The view outside the dining room window of the first snowfall of the season at Colonial Heights (Florence, KY) on November 17.
From The President

What We Leave Behind

I’m writing this a week before Thanksgiving, and Christmas is just around the corner. We sometimes call Christmas the birthday of the “Prince of Peace.” I thought about that name as we honor the more than one thousand “princes and princesses” of peace, veterans who live in RHF communities. They and others, many no longer with us, put their lives on the line so that the world might know peace. Unfortunately the challenge to preserve peace comes far too often but gratefully there are men and women who rise to the challenge.

In the Summer/Fall 2013 issue I wrote about Rev. Harvey Kandler who had a vision to build Round House Manor in Kaukauna, Wisconsin. Harvey often came to RHF Annual Meetings and he liked to say he knew me before he met me. Ralph Ley, who brought me onto the staff of Peace Memorial Church, Chicago, also served in Wisconsin and later left Peace Memorial to become the Wisconsin United Church of Christ Conference Minister and he told Harvey about me. Harvey passed away on January 7 this year, and this issue includes the story of how Immanuel UCC, the congregation Harvey served for many years, donated a bench to Round House Manor in his memory.

For the past month while driving I’ve been listening to a CD of inspirational country music. A song by Randy Travis called “Three Wooden Crosses” has a line that resonates with me. It is, “I guess it’s not what you take with you when you leave this world behind you; it’s what you leave behind you when you go.” Those who served and serve in every branch of the armed services help to leave a better world behind them. Harvey left a better world behind him for Immanuel UCC and the residents who have lived and are currently living and who will live at Round House Manor.

The Founders of RHF and all who currently serve and have served as local and national board members, team members, business partners, donors and residents who give back in many ways are leaving a legacy. Contrary to the bumper sticker, “he who dies with the most toys wins,” I would say those who make a positive difference in the lives of others now and in years to come are the real winners. What you do can never be taken away! It’s what we leave behind.

Thank you for supporting RHF’s mission. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year!
**Preserving Affordable Housing**

**West Valley Towers in Van Nuys, California**

Residents and guests came together to celebrate the completion of a major rehabilitation project at West Valley Towers, an 8-story community (97 units) built in 1983 and specifically designed for persons who are at least 62 years of age. Cutting the ribbon at the celebration were Angelo & Gemma Chon, the first residents to move into the community in 1983.

More than $5.8 million in improvements and upgrades were made to West Valley Towers. Many improvements were made with energy efficiency in mind.

Building upgrades included the installation of HVAC systems; reconstruction of public bathrooms to be ADA compliant; replacement of fire alarm devices; the installation of landscape lighting; and LED lighting.

Individual apartments received new plumbing and lighting fixtures; new kitchen cabinets and appliances. Windows and sliding glass doors were replaced. New paint and floor coverings were installed, and ADA accessible units were created. The community’s courtyard was upgraded to include a fountain, fireplace, lighting and BBQ for residents’ use.

Funding for the rehab construction of West Valley Towers was provided by the Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID); the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC) and the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC). R4 Capital purchased the tax credits for this community and Citi Community Capital provided the financing.

Continuous support from the Department of Housing and Urban Development through Section 8 funding ensures that this community remains affordable for southern California’s low-income seniors over the next 20 years.

**The Vistas in Van Nuys, California**

Carmen Santana was the first resident to move into RHF’s Vistas (84 units) more than 28 years ago and she celebrated the completion of the community’s rehab by cutting the ribbon on the $5.1 million project.

Joining her and Dr. Laverne Joseph, RHF’s President and CEO, was California Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian and a representative from U.S. Congressman Tony Cardenas’ office, Justin Orstein.

Continuing with RHF’s commitment to cutting its communities’ energy consumption by 20% over the next 10 years, many improvements to the Vistas were made with energy efficiency in mind.

Building upgrades included the installation of HVAC systems; reconstruction of public bathrooms to be ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant; the installation of landscape lighting and LED lighting. The courtyard was upgraded to include a fountain, fireplace, lighting, putting green, and BBQ for residents’ use.

Vistas funding was supplied by the same agencies and corporations that financed West Valley Towers’ rehab, and continuous support from the Department of Housing and Urban Development through Section 8 funding ensures that this community remains affordable for southern California’s low-income seniors over the next 20 years.
Honoring Our Veterans

Saluting Those That Served

More than 1,000 veterans live in the 175 RHF communities throughout the country. Throughout the month of November, we at RHF set out to recognize those residents on RHF’s Facebook page and thank them for their service to our country. We had so many great stories to tell, we ended up featuring a community (or two, or three) every day in November.

Here are just a few of many of RHF’s residents that have served their country in uniform. These people have served valiantly and are to be recognized for their service.

