

# CONNECTIONS

Jewish Social Services of Madison

Newsletter Sponsored by the Anna & Oscar Bentley Fund

Winter 2006, Vol. 5 No. 3

**Beverly Bassin and Sun-Young Lee connected through the JSS volunteer program.**



## East Meets West through JSS *Sun-Young Lee and Beverly Bassin*

Entering Beverly Bassin's apartment at Meriter Heights instantly transports the visitor to the Far East. A lovely Japanese rock garden with a fountain and miniature trees dominates the living room. Every light fixture is shaded by a delicate lantern. And in the midst of this tranquil scene sit an improbable pair.

Born in Kingston, New York, Beverly, a retired social worker, earned her Masters from the University of Chicago. She remained in the Windy City, marrying, raising children, working in a number of agencies and living the life of a committed civil rights activist.

"We always lived in interracial communities even back in the 40s," says Beverly. "And, when I served on the Board of the Mennonite Church, we hired Jesse Jackson for \$75 a week!" The city was so segregated back then," she recalls, "that even in Hyde Park (home of the University of Chicago), if you were black, you needed a note saying your reason for being in that neighborhood."

Sun-Young grew up in South Korea in a culture which taught modesty and respect for elders. This soft spoken but determined young woman earned a Masters degree in her country before coming to the U.S. to learn English. At the University of Texas in Austin she earned a BA in advertising and an MA in broadcasting. In Madison, she is working on her Ph.D. in mass communications.

But something was missing. According to Sun-Young, "In my country, we are used to having extended families. When I came here, I felt like senior citizens are isolated from society. Young people need that really important connection. You learn so much from their experience, wisdom and advice."

Beverly had come to Madison to live near her son. But, unexpectedly, his career took him to London. While she has many

interests to occupy her time, this energetic woman loved the idea of increased contact with the younger generation.

Sun-Young visited the UW International Student Services Center where she found a listing posted by JSS Volunteer Coordinator, Louise Goldstein, at [VolunteerYourTime.org](http://VolunteerYourTime.org)\* The request was for a Friendly Visitor for a woman interested in the art and culture of Japan. Close enough, thought Sun-Young. She contacted Louise and the *shidduch* (match) was made!

Late on Friday afternoons, Sun-Young visits Grandma Beverly, "a title of great respect," notes Beverly proudly. They catch up on each other's lives, and Beverly offers tips on the finer points of American culture while Sun-Young perfects her English. "I'm radicalizing her too," says the self-proclaimed activist, beaming.

Later, the devoted pair meet up with Grandma Sylvia, another building resident, who joins them for a meal at an Asian restaurant or in the Meriter dining room. And together they attend the monthly JSS-sponsored Shabbats held downstairs.

Sitting together as the sun goes down, Grandma Beverly turns to her young companion and says affectionately, "So, this is my grandchild. We're family, right?" Sun-Young smiles warmly and nods her head in agreement.

*\*A collaboration among the UW Morgridge Center for Public Service, United Way Volunteer Center, MATC, Edgewood College, JSS and other non-profits. "It has brought terrific student and young professional volunteers to our agency," according to Louise Goldstein, JSS Volunteer Coordinator.*

inside

Staying Safe 2

Tributes 3-5

Foundation For The Future 6

International Corner 7

Donor Connection 8



# Staying Safe: Driving and Aging

To protect client confidentiality, what follows is a typical situation

“I have my aches and pains, but when I’m behind the wheel, I feel 50 again!” exclaims Ernie, an 82 year old resident of a senior living facility. Ernie admits that his problems with mobility, vision and hearing have affected his driving, so he limits his driving to daylight hours and keeps to less traveled streets.

Ernie’s daughter, Marie, worries about her father behind the wheel.

“His arthritis is getting worse and I’m sure it makes it difficult for him to use the pedals or turn the wheel, and affects his reaction time,” she says.

“His hearing is terrible, and his neck is so stiff that he can’t check behind him when changing lanes. But he loves that feeling of independence.”

Ernie’s and Marie’s situation isn’t uncommon, says Nancy Dodge, LCSW, JSS geriatric social worker. “Most of us have been driving since we were teenagers. Driving is a rite of passage into adulthood. It allows us to maintain our hobbies, social contacts, and personal freedom, and to be less dependent on family and friends.”

