



Jewish Eldercare Newsletter

Art for Healing arrives at the Centre

Thanks to the generosity of the **Art for Healing Foundation** and its donors, beautiful works of art, prints and reproductions are now on display at the Jewish Eldercare Centre. As one of the more recent beneficiaries of the Art for Healing Foundation, two magnificent art galleries have been installed in public areas of the Centre: on the second floor of the Hope Pavilion and on the third floor of the Kastner Pavilion.



The Art for Healing Foundation is dedicated to

bringing the healing power of art and art education to hospitals, hospices, shelters and other health care institutions. Founded by **Earl Pinchuk** and **Gary Blair**, who recognized the need for visual stimulation in the corridors and other areas of the institutions, the Art for Healing Foundation has installed more than 800 works of art – including original works of art and prints, as well as quality art reproductions – in nearly 20 Montreal area hospitals and Centres.



The Hope gallery displays large photo prints of

spectacular views of Israeli landscapes. The Kastner gallery exhibits original paintings by our own very talented artist/resident, **Heskel Sehayek**, age 90, who graciously donated 21 splendid works of art. A vernissage of Mr. Sehayek's paintings was held at the end of December.

The Art for Healing Foundation will serve as advisor for all future installations of new galleries in other areas of the Centre, many of which are now in the planning stages.



We extend our most sincere

thanks to the Art for Healing Foundation for helping us create these very important therapeutic enhancements at our Centre. The "visual therapy" aspect of the art is very beneficial for our residents, and the aesthetic improvements help us achieve our ongoing objective of creating a welcoming, friendly and comfortable "milieu de vie" or living environment.

Photos: Two of the works of art donated by Mr. Heskel Sehayek, and Mr. Sehayek (front row, centre) with his family at the December vernissage of his paintings.

Cecil Labow receives Distinguished Service Award



Cecil Labow (centre), president of the Jewish Hospital of Hope from 1970-1993, was honoured recently for his many years of dedicated service to the community. A special presentation was made during the Annual Meetings of the Jewish Eldercare Centre, the Corporation and the Jewish Hospital of Hope Eldercare Foundation. Shown with Mr. Labow are **Milan Bratin** (left), president of the Foundation and **Mark Potechin**, president, Jewish Eldercare Centre.

Painting improvements completed... new renovations now underway

■ Painting of the residents' rooms, as well as all public areas, was completed recently, and we thank everyone for their patience during this major undertaking. The project was completed over a 12 month period, and was finished on schedule.

■ A new proximity-card access system has been installed, allowing better access control to many areas of the pavilions. The security camera system has also been upgraded, and additional cameras have been installed.



New renovations and enhancements planned for this year include the following:

■ The dining room on the main floor of the Kastner Pavilion is being renovated. The addition of a living room area and an electrical fireplace will add warmth and comfort to this

area, allowing our residents and their families to relax before and after meals;

■ All bathing areas in the Kastner Pavilion will be modernized;

■ Much-needed major repairs to the outside façade of the Kastner Pavilion are being undertaken. Part of the work has already been completed, and the remaining repairs will continue after the winter.

New bursary program encourages staff development



The Jewish Eldercare Centre has received funding from the **Jewish Hospital of Hope Eldercare Foundation** to promote the continuing education of staff in areas related to their work.

Through our new **bursary program**, full-time and part-time employees are encouraged to upgrade their academic qualifications through degree, diploma and certification pro-

grams, or approved courses at recognized educational institutions.

The Jewish Eldercare Centre will provide financial assistance to reimburse a portion of the cost of tuition and related expenses to all eligible applicants. Courses must be related to the employee's current position or to plans for future career development at the Jewish Eldercare Centre. The curriculum also must demonstrate potential benefit for the residents, family members and staff of the Jewish Eldercare Centre.

The deadline for applications is March 1, 2008 for this year's Fall and/or Winter school year. An annual request for applications will be launched in September for each subsequent year.

For further information on the bursary program, please contact your head nurse, supervisor or **Rosa Gravino** at ext. 8128.

