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## OUR MISSION

To engage and empower seniors of all backgrounds to thrive physically, emotionally and socially.

## OUR VISION

To foster a community that values, respects and inspires older adults to live life to the fullest.



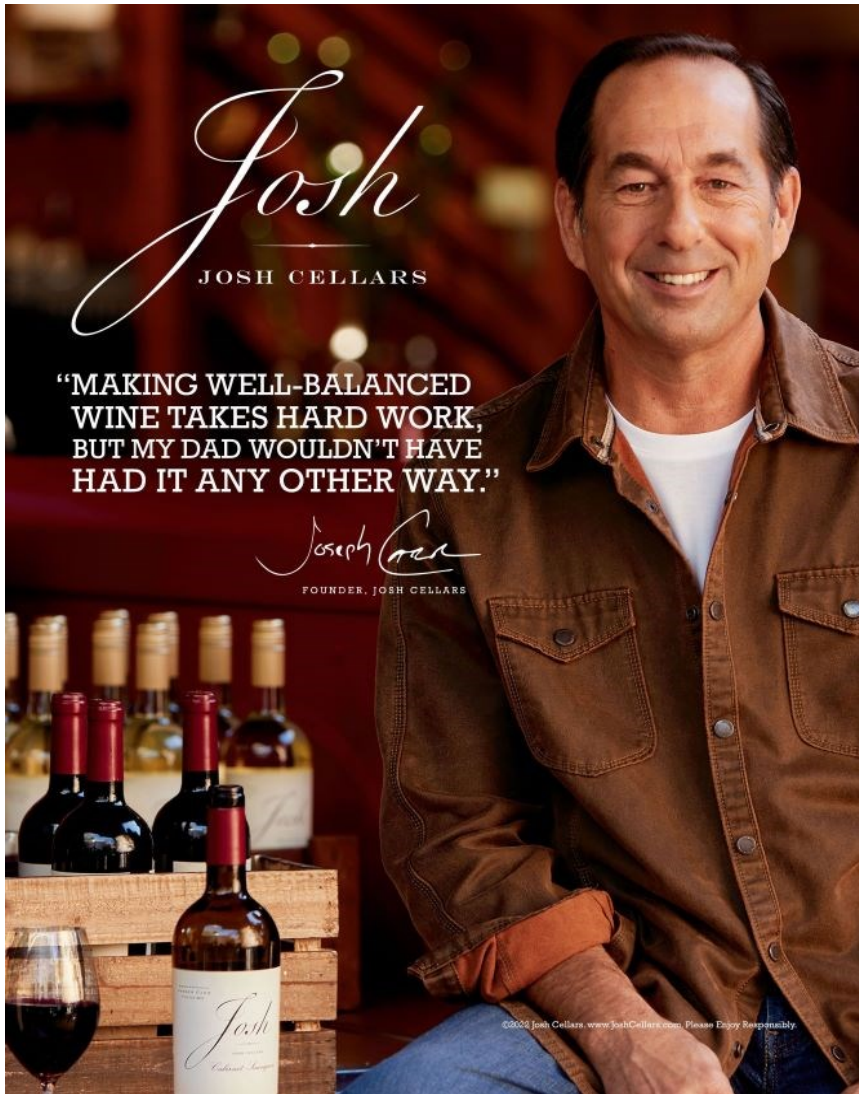
*Celebrating our One Year Anniversary!*

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wines for our guests' enjoyment.

# Lives Blossom

## THIS EVENING'S PROGRAM

- 6:00-7:15pm- Cocktails, Hors D'oeuvres,  
Mingling and Silent Auction
  
- 7:15 - Auction Closes
  
- 7:30 - Welcome Address - SSC Board Chair,  
Laurie Pensiero
  
- 7:40 - A word from Our Members
  
- 7:50 - Celebrating our Honorees -  
Christina Crain, Executive Director  
**The AARP Tax Aide Volunteers**
  
- 8:00 - Raffle Drawing
  
- 8:15 - Event Concludes and Auction  
Check-out begins



Tonight's event is catered by:

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**A Message from  
Board Chairwoman,  
Laurie Pensiero**



On behalf of the Board of Directors, Thank you for joining us for our annual fundraiser, Lives Blossom. We are delighted tonight to honor The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program Volunteers. Their dedication and talents are essential to our members. They provide valuable assistance with understanding the latest tax changes and helping our members file their income taxes.

