President Marshall Kornblatt Elected for Second Term

At a well-attended corporate Annual Meeting of the Jewish Home on May 23, 2016, Marshall Kornblatt was elected by the membership and Board of Directors to serve a second term as President. During his report, he highlighted the achievements of both the board and staff during what he described as “an extremely productive year” in enhancing the services to the residents. He enumerated the many ways the Jewish Home excels in the provision of care and praised the achievements of the many staff who strive to make the Home a real home. He extended his gratitude to the committee chairs and all the board members who work selflessly to assist administration in achieving the Home’s high standards.

The meeting opened with an inspirational D’var Torah by Rabbi Zvi Perlman of the Tzvi Yosef Congregation, a new Chabad synagogue in Kingston. He was followed by Secretary of the Board, Attorney Richard Bishop, who presented a moving resolution in memory of the late Gilbert “Gibby” Weinberger who served on the Honorary Board for many years. Past President Louis Kahanowitz presented the Nominating Committee report which was formally adopted with the election of the new board and slate of officers for the coming term. Attorney Jerry Weinberger, chair of the Home's Finance Committee, presented his report. He highlighted the financial experience of the Home during 2015 and detailed the complex challenges facing the Home in maintaining a full census and achieving adequate reimbursement from both Medicare and Medicaid. Rabbi Sandhaus presented the Annual Executive Director’s report in which he explained some of the new initiatives to enhance the services for the residents and the implementation of a new concept of care referred to as “person centered care”.

The meeting concluded with the installation of new board members delivered by Rabbi Yehuda Salkow, Director of the Jewish Resource Center of the Poconos.

Elected for a two year term were Esther Adelman, Faye Bishop, Julius Coplan, Susan Blum Connors, Attorney Donald Douglass, Motti Hershkop, Denise Krafchin, Ann Monsky, Jay Schectman and Margaret Sheldon.

Jewish Home Kicks Off Culture Change Journey

A high mark of the Jewish Home has always been our commitment to providing top-notch care to our residents and enhancing their life experience while in our skilled nursing facility. Try as we might to make the experience and service we provide just like living at home, we recognize this can be a challenge. This occurs fundamentally because the historic operational model, from which all skilled nursing homes developed, is similar to that of the medical operational model used by hospitals. This in turn lends itself to facilities being more institutional than home like. The regulatory process, which governs the operations of nursing facilities, further reinforces the medical institutional model and adds to this challenge.

Having the desire to further enhance the quality of care and service we provide to our residents, the Jewish Home’s Board recognized the benefits gained from shifting to that of a “household model” in the operational approach we use in (continued on page 2)
Culture Change Journey (cont’d)

our facility. The Board’s commitment to this process started out by engaging the services of consultant company Action Pact, which specializes in working with nursing homes, to help develop a journey of culture transformation.

Change like this does not take place over night. This is the beginning of a two year long process as we move to a more resident-centered care approach. Training and communicating to all staff are a significant part of this process. After our first visit with Action Pact, we established a fifteen member Culture Change Core Steering Team comprised of facility leadership and direct care staff. The main purpose of the Steering Committee is to guide the organization in decision making and problem solving to create an environment which establishes healthy decisions throughout the organization.

The Steering Committee also commissions “action teams” with defined goals and parameters to carry out these projects, with the ultimate objective to develop meaningful changes, transforming the environment and replicating a real home atmosphere.

Since we started we have commissioned a few action teams:

- The **High Involvement Team** will be organizing the staff in-servicing and communication to staff, residents and families needed to accomplish our journey.

- The **Fourth Floor Nursing Consistent Assignment Staff Team** is tasked with working out the logistics of setting up consistent nursing staff assignments on this unit, which is a precursor to the neighborhood concept. This will be piloted on this floor and then will transfer to the other units in time.

One might ask what consistent assignment means. Consistent assignment means that the residents see the same caregivers (registered nurse, licensed practical nurse or nursing assistant) almost every time they are on duty. Many residents are more comfortable with caregivers who know and understand their personal preferences and caregiving needs. Consistent assignments are a key step in resident centered care and help to build strong relationships between residents and staff.

- The **Daily Pleasures Action Team**. We all have “daily pleasures” that help us get through our day. Things that are important to us that make our day unique. It could be that first cup of coffee in the morning, working in the garden, watching a certain TV show, reading a certain magazine or newspaper. Think about the little things in your day. What do you enjoy most? The daily pleasures action team is going to be interviewing residents, and in some cases their families, to learn more about our resident’s daily pleasures so that we can do more of those things! It is a good starting point to get our message out to residents and a means to target our planning.

