

# THE OLIVE PRESS

BY RHODA GOLDMAN PLAZA

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## Books and Reading—Creating Community



Illustrations by RGP Resident Mary Swope

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“Tell me how you read and I’ll tell you who you are.”

Martin Heidegger

*How* you read a book?? Why did he say *How*???

But of course! Heidegger, a German philosopher who contributed so much to hermeneutics was referring to the hermeneutic approach to a text—grappling with it, interpreting, re-reading in order to understand it. Understanding was the goal.

In hermeneutic thought, through the process of understanding, readers connect with text. No skimming over; but chewing; ruminating. The reader brings all of himself, not only his intellect to this process. Reading to understand becomes a deep conversation between the reader and text.

How do you engage with a text? This was his question. Do you grow in the process of understanding it? Did you learn something about yourself as you strove to understand? Did you engage deeply enough to understand the meaning of the text?

In the process of understanding the reader may discuss it. And when we talk about books, we also talk about ourselves... Sometimes community develops through these social interactions, through discussions, sharing experiences, weighing meaning(s).

When we are open to the opportunity to create community, we may find already existing communities—discovering an author who has already written books on subjects which fascinate us. Or discover that someone else has read an obscure book that you loved. Our eyes gleam with shared understanding as we discuss *Women’s Work, The First 20,000 Years*...truly obscure, but fascinating....then we buy another copy, and send it off to others who cannot get a copy and have not heard of it.... I sent mine to Uzbekistan.....

*The Olive Press will not appear in August.  
We will return in September.*

# Resident of the Month—Mike Brassington

“There’s nothing like a book! You open it and immediately you are transported into a different world. I highly recommend reading,” Mike Brassington stated with a smile.

“Reflecting on the topic of reading,” Mike said, “I was surprised to notice two opposite trends—reading to escape and reading to become informed. I

often read as an escape, and choose spy or legal thrillers. On the other hand, driven by curiosity, I also read to know what is happening in the world.

There are other reasons to read, too.... When I was leading the Meyer Friedman Institute, Dr. Friedman prescribed reading as a way to mitigate Type A personality traits. “To force Type A’s to relax, he prescribed reading Marcel Proust’s *Remembrance of Things Past*—all seven volumes. “He encouraged people to read any and all of the classics. He saw it as a way for people to re-energize or strengthen their right brain”—the creative side—“which he felt atrophied in people with Type A behavior,” said Dr. Barton Sparagon, ....”<sup>1</sup>

Becoming informed was the heart of what I did at the Commonwealth Club for about twenty years. As the executive director I carried out its mission “... to be the leading national forum open to all for the impartial discussion of public issues important to the membership, community and nation.”<sup>2</sup> The Club also hosted the California Book Awards to encourage California writers.

I’ve noticed that the people who read tend to be curious. They want to know what is happening, perhaps asking themselves “Shouldn’t I be on top of things so that I can carry on an informed conversation with others?”



These days, I see discussions about reading reflected in national discourse. As a nation, I don’t think we have been so up-tight since the Vietnam War. Some people became so entrenched in their own beliefs that they were not interested in reading or investigating other points of view. Today we see a similar rigidity of mindset. People don’t want to read, discuss, or understand another point of view. Reading should open up people’s minds and expand their thinking. But now, people believe that non-fiction does not present truth or

impartiality. And today there is also an increase in the banning of books...

I was born in Tacoma, Washington, but because my father’s job necessitated relocating, we lived in quite a few cities in Washington. I moved too often to make good friends, so I made friends with books. While at the University of Puget Sound, I worked at night in a bank and studied during the day. When I was eighteen years old, I was a manager of three banking departments... managing people much older than I. At the University, I studied Business and Russian and Arab History and Culture. I had become fascinated with Russia and the Middle East from the books I’d read. I also had a professor who had been head of US intelligence during WWII in Turkey; his lectures were fascinating!

After serving in the Army, I decided to remain in San Francisco where I had been stationed. I worked in insurance for a couple of years, but realized that I preferred to work in the non-profit sector; it was freer, offered opportunities to explore, it gave freedom and the opportunity to be creative. I worked at the Commonwealth Club for twenty—three years, then at Friedman Institute at Mt. Zion, and afterwards at the California State Park Foundation.

