



Levy Senior Center  
Foundation

Annual Report 2019

# A Message from Our Chairperson



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well at home during these trying times of uncertainty. Since we first started writing our annual report, there have been many changes in our community, country, and the world. When we all emerge from this, and the Levy Senior Center and our community are reunited, we will be more aware, have more compassion, and work harder to uphold and increase our standards to promote health and well-being for all our members.

Thanks to your continued support, 2019 was an exceptional year. As we reflect, may we keep this positive and fruitful connectivity moving forward. Our commitment to a strong partnership with the City of Evanston and connections with other not-for-profit organizations has enriched the lives of the thousands of people who enjoy the facility.

On behalf of the Levy Senior Center Foundation, I am proud to provide this exciting summary of last year's successes and update you with details for the Foundation's plans for 2020. Our primary goal each year is to improve the quality of life for our active older adults, 55 and better, through enhanced programs and ongoing improvements to the Center.

In 2019, we supported programming such as the Jamming Jean and Fran Randall concerts, numerous Levy Lectures, and an impressive lineup of trips and special events, including the National Senior Olympics and expanded exercise programs. The Dennis Newton Fund for Trip Scholarships keeps growing. We provided more than 50 trip scholarships last year.

We are devoted to making sure the Center is a thriving place for socialization, well-being, and learning through classes, support, and engagement opportunities. The Center provides varying activities to meet the changing needs of our older adult population. The Foundation is working hard to continue to support improvements such as the renovated and renamed Joseph Levy, Jr. Library and maintenance of both the newly landscaped front gardens and the Hulda B. and Maurice L. Rothschild Gardens.

Looking ahead, we are getting ready for a new, exciting project. We will be renovating the much utilized Linden Room, which is home to everything from lectures, yoga, and wellness classes to community meetings. Once re-vamped, the room will include high-tech amenities such as a new audio system compatible with assisted hearing devices, an electric sound-absorbing partition for more programming and flexibility, new flooring and more.

For those of you touched personally by this global pandemic, we send healing thoughts to you and your families. May empathy and kindness bring us peace as we work together to restore health to communities near and far.

Wishing you all well,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Newton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judy Newton  
Chairperson

## LSCF Board 2019

Judy Newton <i>Chairperson</i>	Michael Fogarty Gunnar Forrest
Anne Reiman <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Joan Hickman Jill Korshak
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Robert Lockwood <i>Treasurer</i>	John Peterson Geraldine Sizemore
Dorrance Halverson <i>Secretary</i>	



## The Levy Center is Integral to Overall Wellness

### Strong community centers promote healthier aging

**A**s stewards and supporters of the Levy Center and its community members, it is our shared responsibility to maintain and grow this special and vital gathering place. The Center provides essential support for the nation's evolving, aging network, and connects older adults to community services and educational programs that help them stay healthy and independent.

The Center and the Foundation are working to evolve programs and services to accommodate the growing, active baby boomer population who now makes up more than two-thirds of the 50+ population.

According to the National Council on Aging (NCOA), research shows older adults who participate in senior

center programs can learn to manage and even delay the onset of chronic disease. They also experience measurable improvements in their physical, social, emotional, economic and mental well-being.

"At Levy, we think it is vital to create events and groups that help give our members things to look forward to and put them with people that they are happy to see," says Amy Kellogg, Levy Center's Recreation Manager.

The NCOA research indicates that senior centers should be integrated into the heart and soul of a community, and, like the Levy Center, be accessible to people of all ages and abilities. For these reasons, and so many others, your continued supported is so important and deeply appreciated.

