

CONNECTIONS

JSS's Francie Smith Saposnik recently left her "other" job as UW faculty.



Francie Smith Saposnik

What her "net" is worth

Francie Smith Saposnik takes the term "connections" up a notch. The Director of Senior Services at Jewish Social Services is a consummate "connector" on the individual level: her irresistibly warm and loving nature thaws even the iciest curmudgeons. What most JSS clients may not know is how much of a *maven* (expert) she is in the social work world.

Until recently, Francie was a lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Social Work, coordinating the Older Adults field unit, a part-time job she held since 1991 while working what appeared to be 24/7 at JSS. She'd teach and hold office hours in the evening, and placed dozens of social work up-and-comers in internships to learn the real-world ropes from the pros in local agencies. To avoid any conflicts of interest, interns placed at JSS have been part of a different field unit.

Francie's mentoring has created a personal and professional connection with many key individuals in the Dane County aging services community. JSS Associate Executive Director Barbara Spierer remarks, "Francie's been reluctant to give up teaching for many reasons, one of which is her belief that former students placed at other agencies have helped provide the best possible service to JSS clients."

Nonetheless, Francie did leave the UW this spring. At a farewell gathering on May 15, we talked with some former students, now members of Francie's inimitable network.

Mary P. Johnson, Associate Director of Psychological/Social/Spiritual Services at HospiceCare, Inc., credits Francie as "the reason I'm working at Hospice right now, because she introduced me to it and let me try it out, and I loved it." Deciding Mary would

be a good match with HospiceCare, Francie "worked her magic," says Mary, despite no apparent internship openings.

La Vay Elg-Scott, who began her social work training at age 51, thanks Francie for arranging for the financial award which funded LaVay's graduate studies. Then, by pairing her in a field placement with another non-traditional student, Diane Bright, Francie created a comfortable setting for both women. Today, dynamo LaVay manages two assisted living residences, an adult day center and a hospice residence for Mercy Health System in Janesville.

Two former students who share clients with JSS are Andrea Garn from ElderCare Inc. and Kirsten Pollack from the South Madison Senior Coalition. Andrea appreciates Francie as "the one who got me excited about geriatric social work. I hadn't really thought that would be an arena I'd want to work in, and now that's where I hope to be for a long time."

Finally, Mary Kerwin, now at the University of Wisconsin Geriatric Clinic, commented that "Francie's respect for her clients is immense, and her ability to advocate for people is something to admire." She was so moved by Francie's effectiveness in negotiating on behalf of those in need recently that she said, "I thought I had to call her and tell her what a goddess she is." Given Francie's consistently superlative written evaluations from students, we think many would agree.

Over the last sixteen years, Francie Smith Saposnik has indeed woven a wide and deep net to cradle those needing help in our community. Nearly all of Francie's former students have in turn trained new field placement students – as Mary Johnson put it, "the way she taught me they need to be trained." And so, despite her leaving UW, Francie's powerful "net" will keep expanding along with her commitment to JSS.

inside

Denial, Family Style

2

Tribute Donors, Friends of JSS

3-10

Did You Know?

10

International Corner

11

Volunteer Connection

12

Denial, Family Style

What if a family member won't accept the truth about a loved one?

Part II in a series

BY RACHELLE RICHARDSON

As I sat in my Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group, I realized that, while it was often overwhelming to be an only child in charge of my mom's life, doing battle with the disease was heart-breaking and exhausting enough without having to do battle with family as well.

I felt sad and angry for the daughter whose mom refused to send (former-executive) Dad to daycare...for the brother whose out-of-state sisters blamed him because Mom hadn't had a shower in three months...and especially for the husband whose kids now distanced themselves and seemed ashamed of their mom.

Each of these caregivers was up against family members in denial, unable to face their own fears – or the facts: Dad isn't who he was and might find comfort in a peaceful, accepting environment. Individuals with dementia are often terrified by water and may require bed baths. Shame may actually be grief in disguise.