We are all very excited about working together to make our facility more of a home for our residents. Culture change is a process and movement of transforming traditional, institutional long-term care facilities, into true homes. It involves a change of environment, systems and attitude. It’s not just a change you can see, it’s a change you feel. Look forward to hearing more from us along our journey.

Does Fido Have a Pet Pass?

Recognizing the therapeutic value of pet visits and at the same time balancing the need to ensure that all pets coming into the facility are suitable to visit with our residents, we require a pet pass for pets visiting at the Home. These are issued by the business office to pet owners who submit current vaccination certificates from their pet’s veterinarian. We request that visitors with pets present their pet pass to the receptionist upon arrival. Lynn Klemick, at extension 109 can be contacted for issuance of pet passes and guidelines for pet owners when completing a pet visit.
The Jewish Home of Eastern Pennsylvania has initiated a resident Gardening Club. The Gardening Club hopes to cultivate resident interest in gardening. The Club is led by resident volunteers and assisted by facility staff Peg Longo, Activity Assistant, Carol Caviston, RN, and Scott Blakiewicz, NHA.

Beginning in the spring of 2015, the Club has grown to provide beautiful perennial and annual floral arrangements to designated outdoor resident lounge areas. The Gardening Club also enjoy planting a wide variety of vegetables and herbs such as radishes, carrots, dill and basil.

Besides being a lot of fun, the Gardening Club is a way of promoting health for the residents of the Jewish Home. In a recent article published by EarthEasy, Solutions for Sustainable Living; author Robin Jacobs discusses Six Unexpected Health Benefits from gardening. These benefits include:

- stress relief and increasing self-esteem
- improved heart health and stroke risk reduction
- hand strength and dexterity
- brain and memory health
- immune system improvement
- reduced depression and improved mental health.

Please stop by the Home and enjoy the flowers and plantings done by our Gardening Club members.

Dorothy Meyers enjoys fixing potted plants on the patio.

Danny Rinaldi and Activity Assistant Peg Longo add plants to the Home’s herb garden.

The gardening club enjoys a day of planting!
A group from the Alzheimer’s Association Greater PA Chapter attended the 2016 Alzheimer’s Advocacy Forum in Washington DC to raise awareness for the disease. Representatives from the Jewish Home, Nicole Lipinski and Kristen Shipsky, attended. Advocates received training on the facts of the disease and how to approach advocacy. Ms. Lipinski is the Ambassador for Congressman Matt Cartwright from district 17. Shipsky is a congressional team member for Senator Bob Casey. Lipinski and Shipsky were honored to represent the Jewish Home residents and the Alzheimer’s Association in meetings with Rep Matt Cartwright, Senator Bob Casey, and Rep. Tom Marino.

One of the focuses of the meetings with legislators was the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA). This would establish palliative care and hospice training programs for doctors, nurses and other health care professionals. It will also create a national education and awareness campaign to inform patients, families, and health professionals about the benefits of palliative care and available services and supports. PCHETA would also help to enhance research on improving the delivery of palliative care. Several healthcare advocacy associations support this bill including the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society.

Alzheimer’s disease is the most expensive disease in America and it is the 6th leading cause of death. It is the only disease in the top 10 without a way to prevent, stop or even slow its progression. Advocates requested an increase in funding for research on Alzheimer’s disease. The Alzheimer’s Association estimates there are more than five million Americans living with Alzheimer’s disease and more than 15 million Alzheimer’s caregivers.

Lipinski and Shipsky continue their advocacy and support for family caregivers through their monthly support groups at the Jewish Home. Currently, they are working on recruiting the 2016 WALK to End Alzheimer’s Team. Christine Giuliani is this year’s team Captain. Watch the Jewish Home facebook page for upcoming information on the WALK being held October 8, 2016.

Abeloff Foundation Grant

The Jewish Home announces and extends its thanks to the Board of Trustees of the Lester G. Abeloff Foundation for a generous grant to support the ongoing needs of the residents. Lester’s legacy of courage, entrepreneurship and philanthropy live on through the generosity of his foundation.

Lester, a native of Stroudsburg, PA, was a generous benefactor of health care, education, his synagogue and other charitable causes in his community. Lester believed in showing his appreciation by giving back to his community and to his people. As a World War II bomber crewman in the US Air Force, he demonstrated great courage in his service to his country. Through his illustrious career as an entrepreneur, Lester will always be remembered for working hard to succeed and using his success to help others.

