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### **5 Years and Counting**

Five fast, fabulous and fun-filled years have flown by as I think of June, 2016 and where our Journey has taken our JSS family!

And yes... there have been challenges and as we faced these challenges we also continued to provide care and services to those who live on campus and in the community. Celebrating our recent 5th year anniversary, in light of these challenges, certainly is a testimony to our commitment to create a lifestyle of dignity and respect with a focus on individual choice and Resident-centered care and safety, regardless of circumstances.

I will speak more about challenges later, however for now, let's walk down the path of where we have been, where we are now and what we have accomplished in five years.

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus remains a community of resources with services and programs to support those who live on and off site, work and volunteer here. These past five years have defined our purpose and goals of transitioning services and programs to the next level of excellence as we continue to grow our valuable reputation.

Residents continue to thrive in the Household Model that is committed to individual choice and Residentcentered care. Families enjoy time with their loved ones and are able to visit at their convenience, knowing when they leave caregivers will provide quality care. Assisted Living and Memory Care Households continue to provide choice with comfort as a priority.

Our Community Services professionals provide both non-medical and medical Home Care and Hospice services.

Our Outpatient Therapy services provides a bridge to better overall well-being after a hospital stay or for those who need strengthening or wellness support.

The Senior Choice at Home<sup>®</sup> program continues to provide opportunity to those who prefer to be in the comfort of their own home yet receive the many services we offer.

The Institute on Aging continues to offer geriatric assessments and care management guidance as well as the protection and wisdom from the Center for Elder Abuse Prevention. Our Home Together<sup>®</sup> program identifies and supports adult family living arrangements and foster homes. The program supports caregivers with adults who require daily help and qualify for state assistance.

The "J" Fitness Center remains the first choice for members who enjoy a state-of-the-art gym that supports their healthy lifestyle and is popular with swimmers of all ages who find water therapy and lane swimming a favorite. The many exercise options remain full and in demand.

Our Child Development Center continues to provide learning and developmental programs for children from infancy to school age who receive outstanding care, threaded with love from professionals who care.

We also offer daily services in our beautiful synagogue and are always available to provide spiritual guidance for those who live, work and visit JSS.

> I said I would provide more about the challenges we also faced during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic for it was not an easy time which I have written about previously.

> So many of the things we have taken for granted have either changed drastically or have been eliminated in an effort to stop the spread of the virus that still hovers like a cloud over us. Many of us have witnessed the serious illness and even death of friends, colleagues and loved ones and we will never forget the terrible injustice of what they endured. Our thoughts and prayers remain with those who have suffered and lost their lives and their families while our commitment to continue the fight to overcome and eliminate this virus remains unwavering.

Though unable to keep all programs open through the worst of the pandemic, our reputation of excellence remains as I said before, and we have been able to reopen and rebuild those programs, bring people back to work, and once again are growing as I have explained throughout. This was all possible through the efforts of our outstanding staff and I thank each of them for everything they have done throughout this most difficult time to support Jewish Senior Services, Residents, clients, and each other.

This 5th anniversary offers a unique opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of the special people who have made so much of our success possible. Through the efforts of so many that include our Board of Directors, the staff who work to provide the programs and services we offer, the volunteers who support all of our services, our generous supporters and our families and the community who receive services we thank you for the privilege to serve.

# INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Slice of Life pg. 3

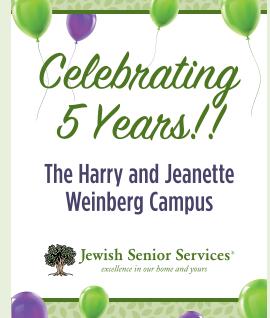


5th Anniversary Celebrations pg. 3



Men's Club pg. 5





Our Adult Day Program provides a supervised nursing environment that offers social activities, recreation, meals and personal care. The Early Memory Loss program is a blend of activities and care, supported by professionals whose expertise makes a difference specific to them. Both programs also provide caregivers respite and the opportunity to share and learn through support groups.

