Paloma Terrace in Los Angeles, CA, an affordable family community under construction.
Picture taken by Douglas Olson
www.douglasolson.com
America is facing an affordable housing crisis.

A couple of decades ago, when I served on the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (now Leading Age) Housing Committee, I was credited with coining the term “aging tsunami” describing the tremendous rate of aging in our country. Now the term is “silver tsunami” which has a more musical ring to it, I guess.

Recent statistical projects from Leading Age indicate that the number of 65-74 year-old persons will climb from 21.7 million in 2010 to 32.8 million in 2020 and then to 38.6 million in 2031. Those 75-84 will reach 30.1 million by 2020 and those 85 and older will climb from 5.5 million to 14.1 million. Today, one in sixteen persons is over the age of 75; by 2040 it will be one in eight.

In the late 70s and early 80s the HUD 202 new construction program funded as many as 20,000 new apartments a year. That gradually diminished, but between 1990 and 2012 Congress funded the creation of approximately 2,800 communities serving over 120,000 seniors.

In 2012 HUD announced a one year hiatus in new 202 awards. That hiatus is still going on in 2016. When asked about it last year at the Leading Age annual meeting in Boston, a HUD staffer responded, “Where is the groundswell to restore the program?”

RHF now has under construction the last two awards that we received—Darson Marie Terrace in San Antonio and Sagetree Apartments in Houston, Texas.

To make matters worse, several years ago California eliminated the Community Redevelopment Agencies, (CRAs) which were required to use 20% of their tax increment receipts for affordable housing. That action took a billion dollars a year out of new affordable housing construction. Had that program never existed, there would be no Angelus Plaza today, with 1093 apartments making it the largest affordable housing community in the nation. (There are on average 8 vacancies a month and a waiting list of over 1,600 persons.)

(Continued on page 7)
Celebrating Our Mission

Celebrating 55 Years of Changing Lives

2016 marks RHF’s 55th Anniversary. Management staff from all of our communities throughout the country met in Long Beach for a week of meetings and educational sessions. Several United Church of Christ (UCC) Conference Ministers and representatives, along with UCC General Minister and President Rev. John C. Dorhauer joined some of those meetings, the worship service and the annual dinner to familiarize themselves with RHF, what we do, and the mission that we are committed to.

At our annual dinner, RHF also recognizes some outstanding organizations and individuals who make a difference in the lives of our residents throughout the year. Read about the honorees below and on the following pages.

2016 Friend of the Elderly Award
American Seniors Housing Association
David S. Schless, President & CEO

The mission of the American Seniors Housing Association (ASHA) is to be the industry thought-leader promoting quality and innovation, advancing research, exchanging strategic business information and influencing legislative and regulatory matters.

For nearly 25 years they have supported research and national initiatives that enable seniors to receive high quality services and age with dignity in the setting of their choice. ASHA is comprised of senior executives from the nation’s leading developers, operators, and financiers of purpose-built, professionally managed seniors housing.

David S. Schless has served as President/CEO of the ASHA since its creation in 1991.

With over 25 years of experience, David has been involved in virtually all of the industry’s major research projects during this time period. He has an intimate understanding of policy and regulatory issues, an in-depth knowledge of the seniors housing business, and has been quite involved in the development of ASHA’s new Consumer Education Initiative that was launched in early 2016, “Where You Live Matters.”

RHF is pleased to present David Schless and the American Seniors Housing Association with the 2016 Friend of the Elderly Award.

RHF’s 2016 Resident of the Year
Barbara Sebree - The Towers at Crooked Creek, Indianapolis, IN

Barbara Sebree has been a resident of The Towers at Crooked Creek for 19 years. She was the president of the Resident Council there for eight years, recently resigning her position.

During her time as president, she worked diligently to enhance the lives of the residents by initiating activities that encouraged residents to stay active. She organized several trips such as casino outings, nights at the theater, and dinners at local restaurants.