Our support group could have benefited from *Mom's OK, She Just Forgets—The Alzheimer's Journey from Denial to Acceptance* – a little gem of compassion, perspective and rationality – but it wasn't around ten years ago. The book sheds light on the fears that breed denial – our own death or disability, social shunning, financial ruin, to name a few. It also addresses hot-button, often entrenched dysfunctional patterns like sibling rivalry and the “who's-in-charge” game.

Some families do rise to the occasion. One young woman in our group called a family meeting and came out with a cooperative plan. Were we impressed!

For other families, crisis can be a growth opportunity if at least one member seeks information and support. Jewish Social

Services is a great place to start. Geriatric social worker Nancy Dodge explains, “First, we offer families emotional support because it's really hard to come to terms with the fact their loved one is diminishing in capacity.” Then, JSS can work with family members, here and away, to reach consensus on care plans as the affected person's needs change.

a power struggle with her sister into a supportive care-sharing relationship, as a result of taking the *Powerful Tools for Caregivers* course co-facilitated by Nancy Dodge. (Call Claire Culbertson, Area Agency on Aging, 261-5679, for a schedule of upcoming groups.)

Occasionally, a family member with personal financial woes, substance abuse problems or plain greediness surreptitiously blocks plans in order to “preserve the inheritance.” This may be a form of elder abuse and should not be tolerated. If you're concerned, you can turn to JSS or the Area Agency on Aging Elder Abuse hotline, 261-9933.

Silver linings *can* be found in the darkest of clouds.

Tragically, a month before I received the diagnosis of my mom's Alzheimer's Disease, my step-sons' mother had suffered a stroke which left her cognitively and physically impaired. My relationship with them had always been strained and tinged with resentment. But we were suddenly thrust into the traumatic world of dementia together. The door to empathy and forgiveness opened, and we bonded as a family like never before.

Rachelle Richardson is a free-lance writer who was a client of JSS until 2000, when her mother passed away.

“Families who work well together will have an easier time, perhaps, but dysfunctional families may actually gain more from this whole experience. Adversity has the power to bring about growth.”

— Evelyn McLay and Ellen P. Young in *Mom's OK, She Just Forgets — The Alzheimer's Journey from Denial to Acceptance*

What if someone can't work through denial enough to join the team? asks McLay and Young. “We must accept this and not fight it...Leave the door open and the welcome mat out.”

That was a good strategy for Carol Spencer, featured in *Connections* two summers ago, who was able to transform

Action Plans for Families

When family members feel that they are all real participants in planning, they're more likely to pitch in. Many of these ideas are taken from *Mom's OK, She Just Forgets*:

1. Remember, everyone's different, and doing the best they can.
2. Don't backbite or scapegoat anyone to funnel off anger.
3. Have everyone contribute to problem-solving research.
4. Call family meetings; take notes or record them.
5. Divide responsibilities and be specific, e.g., out-of-staters might send money for household help or an aide to provide respite to the day-to-day caregiver.
6. Don't have unreasonable expectations.

JSS Offers A Sincere

Thank You

for Your Tribute Gifts

The following contributions were recorded between April 1, 2007 and June 30, 2007

IN HONOR OF:

Muffin Alschuler, wishing good luck
Meryl and Joel Kupferberg

Janice Beers
Olga and Dmitriy Shevchenko
Vera and Sergey Slesarev

Jeremy Berson, Bar Mitzvah
Kathy and Don Miner

Sandy Bierman, good health
Meryl and Joel Kupferberg

Lorraine & Jerry Borsuk, new great grandson
Bobbie and Kal Kunin

Diklah Cohen, receiving the Award of Excellence as an Outstanding Shaliach
Bettine and Daniel Lipman

Shelia and Marc Cohen, thank you for your friendship & hospitality
Shelley and David Schwarz

Lester Druck
Charlotte and Ralph Musin

Lester Druck, happy 90th birthday
Rosalind Levin

Sherman Dutch, speedy recovery
Sally Balkin

Nena Dyhr, in appreciation
Louise Goldstein

Betty & Sig Ettinger, anniversary
Judith Ettinger

Ellen Fisher, happy birthday
Judith Ettinger

Ed Flesch, support of Jewish Culture & successful performances
Sherie and Paul Sondel