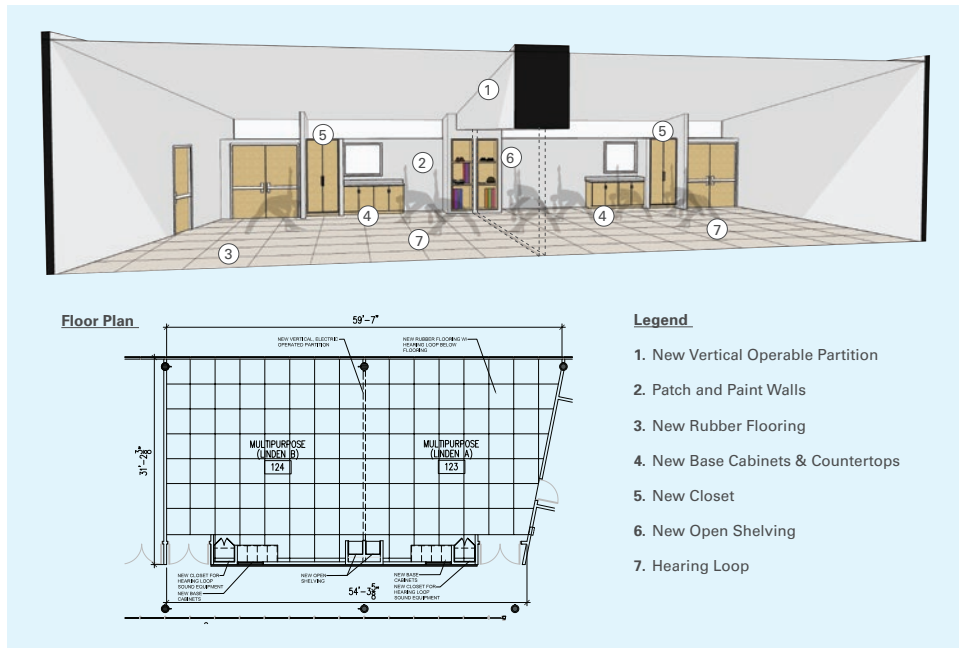
*Vibrant, active and inclusive centers are in fact places people want to be! They are the gathering spot, the focal point, the critical element to a successful, lively and livable community that facilitates a high quality of life for people of all ages.*

— AARP



# Renovating the Levy Center

## Exciting Linden Room plans underway



As we move into a new decade, we are embarking on a large-scale project — the renovation of the Linden Room. The new room will include a refurbished, slip-resistant floor for greater comfort and expanded usage options, a sound absorbing electric partition, state-of-the-art video and enhanced audio capabilities to serve the hearing needs of our members with auditory limitations. Donate using the enclosed envelope, or make a secure donation online at [lscfevanston.org](http://lscfevanston.org). And, remember, your gift is 100% tax deductible!

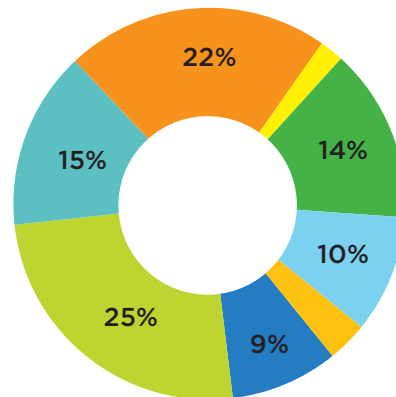
## Donor Impact – By the Numbers

### Allocations and expenditures for 2019

The Foundation worked tirelessly toward its mission this year to meet specific project goals and further expand its current scholarship efforts and programming. Key initiatives in 2019 included bolstering our existing communication platforms and marketing/fundraising efforts with a new website, improved newsletters, a streamlined database and expanded social media efforts. Additionally, the LSCF funded numerous facility improvements inside and out, including interior stone cleaning, upgrades to the gardens, and the library renovation.

Fair and unrestricted access to Center activities is central to our mission. The Foundation subsidizes transportation fees for off-site programs and trips. Nearly 100 members received financial assistance for day trips and membership expenses.