Ozzie Roberts - Los Arcos in Poway, CA

When he was 16, Ozzie Roberts officially joined the Merchant Marines because he would have been drafted to the Army if he waited until he was 17. The Merchant Marines worked for the Coast Guard, Marines, and the Navy. One time when Ozzie was quartermaster, his ship was stuck about three miles outside the harbor due to a hurricane. Because Ozzie had the best feel for the wheel, he could not risk the safety of the crew by leaving his post to someone else, so he never left his post for three days. “One mistake steering the ship and we would have ended up on a rock, tossing around, and it would have been hideous,” Ozzie says.

Walter Bradshaw - Auburn Ravine Terrace in Auburn, CA

Walter Bradshaw served in the Marines as a trigger man in the 1st Machine Gun Company while serving in Korea. He became a drummer for the 1st Marine Headquarter Band. That position is generally for one year, but his drumming job did not have a replacement available, so he got to keep making the music for another year. He now has a full time job taking good care of his beloved wife Ruth, and Red, his precious wiener dog.

Vickie Lynn Powell - Southdale Tower in Anderson, IN

Vickie Lynn Powell served in the U.S. Army from 1974 to 1975 during the Vietnam War. Ms. Powell was part of the Military Police and was stationed in Fort Hood, Texas. She assisted Vietnam evacuees until their sponsors obtained homes and jobs for them in the United States. Reflecting on her service, Ms. Powell states, “I was proud to be there.”

Alvelino Chavez - Angelus Plaza in Los Angeles, CA

Alvelino Chavez grew up in a military family and later attained the rank of Third Class Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy.

He engaged in fierce combat at Pearl Harbor, Iwo Jima, Okinawa and also served in Korea. Mr. Chavez suffered a permanent hearing impairment when a bomb exploded near his ship.
Honoring Our Veterans

Jim Sloan - Bishop’s Glen in Holly Hill, FL
Jim T. Sloan was trained in Boston, then sent to southern Ireland, and eventually ended up on Omaha Beach on D-day. From there he proceeded to Versailles, Belgium, and Austria before coming home. When he returned, Mr. Sloan was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force, and spent five years in the Air Force Reserve. He was recently honored by the French government as a Knight of Legion of Honor for his efforts in liberating France during WWII.

Norma Foltz - Park Place in Seattle, WA
Norma Foltz joined the Women’s Army Corps in 1954 and says it was “the best thing I ever did.” In 1955, after being trained to be a platoon sergeant, Ms. Foltz was transferred to Columbia, SC and worked as a dental hygienist at Ft. Jackson, where she met her future husband. They married in January of 1956 and she left the Army in March of that same year.

Michael Stevens - Stone Creek Village in Phoenix, AZ
Michael Stevens served in active duty for the Coast Guard for almost six years. Mr. Stevens served onboard the USCG Cutter Taney from 1980 to 1982 conducting search and rescue and law enforcement in the Caribbean and later Cadet Patrol to Spain, Amsterdam, and Denmark. His mission included many drug interdictions including seizure of the British-flagged M/V Party Doll carrying 10 tons of cocaine bound for Florida, the Cuban refugee crisis, and hurricane patrols. Mr. Stevens became fond of some very memorable sunrises and sunsets on the Atlantic Ocean.

Frank Pierce - Bishop’s Glen in Holly Hill, FL
Petty Officer 2nd Class Frank Pierce served in the Navy. On December 5th, 1944, when Mr. Pierce’s ship was at Leyte Island in the middle of the Pacific Campaign, a Japanese suicide (Kamikaze) bomber crash-dived and was heading toward Mr. Pierce’s ship. Mr. Pierce was the point gunner on an anti-aircraft battery and fired on the bomber, bringing him down. Mr. Pierce received credit for downing the Kamikaze.

Every veteran has his or her story, whether it was in the battlefield or assisting evacuees. These brave people served on land, sea, or air. Their collective services helped the U.S. push through multiple wars to make it the country it is today. RHF is proud to be a part of these people’s lives.

To check out more stories of the veterans living in our RHF communities, visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/RetirementHousingFoundation.
Community News

Trick or Treat?

Some people just go bonkers over Halloween, it is one of the times of year when everyone is allowed to be a kid again.

Residents (and staff!) throughout RHF communities got into the spirit of things and dressed up in some pretty creative costumes.

National Headquarters

RHF’s National staff in Long Beach makes Halloween an all-day event - broken up with looking like we are working in between activities.

All staff gather for a parade of costumes, voting on which they think is the best. The winner of the costume contest is announced at the Pizza Luncheon - this year it was Terressa Johnson in Accounts Payable, dressed as a gumball machine.

Housing Accounting staff brings in pumpkins they’ve decorated or carved and then everyone gathers in the conference area for a competitive activity.

In years past there has been a Pie Eating contest (but if you’ve ever been in a pie eating contest, you know that after you’ve done it once, you don’t have a lot of enthusiasm to do it again, so finding people to participate was getting difficult). This year a Pumpkin Toss had 25 staff participating with the winners getting a gift card to Trader Joe’s.

Even Dr. Joseph got into the spirit of the holiday!

RHF The Whittier - Los Angeles, CA

RHF’s newest family community celebrated Halloween in style.