Stefanie Gilomen
Lorraine and Jules Newman

Louise Goldstein
Lorraine and Jules Newman

Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen, new granddaughter Leora Cohen
Barbara and Daniel Esser
Sherry and Paul Minkus
Darlene and Stuart Schwartz

Louise Goldstein, successful year of Lechayim
Saretta Burke

Svetlana Govorukha
Olga and Dmitriy Shevchenko

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Howards
Annette Howards

Ciel Ishatova, happy birthday
Karen Shevet Dinah

JSS Staff members, in appreciation
Beverly Ross
Gary Seltzer

Rochelle & Raphael Kianovsky, anniversary
Valerie and Kent Mannis

Sue Knudson, speedy recovery
Darlene and Stuart Schwartz

Meryl Kupferberg, speedy recovery
Sandy and John Kupferberg
Ilene and Mark Laufman
Joan and Ken Riggs
Darlene and Stuart Schwartz
Rose Steinig

Sarah Lipman, completing her Masters Degree
Liz and Russ Whitesel

Steven Morrison, blessing of R'fuah Shleima
Rabbi Jonathan Biatch

Steven Morrison, speedy recovery
Ilene and Mark Laufman
Bettine and Daniel Lipman
Kathi and Michael Rock

Catherine Odette & Sara Karon, 25th anniversary
Karen Shevet Dinah

Joan & Ken Riggs, anniversary
Corlie and Sol Blumenfeld

Sophie Rosen, graduation
Linda and Niles Berman

Hannah Rosenthal
Judy and Ben Sidran

Judith Rothschild, birthday
Renie Schapiro and Norman Fost

Muriel Rotter, speedy recovery
Sally Balkin

Francie Smith Saposnik
Mary and Allan Horlick
Tina Mancusi
Linda and David Maraniss
Lorraine and Jules Newman

Francie Smith Saposnik, thank you for your help
Cathie Bruner
Helen Bruner

Francie Smith Saposnik, successful year of Lechayim
Saretta Burke

Francie Smith Saposnik, retirement from the UW School of Social Work
Mary Kerwin and Marie Hornes

Sam Sherman
Rachel Sherman

Bess Gellman Smith, 100th birthday
Mara Agushi and family

Barbara Spierer
Mary and Kendall Rouse

Barbara Spierer, 25 years at JSS
Betsy and Bezael Haimson

Continued on page 4

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. A card notifying the designee or family is sent immediately.

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 Svetlana Govorukha, 278-1808. Thank you.

Thank You for Your Tribute Gifts *(continued)*

John Stanke, in appreciation
Arthur Breslow

Anna Syvertsen, blessing of R'fuah Shleima
Karen Shevet Dinah

Hagit Vardi, in appreciation
Arthur Breslow

Nancy Youngerman, retirement
June and Herb Gronik
Judy and Ben Sidran

Joan & Marty Zechman, Erica's engagement
Darlene and Stuart Schwartz

IN MEMORY OF:

Annabelle Argand
Estelle Katz Rissman

Max Becker
Eve Becker

Leon Beiler
Verjel and Arnold Beiler

Eli Cohen
Janice Beers

Rhe Kailin Cole
Charlotte Martin

Jeff Erlanger
Nancy Giffey
Betsy Haimson
Shelley and David Schwarz
Bunny and Bill Spitz

Martin Goldstein
Ilene and Mark Laufman

George Goodman
Ann Goodman

Faye Jalowski
Corlie and Sol Blumenfeld

Rose Juranek
Kitty & Paul Glass

Joseph Kauffman
Marcia Kauffman Krasnow

Art Kravat, yahrzeit
Glenna and Joseph Shutkin

Julia Lakritz
Lowell Lakritz

Gloria Landsman
Abraham Landsman

Dorothy Levy
Irving Levy

Bernard Lipman
Judy and Mark Paschen

Lewis Milesky
Barbara and Ron Harms

Samuel Milesky
Barbara and Ron Harms

William Milesky
Barbara and Ron Harms

Lee O'Brasky
Ilene and Mark Laufman
Phyllis Lefcowitz and Al Goldstein
Darlene and Stuart Schwartz
Bunny and Bill Spitz

