topic seemed logical. These podcasts provide valuable information and stimulate discussion about important issues in aging services and assure listeners that Mozaic Senior Life can assist everyone on their journey. Podcast episodes include: Memory Workshop, Home Care, Adult Family Living, Hospice, Eldercare Navigation, Mozaic at Home, Adult Day, Nursing Home, Rehabilitation, Caregiver Support, Spiritual Care, Trends in Geriatric Care, and Elder Abuse Prevention. To listen to the podcasts, please visit mozaicsl.org/podcasts. Coming soon to Spotify!

First Annual SHARE Event

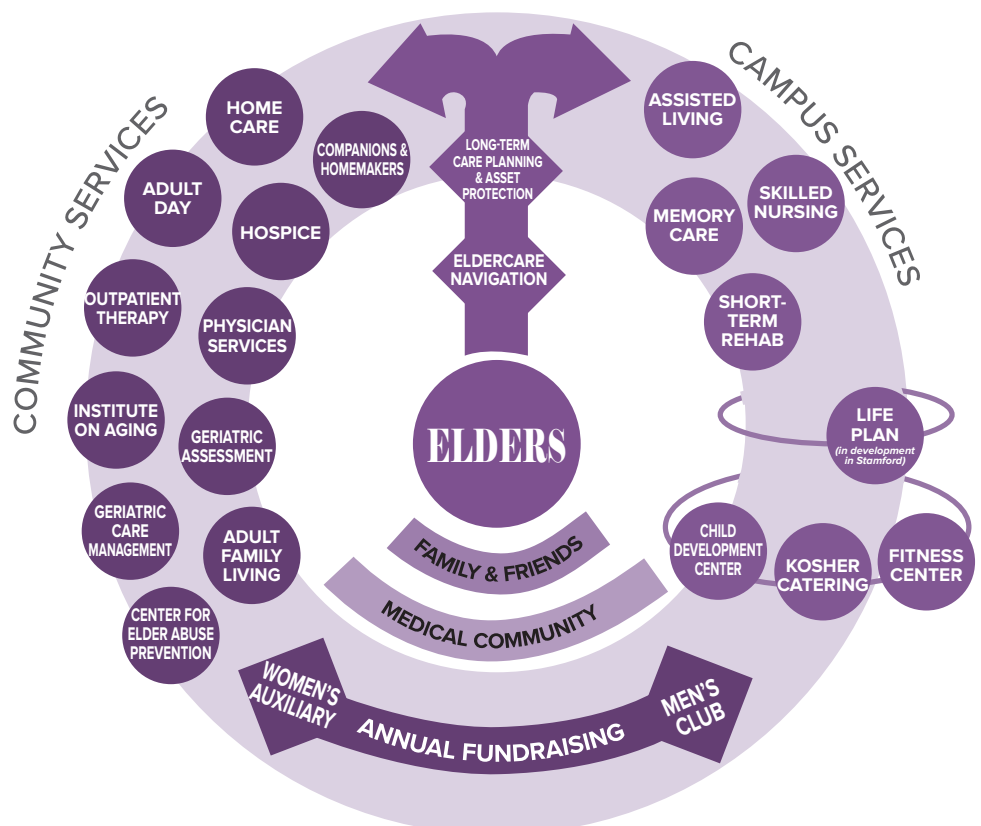


Mozaic Senior Life hosted a successful community-wide event on April 7 -- SHARE: Senior Health And Resource Expo, that provided many senior resources to over 150 attendees. 20+ organizations from

the Fairfield County area participated and provided information on topics such as elder law, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, medical equipment, senior centers, transportation, long-term care, rehabilitation, home care, assisted living, and more. We look forward to hosting the second SHARE event in April 2025!

CONTINUUM OF ENGAGEMENT

For over 50 years, Mozaic Senior Life, a non-profit organization, has been a leader and trusted provider of skilled nursing and senior care services.





Senior Care Week

Mozaic Senior Life took a week in mid-May to show appreciation to all staff and volunteers during Senior Care Week. A bag of sweet treats, a free meal from the Super Duper Weenie Truck, cool treats from Jim's Ice Cream Truck, and a fun raffle were all part of the 5-day festivities. Third shift employees and those working with clients in their homes received gift cards for a meal compliments of Mozaic Senior Life. Thank you to MarshMcLennan Agency for their continued generosity and support to Mozaic Senior Life and employees.



CNA Graduates!

Mozaic Senior Life offers Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training classes throughout the year. We are so proud of the recent graduates from the June class. Front Row (left to right): Scarllet Lopez, Elisabeth Figueroa, Alexis Brown, Leeann Davila-Bernhard, Emmaline Mann. Back row (left to right) Ashley Johnson, Ariana Rodriguez, Dianna Lawrence, Lavern Townsend, Linsey Prendergast, Novia Lawrence Clarke. Our next CNA training classes begin August 19 and September 23, 2024.

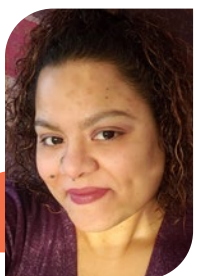


Dale Carnegie Graduates 2024

Mozaic Senior Life continues to invest in our leadership by offering opportunities to grow and expand skills. Congratulations to the most recent graduates of Dale Carnegie. Pictured from left to right: (first row) Julie Bruno, Susan Freed, Katie Pearse, Allison Ostroff, (middle row) Gabrielle Healey, Dale Carnegie Trainer, Jo-Anne Horelick, Jessica Witherspoon, Allison Brown, Elizabeth Zicari, Kara Rodriguez, Donna Quinlan, Princess Bryan-Colley, Melanie O'Malley, (back row) Phil Garmun, Tracey Hamulak, Maura Eustace, Sherry Mercer, Diane Gant, Allison Shortell, Scott Feda.



New Mozaic Leadership



Sally Agron joined Mozaic Senior Life in May, 2024 and is the second floor Social Worker with over six years of experience in the field with long-term and short-term care. She is a Certified Dementia Practitioner as well as an Instructional Designer and is working on her Doctorate degree. Sally enjoys spending time with her family, reading, writing, singing, watching movies, facilitating therapeutic journaling, and helping others.



Jo-Anne Horelick joined Mozaic Senior Life in December, 2023 as the Director of Dining Services. She became a CDM (certified dietary manager) in 1997 and has over 30 years of experience in the long-term care setting. When she is not working, Jo-Anne spends her time at a seasonal campsite in Lisbon, CT with her husband Randy and their dog Tank. She also stays busy with her two grandchildren, Maverick, 3 ½ and Magnolia Rae, 22 months.



Frances Outlaw-Jones has been a part of the J Fitness team for five years. She has been an instructor, personal trainer liaison, and personal trainer before being promoted to Fitness Director in April. She brings great enthusiasm to her new role overseeing the day-to-day operations of the gym. Frances and her husband Brandon, have two children and they live in Stratford. She is originally from Texas and in her spare time she loves to run and spoil her rescue pup, Parker.

Jon August

Chairperson of the Board

Andrew H. Banoff

President & CEO / Editor

Contact us at

203-365-6400

mozaicsl.org

For address changes,
to add a friend or be
removed from the
mailing list email us at
chailights@mozaicsl.org
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Jewish Home • Assisted Living and Memory Care Residences • Rehabilitation Services • Adult Day Program • Memory Workshop
Home Care • Hospice • Institute on Aging • Center for Elder Abuse Prevention • ElderCare Navigation • Adult Family Living
Long-Term Care Planning/Asset Protection • Child Development Center • Catering • J Fitness Center • Independent Living

Family Mail

With our sincere gratitude to the entire Mozaic Home Care team for their generosity, help, and guidance. They were gracefully there when we needed them.

– **Mozaic Home Care
Family of B.T.**

It is a pleasure to support you in providing the highest quality of care to those who need it. Everyone in the Banoff house was great during my mother's rehab and went the extra mile to keep my mom comfortable and happy.

