

Donor Advised Fund

Profile: Ron Glancz



Q: Ron, why did you open a Donor Advised Fund (DAF)?

A: For many reasons: It’s a legacy -- an opportunity

to set aside funds for charitable purposes for donations to the Jewish Federation and other charities in our lifetime, but also for charitable giving by our children when we are no longer here. It is our hope that our children and our grandchildren will support our Jewish community just as our parents and grandparents did so in their lifetimes.

Donor advised funds make giving easier— you can donate in advance when you are able to, and then use those donated funds over many years. There are obvious tax advantages. With a DAF, you can take deductions in the years in which you have substantial income.

There are other places to open DAFs, but it’s important to our community to do it through our United Jewish Endowment Fund.

Q: What has your experience with your fund been like?

A: What impressed me was that the fund is very well managed, and it was so easy to set up. I was surprised by how quickly it was up and running.

You can access the fund in several ways. The easiest way is online, but for those not comfortable online, UJEF has other ways to access the fund.

Q: What has surprised you about your fund?

A: I was surprised that UJEF had a fund that was just as competitive as financial companies’ funds. We’re just as successful, if not more so, with returns.

Q: What do you think others should know about donor advised funds?

A: Many Jewish donors either don’t know that we offer DAFs or don’t know how easy they are to set up. Once they do, they realize there are so many benefits. Donors should also know that there are so many great charities that you can support from your DAF.

I don’t think the whole world knows about our Endowment Fund, and it’s important to get the word out.

United Jewish Endowment Fund DAF Snapshot

A donor advised fund allows you to put money into a fund now and recommend grants from your fund to public charities you wish to support over years to come.

- UJEF has 180 DAFs holding a total of almost \$54 million.
- In fiscal year 2013, UJEF DAFs distributed almost \$10 million to 485 charities.
- 90% of those grants went to the Jewish community.
- 82% of those grants supported the local community.
- Among the top 20 organizations supported by our DAFs are 3 Jewish Federations, 2 synagogues, and 4 Jewish education organizations.
- A DAF can be opened with a gift of \$10,000 or more.

Contact Elizabeth Goldstein at 301-230-7228 or elizabeth.goldstein@shalomdc.org for more information on donor advised funds.

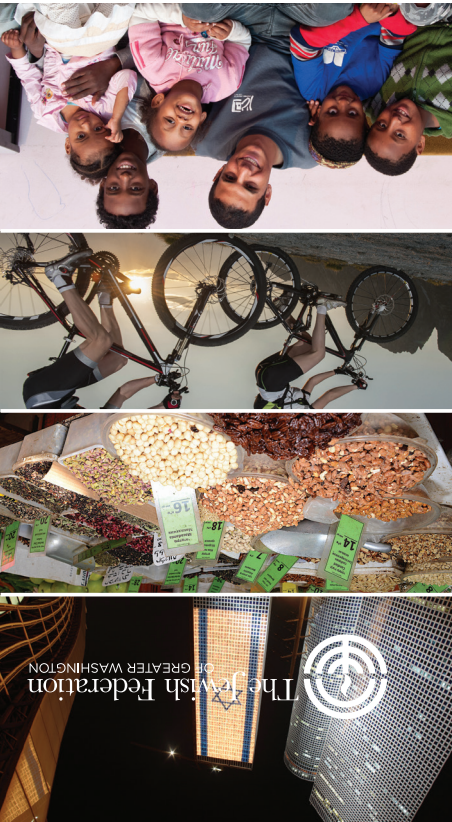
Mission Co-Chairs: Larry & Melanie Nussdorf and Bradley & Sophie Buslik
For more information, visit shalomdc.org/israeljournway or contact Sue Gant at 301-348-7320 or Suzanne.Gant@shalomdc.org

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אביב תשע"א
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The Eternal Light

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A Newsletter from the
United Jewish Endowment Fund
of The Jewish Federation of
Greater Washington

Summer 2014

“Lessans” of Tzedakah

When Stuart Lessans was a child of six or seven, he witnessed his mother on a curious mission. As night fell, she left the house with a bag of groceries, depositing them on the back porch of a neighbor who recently lost his job. When she returned, Stuart asked about the seemingly strange errand—why wouldn’t she just ring the doorbell and deliver the goods in person? His mother answered that there are various ways to approach *tzedakah*. Offering the groceries directly could embarrass the recipient and injure his pride.