continued on next page (Lessons Learned)

# Emil Meshberg and Linda Lazinger to Receive Awards at Fall Gala

On Wednesday, October 20, 2021, the Women's Auxiliary will hold its Fall Gala. Jewish Senior Services will honor Emil Meshberg and Linda Lazinger, two individuals who have made outstanding contributions to our community. The memorable evening will be held at The Patterson Club in Fairfield, with festivities beginning at 6:30 PM. Magician Bill Herz will entertain attendees with his comedic illusions. This event is co-chaired by sisters Cindy Epstein, of Norwalk and Vivian Epstein, of Ridgefield. Being with family, friends and colleagues in-person, after 18 months of social distancing, is definitely a reason to celebrate.

Emil Meshberg is this year's recipient of the Arthur and Gladys Lunin Humanitarian Award recognizing outstanding public and community services as exemplified by his dedication to Jewish Senior Services. As a leader in the development continued on page 4  $\rightarrow$  Employee Awards pg. 7



# **Chairperson and President's Remarks**



**Alan Phillips** 

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we are so proud of the efforts of our entire community through Fiscal Year 2021, which ended September 30th. While we had a difficult financial year because of the pandemic, we end the year stronger than ever. There were many lessons learned from COVID-19, but most importantly the Jewish Senior Services "family" showed its strength, determination and collective ability to work together. In the

last issue of Chai Lights we referenced Light at the End of the Tunnel – as we started to see the end of the pandemic. The number of cases clearly declined throughout the Spring, and we were able to return to many of our normal activities. The Resident programming, community-based services and life throughout the campus has been much more vibrant. We are also incredibly proud of our leadership and accomplishment of having essentially the entire campus (Residents, staff and volunteers) vaccinated by the end of May – well ahead of the industry and broader community. It is our absolute commitment to safety for those we are privileged to serve that drives every decision we make, and the most effective tool we have are the vaccines developed and approved for this purpose. We are thankful to all of the Board members, donors, volunteers and family members who all bring their energy, talent and wisdom to our community and make our work possible. The staff has been resilient and worked tirelessly – especially during this challenging period of time when we are battling the broader industry for talent. We are actively hiring 15-20 people every month to join our team, and will continue to ask for your help in referring the best and brightest in every discipline to grow our work force.

We enter Fiscal Year 2022 with a full census in skilled nursing and assisted living, a robust and growing community services portfolio, and clear Mission to serve those in need. Finally,



Andrew H. Banoff

our Board of Directors has adopted a **Vision 2031** strategy to meet the needs of the Baby Boomer generation, who will start to turn 85 years of age in the year 2031. We are actively raising funds to support this 10-Year Vision, so that we can do more in the community, expand our services through technology, and to introduce Independent Living and more Assisted Living. We will write more about that in the next issue of Chai Lights, and in the interim please do not hesitate to reach out to our new Major Gifts Officer, Dina Fleischman at dfleischmann@jseniors.org to find out more.

Wishing your families a happy and healthy 5782! As always, thank you for all that you do!

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Alan Phillips

Andrew H. Banoff

### Lessons Learned (so far) from the Pandemic ...continued from cover

As we catch our breath over the summer months, I am writing to address a few "Lessons Learned." I hope that this information brings a few smiles to your faces as we reflect back on the past year and one-half, in spite of the many challenges and difficulties.

First and foremost, our staff are HEALTH CARE HEROES! We are all so grateful for their efforts, their commitment, and their ongoing support of each other and our organization! We have tried to recognize their efforts throughout the pandemic and will continue to do all that we can in this regard.

Residents and clients, and their families are strong, resilient and incredibly supportive of each other! There are so many inspiring stories of the inter-connections that we all share, and we are humbled by the awesomeness of this community!