When she wasn’t encouraging residents to attend activities outside the community, she was organizing activities such as bingo, card games and community gatherings inside the community. She took on the job of having an annual fashion show at the community. Barbara reaches out to new residents to make them feel comfortable, at home and welcomed.

Barbara is an active member of her church, Mt. Paran Baptist Church, where she has held many volunteer positions. She has been a participant in the Indianapolis Black Expo and a member of the NAACP Council for Negro Women. She uses her affiliations with many civic organizations to help with events at The Towers at Crooked Creek.

RHF is pleased to present Barbara Sebree with the 2016 Resident of the Year Award.
RHF’s 2016 Service Coordinator of the Year
Christy Sadler - Pecan Place & Towne Creek Apts., Bonham & McKinney, TX

Christy Sadler began employment with RHF as a part time Service Coordinator at Pecan Place Apartments in Bonham, Texas in July of 2007. When she heard about the opening at Towne Creek Apartments in McKinney, she joined that team in September of 2008. She splits her week between both communities.

Over the course of the last year Christy has arranged for health fairs at each community, advocated for her residents when the city bus route was going to be eliminated at both locations and successfully got them reinstated. Knowing how lonely the holidays can be for some, she secured Easter baskets and Thanksgiving baskets for her residents. She arranged for local Girl Scouts to come in and interact with her residents.

Christy has performed a variety of services for her residents in a multitude of areas, including: advocacy, assessments, benefits/entitlements/insurance, conflict resolution, crisis intervention, education/employment, family support, general information and referral, health care/services, home management, homemaker, isolation intervention, lease education, monitoring services, outreach, resident councils, tax preparation, and transportation.

Both of Christy’s managers state that she is a continual resource for them and the residents. Christy exudes a calm, professional personality that residents and staff appreciate. She is available at both sites when a crisis erupts and she is just a phone call away for both property managers at all times.

RHF is pleased to present Christy Sadler with the first Social Service Coordinator of the Year Award.

RHF’s 2016 Manager of the Year
Richard Bates - Great Plains Housing, North Platte, NE

Rich has been the manager of Great Plains Housing since January 31, 2000. Great Plains Housing is a community for those with Chronic Mental Impairment in the western Nebraska town of North Platte.

Rich is the only employee at Great Plains Housing so he splits his time between being manager, maintenance, and taking care of the grounds. He consistently maintains 100% occupancy. The REAC scores at Great Plains Housing have been in the 90’s since Rich started working there and his most recent score was 99a.

He is very conscientious of his job and the residents.

“Rich goes above and beyond his job,” said Crystal Davis, a resident. “He is a great manager and I appreciate everything that he does for us.”

Rich is looked up to by the other managers in the North Central region, and they often consult with him on maintenance questions and office procedure. He helps train new managers in his region. One of the things Rich has done over the years is to learn how to do work that other properties have vendors come in and do. He has replaced the roofing on four of his cottage-like buildings, the siding on two garages, and remodeled an entire shower area after researching and learning what needed to be done in order to save his community the added cost of a vendor doing the work.

He is always looking for ways to save money. He was the first manager in his region to introduce LED lighting into his community.

RHF is pleased to present Richard Bates with the 2016 Manager of the Year Award.
RHF’s 2016 Chair’s Citation
Rev. Dr. Paul H. Sherry

The Rev. Dr. Paul H. Sherry, former President of the United Church of Christ, currently serves as President of Interfaith Worker Justice, a national faith based body committed to stand alongside of and to work in support of working people and families.

In addition to serving as President of the United Church of Christ, other positions previously held by Dr. Sherry include: Head of the National Council of Church’s Mobilization to Overcome Poverty, Consultant for the Center for Community Change, Executive Director of Chicago’s Community Renewal Society, Publisher of the Pilgrim Press, Executive Associate for Planning and Strategy of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, Executive Secretary of the Council for Higher Education of the United Church of Christ, and Editor of the Journal of Current Social Issues. In 2014 he served as the Transitional Operations Minister of the Riverside Church in New York City.