But can older drivers be safe on the road? As we age, we experience changes in reaction time, vision, hearing, and attention. Many older people have health problems such as arthritis, diabetes, or glaucoma which impact driving. Medication use, common in the elderly, can also have an effect. And when impaired memory and judgement come into play, driving becomes risky for the driver and others.

Warning signs of problems include more frequent “close calls;” dents and scrapes; being honked at by other drivers; an increase in medication use; more traffic tickets or warnings; friends or relatives not wanting to ride with you. Statistics show that older drivers have more accidents and more fatalities than younger drivers, even though they drive less.

“There are steps you can take to make driving safer without having to stop altogether,” points out Mary Ann Roelke, OTR, CDRS, of the Driver Readiness Program at Meriter. “We offer assessments by occupational therapy and psychology, as well as in-vehicle evaluations. We can provide training in safer driving practices. Our program also makes recommendations about when it’s no longer safe to drive.”

*“I don’t want to be dangerous to other people or to myself.”*



Both Nancy and Mary Ann emphasize the need for family to address the driving issue, preferably before it becomes a problem. There are materials available (see sidebar) to help families in bringing up the conversation.

“It is critical to have an alternate plan for transportation when an older person gives up driving,” says Nancy. “Not only can this make the person feel more comfortable giving up the keys, but ensuring transportation to social events and doctor appointments will maintain physical and emotional health.” Options include cabs, volunteer driver programs such as RSVP and the Project for Older People, Madison MetroPlus, and shuttles provided by various senior living facilities. The cost of owning, insuring, maintaining and parking a car often exceeds the cost of taking other forms of transport.

Ernie and Marie agreed to consult Ernie’s physician about his risk factors for driving, and Ernie was referred to the Driver Readiness Program. Ernie looks forward to an objective assessment which he hopes will give him the go-ahead to continue driving. “I don’t want to be dangerous to other people or to myself,” he comments. “If I can’t be safe behind the wheel, I’ll retire from driving.”

“Talking with Nancy, the doctor, and now the occupational therapist has helped my father and me to discuss this issue,” says Marie. “Both of us feel less anxious, and we have some ideas for transportation when Dad does stop driving.”

## Where to go for help

Family members who have concerns about an older person’s driving can find helpful guides to assessing driver safety and initiating conversations about driving from the websites below.

Nancy notes that physicians can be helpful at several points in the process. In Wisconsin, anyone can report concerns about a driver to the Department of Transportation ([www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers)), but reports are not confidential without special consideration. Drivers who have been reported will be contacted for further evaluation.

AARP  
(800) 424-3410  
[www.aarp.org/life/drive/safetyissues](http://www.aarp.org/life/drive/safetyissues)

American Automobile Association  
(407) 444-7000  
[www.aaa.com](http://www.aaa.com)

The Hartford Insurance Company  
[www.thehartford.com/alzheimers](http://www.thehartford.com/alzheimers)

### Driving Evaluations

Driver Readiness Program, Meriter Hospital  
267-6175

### Transportation resources:

Madison Metro and Metro Plus  
266-4466

RSVP  
238-7787

Middleton Outreach Ministry/  
Project for Older People  
826-3410

Badger Cab  
256-5566

Madison Taxi  
255-8294

Union Cab  
242-2000

*Gift vouchers available for cabs*

## JSS Offers A Sincere

# Thank You

## for Your Tribute Gifts

The following contributions were made between October 1, 2005 and December 31, 2005

### IN HONOR OF:

*Dr. Steven Barczi*

Renee and David Richmond

*Family of Linda & Chuck Barrett, good health*

Julie and Lowell Lakritz

*Linda & Chuck Barrett's grandchildren - Rena's babynaming & Isaac's consecration*

Sandy and Bob Schwartz

*Matt Barrett, 91st birthday*

Linda & Chuck Barrett

*Janice Beers*

Tatyana Rimsha

Svetlana Yegorova

*Zachery Thomas Bensky, birth*

Margie and Thomas Krauskopf

*Kurt Bergen z"l*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Pamela Phillips Olson