Mike’s wife Betty, former Chair of California’s Democratic Party, is also a resident of RGP.

<sup>1</sup> ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meyer\\_Friedman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meyer_Friedman))

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.commonwealthclub.org/who-we-are>



Emma Davis  
*Director of Programming and Counseling*

## Books and The Book Club

*Pride and Prejudice*, by Jane Austen

It might be a little cliché but I always go back to Jane Austen. I first read *Pride and Prejudice* in my high school English class and it was the first classic that didn't put me to sleep; rather I found myself re-reading sections. Furthermore, I was able to use what I had read to improve my analytical reading abilities and develop my writing skills. Those skills served me throughout my college career. My teacher recognized my love for the book and gifted me a copy which I still have and reread today!

"I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of any thing than of a book! When I have a house of my own, I shall be miserable if I have not an excellent library."

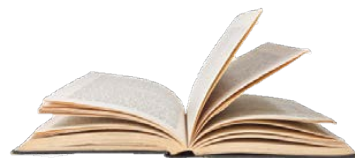
Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*

### Book of the Month Club

I can't pick just one book but rather my new favorite book is my monthly subscription to the Book of the Month Club! Every month I get to choose a new book (or more...). Choices include fiction, non-fiction, thrillers, historical, romance, biography, and so much more. There are debut authors, seasoned writers and everything in between. Often, I can get new titles that aren't available in my local book store. And better yet, I can share them with my family, friends and colleagues. My mom, who lives across the country, and I spent an hour and half on the phone the other week talking about our recent reads. More recently at RGP, we have a number of staff who trade books and I found connections with people that I might have never known had it not been for our shared love of books. So far, I'm on my fortieth book of the year and I can't wait to keep reading!

The RGP Book Club is always looking for new members! You don't even have to have read the book to join the discussion (although it usually helps). Most of our book selections are based on recommendations by the wonderful librarians at SF Public Library, and also by RGP residents and staff. A few months ago, the book club extended a new offer to residents to encourage more resident involvement; we invite residents to recommend a book and facilitate the discussion of the book at the next meeting. Discussions are much more lively and engaging when the leader is passionate about the book. Programming staff will help coordinate getting copies of the book from the library. The next book up in July will be *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* by Maria Semple.

Some of the past titles read by the book club include *Taste* by Stanley Tucci, *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman, *Under A White Sky* by Elizabeth Kolbert and *The 100-year-old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson.



## Evelyn Adler and the Book Club

When I came to RGP in 2017, there was no Book Club. I had always been a member of a book club because it had provided social interaction and social connection to people. In my experience, a Book Club provides an on-going connection to like-minded people with stimulating ideas. So I decided to start one and got help from Book Club leaders I knew from other places.

Book Clubs don't happen without a leader—someone has to organize and lead. Otherwise nothing happens. So I sent out notifications and invited people. *Hillbilly Eulogy* was the first book we read. The first meeting was successful. Although no more than ten to twelve people attended, that was a success... and they had all read the book.

From the beginning, I understood that people would not buy books—a very emotional subject. When people came here, they often had given away their favorite books which was a very difficult situation for them, people still felt a strong sense of loss.

In the beginning, we had difficulty choosing books to read. Everyone had a favorite book, but we couldn't choose all of them. I had to say "I'll put it on the list" since there were so many good books. At this point, the Programming Department stepped in to aid in managing the books.

We have had good book discussions and we have had good conversations even when we didn't expect them. Meetings were successful because everyone had a chance to talk and be heard and people felt safe enough to talk about things that were personal. They could discuss whether the book had anything to do with them, how the book reminded them of events and people.

Book Club... a companionship of like intellects and shared experience. Discussions bring to light connection among members. Books remind us of past times and experiences and remind us of our lives and times. I've realized that things matter because we remember. Without books, people would not know history. And without conversations, many important things would be forgotten.

