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Hurricane Delay Can't Dampen Spirits at Annual Gurwin Classic

Even a rescheduling due to the aftermath of Hurricane Irene in August couldn't dampen the success of our 23rd Annual *Leonard Ugelow Memorial* Gurwin Classic. Held this year on October 3, the weather cooperated and almost 200 golfers and tennis players joined us for a fun-filled day that helped to raise crucial funds for the Gurwin Jewish Healthcare Foundation.

"It is said that a charity tournament is successful if the players enjoy the day and significant funds are raised to support vital programs and services," said Larry Simon, Chairman of the Board of the Gurwin Jewish Healthcare Foundation. "The golf course was magnificent and the tennis tournament extraordinary, and we raised significant funds for Gurwin and those who depend on us every day. The event is a success!"



Congratulating Edward and Holli Gersh (second and third from left) are Gurwin Center Board Members Larry Simon (Chairman), Bert Brodsky (President), and Howard Phillips (Vice President).

Honored this year at the Gurwin Classic were Holli and Edward Gersh, of West Hills Day Camp. "Holli and Ed are respected business leaders, deeply involved in the Long Island community and have both a passion for, and commitment to, enhancing the lives of others through their charitable involvements," said Simon. "We are delighted to offer our thanks to them for their help in making this year's Gurwin Classic a success."

Ed Gersh is a noted educator, businessman, boxing champion, promoter and manager. A leader in the camping industry, he founded West Hills Day Camp in Huntington more than 55 years ago, and it is regarded as one of Long Island's premier camps. He is a graduate of the Steinhardt School of Education at New York University, and went on to serve as a teacher, administrator and board member of many schools and universities. In addition, Ed was a New York City Heavyweight Golden Gloves champion, enjoying a successful career as Eddie Erwin. He went on to train, manage and promote professional boxing, working with fighters at all levels. He has helped to shape the lives of countless individuals, and gives back to his community with time, resources and valuable counsel.

"What makes Ed's recognition at our Gurwin Classic even more notable is that twice in the past two years, he chose Gurwin for rehabilitation at a time when he needed help the most," said Simon. "Ever the fighter, just as he triumphed in the ring, he has returned to his active and zestful lifestyle."

Holli Gersh is Ed's partner in marriage, business and community involvement. An interior designer and artist, Holli studied art at Pratt Institute and other notable centers across the nation to hone her skills in the use of color and texture, and most recently in abstract painting, ceramics and sculpture. She is actively involved in numerous art schools, and has served as a board member of leading organizations.

"We are grateful to Holli and Ed for accepting the challenge of being honored in these uncertain financial times," said Herbert H. Friedman, Executive Vice President. "Together with the members of our Board of Directors, our Classic Committee and our generous donors, they ensured the success of our event."