*Ghita Bessman, appreciation*

Beatrice Levine

*Hal Blotner*

Bettine and Daniel Lipman

*Carla Blum, get well*

Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen

*Gerald Borsuk, 85th birthday*

Ruth Levey and Seymour Levey, z"l

*Lorraine & Gerald Borsuk's new great granddaughter, Shoshana*

Helen Sweet

*Jill & Steve Cohan, Happy Hanukkah*

Susan and Jonathan Lipp

*Corine Cohn's new great granddaughter, Zoe*

Helen Sweet

*Nancy Dodge*

Janice Beers

*Nena Dyhr, get well*

Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen

*Jeff Erlanger*

Rayla G. Temin

*Barbara Field, birthday*

JoAnn Salin

*Aviva & Ben Gellman*

Sheila and Richard Plotkin

*Louise Goldstein, her work with seniors*

Irene and Barry Mirkin

*Louise Goldstein, enjoyable outing to Milwaukee Theater*

Natalie Borenstein

*Bezalel Haimson, 70th birthday*

Judy and Dan Pierotti

*Claudia & William Haus, new grandson,*

*Jacob Elijah Bernstein*

Susan and Jonathan Lipp

Florence Sinaiko

*The Hillel Students*

Becky and Jonathon Kaiser

*JSS Colleagues*

Nancy Dodge

*JSS Staff, with deep appreciation*

Henry Gurevich

Jeanne and Joe Silverberg

*Dick Katz, speedy recovery*

Pamela and Steve Olson

*Marena Kehl, love & thanks*

Judy Pierotti

*Dolores & Lloyd Kornblatt*

Judith and Marc Kornblatt

*Julie Lakritz*

Amy Lakritz and Mark Weiner

*Julie Lakritz, speedy recovery*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Jean and Larry Landweber

Bettine and Dan Lipman

Judy and Dan Pierotti

*Dr. Lowell Lakritz, birthday*

Sandy and Bob Schwartz

*Julie & Lowell Lakritz, special anniversary*

Sandy and Bob Schwartz

*Dr. Renata Laxova, friendship and support*

Julie Lakritz

*Bobbie Lazarz, new job*

Susan and Jonathan Lipp

*Lechayim Volunteers*

Sara and Ron Ben-Ami

*Ruth Levey & Seymour Levey, z"l*

Sandy Porter

*Marcia Lewis, get well*

Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen

*Linda & Jeff Lipp, Happy Hanukkah*

Susan and Jonathan Lipp

*Rona Malofsky, 70th birthday*

Sandy and Howie Goldberg

*Rona & Harvey Malofsky, new granddaughter, Izabella Papermaster*

Bunny and Bill Spitz

*Max Medow, speedy recovery*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

*Steven Morrison, 60th birthday*

Kathi Johnson Rock and Michael Rock

*Sheila & Richard Plotkin*

Julie Plotkin and Samuel Gellman

*Gerry & Warren Randy, new great grandson,*

*Jacob Elijah Bernstein*

Florence Sinaiko

*Ken Robbins*

Bettine and Dan Lipman

Continued on page 4

# Thank You for Your Tribute Gifts *(continued)*

Rose Rodenstein

Judith Ettinger

Shirley Roman

Lauri Roman

Dr. Roy Rotter, *speedy recovery*

June Klein

Joan and Ken Riggs

Rose Steinig

Lorelei Wexler and Ken Conway

Ronit & Andrew Schwarz, *marriage*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Shelley & David Schwarz, *new granddaughter,*

Jordan Arielle Agay

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Stephanie Schwartz, *birthday*

Julie and Lowell Lakritz

Diane Seder, *speedy recovery*

Judy and Dan Pierotti

Judy & Ben Sidran

Barbara Katz and Stephen Fleischman

Leo Sidran

Barbara Katz and Stephen Fleischman

Francie Smith Saposnik

Peter Anderson

Esther and Max Ticktin

Gerda Wald

Francie Smith Saposnik, *birthday*

Janice Beers

Francie Smith Saposnik, *her work with seniors*

Irene and Barry Mirkin

Francie Smith Saposnik, *enjoyable outing to*

*Milwaukee Theater*

Natalie Borenstein

Francie Smith Saposnik's *granddaughter, Hallel*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Barbara Spierer

Judy Pierotti

Tatyana Rimsha

Barbara Spierer, *birthday*

Janice Beers

Susan and Murray Katcher

Barbara Spierer, *editing of Connections*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Lisa Spierer and Christopher Richardson,  
*engagement*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Julie and Lowell Lakritz