These were principles that Sara and Samuel J. Lessans lived by. And while they have since passed on, they instilled in Stuart their deeply held commitment to Jewish peoplehood, Israel and performing *mitzvot*.

Now, at 71, Stuart aims to consecrate that legacy by endowing The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington’s Good Deeds Day in their names. “I want to honor the memory of my wonderful parents – whose commitment to family, community and their Jewish homeland, Israel, was limitless—by making a gift to an organization and program of which they would wholeheartedly approve,” Stuart says, noting his parents’ deep desire to support Jewish charities. “My dad would say, ‘If Jews don’t support their own institutions and causes, who else will?’”

Through his gift, Stuart hopes to pay tribute to their example while also paying it forward. Endowing Good



Stuart and his devoted wife, Ellen, want to model Jewish values to their 13-year-old twins, Faye and Matthew. They send their children to the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School and Camp Ramah to instill a sense of Jewish identity.

Deeds Day further underscores their family’s commitment to the central Jewish teaching of *mitzvot*, he explains.

Stuart hopes to send a larger message as well. “I think that by our strongly publicizing the Israeli origin of Good Deeds Day in 2007, and by tying our yearly event to that of our brothers and sisters in Israel, we can counter some of the cruel and bitter criticism directed against our homeland.”

“On March 15, 2015 our community here in Greater Washington will unite with our counterparts in the Holy Land in the wonderful pursuit of *mitzvot*. Perhaps the rest of the world will take heed.” Stuart hopes the Sara and Samuel J. Lessans Good Deeds Day will “serve to unite the entire Greater Washington Jewish community, secular and religious, old and young, affiliated and non-affiliated, working together to improve the lives of those less fortunate, Jew and gentile alike.”

United Jewish Endowment Fund Grants

Spring 2014

Alexander Muss High School in Israel
\$2,893 for High School in Israel

Alnuhud
\$20,000 for Mentorship Community Awareness

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
\$135,000 for Kehillot B'nai Makom Program in partnership with Gandy Foundation
\$46,500 for STRIVE and Multi-Purpose Employment Center in Be'er Sheva
\$45,000 for PACT and PACT Plus in Afula

Beit Yisrael
\$40,000 for Mechina Leadership Program Working with Youth At-Risk in Gilo, Jerusalem

Coming of Age in Northern Virginia
\$78,957 for Geriatric Services in Northern Virginia

Dror Israel
\$97,000 for Educational Programming in Sderot, Karmiel and Mitzpe Ramon

Ethiopian National Project
\$29,000 for SPACE Program for Matriculation Exam Preparation
\$11,000 for Youth Outreach Center in Beit Shemesh
\$7,000 for Inya Linya After School Program in Beit Shemesh

Jewish Agency for Israel
\$10,000 for Israel Fellow at Virginia Tech
\$100,000 for a Cooperative Food Program in the Periphery in Israel

Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington
\$18,500 for Partnership to Serve Seniors at Har Tzeon (Partnership with JSSA, JCA & Har Tzeon)

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington
\$104,399 for Israel Quest
\$100,000 for PJ Library
\$100,000 for Community and Global Impact Task Force Outcomes
\$100,000 for Community Study

Jewish Social Service Agency
\$12,000 for Coming of Age in Maryland

Shahaf Foundation
\$50,000 for a Partnership with the Foundation and its Work with Young Communities in Israel

United Jewish Endowment Fund Grants Committee
\$100,000 for Matching Gifts Program
\$10,000 for Israel Program Research

United Jewish Endowment Fund/The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington
\$250,000 for the Jewish Food Experience

Washington DC Jewish Community Center
\$29,000 for Behrend-Adas Senior Fellowship

For more details about these grants, visit shalomdc.org/ujef and click on Endowment Fund Grants.

