The Virginia countryside.

Photo by Ray East, RHF National Board Member
The Virginia countryside.
From The President

Welcome to the Family

Some of you may have heard the story of how five years ago I decided that, as a Christmas present, I was going to take my family on a summer trip. I reasoned that things wear out, get lost or broken, but memories stay with you. So I arranged for a trip for 13 of us to visit Maui and Honolulu.

On the way home my son David asked his daughter Taylor, then 4 years old, what was her favorite part of the trip. I would have guessed she might have said the Sugar Train ride in Maui or the ocean and beaches or all the large plastic slides and toys in the hotel swimming pools. Instead she thought for a while and then said, “Family.” We’ve enjoyed a trip together every summer since.

I was reminded of that experience when I was at Gold Country in Placerville, CA to speak at a Clergy Appreciation Breakfast on October 7. Gold Country will be 30 years old in 2016, the same year that RHF celebrates our 55th Anniversary. I was aware that sometimes we had relatives living in RHF communities, but that day I learned that we had a second generation resident whose mother had been a resident and now the daughter was, too. I also learned that the father of our Head Chef, who provided a wonderful breakfast, had worked in our maintenance department. So I asked our Communications Director Chris Ragon to ask our community Executive Directors and Managers to send us information about residents and team members who currently have or have had family members living or working in an RHF community. Several of their stories are in this RHF Today.

I think it also says something about an organization that the late Rev. Clark Harshfield, one of our Founders and my predecessor, chose to live in Bixby Knolls Towers (an RHF community) and now another Founder, Rev. Reinhold Klein will be moving into Bixby before the end of the year.

We often refer to RHF as a family. Families care about one another and, as a nonprofit provider, we care about our residents and our team members who work to make the mission a reality. Is everyone always happy? Of course not, but the fact that residents and team members choose to follow each other to the RHF mission I think says something about RHF louder than words.

I wish you the very best in this holiday season and, as residents and team members, I hope you sense that you are an important part of the RHF family! I look forward to seeing many of you as we hold 55th Anniversary celebrations where you live and work!

Happy Holidays and may 2016 be a wonderful year for you!

Dr. Laverne R. Joseph
Especially as we begin to celebrate 55 years of changing lives, we feel that it’s a true testament of the worth of the work RHF does when a family member of an RHF resident or staff member chooses to become a member of the RHF family themselves. This “All in the Family” section of the Holiday RHF Today (continued on pages eight and nine) features stories about just a few of the families who have had two or more members who were at one time residents or staff of RHF communities all around the country.

Phyllis Jean Beals and Darbi Beals of La Fontaine Center

Phyllis had been living in another community in Huntington, Indiana when she heard about La Fontaine Center. She had been longing to live in a more friendly environment with a Social Service Coordinator on staff, so she applied for an apartment and was accepted. Phyllis’ daughter, Darbi, visited her mom at La Fontaine Center after she had been living at the community for a while. Darbi saw how content and happy her mom was living at the community and soon decided to apply for her own apartment. Phyllis and Darbi now both live at La Fontaine Center and consider it an incredible blessing to be able to live so close to each other. When asked about her home, Darbi stated, “It’s a true comfort to live in such a safe environment where there are activities and other people around to do things with.”

Cathy Lentz and Vito Joseph Sarcinella of Auburn Ravine Terrace

Cathy Lentz currently works in the ALU Activities Department at Auburn Ravine Terrace. Her father, Vito Joseph Sarcinella, was a resident of Auburn Ravine Terrace’s Assisted Living Unit for less than a year, but, during that time, Vito and Cathy became acquainted with many wonderful caregivers and other staff members at the community. In fact, Auburn Ravine Terrace made such an impression on Cathy, she started working for the community not long after that. Cathy finds great joy in working with the residents of Auburn Ravine Terrace. When asked about her position, Cathy said, “This is not a job, but a gift.”