## Mike Brassington Recommends...

- *Sea Biscuit and Unbroken*, by Laura Hillenbrand
- *109 East Palace: Robert Oppenheimer and the Secret City of Los Alamos*, by Jennet Conant
- *The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz; The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America*, by Erik Larson
- *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*, and other spy novels, by John le Carre
- *The Hunt for Red October*, by Tom Clancy
- *Night Soldiers Series*, by Alan Furst
- *Bang the Drum Slowly*, by Mark Harris
- *The Rules of Civility, A Gentleman in Moscow, The Lincoln Highway*, by Amor Towles
- *A Time for Mercy, Sooley*, and other books by John Grisham



## Carol Pearlman

Annie came to help me thanks to Emma, who is psychic and provides help I myself don't even know I need. Annie knocked on my door one day when I was flat on my back, recuperating from something or another, and feeling low-down mean and cranky. We talked for more than an hour and my spirits rose. Annie is smart, got a Master's degree in literature, has read the great works, and quotes Shakespeare! Competitive bitch that I am, I started dropping names like Goncharov, Unomuno and Paul Valerie, but she was right there with me. Though we connected through books, the more I got to know Annie the more I liked her. In fact I adore Annie, whose conversations always perk me up. I can't imagine what she likes about me.



Candiece Milford,  
*Managing Director of Marketing*

## Books Are Fine Company in Building Community

Released from elementary school at 2:15 every day, I walked two-and-a-half blocks to the local library where I was required to stay until 5:00 pm because my parents worked until that time. I learned to love the Los Feliz Library—the big, oak tables, the smell of books, and especially the biography section. I don't know what drew me there, but I made a commitment at age seven, to read ALL the books in that section . . . which I eventually did. I felt safe there, like it was home away from home. I also won the award one year of having read a hundred books over summer vacation.

Later, in high school, my interests widened and I had a car. I found myself driving to downtown Los Angeles to take photographs of the old theatres, and “Skid Row.” The area was admittedly rather sketchy, but also just a few blocks from the revered Los Angeles



Public Library—a classic building in the heart of downtown—an architectural wonder of its time. Today it is the third largest library in the U.S. and was the first library to have a woman as its head librarian.

Another first for this library was to expand its role beyond being a repository of books, periodicals and other documents to welcome the larger community for afternoon storytelling, for homeless who spent the day there, and to provide other social programs and events. In other words, it grew to be a community-building space and became the model for the rest of the U.S. as such. All

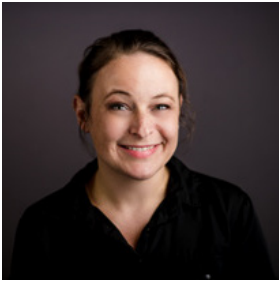
are welcome—what a beautiful statement of inclusion!

Continuing to be a voracious reader, I have kept a journal of my favorite quotes or beautifully crafted observations that I review when I need to be still and clear my mind. Here, for example, is one of the most beautiful statements about books and libraries I have read to date from *“The Library Book”* by Susan Orlean, a fascinating insight into the history of my beloved library: “But if something you learn or observe or imagine can be set down and saved, and if you can see your life reflected in previous lives, and can imagine it reflected in subsequent ones, you can begin to discover order and harmony. You know that you are a part of a larger story that has shape and purpose—a tangible, familiar past and a constantly refreshed future. We are all whispering in a tin can on a string, but we are heard, so we whisper the message into the next tin can and the next string. Writing a book, just like building a library, is an act of sheer defiance. It is a declaration that you believe in the persistence of memory.”

At RGP, there are so many places to cozy up to bond with your books, in one of our six libraries, community areas on each residential floor, or in one of the gardens. What a delight to smell our glorious roses in the shade of a canopy reading. Heaven or nirvana—you pick!

If you feel like it, “whisper into your tin can” and share with me what books have changed your lives and brought you closer to others.

photo by: CC-BY-SA THOMAS GUIGNARD



## Health Notes

Adrienne Fair, MSN, RN,  
*Assistant Executive Director*

### *The Monkey King and More*



SF Chinatown mural (on Sacramento St.) that depicts *Monkey King* characters

I live in the Outer Sunset and belong to a fabulous neighborhood book club. We have been meeting for less than a year and I have really appreciated getting to know my friends and neighbors in a more intellectual light. The mechanics, surfers, and other Sunset denizens do have quite insightful views on literature, life, and aesthetics.