For a number of years Sherry hosted religion and public affairs talk shows on television and radio in New York City, Chicago, and Cleveland. He is the co-author of A JUST MINIMUM WAGE, Editor of THE RIVERSIDE PREACHERS, a contributor to several additional books, and author of numerous published articles.

Through the years he has led or participated in campaigns on behalf of people of color, the working poor, welfare mothers, the physically and mentally challenged, and gay, lesbian, and transgendered people. While serving as the President of the United Church of Christ, a primary theme of his presidency was that of Building a World fit for Children.

RHF recognizes Rev. Dr. Paul H. Sherry’s leadership within the United Church of Christ and is grateful for his support of Health and Human Service Ministries including RHF.

RHF’s 2016 President’s Award
The Deaconess Foundation - Deborah Vesy, President & CEO

The Deaconess Foundation is a private foundation committed to helping Cuyahoga County’s most disadvantaged residents prepare for, get and keep jobs.

Deborah Vesy is President & Chief Executive Officer of Deaconess Foundation. Deborah previously held the positions of Associate Director and Chief Financial Officer, and has been with the foundation since its inception following the sale of Deaconess Hospital in December 1994. Deborah started her career as a CPA in a major public accounting firm and then served as Vice President/General Manager of a $10 million for-profit business.

Deborah is a member of the Board of Philanthropy Ohio and College Now Greater Cleveland. She is also a member of the President’s Visiting Committee of Case Western Reserve University, the In Counsel with Women, and serves on the Advisory Board of the Foundation Center – Cleveland. Deborah previously served on the Boards of El Barrio, BVU: The Center for Nonprofit Excellence, and Cleveland Leadership Center. Deborah is a graduate of the Leadership Cleveland Class of 2006.

In 2009/2010, Deborah Co-Chaired the Human Services Restructuring Pilot Project, a collaborative effort of 18 local grantmakers to encourage, promote and foster significant strategic restructuring efforts among nonprofit human service organizations in Cuyahoga County.

In recognition of your generosity and commitment to affordable senior housing and services in the greater Cleveland community, RHF is presenting Deborah Vesy and The Deaconess Foundation with the Chair’s Citation.
Honoring Some Incredible Individuals

“A pessimist, they say, sees a glass of water as being half empty; an optimist sees the same glass as half full. But a giving person sees a glass of water and starts looking for someone who might be thirsty.”

- G. Thomas Gale

April has been designated as **National Volunteer Month**. RHF and our communities are blessed to have thousands of people believe in our mission and volunteer at our communities. These two individuals were honored at our annual dinner in February for their volunteer efforts in two of those communities.

**RHF’s 2016 Local Board Member of the Year**
L. Miles Snyder - Pioneer House, Sacramento, CA

L. Miles Snyder is the longest actively serving Board member to ever serve on a local RHF community board, serving on the board of Pioneer House in Sacramento, CA.

“I was there from the very early days,” he notes. “It is wonderful to see how RHF has grown, yet held onto its values of service to its residents and their larger communities.”

Sacramento was the site of RHF’s first church-related, non-profit, affordable senior housing projects in California. In the late 1960s, leaders of two historic congregations, Pioneer Congregational (UCC) and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, formed Cathedral Pioneer Church Homes. They partnered with government officials to leverage public funds to construct both Trinity House and Pioneer House. RHF (then a small operation) was soon brought in as management. Miles joined the local Board in 1972, as it successfully strove to build Pioneer Tower.

Miles’ strong commitment springs directly from his faith: “I have a heartfelt Christian commitment to serve the residents of these homes and their loved ones.” He is convinced that providing safe, caring and affordable housing for seniors and the disabled makes life better for all.

He warmly reflects on his work with many outstanding leaders, including Joe Murray, Rex Chapman, Merrill Whittier, Donald W. King and Dr. Laverne Joseph.