Families participated by bringing various tasty treats to the celebration and local community businesses donated gift cards as prizes for best costumes.

And best of all . . . . there was plenty of candy to go around!

Independence Square - Evansville, IN

They love Halloween at Independence Square. This year they had a special guest band, The Southwestern Indiana Council on Aging Kitchen Band.

Music, songs, singing, piano solo, a harmonica and a little dancing followed by snacks and treats!

Fun for all.
Immanuel UCC donates bench honoring Rev. Kandler

Rev. Harvey Kandler touched a lot of lives during his 80 years on this earth and his influence and memory will live on. But the folks at United Church of Christ wanted a physical reminder of him at one of his favorite places on earth, Round House Manor in Kaukauna.

Kandler was one of the founders of Round House Manor, which provides affordable, dignified retirement options for people with a low income.

He enjoyed talking to the residents and attending the annual national conventions of the Retirement Housing Foundation in Long Beach, Calif. He received a 30-year watch from the organization in 2013.

“Harvey Kandler was truly a phenomenal person,” said Karen Darnick, who led a bench dedication ceremony on Oct. 23. The bench faces the hydroelectric power canal, a peaceful place to watch the water flow.

Darnick read the scripture verse Matthew 25:23: His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ How appropriate for a man who was a good and faithful servant from the beginning to the end.

He saw a need for a place for independent living for seniors and those 18 and older with disabilities, so he became part of a group of community members who founded Round House Manor and was a board member from its beginning in 1982 until his death in January.

Mike Paschen, a member of Immanuel UCC, presented the bench in memory of Kandler. Paschen was the first baby Kandler baptized at Immanuel and was influenced by him his entire life.

“He’s been my pastor for a lot of years,” he said. “His impact reached far beyond that church and in doing that, he kind of showed a lot of us the way from kids to adults.”

Paschen was impressed by Kandler’s leadership by example and being involved in the community to make the community.

Dan Perronne, manager of the manor, said the church had some money for a memorial for Kandler, who served for 31 years, and the bench was the result.

“It’s an opportunity for the church to show a little appreciation for what impact he had,” Paschen said. “It was an opportunity that we couldn’t pass up.”
Our Residents - Stay Active

Our residents are physically active within their communities and participate in programs and fundraising events that promote physical exercise in the communities they live in.

Senior Games
Bishop’s Glen - Holly Hill, FL

On October 29th Bishop’s Glen was honored to participate in the 31st Annual Ormond Beach Senior Games and served as the site for the Cornhole Bag Toss (Beanbag Toss) for the games.

The competition included a large number of participants from the community including a strong representation of Bishop’s Glen residents.

In the men’s division two of the Glen’s participants put on a strong showing and ended up doing themselves proud by winning medals. Ed Breece took the silver medal and Vern Hargan won the bronze in this exciting event.

Congratulations to all the guys and gals who made this event one to remember. This Cornhole game has become one of the most popular pastimes in our active community.

Speaking of Bean Bags
Gold Country - Placerville, CA

While the country was preoccupied with that little event known as the World Series, a competition of much more importance was being played out in Placerville, California - Beanbag Baseball.

It all started when two of Gold Country’s newer residents, Ralph & Elaine Fargo asked staff about Beanbag Baseball when they first moved in. They had played competition Beanbag Baseball at the community they had moved from in Carson City.

Ralph and staff discussed how to get the game started, the rules and how to build the board. One of our local Placerville residents, Roy Carter, who is a contractor, volunteered to make the board for the community.

And the games began! More than 26 enthusiastic residents played all spring and summer and had their final “World Series” game in October. Things ended rather differently - the Athletics won!

Chair Tai Chi
La Mirada Vistas - La Mirada, CA

La Mirada Vistas has started a Chair Tai Chi Class for residents and those from the local neighborhood. La Mirada’s Mayor Pete Dames, and his wife, Gerry, have even attended the classes! Attendance ranges from 5 to 10 participants in any one class.

Chair Chi is a gentle exercise program developed to help people receive the benefits of the traditional Tai Chi Chuan in the comfort and safety of their chair. This allows people who cannot stand, or lack confidence with their balance to participate and benefit. Those benefits include balance, flexibility, range of motion, strength, energy, pain relief, tranquility, stress reduction and peace of mind.

Marlene Olsen (far left) is pictured leading a small group of residents in a class.
Our Residents - Involved and Engaged

Our residents are engaged with the communities they live in throughout the country. Whether it is receiving services, volunteering or educating themselves on what is going on in their neighborhood, RHF residents are involved.

Friends and Neighbors Day
Amistad Plaza - Los Angeles, CA

Fifteen students from the University of Southern California’s Volunteer Center are providing one-on-one tutoring for children living at RHF’s Amistad Plaza. A program titled Brain Boost Tutoring Series has these college students working with children, ages 5 – 16, on topics ranging from reading comprehension and phonics to high school level math and sciences.