Pamela and Steven Olson

Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen

Bunny & Bill Spitz, *special anniversary*

Sandy and Bob Schwartz

Ida Swarsensky, *speedy recovery*

Sylvia Epstein

Howard Sweet

Corine Cohn

The teachers at Gan Ha Yeled

Li Chiao-Ping and Douglas Rosenberg

Frank Tuerkheimer, *continued comfort of*  
*repaired knee*

Bettine and Dan Lipman

Monica Voss & Phil Hees, *marriage*

Lewis Toppel

Corey Watts, *being a National Merit Semi-*  
*finalist*

June Klein

Karen Weintraub, *speedy recovery*

Jean and Larry Landweber

Phyllis & Alan Weisbard, *get well*

Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen

Russ Whitesel, *for assistance to*

*Louisiana flood victims*

Carol Ottenstein and Ron Sklansky

Svetlana Yegorova

Janice Beers

Jim Youngerman

Bettine and Dan Lipman

## IN MEMORY OF:

Helen Adler

Ghita Bessman

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Judith and Allen Kronick

Abraham Landsman

Ilene and Mark Laufman

Laurie Melrood

Barbara Spierer

Joyce Temkin

Susan Adler

Lorraine and Jerry Borsuk

Rose Steinig

Lois Ansell

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Annabelle Argand

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Corliss and William Karasov

Laurie Melrood

Hinda Askenazy

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Lee Baron

Sally Balkin

Robin Spear Barton

Marie and Scott Spear

Louise Becker

Eva Becker

Max Becker

Eva Becker

Al Borsuk

Corlie and Sol Blumenfeld

Sandy and Stanley Kutler

Meier "Mike" Carr

Deena and Peter Williams

Stanley Cohen

Marsha Cohen and Michael Pressman

Evelyn & Mark Colburn

Kenneth Colburn

Evelyn Friedman

Helen Klibaner

David Fromstein

Nancy Bauman

Kay and Roger Doran

Daniel Fromstein

Margi Harris

## How Tributes Help

We appreciate when you honor and remember others with a gift to JSS. Gifts that are unrestricted in nature allow JSS to use them where the greatest needs exist.

Every donation means a great deal to us. We have made every effort to make sure our thank you lists are accurate and complete, but if we have inadvertently neglected to list your name, please let us know. Call Sherry Minkus, 278-1808. Thank you.

*Continued on page 5*

# Thank You for Your Tribute Gifts *(continued)*

## *Bernard Gold*

Dyana and Randall Gold

## *Maxine Goldenberg*

Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen

Jean and Larry Landweber

Victoria Meyer

Sherry and Paul Minkus

Judy and Dan Pierotti

Arlene and Hershel Rotter

## *Paul Gordon's mother*

Carol Ottenstein and Ron Sklansky

## *Sylvia Kadushin*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

## *Harry Kaiser*

Roz and Noah Hershkowitz

Bettine and Dan Lipman

Laurie, Brian, Gary and Steven Schmidt

## *Zelda & Robert Kutler*

Sandra and Stanley Kutler

## *Leonard LaBelle*

Susan and Stephen LaBelle

## *Freida Lerner*

Rita Kozmits

## *Paul Lichtenstein*

Judith Lichtenstein

## *Sonny Maple*

Jan Silvers and Ken Opin

## *Donald Meyers*

Pamela Phillips Olson

## *Lillian Minkus*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

## *Sampson Myers*

Barbara Myers Temkin and Harvey  
Temkin

## *Joy Nathanson*

Mary Saecker and Gilbert Nathanson

## *Steve Orman*

Betsy Haimson

## *Dave Ottenstein*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

## *Mickey & Nat Pressman*

Marsha Cohen and Michael Pressman

## *Sylvia Ries*

Diane Gutmann and Tom Palay

## *Honey Rutchick*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

## *Carolyn and Robert Sachs*

Sandra and Stanley Kutler

## *Irv Saposnik*

Judith and Jack Ladinsky

Sam Moss

Barbara Spierer

## *David Schwab*

Leslie Grant and William Schwab

## *Irv Shapiro*

Brad Bailey

Sally Balkin

Sue and Mike Baumblatt

Rhoda and David Berman

Ghita Bessman

Corlie and Sol Blumenfeld

Kathy and Michael Blumenfeld

Shirley and Walter Bugenstein

Babe and Marv Conney

Alice Daniels

Susan Flaherty and Thomas Drucker

Pearl and John Fantle

David Garno

Donald Gautreau

Rose and Jerry Gilbert

Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen

Virginia and Herbert Graff

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Goldie Kadushin and Steven H.