We would also like to thank Clare Bolduc and the Development Committee for their outstanding work in putting together tonight's beautiful event. We also thank our generous sponsors of Lives Blossom and all our attendees. Without your continued support, the Stamford Senior Center would not be able to provide the essential programs and support to the members of our community.

The Stamford Senior Center's membership has grown immensely over the last few years. We have made many enhancements to the center, with our newly remodeled café, new sound system, flooring, and addition of new exercise equipment and soon-to-come computers for our lab to name a few. The Stamford Senior Center continues to flourish and grow with the addition of new programs, providing essential resources to our growing senior community in which they have access to quality programs, social interaction, health & wellness, recreational activities, educational and social events. Programs are available both in-person and online to assure accessibility to all our members.

Your generosity tonight will help us to continue our mission and support our vision of a new Senior Center in the future so that we can better provide support to our members. So please visit our Silent Auction and contribute to the Fund-A-Mission. Your generosity will & does make a difference in so many lives.

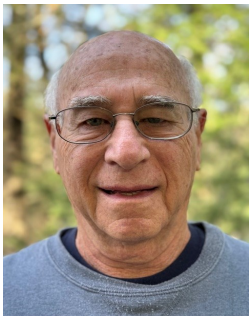
We welcome and invite you to visit the Stamford Senior Center, so you can see firsthand the impact your kindness and generosity makes to our members.

## *A Word from some of our Honorees:*

The AARP Tax– Aide volunteer group is a very diverse group of dedicated individuals. We have volunteers in their 20’s through 80’s. While some have accounting backgrounds, they are the minority. We have teachers, lawyers, financial service professionals and many other industry sectors. Many of them are active volunteers with other non -profit organizations as well. AARP Tax-Aide is deeply grateful to the Stamford Senior Center for graciously hosting our tax preparation service every year and for providing so many support services to the program. We are incredibly honored to be recognized by the Stamford Senior Center at their 2024 Lives Blossom Gala.



- *Cathy Ostuw*



“I’ve done taxes at five different locations since I joined the AARP Tax Program in 1998. None have been as welcoming and helpful as the Stamford Senior Center. Thanks to Chris, Gina and Ada for their friendly support.”

- *Dan Katz*

“I started doing taxes right after I retired from Pitney Bowes in 2006. I have found it challenging and stimulating and a great way to meet interesting people. Thank you to the Stamford Senior Center for hosting this service.”

- *Mary Maarbjerg*



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After I retired I looked for a volunteer opportunity where I would enjoy the work, learn new things and help others in the community. I found this in the Stamford AARP Tax-Aide program with its supportive coordinator and a great team of volunteers to work with.

*- Grace Markovitz*



"I must really enjoy volunteering for AARP Tax Aide because I've been doing it for over 15 years!"

*- Joseph Mittel*

"I have always believed in the importance of giving back to the community. Nothing is more rewarding than when a taxpayer leaves our site crying, not out of sadness but out of joy because we were able to reduce their stress and deliver unexpected benefits that will make their life easier."

*- Jonathan Naiman*



"I volunteer preparing income tax returns because it is an opportunity to use my career experience to help those in need. After all everyone has something to offer those who can use help."