They also did brain boosting activities such as Sudoku, word searches, chess, checkers, dominos and tic tac toe. October 25th was the first day of our Brain Boost tutoring series. The series was started at Amistad Plaza to encourage the young people to be wonderful, confident thinkers and students and increase their chances to go to college.

There are plans for this program to continue throughout the year.

The nonprofit, Fun Zone Reading Zone for Homeless Kids, donated enough backpacks and supplies so each child that participated in tutoring was able to leave with a backpack full of supplies!

National Night Out
Gold Country - Placerville, CA

Gold Country Retirement Community combined their Annual Concert with the city of Placerville’s National Night Out in an effort to promote involvement in crime prevention, police-community partnerships, and neighborhood camaraderie.

Gold Country hosted more than 275 people, who were able to enjoy 14 area public safety organizations and civic groups who staffed informational booths. Children enjoyed numerous activities (including face painting and balloon animals), and there were free hot dogs for everyone.

The Black Tuesday Jazz Band kept the event lively for everyone attending.

Gold Country hosted the event in the Health Center parking lot and was able to use their new bus to bring the residents from Independent Living to the event. 40 Health Center residents attended the event, too.

This event was so well received that plans are already in the works for next year.
Milestones

Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday To You . . .

Marshall Neal – Bishop’s Glen (Holly Hill, FL)

Marshall Neal celebrated his 100th birthday on October 25, 2014. Mr. Neal was born in Tennessee. He graduated with a Master’s degree from the University of Tennessee. He never married. He worked as a Geologist and retired from the Caterpillar Tractor company.

William “Bill” Duff Easley - Colonial Heights (Florence, KY)

Bill was born in Gunnorsville, Alabama. He celebrated his 101st birthday on November 3rd. Bill is the oldest of ten children, 4 siblings are still living out west.

He worked at the Newport Steel Plant in Kentucky for 42 years with a two year stint in the Navy from 1943 - 1945, serving in the South Pacific. He was married to his wife, Mildred, for 51 years until her death in 1988. He moved to Colonial Heights in 2006 and enjoys spending time with his family.

Anna Rabidoux - Colonial Gardens (Florence, KY)

Anna was the second youngest of 8 children (4 girls, 4 boys). She was born in Winooski, Vermont, and turned 100 in October. She married Wilfred “Peter” Rabidoux who died in 1968. They had one son, Michael, who lives close to Colonial Gardens with his wife Debbie. Her two grandsons, Scott and Dan are the light of her life.

Anna was a caregiver to her mother who lived with her until her death at the age of 95. She was an avid gardener who gave away most of what she grew to neighbors or anyone in need. Her flowers surrounding her home were the envy of the city and she continued to tend them until the age of 89.

A devout Catholic, she spends most of her leisure time in contemplation or prayer. She enjoys the social interaction at Colonial Gardens, especially Bingo and the Exercise Facility and she is happy and thankful for the wonderful care she receives from the staff.

Kyung Ok Lee – MacArthur Park Towers (Los Angeles, CA)

Ms. Lee turned 103 years old in November. She is one of the original residents at the community, moving in in 1976. She likes to read and sew, making gifts for her family even now. Her family and friends describe her to be tidy and polite.

Clarence Walker – The Heartland (Peoria, IL)

Clarence was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi and is 102 years old. He lived in California for a number of years before moving to Peoria.

He taught himself how to play the piano and, after retiring, devoted his time to music, playing in local establishments in Peoria. Clarence played the piano in the Heartland’s community room for many years, entertaining the residents. Clarence is one of their most valued residents!
Milestones

Geraldine Bailey – Pioneer Towers (Sacramento, CA)

Geraldine enjoys baseball . . Go Giants!! . . she keeps track of all the team’s statistics. She enjoys going out for walks and spending time with her daughter. Geraldine will turn 108 in January and has lived at Pioneer Towers for 17 years.

Evelyn Tietsort - Auburn Ravine Terrace (Auburn, CA)

Evelyn was born on Halloween in 1914 at Two Harbors, MN on the shores of Lake Superior. She married Tim Lukonen June 19, 1936. They had two children, Mary Ann and John, and have 5 grandchildren. Evelyn and her husband owned a resort “Blue Bird Landing” on the shore of Lake Superior (1938-1959). Tim conducted ‘deep sea fishing excursions’ while Evelyn ran the lunch room which was known for her wonderful pies.

She later married Charles Tietsort. After retiring, she pursued a degree in Political Science and graduated in 1989 from Long Beach City College at the age of 75. She is an avid walker and can be seen most every day walking the grounds. She has been happy to have made wonderful friends at Auburn Ravine Terrace.

Dora Sather - Auburn Ravine Terrace (Auburn, CA)

Dora Jenson Sather was born December 13th, 1914 in the little town of Carpenter in North Dakota. She met the love of her life, Irvin Sather, when she was ice skating. Dora and Irvin were married June 10th 1945. In 1955, they adopted their daughter, Lori. Dora and Irvin loved to travel, which included many adventures in their motor home, numerous trips to Europe, and cruises.

