



Jewish Family Services



Honoring Those Who Have Made a Difference

By Penny Wagner-Schuster, ACSW, LCSW, Executive Director, Jewish Family Services

For those of you who read the JFS page of the CJN (I hope it most of you) throughout the year, we have been honoring our Board of Directors. Each individual serving on our Board is special and unique in his/her own way, bringing knowledge and dedication to the agency's mission.

This article however, is bitter-sweet in that JFS must say good-bye for now to four very special people. Their tenure on the Board is up. Another Board Member is stepping down as the agency's Chair. These individuals have devoted their time, talents and energy unselfishly, helping to make JFS the agency it is today. As lay leaders, these individuals not only attended monthly meetings, they worked hard, serving as committee chairs, raising funds

for programs, served as Board officers and even filled in as an office assistance when the agency went through a transitional period. Above all their support and guidance has been appreciated more than I could express.

These individuals did not just sit on a Board, taking up space; they provided input and "hands-on" assistance when needed. What fine examples of volunteerism these people are. How much more can anyone ask of these individuals?

Marilyn Shapiro served on the JFS Board for two terms, completing six years of service. During her Board involvement, Marilyn was the agency's Treasurer for two years. She also served on the nominating committee as well as participating on several others. Throughout her time on the Board, Marilyn seldom missed a meeting. Thank you, Marilyn.

Gerry Litwak, Barbara and Joe Sklut, Shirley and Eddie Goodman, Irving and Rita Mond, Marsha and Harry Stern.

Meta Morrison (Mother of Susan Appelbaum) from Selma Melasky

Dr. Peuow (Father of Karen Piassick) from Marcelle & Allen Oxman

Steve, son-in-law of Libby Mages, lost 9/11 from Trudy Packard

SPEDDY AND COMPLETE RECOVERY

Irving Bienstock from Florence and Ben Jaffa, Irving and Evelyn Hochstat

Florrie Bedrick from Audrey Madans

Bea Kantor from Selma Melasky

Sara Heskin from Shirley and Eddie Goodman

Howard Schwartz from Gerry Litwak

Ruth Rifkin from Gerry Litwak
Diane Ploch (Mother of Susan Rothman) from Marcelle and Allen Oxman

Sandie Rousso from Marilyn and Mike Tuckman

Hugo Rosenberger from Evelyn and Leonard Berger, Florence and Ben Jaffa

Amy Mullen from Tony, Brian, Maggie and Zeke Meltner

Syd Rakatansky from Joyce Mabel

him, and opportunities opened because I knew him. I moved to North Carolina from Tennessee because my husband took a new job here, kicking and screaming all the way, which few people know about me. Having the privilege of knowing Mr. Blumenthal, was, I think, a *bashert* encounter in my life which gave me the chance of a lifetime to build a Jewish educational agency from the ground up, and somehow mitigated lingering feelings of personal displacement. No one thinks about CAJE until they need it; that's what resource centers are all about. Someone succinctly summed it up: CAJE just is. I think Mr. Blumenthal would have relished that description.

Jewish education lost its strongest supporter. The greatest gift that we as a community could give to the memory of Herman Blumenthal is to continue to support and enhance Jewish education for adults and children in this community. May his memory be for a blessing, and his legacy live on in all of us. ☆

Dicky Shapiro also served on the Board for six years. Dicky also attended meetings regularly. She served on several committees during her two terms. When JFS was applying for Medicare and was going through a time of transition, from what I have heard, Dicky would be in the office on a regular basis each and every week, helping to fulfill the application requirements. Today, Medicare reimbursements for counseling services has greatly increased our revenue. Thank you, Dicky.

Nina Lewis has been on the Board for three years. Nina was very involved with the agency. She served as Public Relations Chair and was instrumental in helping to spread the word about the agency. Her monthly CJN articles were informative and creative. Nina also helped with publicity about programs and services. Thank you, Nina.

Tom Rosenberg was also on the Board for three years. He assisted with fundraising and attended meetings regularly. Tom often brought insight to discussions during these meetings. Thank you, Tom.

Last, but not means least is our outgoing Board Chair, Alan Goldberg. Alan served as a Board member for several years before becoming Chair. During his tenure, Alan also served as Committee Chair for the agency's Annual Friend's Campaign. In the three years as the Friend's Campaign Chair, his leadership ability allowed JFS to double the revenue, helping to provide the funds that enabled JFS to grow.

Even more importantly, for the past three years, Alan has provided the lay leadership for the organization. He has served that posi-

tion admirably. Alan has acted as liaison with other Park agencies, advocating for JFS and its needs. Alan has consistently demonstrated his devotion to JFS, its mission and purpose. Personally, Alan has been by my side when needed. He has been supportive, open and encouraging to me these last three years. His input has added to the success of the agency. JFS is fortunate that he will continue as a Board member during the coming year. Thank you, Alan.

JFS will be adding three new Board Members next month. The agency will also have a new Board Chair. In January, I hope to introduce them to you as well as highlight other members in coming months. For now, Marilyn, Dicky, Nina, Tom and Alan, thank you once again for being so special. ☆

Mitzvah Makers Hot Meal Program for November

Susan Applebaum, Evelyn Berger, Ida Berman, Althea Cole, Emily Chatham, Ellen Fligel, Ethel Gordon, Audrey Madans, Elly Miller, Diggie Pesakoff, Melissa Raphael, Linda Rothman, Sara Schreiberman, Linda Simon, Scott Simon, Janni Slotkin

The following donations were made in the months of October IN MEMORY OF

Sam Turk from Pat and David Sommerstein

Florrie Bedrick from Samuel and Raena Siegel, Helen Josephs

Al Rousso from Marsha and Harry Smith, Dorothy Schulman, Irving and Rita Mond, Marilyn and Mike Tuckman, Shirley and Eddie Goodman, Lynne and Morey Sheffer, Linda and Trevor Goldberg, Ellis Levinson, Morty and Eleanor Turk

Herman Blumenthal from

Blumenthal

(Continued from page 11)

other hand, wanted to know everything about the people he met, because he was genuinely interested. He couldn't understand why some folks kept a polite space from him. He had a gentle sense of humor. And was the wisest man I have ever met: once after regaling him in a story about the foibles of one of my colleagues in the Jewish community, he looked me in the eye and pronounced that he was well aware of all I was telling him, and that so-and-so didn't need any help from us in making sure he or she eventually would dig his or her own hole and be swallowed up in it, professionally speaking. Which entirely altered my attitude from that day forward into seeing an ogre turned into the naked emperor.

I will miss Mr. Blumenthal terribly. I have many wonderful stories to remember about him that will bear telling with time. I met many interesting people through

DR. JOSEPH STEINER

family and cosmetic dentistry

Your dental health. Our number one priority.

Cosmetic Dentistry ~ Whitening ~ Implants
TMJ Therapy ~ Restorative Dentistry
Halitosis Treatment ~ Mouth Guards ~ Sleep Dentistry

704-523-4515

Charlottedentists.com

Drs. Steiner, Pappert & Linger

4525 Park Rd.

Park Rd. & Montford Dr.

DR. JEFFREY I. MUSLER & ASSOCIATES, P.A.

South Park Mall
4400 Sharon Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28211
(704) 364-7982

Carolina Place Mall
11025 Carolina Place Pkwy.
Pineville, NC 28134
(704) 541-8232

Independent Doctors of Optometry Adjacent to Lens Crafters

Have
Confidence
That Your
Settlement
is Right
for You



Divorce Financial Planning

Rick White, CFP CDP
Annamarie Joseph, CFP CDP

Addressing Issues:

- Personal vs. Marital Property
- Valuing and Dividing Property
- Retirement and Pensions
- Alimony and Child Support
- Splitting the House
- Tax Problems and Solutions

7810 Ballantyne Commons Parkway
Suite 300
Charlotte, NC 28277

704-319-2232

704-319-2286