In Memory of Herman Taube (z”l)

By Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt



Herman Taube, z”l. It says, **“Talmid chacham im met, mee yavee lanu temurato? For when a person of wisdom dies, who can replace him?”**

Herman Taube was such a man – a man of wisdom and of understanding; a man who is truly irreplaceable. There will not be another one like him. We have lost one of God’s precious treasures. Now that he is gone, we ask: where will we go to find wisdom and understanding—especially of the incomprehensible? Who will be the voice of the people the Nazis murdered and sought to silence and extinguish? Where will we go to learn of the beauty of our tradition, the richness of life in the *shetl* and to teach us of the fabric of our precious heritage? Who will speak up with compassion for the ideals of our faith? Who will write poems and stories that will move our souls, touch our spirit, send chills down our spines and summon us to act? **How fortunate we were to have known him, and to have had him in our midst, as a teacher, a friend, a colleague, a parent, a grandparent.**

In Memoriam

We mourn the passing of Legacy Society members:

Hyman Garfinkle (z”l)

Ileene Hoffman (z”l)

Doris H. Lane (z”l)

Janet Lobred (z”l)

Roger B. Lowe (z”l)

Phyllis Margolius (z”l)

Herman Taube (z”l)

(z”l) = of blessed memory

With anger, but not malice, Herman’s writings brought to life those whose lives were taken so cruelly and the way of life that was destroyed. But he did not only dwell on the past. He had a great appreciation for modernity and progress and was not mired in the past. He loved God’s creation, and so he often sent out beautiful images and pictures of nature and God’s glorious world.

Anyone who ever met Herman immediately sensed his decency and his kindness, and instantly knew they were in the presence of a very special person, a *gutte neshama*, someone who was precious, who epitomized the qualities our tradition says we should try to live by. He had a wonderful smile and sharp mind. Like Will Rogers, Herman never met a person he didn’t like, and no one who ever met Herman did not love him instantly and feel his love in return.

Let us honor him and his memory by seeking to keep alive his love of all that was precious and dear to him.

In Memory of Phyllis Margolius (z”l)

By Paul Berger



Phyllis Margolius, z”l, of blessed memory, was an iconic figure. I first disclose that I loved Phyllis, as a friend and as a colleague. For many years, she served the Endowment Fund as a Board member and as a supporter, making a meaningful contribution at all times. Phyllis listened, she heard, she cared, she was engaged. When she thought that she could move the ball along, she spoke up with wisdom, clarity and

collegiality. She served our community in so many different roles of leadership. She did so locally, nationally, and internationally. She suffered with all of the pains of the people of Israel living in such complicated realities.

It’s true she and her family were very generous in their contribution of resources, but Phyllis’ contribution of her time, her energy, her love, and her meaningful leadership were in the footsteps and tradition of the great Goldman family.

Phyllis spent her time and energy because she believed in what she was doing.

Create a Jewish Legacy

By Suzanne Bronheim, CJL Co-Chair, Beth El of Montgomery County

The leadership at Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County has been talking for years about the importance of securing our future by building up our endowment fund through legacy gifts. Too often, as is the case for many organizations, the pressures of current fundraising crowded out this long-term need. **Support from The Federation CJL team gave us the motivation and confidence to succeed.**

All of that changed when The Federation started Create a Jewish Legacy to assure that a vital Jewish community in the DC area will continue into the future by assuring long-term financial health of the individual organizations that

comprise the community. We were thrilled to be part of the first cohort of Create a Jewish Legacy. The training gave us the skills and knowledge to move forward and the motivation and confidence to succeed.

CJL at Beth El has meant a lot to our congregation. As one member of our team said, “When I was on the Board years ago, wrestling with the budget demands of a growing congregation, I would have been thrilled to know that years before we had the foresight to plan for the long haul.” Members of our team have valued the opportunities to talk with other congregants and hear stories about how Beth El has been so important in their lives. As one congregant told a team member, “I always love to experience how good giving makes me feel.”

Just when our group was beginning to lose a little focus, the Grinspoon challenge came along.



Beth El became the first CJL organization to reach the goal of the Grinspoon challenge: 22 signed legacy commitments.

Beth El’s success has come from taking what we have learned from the CJL trainings, having a dedicated team that is well-connected with our community and the support of our newest addition, Andrea Glazer, Beth El’s first Director of Development.

To learn more about Create a Jewish Legacy, contact Jennifer Scher at 703-286-1039 or jennifer.scher@shalomdc.org and visit www.JewishLegacyGW.org.

