

Sholom Foundation's sole mission is to raise sufficient endowment and annual funds to generate financial support for Sholom services and facilities, and promote excellence in care to those served by Sholom.

**SHOLOM – Providing a broad continuum of residential, social service and health care services primarily for older adults and within a Jewish environment for over 100 years:**

- *Sholom Home Care and Hospice — wherever you live, in a Sholom building or your own home or apartment*
- *Adult day services and meals-on-wheels*
- *Warm water therapy pool and vitality center*
- *Market-rate senior apartment homes*
- *Assisted living apartments*
- *HUD-supported apartments*
- *Short-term rehabilitation*
- *Long-term, transitional and respite care*

For a listing of all donations, see pages 8 - 11.



**Benjamin Laub**

## A New CEO for Sholom

The Board of Directors of Sholom is pleased to announce the appointment of Benjamin Laub as the new Chief Executive Officer of Sholom.

Ben most recently served as Senior Executive Director of Windsor Healthcare and has an extensive background in executive management in similar health care environments. In addition to

his experience in operations, he has been actively involved in strategic planning, competitive marketing strategies, and developing community relationships. He brings a wealth of experiences having worked in the non-profit, for profit, and government health care arenas. Sholom's Board of Directors believes Ben's experiences and capabilities will allow him to lead Sholom in successfully carrying out the organization's mission into the future. You can meet our new CEO at the Sholom Annual meeting on July 23, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at the Shaller Family Campus.

The Board of Directors would also like to extend their deep appreciation to Michael Hanson for his leadership and direction over the past two years. "Mike has done an extraordinary job of executing the vision of the Board while providing high quality services as evident by our recent stellar survey results. Mike will continue with Sholom as the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer," says Sholom President Barry Newman.

## The Rabbi Bernard Raskas and Laeh Raskas Family Leave a Legacy at Sholom

"Here, please call me Bernie," is what Rabbi Bernard Raskas of blessed memory used to say to staff and friends at the Johnson Center for Hospice Care at the Shaller Family Sholom East Campus, where he resided during the last eighteen months of his life. He always had something nice to say to the staff that cared for him and a gentle joke for anyone who would listen. Although it has been two years since Rabbi Raskas' death, his presence, as well as that of his beloved wife of 62 years, Laeh, will always be felt at Sholom.



**Rabbi  
and  
Laeh  
Raskas**

*continued on page 2*

2011-2012

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\* Past Presidents

## The Rabbi Bernard Raskas and Laeh Raskas Family Leave a Legacy at Sholom *continued*

Two of their children, Eve Kafitz and David Raskas, spoke of their parents' great love of art and Judaica. In their travels, they visited so many synagogues and museums, returning home with not just exquisite works of art, but ideas for bringing beauty to their beloved Temple of Aaron, where Rabbi Raskas served the congregation for over 38 years.

When planning began for the chapel at the new campus, Rabbi Raskas provided guidance and inspiration helping to create a comforting place of prayer and contemplation for residents, family, and visitors. He shared ideas with artist, Judy Freeman, who created the beautiful stained glass windows, and with the architects to instill our Jewish heritage with beauty and simplicity in the Newman Chapel.

Following in their parents' footsteps of supporting the efforts of organizations serving the Jewish community, Hillel Raskas, Eve and Steve Kafitz, and David Raskas, dedicated a wall of Jerusalem stone and a stunning metal sculpture of the city as a loving tribute to their parents. Their gift to the campus is particularly fitting as Rabbi Raskas was among the first residents who moved into the new Shaller Family Campus in February 2009. Hillel, Eve and David recall that their father was cared for with compassion and skill. Well before their grandmother resided at the old Sholom Home on Randolph Avenue, the Raskas family has been a staunch advocate for Sholom, understanding the crucial role Sholom plays in caring for the elderly in our community.

The Raskas Children are proud to continue their parents' legacy of *tzedakah*, and encourage others to do the same.



## Circle of Life

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# A Son's Reflections on His Mother's Life at Sholom

by Bert Black, son of the late Dorothy Black

*"...though she missed [her 100th birthday] by two years and four months she came pretty darn close. A lot closer than she would have without Sholom."*

Dorothy Black, my mother, lived her final 41 months in the memory loss unit at Sholom West. Three North, or "3N," the last stop on the elevator and the last stop in life for most of its residents. A sad place in many ways, but also a place filled with love and even joy, and certainly with humor and understanding. Of course I regretted what age had done to Dorothy, but I enjoyed visiting her and seeing her smile as she fought with valiant good will to find the words and thoughts that once had come as simply and naturally as waking up or breathing. She had always been a sharp little imp, who drove a car until she was past ninety and enjoyed nothing more than laughing at herself. And at Sholom the laughing continued to the end.

On 3N I learned to recalibrate expectations; to value each day with my mother because there wouldn't be too many more; and to appreciate the people who cared for her and made those days as many as possible. It was the staff who listened to her as she recounted how she'd just returned from Cleveland or New York or some other place from her past that she liked to revisit in her mind. It was the staff who took time to ask her about the pictures and pottery in her room; many of them her own creations from her days as an art student

at Ohio State. It was the staff who at the end made every effort to keep her breathing when her lungs refused to work right. She wasn't driving at the end, but she was still laughing, and that's because of the care she received.



**Bert Black with Christine and Ayan, who helped care for Dorothy Black at Sholom**

Dorothy made it to 97. My brothers and I had hoped she would reach 100, and still be "with it" enough to know she'd done it. She talked about that a lot, up until her last month or so, and though she missed by two years and four months she came pretty darn close. A lot closer than she would have without Sholom. Now that she's gone, and we think back on the three and a half years she spent there, we realize that with the help of her

many caregivers she pretty much squeezed every drop out of life that she could. She always had a way of crinkling up her face when she was trying to figure something out. You couldn't exactly see the wheels, but you knew they were turning somewhere in her head. And less than a week before she began finally to slip away I could tell she was still working hard at puzzling something out.

Two members of the staff were with me at the time, and we all laughed about it. My thanks to them and everyone else at Sholom who made my mother's last years as good as they could be.

## Marion Klein Named a *Woman of Valor* by Sholom Auxiliary

At the May 9th Sholom Auxiliary Spring Luncheon held on the Shaller Family Sholom East Campus, Auxiliary President Nancy Getzkin presented long-time volunteer, Marion Klein, with the Auxiliary's *Woman of Valor* award.

Marion, a dedicated volunteer for most of her adult life, has always been willing to give her time and talents wherever and whenever she was needed. In fact, Marion could be counted on to step in and take on a new task when she determined the need existed.

In expressing her gratitude for the award, Marion remarked that over all her years of volunteer activity, she was quite sure she had received so much more than she has given.



# A Moving Portrait of Holocaust Survivors On Exhibit at Sholom

On a sunny afternoon in late March, the hallways on the first floor of Sholom Home West were filled with friends, family, children, residents, and interested visitors as they witnessed a transfer of memory – an exhibit of portraits of Holocaust Survivors living in Minnesota, (some of whom currently reside at Knollwood Place and Bentson Assisted Living Apartments). Several of the Survivors whose stories are portrayed in the exhibit were in attendance as well.

Photographer David Sherman, in partnership with Tolerance Minnesota – a program of the Jewish Community Relations Council – initiated this compelling project. David's objective was to create formal portraits of Holocaust Survivors to insure that Survivors are remembered in a respectful and beautiful way – by face and by name, with the additional objective of documenting the stories of each of

**Survivors wore red roses at the open house**



these Survivors.

Sherman photographed the Survivors in their homes, living their lives as ordinary people. Writer Lily Chester, captured each individual's story of luck, determination, devotion, and defiance of exceedingly difficult circumstances.

As a collection, these photographs focus on life. These Survivors came to Minnesota from all across Europe with hope for a better life. It was here they fashioned their dreams, their futures, and their families. Their lives are constant reminders about the value of freedom and the enduring human spirit.