Our latest book was *Monkey King: Journey to the West* by Wu Cheng'en. It is a Chinese classic whose archetypes you may see referenced in art and literature: the daring obnoxious Monkey King, the gluttonous Pigsy, the somewhat depressed river monster Sandy, and the handsome Buddhist monk Tripitaka.

A recent medically-related book that I greatly appreciated reading is *Elderhood* by Louise Aronson, a UCSF Geriatrician; I appreciate her outlook on aging and healthcare. She elucidates the beauty and challenges of Geriatrics – a field that is seen as less “glamorous” than other areas of medicine. Aging happens to us all and there is definitely an art to maintaining quality of life as health conditions tend to snowball over time. Another fabulous book along this vein is *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande.

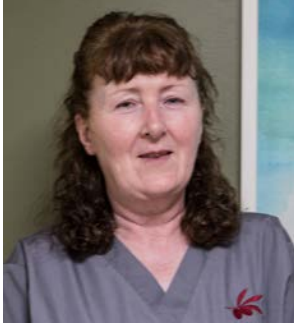
Sitting on my desk in my “to-read” pile is a signed copy of *Living in the Moment: A Guide to Overcoming Challenges and Finding Moments of Joy in Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Dementias* by SF Geriatrician Dr. Elizabeth Landsverk. This book is incredibly practical (as its title suggests)—almost a “What to Expect when You’re Expecting” for memory loss.

Thinking of books reminds me of the joy of reading aloud to my daughter when she was younger. We spent many hours with *Chronicles of Narnia* and the *Wizard of Oz* series. We were so excited for the *Seeds of America* trilogy by Laurie Halse Anderson, that we pre-ordered the final book. Although these are historical-fiction novels about an enslaved teenager during the Revolutionary War are designated as young adult fiction, I highly recommend them for adults as well. Oh, and *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan is a graphic novel that depicts how new immigrants feel in a stylized fantastical country—it is an incredible book.

Thinking back on authors that made an impression on me, I really have quite a few. I was an English and French major at Denison University well before I pursued my Master’s in Nursing at SF State. I was a big fan of French Existentialism at the time: Sartre, Camus, and de Beauvoir. I also enjoyed the dystopian novels of Margaret Atwood and Angela Carter, and the gorgeous prose of Toni Morrison and Maya Angelou.

I had the thrill of meeting Maya Angelou in person when she was giving a speech at Denison University in the 90’s— and I will end with her words of wisdom. Her quote is incredibly apt for healthcare and interpersonal relationships—and when caring for people with memory loss in particular: “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

## Employee of the Month— June Buckley



I was very surprised when I was told that I was nominated to be employee of the month. I felt there were plenty of other people ahead of me that you could have chosen.

My story is that I came here to San Francisco

twenty-eight years ago from a small town in Ireland from a county that's famous for its horse racing—Kildare County. I come from a family of five girls and three boys; I was in the middle. So, you can imagine, as a middle child in a large family, I learned how to negotiate, to get along with others, to work with others to get things done. I think that's where my patience comes from.

I came into health care because it offered nighttime shifts. I had to take care of my son during the day, so I worked at night. Once I got into healthcare, I liked it. I've been working in health care for the past twenty years and have been at Rhoda Goldman for four years.

Secret of success? I don't have any secrets of success. It seems however, that having patience is very important. When I wake residents up in the morning to assist them, they usually have a story, and it's always about the past, as they remembered themselves. Validating them, who they were is so very important and opens up other ways of relating to them. Conversations may open up shared experiences and they become willing to open up and work with you as you assist them get ready for breakfast or whatever they have planned. I enjoy each and every day with the residents. I love to hear their stories of how they grew up and how they came to RGP.