Betty Joyce Little and Ronda Mangham of Crescent Manor

Betty Joyce Little, a resident of Crescent Manor since September of 2006, initially moved into the community because it was close to family and it fit her financial situation. Betty was pleased to find that Crescent Manor was not only the practical choice, it was also a loving community that gave her great joy. Ronda Mangham, wanting to live closer to her mom Betty, moved to the community in 2014. Ronda greatly appreciates the fact that she feels safe in her home and loves being a part of a community at Crescent Manor.

May Key, Billie May Key and Carol Bartlett of Redding Pilgrim House

Billie May Key and Carol Bartlett, affectionately known as “The Sisters” to their fellow residents, moved to Redding Pilgrim House in November 2014. Their mother, May Key, was a resident of the community from 1990 to 1994. Though the sisters grew up close to the Redding Pilgrim House, Billie May lived in Brazil for 43 years where she worked as a missionary, and Carol spent much of her life in Alaska where she married and raised her family. The sisters both decided to return to Shasta County and retire at Redding Pilgrim House where their mother had lived quite happily. They are both considered an asset to their community because of their caring hearts and willingness to serve others in any way possible.

Continued on Pages 8 and 9
RHF Keeps Growing

Groundbreakings and Dedications

Darson Marie Terrace in San Antonio, Texas

Henry Cisneros, Executive Chairman of City View and former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and other state and local officials helped break ground on Darson Marie Terrace, San Antonio’s newest affordable senior apartment community, at a groundbreaking ceremony on Wednesday, August 19th.

Darson Marie Terrace will be a HUD 202 and Tax Credit community for older adults with 56 one-bedroom units and a two-bedroom manager’s unit.

All units will feature a full kitchen and living room and a bathroom with built-in safety features. The shared areas of this community will include a lobby with a comfortable seating area, a community room with a kitchen, an exercise room, a computer room, a library, an arts and crafts room, and a central laundry room.

Darson Marie Terrace will be RHF’s 14th community in Texas and its third in San Antonio.

Barringer Gardens in Charlotte, North Carolina

On September 23, Barringer Gardens, an affordable apartment community for low and fixed income seniors, celebrated its opening with a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony attended by local officials, civic leaders and community residents. Barringer Gardens’ first two residents had the honor of participating in the ribbon cutting.

Barringer Gardens is a three-story, HUD 202 apartment community specifically designed for older adults who are at least 62 years of age. There are 47 one-bedroom units and a two-bedroom manager’s unit. Each unit has one bedroom, a bathroom, a living/dining area, and a kitchen with a pass-through counter, refrigerator, range, and vent. Barringer Gardens features a community room with a party kitchen to be used by the residents for a variety of social, educational, and recreational activities.

This community was funded by a $7.2 million capital grant for construction from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
RHF Keeps Growing

Three New Communities in Ohio

RHF has just recently acquired three new communities in and around Cleveland, Ohio from Deaconess Foundation. All three are affordable communities for older adults and disabled individuals over the age of 18.

When the Deaconess Hospital, a ministry of the United Church of Christ, was sold to the Cleveland Clinic, they created the Deaconess Foundation. The hospital had previously built and operated three affordable housing communities, and the Foundation leadership wanted them to remain affordable with another nonprofit owner/manager related to the United Church of Christ. They selected RHF, and we are very grateful to continue this great mission.

**Deaconess-Perry Center**, located in the Cleveland suburb of North Royalton, features 63 one-bedroom units and an attached senior center. The center, operated by the City of North Royalton Office on Aging and Human Services, gives residents the opportunity to participate in a variety of free or low-cost recreational activities.

**Deaconess-Krafft Center** is located in Cleveland’s historic Old Brooklyn neighborhood near the MetroHealth Old Brooklyn Campus and Senior Health and Wellness Center. This community also has an attached senior center and a multitude of public areas for visiting with family and fellow residents.

Directly across the street from Deaconess-Krafft Center is **Deaconess-Zane Center**, a community with 64 one-bedroom units and five efficiency units. This community features management offices onsite which it shares with its nearby sister community.

Celebrating 55 years of Changing Lives

Following on the heels of Mayflower Garden’s 55th anniversary celebration for RHF held this last summer, The Gateway and Gateway Gardens, The Carolinian, Barringer Gardens, and Bixby Knolls Towers held anniversary celebrations of their own in August, September and October of this year.