#### Spending by Project



- Library Renovation and Restoration of Walter Burt Adams Paintings
- 2% | Volunteer Appreciation and Donor Recognition
- Communication Tools: Website, Social Media, Annual Report
- General Planning
- 3% | Fundraising
- Dennis Newton Scholarships and Bus Subsidies
- Lectures, Concerts, Joe Levy, Jr. Day at Arlington, WBA Tours
- LSCF Purchases for Levy Center

#### Gifts Received

Number of Gifts Received: **389**  
 Total Gift Amount: **\$169,963**

#### Gift Designations

Fran Randall	\$2,711
Dennis Newton Fund	\$4,110
Garden Renovation	\$3,565
Jamming Jean Concerts	\$7,843
Linden Room Renovation	\$91,197
Unrestricted	\$60,268



## Joseph Levy, Jr. Library Open House

### Community celebrates renovated library

September 18 marked the official opening and dedication of the renovated and renamed Joseph Levy, Jr. Library. Evanston Mayor Steve Hagerty opened the ceremony, and close friends of Joe shared fond and often funny memories and stories. Joe was a generous and well respected man, as well as a creative and intelligent person. “Coming together to celebrate Joe’s many contributions was indeed a

special event,” said Mayor Hagerty. “In addition to his generous philanthropic efforts, Joe loved to learn and share his knowledge, serving as a mentor and advisor to many. It’s only fitting that this new library, enjoyed by countless community members, has been renamed in his honor.” Refreshments followed in the Rothschild Garden, where all of the attendees were able to share in the special day and enjoy a sense of community.



*“I have been a member since I retired. I participate in the Silver Sneakers exercise programs and I like it because I feel great when I’m done. I donate because I want to make sure the Center continues to thrive.”*

—  
Carmen Brown

*“I love going to the Levy Center for fitness classes. The teachers are knowledgeable and responsive to the needs of each participant. In addition, I admire the mission of the Center. The programs offered address every facet of the community.”*

—  
Maribeth Kelly





*“I donate because I’ve seen the difference the Levy Center makes in the lives of seniors. I find it beneficial and worthwhile as a volunteer, but also I take advantage of what the Center has to offer me personally.”*

—  
Keith Chalmers

*“Walking into the Levy Senior Center for the first time was like walking into an international united nations senior center of culture, inspiration, edutainment, [and] creative and performing arts...”*

—  
McIntyre Y. Evans, PhD  
(A.K.A. “Mattie”)



## Programming Recap

### Foundation fosters community

#### Jamming Jean Concerts

The series marked its second year with an incredible lineup of diverse and exciting musical groups. Local R&B favorites Lynne Jordan and the Shivers, the South Boulevard Band, the Chicago-based jazz group The Fat Babies and rockabilly retro group Rosie and the Rivets drew huge crowds of all ages to the Levy Center. Hundreds of people attended each event, enjoying

the happy hour showtimes, complete with food catered from local restaurants, beverages and dancing to these top-tier Chicago bands. Jamming Jean concerts are free and open to the public.

#### Fran Randall Concerts

Classical music enthusiasts were treated to three concert events featuring accomplished musicians from local music schools. Musicians Audrey Lidke

(trumpet) and Tom Hicks (piano) started off the series. Fellows of the Music Institute of Chicago Academy, the Xena String Quartet and pianist Yirin Yang performed in May, and pianist Monika Miodragovic and cellist Caroline Paulsen concluded the series in November.

### Levy Lecture Series

The series, now in its third year and funded by the LSCF, covered a thought-provoking selection of diverse topics. Subjects included the resistance movement in Nazi Germany, the relationships between white men and black women, understanding sexual and gender identity, the practice of “face reading,” a lecture on artist Walter Burt Adams’ work, ten Illinois natives who changed history, American reformer Jane Addams and African American communities in Chicago’s North Shore. These lectures continue to be filled to capacity with our 2020 programming already underway.