Staff identification cards are being improved, and must be worn at all times

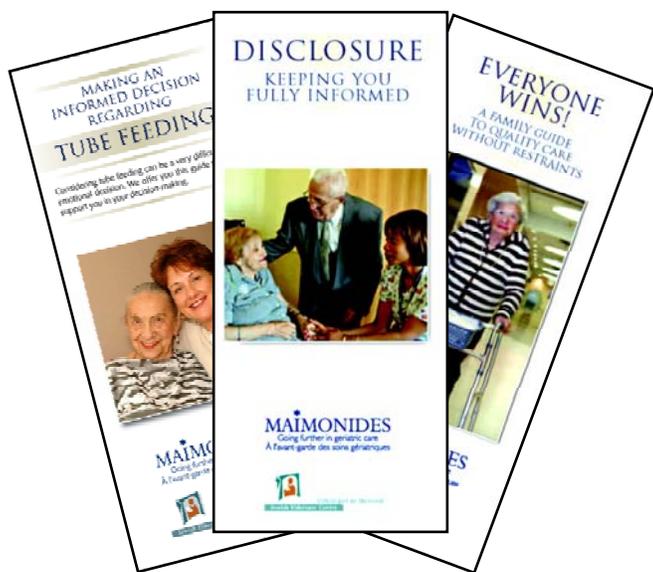
All staff identification cards are being changed, and must be worn at all times. The photo and name will appear on both sides of the card, so that it will be clearly visible in the event that the card flips over. And the name will be printed in larger letters.

The new "proximity card" identification cards will be required to obtain access to certain areas of the buildings, creating a safer environment for our residents.

Residents and families are encouraged to ask for a staff person's identification card, especially in cases where the person is not known, or when the person claims to be a staff person and is not wearing a clearly visible identification card.



New pamphlets available to residents and families



Three new and informative pamphlets are now available on three important topics. The pamphlets are available from your head nurse, and on our website at http://www.jewisheldercare.ca/Centre_6Resident.htm

► **Disclosure: keeping you fully informed.**

In a rare instance when an adverse event results in harm, the resident or legal representative has a right to know what happened, why it happened and how a

similar accident can be prevented from happening again. This process is called disclosure. The pamphlet describes in detail our disclosure policy and the action that will be taken following the adverse event.

► **Everyone wins! A family guide to quality care without restraints.**

Since 2002, every health care institution has been required to have a policy on the use of restraints, with the objective being to reduce – if not eliminate – the use of restraints within the provincial health care system. This pamphlet describes in detail the many reasons why restraints are not advisable in the vast majority of situations, as well as the factors involved in deciding on the use of restraints. The family's role in these decisions is also detailed.

► **Making an informed decision regarding tube feeding.**

The use of tube feeding may be considered when a resident cannot or will not eat enough by mouth to sustain life – however this can become a very difficult and emotional decision. This pamphlet describes the many factors involved when deciding to use, or to avoid, tube feeding, and the support you will receive from staff when considering the options available.

Risk Management Committee depends on incident reports

The **Risk Management Committee** is mandated to review accidents or other serious incidents which occur at the Centre, and to provide recommendations to the Board of Directors which will avoid the re-occurrence of the incident.

The Committee is comprised of a Board member, a family member and staff from the different disciplines, whose sole objective is the safety and well-being of our

residents, families, visitors, volunteers and staff members.

The Committee depends highly on the incident reports which are submitted following an accident or other serious event. Instead of looking for blame, the focus is on the causes of the accident or incident, and methods of avoiding the same situation in the future.

Safety is everyone's business.

New Eating Assistance Program available for volunteers, companions and family members

The **Volunteer Department** launched an exciting new pilot project last Fall. The **Eating Assistance Program** is a program for volunteers to develop skills to encourage residents to eat on their own through a unique method of coaching and cueing. In order to feed residents, volunteers must participate in the professional

training module. With the volunteers' help, the residents' autonomy and dignity are preserved and better nutrition is achieved.