Barringer Gardens actually celebrated both RHF’s 55th Anniversary and its own opening with a dual celebration (see previous page).

The events, attended by community residents, local officials and civic leaders, and RHF staff, featured award ceremonies to acknowledge resident milestones, presentations of proclamations to recognize RHF’s anniversary, and wonderful meals and live entertainment.

Each of the remaining RHF communities will follow with anniversary celebrations of their own over the next couple of years.
Community News

A Street Named Jane

Jane Sarles, a resident of Westminster Village Kentuckiana, was honored by the Clarksville Town Council in early November with a ceremony and presentation of a street sign that reads “Jane Sarles Ln.” That’s right! The town of Clarksville has named a street after Jane to honor her contributions to the preservation of the town’s history. Jane has written four books about Clarksville and has served as president of the Clarksville Historical Society and chair of the Clarksville Historic Preservation Commission.

Jane has only lived at Westminster Village Kentuckiana for a short period of time, but knew a long time ago that she would be a resident when it came time for her to downsize. Jane loves being involved in activities and socializing with others at the community. She leads a historical session once a month at the community that is referred to as “Reminiscing with Jane.” She was also instrumental in getting Mexican Train Dominoes game added to the activities schedule. There are several residents now playing, and new residents joining each month. Jane has a table set up to teach new players while others play at a different table.

Two Communities Recognized for Their Beautiful Donated Blankets

Desert Sage Manor

In September of this year, Bonnie Engle and her fellow members of the Project H.A.N.D.S.® group from Desert Sage Manor in Hermiston, Oregon were recognized in two local newspapers for their contributions to the Hermiston Police Department’s Christmas Express program. Over the past few years, these Desert Sage residents, with Bonnie leading the way, have donated hundreds of blankets to the program. The Christmas Express program gathers and donates items like toys and food to families who are in need during the holiday season.

Bonnie, a resident of Desert Sage Manor since shortly after it opened in 1999, is widely known as being an extraordinarily generous resident. Manager Darleen Nelson tells us that Bonnie helps with the annual yard sale and even makes breakfast for her fellow residents every Monday morning.

Pecan Place

The members of the Project H.A.N.D.S.® group from Pecan Place Apartments in Bonham, Texas were featured in the Lifestyles section of the North Texas e-News in September of this year. This group of generous volunteers spent hours making hand-tied fleece blankets that were donated to the Fannin County Family Crisis Center, which provides support for individuals and families who have been victims of physical or emotional abuse.
Honoring Our Veterans

More than 1,000 of this nation’s veterans live in RHF communities throughout the country. On Veterans Day and throughout the month of November, these communities have held special services, ceremonies and parties to celebrate and honor those who have served.

Service photos and printed stories lined the tables at celebrations at St. Catherine Retirement Community and The Gateway, while The Cloisters had a Veterans Wall of Honor showcasing pictures of their veterans and a flag ceremony courtesy of the DeLand High School Air Force JROTC. Auburn Ravine Terrace had a whole bus load of their veterans ride in the annual Auburn Veterans Day Parade, which they followed with a party back at the community.

Featured here are just a few of the celebrations that took place within RHF communities. You can visit the RHF page or one of the many community pages on Facebook to see more photos and read about some of the other celebrations.

Follow Us On YouTube
Visit Retirement Housing Foundation’s YouTube channel for a chance to get to know some of our residents and hear their stories.

Like Us On Facebook
Do you want to hear what is happening in RHF communities? Go to these community Facebook pages to keep in touch with the latest that is going on at RHF:

- Retirement Housing Foundation
- Auburn Ravine Terrace
- Bixby Knolls Towers
- Colonial Heights and Gardens
- DeSmet Retirement
- Gold Country Retirement and Healthcare
- Mayflower Gardens Retirement Community
- Plymouth Square
- Sun City Gardens
- The Gateway

- Angelus Plaza
- Bishop’s Glen Retirement Community
- Cloisters of Deland (The Cloisters)
- Courtenay Springs Village
- Gaslight Apartments
- LaFontaine Center Apartments
- Park Place Assisted Living
- St. Catherine Retirement Community
- The Carolinian
- Westminster Village
Betty Wood of Crescent Manor and Delores Wood of Mesquite Gardens

Betty Wood moved into Crescent Manor in January of 1991. Betty had heard about Crescent Manor while it was still being built and applied for an apartment site unseen. Delores Wood, Betty’s Daughter, moved into Mesquite Gardens, the adjoining community, in October 1998.