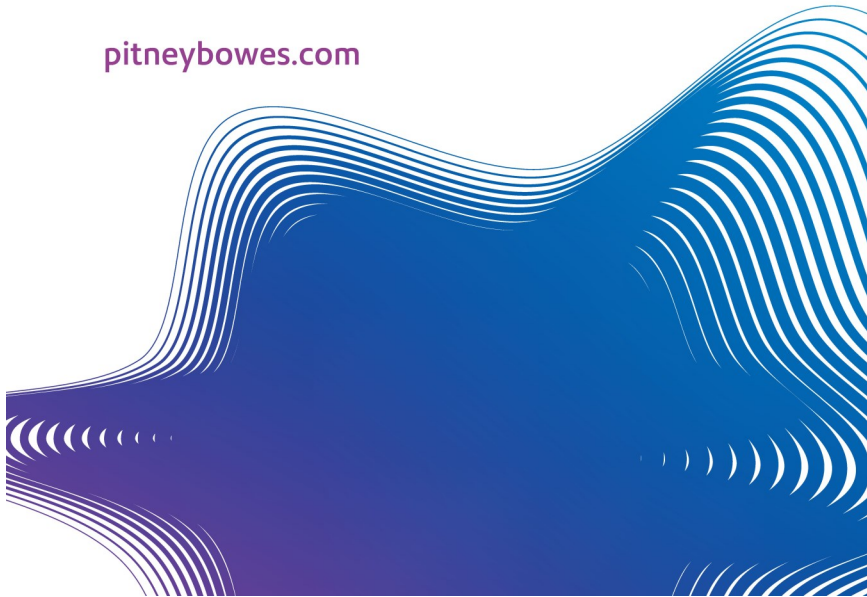
*- Carl Shapiro*



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We congratulate AARP and the AARP Foundation Tax Program Volunteers on their well-deserved recognition.

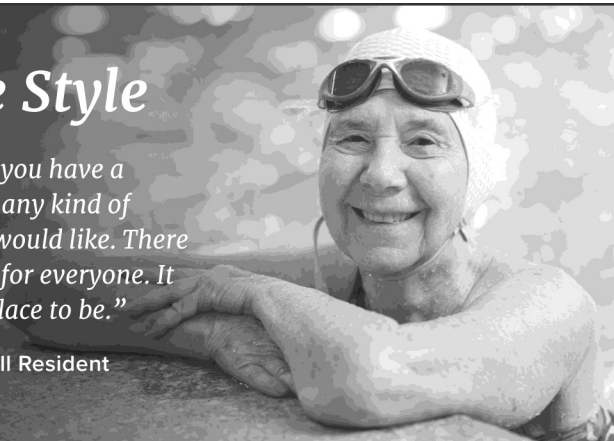
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Stamford's  
**AARP Tax-Aide Volunteers!**

A great group of smart, compassionate  
and hard-working people!

Cathy Ostuw



We are proud to support the  
**Stamford Senior Center**  
and the  
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*Lives Blossom*



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and  
The AARP Tax Aide  
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*from*  
**Mary Maarbjerg**



