

# Talk Of The Town

The Monthly Activities Newsletter of the Fay J. Lindner Residences

April 2021

## Executive Staff

**Michael Letter**  
Administrator

**Patience Currie**  
Director of Clinical  
Services/Assistant  
Administrator

**Heather Samuelsen,**  
LPN Director of  
Resident Services

**Stefanie Osborne**  
Director of  
Resident Relations

**Dina McDougald**  
Case Manager

**Ava Pyatt**  
Director of Enriched  
Pathways

**Beth Regino**  
Community Relations  
Representative

**Debra Foster**  
Director of Dining Services

**Marissa Billings**  
Director of Recreation

**Jason Gusmerotti**  
Director of Housekeeping

**Edward Lucas**  
Director of Engineering

**Donna Nazzaro**  
Business Affairs Manager,  
Notary Public

**Grace Benson**  
Office Coordinator

## THIS APRIL ...

This month we say farewell to our Administrator, Michael Letter. Michael has been working for the Gurwin family for 6 years now. We are currently underway with a top secret project that we have asked many of you to be apart of already. Unfortunately we will not be able to have a large get-together like we normally would to send him off. If you would like to submit a goodbye poem/ story or say something, please reach out to Recreation and we will find a way to integrate your contribution to his Farewell or stop by the Synagogue on the designated day on the calendar to say your goodbye.

The coming of spring brings change in many ways. Michael leaving starts our change. But there are other changes to take note of, and no one says it better than resident Sue H. in her poem below. Thank you Sue for sharing your beautiful words!

*Sincerely, your friends at Gurwin*

### “SPRING”

The doorbell peals - ring-a-ding-ding,  
We open the door, who is there? Believe it or not - it's Spring!  
Open the door wider & what do you see?  
Little green leaves on each blooming tree!  
Our hearts swell with looks of pleasure,  
This is the season we all want & will treasure,  
Look a little more around & what else is in sight,  
Blooms of many colors opening from left to right,  
Whether it's tulips, daisies, roses or carnations,  
All of which are welcomed with super sensations,  
Our frowns & stiff cheeks will disappear from sight,  
Our faces break out in sheer delight,  
Squirrels with wagging tails are running up the barks of the trees,  
They are well aware that they are showering everyone with lots of  
leaves,  
It gives us such pleasure we laugh at all the antics we watch with  
delight,  
Everything we see is so colorful & bright,  
We thank Mother Nature for being so kind,  
We're sure she joins the feelings we have from her own mind,  
Lets be thankful we're entering our past way of living at last,  
Lets be grateful for the Spring & hope it will continue to give us a  
great season, And we'll thank all our friends & neighbors for giving us  
all for many, many reason.

**HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS!**

- 4/1: [Herman G.](#)
- 4/5: [Uma A.](#)
- 4/5: [Eva G.](#)
- 4/6: [Robert R.](#)
- 4/12: [Ruth W.](#)
- 4/12: [Matthew J.](#)
- 4/15: [Bess B.](#)
- 4/15: [Fortune R.](#)
- 4/17: [Eleanor P.](#)
- 4/21: [Naomi S.](#)
- 4/21: [Babette G.](#)
- 4/21: [Rose K.](#)
- 4/26: [Sylvia P.](#)
- 4/29: [Edward S.](#)
- 4/30: [Evelyn G.](#)



**LET'S GIVE A WARM WELCOME TO:**

**Dorothy**      **Brigitte**      **Isobel**  
**C Wing 1st**   **C Wing 3rd**   **B Wing 2nd**

All new residents are offered a building tour by a member of the resident council and/or a recreation team member after completing quarantine.

**VISITATION UPDATE!**

When allowed, **Lobby Visitation (in the lobby, conference room and med room)** is as follows:

7 days a week at 10:00am, 3:30pm & 4:15pm.

If and when we have to stop visitation, we resume **Window Visits through Beth's old office (weather permitting)**. They are offered at 10:00am, 3:30pm and 4:15pm during the week and at limited times on weekends.

**Video chats** are still available during the same time as visits and at 12:15pm on weekdays and for additional times on Saturday mornings. **We can accommodate 2 visits a month, whether it is in person, by video, or one of each. The type of visit is your choice.** All can be arranged by emailing [fayjvideochat@gurwin.org](mailto:fayjvideochat@gurwin.org).



**HOTLINE BINGO UPDATE:**

Hotline Bingo was added a 3rd time each week when possible due to your requests!

**CALENDAR NOTICE:**

Please check Osborne Channel 8 for updates. Channel 6 is Recreation's virtual broadcast network. Tune in and join in on the programming!



**LOCAL TRIPS:**

Due to the high numbers of Covid in our area, we have decided to suspend bus trips until further notice.