Lisa Patterson, volunteer coordinator, has attracted more than 30 new volunteers to date and recruitment is ongoing.

Based on the success of this

program the training module will be available to **companions** and **family members** in February 2008. A letter with more information will soon be sent to residents and families.

For more information please contact: **Lisa Patterson, 514-738-4500 ext. 2330.**

Recreation

► Ongoing programs

Some of the many popular ongoing programs include:

- The **Tour du Monde** program, which features armchair travel information and supper related to a specific country.
- The **Breakfast Club**, a social event centered around the first meal of the day.
- The **Business Club**, a therapeutic program for a group of our residents who organize and sell everyday items such as toothpaste, Kleenex and other useful items. This activity helps build self-esteem and encourages decision-making. The money raised is dedicated to future programs in the Centre. Check the *Milieu de Vie Services* bulletin boards for the dates & times of upcoming sales.
- Ongoing weekly **music programs** on selected weekday evenings and Sunday afternoons.

► Students lend a helping hand

Seven high school student volunteers from **West Island College** are working with our recreation staff from January until June.

Two Special Care Counselling students from **Vanier College** have completed their "stage" (internship) in the Centre's recreation department during their Fall semester, and two new students recently began their Winter semester "stage" with us, for the period of January through May.

► Hairdressing gift certificates are changing

Our hairdressing service, **Les unités mobiles de coiffure de Montréal Inc.**, has announced a change to their policy on gift certificates. Effective Jan. 1, 2008, the hairdressing gift certificate provided for a resident's birthday will offer a **50% discount off a wash and set**.

A gift certificate for a free wash and set will still be provided to each new resident, and bingo prizes for a free wash and set will continue to be available.

Many thanks!

Milieu de Vie Services is greatly appreciative of the valued support which is offered by the community, all of which helps us provide the highest level of recreational programs for our residents. We extend our most heartfelt gratitude to everyone for their ongoing support.

■ The **Communauté Sépharade Unifiée du Québec (CSUQ)** continues to provide monthly specialised Sephardic programs, as well as Centre-wide activities,

including music programs, special Chanukah celebrations and a widely-attended summer celebration held in mid-July.

- The **Knights of Pythias** and **Maple Leaf Lodge** each continue to sponsor music concerts on a regular basis.
- The **Jewish Eldercare Centre Auxiliary** continues to sponsor, and organize in conjunction with *Milieu de Vie Services*, our ever-popular **C.L.A.S.S Program**. Higher functioning residents attend lectures and demonstrations on a variety of topics, presented by professionals in their respective fields. The monthly sessions culminate in a graduation ceremony in the Spring.

Chaplaincy

► Ongoing services and programs

☆ **Oneg Shabbat Program**

Conducted by Rabbi Ronen A. Abitbol

Friday, 2 pm Dalse Room (Kastner Pavilion)
and 3rd Floor Dining Room (Hope Pavilion)

☆ **Kabbalat Shabbat** with Haim Sherrf

Held every Friday, 4 pm Synagogue - Dalse Room

☆ **Shabbat Shachris** with Haim Sherrf

Sat., 10 am - 12 pm Synagogue - Dalse Room

☆ **Shabbat Mincha**

Includes discussion of the Torah portion of the week, **with new discussion leader Leonard Pleet**.

Sat., 2:30 - 3:30 pm Synagogue - Dalse Room

☆ **Mincha weekday afternoon services**

Conducted by Rabbi Michael Wolff

Tues. & Thurs., 1:45 pm Synagogue - Hope Pavilion (2nd floor)

☆ **Weekly Torah Study Group**

Conducted by Rabbi Michael Wolff

Tues., 11:00 am - 5th Floor Dining Room (Kastner Pavilion)

☆ **Monthly Healing Service**

Conducted by Peggy Pardo and Rabbi Michael Wolff

The last Thursday of each month at 10:30 am
4th Floor Dining Room (Kastner Pavilion)

☆ **Annual Memorial Service**

Wednesday, April 9, 2008, 2:30 pm

Synagogue - Hope Pavilion (2nd floor)

For information on chaplaincy services: **Rabbi Michael Wolff** or **Rabbi Ronen A. Abitbol**, 738-4500 ext. 2323.