Sydelle Patton
Phyllis Lefcowitz and Al Goldstein

Peggy Phillips
Deena and Peter Williams

Walter Polner
Joan and Isabelle Polner

Renee Richmond
Judy and Dave Faherty
Goldie Kadushin & Steven Morrison
Sherry and Paul Minkus
Judy and Ben Sidran
Barbara Spierer

Cecile Rogut
Sandy Bierman
Betsy and Bezalel Haimson
Nancy Johnson
Janice Kaplan
Carol Klein

Emanuel Rotter
Sally Balkin
Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen
Betsy and Bezalel Haimson
Bobbie and Kal Kunin
Lorelei Wexler and Kenneth Conway

Alexander Sternberg
Judy and Ben Sidran
Bunny and Bill Spitz
Andrea and James Stein

Sidney Stieber
Deena and Peter Williams

Max Wald
Norma Jean Larson

Arthur Wortzel
Barbara Lockwood and Dennis Wagner

Thank You to Friends of JSS

The following contributions were recorded between March 1, 2006 and February 28, 2007.

Anonymous - 27
Daniel and Lisa Abelson
Robert and Tova Ablove
Betsy Abramson and David Seligman
Robert H. Adams
Richard Adelman and Jody Reiss
Julius and Hildegard Adler
Debbie Alden
Yevgeniya Aleksandrova
Robert Alexander
Edward and Muffin Alschuler
Roza and Brian Anderson
Sylvia Anderson

Rita and Lee Applebaum
Trude Arm
Livia Asher
Associated Insurance
Kathryne Auerback and Barry Burdeen
Kenneth and Ann Axe
Edwin and Amy Azen
Genrikh and Galina Babich
JP and Elyce Bader
Jared and Carolyn Baker
Adam Balin and Karin Mahony
Sally G. Balkin
Lynne and Tomas Ballesta

Marlene Barmish
Linda and Charles Barrett
Beverly Bassin
Steven and Karen Bauman
Michael and Sue Baumblatt
Eve Becker
Janice Beers
Arnold and Verjel Beiler
Linda and Howard Bellman
Sara and Ron Ben-Ami
Lawrence and Janice Bensky
Anna Bentley
Dan Bergen

Thank You to Friends of JSS (continued)