### Walter Burt Adams Bus Tours

In the fall, Levy Center members and guests participated in three special tours on the Levy Center bus which highlighted the locations depicted in work by renowned artist Walter Burt Adams. Adams became a resident of Evanston in 1931 and was an artist for the Works Progress Administration (WPA). His art features many scenes of Evanston from the past century. The tours, showcasing locales from Evanston’s past and present, were led by Evanston History Center Executive Director Eden Juron Pearlman, who was also the speaker on this subject for the May Levy Lecture.

### Day Trips

In partnership with the City of Evanston, members participated in a variety of fun and engaging day trips, including visits to the Illinois



Railway Museum, Four Winds Casino, Drury Lane Theater, Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, the White Fence Farm and the Shedd Aquarium.

### VIP Day at Arlington Racecourse

On September 19, a group of 22 lucky Levy members, selected earlier by lottery, spent a day at the races. With special access to the exclusive Turf Club, this VIP experience included a gourmet lunch, seats overlooking the finish line, and round trip transit to the

track. Ninety percent of the cost of the trip was subsidized by the Foundation, courtesy of the Dennis Newton Scholarship Fund. The Arlington outing was organized in honor and memory of Joe Levy, a Levy Senior Center benefactor, who loved going to the races.

*Clockwise from left: Lynne Jordan & the Shivers performing for Jamming Jean in March; Leslie Goddard discusses 10 Illinois natives who changed history; a day trip to the Illinois Railway Museum; audience members dance to Lynne Jordan & the Shivers.*





*“The Levy Center programming is so versatile and there are so many choices of things to do that we have to make up our minds every day. The LSCF programs keep us young!”*

—  
**Judy & Howard Schneider**

*“The lectures are very informative, and the programs make me feel connected. It’s a good place to maintain communication and improve my overall health and wellness.”*

—  
**Lorna Gayle**



## Community Partnerships

### Collaborations help enhance LSCF programming

- In 2019, the LSCF began to work with the Northlight Theater organization, which resulted in the Levy Center becoming an “Arts for Everyone” program participant.
- A successful Levy Lecture in May about local artist Walter Burt Adams led to the subsequent development of three guided bus tours in the fall in conjunction with the Evanston History Center.
- For years, the LSCF has worked with Northwestern’s Bienen School of Music, DePaul’s School of Music, Loyola’s College of Music, and the Music Institute to recommend exceptional, young talent for the Fran Randall Concert Series.
- Last May, the LSCF was proud to be a platinum sponsor of the 21st Aging Well Conference in Evanston hosted at the Levy Center. The conference welcomed hundreds of attendees who enjoyed breakfast and attended seminars.
- The LSCF underwrote team sponsorship fees for Levy Center teams to attend the National Senior Olympics in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Corporate sponsors such as Symphony Evanston and Avidor Evanston helped support our high quality lectures and concerts. Local restaurant partners such as Hecky’s, Candlelite and That Little Mexican Cafe provided fun and affordable food offerings for guests.
- Meetings with Northwestern University’s Neighborhood and Community Relations Office helped the LSCF kick off the Linden Room renovation.

The LSCF will be working towards future alliances to further our goals of continuing facility improvements and bringing outstanding programs to Evanston area seniors.

—  
**Above: Gerri Sizemore, an LSCF board member, greets Aging Well Conference guests.**

## Making an Impact

**Your 2019 gifts made possible these programs and facility improvements:**



**Renovated the Joseph Levy, Jr. Library**



**4 Jamming Jean Concerts**



# Estate Planning

## Simple ways to leave a legacy

It is relatively simple to leave a meaningful legacy to the Foundation. Bequests can be for any amount or any percentage of your estate, life insurance or retirement plan. Those individuals who include the LSCF in their wills become members of the Foundation's Gold Leaf Society. The society is a special group of friends who have recognized the importance of planning their philanthropy by providing for the LSCF through their bequests and estates. We hope you will include the Levy Senior Center Foundation as a beneficiary in your will or trust. Consult your legal and tax professionals about your specific situation. If you would like to discuss your future bequest or how to best support



the Foundation, please contact board member Wendi Kromash who is helping the Foundation with planned giving. You can leave a note for her at the Center's front desk or send an email to her at [wek345@gmail.com](mailto:wek345@gmail.com).