A Yale and U.C. Berkeley (Boalt Hall) graduate, Miles has maintained a one-man law practice in Sacramento for 55 years. He remains active at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and historical societies. He was Founding President of the Sacramento County Public Library Foundation.

RHF is pleased to present L. Miles Snyder with the 2016 Local Community Board Member of the Year Award.

**RHF’s 2016 Volunteer of the Year**
Samire Elhouty - Angelus Plaza, Los Angeles, CA

Samire Elhouty has consistently provided valuable pro bono legal consultation to low-income, at risk Angelus Plaza residents and community elders since he moved to the Los Angeles area two years ago, logging more than 1,000 hours.

Samire firmly believes that professional intervention can empower seniors to navigate a daunting bureaucracy.

“I know that almost immediately upon moving to Los Angeles, Samire began volunteering at Angelus Plaza,” said Rosemarie Lewis from the firm of Borton Petrini, LLP. “We have supported his work providing free estate and end of life planning consultations to numerous residents and related members of the community.”

Samire K. Elhouty is an attorney with the Los Angeles office of Borton Petrini, LLP. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and attended Cornell Law School where he received his J.D.

RHF is pleased to present Samire Elhouty with the 2016 Volunteer of the Year Award.
Could This Be RHF’s Last HUD 202?
Sagetree Terrace - Houston, Texas

On March 2, RHF held a groundbreaking for the final HUD 202 community (subsidized apartments for low-income, older adults) for which we have received a grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sagetree Terrace will be a sixty-four (64) unit building with one (1) manager’s unit. Sixty (60) of the units will be funded with a HUD 202 Capital Advance, with additional funding for the other four apartments from Tax Exempt Bonds and 4% Low Income Housing Tax Credits.

Individual apartments consist of a full kitchen, living/dining area, bedroom and full bath.

There will be a community room with a kitchen. Community space will also include an exercise room, computer room, library, arts and crafts room, trash rooms equipped with trash chutes on each floor, and a central laundry room. There will be a covered patio area with tables and chairs off the community room where residents can have BBQs and parties, and socialize with one another and their guests.

Financing for the development and construction of Sagetree Terrace has been provided by the Angelus Trust, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Harris County Housing Finance Corporation, Wells Fargo, and tax credits allocated by Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

The Need For Affordable Housing - The Need for Your Voice (cont.)

It is not just seniors facing an affordable housing crisis.

We continue to utilize the tax credit to construct new senior and family housing but with rents at 60 or 70% of the market rent, for many seniors who may receive only social security income, the rent is unaffordable.

While I believe everyone deserves a “living wage,” there are unintended consequences of the legislation which is being passed raising mandatory wages. There are already reports that, in cities like Los Angeles and Seattle, market rents are rising faster. So higher wages will not necessarily result in housing being more affordable. There is a high demand for both family and senior affordable housing.

What is the answer? RHF has several new properties under construction: Paloma Terrace in Los Angeles, 60 tax credit family apartments, which is shown on the cover, has already received 630 applications. Sonata at Riverpark (Oxnard, CA), 53 family units just started taking applications the week this newsletter went to print. The only advertising done for these two communities has been a banner at the construction site.

And some of you have heard the story of how RHF The Whittier, a 60 apartment community for families in Los Angeles, received over 1,600 applications without any advertising beyond a banner at the construction site.

I think the answer is for nonprofits like RHF to create and preserve as much affordable housing as possible and to respond to the HUD staff person’s question by producing a groundswell asking for the HUD 202 program to be funded again. Many nonprofits and even some members of Congress are beginning to show interest.

The groundswell of support has to include you. Your voice will be crucial in getting our elected officials to understand the importance of supporting affordable housing throughout the country. Expect to hear more from me on how you can be a part of that groundswell in the future.

We aren’t going to be able to do it without you.
Community News

Love Is In The Air . . . .

I’m always thinking about what might be of interest to our readers, and frequently those ideas come when I’m visiting our communities.