Betty was loved by all in the community and quickly became involved in community activities and projects. Delores has carried on her mother’s legacy and is quite active within the Mesquite Gardens community where she still resides to this day.

Maria Alvarez and Josefina Cruz of Fajardo Housing for the Elderly

Maria Alvarez, a six-year resident of Fajardo Housing for the Elderly, has wonderful memories of the time that her mother, Josefina Cruz, spent as a resident of the community. Maria states that she loved visiting her mother at the community and could tell how content her mother was with her home. Maria is sure that her decision to move to the community was a great one and says that it is just as beautiful and peaceful as ever.

Dale Moore and Casey Moore of Gold Country Retirement Community

Chef Casey Moore, a member of the Gold Country Retirement Community staff for nearly a year now, is the son of the community’s former Maintenance Technician, Dale Moore. Dale proudly served as a Gold Country staff member for just under 20 years.

Casey says that one of the best parts of his job is touring the dining room after a meal is served and receiving comments, suggestions and stories from residents. He truly loves hearing what they have to say and considers it a job well done if his food helps the residents have an even better day.

Efrain Perez and Juanita Camacho of Fajardo Housing for the Elderly

Efrain Perez, a resident of Fajardo Housing for the Elderly for a little over a year now, chose to live at the community because his mother, Juanita Camacho, was a resident for eight years and had such a positive experience as a resident at the hospitable community.

Efrain, whose sister Hilda was also a resident at one time, states that Fajardo Housing is a pleasant, warm and welcoming place with very kind and friendly residents and staff.
Maria Ramirez and Angel Ramirez of Mission Palms

Maria Ramirez was a resident of Mission Palms from 1998 to 2004. Maria is remembered as a resident who was very friendly with all her fellow residents. She greatly enjoyed playing Bingo every afternoon and made a point to visit the nearby senior center quite often during the week. Maria’s son, Angel, was overjoyed to see how happy his mother was living at Mission Palms and, in February of 2013, moved into his own apartment at the community where he has been living quite happily ever since.

Rose Cabrera and Luz Torrez of Fajardo Housing for the Elderly

Rose Cabrera was a resident at Fajardo Housing for the Elderly for 18 years. Her daughter, Luz Torres, remembers helping to take care of her mother during her time at the community and always noticed how pleasant, warm and peaceful the community was. When Luz became of age, she knew that a move to Fajardo Housing would be the right step for her just like it had been for her mother. In fact, Luz lives in the same apartment that her mother lived so happily in and has resided at Fajardo for 31 years now.

Rick Cleland and Myrna Cleland of Virginia Park

Myrna Cleland moved into Virginia Park in February 1995 after visiting a friend who lived there. Myrna felt that the community would be a great fit for her and, upon moving in, immediately felt at home.

Myrna’s son, Rick, moved into his own apartment at Virginia Park just a year after his mother. Rick grew up in the neighborhood and wanted to continue living near his mother. Both Rick and Myrna very happily call Virginia Park “home” to this day.

Brittany DiLorenzo and Maxine Reed of Auburn Ravine Terrace

Brittany DiLorenzo currently works at Auburn Ravine Terrace as a Med Tech in the Assisted Living Unit. She was thrilled to start work at the community in 2014 due to that fact that her beloved grandmother or “Mimi”, Maxine Reed, had been a very happy resident in 2004. Brittany states that Auburn Ravine Terrace gave Maxine everything she needed and was just a perfect fit for her from the beginning.

