

TO LIFE!

לְחַיִּים!
Le'châyim!

The Jewish Housing Council Foundation Newsletter | Fall 2017



Kretzmer Center at Aviva

Construction on the new **Kretzmer Center at Aviva** is coming along nicely. With its official groundbreaking on April 6, 2017, it is on schedule to be completed by December 29, 2017. The new Center, named in honor of philanthropist and lead donor Ernie Kretzmer, will be used not only for educational and entertainment events, but will also be open for use by the community, including local nonprofit organizations.

Jewish Housing Council Foundation and **Aviva — A Campus for Senior Life**, will be hosting the Kretzmer Center dedication and seated dinner for 180 invited guests on Monday, January 8, 2018. Scott Anderson, Vice President of Philanthropy for the Jewish Housing Council Foundation said “We are most excited to dedicate the Center and honor Ernie Kretzmer. We are so fortunate to have a great group of devoted donors.”

The Kretzmer Center will feature state-of-the-art audio-visual and hearing loop equipment. Our residents are looking forward to enjoying this new facility.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT: Jill Levine



Jewish Housing Council Foundation is pleased to welcome Jill Levine as the new in-coming President of the Board of Directors.

Levine states, “I am honored to serve as President of the Board of Directors for the Jewish Housing Council Foundation. My goals include concentrating on the development of a Long Range Strategic Plan for the Foundation; continuing the growth and support of our Legacy of Hope Society; expanding our Endowment Funds; continuing to improve crucial donor relationships; further development of our Donor Recognition Program; and last but not least, I hope to increase community networking while striving to better educate the community about Aviva and its important mission.”

Jill continues “I invite you all to accompany me on this new journey as we bring the Jewish Housing Council Foundation and Aviva to new heights.”



The 7th Annual **Keep The Dream Alive** event will occur on Monday, November 13, 2017 at 7:00pm. This year, the dessert extravaganza will be held on the **Aviva Campus**
1951 N. Honore Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34235

We will transform a parking lot into a beautifully tented event space. Chef Paul Mattison has designed some exquisite one-of-a-kind desserts for your enjoyment. Co-Chairs for this wonderful event are Michael Scott and Lori Solomon. Please buy your tickets now and plan to join us for this Sarasota tradition.

Eight over 80

The 6th Annual **Eight Over 80** Brunch celebration, is slated for Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 10:30am will be held at **The Westin Sarasota**
1175 N. Gulfstream Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236

We are pleased to announce this year's slate of well-deserved honorees:

David Bavar **Elaine Keating**
Carol Buchanan **Louis Levy**
Elsie & Martin (Marty) Cohn **Eva Slane**
Dottie & Bob Garner **Jean Weiller**

We are thrilled to be able to present this event in the newest Sarasota jewel ... The Westin Sarasota. The chef has promised us some amazing creations. Co-Chairs for this event are Gerri Aaron and Christine Jennings.

Nosh & Knowledge

Nosh & Knowledge is a new 2-Part Lecture Series which commences in the Fall of 2017. This series will be held at

Michael's On East
1212 S. East Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236

Don Burris - Monday, October 23, 2017, Luncheon at 11:30am - \$125 individual ticket

Carl Bernstein - Tuesday, January 23, 2018, Dinner at 6:30pm - \$175 individual ticket

Don Burris was the senior attorney who argued the "**Woman In Gold**" legal case before the U.S. Supreme Court. That argument was ultimately successful and the artwork was recovered for the rightful owner.

Carl Bernstein, while a young reporter for the Washington Post in 1972, teamed up with Bob Woodward and both did much of the original news reporting which helped uncover the Watergate scandal. This scandal eventually led, then President Richard Nixon, to his resignation from office.

Nosh & Knowledge may also be purchased as a series for \$275 for both lectures.

To purchase tickets or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities **for any of the events mentioned above**, please contact the Jewish Housing Council Foundation office at 941-203-6237 or email Johnette Cappadona, Director of Development at jcappadona@jewishhcf.org.

WANTED

VOLUNTEERS – It's not just about giving, but also receiving. Volunteering can be a wonderful way for people of a shared interest to meet, get to know each other, stay informed and connect on a social level. It's easier to contribute to the greater good when you feel a sense of belonging. **We need you!** Call Johnette Cappadona, Director of Development at 941-203-6237 or email jcappadona@jewishhcf.org.

SPONSORS – JHCF means the world to us and we are humbled by your unwavering support. Please help us further our mission by becoming a sponsor this year. Call Scott Anderson, VP of Philanthropy at 941-357-1609 or email sanderson@jewishhcf.org

JHCF Outgoing Board President, Merrill Wynne, is thanked for his many accomplishments

You may know **Merrill Wynne** as a founding partner of Habif, Arogeti & Wynne LLP (HA&W) or as the firm's first managing partner ... but the Jewish Housing Council Foundation knows Merrill Wynne as a tireless member of the Board of Directors and a strong advocate. Merrill came to JHCF in 2011, served on the Board as Secretary/Treasurer; as Vice President, and has just completed his third term as President of the Board.