Have you “Liked” us lately? Photos of resident activities and events are posted regularly to keep in touch with facility happenings. If you haven’t checked us out, we invite you to “Like” us on Facebook.
A Bit of History: The Wilkes-Barre Branch of the Jewish Home

In Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, prior to the United Jewish Appeal and the Jewish Federation, assistance to the Jewish poor and care for orphans and the aged was supervised principally by various Ladies Aid Societies operating independently. Sometime in 1915, at a meeting of the South Side (Scranton) Ladies Aid group, members formed an organization to be known as the “Jewish Home for the Friendless” to care for some orphaned children. Shortly thereafter, branches in neighboring communities were established to recruit workers, find funding and serve clients.

Thus, the Wilkes-Barre Branch was organized in 1917 by Mrs. Eugene Man, who enlisted every able bodied woman she could find to aid in the feeding and clothing of the youngsters at the facility in Scranton.

This valiant group of women found no task too great and no distance too far to visit (this was long before 81 north). The residents soon learned that they were certainly not “friendless”. Over the years, the facility became a comfortable and outstanding residence for the elderly.

Although at one time there were other “branches” outside of Scranton, the Wilkes-Barre Chapter is the only one still in operation besides the Scranton Auxiliary. The Branch, a vital link to the Home for decades, continues to be dedicated and devoted to the welfare of the Home’s residents.

The support of the Wilkes-Barre community through membership in the Branch has helped it to remain a caring and concerned neighbor to the Home’s elderly residents. The Branch sponsors a summer picnic and a Chanukah party as well as entertainment for the residents. Over the years it has helped to fund remodeling projects and facilities upgrades.

(Text courtesy of Ruth Aqua, edited by Roslyn Rudin)
Strong Support for Annual Membership Campaign Continues

Year after year, friends throughout NEPA and well beyond respond generously to the vital Membership Campaign. Marshall Kornblatt, President of the Jewish Home, expressed his gratitude to the co-chairs Bonnie Green and Shlomo Fink and the other campaign volunteers for leading this year’s Membership Campaign to a successful conclusion. “Their willingness to devote themselves to this effort in raising needed funds,” he said, “assures that the Home can continue to provide a high level of care to all residents. The outpouring of generosity by so many people and families, a total of over 750 contributions, indicates the high esteem in which the Home is held, as well as the empathy of the donors even during challenging financial times.”

“Every gift regardless of size,” noted both Bonnie and Shlomo, “is an affirmation of the noble character of each and every donor.”

As is the Home’s tradition, we list the names of donors by community to highlight the wide acceptance of our work in the region and even out of state supporters and of course as our way of saying thank you. We know that the only thanks that a donor really wants is the assurance that the Home will continue to provide the best care possible to the aging residents. If by chance we have made an error in your listing or inadvertently omitted your name, please let us know so we can make the correction. Donations after May 31 will be listed in a subsequent issue.

The Honor Roll of Members is listed separated by location and categories as follows:

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<th>Category</th>
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In honor of our residents
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In honor of Shelley Smulowitz’s special birthday
In memory of Nelson Goodman
In honor of our residents
In honor of their great grandchildren
In memory of Harold Rosenberg
In memory of beloved husband, father and grandfather Paul Friedman
& in memory of parents Sol & Rebecca Nudelman, Benjamin and Tilly
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ITEM
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Outing
Lacing Cards-Alzheimer Unit
CD Player
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Word Books
Large Table Puzzles
Craft Supplies
Therapy Omni Cycle
Water Painting Supplies
Water Painting Supplies

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CD Player
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Word Books
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Therapy Omni Cycle
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Webster Towers
We’re Staying Active!

Memorial Day Picnic chefs Susan Stadolny, Grace Conforti and Pat Luberto.

Participants in the Step Program. Seated l to r are Joan Kleeman and Pat Atkinson. Standing from left are Evelyn Rodgers, Marion Dunleavy, Josie Renzini and Gloria Miller.

Shooting the breeze on a nice spring day are Pat Luberto, Mort Mandelman and Toni Malinoski.

Carol Fishbein enjoying her work at the St. Patrick’s Day Party.

Barry Propper relaxing on the patio.
The summer family picnic was held June 5th on the 1st floor where families enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers, lemonade and watermelon. Watch for restaurant dates in November!
100th Year Cake – Jewish Home celebrates 100 years of providing excellent care.

Bette Levine enjoys watching the Rail Riders at PNC Field.

Activities assistant Peg Longo along with residents Evelyn Quell and Karen Metschulat enjoy a visit from the Rail Riders mascot Champ.

Lana Berlin, Debbie Williams, Sarah Shivock and Peg Longo enjoy a lunch together during Nursing Home Week.