Dora and Irvin moved to Auburn Ravine Terrace in 2010 and eventually transferred to our skilled nursing unit. Dora has three grandsons and seven great-grandchildren.

Mildred Burton - Auburn Ravine Terrace (Auburn, CA)

Mildred was born on August 22, 1914 in Berkeley CA. She graduated from Santa Monica High School.

Mildred met her husband Ed Burton through Ed’s sister who arranged their first date. They shared a love of dancing to Big Band music. Ed and Mildred were married in San Francisco’s Grace Cathedral on April 26, 1941. They continued to pursue their love of dancing. They had two children, Marilyn and Bob. Mildred was active in both Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts with her children.

Enid Barney - Auburn Ravine Terrace (Auburn, CA)

Enid Barney was born in nearby Lincoln on October 29, 1912. She was raised on a farm with 5 sisters and one brother. She loved farm life with horses to ride, helping with harvesting and cooking for the harvesting crews.

Enid spotted her future husband John Barney while she was out on a date with another boy. She in John were married in Reno, Nevada , they had two children. She has 2 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. She loves reading, knitting and crocheting . Her favorite hobby was working in her yard. She and her husband enjoyed hunting and fishing. After retiring, she still drove a school bus. She still is a voracious reader and at 102 years old doesn’t even need glasses to read!
Martha Eastep – Courtenay Springs Village (Merrit Island, FL)

Martha Eastep turned 100 this year. She has been around the world in 90 days and was a teacher. She plays bridge several times a week.

Pauline Acquarelli – The Gateway (Poway, CA)

As a young woman, Pauline Acquarelli and her friends went to see a fortune teller. The fortune teller told Pauline two things: she’d live a long, long, long time and that she’d marry a man from far away. Both of those predictions came true.

Pauline was born in 1914 in Pennsylvania, lost her mother when she was a teen and took on the responsibilities of caring for her siblings and running the house. After her family moved to Connecticut, a young man came from the West Coast to visit his cousins and the rest is history. Pauline married Harry Acquarelli, a college athlete from California and moved to Pasadena to join Harry’s large close-knit Italian family.

Who would have known that this Polish girl from Connecticut would make the best lasagna for all the family celebrations?

The fortune teller’s second prediction was that Pauline would live a long, long, long time. Pauline’s a gal who has definitely lived a full life. Ask her about bowling, the Angels, horseracing, the gas stations and her large extended family. She had three children, ten grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren with one more on the way. Harry and Pauline celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on a family cruise. This year, she’ll celebrate her 100th birthday in November with her family and the new friends she’s met at Gateway Gardens.

Elizabeth Schneider - Gold Country Health Center (Placerville, CA)

Elizabeth Schneider just celebrated her 103rd birthday. Living at Gold Country Health Center brings Elizabeth a sense of security. She has lived at GCHC for over 8 years and finds joy in her surroundings. She states, “The staff treats me well and I couldn’t ask for more.”

She feels very thankful to live close to her granddaughter and to have her friends visit often. She has a great quality of life. Every day she wakes up and reads her devotional and any Historical Novel that family, friends, staff and the Cameron Park Librarian bring to her. She states, “I am very aware of the beautiful environment and all that nature provides. I look out my window and see birds, cats, and squirrels.” Elizabeth could not say enough about the wonderful care she receives from everyone at Gold Country.

Asta Myers - Gold Country Health Center (Placerville, CA)

Asta was born in November of 1913 in Maloy, Norway, a fishing village, and that is where her love of animals stems from. Asta loves any type of animal that visits the facility. When the miniature pony comes to visit once a month, she lights up. She enjoys watching our facility cats, participating in crafts, exercise and musical events.

The craft she worked on in this picture shows us where her priorities are: church, family and animals!

Asta Myers
**Elsie Holmes - Auburn Ravine Terrace (Auburn, CA)**

Elsie was born on November 5th, 1911 in Maricopa, CA. She married John Edward Fuller and they had five children. She is an avid baseball fan of the San Francisco Giants.

A highlight of Elsie’s life was her church’s celebration of her 100th birthday. There was standing room only with guests and family coming from as far away as North Carolina and Oklahoma. A beautiful 7’ Japanese maple tree, grown from a seedling, was planted in her honor at the side of the main highway next to the church.

**Evelyn Sarquis - Gold Country Health Center (Placerville, CA)**

Evelyn has become a member of our Centenarian Club! She enjoys games, crafts projects, music, pamper time and is a huge fan of relaxing. She gets her Mountain Democrat paper every week and reads it first thing in the morning. She loves her family, friends and a good laugh.

**Vernelle Stevens - Pilgrim Tower East (Pasadena, CA)**

Vernelle Stevens was born September 22, 1911. Mrs. Stevens was born and raised in Arkansas. She has graduated from college and received her degree in LPN. After moving to sunny California in 1969, Mrs. Stevens began her 22-year career as an LPN at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena, CA. Then in 1988, she retired and moved to our community, Pilgrim Tower East. She has been living at PTE for 26 years.