A Pinch of This and a Dash of That: Cookbooks Tell Stories of an Era

By Samantha Bass, Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington
Brought to you by the Jewish Food Experience

In the aftermath of World War II, the food scene in DC was reshaped by the influx of government and military personnel and soldiers returning home. During the war, American GIs overseas were exposed to new ingredients and dishes, developing what could be called “palates of the Pacific theater.” They came back to America craving these flavors.

Suddenly, chow mein noodles and sweet and sour variations of popular dishes appeared in restaurants and on the dining room table.

Jewish cooks in our area were inspired by the same trends shaping the rest of the culinary world.

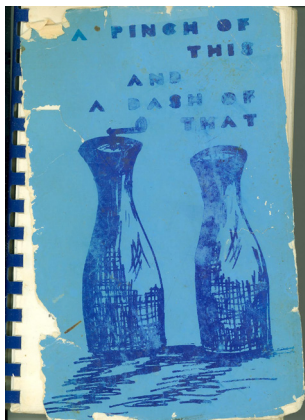
A Pinch of This and a Dash of That, compiled by the Montgomery County Jewish Community Center Sisterhood, and *Eating Pleasure by Sisterhood Measure*, by Shaare Tefila Congregation of Washington were two 1950s cookbooks among the collection of Washington-area cookbooks recently acquired by the Jewish Historical Society that illustrate the food trends of the mid-20th century.

The war also swelled the demand for quick and easily prepared meals. During the war, many American women found themselves working away from the home in support of the war effort. Simultaneously, factories improved prepared foods and mixes, which became more widely available.

Quick meals from mixes meant that working women could still prepare dinner for their families.

While many American women ended their wartime employment after the 1945, their culinary habits had been forever changed. Resourceful home cooks looking for ways to save time used mixes in their traditional made-from-scratch dishes. Even the knish, a popular Ashkenazi dumpling, did not escape the trend. In one recipe, store-bought pie crust mix was used to make the dough. Jell-O, a mix that needed only boiling water, inspired a full chapter on molds and salads in *A Pinch of This and a Dash of That*—decades of dishes a far cry from the side dishes served today.

Above all else, these cookbooks demonstrate Washington’s ever-evolving Jewish foodways. What will the recipes we share today say about our community decades from now?



The smell of freshly baked challah as family and friends sit down to a Friday night dinner...the taste of Bubbe’s matzah ball soup around the Passover table...the memory of making sweet, multi-layered baklava for the very first time. The **Jewish Food Experience** (JFE) was created to help people nurture and build the connections to our Jewish heritage and community. JFE delivers traditional Jewish food with modern twists and international flavors. JFE will gives you great recipes, food-related events and volunteer opportunities to fight hunger plus interesting stories about the Jewish food scene. The tasty language of food is something we all share—dig in! Learn more at www.jewishfoodexperience.com.

Knishes Maxine Shechtel

2 boxes pie crust mix plus ingredients for preparation
Chicken fat (rendered)
5 pounds potatoes
1½ pounds liver
Onions, diced

Cook and mash potatoes with onions, browned in chicken fat. Season to taste. Cook and grind liver, or leave plain potatoes and plain liver. This will give you an assortment of three different kinds. Prepare pie crust mix and roll to thickness of pie crust. Spread lightly with chicken fat. At edge of dough, put line of filling. Roll enough to cover dough over. Cut off with knife. Pinch together. Bake in greased pan with dots of fat around rolls. Score. Bake at 350 degrees approximately 40 minutes or until brown. If planning to freeze, half bake. If need be, make more pie crust. Enough for 15 to 20 people.

Beef Oriental Bertha Liebersohn

2½ pounds beef (chuck, etc.)
2 tablespoons cold water
2 green peppers, diced
1 can (1 pound, 4 ounces) pineapple chunks with syrup
¼ cup soy sauce
¼ cup salad oil
1/3 cup vinegar or pickle juice
2 tablespoons flour

Trim off all fat, cube meat, dip in soy sauce. Brown. Cook in salad oil 20 minutes. Add pineapple syrup and vinegar; simmer until beef is tender. Thicken with flour smoothed to a paste with cold water. Stir in pineapple chunks, green pepper; cook 5 minutes longer or until tender. Serve over rice.

Recipes reprinted from *A Pinch of This and a Dash of That* published by the Montgomery County Jewish Community Center Sisterhood, undated. Courtesy of Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington.