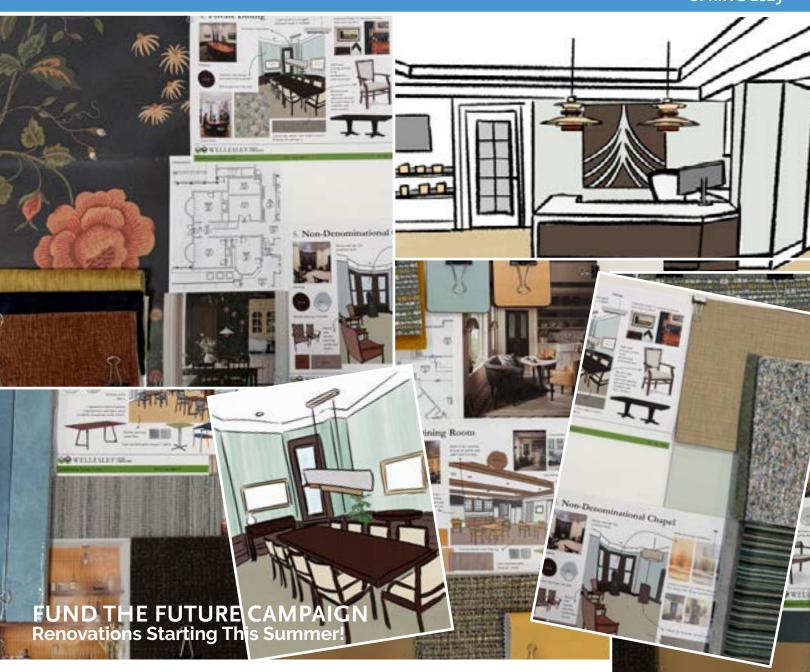


SCANDINAVIAN CULTURAL CENTER & LIBRARY

NEWS+EVENTS

SPRING 2025



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A Message from Joe Carella



n these pages last fall we I talked about the term Big Hairy Audacious Goals (BHAG), starting with my personal audacious goal of completing a marathon after recovering from multiple surgeries. The next—even bigger and hairier!—goal was about launching the culminating phase of our fundraising marathon that began in 2019 when we started our Fund the Future Campaign to benefit all the activities of the Scandinavian Living Center (SLC) and the Scandinavian Cultural Center & Library (SCC&L).

I'm excited to say that the time has come to launch the largest and last stage of the campaign.

This comprehensive campaign is a bold strategy to raise more than \$5,000,000 over the next several

years toward our most pressing capital, growth, and sustainability needs for the next generation and long into the future. This next stage is the biggest, boldest, and most audacious campaign in our history.

future health and impact of both the SLC and the SCC&L.

The Fund the Future Campaign will secure the resources for both capital and endowment funds, from the Nordic Hall to the

"I'm excited to say that the time has come to launch the largest and last stage of the campaign."

And with your help I know we will be successful and realize something to be proud of for generations. Through this unprecedented capital and endowment campaign, we will:

- Advance our distinctive
 assisted living model to its full
 potential by supporting our
 residents and their families to
 live their best lives.
- Bring together community members and organizations and spread the model to other housing and care organizations striving to improve the human condition.
- Lean into our Scandinavian roots, values, and cultures while building a diverse, inclusive, multigenerational community of the future.

And when we're done, we will have refreshed, replenished, and reinvigorated our Center and our endowment funds to ensure the Frederick Veranda. From upstairs to downstairs. And central to the Campaign is to grow all our endowed funds: The Johansen Subsidy Fund, the Frederick Friendship Fund, the Scandinavian Cultural Fund, and the Fund the Future Sustainability Endowment.

Like marathon training, we will take one step at a time. Here's the first. This summer we'll begin our first capital improvement project:

- Lobby and Welcome Desk renovation
- New Public Bathrooms serving the Nordic Hall and Dining Room
- Main Dining Room renovation and new furnishings
- Kaffestugan and Living Room remodel

I'm sure you will agree that these renovations will benefit and be appreciated by everyone who lives at the Living Center or uses the Cultural Center & Library for years to come.