I like working at RGP because it is really like family.... it is. When you go to other facilities and then come here, you can feel the difference. Maybe it is people's friendliness, the openness... I can't say what it is, except that it is a feeling of family. But I couldn't do what I do without my co-workers—we are a team and they are the BEST!

Thanks for nominating me.

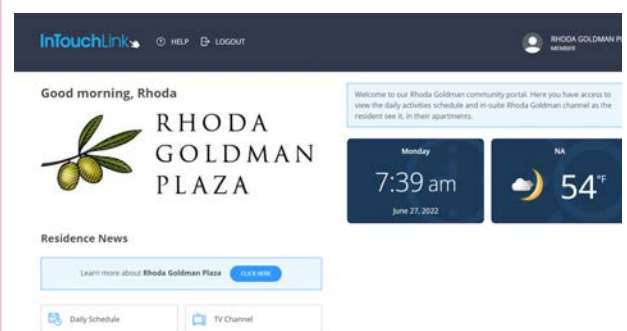
## Caregiver Support Group



Our Caregiver Support Group is now open to family members and friends of RGP residents! Facilitated by Ymkje Dioquino, MS, LMFT, this group is for family members and care partners of RGP residents

with memory impairment. July's groups are scheduled for July 4th and July 18th.

For more information, please contact Emma, Director of Programming at 415-345-5098 or [emmad@rgplaza.org](mailto:emmad@rgplaza.org).



## RGP Family Portal

We are pleased to introduce our new RGP Family portal—a way for loved ones to access the RGP Programming channel offerings and daily activities schedule in real time.

To access the RGP family portal, go to the following website. (Hold down the control key as you click on the link.)

<https://pegasus.intouchlink.com/user/login>

Username: `rgp.community`

Password: `2180post`

There are currently two ways to view the schedule.

- The Daily Schedule will give you a daily listing of what the activities are for the day, and month.
- The TV Channel shows what is playing on the in-house TV channel.

\*Both options under TV channels play the same content.





Elizabeth Wyma-Hughes  
*Director of Resident Services*

## Books

As an avid reader, I can think of few things that build community better than books, though I may be biased. This was made abundantly clear in the early days of COVID when the things we normally socialize over like meals, celebrations, and even life's more mundane moments (waiting for an elevator is a great equalizer after all) were abruptly stopped. Books, however, helped to fill a void, giving readers not just an escape, but something they could connect with others over.

Perhaps that is why the RGP Book Club was one of the first groups to brave the new world of Zoom in order to connect. In early May of 2020, an intrepid group of 6 residents logged onto a Zoom meeting with a little help from RGP staff and discussed *Mrs. Bridge* by Evan Connell. Looking back at emails from that time, I found a note sent by a resident just two hours after that first meeting. "Our book club meeting had the advantage of bringing us very close together ... I don't know why, but sitting here, at my desk, for all the Zoom or other computer events feels much more intimate than TV or even some live meetings."

For a full year, the Book Club continued meeting remotely, sharing thoughts on the books they had read and getting to see each other's faces without masks. This was a bright spot for many who participated and a welcome slice of normalcy.

Of course, there are many residents reading separately from the book club. This is evident by regular additions made to our RGP libraries as residents finish a book and add it to the library for others to enjoy. I know I am always glad to come across an interesting book in my travels on the residential floors and wonder which resident has left it and what their thoughts were. Once in a while, I'm rewarded with a name printed on the inside of a book showing me who left the book, allowing me to thank them if the book was particularly good and commiserate if it wasn't!

### Elizabeth's Book Recommendations

*The Art of Dying Well: A Practical Guide to a Good End of Life* by Katy Butler

A thoughtful guide to navigating old age and end of life issues. Butler's focus on quality of life throughout the aging process is well researched yet highly accessible. As I learned with my mother's end of life journey, there is steep learning curve to the business of aging and dying, and we are too often caught on our backfoot. This book gives readers agency in a way few books on the subject do and I wish I had read it five years ago. I would recommend this to anyone who has the intention of living and dying well or helping a loved one do the same.