The Household Model nursing home and assisted living community SAVES LIVES! While we all wish that there were zero COVID-19 related deaths, we know that the spread was minimized by the protection of private rooms and bathrooms, as well as the smaller cohorts of 14 individuals compared to ALL other nursing homes that are built in 30-40-50 bed units with mostly semi-private rooms, shared bathrooms and hallway shower suites.

We dealt with the pandemic in five critical areas, and these lessons will serve us well in all future scenarios:

- 2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Masks; gowns; gloves; goggles; head coverings
- 3. Education/Awareness: Handwashing; masks; social distancing; PPE; touching your face
- 4. Treatment: Evolved rapidly; now antiviral with steroid with anticoagulant (in hospital setting only); monoclonal antibodies
- 5. Funding: Federal and State support helped sustain us through the pandemic, as it would not have been possible otherwise

We would all like to believe that this structure and effort has better prepared us for normal infection control activities (as well as G-d forbid another pandemic) in the future.

Collaboration between the industry and the State of Connecticut Departments of Public Health and Social Services as well as the Governor and Legislature. We have seen an enhanced level of cooperation that will serve all of us well into the future.

Naturally, there are many more aspects to the past year, and I hope that this gives you some of my perspective on the subject.

As always, thank you for all that you do!

### Andrew H. Banoff

President & CEO

1. Testing: PCR (polymerise chain reaction) viral vs. antigen



"Who's taking care of your mom after her surgery while you are at work?"

"We have a caregiver from Jewish Senior Services coming in to be with her along with a physical therapist to help her recover. She is making great progress!"

### "Jewish Senior Services... of course, of course."

Contact our Care Advisors at: 833-JSS-LINK (833-577-5465)



Providing Quality Care in Connecticut for Nearly 50 Years The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus 4200 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604 • 203-396-1136 • www.jseniors.org

Slice of Life



Richard Becker, Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO and Melvin Mezoff enjoying a 5th Anniversary Celebration.
Adrienne Smoak, Lead Homemaker and Rosalind Levine celebrate together.
Ilse Levi celebrating her 99th birthday
Leonora Chick on Mother's Day.
Monroe Weiant, Jr. on Father's Day.
Carol Shapiro modeling a cowl made by Laurie Farrell.



7. A delighted JSS employee with her 5th Anniversary raffle prize 8. Anita and Hal Rosnick 9. Ruth Twersky and Roslyn Stein, Women's Auxiliary Board Members 10. Staff enjoying treats during a 5th Anniversary Celebration. 11. Renee and Ronald Noren 12. Barbara Phillips, Alan Phillips, Chairperson of JSS, Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO and Roy Friedman, Honorary Director for Life of JSS 13. Physical Plant and Environmental Services team members' strike a pose 14. Linda Lazinger, Women's Auxiliary Past President and Ellen Hyde Phillips, Women's Auxiliary President 15. Jeff Siegel, Men's Club Past President, Mindy Siegel and Ken Wirful, Past Chairperson of JSS

Photo Credit: Regina Madwed, Capitol Photointeractive (Photos 1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 & 15)

Women's Auxiliany

### Women's Auxiliary Fall Gala ...continued from cover

and manufacturing of dispensing products for the cosmetic, household and pharmaceutical industries, Emil has been CEO of Emson Research, Inc., CEO of Emsar, Inc., EVP of AptarGroup, Inc. and CEO of Mark Industries Inc. He spent his career establishing manufacturing facilities around the world.

At a young age, Emil knew that he wanted to be in the business world and attended Babson College, Wellesley, MA. With his very strong business acumen, Emil developed innovative products and holds multiple patents for the development and manufacturing of consumer product dispensing

systems such as finger and spray pumps, aerosol valves and child restraint systems for the pharmaceutical, cosmetic, household and personal care industries. He established entities around the world including locations in Argentina, Brazil, China, France, India, Italy, Mexico, Russia, Thailand and the UK. He is most proud that he was instrumental in creating jobs and opportunities that enabled others to make a good living.