Brittany often passes by her grandmother’s former room and smiles at the thought of all the lives her grandmother touched. Brittany now finds herself in a wonderful sort of role reversal in that she now gets to pass the joy and comfort that her grandmother instilled in her to all of those she cares for at Auburn Ravine Terrace. Brittany stated, “It is now my role as a care provider to share with the other Grandmothers and Grandfathers who look to me and our wonderful staff for hope, care and rest.”

These stories feature just some of the many family members that we have living in RHF communities or as members of the RHF staff.
Milestones

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

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 101 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.

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.

Pauline Acquarelli – Gateway Gardens (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 was history. Pauline married Harry Acquarelli, a college athlete from California and moved to Pasadena to join Harry’s large close-knit Italian family. Harry and Pauline celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on a family cruise. At last count, she had three children, ten grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. This year, she celebrated her 101st birthday in November with her family and friends she’s met at Gateway Gardens.

Doris Millen – Gateway Gardens (Poway, CA)

Doris was born in September, 1915 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She has seven children. She moved to California in 1987 and has lived at Gateway Gardens since 2013.

Clarence Walker – The Heartland (Peoria, IL)

Clarence was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi and is 103 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.

Osceola Nathan - Symphony Plaza (Boston, MA)

In November Osceola B. Nathan celebrated her 101st birthday. Osceola has been a resident of Symphony Plaza East for 41 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 started teaching seniors. Osceola’s line dancing group, ‘The Goldenaires,’ have danced all over Boston including performing at The City Hall. Osceola is the eldest of 9 children and has 7 grandchildren of her own. Osceola’s hobbies include; reading, writing poems and writing letters to her family.

Martha Eastep - Courtenay Springs Village (Merritt Island, FL)

Martha turned 101 in September. Martha plays bridge three times a week, along with various other games. She is very active at Courtenay Springs and attends most of the activities at the community.
Liz Griffin - Gold Country (Placerville, CA)
Liz retired in the Placerville area with her husband of more than 30 years. Today she enjoys spending time with her “bestie” her daughter, Susan, with whom she is very close and the two of them can be seen jetting around town shopping, getting their nails done or having a lovely lunch at GC together. She has lived at GCRC for 10 happy years. She recently flew to Knotts Berry Farm to celebrate her 100 birthday in August.

Francis Sutter - Gold Country (Placerville, CA)
Francis just celebrated her 101st birthday and has lived in Placerville her whole life. She is an avid golfer, Cold Springs Golf Club member. Exercises 4x a week w/weights, 2 lbs every time. Believes sports, exercise and doing what you love keep a person healthy and happy. She has two children and too many grandchildren to count!

Helen Frenney - Binnall House (Gardner, MA)
Helen Frenney will be 100 in January. She was born in Gardner (MA) and has lived there her entire life. She was married to the late Albert Frenney. She has 2 daughters, 1 grandson & 4 great-grandchildren. Her daughters live in Lake Tahoe & Indiana. Her great-granddaughter is currently serving in the military, recently returning from Kuwait.

Helen enjoys watching TV and going out to church & out to eat with her friends. She can often be found in the lobby sitting by the window enjoying the outside.

Concepcion Garcia - Seabury Heights (Worcester, MA)
Concepcion Garcia was born in Puerto Rico in February, 1913. Concepcion raised sixteen children. She also was a construction worker helping to build houses while living in Puerto Rico. Her favorite activities have always been cooking and spending time with her family. Concepcion moved to Massachusetts in 1980. She has lived at Seabury Heights in Worcester, MA for the past 13 years.

Elizabeth Schneider - Gold Country Health Center (Placerville, CA)
Elizabeth Schneider just celebrated her 104th birthday. She has lived at GCHC for over 9 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.

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.

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. 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.
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 (Bottom to top, L to R) Brenda Chico, Chany Bunkhong, Staisy Sok, Mercy Clemens, Rosa Lara, Terressa Johnson, Jacqui Chew, Leo Corpuz, Lisa Sok, Cassandra Harvey, Phil Mosqueira, and Manuel Valdez.

2) Business Development (Bottom - Top, L to R) Ta‘Sha Taylor, Andres Diaz, Salvatore Ingrao, Chris Kanstrup, Maria Rodriguez, Bailey Walker, Anders Plett, Traci Maxwell, Kevin Gilchrist, Florence Webb and Bob Fard.