Rosary leader Kathy Oleck assists resident Eleanor Barone to crown the statue of Mary.
Jewish Home Wish List

You can make a difference in the lives of the Jewish Home’s residents while honoring or memorializing a friend or loved one. Please contact the Jewish Home’s Business Office Secretary Lynn Klemick at (570)-344-6177 extension 109 for information. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

**ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT**
Heightens awareness to encourage mental function
- $1-$5 Word Search Books
- $15-$25 Manicure Magic Supplies
- $15-$30 Supplies for Water Painting/Crafts
- $20-$75 Outing donations
- $50 Gardening Supplies
- $100 Planters and Pots
- $120 Birdhouse
- $200 Bird Feeder
- $200 Plants

**ALZHEIMER’S UNIT**
- $5 Playing Cards
- $5-$40 Table Games
- $20 Craft Supplies
- $20 Large Table Puzzle

**DIETARY DEPARTMENT**
Creating tasty, nutritious meals served in an elegant environment
- $30 Coffee Pots
- $50-$100 Serving platters/bowls for parties
- $75 Ice Tea, Lemonade & Water Pitchers
- $75 Party Decorations for special occasions
- $100 Adaptive Equipment
- $100-$250 Table Linens & Skirts
- $150 Challah Board
- $300 Chafing Dishes
- $500 Serving Carts
- $4000 Robot Coupe

**NURSING DEPARTMENT**
Compassionate, skilled care in a state-of-the-art facility
- $150 Oxygen Conserver
- $200 Tympanic Ear Thermometer
- $250 Slings for lifts
- $250 Pulse Ox Machine
- $300 Pressure reduction mattress
- $500 Wheelchair
- $600 Recliner Chair
- $600 Low Air Loss Specialty Mattress
- $800 Oxygen Concentrator
- $2,000 Resident Beds
- $2,100 Ultra Care Adjustment Height Low Bed
- $3,600 Sit to Stand Lift
- $4,200 Viking Lift

**REHAB THERAPY DEPARTMENT**
Renews our residents’ physical well being and self esteem by focusing on restoring their skills.
- $80 Functional Memory Manual
- $350 Baseline Pinch Gauge for Digits and Case
- $1,800 Solstice Comfort Tilt-In-Space Wheelchair 18” Wide
- $4,340 Legend XT Electrotherapy Systems 2 Channel and Cart
This is not the first time that I have written about summertime at Elan Gardens, but it is such an outstanding period of time that it bears repeating. We brag about the four season beauty of our twenty acre campus, but summertime is not just about the scenery. It’s about the lifestyle. We aim to provide the outdoor activity opportunities that we all enjoy in the summer. That being said, there are many Residents of Elan Gardens who tough it out and walk outside year round. That is the beauty of our covered patios and walkways. But come June and not only do the temperatures rise but so do the number of Residents who enjoy all of our outdoor sitting and activity areas. Our recreation department plays their part too by moving every possible activity outside.

We do have a favorite summertime activity. We call it “Party on the Patio”, but don’t tell a certain casino who uses that name! On these pages you will see photos from the season’s first full blown barbecue with a traditional grilled lunch, music and entertainment, decorations, and a lot of beer (non-alcoholic, of course!). As with everything we do, our Residents have the choice of eating inside but outside is the popular choice. Some of our programs are later in the day and we offer assorted frozen refreshments.

Our most used location is our English Garden which was created many years ago by Roz and Lenny Marks in memory of their nephew. Two years ago, Roz gifted Elan Gardens with a major upgrade to the English Garden and created a beautiful Courtyard Patio in memory of her grandson. These living legacies are adjacent to a large area of covered patios making the space practical and useful in addition to being filled with beautiful trees, shrubs, and fresh flowers.

Our special Residents from Memory Lane participate in these summertime activities and also enjoy the patios and walkways that are accessed through the second floor. It is like sitting in one’s own backyard and who doesn’t enjoy that!

If any of you reading this have never been to Elan Gardens, we are proud to show it off! Give us a call and we’ll set up a summertime tour. We would love to share the view!
Elan Gardens’ Donations

Elan Gardens acknowledges with gratitude minimum contributions of $5.00 in honor or memory of friends and loved ones you wish to recognize. Contributions made after May 31, 2016 will be published in the next issue. We make every effort to list donations correctly and apologize for any errors. Please call (570) 585-4400 with any corrections.

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IN APPRECIATION TO THE STAFF OF ELAN GARDENS
A COFFEE SYSTEM STATION
Laurel and Alan Glassman

*Of Blessed Memory
Families and residents painted “Spring Breeze” during a Spirited Art Event. During this event, families and residents had the opportunity to spend time together while painting memories they will cherish for a lifetime.