*“The last Levy Lecture was terrific! The Monday/Wednesday Club meetings offer talks on a variety of topics, and the science ones are especially interesting.”*

—  
**Brian Nielson**



## Community Matters More than Ever

### New Ways to Stay Connected

These are uncertain and trying times for all of us, and the word 'community' has taken on new meaning as we all come to terms with the sudden dissolution of our in-person social networks. For many active seniors, the Center is the primary destination for both emotional and literal nourishment. In the coming months, as we all emerge and re-group, the Foundation will be there to respond to our older adult community members who will no doubt

need additional support.

The LSCF is grateful to the City of Evanston and hard-working Levy Center staff for ensuring that during the Center's closure, seniors in our community are getting meals and receiving any assistance they may need. Additionally, the city is featuring a number of classes that can be accessed by a link at [lscfevanston.org](http://lscfevanston.org) or by going to the Evanston Parks and Recreation Facebook page. The LSCF Facebook page is also a good source for news and updates.



Renovated Gardens at  
Center's Entrance



Presented 9  
Levy Lectures



Cleaned All Exposed  
Stone Inside Center



Restored & Hung  
16 Paintings in Library

# Thank You to Our 2019 Donors!\*

*Thank you again for your continued support. The LSCF is funded by community members like you who are committed to helping us ensure the Levy Center is a healthy, thriving hub for active older adults.*

*We are a small foundation with big goals — your donation truly makes a difference!*

Charlotte Abarbanell  
Betty and Jerry Abeles  
Donna and Richard Abelson  
Judy Aiello  
Ronald Albiani  
Albert Allred  
Dee Alsberg  
Athena Ames  
Becky and Andy Anderson  
Nan Anderson  
Helen Angel  
Muriel Anixter  
Anonymous Gifts  
Judith Appelbaum  
Angie Astrin  
Barbara Ellson and Frank Baldwin  
Athens Balodimas  
Roberta Barnett  
Martha Beckwith  
Vilma Bell  
Joan Berke  
Marjorie Biederman  
Ranee and Howard Blair  
Amy Blechman  
Nina and Michael Blechman  
Michael Blum  
Patricia Blumen  
Frima Blumenthal  
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Christy Bowman  
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Norma and Lee Braude  
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Joan and Bill Brodsky  
Carmen Brown  
Maureen and Michael Browne  
Dana Bush  
Ellen and Al Butkus  
Judith Butler  
Lenore Caldwell  
Susan Canter  
Bonnie and Chip Carpenter  
Georganne Chalmers  
Jean Chapman  
Chad Coe  
Terri Cohn and Family  
Eileen Corcoran  
Rochelle and Christopher Corso  
Louise Cromer  
Joan and David Culver  
Leonie and Clinton Cunningham

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Elizabeth David  
Lena Davis  
Ethel Davis  
Nancy Delman  
Reva and Morton Denlow  
Edwina Dennis  
Susan Derex  
David Derfel  
William DeWoskin  
Arthur Diers  
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Richard Duchossois  
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Sharon Edwards  
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Eva Eisenstein  
Margaret and Dale Empet  
Ellen and Jerry Esrick  
Nancy Ethiel  
McIntyre Evans  
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Christina Ferraro  
Sheran Fiedler  
Kitty Finn  
Janet Fisher  
Michael Fogarty  
Ellen Fogelberg  
Thom Foose  
Ruth Foreman  
Gunnar Forrest  
Peggy Fox and John Marlatt  
Rhoda Frankel  
Gerald Freedman  
Eugene Frett  
Jill Friedman  
Bunny Ganan  
Linda Gardner  
Lorna Gayle  
Devona and Doug Gaynor  
Elizabeth Geaslin  
Darlene and Larry Gilford  
Tom Giller  
Charles Glickman  
Georgene Goldenberg  
Marge Goldman  
Margot Goode  
Robert Gordon  
Margie Gordon Schaye  
Donna Govas