**Yong Cha - St. Mary Tower (Long Beach, CA)**

Mr. Yong Cha was born in Korea on January 1, 1910 and has been a resident of St. Mary Tower since 1993. He lives independently. He enjoys attending Adult Day Care 5 days a week. There he socializes with other Koreans and exercises daily at the center. Mr. Cha was married to Bong Cha and had 3 sons and 1 daughter. Along with his children he also has grandchildren and great grandchildren... too many to keep track of at age 104. Mr. Cha will be celebrating his 105th birthday on January 1, 2015.

**Osceola Nathan - Symphony Plaza (Boston, MA)**

On November 10th, 2014 Osceola B. Nathan will celebrate her 100th birthday. Osceola has been a resident of Symphony Plaza East for 40 years. She watched the building being built and was the first resident to live in her unit.

Osceola attributes her longevity to eating healthy and staying active. At the age of 60 she took up line-dancing and starting teaching seniors. She just retired from dancing at 98 years old. Osceola’s line dancing group, ‘The Goldenaires,’ have danced all over Boston including performing at The City Hall.

Osceola is the oldest of 9 children and has 7 grandchildren of her own. Osceola’s hobbies include; reading, writing poems and writing letters to her family.
As the holidays approach, we are all reminded of what we have to be thankful for. Whether it is a loving family, good friends, a roof over our heads or food on our table - we all have something in our lives to be grateful for. Whatever your faith tradition might be, know that all 2,900 RHF team members wish you a wonderful holiday and Happy New Year!

1) Accounts Payable (Seated, L to R) Staisy Sok, Manuel Valdez, Brenda Chico, Chany Bunkhong. (Standing, L to R) Jacqui Chew, Rosa Lara, Cassandra Harvey, Phil Mosqueira, Terressa Johnson, Leo Corpuz, Lisa Sok, Mercy Clemens.


3) Budget, Reimbursement and Analysis and Payroll (Seated) Gloria Puentes and Diane Lespron (Standing, L to R) Robert Chick, Alfred Perez, Kent Steckbeck and Jennifer Staley. (Absent - Zinnia Marin)


5) Treasury Brian Magnone. Dolores Quijano and Cindy Medina. (Absent - Carrie Lerch)

7) Information Technology Services (Seated, L to R) Mario Medina, Steve Mezquita, Kyle Robertson and Bryan Wells. (Standing, L to R) Lori Phelps, Garrett Dalton, Michael Perna, Christopher Mullen, George Wong, and Adrianne Eng.

8) Financial Services (Front Row, L to R) Cynthia Lyons, Vina Dao, and Frank Rosello. (Standing, L to R) Mike Vukovich and Chris Purcell.

9) Administrative Services (Seated, L to R) Dr. Laverne Joseph and Conrad Dungca. (Standing, L to R) Maria Guerrero, Chris Ragon, Maggie Engelberg, Cheryl Howell and Jessica Rosales.


11) Occupancy (Standing, L to R) Erica Mejia, Adele Carrasco, Sherry Rector, Crystal Torres, and Joanne Silva. (Absent Barbara Blazer, Shane Dickerson and Justine Abendschan)

12) Healthcare Accounting (Standing, L to R) Elsie Tec, Peggy Ricano, Jackie Dizon-Ng, Michael Hinshaw and Tess Liwanag.

Annual Appeal

Holiday greetings from Retirement Housing Foundation!

While we have grown to serve more than 19,000 residents over the past 53 years, our mission remains the same - we provide affordable housing and services to people in need with a focus on enhancing their quality of life.

In the face of severely reduced federal funding, we have continued to grow because the number of those with housing needs steadily increases. Each member of our team takes pride in providing people with a home they can afford and a community they can enjoy.

RHF has accomplished a great deal since 1961, and 2014 was no exception. RHF’s 4,000 Project H.A.N.D.S. volunteers lovingly made more than 24,000 items that have been donated to children’s clinics, homeless shelters and shelters for the abused; more than $100,000 in rental assistance was provided through Resident Benevolence grants; and over the next few weeks, through “Toys for RHF Kids”, more than 1,000 toys and gifts will be delivered to our affordable family communities to ensure that every child enjoys the special holiday spirit of this time of year.

You can make a difference in the lives of our residents through your gifts to:

• **Affordable Housing** – Preserves and creates RHF affordable housing communities.
• **Resident Benevolence** – Offers assistance to residents who desperately need help.
• **Youth Education Scholarships** – Aids children and young adults living in RHF family communities with the expenses of books, supplies, tutoring services and college tuition.
• **Toys for RHF Kids** – Gives more than 1,000 holiday toys and gifts to children and young adults living in RHF family communities.
• **Project H.A.N.D.S.** – Provides crafting materials for our residents to create items to donate back to their local communities and non-profit organizations.

