

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Your Faith | Your Values | Your Home

Floral Day at Louis Brier

After a long and snowy winter, we are excited to welcome Spring. On March 22nd, we are asking residents, staff, companions, and families to wear something floral to acknowledge the new season.

March is Music Therapy Month

At the Louis Brier, Music Therapy programs provide culturally relevant and significant programming for our Jewish and non-Jewish residents. Incorporating music that has played an important role in a resident's life creates familiarity and continuity by celebrating culture and heritage. Music can also assist with the transition and change that may accompany moving into long term care.

If you have any concerns or requests for your family member please speak to our Music Therapists Megan Goudreau or Nomi Fenson.

Celebrating Purim



Purim starts on the evening of March 11 and ends on the evening of March 12. The Purim story, which took place 2368 years ago, isn't just a religious holiday — it's an incredible tale of a strong woman risking it all to save her people. And the woman being celebrated is Esther — of the Bible's Book of Esther — Queen of Persia.

Esther became queen by hiding her Jewish heritage from her husband Ahasuerus, King of Persia. When one of his advisors, Haman, plotted to destroy all of the Jewish people in his kingdom (which was at that time, all of the Jews in the world), Esther risked her life by approaching her husband without being summoned, revealed her true ethnicity and asked him to spare her people. The Feast of Purim celebrates her bravery.

At the Louis Brier and Weinberg Residence, Purim is celebrated by; having a raucous party (Sunday, March 12), making hamantaschen, reading and discussing The Megillat Esther (The Book of Esther or The Scroll of Esther) which is a firsthand account of the events of Purim, written by the heroes themselves – Esther and Mordechai.

For those not yet in the know, hamantash (*Yiddish*) or *hamantaschen*, the sweet Ashkenazic cookie with an

Message from Stephen Shapiro



As the newly appointed Executive Director of the Louis Brier Jewish Aged Foundation, I want to thank you for welcoming me so warmly into the Louis Brier family. I have met quite a few of your family members since arriving to the Foundation in January and I look forward to further growing these connections with you and your families.

A little about myself; I grew up in Calgary and moved to Vancouver about 16 years ago. I have been a fundraising professional for over 25 years. More specifically, I held the position as president and CEO of the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation for nearly 5 years before and prior to that several positions at the University of British Columbia. I have also worked in Jewish communal services and served on boards in the Jewish communities of Calgary and Vancouver.

I am so excited to be joining the Foundation at a time when the Snider Campus, which includes the Louis Brier Home and Hospital as well as the Weinberg Residence, is planning for the future. The Home and Hospital is an aging facility and will require significant renovations or complete replacement in the coming years, and since starting at the Foundation I have become involved in these early stages of the planning process. My time working at St. Paul's is a very useful experience to draw upon.

I'm very grateful for the opportunity that the community has given me by being at the Louis Brier. With my lifelong commitment to Jewish quality of life coupled with my new-found love for the residents of the Home and Hospital, I really look forward to serving the needs of our community in the years to come.

Stephen Shapiro

orange-zest twist, is a filled pocket - cookie or pastry, recognizable for its triangular shape (reminiscent of the triangular hat of the evil Haman!) made to be enjoyed during the festival of Purim.

During Purim revelers are encouraged to dress up (to hide their identity), to make noise with *graggers* during the reading of The Megillah to drown out the name of the evil Haman when his name is read aloud (hence the raucous part of 'party') and to party like its 1999, or in this case, sometime around 482-483 BCE.



Families are invited to attend the Purim party on March 12 (2pm-3pm) where there will be great music, an amazing balloon sculpture guy and take advantage of our Selfie-Photo Booth in the LB lobby where you can dress up in fun props and photograph yourself. Email your photo to Purim@louisbrier.com and we will put your photo in a slideshow on the television in the lobby for display throughout the week following Purim. Bring the grandkids!

Income Tax Filing



Did you know that the monthly residential user fee (the monthly charges) is set according to the previous year's income tax return? **The deadline for filing 2016 income tax return is May 1, 2017.**

To be eligible for a publicly subsidized monthly rate, you **MUST** file a tax return every year. In the absence of a filed income tax return, effective January 1, 2017, residents will be charged the maximum allowable monthly user fee – approximately \$3,200. This will not be refunded retroactively if the CRA has not received the appropriate information (i.e. your filed tax return).

Any questions? Please contact Debbie Litvack [\(604\) 267-4744](tel:6042674744) or Jane Little, Case Manager at Pacific Spirit Community Health Centre, [\(604\) 267-2649](tel:6042672649). We look forward to hearing from you!

The Redevelopment Project

The Dr. Irving & Phyliss Snider Campus for Jewish Seniors is a continuum of care which includes the Louis Brier Home & Hospital and the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Residence.

Over the years, our facilities have been remodeled and expanded. However, to provide current best practices and care delivery, our facilities need to be replaced if we are to continue to meet the diverse and complex needs of the Jewish community.

Redeveloping provides an opportunity to create world class facilities and provide seniors with care and flexibility of services for decades to come and to expand the original vision and mission of the community's founding members and families.

Engagement & Consultation – Family Focus Group

The Snider Campus leadership is committed to continuing the process of engagement and consultation with residents, their families, local communities, care providers and other key stakeholders to help shape the redevelopment.

The Redevelopment Project Team is hosting two focus groups for families of the Louis Brier Home & Hospital and Weinberg Residence to discuss current and future needs of the community.

Please join us at Louis Brier Home & Hospital to participate in one of the following Family Focus Groups:

1. **Tuesday March 28th at 6:30 pm**
2. **Thursday March 30th at 6:30 pm**

If you would like to participate in a focus group or other upcoming events, please RSVP to the Redevelopment Project team for more information by email info@louisbrier.com or by phone 604.267.4782.



Ask the Doctor

Q: When is a urine infection not a urine infection?

A: Although urine infections are the most common infections in residential care, “UTI” is also overdiagnosed. About half of residents will have bacteria in their urine not causing any trouble in the same way that we all have bacteria on our skin or in our intestines. So, when there is a test of the urine, about half the time bacteria will be found. This is why it is so important that we only test urine if we are concerned about infection because of fever, pain, urine incontinence, delirium or other changes. The staff at Louis Brier are well-trained to look for these changes and we always want to know when family members and caregivers notice changes as well. Also, given that bacteria in the urine is such a common finding, it is important to consider all possible causes of a symptom and not settle for “UTI” as a diagnosis; for example, pain is much more common than UTI as a cause of delirium. So, while some of our residents do get urinary infections, it is important that we know the context and ensure that we have assessed for other causes before settling on a diagnosis and starting treatment.

Dr. Eric Cadesky, Medical Coordinator

Nursing Leadership is Growing

It is my great pleasure to announce 2 new additions to the Nursing Leadership Team.

Jennifer Belen has taken on the role of Clinical Nurse Leader alongside Rebecca Fernandez. Jennifer has been with Louis Brier Home and Hospital for a number of years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the team. With Rebecca and Jennifer, we will be able to provide clinical leadership from 9 am to 9 pm, 7 days a week. They will support the nurses and care aides in clinical decision making and trouble shooting, particularly as it impacts resident care.

Nicole Encarnacion has joined us in the role of Clinical Care Coordinator/Educator. Nicole has been a casual RN at Louis Brier Home and Hospital. In addition to providing clinical support and leadership, Nicole will take the lead in coordinating education for the nurses and care aides. Nicole will be here Monday through Friday and will be available to provide consultation and support to the nursing team, residents and families.

Louis Brier welcomes Jennifer and Nicole as new additions to our dynamic new nursing team.

Ronda Karliner



Rabbi's Corner



In March, Louis Brier will be celebrating the Jewish holiday of Purim. This is the most joyous holiday on the Jewish calendar! It celebrates the eternal survival of the Jewish people in the face of exile.

An interesting aspect of this holiday is the tradition to dress in costume. This alludes to the fact that often the hand of G-d is "hidden" behind what might otherwise be called fortunate coincidence. We will be encouraging willing staff and residents to dress up in joyous, cheerful, and tasteful costumes.

Louis Brier will be decorated for the festival, which is on March 12th, and you can expect to see lots of visitors sharing cheer along with traditional gifts of food. We will also host a party on Sunday the 12th. Please help us enjoy by joining in the celebration!

As always, if you have any questions about Jewish tradition at Louis Brier, or if you'd just like to know more about this great day, don't hesitate to get in touch with me: 604-267-4618 or hbrody@louisbrier.com.

Interested in living closer to the Louis Brier?



The Weinberg Residence currently has a number of Private Pay Assisted Living suites available. We are not experiencing sufficient demand from the Jewish community to fill them.

Though we remain a Jewish residence serving Kosher meals and celebrating Jewish culture and holidays, we want to share with you that the Weinberg Residence now welcomes seniors from inside AND outside the Jewish Community to our Private Pay Assisted Living suites.

Assisted living refers to residences that offer housing, hospitality, and personal care services to individuals who can live independently but require regular help with daily activities. The Weinberg Assisted Living is a vibrant community where our residents live with independence and choice. A vast array of social, cultural, and recreational programs keep our residents engaged, entertained, and on the go every day. They enjoy healthy, tasty meals prepared by our Executive Chef, Steve Bourdreau.

For more information about the Weinberg Residence, contact Vanessa Trester, Manager, at 604.267.4722 or visit www.weinbergresidence.com. Check us out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/weinbergresidence/>