Please come to the front desk to get your daily



## GETTING TO KNOW OUR NEW RESIDENTS

Thank you to **Jean-Yves Piquet**, **Theo Pavlidis** and **Merilyn Simkins**; new residents who were willing to let us share their life story with the community. We had a celebration of Jean-Yves menus and pages of a magazine that he was featured in, along with cooking memorabilia on display in the lobby. Also displayed was Theo's work; copies of some of his books and awards that have been bestowed upon him across the years. Theo started lecturing for the residents here in March and will continue monthly because he has 27 lectures on Judaism to share. Keep a look out for his lectures on the calendar! For Women's Month, we honored Merilyn in the front lobby, and hosted a meet and greet so that passers-by could be introduced and she was able to talk about her work at Cold Spring Lab.

*Please read on below for biographies on each resident.*

**Theo Pavlidis** received a Ph.D in Electrical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley in 1964. He was on the faculty of Princeton University during 1964-80, a member of the technical staff at AT&T Bell Labs during 1980-86 and on the faculty of Stony Brook University as a Leading Professor during 1986-1996 and as a Distinguished Professor during 1996-2001. During 2001-2002 he was chief computer scientist of Symbol Technologies. He has authored more than 150 technical papers and 5 books. In 2000 he was awarded by IAPR the King-Sun Fu prize for "fundamental contributions to the theory and methodology of structural pattern recognition". He is the co-inventor of the two-dimensional bar code.



**Theo Pavlidis**



**Jean-Yves Piquet**

**Jean-Yves Piquet** has had a long and distinguished career in delighting gourmards with his extraordinary culinary expertise. In 1986, Chef Piquet found a home at The University Club. His career began in Nantes, France, his birthplace where he served a three year apprenticeship at Restaurant Decre. Chef Piquet came to the US after an esteemed career in France in 1967. He worked as chef-saucier at The Colony Hotel in Palm Beach. Arriving in NYC in 1969, he held positions as sous-chef at La Caravelle and le Cirque, and Executive Chef at The Brussels, and the four star Le Cygne.

Previously Chef Piquet served as President of The Vatel Club, Inc., The Board of Advisors of the French Culinary Institute and The Culinary of America, as well as Delegeue General of the Maitres Cuisiniers de France in the US. Chef Piquet ended his 47 year career in 2006, enjoying his time with his family; his wife Paulette, his children Eileen and Marc, and gran children Dorian, Alexandra, Mason, Lucas and Maddox.

We are proud to present **Merilyn Simkins** as this year's *Woman of Distinction*. She spent most of her career in Human Resources as a Manager specializing in immigration at Cold Spring Harbor Labs and at Cornell University. Regarding both jobs she stated, "I was there just at the right time". Regarding her field, "You need a passion for liking everyone. My mind was open to liking you from the start".

At Cold Spring Harbor Labs, one of her job responsibilities was to advise and direct scientists from other countries. "I would interview them. When hired, I would help the scientists find a place to live, help them buy a car, whatever was needed. I also sat on the board to discuss scientist's salaries. Because of my position, I developed many close relationships with the scientists over the years, including two Nobel Prize winner, Dr. Mc Closhe and Dr. Watson."

Her personal life consists of her husband Robert who she describes as a good father and support. She has two sons that she is very proud of and five grandchildren. Merilyn started a Garden Group for children at her local library and the arrangements would be donated to "Meals on Wheels" or a local Nursing home.



**Merilyn Simkins**

# PURIM SOCIAL

FEBRUARY 24TH, 25TH & 26TH

We dressed up like Queen Esther, noshed on hamentashen and used our groggers all week!  
We had a virtual Purim celebration with the HANC school on the 22nd and watched a virtual Megillah reading with Rabbi Rimler on the 25th and 26th. Entertainer Hagit Avnon played a show for us that had us all dancing in our rooms.



## GAME SHOW WEEK MARCH 2ND, 3RD & 4TH

We listened to your requests and added a week's worth of virtual games. We played Wheel of Fortune, Outburst!, Hotline Bingo, Crossword, Scrabblegrams, Trivia and Jeopardy. Our phones were ringing off the hook! Grand prizes were awarded to those residents who participated the most, as pictured below. All residents who participated were awarded a puzzle book, thanks to the generous donation by Lauren E. of the Sellinger Family. Thank you all for your participation and we can't wait until the 3rd week of April when we can play again! If you like a fun challenge and winning great prizes, tune into channel 6 during Game Show Week in April!



# IRISH WEEK

## 16TH, 17TH, 18TH & 19TH

We celebrated Irish heritage this week. We dressed in green and residents were given Irish Soda Bread and lattes in their rooms. On the 19th we had a virtual tour of Waterford, Ireland in the morning and in the afternoon were visited by an Irish bagpiper and drummer duo who walked the perimeter of the community and played a live Irish solute. The music commanded our attention from every wing of the building.

