



August 2008

Elena Yakoubovsky, Lyric-Spinto Soprano

Reutlinger residents are looking forward to an amazing concert this month. Ms. Yakoubovsky comes from a musical family of Russian and Neapolitan singers and musicians. She came to the United States to pursue a career in classical voice. A San Francisco Bay Area favorite, she has delighted audiences with her expressiveness and magnetic performances. The following is a sampling some of the songs and arias that will be included in her program:

“Night” by Anton Rubenstein

“Un motto di gioia...” Mozart

“Vila” from operetta The Merry Widow by Lehar

“O mio babbino caro...” from Giannin Schichi by Puccini

We welcome Family and friends of Reutlinger residents to join us:

Friday, August 15, 2:00 p.m.
Assisted Living, 1st Floor

RCJL Residents Take Center Stage

This is one special event you do not want to miss! We invite you to the opening debut of RCJL residents Decades Revue. Under the direction of Music Therapist, Jennifer Geiger the group has been rehearsing for quite some time. We will begin in the 1900's and perform musical scores from decade's right through to the 1960's. Our Revue is audience interactive and includes tidbits of history from each decade.

Please Join Us!

Thursday, August 21, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Assisted Living, 1st Floor



It is with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that we report the death of Pauline Hubbard, RCJL's Concierge, who passed away on Saturday, July 26th, after a brief and sudden illness.

Pauline was a valued seventeen-year employee, first at HJP in Oakland, where she acted as the Receptionist, Social Services Assistant, and Business Office relief person; then at RCJL where she was the Concierge and Volunteer Coordinator. She relinquished the Volunteer Coordinator position when her duties as Concierge required her full-time attention.

Pauline was a very positive, generous person. Says Pam Cavil, “Pauline saw the best in everyone and that takes a special knack.” Claddy Dennis remembers that Pauline was a “co-worker, sister, mother, friend, and best off all, she was my shock absorber.” Judy Preston recalls that Pauline was a woman of faith. When Judy's mother was dying Pauline and her husband went out of their way to visit and pray with Judy's mother. Dee Madnick described Pauline as “the soft place to fall”, someone you could count on to help you without any reservation. Elaine Zolfarelli remembers, “It was Pauline who taught me how to be a single mother to my daughters and helped me navigate the first difficult year of my divorce.” As Administrator, I found Pauline to be a remarkable woman who handled life's adversities with grace. Pauline did not do these things because we were her special friends. She lived her life giving generously of her time, her self, and her resources to all those around her, friends and strangers alike.”

The personal thoughts and stories about Pauline could easily fill a book. As I interact with employees, residents, and family members this week it is easy to see how much she was loved and respected. Jan Corran noted that Pauline “epitomized the true spirit of loving kindness and giving with everyone who was fortunate to have crossed her path.” We were all blessed to have had her in our lives. She will be greatly missed. Donations in her memory may be made to the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Oakland or to RCJL for the Pauline Hubbard Employee Scholarship Fund at RCJL.

Suzanne Sloane
Administrator

We're On the Web: www.rcjl.org

FYI- Contacts at RCJL

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WELCOME TO RCJL

Peggy Campbell
Betty Hershfeld



Eagle Scout Soars at RCJL

Reutlinger Community has been fortunate to be the recipient of an Eagle Scout Project, initiated and completed by Alamo resident Justin Meier. Meier, a junior at Berean Christian High School met with Reutlinger's program director, Carol Goldman several times, before undertaking his project. After several presentations to the Eagle Scout Board of Review, he was approved to move forward in 2007. Justin made a commitment to provide individual disaster-kits for all Reutlinger residents. The entire project spanned almost two and a half years before reaching completion. On Memorial Day of 2008, Justin demonstrated a safety and disaster preparedness program at The Reutlinger Community for a group of 50 residents and 10 staff members. The presentation of bright red, Reutlinger Logo, lightweight backpacks containing emergency items was a welcomed surprise to everyone. In total he supplied 200 packs, which exceeded his original goal. He organized a dozen fellow scouts to assist with the event and distribution. The noise level elevated as the Scouts and residents celebrated with at a root beer float social. The Boy Scout that first approached me to discuss the possibility of accomplishing his Eagle Scout project at Reutlinger has come quite a distance in a few short years. I am very proud and honored to have worked with Justin in achieving this milestone in his life.

Carol Goldman
Director of Programs

Meet Our Congressman Jerry McNerney of the 11th District

In response to the 9/11 attacks, Jerry was inspired to run for the House of Representatives by his son, as a way to serve his country. With a deep sense of duty, he accepted the challenge, registered as a write-in candidate, and went on to win the Democratic Party's nomination in 2006, Jerry made congressional history as the only candidate in California to defeat an incumbent and the only candidate in the United States to defeat a sitting House committee chairman. Congressman McNerney is presently serving his first term in the House of Representatives.

We invite you to please join us as we welcome Jerry to RCJL!

Monday, August 18, 3:00 p.m., On the 1st Floor

The World of Our Great-Grandparents: History of the Jews of Eastern Europe from Earliest Times to 1900

It was here that Jewish culture rose to some of its greatest glories; here Jewish society suffered some of its greatest tragedies. In this series of informal lectures, Ken Blady, Jewish Educator, will endeavor to portray Jewish life in Eastern Europe from its obscure beginnings to the mass migration to the New World in the late 19th century.

We welcome family and friends of Reutlinger to attend on the following dates:

Sunday: **8/17, 8/31, 9/14 & 9/31**
Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Assisted Living, 1st Floor

There is no charge for this course. If you are planning to attend please register by calling Carol at (925) 964-2076.

There will not be an issue of the RCJL Express for the month of September.

Families and residents will receive the schedule for the High Holy Days services and events.

Spotlight On . . .

Lick'm Stick'm Gang

"When our leader, Judy Vared, asked if there were any residents who were interested in volunteering for the distribution of the monthly newsletter the response was more than anticipated. Not only did we complete the job, but new friendships were made. The reward included a surprise lunch for the gang. Yes, all who participated once are anticipating another chance to help with this project." - Pauline Zlotolow

"After having resided at RCJL for several months, I began to feel restless and pampered as it seemed that everything was being done for us, and we residents were not giving anything back in return. One of the worst things about living in a retirement community, is not feeling productive after years of practicing a profession, raising a family and being active in the community. I decided to inquire whether there was any volunteer work that I could do. It was suggested that I could help prepare the RCJL newsletter that is published monthly and goes out to the residents, their family members, supporters and community organizations. That sounded like fun and something I had previous experience doing as I had helped prepare the newsletter at the Temple where I had been a member before coming to RCJL. Working on the newsletter with fellow Lick'm Stick'm members has been very rewarding as it gives me an additional opportunity to socialize with the other ladies in the group and to find out that we can still be useful. In addition, we were all taken out for a lovely lunch in recognition of our efforts. Hopefully, there will be other volunteer opportunities developed for the residents in the future both in the home and perhaps out in the community for those who are interested." - Evelyn Brand

These are perspectives from members of the dedicated, eager and loyal group of resident volunteers who make up the Lick'm Stick'm Gang. They meet regularly on a monthly basis. This fun group assists with the distribution of the monthly newsletter and they make it look effortless. New members to the group are always welcome to join in. We are very appreciative of the efforts of this group and really enjoy working with them.

Judy Vared
Manager of Admissions

The Passing of a Friend

Our beloved visiting Labrador retriever, Elijah, passed away on March 17, after losing a battle with a brief illness. He was just 7 years old. Elijah was truly a therapy dog and visited Reutlinger whenever activity staff leader, Lori Berkowitz was working. We had two employees for the price of one! Elijah's dedication to his work and sweet spirit was evident in his every move. One of our staff members described Elijah as "an angel in fur." I would like to share some of Lori's reflections:

"To witness his skills in the hospital and nursing settings was magical. He truly assisted in improving many residents' physical abilities as well as emotional well-being. He knew how to bring calmness when needed and a playfulness that truly brought joy to all he touched."

Residents and staff at Reutlinger miss Elijah and feel blessed that he crossed our path. We currently have visiting dogs from ARF, (Animal Rescue Foundation), visiting monthly. We welcome pets, with veterinary clearance, and gentle temperaments in our building.

Carol Goldman,
Director of Programs



SPECIAL HAPPENINGS IN AUGUST AT RCJL . . .

Traditions

- Sundays Bingo ~ 1:15
Tuesdays Exercise Program With Debra ~ 9:15
Wed. Bingo ~ 6:15
8/21 Music With Ed
8/25 Ice Cream Outing
8/26 Family Dinner - Please RSVP by
 August 19 to Karen or Joanna at
 964-2092

. . . and more

Sukkat Shalom

- Mondays Evening Activities With Candace
Wednesdays Beading With Ellen
Thursdays Mah Jong With Ellen ~ 1:30
 Evening Activities With Elizabeth
Fridays Clay Class With Angela ~ 1:45
8/29 Lunch Outing to IHOP

. . . and more

Assisted Living

- 8/1 Israeli, Ladino & Yiddish with Rivka
 and Joel
8/10 Violinist Gil Gleason
8/11 Ellis Island Klezmer Band
8/18 Guest Speaker: Congressman Jerry
 McNerney
8/20 Coney Island Barbeque
8/26 Tropical Polynesian Cultural Presentation
8/27 Bedford Gallery - Senior Morning & Out
 For Lunch.
8/30 Classical Pianist and Vocals With
 Chris and Jenny

. . . and more



Featuring:

“1948 to 2008

Israel at 60”

Thru Sept. 20, 2008

Israeli Artifacts

Photographs by Gerta Mathan

Baruch Spinoza

A Philosopher’s Life*

Prints by Isaac Lichtenstein

Discourse by Rabbi Joel Dobin

*Project supported by the Fromer

Jewish Education Incentive

Scholarship Fund of the Jewish

Community Foundation

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Private Tours Upon Request

(4 person minimum per tour)

To arrange a tour please call museum
& exhibit docent at 925-932-0396