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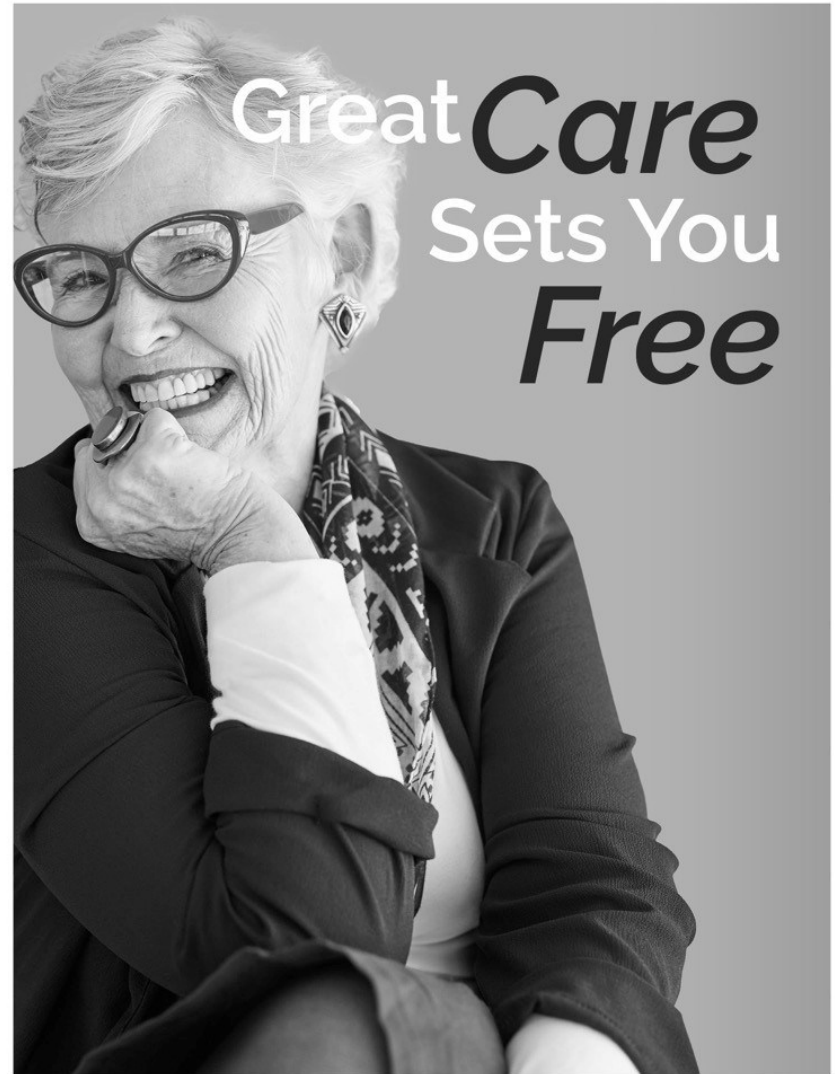
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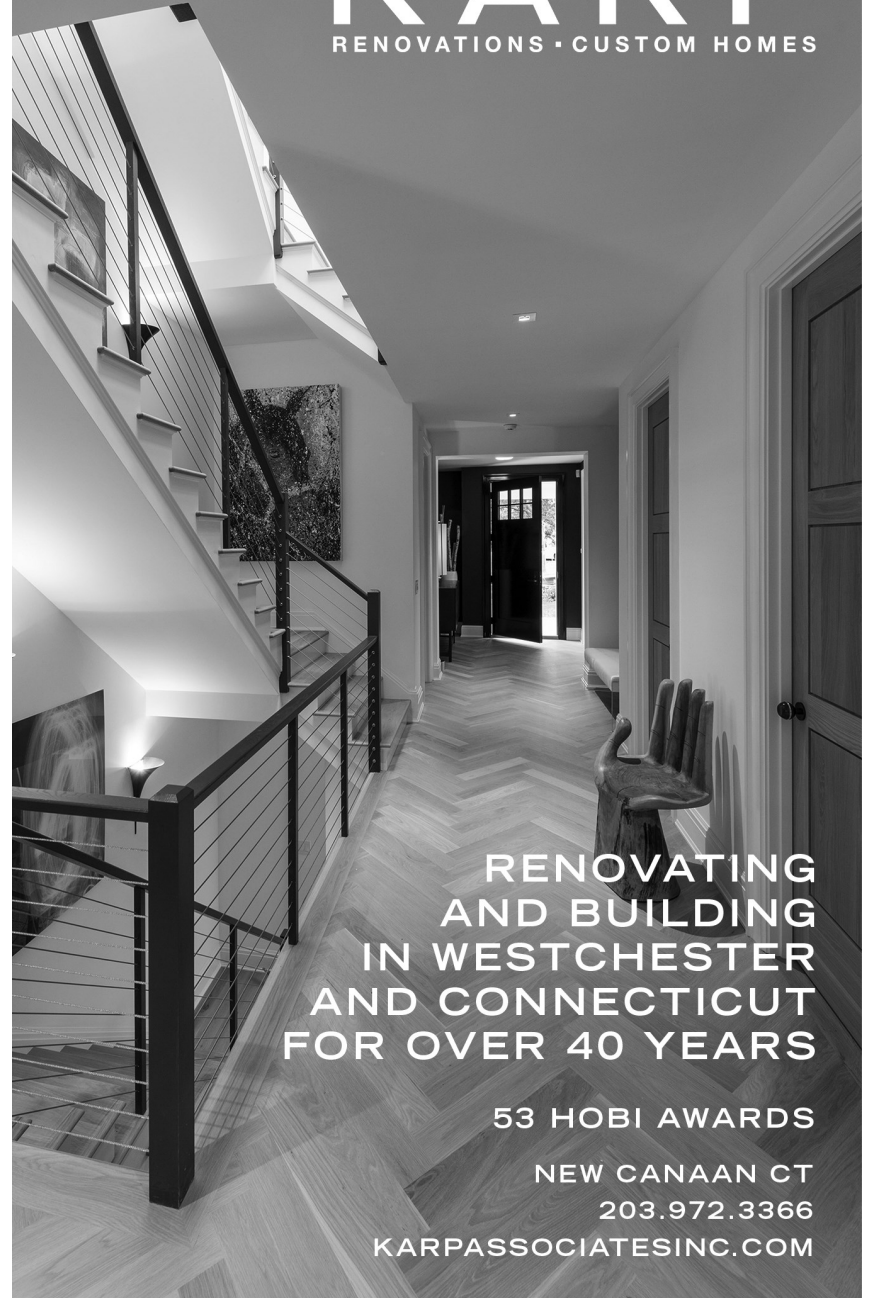
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*For your support and dedication to  
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***Clare and Robert Kretzman***