"For every level of sponsorship we will have many ways to say thank you, including a long list of naming opportunities"

(see pages 5 & 6).

For every level of sponsorship we will have many ways to say thank you, including a long list of naming opportunities. Donors will be recognized for their transformational gifts by adding their names — or the names of loved ones or inspirational figures they choose to honor — to the name of the space they support for all to appreciate.

I am thrilled to report that our

longtime champion, supporter, and former board president Terje Korsnes has made a leadership commitment of \$100,000 on behalf of The Eva R. Bergesen Trust to name the new Welcome Desk in honor of Eva and David Bergesen. David also was a former board president and Eva a willing volunteer at events. Their generosity has continued to benefit the SLC and the SCC&L through donations from the Trust. Thank you, Terje. I treasure your friendship as much as your support.

The total cost of this next capital phase is \$1.3 million. We came into this year having raised \$300,000—and with Terje's gift we now have \$400,000 toward our goal! We also have applied to one of our most loyal and generous foundations for a grant toward the project. And we will continue

to seek out new philanthropic partners.

When we reach out to you, I hope you will consider all the ways you might be able to support the Fund the Future Campaign through your personal gifts, gifts of stocks or securities, and bequests or trusts in your estate planning. I can promise you that every gift will help create a better place to experience life for years to come.

And isn't that a worthwhile legacy? With thanks and best wishes for a happy and hopeful spring and summer.

Joe Carella **Executive Director** Scandinavian Charitable Society of Greater Boston



Opportunities to Support Our Work

Dear Donors, Friends, and Families of the SLC and the SCC&L.

Joe has been talking a lot lately about pushing ourselves to dream big, to never give up, and to pursue all our dreams with tenacity. And that's just what we're doing with our Fund the Future Campaign.

The Fund was launched in the fall of 2019 and has—with your tremendous generosity raised more than 2.3 million dollars. A lot of good has come from that effort. Thank you!

And now, we are launching the next phase of the Campaign which will be our biggest undertaking since we built the Scandinavian Living Center. Over the next several years, we will work with you and seek foundation and corporate supporters to:

improve residents' quality of life

enhance the campus

secure our future with endowed funds and strategic investments in new capabilities and through field **leadership**

strengthen the **Scandinavian** Cultural Center & Library

cement our reputation as a vital regional resource in the continuum of care for older adults and a welcoming cultural gathering space for people of all ages.

Please think about supporting the Campaign.

We wouldn't be able to do this work without the compassionate and forward-thinking dedication of the leaders and benefactors who were part of our founding and who helped sustain us through the decades of great progress and challenging times. Please join us in supporting this mission for the decades to come.

Gifts of Cash, Stocks (many tax advantages are associated with donating appreciated assets), IRAs (if you are 70½ years old or older, you can make gifts now without paying any income taxes on your IRA withdrawal, known as a Qualified Charitable Distribution). are all welcome.

Legacy Gifts

Gift planning is a potent tool to realize our campaign's ambition. Planned gifts are a powerful way for donors and beneficiaries to celebrate and leave a lasting legacy for The Scandinavian Living Center and The Scandinavian Cultural Center & Library.

Bequests, trusts, and other deferred acts of giving drive our mission forward—helping to provide outstanding care and

connection for residents and communities alike for generations to come. When you include SLC in your long-term plans, you are recognized as a Legacy Giving member and your gift receives special Fund the Future Campaign recognition.

Support of the Campaign can comprise multiple methods over time (i.e., an initial gift in cash or securities plus a Legacy Gift, or a multi-year contribution from a Donor Advised Fund) to form a significant commitment worthy of name recognition.

Fund the Future Campaign

Donors will be gratefully recognized for their transformational gifts by adding their names—or the names of loved ones or inspirational figures they choose to honor—to the name of the space they support for the next generation.

Nordic Hall \$1,000,000

Part performance hall, part gallery, part educational and community center, it is the centerpiece of all cultural and social activities, with two baby grand pianos, a catering kitchen, and seating capacity of 125.

Scandinavian Library \$500,000

Our collection of 6,000 volumes of exclusively Scandinavian-language books and periodicals and a special reading room for children who are learning to read in the indigenous languages of the Nordic countries.

Veranda \$400,000

CLAIMED

Main Dining Room \$250,000

Our light-filled, Scandinavian design-influenced hub of residential life.

Kaffestugan \$250,000

The Swedish word for "coffee house" and central to both residents and the community at large, serving Scandinavian pastries, waffles, sandwiches, imported treats, and, of course, coffee.

Lobby \$250,000

Where all comings and goings begin, whether coming "home" as a resident, visiting as a family member, or attending an event at the Cultural Center & Library.

Nordic Hall Gallery \$250,000

Home to all the Cultural Center & Library's exhibitions each year, the walls of the Nordic Hall comprise a seldom empty and always engaging gallery of art.

Courtyard \$150,000

The inner green, reserved for residents and their families, can be viewed from the Kaffestugan and many resident apartments.

Front Lawn \$100.000

Our expansive, tree-lined, and newly seeded green offers open views, a place for walks, picnics, and gatherings large and small.

Welcome Desk \$100,000

CLAIMED

Presidents Room \$100,000

A special small gathering place for families to celebrate occasions privately, where meals can be served, and community meetings can be held.

Meditation Chapel \$100,000

A non-denominational quiet space for both religious observances and quiet contemplation.

Resident Care Center \$100,000 The heart of the resident intake process and ongoing wellness program coordination.

Apartments (each) \$50,000

Many of our 40 apartments can be named in honor of a donor, their loved ones, or a company.

FUND THE FUTURE

Continued from previous page

Kaffestugan Patio \$50,000

The welcoming gateway to the Living Center and the Cultural Center & Library, where residents and community members congregate for meals, sun, and conversation.

Fitness Center \$50,000

Where residents are trained to use the best equipment for their needs, from cardio to stretching to strengthbuilding, by our Fitness Specialist.

Resident Garden \$25,000

An accessible raised bed in the Courtyard dedicated to use by residents—with or without green thumbs—for growing vegetables and flowers.

Trees (each) \$10,000

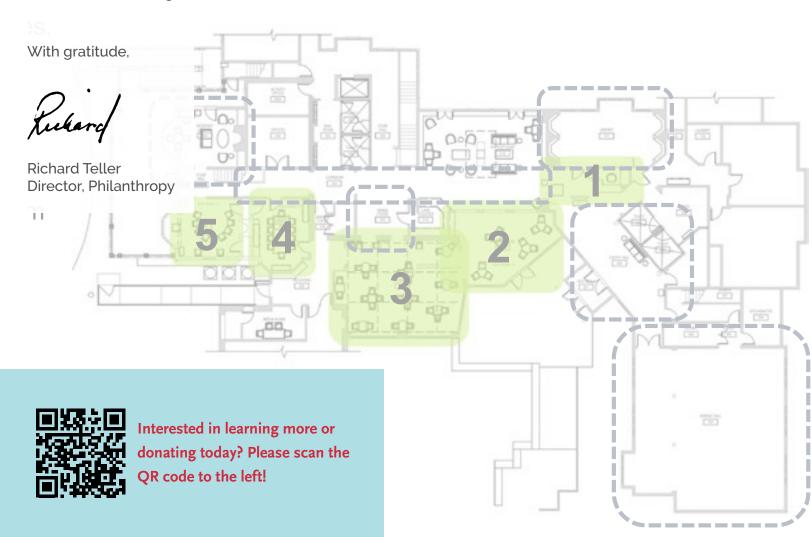
Outdoor Benches (each) \$5,000

Chairs (Dining Room or Nordic Hall) \$1,000

Donor Video Wall for gifts of \$5,000+

All gifts of \$5,000 and above will be permanently listed on our video kiosk in the lobby, a reminder every day of our gratitude.