– **N.M., Rehabilitation
Family Member**

Save the Dates

SEPTEMBER

- **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**
Men's Club Family Day Picnic
Celebration
Mozaic Senior Life
- **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**
Men's Club
Celebrity Breakfast
Mozaic Senior Life
- **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**
Career Fair
- **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**
Women's Auxiliary Annual
Membership Meeting

OCTOBER

- **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30**
Women's Auxiliary
Fall Gala
Inn at Longshore
Westport, CT

Family Portrait – Joyce Shapiro by David Shapiro



Joyce was born in Stamford, CT on August 20, 1941 to parents Joseph and Esther Backer. Her parents met in Loch Sheldrake, NY where Joe's family ran a hotel in the Catskills Borscht Belt area. Joyce was born into

the greater Kuriansky family, headed by her grandfather Samuel, who had emigrated to America from Poland in the 1880's. After making it to the new world, Sam made his way up to Fairfield County where he started out selling common household goods out of the back of a horse-drawn wagon. He would eventually come to own his own general store on Greenwich Avenue in Greenwich, CT. Sam had six children and 10 grandchildren so Joyce, along with her older brother Edward, always had a number of aunts, uncles, and cousins close by as the majority of the family settled in New York and Connecticut. Like many families, the Kurianskys were close and there were frequent family dinners and get-togethers where Joyce enjoyed spending time with her cousins.

Joyce grew up in Stamford, where she graduated from Stamford High School in 1959, and headed off to Storrs to attend the University of Connecticut. After graduation, Joyce traveled with a friend throughout Europe which awakened a love of travel. She moved to New York City in the early 1960's where she was a public elementary school teacher and met her future husband of 45 years, Morton Shapiro. Joyce and Mort were married in 1965 and after their first son, Jeffrey, was born a year later, they decided to make the move to the suburbs and settled in Stamford. Two more sons, Richard and David, would follow and Joyce soon had her hands full as a mother of three boys. Her baking skills certainly came in handy as the Shapiro house hosted numerous birthday parties, where there was always a homemade cake or cupcakes. Summer barbecues and Jewish holidays for the Backer-Shapiro-Kuriansky family were also prevalent occasions during the 1970's and 80's and were similar to her own childhood experience. Joyce happily found herself again surrounded by family.

As one of Mort's accounting positions resulted in him having to travel internationally, Joyce and the boys headed off with him on several

occasions which gave her the opportunity to fulfill her desire to see Europe again. Trips to England, Scotland, Ireland, and the Netherlands were highlights and Joyce successfully handled the sightseeing logistics for herself and the boys while Mort was busy during the day.

After the boys grew up and as Joyce and Mort became empty nesters in the 1990's, new hobbies and activities filled their days. Before the advent of internet genealogy services, Joyce and Mort did a lot of legwork to track down the history of their ancestors. From Ellis Island to various city halls to cemeteries throughout the tri-state area, they would document and make copies of all their learnings. They filled many three-ring binders with birth certificates, death certificates, passenger manifests, and other records that brought to light details of their relatives. Another one of Joyce's passions was antiquing and her top targets were Weller pottery and Royal Doulton figurines. She and Mort spent many a day driving all over New England to antique shows to discover the next 'find' which would take its place in one of her many display cabinets.

In the late 1990's, Joyce and Mort downsized to an apartment in Stamford and a home near the Atlantic coast in Jupiter, FL. Trading the winter cold for a warm ocean breeze was what they had aspired to for a while. She enjoyed attending art festivals and decorating her new home with many vibrant paintings from local artists. Joyce figured the house in Florida would eventually attract her future grandkids like a magnet for visits. Joyce has seven grandchildren and all of them enjoyed making the pilgrimage to Jupiter to spend time with her and Mort.

After Mort passed in 2011, Joyce continued to surround herself with family. Summer trips with the grandkids to Lake George, Newport, and Maine provided fun memories for all involved. Eventually, life for Joyce on her own became more difficult and that's when Mozaic Senior Life came to her aid. After a stay in rehab for a hip replacement late in 2023, it made sense for Joyce to remain at Mozaic Jewish Home and it has been a wonderful home for her ever since. When family visits, it is heartwarming to see Joyce smiling as she is surrounded by her art collection and family photos from throughout the years.