Emil's father, Philip, taught him that giving back to the community is being part of the community. Emil holds true to this with his humanitarian efforts focused on entities where his energies will have the most impact both locally and internationally. He joined the Jewish Senior Services Board of Directors, in 2015, to help provide for the elders in our community. He has become an active participant serving as the Chair of the Finance committee and member of the Employee Relations, Executive and Professional Services committees. JSS is benefiting from his guidance as we work on future plans for the growth of the organization.

Emil is an integral member of the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation and serves as Chairman of the Foundation Board and Trustee of the Hospital. He is also currently the Chairman of the Board of Packaging Concepts Associates, Washington Institute for Near East Policy Trustee and is a lay lobbyist and active in pro-Israeli politics through AIPAC. Some past Boards on which he served are Zero Water, LLC, the Barnum Museum, Cardinal Shehan Center, Discovery Museum, Congregation B'nai Israel and the Bridgeport Jewish Community Center. Emil is also a career mentor for

young adults for personal strategic planning, as well as meeting with those looking towards retirement.

Emil has lived in Fairfield since a very young age and with his wife Toby, continues to call Fairfield home. They have three adult sons, two lovely daughters-in-law and four grandchildren.

Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO of Jewish Senior Services, shared, "Emil

wisdom, insight and calm demeanor to help guide us through unchartered waters. I am personally grateful to Emil for his counsel, his friendship and his generous support."

Andrew continued, "When Linda Lazinger was the President of the Women's Auxiliary, she brought her own personal commitment and understanding to the leadership and she has been a steadfast supporter of our organization. She is a devoted and loving daughter and has demonstrated her understanding

> of the important commandment, "Honor your Father and your Mother". We are grateful for her dedicated service to Jewish Senior Services."

> Linda Lazinger is this year's recipient of the Louis Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service for her dedication to Jewish Senior Services. Her connection to The Jewish Home dates back almost 45 years, from the time when her grandfather and great uncle were Residents. As time passed, her beloved parents, Sam and Betty Bader and her father-in-law Nathan Lazinger moved into the Home in the later years of their lives. Linda's zeal, passion and volunteerism truly deserve recognition. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Board in 2010 and has held active leadership roles as a co-chair or committee member of every Auxiliary event, program and activity. Linda served as the Women's Auxiliary President for four years.

> A lifelong resident of Fairfield, Linda, along with her husband of 47 years Sam, have three daughters, Illana, Rebecca and Shira and five delicious 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 20th in person or in a socially distant manner via live stream. An exciting online auction will be part of this year's event with a variety of packages to suit all interests. You do not need to attend the event to view or bid on items.

For over 50 years the Women's Auxiliary has played an essential role in furthering Jewish Senior Service'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 Jewish Senior Services.

Additional information, to register online or view the auction details, visit https://jseniors.org/donations/womens-auxiliary-donations/fall-





Meshberg is one of the formal and informal leaders of the Jewish Senior Services' Board of Directors and our community. We are privileged to have his gala/ or contact Susan Freed, Development Associate, at 203-365-6407 or sfreed@jseniors.org.

# **2021 Spring Luncheon and Boutique**

Julie Mountain and Dana Noorily of The Granola Bar were guest speakers at the Women's Auxiliary Spring Annual Event on Monday, May 3. They virtually shared their insights on business ownership, shifting during the pandemic and juggling it as mothers to attendees that watched online. Over 225 members and friends of the Women's Auxiliary attended or supported this year's event, co-chaired by Rachael Diamond, Kate Fierman and Martha Zuckman. The event, which also include an online shopping boutique, raised over \$21,000 to support Resident programming at Jewish Senior Services.



## **For More Information**

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@jseniors.org. Women's Auxiliary annual membership dues are \$36 and life membership is \$250 (payable over three years). Men's Club annual membership dues are \$75. Life membership is \$1,000 and George Lipton Fellow membership is \$2,500 (both payable over three years).

### **Thank You!**

Thank you to all of the businesses and individuals who supported the George Lipton Invitational -Jewish Senior Services is extremely grateful for your continued support.