*The Ministry for the Future* by Kim Stanley Robinson

Set in the near future, this work of fiction explores the ravaging impacts of climate change and explores large scale changes to combat it. Unlike other climate change fiction books, this book felt imminent, covering scenarios that could be out of tomorrow's newspaper, forcing the reader to address what is right in front of us. I recommend this with the caveat that it is at times devastating to read. However, over a year later I still cannot stop thinking about it and the hopeful note it weaves into a dire situation.



# My Books

by Maxene Kotin

My fav books – the ones I can't live without, except the ones I can't find... due to moves from Sheboygan, Madison, Chicago, Washington DC, back to Chicago, Smith Ranch to San Francisco; and books that may have been left on airplanes or inadvertently tossed with the stuffing from packing boxes.

But the ones I clutched to my bosom lo these many years are *Truman* by David McCullough (that weighs in at three and one-half pounds and purchased like new for \$1.00 at a second hand book store); and *Close Your Books* by Rabbi Mark Shapiro continue to bring me such joy after many readings.

McCullough, the distinguished historian, story teller and researcher gives the reader insight into young Harry Truman's hard work on a family farm, turn of the century boyhood, to political beginnings that strengthened his character and achieving greatness on his own under FDR's shadow.

President Truman didn't go to college but had an enormous collection of books he had dutifully read and used in his correspondence and conversation. "Give 'em hell Harry" proved himself no small time hack with a strength of character which showed a gritty, untried, unprepared President facing responsibilities such as weighed on no man before.

Reading about this era of history was fascinating to me as my husband Merritt and I were living through it at the time. Merritt was appointed congressional assistant to Illinois Congressman Adolph J. Sabath, chairman of the prestigious House Rules committee. This was heady stuff for us, me especially. Merritt had recently passed his Bar Exam after graduating from Northwestern Law School. We married in 1948 and were basically what I considered still on our honeymoon when we moved from Chicago to Washington DC. What a change of pace! Merritt worked in the House of Representative while I finished my college degree at the University of Maryland in English and Journalism. Sabath, at 91 years old, had the longest tenure in office of any congressman and received many invitations to grand parties which he gave them to Merritt. He said Maxene would enjoy them more so than he, as he had attended so many in his past. Enjoy? I was over and beyond!

We lived three historical memorable years in DC during the Truman administration but when the Republicans came in with Eisenhower, the Democrats left their appointed jobs and we returned to Chicago after one helluva experience. And that is why "Truman" by McCullough shall always remain my book of choice!

"*Close Your Books*", words said by my dear Rabbi Mark Shapiro, were the highlight of an evening spent in BJB synagogue in Chicago's northern suburbs. It meant that now after closing our prayer books we were going to get the privilege of what he had to say, his perspectives of modern living, loving and oftentimes, becoming a "mensch" in today's complex world.

I looked forward to attending Temple on Friday nights, to hear Mark's thoughts on just about every topic. One I didn't know much about at the time, homosexuality, was the topic of the evening, his words were informative, some connecting to raising a family and many more of acceptance. Little did I know at the time that our beloved Cantor had a partner for seven years. Many of us would clamor to be in his company because he was a modern fun loving man with a gorgeous voice. To the chagrin of some members he, at the pulpit, would sing a religious song to the tune of "Take Me Out To The Ballgame". Pure joy.

Another topic he talked about (never preaching) which gave me great pause was his sermon about the inequities, the restrictions the black population faced by just being black, and not allowed in our neighborhood. I reread Mark's book today. He is spot on about everything. Oh, how I'd love to call him and tell him about how much I learned and enjoyed his brilliance. Your faith comes through dearly, challenging and reassuring and always thoughtful and loving. But it is not to be. I heard about your death while living in California. I cried alone in my room.

Thank you Mark for being MY Rabbi.

It's Truman's history, but some of mine too.

### Jeanne Halpern

- *Origin of Species*, by Charles Darwin,  
I had not seen the world in the way. Darwin explained it . His book took away the underpinnings of religion and affected everything. I learned about systems...