Please refer to the monthly activity schedule for times and locations of these and other programs, and check the bulletin boards for last minute changes.

Volunteer recruitment is going strong

With the reorganization of the Volunteer Department two years ago, recruitment of volunteers has now reached an all-time high. Under the supervision of **Lisa Patterson**, the roster has grown to more than 300 volunteers, nearly six times the number available in 2005.

Volunteers of varied backgrounds and every age group are helping our staff provide the highest level of care to our residents. Many volunteers are being recruited from high schools, CEGEPS and universities, as well as from the community at large.

"We can always use new volunteers," said Lisa Patterson. "There are always new programs and services

that we'd like to offer, which need the help of volunteers."

To find out more about volunteering at the Jewish Eldercare Centre, please contact:

Lisa Patterson, 514-738-4500, ext. 2330.

Volunteers needed for Shabbat Services

Our residents very much like to attend Shabbat Services, and **you can help**, by bringing residents from their rooms to the Synagogue and back again, assist during services and perform other necessary tasks.

If you'd like to bring a smile to someone's face during Shabbat, please contact:

Lisa Patterson, 514-738-4500, ext. 2330.



A group of student volunteers from McGill University's Department of Music presented a concert for our residents in November



The Communauté Sépharade Unifiée du Québec sponsored a Chanukah luncheon and celebration for our residents in both pavilions



Non-Jewish residents from both pavilions enjoyed a Christmas luncheon

Auxiliary's Fall Gala raises \$108,000

The **Jewish Eldercare Centre Auxiliary** raised \$108,000 at its 2007 Fall Gala, attended by 275 supporters. **Howard Bergman, MD**, was honoured at the Oct. 21st event, held at Congregation Beth El. Dr. Bergman is the Dr. Joseph Kaufmann Professor of Geriatric Medicine, and Director of Geriatric Medicine at McGill University and the Jewish General Hospital.

This year's Gala was organized over a six-month period by a committee of 35 Auxiliary volunteers, under the chairmanship of **Linda Drapkin** and **Farla Ettinger**.

The Gala is the Auxiliary's largest fundraising event of the year. Proceeds are used to enhance the quality of care and quality of life of the Centre's residents, through the funding of essential equipment and programs.

Grateful appreciation is extended to all of the donors and volunteers who helped make the 2007 Fall Gala a great success.



From l to r: co-chair **Linda Drapkin**, honouree **Howard Bergman, MD**, retired Senator **Leo Kolber**, co-chair **Farla Ettinger**.

Foundation Board gearing up for an exciting year

The Board of Directors of the **Jewish Hospital of Hope Eldercare Foundation** is looking forward to 2008 as a year of fundraising planning and exciting new achievements for the Centre. The Board is comprised of seasoned fundraising volunteers and staff, and is currently considering various options for raising funds for the benefit of our residents.

For further information about the Foundation, or to make a donation, please contact **Susan Elias** at 514-738-4500, ext. 2125.



Front, l to r: **Aaron Stuehler**, treasurer; **Barbra Gold**, interim executive director, Jewish Eldercare Centre; **Milan Bratin**, Foundation president; **Gary Wechsler**, vice president. Rear, l to r: **Jamie Friedman**, vice president; **Arlene Adler**, **Barry Grossman**, **Jamie Burak**, **Susan Elias**, director of development, **Mitchell Halickman**, **Stanley Hyman**. Not Shown: **David Diner**, **Eric Levy**, **Alan Pinchuk**, **Bradley Steinmetz**, **Gerry Weinstein**, **Roz Wiener**.

Staff Holiday Party was a smashing success

More than 200 staff of the Jewish Eldercare Centre enjoyed a Holiday Party in December. Many thanks to the dietary services staff and the many staff volunteers who helped make this event a great success.