Dorit Bergen	Warren Buckles and Wendy Rakower	Marlynn and Elliot Dorff
Mildred Berger	Tatyana Budker	Helen Dorfman
Joanna Berke-Lynch and John Lynch	Boris Bukshtam	Constance Dreger
Leonard and Norma Berkowitz	Saretta Burke	Lester and Ann Druck
David and Rhoda Berman	Izya Burshtein and Yelizaveta Kilimnik	Joseph and Sybil Dryer
Gloria Berman	Judith Burstyn and Stephan Deutsch	Doris and Richard Dubielzig
Niles and Linda Berman	Eliot Butler	Roman and Maria Dubrovsky
Robert Berman	Ruth Calden	Brian Dunahee
Ronald and Kris Berman	Maria Cancian and Chuck Kalish	Sherman Dutch
Louis and Sandi Bernhardt	Jeff and Stacey Caplan	Nick Dveracek and Sarah Hansen
Patricia Bernhardt	Ardyce A. Cappelli	Anatoliy and Margarita Dvoskin
Al and Dana lin Bernstein	J. Hazel Carter	Nena and Thomas Dyhr
Leslie Bernstein and Grace Cooper	Bill and Margaret Case	Harvey Dym
Michael Bernstein	Joe Cerniglia	Stuart and Marsha Dymzarov
Sharon Bernstein	Doleta Chapru	Emily Earley
Theodore and Sandra Bernstein	Alta Charo	Fred and Ivy Edelman
Bennett Berson and Rebecca Holmes	Sharon Chernoff	Vivian Edelman
Sue Berthouex	Kenneth Chevalier	Daniel Einstein and Miriam Grunes
Ghita Bessman	Thomas Choate	Millard Eisler
Ruthanne Bessman	Joshua and Flo Chover	Jane Eisner
Margie Besso Zitzer and Jeff Zitzer	Robert & Andrea Christofferson	Nathan and Louise Elbaum
Maurice and Sybil Better	Natalya Chubukova	Shulamit Elkayam
John and Sandy Bierman	Judy and Dale Clark	Leon Epstein z"l
Virgene Biggers	Bernard and Toby Cohen	Miles and Amy Epstein
Wanda and Adam Bincer	Marcus and Sheila Cohen	Steven and Patti Epstein
Alice Birnhak	Marsha Cohen and Michael Pressman	Sylvia F. Epstein
James and Freda Blair	Corine Cohn	Howard and Pam Erlanger
JoAnn Blair	Kenneth Colburn	Jeffrey Erlanger z"l
Robert Blank and Susan Coppersmith	Marv and Mildred Conney	Joan Ershler
Linda Bloom	David and Renee Coppel	Barbara and Daniel Esser
Harold and Sue Blotner	Harry and Joyce Coppel	Ellen Esser
Andre Blum	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cornwell	Robert and Barbara Essock
Kathy and Michael Blumenfeld	Steven and Heather Crade	Judy Ettinger
Sol and Corlie Blumenfeld	Sarah Cutler	Judith Faber
Max and Betty Bodenheimer	Barbara Daane	Johanna Fabke
Nikolay and Sheyla Bodnikevich	Judith M. Davidoff	Robert Factor and Kris Rasmussen
Stephen and Danielle Boorstein	Richard and Susan Davidson	Judy and Dave Faherty
Sandra Booth	Joseph and Connie Davis	David Falk and Joanne Robbins
Natalie Borenstein	Royce Dembo	Pearl and John Fantle
Albert Borokhim	Erwin Deutsch	Mimi Farber
Gerald and Lorraine Borsuk	Eva Deutschkron	Nancy Feingold
Lois Borsuk	Ronald and Cherie Diamond	Joan Feldman
Mary and Pat Boyle	Barbara Dickey	Fred Fenster
Jack and Sylvia Brakarsh	Anne P. Dinsmore	Amy and Marty Fields
Robert and Jean Breslow	Dorothy Dittmer	Marshall and Heidi Fields
Shirley Brody	Rachel Dixon	Ilya Fiksel and Ninel Babinskaya
Lonna Brooks and Joel Winograd	Natalya Dobrorez	Isadore V. Fine
Jane Brotman-Austin and Stephen Austin	Bill Dodge z"l	Ted and Susan Finman
Cathie Bruner	Nancy Dodge and David Watts	Ismor Fischer
Helen and Ervin Bruner	Deborah K. Doob	Janet A. Fisher
Eileen Bruskwewitz	Martha Doody	

Continued on page 6

Thank You to Friends of JSS (continued)

Bela Flax
Marshall and Lisa Flax
Gorman Fong
Norman Fost and Renie Schapiro
Herbert Frank
Lottie and Joel Frank
Russell and Ruth Frank
Sherman and Rochelle Frank
Mark Frankel
Howard and Debra Fried
Albert and Susan Friedman
Belle Friedman
Gary Friedman and Bonnie Denmark
Friedman
Marcia Friedman
Donna Friedsam and Tim Astfalk
Herbert Friend
Milton and Jacki Friend
Bernice Fromstein
Max D. Gaebler
Norton Gahr
Barry and Ilona Ganetzky
General Casualty
Glen Steven
Martin Garment
Nettie Garment
Jac and Edie Garner
Gary and Annie Garten
Debbie Garten Stone and Gary Stone
Joel and Mindy Gassman
Patricia and Lorne Gates
Shelley Gaylord
Denny and Gary Geller
Irene Geller
Samuel Gellman and Julie Plotkin
Rena Gelman-Lauer and Robert Lauer
David Gershaw
Miles Gerstein and Susan Davis
Nancy Giffey
Gayle and Irv Ginsberg
Edith Giovannoni
Elsie Glass
Mindy Glazer
Arthur and Mina Glenberg
Lisa Glueck
Dyana and Randall Gold
Marion Gold
Dick Goldberg and Lisa Munro
Howard and Sandy Goldberg
Jacob E. Goldenberg Foundation
Mimi Goldberg