- *Anna Karenina*, Leo Tolstoy.  
I read it every ten years. She followed her heart and she lost everything

### Bob Demchick

- *The Long Walk to Freedom*, by Nelson Mandela  
A perspective on the human condition and what we can do. It was inspiring. I wonder how men like that cannot be bitter or angry about all that happened. They look to the future more than the past.

- *Exodus*, by Leon Uris  
Made me reflect on what was going on at the time of Israel's independence. It gave me a sense of pride as I connected with the characters. My brother volunteered to the Haganah in 1946-47. He was my hero.

### Phylis Demchick

- *Travels with Charlie*, by John Steinbeck  
It was a fascinating book. We were inspired by travels with Charlie and it got us started with traveling. I enjoyed getting to meet people, seeing their lives.

- *Hawaii*, by James A. Michener  
I enjoyed exploring the history, the geographic settings, nature; he presented a detailed picture of Hawaii. Although the story was fictional, the history and background information was factual. We eventually visited Hawaii

### Dorie Workman

- *The Stand*, by Stephen King,  
I read it in the seventh grade. It was very interesting to me to think about rebuilding society after the world falls apart. How to put the world back together?

- *Marie Antoinette*, by Antonia Fraser  
I have learned from reading biographies that people are much more complex than what 'history' makes them. When you read a well-written historical biography, you see and understand the issues of the time and it can change your perception of a historical figure who may have been praised or maligned subsequently.

### Mary Swope

- The Lord Peter Wimsey detective series, by Dorothy Sayers. Very engaging and very cleverly written
- *The Chronical of Narnia*, by CS Lewis  
A rich and engaging fantasy, curiously beautiful and totally engaging. The book was read aloud with a family of eight children in front of the fireplace. It was a magical experience.

### Jack Herman

- *The Last of the Just*, by Andre Schwartz-Bart  
Andre Schwartz-Bart's novel *The Last of the Just* brings home to me the emotions and tragedy of the Holocaust.

- *The Essays of Ralph Waldo Emerson*  
Emerson's essays reminded me of the Tanakh and his ideas about living like self-reliance and friendship,
- *Catch-67: The Left, the Right, and the Legacy of the Six-Day War*, by Micah Goodman

Micah Goodman's writings introduced me to the wealth of Hebrew literature and understanding the Arab and Israeli conflict.

### Mo Steinbruner

- *The Situated Self*, J.T. Ismael, Ph.D., 2007.
- *The Lincoln Persuasion, Remaking American Liberalism*, J. David Greenstone, 1993.
- *Collapse, How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, Jared Diamond, 2005.

These publications are not exactly light reading, but they are important in reframing political philosophy.

### July Birthdays

John Dellar	3
Carol Pearlman	7
Victoria Markstein	17
Robert Demchick	18
Inga Altman	21
Eva Wohl	22



RHODA GOLDMAN PLAZA  
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[www.RGPlaza.org](http://www.RGPlaza.org)  
RCFE #385600125

*Founded by Jewish Family and Children's  
Services and Mount Zion Health Fund*

# RHODA GOLDMAN PLAZA

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The appeal of Rhoda Goldman Plaza is undeniable. Older adults and their families prefer our unsurpassed assisted living and memory care community enriched by culture and tradition.

Residents enjoy superb, "made-from-scratch" cuisine that is always well reviewed by our most vocal critics; our residents! While our dining selections please the appetite, accommodations showcase spacious, private apartments designed to maximize space and comfort. In fact, we're re-defining your life as Living Well With Assistance — we believe our community is every bit as good as a five-star hotel. And, professionally trained, courteous staff promotes your health and well-being with choices of activity programs both on and off-site.

Our Terrace Memory program provides specialized memory care to residents through therapeutic activities that enhance physical, mental, and emotional health. Both privacy and companionship are afforded on our self-contained Terrace.

Living Well With Assistance is more than a promise, but a way of life for our like-minded residents and staff who share the vision of our upscale community.

Visit Rhoda Goldman Plaza today by calling 415.345.5072.

*Founded by Jewish Family and Children's Services and Mt. Zion Health Fund in 2000, Rhoda Goldman Plaza (RGP) was established as a non-profit assisted living facility to provide a better and more secure life for older adults.*