#### **DINNER SPONSORS**

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### **LUNCHEON SPONSORS**

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#### **GOLDEN BENEFACTORS**

Fuchs Family Foundation KBE Building Corporation Twin Med

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#### CLOSEST TO THE PIN SPONSORS AD Electric LLC

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#### **STERLING BENEFACTORS**

Abraham L. Green and Son Funeral Home M&T Bank TR Paul Inc. Webster Bank Kenneth Wirfel

#### **TEE SPONSORS**

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### **Annual George Lipton Golf Invitational**

Mens Club

The 35th Annual George Lipton Golf Invitational took place on Monday, June 14 at The Patterson Club in Fairfield. The day started off with grey skies and rain, but that didn't deter our golfers from showing up for a round of 18-holes of golf. Eventually the skies cleared just in time for the back 9 holes and a pleasant evening for outdoor cocktails, dinner, a silent auction and awards. Mitchell Adelstein, President of the Men's Club, thanked co-chairs Dean Gaugler and Larry Gottlieb for all their efforts to ensure a successful event. This year's Lipton generated over \$100,000. Special thanks to all participants and event sponsors for their generous and ongoing support of the Men's Club and of Jewish Senior Services (Please see sponsor list).



Photo Credit: Regina Madwed, Capitol Photointeractive

# **Celebrity Breakfast Lunch**

The Men's Club hosted its 6th annual Celebrity Breakfast, virtually, on Thursday, September 23. Cochaired by Mitchell Adelstein and Brian Miles, the event engaged almost 225 attendees to watch guest speaker Fran Tarkenton, NFL Hall of Fame Quarterback and Founder of Tarkenton Financial, share experiences during his 18-year NFL career as he played for both the New York Giants and Minnesota Vikings, leading his teams to 3 Super Bowl appearances and was a league MVP. Tarkenton also spoke about his current passion of advising and counseling businesses in identifying new opportunities and developing innovative channels. This year's event, sponsored by Vogel Retirement Solutions and generously underwritten by Alliance Energy, LLC, Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder, Marsh & McLennan Companies, Morrison Living, RD Scinto and WICC 600 raised over \$45,000.

# Family Day 2021 Reimagined to Resident 5th Anniversary Celebration for Residents

This year the usual fun-filled day with families and friends on campus was not a possibility due to the pandemic. Instead, co-chairs Jonathan Green, Bob Hillman, Jerry Minsky and Howard Zuckerman worked towards making the day memorable by reinventing the Family Day event into a "Resident 5th Anniversary Celebration for Residents". These celebrations took place on Wednesday afternoons throughout the month of August. Each week a different floor took part in celebrating the five years of

#### **GREEN SPONSORS**

Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger, P.C. Russell and Julie Beitman Marty and David Burger Carter, Morse & Goodrich Expense Consulting Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. Goldman, Gruder & Woods, LLC Guardian Judy, Joshua and Allie Lipton Med-Essentials LLC Pereira Engineering, LLC Trident Care Dr. Perry A. Wasserlauf, Fairfield Periodontics, LLC

HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSOR Honda of Westport being on The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus. Each week there were big smiles all around as Residents enjoyed live music, a special menu of delicious celebratory lunch food, floral decorations that Household enjoyed for the week and giveaways. A good time was had by all! (Pictures from the celebrations can be found on the back page of Chai Lights)



Individuals and families often reflect on what they can do to make a positive difference in the quality of life of others. Jewish Senior Services offers many charitable gift-giving opportunities. Some of the most popular forms of charitable giving are:

CASH / CHECK / CREDIT CARD	DONOR ADVISED FUND
APPRECIATED STOCKS	IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER
CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY	
■ MATCHING GIFTS	AMAZON SMILE
■ FACEBOOK BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISERS	■ VEHICLE DONATIONS

However you choose to give, your gift will ensure the seniors in our community continue to get the care and support they need. We are deeply grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Contact Dayna Hayden at 203-365-6409 or dhayden@jseniors.org with any questions. For more detailed information, please visit: www.jseniors.org/foundation/ways-to-give/

Community Services

### **New JSS Employees**



We are pleased to announce that **Melanie O'Malley** joined Jewish Senior Services as the Coordinator of Home Care, non-medical team. Melanie is an accomplished professional who along with excellent leadership skills, brings with her a wealth

Melanie O'Malley

of knowledge threaded with success. She has supported organizational growth throughout her career and her skillset includes sales and marketing and team building.

Melanie has achieved outstanding goals in her role of Sales and Marketing Coordinator at Bridgeport Hospital and as the former Owner and Sales Director of Comforcare Home Care, she managed daily operations which generated her success and high rankings within her first year of business. Melanie holds a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration from Southern New Hampshire University.



**Christine Marr** 

**Christine Marr, MPH, CPN, CHL** recently joined the JSS team as the Director of Grasmere on Park Adult Day Program. Christine comes to JSS with numerous experiences that include her work for The Kennedy Center, Patient Navigator at Yale Hospital, Health Data Analyst/Coordinator for Lung Screening for Griffin

Hospital and Education Programs Manager for Lincoln Healthcare

Leadership. Christine was Lead Coordinator for the World Health Organization's African Partnerships for Patient Safety and traveled to Kenya to lead clinical teams in research components centered on patient safety initiatives.

Christine was co-Investigator for special projects and contributed to data collection for numerous papers, posters, projects and presentations on a variety of health-related topics. Christine holds an MPH from Southern Connecticut State University.



We are pleased to announce **Pamela Burian Badger** has joined the Senior Choice at Home Program as Care Coordinator. Pam is a Registered Nurse and committed to providing care to seniors with dignity in the setting of their choice.

Pamela Burian Badger

Pam's background positions combine both business

and health care worlds. She held positions at Chase Manhattan Bank as a Financial Advisor and Noonan/Russo Communications, both in NY, cosmetic surgery in Westport, school nurse in Redding and most recently Homewell Senior Care as Vice President, Care Management. Pam graduated from Bridgeport School of Nursing as a Registered Nurse and holds a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University.

# Parkinson's Disease Educational Series

Jewish Senior Services is offering an educational series for those with a new diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease and their caregiver. The series is being supported through a community grant from the Parkinson's Foundation and will cover topics related to understanding the disease progression, strategies to manage symptoms, home modifications and safety, medications, appropriate exercise, nutrition, emotional support and community resources.

Sessions will be led by an interdisciplinary team and will take place on October 5, 12, 19, 26 and November 2 from 6:00–7:30 pm in the Adult Day Program at Jewish Senior Services, 4200 Park Avenue, Bridgeport. **To RSVP contact Mary Pruzinsky**,

# **2021 Joel and Lois Coleman Lecture**



Dr. Susan Mitchell

Dr. Susan Mitchell, geriatrician, Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Senior Scientist at the Hinda and Arthur Marcus Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife in Boston, MA recently virtually presented "Dilemmas in the Care of Patients with Advanced Dementia" at the annual Coleman Lecture series. The presentation was informative and well received.

Dr. Mitchell leads the Marcus Institute's Palliative Care Research Program and is Co-Director of the Interventional Studies in Aging

Center. Dr. Mitchell's research interests focus on decision making, health outcomes, and resource utilization for older people near the end-of-life, particularly those with dementia. She is recognized as one of the nation's top experts in end-of-life care for those with dementia. Dr. Mitchell is co-leading a new collaborative research incubator that will develop trials aimed at evaluating interventions for Alzheimer's disease or Alzheimer's related dementia.

Community Outreach Liaison at 203-365-6474 or mpruzinsky@jseniors.org.

Jewish Senior Services would like to thank Dr. Mitchell for her presentation and Joel and Lois Coleman for their continued commitment as sponsors to the annual lecture series.

# Introducing SafeBeing by Somatix

Community services clients will have an opportunity to participate in a grant-funded project bringing breakthrough new technology that provides insights on health and safety. Thanks to a generous grant, we are pleased to announce the launch of *SafeBeing* by *Somatix*, a wearable device that provides passive monitoring of health and behavioral indicators.



SafeBeing is a state-of-the-art remote monitoring platform that will provide our staff with valuable health insights and predictive analytics, including activity levels, sleep, hydration, risk factors, and potential emergency situations to name a few. *SafeBeing* measures activities of daily living and various to name a few.

potential emergency situations, to name a few. *SafeBeing* measures activities of daily living and various physical and emotional indicators using a wrist-based smart-band, Big Data analytics, and novel gesture detection algorithms to provide high visibility of potential problems. For peace of mind, family members can also stay connected and see their loved one's activity and other insights with the Caretaker mobile application.

# For more information on our project, contact Elizabeth Zicari, Vice President, Community Services and Business Development, at ezicari@jseniors.org.

# **Employee Awards**

The 202 employees celebrating a milestone anniversary in 2020 and 2021 gathered in Bennett Hall to celebrate with colleagues and friends in recognition of their years of service. The annual awards event that includes dinner, award presentations and guests was rescheduled from 2020 after employees opted to wait until it was safe to once again enjoy the event while following all necessary precautions. Employees were able to say congratulations from a distance and the extra applause took the place of the usual hugs, however the mood was light, buffet was delicious and there was no shortage of thanks and congratulations to the well-deserved recognitions.

#### CHAIRPERSON'S AWARD

Frey Medina • Tanisha Stubbs • Amanda Wells • Jeanette Williams

JACQUELINE PURCELL NURSING AWARD\* Walter Rey Malqued

MARY WILLIAMS NURSING ASSISTANT AWARD\* Janice Stonoha

CHARNEY FAMILY AWARD Elaine Lewis

MARIE CAYO HUMANITARIAN AWARD\* Maria Garcia COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD Eugene Thompson

ELAINE "LANEY" POLLACK AWARD<sup>\*</sup> Parichith "Kit" Khamhoung

SADIE FREEMAN AWARD<sup>\*</sup> Ellen Ashkins

PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP AWARD Stacey Bardin • Justine Labate • Nancy Meliso • Allison Shortell

\*Award in memory of a dedicated employee



# National Skilled Nursing Care Week

National Skilled Nursing Care week was celebrated in May. This year's theme **"Together Through the Seasons"** honored the collaborative commitment of skilled nursing facilities and staff for providing compassionate care during these unprecedented times. Celebrations took place in Households with Residents, employees and volunteers. Gifts were distributed to Residents from the Women's Auxiliary on the first day of the celebration week, as it was Mother's Day. Employees and working volunteers were treated to a free meal from the Super Duper Weenie Truck and an ice cream truck was also on site one day that week.



National Skilled Nursing Care week wrapped up with a visit from Governor Ned Lamont, and other dignitaries who chose to spend part of their time at JSS to celebrate with Residents and employees.

### Thank you to Marsh & McLennan Agency for their continued generosity and support to JSS and employees.



Alan Phillips Chairperson of the Board

Andrew H. Banoff President & CEO / Editor

Contact us at 203-365-6400 www.jseniors.org

For address changes, to add a friend or be removed from the mailing list email us at chailights@jseniors.org or call 203-365-6494 Jewish Senior Services® 4200 Park Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604

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### A special thank you to our Federations

Jewish Senior Services is a recipient agency of the following community organizations. We thank these organizations and the communities for their support.

Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County UJA-JCC Greenwich United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan, Darien

### **Family Mail**

At a time when it feels like the world has gone crazy it is comforting to know our loved ones are safe and well cared for by the amazing staff at JSS. We cannot thank you enough.

> - S.K., Long Term Care Family Member

My mom loved her caregivers and they loved her. Our family was so fortunate to have our mother so well cared for and happy because she lived at JSS.

> - T.C., Long Term Care Family Member