In the December 2015 Holiday issue of the RHF Today, after visiting Gold Country Retirement Center (GCRC) where I met and spoke with their head chef and learned his father had worked at GCRC, too, I wrote about second generation residents who move into our communities, and also second generations of relatives of current employees who work within our communities.

Recently, while I was at Bixby Knolls Towers (BKT) in Long Beach, and talked with former Long Beach Mayor Tom Clark and his wife Ruth Florea, who was the first Mrs. America®, and heard how they met and married, I began to wonder how many other times that has happened in an RHF community. Tom and Ruth met after they moved into BKT, fell in love, and were married.

On these two pages are a few of the stories that remind us that, for many of our residents, moving into an RHF community represents another chapter in their life where the possibilities are endless!

Tom Clark and Ruth Florea of Bixby Knolls Towers
Long Beach, California

Tom, the former Mayor of Long Beach, and Ruth, a former reigning Mrs. America®, met at Bixby Knolls Towers when they both became residents in 2014.

As fate would have it, the two were supposed to meet over 30 years ago when Ruth was invited by Tom to a Long Beach City Council meeting, but a conflict in her schedule made it so that she was not able to attend that meeting.

Tom says of his eventual meeting with Ruth, “It only took her 30 years to get here!” Ruth and Tom were married on October 3rd, 2015.

Darnell and Jerry Tvedt of Lakeview Manor
Storm Lake, Iowa

Darnell, a resident of Lakeview Manor, met Jerry when he moved into the community in early 2011. Darnell and Jerry began to date soon after meeting, and Jerry proposed to Darnell six months after that.

When it came time to propose, Jerry put the engagement ring in a purse while at a family get-together, but had a hard time getting Darnell to open the purse as planned. It took a few tries, but thankfully she finally did and Jerry was able to ask her to marry him.

As an homage to Darnell’s late parents, the couple chose to hold their wedding ceremony just a few days before the anniversary of her parents’ wedding. They have lived very happily as husband and wife since that day in September of 2012.
Edgar and June, both residents of Courtenay Springs Village, met after the death of their spouses. The two attended a community-hosted grief support group where they would talk and cry and support each other through their difficult times.

Edgar began to stop by June’s dining table every evening meal to visit with her. Edgar says that he knew almost from the moment that he met June that he wanted to spend the rest of his life with her. June, however, never expected to marry again and was a bit hesitant about Edgar’s advances, which included the gift of a beautiful eternity bracelet. June accepted the gift with the condition that it was with “no strings attached.”

When June went on a cruise with her family, Edgar faithfully called her every morning and every night, which is what convinced June that she wanted Edgar to be in her life for the rest of her life. June and Edgar married on August 2nd of 2015.

Frank and Cheryl Marcrum, husband and wife and current residents of Longfellow Plaza, knew each other through a mutual friend and had started dating before they both moved into the community in 2014. They both mention that their friendship blossomed over rival games of pool at the local pool tables.

Frank and Cheryl were married on June 3, 2015 by another Longfellow Plaza resident, Reverend Jack Downs, in front of the beautiful fireplace located in the community’s commons area. Incredibly happy as residents of Longfellow Plaza and married nearly a year now, the couple is already making plans for their first anniversary celebration.

Arly moved to Sun City Gardens in spring of 2013 at the encouragement of his children after the death of his wife of 60 years. Norma, after a hearty recommendation of the community from a friend, moved to Sun City Gardens in November of 2014.

Norma states that she made friends soon after moving in and that Arly was one of the first. It didn’t take long for the two to know that they loved each other and wanted to be married.

Arly and Norma are now husband and wife and recently traveled to the Philippines, Norma’s home country, so that Arly could meet his new family.
Community News

Making Beautiful Music
Broadwood Terrace - Los Angeles, California

The generous people of Just Lovin’ Music Studios, Inc. have gifted the residents of Broadwood Terrace with a six week pilot music program with the hope that they can find the funding to continue this program at the community and expand it to other local communities for older adults.

Thanks to an additional donation from Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Broadwood Terrace was able to purchase recorders, which is the instrument with which the students started their classes.

This fun, educational and entertaining class is currently meeting for one hour twice a week, and really seems to be a hit among the residents.

Never Stop Learning
Mesquite Gardens and Crescent Manor - Mesquite, Texas

Nine studious residents from Mesquite Gardens and ten from Crescent Manor recently completed the six-week Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) presented by the Dallas Area Agency on Aging. All participants got a certificate recognizing their graduation from the course.

An evidence-based program developed by Stanford University, this course covers managing pain and fatigue, developing healthy eating habits, finding fun ways to be active, and tips for better conversation with health care providers. The curriculum is designed to help participants build problem solving skills and set realistic, achievable goals to maintain control of their health. Research has shown that participants often report less pain, more energy, and fewer hospitalizations after completing this course.

Bishop’s Glen Visits Tallahassee
Bishop’s Glen - Holly Hill, Florida

Six members of the Bishop’s Glen community, including several staff members, visited Florida’s capital at the beginning of this year to meet with representatives and staff of the Florida House of Representatives, staff of the Florida Health Care Association (FHCA), and other local and civic leaders.

During their time in Tallahassee, the travelers from Bishop’s Glen handed out informational packets about the community, obtained updates on current bills and positions of representatives in the community’s area, and issued verbal invitations to the celebration of RHF’s 55th anniversary being held at Bishop’s Glen.

Accommodations were generously provided by the FHCA, and the Florida Health Care Activity Coordinators Association District XIV covered the cost of fuel to make the trip.
The New RHF Web Site has Launched!

We are incredibly happy to announce that Retirement Housing Foundation’s brand new web site launched in early April.

Some of the new and exciting features of this site include content viewing adaptability with mobile devices of all shapes and sizes, expanded content for some communities, enhanced search engine optimization capabilities, increased ways to search for an RHF community within the website, and updated pictures of a significant number of communities.

Come and visit the site and find out what is new at RHF!

Visit Our YouTube Channel

Follow Retirement Housing Foundation’s YouTube channel for a chance to get to know some of our residents and hear their stories. The two well-received videos that were shown at our annual dinner are available to watch there and we already have plans to add plenty more exciting content. Stay tuned!

Like Us on Facebook

Do you want to hear what is happening at the RHF national office and within our communities? Go to these community Facebook pages to keep in touch with the latest that is going on at RHF:

Angelus Plaza
Bishop’s Glen Retirement Community
Cloisters of Deland (The Cloisters)
Courtenay Springs Village
Fairfield Manor
Gold Country Retirement and Healthcare
Lindsay Place
Park Place Assisted Living
Retirement Housing Foundation
Sun City Gardens
The Gateway

Auburn Ravine Terrace
Bixby Knolls Towers
Colonial Heights and Gardens
DeSmet Retirement
Gaslight Apartments
LaFontaine Center Apartments
Mayflower Gardens Retirement Community
Plymouth Square
St. Catherine Retirement Community
The Carolinian
Westminster Village

Get Your Copy of In the Kitchen with RHF Before They’re Gone!

In the Kitchen with RHF, a collection of time-tested recipes from RHF communities all over the country, is now available to order. This book contains over 80 recipes ranging from tempting appetizers to scrumptious main dishes to delectable desserts that have all been submitted by residents of RHF communities. While sampling these tried-and-true recipes, the reader can also learn a little about each resident and the RHF community that they call “home.”

This book is offered for $10 for residents of RHF communities and $15 for non-residents. You can order your very own copy by visiting the RHF website (www.rhf.org) and visiting the Spotlight section.

Residents can also speak to the Executive Director or Manager of their community to order their copy.
Angelus Plaza - Los Angeles, California

Soledad Alfaro turned 101 in February of this year. She worked for the U. S. Consulate in 1944 and four years later she and her 15 year-old daughter emigrated to the U. S.

These days she is active in the Latin American Club and enjoys getting together with her daughter, eight grandsons, 17 great-grandchildren and 9 great-great grandchildren.

Bishop’s Glen - Holly Hill, Florida

Harriet Norris turned 102 in April. Born in Michigan, Harriet and her husband traveled throughout the US and Canada in an RV. She was a registered nurse and spent 20 years as a hospice volunteer. She has 3 children and loves to play bridge and read. She is a friendly person who always has a smile and is willing to share her generous spirit with both residents and staff.

The Concord - Pasadena, California

Isabel Valasquez turned 101 in February and has lived at The Concord since 2008. She is a regular at all resident activity events. Isabel can always be found in the community room enjoying conversation with other residents or, her favorite pastime, sunbathing in the community back patio. When asked what she likes most about living at The Concord she replied, “My neighbors, I like that I can knock on their door if I need help with something.”

Gold Country Healthcare Center - Placerville, California

Freda Sanor turned 102 in February. She has lived at Gold Country Healthcare Center (GCHC) for a little over two years. She is an active person, but knows how to enjoy her naps. She loves the outdoors and takes a stroll outside daily. While her family doesn’t live locally, her son calls her and she waits patiently for that call to complete her day. Their devotion to each other puts a smile on everyone’s face. Freda is a delight and a welcomed addition to the Gold Country community.

Gwen McGinley turned 102 in April and has lived at GCHC for almost a year. Gwen is legally blind but that doesn’t stop her from doing the things she loves. Her day begins with a walk and visit to our courtyard. She loves the facility cats, bus outings, and arts & crafts. Her family visits her often and that is her favorite thing. She has many friends and you can usually find her in the activity room or outside enjoying the sun.
Courtenay Springs Village - Merritt Island, Florida

Bertha Martin celebrated her 102nd Birthday in March. She was born in Albany New York and almost immediately, the family moved to the Bronx.

Bertha married Frank and raised two children. One of her sons works as an aerospace engineer at Cape Canaveral. Bertha enjoys making beautiful little silk ribbon crosses and knitting.

Colonial Heights & Gardens - Florence, Kentucky

Florence Lanter, turned 100 in February. Florence was born in Bracht, Kentucky. She was married to Carl Lanter for 66 years and they have one daughter.

Florence enjoyed her career as a banker and in earlier days liked to refinish furniture. She says we might be surprised to know that she and Carl owned and operated a restaurant for 15 years.

Fran Buxton, will turn 101 in April. Fran was born in Winchester, Indiana. She was married to Edmund Buxton for 49 years. They had two children and two grandchildren.

Fran enjoyed her career as a bookkeeper. She said we might be surprised to know she was born in the jail house. Her grandfather was the sheriff and her father was the deputy sheriff and her family lived in the jail building!

Mayflower Gardens - Lancaster, California

Maurine Ter Borch turned 100 in February. She had a wonderful childhood in Champagne, Illinois and is one of six children.

She and a close friend moved to California in 1942 and she became “Rosie the Riveter,” working on building planes 60 hours per week. She said that the stories about that time could take a week to tell!

Married in 1945 to a WWII Pilot, Maurine and her husband traveled the world on “space available” $10 tickets for many years before he passed in 1974.

Moving to Mayflower in 2001, Maurine says that she “couldn’t imagine a better place to live.” She keeps busy with walks, reading, sewing and going out with friends. She attends most of the special events at Mayflower Gardens with a positive attitude and a smile that lights up the room.
Thank You 2016 Major Donors

We are grateful to the following business partners that contributed a major gift to the RHF mission. They were recognized during our 55th Annual Meeting in February 2016.

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We support RHF because of their mission to provide housing to the elderly, low-income families, and persons with disabilities. “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” Galatians 6:2

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RHF Foundation Approved As a Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Member

In the summer of 2015, RHF Foundation was again notified that our CFC application was approved. This makes it easier for federal employees to make a donation to us via payroll deduction and/or check. We received assistance from Aging and Disabilities Charities of America (ADCA), a non-profit organization and a federation that reviews applications and distributes donated funds. There are currently more than 30 federations within the CFC, most of them, like ADCA, organized around a specific theme. Approximately 1,900 national organizations and 40,000 local organizations qualify for the CFC annually.

In Memory of . . .

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Lana Caban

…Rex Chapman
Rev. Dr. Robert A.
& Mrs. Christina E. Potter

…Mary Ellen Kilsby
Rev. Dr. Norma & Col. John
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Paula Suchy

…Elfriede Morris
Katherine Kiehn

…William Rader
Rev. Dr. Norma & Col. John
DeSaegher (USA Retired)

…William Suchy
Paula Suchy

… Norma J. Tabaka
John Tabaka

In Honor of . . .

…Robert Brown
Lois Brown

…Dr. Dennis Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond E. East

…Dr. Laverne R. Joseph
Mary Kammrath

…Lillian Smith
Shirley Schroeder

…Employees of Towers of Crooked Creek
Mikki Randolph

In Memory of . . .

…Robert Caban
Lana Caban

…Antonio Moreno-Dillon
Paula Suchy

…Elfriede Morris
Katherine Kiehn

…William Rader
Rev. Dr. Norma & Col. John
DeSaegher (USA Retired)

…Karen Rudd Davis
Donna Rudd

…Norma J. Tabaka
John Tabaka

In Honor of . . .

…Augustine & Daniel Ambriz
Josephine M. Ambriz

…Robert Brown
Lois Brown

…Dr. Dennis Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond E. East

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…Employees of Towers of Crooked Creek
Mikki Randolph

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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.

We are grateful for our RHF Circle of Friends members:

- Karolla Brice
- Rev. Dr. Norma DeSaegher & Col. John DeSaegher (USA Ret.)
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- Elsie Valek
- Anna Mae Wakefield*
- William L. Warrick
- Norman A. Whaley*

(* 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 would like more information about how to include RHF or an RHF community in your will, or structure a life income gift that benefits you and your family, please call 562-257-5141.
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.

The following staff members personally contributed to our mission since our last newsletter:

Carlos Adame
Breanna Adams
Colleen Adams
Mario Alaniz
Celia Alvarado
Andrea Alvarez
Robert Amberg
Anonymous Donors
Shana Anders-Hastings
Jonas Angeles
Jennifer Applegate
Jose Arroyo
Gus Azero
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Nick Whittle
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Wilma G. Wilson
Diane Wink
LaRethia Woods
Jill Yamuta
Judith Yost
Randall Yost
Sharon Young
Patricia Zappone
Rebecca Zaricor
Teresita Zurbano

In Blue = Sterling Club members made donation via payroll deductions
A long-time business associate and friend of RHF, Jay Schochet passed away quietly on March 24th after a lengthy illness.

Jay was a very important part of the RHF family. When Angelus Plaza was first syndicated in 1984, the Schochet Company accomplished the syndication for RHF, and that created the Angelus Trust Fund which has been very helpful in expanding the RHF mission. This was one of the first syndications by a nonprofit.

At the completion of the compliance period when the Schochet Company exited Angelus Plaza, we asked Jay to look for properties in New England in exchange for exit compensation. He put us in touch with Walter Winchester. Walter and his two partners had a number of properties in the Boston area and wanted to put their affairs in order. Jay and Dr. Joseph met with Walter in Boston and he agreed to the sale of Symphony East and West. Walter had told Jay he didn't think that a nonprofit could accomplish this acquisition, but when it was completed he told Jay that he now believed and they would transfer their other properties to RHF. This resulted in the significant presence we now have in New England. Walter passed away several years ago.

In 2012, Jay Schochet, Rick Henken, and Schochet Associates received the RHF Friend of the Elderly award. Schochet Companies, Rick Henken President and CEO, also provide a significant amount of affordable housing in the New England area.

We extend our sympathy to Jay’s wife Suzie and their family. Jay’s legacy will live on for a very long time.