Please consider making a gift to RHF this holiday season. Simply use the enclosed envelope or donate online at www.rhf.org. You can also include Retirement Housing Foundation in your estate planning.

On behalf of the residents and communities we serve, I thank you for your generous spirit at this special time of year. If you have any questions or would like information regarding making a gift to RHF and its tax advantages, please call our Philanthropy office at 562-257-5321.

Sincerely,

Laverne R. Joseph
RHF President & CEO

P.S. Donations from individuals like you help us change lives.
As the need for affordable housing and services continues to grow, so does our RHF staff.

RHF Foundation, Inc., the fundraising arm of our organization, is pleased to announce the addition of two new staff members: Stephanie Milano, Director of Grants, and Rachel Gould, Philanthropy Associate.

They join Stephanie Titus, Vice President of Philanthropy, and Maggie Engelberg, Administrative Secretary/Travel Coordinator, in the national office as part of our philanthropy team.

**RHF Team Givers**

Our staff members perform important daily duties to make shelter and service a reality for the people we serve. Staff members who additionally choose to voluntarily support RHF through monetary donations are contributing to the fiscal health of our mission. We are extremely grateful for their optional financial commitment as well as the investment they already have made with their hearts, lives and careers.

Collen Adams  
Robert Amberg  
Shana Anders  
Jonas Angeles  
Anonymous  
Christina Bagley  
Karlin Barrlett  
Nada Battaglia  
Barbara Blazer  
Duncan Bradbury  
Natalie Brautigam  
Takoya Brown  
Jeannie Bryan  
Averianna Burnett  
John Chandler  
Jacqui Chew  
Byung Choi  
Patricia Clark  
Heather Cline  
Sean Coelyn  
Penelope Cook  
Carmen Covarubias  
Philamena Decker  
Chantal Denny  
Andres Diaz  
Conrad Dungca  
Maggie Engelberg  
Eddie Enriquez  
Nora Fannin  
Bob Fard  
Jeffrey Ferguson  
Marshal Fischer  
Celina Flores  
Gema Flores  
Diana Garcia  
Perry Glenn  
Rachel Gould  
Maria Guerrero  
Delores Harris  
Jennifer Hart  
Stuart Hartman  
Cassandra Harvey  
Emily Hidalgo  
Christopher Hill  
Evett Howard  
Cheryl Howell  
Sharron Hua  
Melissa Jackson  
Kerry Jennings  
Pamela Jennings  
Dr. Laverne R. Joseph  
Ken Kaser  
Lorri Kavich  
Teresa Kennedy  
Arnold Kim  
Deborah Kirksey  
Karen Kostrzobski  
Dina-Marie Kulzer  
Emma Laycock  
Riji Lee  
Marco Lemus  
Diane Lespron  
Cathy Ann Levario  
Lynn Lichtenstern  
Lisa Lopez  
Brian Magnone  
Mark Malloy  
Ericka Mejia  
Rosa Mendez  
Emma Miano  
Stephanie Milano  
Christopher Mullin  
Leah Nelson  
Jacqueline Dizon-Ng  
Barbara Olivas  
Doreatha Page  
Jannetta Page  
Dejuan Parker  
Peter Peabody  
Gloria Pedregon  
Michelle Pelham  
Denisha Pepper  
Brandon Perez  
Delores Peters  
Gloria Plaza  
Pamela Power  
LaRethia Prince  
Janus Quiambao  
Dolores Quijano  
Chris Ragon  
Rosemary Ramirez  
Sherry Rector  
Isabel Reyes  
Juanita Reyna  
Tina Robinson  
Cindy Rodriguez  
Maria Rodriguez  
Jessica Rosales  
Gloria Ruiz  

In green = Sterling Club members—donation via payroll deductions
The RHF Circle of Friends is our legacy society. There are many ways to qualify for membership, such as RHF gift annuities that provide lifetime income to the donor, life insurance, real estate gifts, charitable remainder trusts, and gifts from pension fund assets and/or simply including RHF in your Will or Trust. For more information in confidence and without obligation, contact our Charitable Giving Department, at (562) 257-5141.

We are grateful for our RHF Circle of Friends members:

Karolla Brice
Rev. Dr. Norma DeSaegher
Raymond E. East
Dr. and Mrs.* Charles Fain
Dolores Foga*
Toshiko Okazaki Fukuda*
Wanda Haudek*
Rev. Dr. Teruo and Kiko Kawata
Jean Moore Warrick*
Jean H.P. Oppenheimer
Edythe Patterson
Marian Rhame
Elisabeth A. Ruff*
Joan Sullivan
Elsie Valek
Anna Mae Wakefield*
William L. Warrick
Norman A. Whaley*
Lydia Cervany*
Jean G. Dremstedt
Bernice E. Elkin, M.D.
Robert Fliehmann*
Burton L. French
Alice R. Good*
Dr. Laverne R. Joseph
Eveleth "Evie" Miller*
Major FitzHugh L. O’Neill*
Virginia Paddocks*
Eric H. Pierson*
Barbara Gray Richley
Jane Shenbarger
Helga Tixel
Miriam P. Vandenbush*
Richard Walinch*
Eleanor J. West
Vera Wolpert*

(*indicates members who have passed away)

If you have named Retirement Housing Foundation as a beneficiary of a planned gift, please allow us to honor you as a member of the RHF Circle of Friends. If you have not yet done so, but would like more information about how to include RHF in your will or structure a life income gift to RHF or your RHF community that benefits you and your family, please call 562-257-5141.