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


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


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

9) **Administrative Services** (L to R) Dr. Laverne Joseph, Alexis Vasilchak, Chris Ragon, Jessica Rosales, Cheryl Howell and Alyssa Gauss (Absent; Lissette Guevara).

10) **Philanthropy** (L to R) Alexis Vasilchak, Stephanie Milano, Stephanie Titus and Rachel Gould.

11) **Occupancy** (L to R) Erica Mejia, Maria Guerrero, Crystal Torres, Adele Carrasco, Joanne Silva and Barbara Blazer.

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

13) **Law, Risk Management, Human Resources, and Corporate Compliance** (Bottom to Top, L to R) Deborah Stouff, Barbara Olivas, Collen Adams, Deborah Kindler, John Clow, Robert Amberg and Nada Battaglia (Absent: Karen Lomeli).

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-13-
An Exciting Announcement

In the Kitchen with RHF is Now Available!

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.”

The RHF Advisory Commission, an auxiliary arm of the RHF Board of Directors, has had many opportunities to visit and participate in numerous community celebrations around the country where many of these skillful cooks reside and prepare their dishes for potlucks, holiday events and other special occasions. Sampling some of the delicious resident made dishes during these visitations, the Advisory Commission was propelled into finding some way to share these outstanding, winning recipes, the history and tradition behind them and the communities where the cooks live. This collection represents their way of sharing with you some of the outstanding culinary skills existing in our communities. Keep in mind that the cooks showcased here have years of cooking experience behind them, some as many as 60, 70, even 80 years. We can confidently say these men and women know their way around a kitchen!

We hope you enjoy reading about our talented cooks, their tempting recipes and accompanying stories, helpful cooking tips, as well as RHF professional chef secrets as much as we have enjoyed compiling and sharing all these with you.

Thanks to the generous support of US Bank, the proceeds from the sale of this book will go to RHF’s Resident Benevolence Fund. This fund provides financial aid to residents whose funds have diminished and can no longer afford to live in their RHF home.
In the Kitchen with RHF is selling for $10 for residents and $15 for non-residents. You can order your very own copy by visiting the RHF website (www.rhf.org) and clicking on the In the Kitchen with RHF link within the yellow “News Room” box on the main page.

If you can’t access the website, you can also place an order using the form at the bottom of this page. Return the completed form by mail with your check or credit card information in the removable response envelope found in this publication. The only thing you need to fill out on the response envelope is the portion about payment. Make sure to seal and stamp the envelope before placing it in the mail.

Cut here

In the Kitchen with RHF Order Form

First Name: ____________________ Last Name:____________________
Billing Address:________________________________________________
City:___________________________  State:____  Zip:______________
Phone Number: ______________________________

Shipping Name and Address (if different):
First Name: ____________________ Last Name:____________________
Shipping Address:____________________________________________
City:___________________________  State:____  Zip:______________

Total copies desired:
Resident: __________ x $10
Non-Resident: __________ x $15
Order total: $_______________
Sleigh bells, snowflakes, carols, evergreens, holiday cheer and time spent with family. No wonder we call this “the most wonderful time of the year!” With the holidays approaching and the season of gift giving upon us, I hope you will consider a gift to RHF.

While we have grown to serve more than 20,000 residents in 182 communities these past 54 years, our mission remains the same - provide affordable housing and services to people in need with a focus on enhancing their quality of life.

Retirement Housing Foundation has accomplished a great deal since 1961, and 2015 was no exception. We expanded our mission with recently acquired communities, like Desert Haven (Odessa, Texas), recently renovated communities like Congregational Towers (Chula Vista, California) and newly constructed communities, like Broadwood Terrace (Los Angeles, California) and Barringer Gardens (Charlotte, North Carolina).

Many seniors and families come to us hopeless and fearful of where they will call “home.” When they discover a safe, affordable place to live at an RHF community, hope returns because RHF made a difference in someone’s life. We take pride in providing people with a home they can afford and a community they can enjoy.