Joe and I look forward to speaking with you to explore how we can match your wishes with our ambitious dreams for the next generation of the SLC and SCC&L!



Thank you for your continued support of the **Fund the Future Campaign**

The Fund the Future Campaign was launched in 2019 as a comprehensive effort to serve all the programs and the long-term capital projects of the Scandinavian Living Center and the Scandinavian Cultural Center & Library. It provides an opportunity to both gather and acknowledge the generous support of our most loyal donors as it includes gifts for facilities as well as these long-standing endowment funds:

Dr. Erling and Inger Johansen Subsidy Fund, providing critical support to residents if they become unable to afford their monthly fees.

Suzanne and Albert Frederick Jr. Friendship Fund, to support resident and community programs, including classes, trips, lectures, and performances.

Scandinavian Cultural Fund, to support the programs and activities of the Scandinavian Cultural Center & Library.

\$400,000+

Estate of Win I Barnard

\$300,000-\$399,000

Suzanne and Albert R. Frederick Jr. *

\$100,000-\$299,999

Charles H. Farnsworth Charitable Trust

\$40,000-\$99,999

Anonymous *

Eva R. Bergesen 2011 Revocable Trust * Artie and Sigurdur Helgason Robert J. Mullen Charitable Trust Leonard and Florence L. Wilson

\$25,000-\$39,999

Estate of John R. Elander Terje and Brigitte Korsnes * Nordic Group * Estate of Eleanor O. Soorian The Village Bank *

\$15,000-\$24,999

Drapkin Family Jacob Friis and Hyun-A Park Estate of Eliot I. Leaf Sharyn Sooho *

\$10,000-\$14,999

C. William and Alice D. Bergquist Carl and Susan Carlsen Dr. Alan Sooho

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous (2) * Bay State Federal Savings Charitable Foundation Joe Carella and Carole Lacy-Carella * Frances Dragon Joyce D. Haglund

Bruce and Gardi Hauck Lynn A. Haugen

Luana Marie Josvold *

Harriet Laing

Frederick R. and Deborah N. Molander

Gregg C. and Stacy Molander

Liz Sooho Peirce Karl and Elin Proppe

RSM Boston Foundation in honor of

Brendan Romans Kristine A. Soorian Peter Vatne

\$2,500-\$4,999

Walter V. Anderson Foundation

Anonymous

Beauport Financial's Richard D. Wilson Community Response Gift Fund in

honor of Terje Korsnes

Victoria Danberg and John Ficarelli

Robert J. and Margaret B. Ellertsen

Tonje C. Gulbrandsen *

Garth Johnson **George Martins**

Norumbega Lodge 506, Sons of Norway

Brian T. Sciera

Karen Soorian and Arthur Nevins *

SWEA (Swedish Women's Educational Association) * Per Olov Wahlstrom *

\$1,000-\$2,499

David Alexander Anne-Reet Annunziata * Dana Berg and Robert Minturn Steven Borgesen Stig and Donna Bergquist Astrid and Geoffrey Carliner * Gabrielle Clemens **Embrace Home Care and Health Services**

Anita and Augustus White *

Flansburgh Architects Gam and Van't Hul Charitable Trust

Alexander Garthwaite *

David Gordon Richard Harmon Kirsten Holst William N. Keto William R. Leitch * Franklin B. Mead III

Drs. Kathy and Philip Millstein Karen and Larry Nichols Ginga Sewerin-Olsson

John E. and Penelope A. Pearson

Christine Peterson *

Thomas and Margaret Rogers Rotary Club of Newton * Jos and Pia Scheffelaar *

Allen Steere Elsa Wormald

This list reflects cumulative gifts totaling \$1,000 and greater made from October 2019 through February 2025. We are grateful for the many other gifts received in support of Fund the Future and will list them on the SLC website. Donors marked with an asterisk (*) have made gifts to the Cultural Center & Library since 2024. Thank you!

Around Our Neighborhood

A sampling of programs and activities shared by residents and community members almost every day of the week.









Clockwise: Newton South Volunteer Musicians for the Arts, New Years Eve Luncheon, Resident and Daughter at Halloween Luncheon, Wine Pairing Fundraiser for The Newton Food Pantry



Clockwise: Barn Babies, Charcuterie Board Workshop, Cardio Drumming, Succulent Terrarium Class, Cooking Demo, Family Holiday Party

Happenings at the Cultural Center & Library

March marked one year since we celebrated the merger of the Cultural Center with the Scandinavian Library, an occasion we honored with a special event and the launch of our Founder's Circle. The support was overwhelming, and we were truly energized by the enthusiasm of our community.

Motivated by this momentum, we set out to bring you the programming you love while introducing exciting new offerings. One standout addition was the Scandi Cookbook Club. which was an unequivocal success. Over five months, we explored recipes from

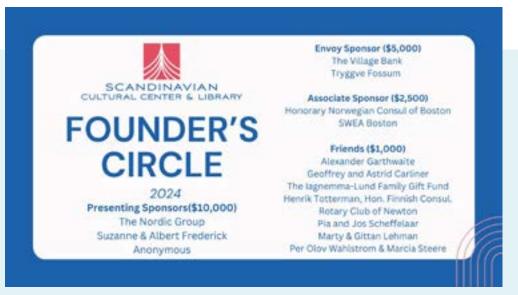
each of the five Nordic countries. Each meeting felt like a potluck, with participants bringing dishes to share. Along the way, we not only sampled dozens of sweet and savory creations but also forged new friendships. We're already looking forward to the next season, which begins in October, and we hope you'll join us!

With foraging being an integral part of Nordic culture, we had long dreamed of hosting a foraging event. When we discovered Diana Burnell and her company. Edible Excursions, we seized the opportunity. Diana led a group of our community members on

an excursion through the forests around Hammond Pond. The event quickly sold out, and participants raved about the experience. We hope to offer another outing soon.

Another meaningful addition to our programming was our celebration of Sámi heritage in January and February. This initiative came to life serendipitously after meeting artist Juliana Gagne at a Brookline Booksmith event. Juliana's work, deeply inspired by her grandfather's Sami heritage, became the centerpiece of an exhibit at Nordic Hall. To complement her powerful





artwork, we hosted three film screenings that offered further insight into Sámi culture, creating an immersive and enriching experience.

In the library, our dedicated staff and volunteers have been working hard, carefully reviewing every

book in our collection to ensure it is properly cataloged. This not only streamlines the checkout process but also makes room for exciting new titles. The timing couldn't be better, as we've recently made library membership free—removing barriers and making books more accessible to all.

We are deeply grateful for the ongoing enthusiasm and support from our community. Your involvement makes all the difference in bringing new programming and expanding our collection. As a nonprofit, we rely on your generosity to continue this work. Scan the QR codes to support us today!

Executive Director, Scandinavian Cultural Center & Library



General SCC&L Support



Founder's Circle Page



Become a member today

SCC&L MEMBERSHIP TYPES

SINGLE \$75 FAMILY \$150 PLUS \$125 STUDENT \$40 (full time students) Sign up at www.scandicenter.org



FOLLOW US @SCANDICENTER

Subscribe to our email list for monthly updates on upcoming events at www.scandicenter.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

05.31.25

BERSERK: A VIKING FESTIVAL FOR ALL 11AM-3PM

06.21.25

MIDSUMMER PICNIC PRESENTED WITH SWEA **BOSTON**

Welcome to Our New Residents

ELVIRA "VERA" ANASTASI

Growing up in Boston's West and North Ends, Vera Anastasi learned to value life's drama and its joy.

Vera's parents came from Sicily. Vera remembers being told that her mother, as a young girl, had been encouraged to join a religious order but realized she enjoyed fashionable clothing too much to follow this vocation. As a young man, Vera's enterprising father purchased and restored several North End buildings turning the ground floor of some of them into successful

neighborhood groceries.

Vera loved her neighborhood: its sights and sounds and the adventures they brought. As a teenager, Vera dutifully tended store for her dad, but she preferred the novelty and freedom of other locations.

Through a West End after school program, Vera became an accomplished actor. Often, when Vera learned that production of a play was about to begin, she encouraged friends to audition with her for character roles. Vera has enjoyed performing in plays throughout her adulthood.

Vera says her husband "had a lot of personality". The couple grew up on the same street, married, and raised four boys on Newton's Commonwealth Avenue.

At age 99, soon to be 100, Vera actively appreciates community living at the SLC and the activities the Center offers. Vera's opinion of the SLC: "I love being here." Her attitude on life: "I love life. Be joyful."

JANE "JENNIE" BURNS

Jennie Burns enjoys the vibrant colors of dahlias, playing piano in the key of G major, and recalling the fun she had roller skating on Florida Street.

Jennie grew up with seven siblings in the diversity of Boston's Dorchester neighborhood.

She remembers speeding down hills in the double runner sled her older brother built. This sled accommodated eight youngsters who, first and foremost, had to figure out how to evenly distribute their collective weight or risk a dramatic end to their ride.

Jennie also recalls her serious commitment to learning piano. Although an instrument was available, private lessons were out of reach. So, Jennie taught herself. She learned to play by ear: transposing the music she heard either to the key of F major or the key of G major. This way, Jennie needed to keep in mind only one flat or one sharp as she reproduced the melody.

And, Jennie fondly recalls riding her bike to the beach and her lifetime enjoyment of singing.

PAULA FAULKNER

Paula Faulkner has a warm place in her heart for young people. She and her husband spent fulfilling hours helping teens and young adults feel valued and special.

Paula was raised in Watertown by parents who came from rocky, windswept Newfoundland.

Newfoundland's physical environment is challenging. During decades of facing their island's challenges together, Newfoundlanders have developed a strong sense of community and a deep appreciation for nature's power and beauty. Paula's mother and father instilled these important values in their three children.

Paula and her husband, whose parents were also from Newfoundland, understood a young person's need to bond with their family's history and culture. To this end, the Faulkners made sure their two daughters, and their grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, have had opportunities to visit the locations in Newfoundland that are important in the story of their extended family.

Paula's husband owned a printing business and taught graphic arts at Newton North High School. The couple was active in their church community and became interested in mentoring their congregation's youth. Youth group members often climbed into the Faulkners' van to begin fun-filled adventures. And, summer after summer, the Faulkners invited kids from church, school, and their extended family to awesome backyard pool parties.

Paula enjoys the creativity of handwork: especially knitting, needlepoint, and crewel embroidery. She belongs to a group of like-minded friends who meet monthly to share their skills.

Now living at the SLC, Paula enjoys making new friends and joining the offered activities: particularly arts and crafts.

Jennie's sixth-grade experience of recovering from a severely broken arm influenced her to become a nurse. At age seventeen, Jennie entered nursing school as a member of the United States Cadet Nurse Corps. Because the United States was fighting World War II, the government paid Jennie's education expenses while stipulating that Jennie join the military after graduation. By the time Jennie completed her training, the war had ended. So, Jennie was released from the requirement to join the military. She chose instead a professional nursing career in the Veterans Administration system.

Jennie and her husband, who achieved the Diamond Life Master duplicate bridge title, raised their daughter in Needham. Welcoming the gardening options offered by her sunny back yard, Jennie enjoyed raising dahlias and roses. She also enjoyed the not-well-known delight of eating home-grown, freshly harvested snow peas raw.

Jennie appreciates the opportunities she's had to travel. To feel closer to her cultural heritage and honor her Polish-born parents, Jennie accepted a friend's invitation to visit Poland as a volunteer. There, for three weeks, she helped young people learn English. Jennie also has enjoyed visits to Austria, Ireland, Portugal, Sicily, and her favorite destination: Greece.

As she continues to settle into life at 206 Waltham Street, Jennie values her interaction with fellow residents and the opportunities to enjoy interesting experiences.

Allen Liberman and The Small Appliance Workshop



ach Wednesday from 1:00 to 4:00 Allen Liberman and his crew of volunteers at the Small Appliance Repair Workshop take on everything from irons and clocks to toasters, vacuum cleaners, lamps, mixers, microwaves and paper shredders. With no charge for labor, they will attempt to get your item back in working order. Although labor will cost you nothing, there may be a small charge if parts are needed.

This service has been available to Newton residents since the early 1990's when it was located in the former Swedish Home. Its mission was to keep things out of landfills. Decades later, it is still operational and important to the community under the management of Newton At Home, operating in the lower level of the Scandinavian Living Center, Since 2016 Allen Liberman has been heading its group of volunteers which includes Carl Alsmeyer, Carolyn Cogswell, Ed Frankenberry and Bob Drukman.

Allen was born in Memphis,

Tennessee and got his undergraduate degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Trov. New York. He earned his MSEE in Electrical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University and moved to Detroit in 1967 to complete his PhD at the University of Detroit and to work for the Burroughs Corporation, a mainframe computer manufacturer. He settled in Boston in 1969 and in 1975-2016 managed his own company offering data processing services (payroll, billing, and large data file

community both daunting and liberating - a place where the residents have similar backgrounds and experiences and there are facilities for me to continue with my hobbies. A place where new friendships can be made with people who share similar life experiences, where wisdom is exchanged, where concerts, games, movie screenings, exercise classes, art workshops and field trips foster camaraderie. I expect that organized activities and the support staff would combat

A place where new friendships can be made with people who share similar life experiences ...

management). He and his wife Sheila raised their two children in Newton.

Allen has volunteered in many different capacities including coaching soccer, fundraising for his alma mater and for Sleep in Heavenly Peace, an organization which makes and installs beds for children whose families cannot afford beds

As he looks ahead, he sees the Scandinavian Living Center as a great choice for many. As for himself, he agrees that "the loss of friends and the absence of daily interactions and social connections can be big factors in creating loneliness and health issues, making the decision to move into any retirement

feelings of loneliness and that the new lifestyle could lead to a new sense of purpose."

He sees the Small Appliance Repair Workshop as a further benefit to the residents of the SLC and its Community Centered Living philosophy. "The environment is active with people bringing in their items, reducing the feeling of isolation."



s we head into the warmer months, our Fitness Center is getting hotter!

Residents come to Fitness up to 4 times a week to use our equipment. As always, the two NuSteps are constantly in use. An increasing number of residents have started strength training. Our 7 pieces of Keiser equipment offer both upper and lower body

The Fitness Center

strengthening. We have a new balance/strengthening area complete with a balance bar, TRX, resistance bands, aerobic step and bosu. As an added bonus, the Fitness Center offers a social outlet where we talk, share stories, and work together to stay healthy!

Every Monday we offer "Stand Up", a class designed to teach fall prevention strategies. Activities include work on the agility ladder, TRX, balance bar and aerobic step. It is wonderful to see the progress we have made in our ability to stop a fall!

On Wednesdays and Fridays, we gather for our Strengthening Class. We use resistance bands

as well as our own body weight to build muscle strength and, subsequently, bone density. This class is mainly seated but may be executed standing as well. We run through a challenging combination of exercises that can be modified as needed.

Cardio Drumming is a new addition to our class schedule. We come together on Tuesdays for a wonderful cardio workout where everyone can freely express themselves through rhythm, beat, and movement. The upbeat music and overall enthusiasm of the class combined create a half hour of fun!

-Suzanne Horgan

Celebrating the **Memory of our Friends**

FRANK ROSS HOLMSTROM **CORA PUCCI**

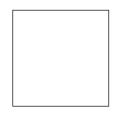
For your convenience, we continue to upload the latest news on our website at www.slcenter.org/news-media/. We also try to include the latest updates in our email blasts and on our Social Media pages!



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