Merrill was first approached to support the Jewish Housing Council Foundation by friends, Larry & Debbie Haspel. What impresses Merrill about JHCF and Aviva — A Campus for Senior Life, is the many "good things being done for Jewish seniors" says Wynne. "Aviva provides compassionate care, security and a wonderful environment." Merrill continues "Knowing our qualified residents will always have a place to live, even if they out live their financial resources, is very comforting."

The mission of the Jewish Housing Council Foundation states that "As a not-for-profit organization, with a reverence for life and a belief in its dignity, we create and sustain non-exclusionary communities where seniors can live life to its fullest, answering their needs for quality housing, financial peace of



mind, wellness, safety and spiritual fulfillment."

Merrill Wynne says that he is proud to help support and promote this unique mission.

A native of north Florida, Merrill has lived in Atlanta since 1957, going to Emory University and

working in the firm which he helped found. He and his wife of 54 years, Sheila, returned to Florida in 2006, and continue to commute between Atlanta and Sarasota. Merrill states that "my time is spent giving back to the communities in which I live; various boards of directors; and my loving family. I like to bring the family down to Longboat where we can go boating and take long walks."

Contemplating the future of JHCF, Merrill thinks ahead five years. "Even though we have made great strides in the past five years, I see us in a much better place in the next five years. We are thankful for our expanding Board of Directors, a generous donor community, and our professional leadership", says Merrill.

One thing you may not know about Merrill ... he loves Costco!

JHCF joins the Aviva Residents' Association in thanking Carolyn Kaplan for her service

Jewish Housing Council Foundation has the pleasure of interacting with the many residents at Aviva — A Campus for Senior Life. The actual proximity of our offices (within Kobernick Independent Living) allows our interfacing on a daily basis. One resident who stands out in the crowd is **Carolyn Kaplan**.

In 1989, Carolyn Kaplan received a telephone call from Mr. Jack Weintraub, asking her to help financially support a new initiative within the Sarasota-Manatee communities. As Carolyn recalls, "Mr. Weintraub said it was to be a retirement home for Jewish seniors. I remember thinking that this was a great idea and someday I might want to live there." Kaplan continues "After Kobernick House was a reality, I had many friends move in there. I was meeting them for lunch and dinner so often, the staff and I were on a first name basis. I knew that moving there myself was going to be in my future."

Carolyn has just completed her tenure as Chair of the Residents Association. As the leader of this residents' group, Carolyn worked very closely with Aviva's management.

Kaplan states "Genuine efforts are made by management and staff which conveys their willingness to do everything they can to make the residents feel important and respected. This is a very unique and warm relationship."



When asked what Carolyn likes to do in her free time, she says "I get the most joy from performing the Friday night religious services at Anchin Assisted Living. Nothing gives me more pleasure than the kindness and laughter of the residents. As long as G-d gives me the strength and health to be helpful, I will do as much as I can. It is so fulfilling"

"The best decision I ever made (in later life) was to move into Kobernick Independent Living. It is the very best place for me." And all of us at the Jewish Housing Council Foundation and Aviva are certainly the fortunate ones for having Carolyn Kaplan among us.

The Aviva community bids farewell to their beloved parting Rabbi



Rabbi Barbara Aiello was the first woman rabbi in Italy. She continues to serve Jews throughout Europe as a spokesperson for Pluralistic Judaism – a movement that deliberately blurs denominational lines and extends the hand of Jewish welcome to Jews of all backgrounds.

Jewish Housing Council Foundation and **Aviva — A Campus for Senior Life**, has had the great honor of calling her “our Rabbi”. On our campus, Rabbi Barbara has engaged with Jewish seniors, as they re-experience Jewish traditions, learn and study together and deal with the changes and challenges of growing older. Rabbi Barbara has been there for us through many ups and downs and her warmth and heart has given us all much joy and comfort.

It is a bitter-sweet **arrivederci** ... as Rabbi Barbara continues her work in Italy. We know we will always be in her thoughts and her heart. She has a permanent Jewish welcome in our home whenever she comes to Sarasota.

Alla prossima (until we meet again) ... and **Molto grazie** (thank you)!

Aviva welcomes Rabbi Anne Feibelman



We are excited to welcome **Rabbi Anne Feibelman** to our Aviva campus! Rabbi Anne comes to Aviva after many years as a chaplain in the Philadelphia area with a strong focus on senior living communities. In addition to her passion for creating spiritual opportunities, Rabbi Anne brings with her a love of film, French culture, and a passion for the Hebrew language.

“I am totally humbled and excited to be joining this amazing community. I’m looking forward to getting to know each person, one-by-one, as we walk together at this time of Rosh Hashanah. On my first visit at Aviva, I felt an instant bond with this deeply warm and vibrant community,” said Rabbi Anne.

Rabbi Anne joins the Aviva community in September and will serve residents in Kobernick Independent Living, Anchin Assisted Living and Memory Care, and Benderson Skilled Nursing. The community is overjoyed to be able to welcome Rabbi Anne to Aviva as we come together to celebrate Rosh Hashanah.