You can make a difference 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 – Provides more than 850 holiday toys and gifts to children and young adults living in RHF family communities.
- Project H.A.N.D.S. – Supplies crafting materials for our residents to create items to donate back to their local communities and non-profit organizations.

Please don’t let this season of joy and giving pass without remembering the mission of RHF. Your gift will change lives. Simply use the enclosed envelope or donate online at www.rhf.org. You can also include RHF Foundation and our communities in your estate planning.

On behalf of the residents and communities we serve, 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 Foundation and its tax advantages, please call our Philanthropy office at 562-257-5321.

Sincerely,

Laverne R. Joseph
RHF President & CEO

P.S. If your gift is post marked by December 31st you may be eligible for a 2015 tax deduction. Thank you for your generosity!
Charitable Giving

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.

In burgundy = Sterling Club members—donation via payroll deductions

Collen Adams
Mario Alaniz
Robert Amberg
Shana Anders-Hastings
Jonas Angeles
Christine Baca
Christina Bagley
Karín Barrett
Nada Battaglia
Duncan Bradbury
Marc Braun
Natalie Brautigam
Jeannie Bryan
Donna Bunkhong
Jim Bursey
Martha Camacho
Gabriela Cardenas
Adelé Carrasco
Christina Cerrato
John Chandler
Jacqui Chew
Robert Chick
Heather Cline
Patrice Clark
Mercy Clemens
Inez Codeus
Penelope Cook
Leonardo Corpuz
Philamena Decker
Chantal Denny
Andres Diaz
Jacqueline Dizon-Ng
Nancy Ellis
Eduardo Enriquez
Mary Jane Estiller
Nora Fannin
Bob Fard
Mary Filer
Cheryl Fontenot
Deanna Garac
Diana Garcia
Alyssa Gauss
Kevin Gilchrist
Perry Glenn
Laura Goeke
Virginia Goldstein
Theresa Goris
Rachel Gould
Cassandra Harvey
Delores Harris
Melanie Harris
Jennifer Hart
Stuart Hartman
Sandra Haskins
Emily Hidalgo
Christopher Hill
Bao Thuy Hoang
Evet Howard
Cheryl Howell
Stacey Hutchinson
Melissa Jackson
Kerry Jennings
Pamela Jennings
Dr. Laverne Joseph
Ken Kaser
Teresa Kennedy
Arnold Kim
Diane King
Deborah Kirksey
Dina Marie Kulzer
Rosa Lara
Pearl Le
Ri Ji Lee
Marco Lemus
Cathy Levario
Dawn Lewis
Lynne Lichtenstern
Lisa Lopez
Rafael Lopez
Cynthia Lyons
Brian Magnone
Mark Malloy
Genia Manapat
Sarah McCall
Ericka Mejia
Rosa Mendez
Miriam Mercado
Emma Miano
Stephanie Milano
Celestina Mohabir
Rosaura Morales
Leah Darlene Nelson
Barbara Olivas
Doreatha Page
Jannetta Page
Dongwoo Pak
Hae Hyun Park
DeJuan Parker
Peter O. Peabody
Gloria Pedregon
Michelle Pelham
Delores Peters
Gloria Plaza
Pamela Power
Larethia Prince
Gloria Puentes
Delores Quijano
Chris Ragon
Rosemary Ramirez
Debra Rapp
Juanita Reyna
Tina Robinson
Cindy Rodriguez
Dekeetra Rone
Jessica Rosales
Gloria Ruiz
Dorothy Sanders
Ruth Satterfield
Wendy Scott
Clarence Seale, III
Judy Shaw
Amador Sierra, Jr.
Charles Skaer
Neil Smart
Staisy Sok
Margaret Spiller
Sue Stacey
Jennifer Staley
Lisa Stark
Luella Shelton
Katrina Stevenson
Joy Stone
John Stonecipher, Sr.
Deborah Stouff
Ta’sha Taylor
Elsie Tec
Stephanie Titus
Mia Tomei
Karleen Thorpe
Marcos Uribe
Manuel Valdez
Jeanette Villa
Michael Vukovich
Florence Webb
Deborah Whitehead
Joella Willey
Brandon Wilson
Diane Wink
Jill Yamuta
Judith Yost
Randall Yost
Sharon Young
Patricia Zappone
Rebecca Zaricor
Teresita Zurbano

“I believe in what our mission stands for, and for a large company we do it the most honorable way. When I look around me I have been blessed, working for RHF makes me feel I have given back, at least somewhat, to ones that have not been as fortunate.”