Ken and Jeanette Golden
David and Estelle Goldenberg
Stanley Goldfarb
Steven Goldinger
Les Goldsmith and Dale Kunin
Albert Goldstein
Herman Goldstein
Louise Goldstein and Bruce Thomadsen
Steve Goldstein and Laura Heisler
Susan Goldstein
Nerma Gollin
Ann Goodman
Irwin A. Goodman and Robert D. Goodman
Jerilyn Goodman
Jerry L. Goodman
Sam Goodman
Simon Gorwitz
Beverly and Lawrence Gottlieb
Svetlana and Alex Govorukha
Herbert and Virginia Graff
Freya Grand
Janice Gratch and Steven Wilensky
Robert Greenberg
Leslie Grendahl
Jerrold Gross and Adrienne Borisy-Gross
Paul Grossberg and Dean Ziemke
Jeffrey Grossman and Nadine Nehls
Albert and Jeanne Grover
Julius and Sylvia Grunes
Alexander Gurevich
Henry Gurevich
Alan and Gerri Gurman
Galina Guterman and Victor Dyabichev
John Hagstrom
Betsy and Bezalel Haimson
Belle and Harry Halloway
Mary Ann Hamill
David Haskin and Mary Michal
Tim Hausmann
Tom Hecht and Sue Burrows
Laurel and Bert Hefty
Robert Heideman
Anna Heifetz
Michael Heifetz and Michelle Minkus
William and Nancy Heller
Simon and Billie Hellerstein
Noah and Rosalyn Hershkowitz
Melanie Herzog and Norman Stockwell
Helen Hift
Richard Hillelson
Cynthia Hirsch

Deborah Hoffman
Deborah Hoffman and Mark Hazelbaker
John and April Hoffman
Kim and Anthony Hokaj
Lori Holder-Webb
Marcie and Robert Holding
Mary G. Holm
Katie Hoogenakker
Mary and Allan Horlick
Richard Horst
Annette Howards
Alan and Harriet Hyman
Barbara Infield
Ciel Ishatova and Terry Doyle
Nancy and Jesse Ishikawa
Gail Jacob and Henry Steinberger
Kay Jarvis-Sladky
Bette Johnson
Kathi Johnson Rock and Michael Rock
Sally Jones and Aaron Friedman
Craig and Wendi Joseph
Ed Joseph
Michael Judge
Jerome and Alyce Kadell
Ben Kadis
Alfred Kadushin
Rebecca and Jonathon Kaiser
Dori Kalish
Alan J. Kalker and Abigail Cantor
Freddrika Kammer
Don Kanel and Bettina Diaz-Herrera
Joanne Kanter
Daniel and Lynn Kaplan
Jackie Kaplan
Janice Kaplan
Thomas and Cathy Kaplan
Joan Karan
Paul and Eydie Kargas
Gennadiy and Svetlana Karlyuk
Judy Karofsky
Oscar Karp z"l
David Karpe
Mark Karpe
Jeffrey Kassel and Alison Einbender
Murray and Susan Katcher
Don Katz and Rebecca Krantz
Margery Katz
Neal and Marci Katz
Richard and Rhea Katz
Carol Katzelnick

Continued on page 7

Thank You to Friends of JSS (continued)