Norma Green  
Joanna Greene  
Nancy Greenebaum  
Niebes Guerrero  
Emily Guthrie  
Dorothy Gutstadt  
Richard Hall  
Lydia and Dorrance Halverson  
James Hardt  
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Judy Harper  
Ivanhoe Harriott  
Ruth and Patrick Harrison  
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Elizabeth Heinz  
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Nancy and Allen Hirschfield  
Mary and Mark Hoffman  
Cheryl and Phil Holm  
Linda and Doug Honnold  
Frances Horwich  
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Joan Johnson  
Catherine Johnson  
Merna Johnson  
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Amanda Jones  
Fern Josephs  
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Lily Kanter  
Joel Kaplan  
Felicia Kaplan  
Harriet Karmin  
Lonny Karmin  
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Diane Kastman  
Beth Wright and Julie Kaufman  
Lynn and Al Keefer  
Amy and Scott Kellogg  
Patricia and Walter Kelly  
Rich Kenner  
Allan Kensky  
Anne and Drew Kent  
Roy King

\* We apologize for any inadvertent omissions or misspellings. Please let us know for the future. Write to [contact@levycenterfoundation.org](mailto:contact@levycenterfoundation.org).

## Making an Impact

**Your 2019 gifts made possible these programs and facility improvements:**



**50+ Dennis Newton  
Trip Scholarships**



**4 Fran Randall  
Classical Concerts**



Barbara King  
 Ronald Kipnis  
 Eila Koltun  
 Jill Korshak  
 Deborah Kramer  
 James Kratz  
 Wendi Kromash  
 Elizabeth Kuck  
 Marian Kurz  
 Betty Lambert  
 Gail P. and Macreay Landy  
 Judi Lapinsohn  
 Victoria Laura  
 Miriam Lazar  
 Barry Levin  
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 Susan and Roland Lieber  
 Adrienne Lieberman  
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 Melvin Lindberg  
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 Rima and Bob Lockwood  
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 David Loveland  
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 Toni Maloney  
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 Hal Mann  
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 Carol McConnell  
 Sharron McCoy  
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 Bill Pullin  
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 Hugo Rodriguez  
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 Michael Rosenberg  
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 Lene and Michael Thomas  
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 Miller Cooper & Co., Ltd.  
 Charitable Foundation  
 Northwestern University  
 Quartet Printing  
 Steans Family Foundation  
 Symphony of Evanston  
 Willis Towers Watson



**29 Free Memberships  
 for Seniors 90+**



**Sent 14 Teams to the  
 US Senior Olympics**



**Subsidized Monthly  
 Day Trips**



**Replaced Fitness  
 Class Equipment**



# Levy Senior Center Foundation

300 Dodge Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60202-3283

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## Mission

The Levy Senior Center Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, operates to improve the quality of life for Evanston Seniors by soliciting monies to supplement the Levy Senior Center's operating budget. In partnership with the City of Evanston, we seek to improve the Center, its programs and resources.



[lscfevanston.org](http://lscfevanston.org) | follow us on Facebook

## Visit Us Online for Updates and Virtual Program Info



**T**he LSCF is working hard to ensure that during the shelter-in-place mandate we continue to serve and engage the Levy Center community. Our April Levy Lecture, featuring author Nina Barrett speaking about her book, *The Leopold and Loeb Files*, was presented as a webinar via Zoom technology. Throughout the spring, we will continue to strive to host events virtually to the extent that we can. Please visit our website ([lscfevanston.org](http://lscfevanston.org)) regularly for the latest

updates and invitation links to upcoming events. The LSCF Facebook page is also a great destination for updated information on various topics, including ways to enjoy life at home and how to stay connected with family, friends and neighbors.

*Pictures of the extensive Levy Center entry garden installation funded by the LSCF. As the weather improves, we invite you to take a look during your next walk.*