~ Collen Adams
RHF Circle of Friends

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
& Ret. Col. John DeSaegher
Raymond E. East
Dr. and Mrs.* Charles Fain
Dolores Foga*
Toshiko Okazaki Fukuda*
Wanda Haudek*
Rev. Dr. Teruo and Kiko Kawata
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*
Lydia Cervany*
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Catherine Mackeris*
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Jean H.P. Oppenheimer
Edythe Patterson
Marian Rhame
Elisabeth A. Ruff*
Joan Sullivan
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.

National Headquarters Staffing Updates

As the need for affordable housing and services continues to grow, so does our RHF national headquarters staff.

Alexis Vasilchak joined the RHF team in November in the role of Administrative Assistant/Travel Coordinator.

Providing assistance to both the Administrative Services and Philanthropy departments at RHF, Alexis will be working with our communities on their Social Accountability reporting and, for RHF staff joining us in Long Beach this February for the 55th annual meeting, she will provide assistance with making travel arrangements.

Alexis Vasilchak
RHF’s National Headquarters office launched the 2015 Holiday Toy Drive with a luncheon featuring the In-N-Out Burger Cookout Trailer. For a minimum donation of $6 or an unwrapped toy, staff could enjoy lunch from the truck, dessert and a chance to win door prizes.

This was the Philanthropy Department’s second year hosting a luncheon to kick-off the RHF Toy Drive. More than 90% of the National Headquarters staff participated, donating 90 toys and more than $2,000 towards our $10,000 campaign goal.

RHF currently has about 850 children living in its 13 low-income family communities across the country. Our goal is to provide each RHF child with at least one gift this holiday season - toys and clothing items for the smaller children and a gift card for the older kids. RHF Foundation is truly grateful for the support of all our donors who have made this happen for more than a decade now and who have helped make the Holiday Toy Drive an RHF tradition.

National Headquarters Donors

The following people made gifts to the RHF designated funds (see donor form) through our national office from 6/16/15 to 10/31/15:

Guadalupe Aragon
Hilda Calderon
Cynthia Chenier
Chaim E. Chung
CNA
Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Collinson
Community Congregational 
UCC (Los Alamitos)
Patricia Day
Andrew & Arlene DuBoff
David A. Gubser
H.D. Supply

Lisa Hayes
Health & Human Services
Charities of America
Irma Herrero
Pedro Herrero
Dr. Laverne & Ginger Joseph
Jeannie Kim
Mr. & Mrs. Donald King
Mary Jane Lemire
Patricia Lind
Los Altos UCC
Janice M. McNeilly
Nicholas Mego

William H. Moncrief
Beverly Ann Northrop
Jodi Odell
Mary O’Neill
James Owens
Sandra Perdomo
Barbara Gray Richley
Dr. & Mrs. Darryl M. Sexton
Paula Suchy
Serilda Thompson
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. John E. Trnka
Union Bank
Richard Washington
Richard & Mione Worley
Scott Siehr, manager of Valley View Apartments in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, was visiting a community garden on the south side of Manitowoc when he first saw the Little Library.

Curious, Scott did some research and found out that this was part of a national organization whose purpose is to promote reading by placing little “libraries” in neighborhoods all over the United States. All you needed was a small selection of books, a place to house them and space to relax and read them!

Upon further investigation, Scott found that there were none of these anywhere near his building.

Knowing that many of the residents of Valley View Apartments were avid readers and especially motivated by the fact that his building was surrounded by communities with children, Scott approached Mike Howe Builders, a local contractor, and asked if he would be willing to build a Little Library for Valley View.

Once the library was built, Scott obtained a donation of books and “planted” his library under some shade trees on his property.