Morrison

Lisa and Ben Kalnicky

Lori and Dick Kalnicky

June Klein

Michael Klein, z"l

Therese and Mark Kolan

Janet Kramer

Abraham Landsman

Cliff McDonald

Barb McKean

Sherry and Paul Minkus

Emily and Seth Price

Aileen and Melvin Rabushka

Elly Robinson and David Mandell

Renie Schapiro

Sandy and Bob Schwartz

Glenna and Joe Shutkin

Barbara Spierer

Jack Sweeney

Lorelei Wexler

## *Nadine Shapiro*

Jeanne and Joe Silverberg

## *Jay Sokolow*

Belle Radwin

## *Belle Spitz*

Natalie Borenstein

Capitol Bank

Debbie and Ralph Chicorel

Dori and Sam Chortek

Coventry Village of Wisconsin

Mary Ellen and Dale Beich

Carole and Ron Feingold

Lauri and Doug Fisher

Sheila and Ely Fishlowitz

Susan and Bob Friebert

Anne and Burton Friedman

Gay Goldstein

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

Patty and Greg Herrling

Linda and Steve Kailin

Estelle Krasno

Merilyn and Joel Kupferberg

Julie and Lowell Lakritz

Michele Lambert

Sandra and Allan Levin

Bettine and Dan Lipman

Ott Law Office, S.C.

Judy and Dan Pierotti

Deborah and Sam Pines

Sandy Porter

Ragsdale, Spitz & Reuschlein, S.C.

Toby and Sam Recht

Louise Root Robbins and Kenneth  
Robbins

Judy and Jeff Ross

Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Rubensohn

Mrs. Jane Schapiro

Billy Schreiber

Sandy and Bob Schwartz

Anthea and Ernest Slotar

Barbara Spierer

Sunny Direct

Sunny Industries

Dennis Trosch

Joel Trosch

Nerissa Victor

Marlene and Bob Watchmaker

Donna and Harvey Wichman

Youngerman Family

Marilyn and Marvin Zetley

## *Joyce Stanton*

Harriet Stanton

## *Leonard Steinig*

Betsy and Bezalel Haimson

June Klein

## *Max Wald*

Verjel and Arnold Beiler

Gerda Wald

## *Roland Wise*

Susan Davis and Miles Gerstein

## GROUP PROGRAMS

### Movies for a Wednesday Afternoon

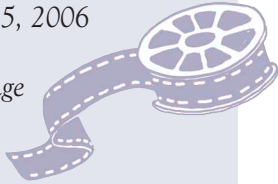
#### Biloxi Blues

Join us for Neil Simon's classic film about the "melting pot" of the US Army! Snacks and a great discussion

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

1:30 to 4pm

Temple Beth El Lounge  
2702 Arbor Drive



#### Chariots of Fire

A stirring film about a Jewish runner competing in the 1924 summer Olympics. Winner of 4 Oscars  
Snacks and discussion

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

1:30 to 4pm

Temple Beth El Lounge  
2702 Arbor Drive

### Other Upcoming Programs

#### War, Trauma and Creativity: The Art of Healing

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

7:00 pm

Wisconsin Veterans Museum  
On the Square at 30 West Mifflin Street

As part of our commitment to mental health education, Jewish Social Services, together with the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and the Addictive Disorders Department of the VA Hospital, are sponsoring a program about post traumatic stress disorder. The presentation, "War, Trauma and Creativity: The Art of Healing," was created by Richard Zeitlin, Museum Director, Jeff Kollath, Museum Curator of Programs, Dean Krahn, Medical Director of the VA Hospital Addictive Disorders Department and Pamela Phillips Olson, Group Work Coordinator at JSS. It will explore the connection that ties war, trauma and healing to creativity. An extraordinary exhibit of works from the permanent collection of the Vietnam Veterans Museum in Chicago will be on display.

### Watch For

Keep Not Silent, an award winning Israeli film about the clandestine struggle of three women fighting for their right to love within their beloved Orthodox communities.

# Thank You

## Foundation For the Future Donors

*Additional Donors since November, 2005*

Howard and Sandy Goldberg

Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen

Thomas and Catherine Kaplan

Jane and Evan Pizer

Harry and Karen Roth

James and Andrea Stein

Rayla Temin, *in memory of Howard Temin*

Henry Wertheimer

## Foundation For The Future Donors Honored

On January 29th, thanks to the generosity of Foley & Lardner, LLP; Quarles & Brady, LLP; Russ and Ruth Frank of Madison Top Company, and Joe & Jeanne Silverberg, over sixty donors, JSS Board members and staff gathered at Eno Vino Restaurant for hors d'oeuvres, desserts, wine and conversation.

