

Ron Smith Care Centre

@ Elphin Lodge



May 2024 No. 100



Beetles, cappuccino and fun



A good time was had by all on April 19 when residents from all the wings gathered in the Recreation Centre to participate in the 'Draw a beetle' dice game and enjoy cappuccinos and muffins. Twelve teams made up of residents, staff and volunteers furiously competed against each other to be the first team to complete the drawing of a beetle with all its body parts in place. But it wasn't easy! The players had to roll the dice and get a '6' to start the game and draw the body. Then they had to keep rolling the dice and get a 5 to draw the head; 4 for the tail, 3 for each of the 6 legs, 2 for each feeler and 1 for each eye! There was lots of laughter and fun - and good-natured groans of frustration when the wrong numbers kept coming up! Several rounds of the game were played and the jubilant winners pocketed chocolate bars.

100th issue

CEDAR PARK RESIDENT: RUTH GREEK

I was born on May 2, 1927, in Lithuania. When I was 3, my family emigrated to SA. We lived among other immigrant families in Woodstock, Cape Town. There was always laughter despite the challenges of immigrant life and the hardships of WW2. I have fond memories of my mother handing me hot cocoa & a bagel over the school fence every day! My brother was a good student, while I played around! One day the principal said to me: "You should be as studious as your brother, not as pretty as your dress." That remark stung & I eventually settled down! After matriculating, I worked as a typist

& then for a conveyancer. I met my husband, Aubrey, on a blind date at my uncle's home in JHB. After sending letters back and forth for a while, he came to Cape Town & proposed. At the age of 21, I married him at the Gardens Synagogue in Cape Town. Aubrey had a zest for life; he was a hard worker & wonderful father. We were married for almost 50 years until his death in 1998. We had 3 children: Howard (USA), Marlene (JHB), & Shirley (Australia); 4 grandchildren & 5 great grandchildren. I am thankful that I have the love and support of my beautiful family.



FAVOURITES

Living in Carletonville for 17 years, raising our children there & running our business as a supplier of school supplies, fabric & uniforms **I Clothes & fashion** **I Memorable 3-month trip to Israel, Greece, Italy, & England in 1961** **I Managing a dress shop & owning a baby clothes shop** **I I loved cooking (especially Jewish food) & baking (cakes & biscuits)** **I Painting, knitting** **I Meeting people & making friends** **I Caring for others** **I Living happily at Elphin Lodge for 23 years** **I Loving & accepting others for who they are**

RIVER LODGE 2 RESIDENT: ISOBEL KOHLL

I was born into a Jewish family in Boksburg in 1922. From a young age, I had the capacity to enjoy life! I owe my life-long love of the arts (music, dance, drama) to my mummy, an English Jew, who used to sing to us children at bedtime. She encouraged my love of singing, dancing & acting. I started ballet lessons when I was 8. My teacher had trained with the great Russian ballet dancer, Anna Pavlova. I left school early to attend Miss Marples secretarial college, which was run by 2 sisters who always seemed to have dripping noses! At the same time, I was accepted as a member of the South African Dance Teachers Asso-

ciation & began teaching tap & ballet in the East Rand. The mothers gave me a hard time because they all wanted their little darlings to be the star ballerinas! I also taught speech & drama. I met my husband, Raymond Kohll, through my brother Alex, then a locum doctor who travelled around the Western Transvaal & often stayed at the Kohll's farm. Raymond had 3 brothers, but I chose him because we hit it off straight away & he was good looking! We were happily married for over 50 years & had 2 sons: Jeffrey (Wales) & Malcolm (Cape Town). I have 3 grandchildren & 3 great grandchildren.



FAVOURITES

I loved travelling, especially Greece **I Adventure & new experiences** **I Cooking & baking: I loved trying out new recipes** **I Ethnic foods (Jewish, Chinese, Italian)** **I Satisfying my sweet tooth with Hamantaschen, coconut cake or cheesecake** **I Fond memories of acting in many plays & musicals over the years** **I My role as Sally Hardcastle in Taubie Kushlick's production of Love on the Dole, where I had to speak with a Lancashire accent** **I Finding joy & beauty wherever I am** **I Finding the good in everyone & everything**

CEDAR PARK CAREWORKER: KGOTSO MAPHETO

I was born in 1998 in Phokoane Limpopo, the 3rd of 8 children. My baby brother is the last born & the only boy. We call him Boy-Boy & he is so spoilt! After leaving school, I took a gap year to work out what I must do next, and then decided to move to Tembisa to complete my matric. In the meantime, I met someone who was a careworker, & I was inspired to become a careworker like her, because I realised that we have lots of grannies in Limpopo, but we didn't have the knowledge of how to care for them properly. I have such love & respect for older people & I realised that I wanted to learn how to give them the best care possible. In

2022, I did careworker training, then worked as a relief cleaner at Inyoni, & then as a cleaner at Wedge Gardens. I used to say to myself that one day, I would be looking after the elderly in a loving, caring environment & in February 2024, I finally got the job of my dreams as a careworker at RSCC. I met my husband, Robert, when I was out shopping in Limpopo. We exchanged phone numbers & communicated back & forth for about 3 months, before our first face-to-face date! Two years after we met, we had a traditional wedding ceremony in 2020 & have 3 sons: Kopano (9), Calvin (5) & William (3).



FAVOURITES

Growing up in a close family who loved to sing & go to church together **I The colour pink** **I Singing, dancing, gospel music (Winnie Mashaba)** **I Finding new recipes to cook to make my family happy** **I Pap and meat, cabbage, butternut, mixed fruit yogurt and chocolate cake** **I Kaizer Chiefs** **I Playing soccer, dancing and singing with my boys** **I My beautiful family** **I My meaningful job on the Cedar Park wing that enables me to make a difference** **I My noisy, active boys who keep me very busy**

RESIDENTS

02 May Ruth Greek, CP	97
05 May Guerino Morgia, RL3	83
07 May Patricia Lowe, LS	85
11 May Tilly Bryant, RL2	90
13 May Stella Murray, RL 2	97
14 May Irene Simon, CP	98
19 May Ruth Cole, WL	84
23 May Argentina Smith, WL	83
25 May Jacobus Sosef, LS	97

STAFF

04 May Nandipha Ngesi
04 May Grace Ratisani
06 May Elizabeth Peterson
07 May Singathwa Siboto
10 May Senzeleni Nkosi
15 May Thizwivhoni Ramavhoya
23 May Maite Mawasha

Staff members must please remember to collect their birthday chocolate from reception.

Welcome to

Elisabetta Morgia	RL3
Peter Swanepoel	RL1

Fondly remembered

Peter Thompson	RL1
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Self-motivation drives March's winners

River Lodge 1 scooped the award for the best housekeepers in March, thanks to Phyllis Mbatha, Merriam Motaung and Phyllis Ntimana.

Each month, Ron Smith Care Centre inspects its various residential wings and chooses the team that has kept its area sparkling clean.

The care centre's Sister Leanie Bessinger says when she visited the wing, Phyllis Ntimana and Merriam were busy scrubbing. She did not have to give them any instructions or ask them to do anything, they just took the initiative and did what had to be done. Sr Leanie says she saw a big difference in the cleanliness of River Lodge 1 since they were assigned there.

Also recognised for her efforts was Phyllis Mbatha, a dedicated relief worker. "She works non-stop. She is always busy scrubbing something and always has a smile on her face!" says Sr Leanie.



Phyllis Mbatha, Sr Leanie Bessinger, Merriam Motaung and Phyllis Ntimana.