SENIOR OF THE YEAR

ROBERT “BOB” MORRIS

Senior of the Year Bob Morris was born and raised in Centerville, Iowa. Upon graduation from high school, he enlisted in the Army and served as a combat infantryman in the European Theater in World War II. He moved to California in 1948, where he enrolled at UCLA and met his future wife, Adele. Bob and Adele married in 1952, and returned from their honeymoon to a one-bedroom apartment which rented for $60 a month. They bought a home in Culver City for $14,000. In 1955, Bob went to work as a corporate income tax auditor for the State of California for a monthly salary of $325. Bob continued his studies during his years with the state and earned a masters degree in business as well as a CPA certificate. He retired from the state as Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Savings and Loan in 1988, and turned his efforts to volunteer work. He was Treasurer and board member of the Jazz Forum, securing non-profit status for the group. He worked for several other organizations as a volunteer, including the Culver City Friends of the Library, and the AARP Tax-Aide Program where he was in charge of operations for Los Angeles County.

Bob’s activities with the Culver City Senior Center have involved two major areas, beginning in the area of music and later adding the area of accounting and non-profit tax reporting. In 1995, he formed the nine-piece orchestra, the “Swing Set”, practicing weekly at the Center and performing frequently for the Senior Center and other organizations’ dances and affairs. He was selected “Senior of the Month” in January, 1996 in recognition of his contribution in the area of music. Then, in mid July of 1997, he was asked to assume the volunteer duties of the Center accountant, and set up a new automated system of accounting. As the Senior Center has grown financially, his duties in accounting and non-profit regulatory reporting have grown accordingly. We recently asked Bob to train two other volunteers to help him and provide back-up for the accounting function, which he gladly agreed to do. We are pleased to honor Bob Morris as “Senior of the Year” for the year 2004.

STAYING HEALTHY

Free Blood Pressure Screenings—Thursday, May 20, 12:30-2:00 in the Conference Room. Thank you to volunteers Linda Sanchez, Raymond Espinoza and Carmelita Bell for their valuable service.

Diabetes Support Group—All diabetics who are interested in meeting other diabetics to share needs, information and help one another are invited to attend. Meet Thursday, May 27, from 10:00 to 12:00 Noon in the Crafts Room. Sharon Higgins, Dietician, leads the group.

Diabetes Prevention Adult Education Classes—The emphasis for this third class in the series will be healthy eating and being active. Join Sharon Higgins, M.P.H., RD and friendly seniors in this program to help reduce your risk of Diabetes. Meet in the Nutrition Site at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12.

Vision Loss Support Group—This new support group for people with vision loss meets every other Monday morning in Room B45 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. In May, the group meets Monday, May 10 and Monday, May 24. Janice Goldhaber, M.A., MFT, leads the group.

BEREAVEMENT AND BEYOND

The Loss Support Group meets on Wednesdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Room C77. Otto Schnep and Eva Vollmer, peer counselors from the Center for Healthy Aging, lead the group. A $2.00 donation is requested at each session. Call Debbie at 310-253-6715 before attending.

A Bereavement Group for those with recent losses meets on Wednesdays from 12:00-1:30 p.m. in Room C75. This group is facilitated by Leslie Brandes, LCSW, ACSW, Senior Center Social Worker. A $2.00 donation is requested at each session. Call Leslie at 310-253-6717 before attending.