The occasion was to express JSS' appreciation to donors to the Foundation For the Future Endowment Fund and to learn about the work of the agency. Attendees heard from Kira Adler whose family was resettled by JSS in 1990 and whose grandparents were assisted by the agency until they passed away in 2005. JP Bader, a valued JSS volunteer talked about the impact of the relationship he has formed with an elderly couple he

visits. Pamela Phillips Olson, JSS Caseworker and Group Work Coordinator described the assistance she has provided to one disabled individual on her caseload.

Judy Sidran and Diane Gutmann, presented Howard Sweet, Chair of the Foundation Committee, with a gift of appreciation. Other members of the event planning committee were Norma Sober and Barbara Spierer.

Howard encourages members of the community who have not yet pledged to the Foundation to contact him at 257-0945 for more information. It is an important way to insure that JSS is there to assist those in need, long into the future.

## JSS Launches Medical Claims Advocacy Program

Attorney Wes Zulty is no stranger to the frustrations of trying to decipher medical bills, Medicare and supplemental insurance billings. He has had to tackle this very challenging problem both professionally and personally. And he has discovered that those issuing the bills are not always correct.

To assist individuals who may be less able to work through the labyrinth of medical billing, Wes and his wife, Beverly, are generously underwriting a program in cooperation with JSS and Hagen Consultants called "Medical Claims Advocacy."

Regardless of your income, if you believe you may have been billed incorrectly by doctors, hospitals or clinics, or you think Medicare or your health insurance company is not properly covering costs, call JSS at 278-1808 and speak with Barbara Spierer. If we think that your situation fits the guidelines for the program, we will contact Hagen Consultants on your behalf. If you are approved, you will receive advocacy services free of charge.

As always, any contact you make with JSS staff is confidential as described in Wisconsin Statutes.

# Did you know..?

- In 2005, JSS income was provided by the following sources: 43% individual donors, 22% MJCC, 16% United Way, 12% program and other income and 8% foundation and other grants.
- In 2005, 25% of JSS clients were disabled, 14% unemployed, and 30% had incomes under \$18,000.
- Anna Bentley's annual gift to the Anna and Oscar Bentley Fund allows *Connections* to publish for another year.
- Again this year, under its Dollars for Doers program, CUNA Mutual Group honored JSS volunteer Bobbie Lazarz with a grant to JSS.

## Jewish Social Services of Madison

Maria Cancian, *President*

Steven Morrison, *Executive Director*

Barbara Spierer, *Associate Executive Director*  
*Services to Individuals and Families Under Stress*

Barbara Spierer, LCSW, Ext. 21  
spiererjss@mjcc.net

*Senior Services*

Francie Smith Saposnik, LCSW, Ext. 19  
franciejss@mjcc.net

Nancy Dodge, LCSW, Ext. 18  
ndodgejss@mjcc.net

*Group Programming*

Pamela Phillips Olson, LCSW, Ext. 27  
pamelajss@mjcc.net

*Immigrant & Refugee Services*

Janice Beers, MA, Ext. 17  
janicejss@mjcc.net

*Volunteer Services*

Louise Goldstein, APSW, Ext. 26  
louisejss@mjcc.net

*Vehicle Donations*

Sherry Minkus, Ext. 12  
sherrym@mjcc.net

## Connections

Barbara Spierer, *Editor*

Christine Pavelko, *Designer*

Janice Beers, Nancy Dodge,  
Pamela Phillips Olson, Barbara Spierer  
*Contributing Writers*

## INTERNATIONAL CORNER

# A Joint Venture

*Pseudonyms have been used to protect confidentiality*

Sergio and Susan enter Centro Hispano with a stack of papers and a long list of questions. Sergio, a 22 year old immigrant from Argentina, married 22 year old Susan in the summer of 2004. Susan, a U.S. citizen, is sponsoring Sergio for permanent residency. "There's so much paperwork involved. The process seems daunting, and we can't afford to pay an attorney," explains Susan

Centro Hispano has been partnering with Jewish Social Services since fall, 2005. Janice Beers, who is accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals, spends Monday afternoons at Centro, where she assists people like Sergio and Susan.