RHF’s Annual Toy Drive

On November 19, 2014, the Philanthropy department hosted a luncheon at RHF’s national headquarters to kick-off the Holiday Toy Drive.

For a minimum donation of $5 (or an unwrapped gift) towards this year’s campaign, staff members enjoyed a pasta luncheon and learned more about the Toys for RHF Kids Fund, its impact, and plans for this year’s toy delivery.

More than 70% of RHF’s headquarters’ staff attended the event, raising more than $1,700 and donating 90 toys towards the $10,000 toy goal.
Weingart Foundation Generous Support

Retirement Housing Foundation is pleased to announce Weingart Foundation’s generous $150,000 grant for the renovation of RHF’s Angelus Plaza Senior Activity Center. Their support is deeply appreciated and will make a difference in the lives of thousands of seniors.

Angelus Plaza is RHF’s largest affordable senior community with 1,093 apartments in 4 high-rise towers. It is home to more than 1,350 adults with an average age of 79. Based on the community’s size and location, RHF included an adjacent senior center when building Angelus Plaza in 1980. Located in the Bunker Hill district, both serve one of the most ethnically diverse, low-income, and densely populated areas in Los Angeles, California.

RHF’s $3,000,000 capital project will expand the Center’s service capacity and ensure the best use of available space to meet the educational, recreational, nutritional, and health and medical service needs of its clients.

To date, $2,855,000 in funding has been committed towards this much-needed renovation, comprising 95% of the total project cost. A special thanks to all of the project’s funders, including the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Weingart Foundation, U.S. Bank, the Angelus Trust, and Angelus Plaza. Construction began in late fall and will continue through early spring 2015.

For information on how you can be a part of this capital renovation project, please contact Stephanie Titus at 562-257-5141.

In Memory of . . .

. . . Father Alexander H. Easley, Sr.  
Dr. & Mrs. Darryl M. Sexton

. . . Genevieve Dodson Meikle  
Dr. & Mrs. Darryl M. Sexton

. . . Elizabeth W. Moncrief  
Mr. William H. Moncrief

National Headquarters Donors

The following people made gifts to the RHF designated funds (see donor form) through our national office from 7/1/14 to 10/31/14:

Aging and Disabilities  
Charities of America  
Jean Angel

Aquarium of the Pacific  
Bay Shore Church  
Boathouse on the Bay  
Citi Community Capital  
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. East  
Sandra Farley  
Helen Heidenreich  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank G. Jahrling  
Dr. & Mrs. Laverne Joseph  
Laugh Factory  
William Moncrief

Mary O’Neill  
Partners For A Better World  
Barbara Gray Richley  
Rosie Robinson  
Rev. & Mrs. Harold S. Schultz, Jr.  
Dr. & Mrs. Darryl M. Sexton  
Paula Suchy  
The Wine Country  
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. John E. Trnka  
Union Bank of California Foundation  
U.S. Bank  
Evelyn Wallace  
Weingart Foundation

In Honor of . . .

. . . DeSaegher 20th  
Wedding Anniversary  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank G. Jahrling

. . . Past RHF Board Chairs  
Raymond E. East
Residents at Crescent Manor and Mesquite Gardens like to give back to the community through Project H.A.N.D.S.® (Helping Angels National Donated Support) Their latest effort is making tie blankets for children who have undergone surgery at Children’s Hospital.

“We were looking for a new project. Our residents love children, so we decided to reach out to Children’s Hospital to see what we could do to help,” said Debbie Brown, service coordinator for Crescent Manor / Mesquite Gardens. “They suggested we could make tie blankets.”

The blankets are made from fleece material and cost about $10 per blanket to make, depending on the cost of the fleece material. Brown said the residents began the project with $100 so they shopped for inexpensive fabric so they could make the most blankets possible.

“We ran out of materials, so we reached out to Mimosa Lane Baptist Church. The ladies there decided to help and brought us more fabric,” Brown said. “We are now up to 178 blankets.” Brown said the ladies can’t keep the fabric long before they run out.

“They really want to keep making the blankets; we just can’t get enough fabric,” Brown said. “This project has really brought our community together.”

Although the ladies making the blankets will never get to see firsthand the impact that their creations will have on those at Children’s, Brown said they are putting a lot of love into them. “They know some child will be riding around in a red wagon with the blanket, or some mother will wrap her child in one, and that’s good enough for them,” Brown said.