The Survivors exhibit will move to the Shaller Family Sholom East Campus in July for the summer months and will be available to view on the evening of the Sholom Annual meeting Monday, July 16th.



## Two Generations Connecting Through Music, Dance, and Stories



In July 2011, through funding from the Minnesota State Legacy Fund, Kairos Dance's *Dancing Heart*<sup>™</sup> program came to the Shaller Family Sholom Home East Campus. The *Dancing Heart*<sup>™</sup> is an award winning, research-based program facilitated by professional artists designed around interactive dance and storytelling. In December the *Dancing Heart*<sup>™</sup> program began an intergenerational collaboration with the elders at the Shaller Campus, 4th grade students from nearby Adams Magnet School, COMPAS arts organization, and Milkweed Editions. The results were amazing.

"This program has been a great benefit to my students," one teacher remarked. At Sholom, students and elders were laughing, learning new games, and sharing stories. We learned about immigrating to America, World War II, and what it was like to grow

up so many years ago. We danced, we sang, and my students left changed."

As a Kairos teaching-artist said, "What has astonished me throughout this collaboration is the utter amazement of the students when they meet the elders. They can't believe how cool the elders are and soon realize how much the elders are like themselves...At first the students were scared to meet the elders and had a lot of negative judgments about them. Now they all want to come back to Sholom."

The residents and clients were equally engaged and touched by the attention of the students. One participant, Elise, shared her story about growing up on a farm with goats. The whole group sang "Old McDonald." Afterward, one of the students took off her own necklace and gave it to Elise as a gift.

One specific goal for the Kairos Dance, *Dancing Heart*<sup>™</sup> program is to create and sustain an inter-generational community with the Sholom and the Adams students, all of whom live in the West 7th neighborhood of St. Paul. Continuing to grow these connections is exemplified by the words of an Adams teacher, "The opportunity to continue our program with Kairos and the Sholom Home will help limit, or end ageism for one group of students; something I find very powerful."

*To learn more about how you can help to sustain programs such as Kairos Dance – Dancing Heart<sup>™</sup> that promote active learning, brain and body health, and greatly enhance the lives of those served by Sholom, contact Sholom Foundation 952-939-1593.*

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## *Sholom — serving our community . . .*

Neil and I will never forget the warmth, love and attention given to our mother, Evelyn Kamin from Knollwood to Roitenberg, to 241-South at Sholom.

Our mother passed on Tuesday, February 21st. She was taken from us in peace and dignity – aided by the wonderful Sholom Hospice people.

Thank you – God Bless!

– Stuart Belkin and Neil Belkin, sons of the late Evelyn Kamin, who resided for several years at Knollwood Place, Roitenberg Assisted Living, and finally at Sholom Home West

# Can You Pass This Quiz on Wills?

Circle the correct answer:

1. Only one will is needed for a married couple.  
*True False*
2. Probate fees claim one-third of the estate of anyone dying without a will.  
*True False*
3. If signed by an attorney, most states will recognize a handwritten will.  
*True False*
4. By law, a codicil is the final execution that makes a will valid.  
*True False*
5. Only the attorney and executor are permitted to read your will after you die.  
*True False*

**Answers:** *False is the correct answer to all five questions, and the following explanations may help you.*

1. Each person in a marriage needs a valid will, though the provisions can “mirror” each other.
2. Statutory probate fees are not automatically assessed in such a proportion, though in the absence of a valid will, the state does literally prescribe how all estate assets are distributed.
3. No state requires a will to be signed by an attorney. Some states may recognize a handwritten will.
4. The term “codicil” refers to a provision that amends one or more provisions of a valid will.
5. With your permission, you may allow anyone to read your will at any time. After death, a will admitted to probate will become part of the public record of your estate.

Have you made provision to leave a gift to Sholom Foundation through your will or other estate-planning document? If so, please let us know with the non-binding Letter of Intent below or by calling Joel Mandel at 952-939-1593.

**“We all want to be remembered and we all will leave something behind.”**

– Barry K. Baines M.D., author of *Ethical Wills: Putting Your Values on Paper*

Sholom Foundation invites you to become a member of the **Sholom Foundation Heritage Society**, honoring those who recognize the value of providing for our Jewish elderly by making a commitment to the Sholom Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation in Minnesota, through their wills and other charitable gift plans.

There is no finer example of the power of giving than what we can achieve together.

## Join the Heritage Society in Support of Sholom

I (We) wish to participate in the *Sholom Foundation Heritage Society* through the following:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will or Living Trust       | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Policy      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Lead Trust      | <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Plan Asset |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift of Securities         | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift of Real Estate   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Remainder Trust |  |

If you so choose, you may indicate the amount or range of your gift to help us better plan for the future: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING: (please print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (of spouse, if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check this box if you wish to have your name included in listings of **Sholom Foundation Heritage Society** members in our publications. This will help encourage others to join this important group of benefactors. (If you do not choose to be listed, you will continue as an unlisted member.)

Your name(s) as it should appear in print: \_\_\_\_\_

# Sholom Foundation Heritage Society

The Sholom Foundation Heritage Society has been established to thank those thoughtful individuals and families who have included Sholom Foundation in their estate plans. We honor those who have made such a commitment and gratefully acknowledge these valued friends:

## NEW MEMBERS SINCE APRIL 2012

### Susan Feinberg Hughes & Gerry Hughes

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Roni & Alan Gingold		Connie & Paul Ross Family	
Esta & Jerry Gold			

If you would like to or have already arranged for an estate gift for Sholom Foundation, please let us know so that we can honor and recognize you as a member of the *Sholom Foundation Heritage Society*. As always, any gifts to Sholom may remain anonymous if you so choose. Call Barbara Brooks at 952-939-1594.

## A SIMPLE BEQUEST

A simple statement in your *Will* or *Living Trust* is all it takes to make a powerful gift. Gifts by bequest may be made in cash, securities, IRA and other retirement accounts, real estate or tangible personal property and may be fully deductible in determining your estate taxes.

You will want the provision to state our legal name: **SHOLOM FOUNDATION** a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation in Minnesota. It would be helpful if you would notify Sholom Foundation of your bequest so you can be acknowledged and honored and Sholom can plan for the future.

Donations to ALL three Sholom entities received Feb. 15 - April 30, 2012:

*Sholom Foundation* annual and endowment giving to support Sholom facilities and services now and in the future;

*Sholom* for immediate needs of all Sholom services and facilities;

*Sholom Auxiliary* for added comfort and care of those served by Sholom

*General Donations:* include gifts to Sholom Foundation and named endowment funds; Sholom/Auxiliary dual memberships; Auxiliary Silver Tea; and miscellaneous contributions.

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In spite of our best efforts to be accurate in recognition of our donors, mistakes can occur. If your name or fund was omitted, listed incorrectly, or misspelled, please accept our apology and we ask that you notify us of the error. Thank you for your understanding.

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### *Easy, Secure Ways to Donate*

Use the convenient envelope or log on to [www.Sholom.com](http://www.Sholom.com) to donate online to Sholom Foundation, Sholom, or Sholom Auxiliary. Or, call Linda Hennings at 952-939-1664 and use your credit card.

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## IN HONOR OF Birthdays

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Morrie & Millie



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**Susan Weisberg**  
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Gretta Freeman  
Sharlene & Sid Ladin

**Bernice Zakin**  
Addie & Norm Perl

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Harriet & Bill Gasway

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Barb & Ron Harris

**Hess & Renee Kline**  
Gracia & Merrill Kuller  
Sharlene & Sid Ladin  
Diane & Joe Mast

Joan Noun  
Leslee & Mert Shapiro

**Brina & Milt Krelitz**  
Marja Engler

**Beverly & Paul Kunin**  
Barb & Ron Harris

**Harriet & Miles Lane**  
Harriet & Bill Gasway  
Jane & Jack Katz

**Marlene & Marshall  
Miller**  
Gracia & Merrill Kuller  
Diane & Joe Mast  
Leslee & Mert Shapiro

**Marlene & Norby Sobek**  
Judy & Ross Dworsky

**Sandra & Ted Stone**  
Gayle Marko

**Eleanor & Norman  
Wartnick**  
Lil Raen

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*Grandson's Engagement*  
Fay Ribnick

**Marilyn & Timothy  
Broms**  
*Childrens' Wedding*  
Lynn & Howard Goldman

**Nancy Calvin**  
*New Home*  
Judy Goldberg

**Herbert Fantle**  
*Bar Mitzvah*  
Murray Specktor & the  
boys

**Bonnie & Gary Goldish**  
*Son's Engagement*  
Fay Ribnick

**Jana & Willie Goldshine**  
*New Home*  
Harriet & Bill Gasway  
Gracia & Merrill Kuller

**Marion Klein**  
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Funds are acknowledged by a plaque on the Walls of Honor at Sholom Home West and the Shaller Family Campus.

<b>FOUNDER</b>	\$1,000,000 cash, pledge or deferred
<b>PILLAR</b>	\$500,000 - \$999,999 cash or pledge or \$750,000 - \$999,999 deferred
<b>BUILDER</b>	\$250,000 - \$499,999 cash or pledge or \$500,000 - \$749,999 deferred
<b>TRUSTEE</b>	\$100,000 - \$249,999 cash or pledge or \$200,000 - \$499,999 deferred
<b>PATRON</b>	\$50,000 - \$99,999 cash or pledge or \$100,000 - \$199,999 deferred
<b>BENEFACTOR</b>	\$25,000 - \$49,999 cash or pledge or \$50,000 - \$99,999 deferred
<b>SPONSOR</b>	\$10,000 - \$24,999 cash or pledge or \$20,000 - \$49,999 deferred

*A "deferred" gift is a bequest or planned gift that will benefit Sholom following the death of the donor or annuitant. Combinations of cash pledges and deferred gifts are welcome.*

Ross & Judy Dworsky Family Fund  
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 Alex & Zelda Epstein Education Fund  
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 West Direct-Care Staff  
 Bess & Dan Seligman Family Fund\*  
 Ben & Leah Serber Family Fund  
 Alan, Joel & Robert Shapiro  
 Family Fund

# Sholom Foundation Funds

## *Gifts & Naming Opportunities*

For endowment gifts of \$10,000 and more, a designated fund, in your name or the name of a loved one, may be established.

All funds are acknowledged with plaques on the Walls of Honor at Sholom Home West and the Shaller Family Campus.

For larger gifts, in addition to establishing a fund, you may wish to take advantage of the opportunity to dedicate or name specific areas, rooms, equipment, furnishings and programs of the Sholom Community Alliance.

For more information call  
952-939-1593.

## **For Your Convenience...**

**We encourage donors with a fund at Sholom Foundation to call Sarah at 952-939-1592 if you would like a supply of personalized donation envelopes sent to you.**

## **BENEFACTOR** *continued*

Aaron & Sadie Siden Family Fund  
Dr. Melvin & Delores Sigel Family Fund\*  
Constance & Gerald Singer Fund  
Dorothy & Edward Slonim Fund  
Mickey & Harold Smith Fund for Rabbinic and Religious Activities  
Frieda Juster Sperling Nurses' Scholarship Fund\*  
Mollie B. Tankenoff Music Fund for Sholom East  
Marion & Ed Vinokour Fund  
Vi & Harvey Werner Fund  
Joan & Shale Wilensky Fund

## **SPONSOR**

ACADEMY Fund  
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Ben & Pauline Bernstein Rabbinic and Judaica Activities Fund  
Shirley & Marshall Besikof Family Fund  
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Dorothy Black Employee Emergency Loan Fund  
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Lou Ann & Leon Bongard Family Fund  
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Hasko Family Fund  
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Dr. Zenith & Merle Anne Kremen  
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Joan & Norman Noun Family Fund

Barrie & Steven Orloff Family Fund

Carol & Mickey Orren Fund

Peilen Library Fund for

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Alvin & June Perlman Fund

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Clara & Leonard Savitt Fund

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Shelley & Dr. Eddie Segal Family

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Shapira Family Building Fund

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Building Maintenance Fund

Sholom Community Alliance

Employee Contribution Fund

Sholom Home West Library Fund

Rivian & Leonard Silesky Fund

Dee & Norman Silver Fund

Rose Butwin Silverstein Fund

Arnold & Kaethe Simon Fund

Milton G. & Evelyn S. Smith

Family Fund

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Ann & Henry Wiener Fund

Steve & Arlene Winnick Family Fund

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Ilene & Bruce Zwick Family Fund

## Sholom Auxiliary Endowment Funds

The Sholom Auxiliary provides countless volunteer hours and crucial financial resources for the comfort of Sholom residents.

**What if you could ensure that your annual support of the Sholom Auxiliary would continue when you are no longer here to write that check? You can!** Consider establishing your own named Auxiliary endowment fund or donate to any of the existing Auxiliary endowment funds listed here.

Approximately 4-5% of every Auxiliary endowment fund is used annually for the benefit of Sholom clients.

All gifts and beneficiary designations should be made payable to: Sholom Foundation, for the benefit of the Sholom Auxiliary. To find out more about creating your own Sholom Auxiliary Endowment, contact Barbara Brooks at 952-939-1594.

*Endowment gifts of any size are welcome and may be pledged over a period of year or as a bequest. Cash gifts or pledges starting at \$10,000 or estate gifts starting at \$20,000 will establish a named Auxiliary Endowment Fund at Sholom Foundation and will be recognized on the Walls of Honor at both Sholom campuses.*

### PILLAR

Benno & Gertrude Wolff Family Fund\*

### TRUSTEE

Margaret Friedman Sholom Auxiliary Fund  
Sharon & Martin Kieffer Family Fund  
for Resident Services and Beauty Salon

### BENEFACTOR

Stephen & Carole Davidson Family Fund  
Ruth Dicker Sholom Ball Fund  
Joy Marcus Sholom Ball Fund

### SPONSOR

Bruce R. Kahn Sholom Ball Fund  
John W. Schletty Fund  
Sholom Home Auxiliary Fund  
The Wexler Fund

SHOLOM HOSPICE INVITES YOU & YOUR FAMILY TO OUR

4TH ANNUAL SHOLOM HOSPICE



# REMEMBER *and* RELEASE Butterfly Event

Celebrate life, commemorate a special occasion, or remember those who have passed away by releasing a live butterfly.

The butterfly is a symbol of the cycle of life, birth, transition, healing and renewal—and a symbol of hope for Sholom Hospice.

Following a short remembrance service, we will release the butterflies in Sholom West's courtyard. Children and grandchildren are welcome!

Sholom Hospice is fully Medicare-licensed and provides hospice services to patients wherever they live, with specialized services for Jewish patients and their families. Hospice is a philosophy of care that focuses on patient comfort and quality of life.

Sunday, August 19, 2012

10:30 am–12 noon

Sholom Home West Courtyard

3620 Phillips Parkway

St. Louis Park, MN 55426

**sholom hospice** Care. Compassion. Community.   
[www.sholomhospice.org](http://www.sholomhospice.org)

For hospice information and referrals, please call 651-328-2091.

Proceeds to benefit Sholom Hospice.



**Fourth Annual Sholom Hospice Remember & Release Butterfly Event**  
For more information, click on the butterfly link on our website: [www.sholomhospice.org](http://www.sholomhospice.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes!** I will attend.  **No.** I cannot attend.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ butterflies to be released @ \$36 each. \_\_\_\_\_ (total contribution) \_\_\_\_\_ Addl. donation \_\_\_\_\_

**Butterflies to be released are in memory/honor (circle one) of\*** \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my credit card for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one:     Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed form no later than August 10, 2012 to:

Libby Parker, Corporate & Community Engagement • 3620 Phillips Pkwy., St. Louis Park, MN 55426

For more information, contact Libby at 952-939-1638 or [lparker@sholom.com](mailto:lparker@sholom.com)

*\*All names will be included in the event printed program.*



# A CELEBRATION OF A MAN'S LIFE THROUGH HIS ART



**John Clifford with two of his portrait paintings**

John Clifford knew he wanted to be an artist since he was a young boy. When he married his wife and best friend of 65 years, the late Gertrude Clifford, and they started a family soon to include eight children, John believed that he would not be able to take care of his beloved wife and children on the living he might make as an artist. Thus, he began a career in sales that was to last until the age of sixty-five when he retired from Gambles.

For the next thirty-one years and during his earlier years as well, John painted. He told his life through family portraits and family scenes, and expressed his talent and imagination through beautiful landscape and fanciful paintings – thirty-three of which were on display at the Johnson Center for Hospice Care at the Shaller Family Sholom East Campus on Sunday, April 28, 2012, John's 96th birthday.

In addition to the numerous paintings, a scrap book of original annual holiday greeting cards that John began to create in the early 1950s and continued well into the 80s was on display; a depiction of his love for his family, and his gentle humor, creativity and talent.

While John Clifford is receiving care from Sholom Hospice, he is very much alive with his memories, his children and their families – twenty-two grandchildren

and numerous great-grandchildren and even "a few more in the oven," as John explains. His Art Show/Birthday Fete! was enjoyed by a steady stream of family, friends, colleagues, and Sholom residents and staff. All wanted to share the experience with this bright and engaging gentleman and artist.

John's daughter, Vikki, expressed her family's appreciation to Sholom, "We are so grateful to Sholom for helping us to make this happen. We could not be happier for our father to have this celebration of his life surrounded by his family and friends."



**John Clifford with guest**



**Hostesses greet guests (Clifford's granddaughter is in the center)**

*The Sholom Foundation  
gratefully acknowledges  
the Schochet Family  
for helping to underwrite  
the Circle of Life.*

***We're online – let's keep in touch***

Send us your email address at [foundation@sholom.com](mailto:foundation@sholom.com). We will send you updates and information about timely and relevant topics that impact our everyday lives. We welcome your questions and comments and will respond quickly to your email messages.

Don't forget to visit our website at [www.sholomfoundation.com](http://www.sholomfoundation.com).

## A Short History of The ACADEMY at Sholom West by Melanie Broida



Once upon a time, there was a woman with a vision. No, it was not the Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph kind. There were no angels parading up and down a Stairway to Heaven. Instead, she believed in the uncommon truth that anyone – even the elderly – can learn new things, stimulate the growth of brain cells, and therefore hold at bay the hitherto-believed inevitable deterioration of memory. In so doing, society would benefit by not having its caregiver resources drained of time, money, and energy. Not only that, but the time left to each senior would be a lot more fun and exciting!

So, armed with copious research and encouragement from the administrative powers of the Sholom Community Alliance to develop her idea, Evelyn “Evie” Shore, Knollwood Place resident and M.A. set out to

amass a large library full of videos on topics ranging from art and anti-Semitism to Zanzibar and zoology. She created detailed program notes from which a spirited discussion could ensue after viewing a 30-minute session.

For seven years, the fortunate folks living on the Ackerberg Family Sholom West Campus have enjoyed the fruits of Evie’s volunteer labor. In addition, Carole Davidson, another dedicated volunteer, has taken it upon herself to single-handedly organize the video library, and lead the discussion following the video sessions. Evie, Carole, and Evie’s daughter, Leslie Shore M.A., an educator in her own right at Metropolitan State and Concordia College, also recruit guest speakers as well as schedule regularly-occurring Jewish and secular study groups on popular topics as part of

# Save the Date!

## Sholom’s Annual Meeting

### July 16, 2012 ✧ 7 p.m.

- See the “Survivor Portrait Project,” a moving exhibition of Holocaust survivors, photographed by David Sherman in collaboration with the Jewish Community Relations Council
- Enjoy a collection of Sholom residents’ original artwork that will also be featured in this year’s Annual Report
- Honor the recipient of the 2012 Susie Selcer Leadership Award
- Meet our new CEO, Ben Laub

Shaller Family Sholom East Campus

 **sholom** Care.   
www.sholom.com Compassion.  
Community.

The ACADEMY. In fact, since 2005, there have been over 12,000 classroom hours logged by ACADEMY participants – a testament to the power and popularity of this unique and vital program.

For those individuals interested in even more active pursuits, Evie has established VOICES, a semi-annual publication that allows seniors to express themselves in memoirs or musings and actually get published to a readership among the Sholom community. Only those who have successfully completed Evie's class in basic composition are invited to this select group of authors, who meet monthly to review each other's work, read outside masterworks, and hone their own writing skills by in-class assignments directed by none other than Evie Shore.

## **The ACADEMY is coming to the Shaller Family Sholom East Campus!**

And now the time has come to expand The ACADEMY so that the Sholom East community might enjoy it just as immensely as the West side. Through the forward thinking and creativity of Natalie Kuklinski (Director of Therapeutic Recreation), Jim McDonald (Director of Volunteer Services), both from the Shaller Family Campus, and this writer, Melanie Broida (first time Sholom volunteer), The ACADEMY East will be open to both residents and volunteers, and become a regular fixture at the Shaller campus, thus complementing its already diverse programming schedule. In addition to the intellectual discourse provided by the video library, this trio envisions follow-up activities not only in writing and publishing but song and dance. It

foresees the entire community – residents, volunteers, family, and staff alike – coming together to form a rudimentary theater troupe, perhaps even selling tickets to its upcoming performances.

And on that note, it is time to announce the inaugural project:

### **Broadway Musicals!**

This July 9, 2012 will see the inaugural program of The ACADEMY East with a resident workshop on "Great American Music: Broadway Musicals." It will include a field trip to Rosetown Players' Como Park summer musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. The ACADEMY course will culminate in a show to be produced and performed by members of the Shaller Family Sholom East community. In August, auditions will be held for this pilot production – its name to be determined – rehearsals to start after the High Holidays, and the performance to coincide with Hanukkah.

If anyone in the community is interested in assisting with this ambitious project, please contact Jim McDonald, 651-328-2068 or [jmcdonald@sholom.com](mailto:jmcdonald@sholom.com). We are excited to watch it grow and develop.

**Programs such as The ACADEMY can take place at Sholom because of generous donors who support our efforts to provide life-enriching experiences. For more information about how you can support The ACADEMY call Barbara Brooks at 952-939-1594.**

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## *Sholom — serving our community . . .*

When my parents moved from Knollwood Place to memory care in the Bentson Assisted Living Residence on the Shaller Family Campus in St. Paul, I was apprehensive. The transition had its challenges and was hard at times, but the staff was very caring and helpful, treating both my parents and me with understanding and respect.

I feel to a certain extent that I am part of a team approach, and that both the suggestions and concerns I bring to the nurses and home health aides are listened to and often acted upon. As I get to know the staff and residents better it has become like a home with family. I also know that my parents are safe, which gives me peace of mind, and enables me to enjoy this time with them, and also gives me the ability to focus on the rest of my family as well.

– Rachel Lasky, daughter of Eli & Fanni Kamlot,  
Phillips Memory Care residents at Bentson Family Assisted Living Residence

**Sholom Auxiliary's Annual Fundraiser**



**24 one-of-a-kind  
 dinner parties**  
 to benefit Sholom  
**Thurs., June 21**

*W*ine and dine with the celebrity of your choice and one of our gracious hosts. Local politicians, chefs and other celebs are joining us to support Sholom! See who's coming to dinner at our host homes then make your reservation! This event is first-come, first-serve, though priority seating levels are available.

**Limited seats may still be available.**  
 For more info, contact (952) 939-1638 or [www.FoodForYourSoul.org](http://www.FoodForYourSoul.org).

*Thanks to our sponsors!*