"I usually see about four or five clients each week," says Janice. "And I feel that I can make a difference." Some people have recently immigrated here and need assistance in filing for work permits or permanent residency. Others are ready to apply for citizenship. "Currently, I am assisting a woman who will be sponsored for permanent residency by her US citizen spouse," explains Janice. "But this woman and her four year old daughter are required to return to Mexico during the application process, which separates the family. This is one of the more challenging cases I've had," comments Janice.

Nora Bedard, a graduate student from the UW School of Social Work, assists Janice each Monday. Nora, who is fluent in Spanish, interprets for non-English speaking clients. "The Immigration Services program is a place for people to come and share serious questions and concerns in confidence," remarks Nora. "I appreciate the trust that people place in us and the thanks that they express."

Centro Hispano's Executive Director, Peter Muñoz, is delighted that two United Way agencies are able to come together. It gives Centro an opportunity to meet a great need in the Latino community, while enabling JSS to serve a more diverse population. "The JSS/Centro partnership has provided an effective avenue for Centro's clients to address their immigration issues either through direct service or via referrals," states Muñoz.



JSS and Centro Hispano look forward to continued collaboration on this vital program.

**Centro Hispano's Director, Peter Muñoz (l) and social work intern, Nora Bedard (r) join forces with JSS Director of Immigrant & Refugee Services, Janice Beers.**

# Mi'dor L'dor – From Generation to Generation – Paul Grossberg and Dean Ziemke

Dean Ziemke is a Project Director with the State Office of Justice Assistance. Paul Grossberg is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at UW and a physician with University Health Services on campus. They are the parents of Sean, a student at UW-Madison and Jacob, a 6th grader at Spring Harbor Middle School. Over dinner, the partners of twenty-eight years talked about how they came to be donors to the JSS Foundation For the Future Endowment Fund.

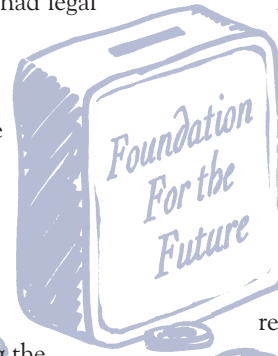
When Sean was nine, Dean and Paul decided to add to their family through adoption. "Barbara Spierer was very helpful in talking through the issues of international verses domestic adoption," Paul remembers. Once deciding to adopt from the former USSR, Sophia Moroz, then JSS Resettlement Coordinator, helped with advice and translation during the process. When Dean brought 2 year old Jacob from Yekaterinburg in Russia to his new home, Sophia became a

bridge between the cultures, helping to smooth the transition.

Another tie the family has with JSS is through an elderly friend who they visited regularly in a nursing home. JSS had legal responsibility to look after her because her family lives far away. At her birthday party each year, Sean, Jacob, Dean and Paul were on hand to celebrate. The gathering in December was a joyous one; but, sadly, it was her last.

When Howard Sweet, chair of the endowment committee approached the men about joining the effort to insure the agency's future, it was near the *yahrzeit* (anniversary of the passing) of Samuel Greenbaum, Paul's maternal grandfather. What better way to honor a man who his grandson describes as "a *mensch*,

a person whose *modus operandus* was to give to people. He didn't have much," says Paul, "but whatever he had he shared – Chiclets, a quarter, it didn't matter."



In remembering Samuel, the two also reminisce about Dean's maternal grandfather, John Steen. Dean recalls, "He took great delight in building things just so he could give them away." The grandsons say they think of their grandfathers as "kindred spirits," both generous souls. JSS is honored to be the recipient of such a meaningful gift.

To receive more information about the Foundation For the Future Endowment Fund or to make a gift, please call Howard Sweet at 257-0945.

Jewish Social Services of Madison  
6434 Enterprise Lane  
Madison, WI 53719-1117

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Madison, Wis.  
Permit No. 1341

Jewish Social Services of Madison

## CONNECTIONS

Published by Jewish Social Services of  
Madison four times a year



JSS

6434 Enterprise Lane  
Madison, WI 53719  
Tel (608) 278-1808  
Fax (608) 278-7814  
E-mail [jss@mjcc.net](mailto:jss@mjcc.net)

[www.jewishmadison.org/JSS](http://www.jewishmadison.org/JSS)



Affiliated with the  
Association of Jewish Family &  
Children's Agencies