Joseph F. Kauffman z"l
Jack Kaufman
Jerry Kaufman and Judith Zukerman
Kaufman
Mark and Sarah Kaufman
Carol Kean
Jerome and Lois Keisler
Leslie and Daniel Kemp
Joseph Kepecs
Raymond and Leah Kessel
Anatoly and Irina Khazanov
Raphael and Rochelle Kianovsky
Candi Kildow
Norma D. Klagos
Rochelle Klaskin
Judith K. Klehr
Gregori and Nina Kleiman
Carol Klein
June Klein
Lane Klein
Murray and Andee Klein
Ronald and Barbara Klein
Daniel Kleinman and Susan Bernstein
Genya Kleyman
Irwin and Helen Klibaner
Herbert Kliebard
Robert and Kay Kline
Carla A. Knopp

Theodore and Irene Knupp
Hava and John Kohl-Riggs
Juliette Kohn
Lawrence Kohn and Laurie Buchalter
Galina Konovalov
Lyudmila Konovalova
Vladlen Konovalov
Roslyn Kopelberg
Allan and Kathy Koritzinsky
Marc and Judith Kornblatt
Rena Kornblum and Joseph Schmitt
Teresa and George Korycan
Steven Koslov and Mary Fulton
Andrew and Nancy Kosseff
Rita Kozmits
Janet F. Kramer
Diane Becker Krasnick and Marc Krasnick
Thomas and Margie Krauskopf
Jeffrey and Judith Kravat
Diane Kravetz and Mark Saltzman
Alexander and Julia Krichevsky
Helaine Kriegel
Edward and Bobbie Krinsky
Rachel Krinsky and Scott Titus
Bert and Amelia Kritzer
Tatyana Kudinenko
Barbara Kuhn
Kal and Bobbie Kunin

Merilyn and Joel Kupferberg
Robert and Kathy Kuritz
Sergey Kurolapnik
Dale and Burton Kushner
Jeffrey and Marcy Kushner
Kenneth Kushner and Erica Serlin
Paul Kusuda
Stanley and Sandra Kutler
Stephen and Susan LaBelle
Jack and Judith Ladinsky
Morissa Ladinsky
Cynthia Laitman
Amy Lakritz and Mark A. Weiner
Lowell Lakritz
Howard and Judy Landsman
Jeff and Donna Landsman
Lawrence and Jean Landweber
Esther and Kenneth Lange
Stanley H. Langer
Larissa Larson
Mark and Ilene Laufman
Renata Laxova
Roberta and James Lazarz
Regis Lecoanet and Robin Moskowitz
Phyllis Lefcowitz
Nancy Leff and Kenneth Lerner
Milton Leidner

Continued on page 8

Dear Friends,

Recently, Maria Cancian, JSS Board President wrote to you. The theme of her letter was *mazel*—luck. While at times it may seem like some people have all the luck, in fact, bad and good luck comes to most of us in equal measure.

When fortune isn't smiling, the staff at JSS stands ready to help. Last year, more than 1,000 people sought JSS' services to assist them through the acute crises and chronic problems that can beset anyone.

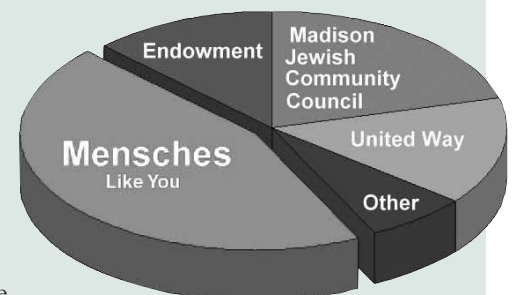
Listed on these pages are those of you who made contributions during the last fiscal year. Some of you designated JSS for your United Way gift.* A few of you donated cars or boats to be sold at auction. Many of you made tribute gifts in memory or to honor someone you care about. Those of you who JSS helped last year and are able, sent money so that the agency will be there to assist others. But most of you are listed here because you provided JSS with an annual gift in response to a letter like the one Maria wrote. This year we hope we can count on you once again. You've been so generous in the past, and we hope our *mazel* holds out.

In the pie chart, you can see how much JSS depends on personal financial contributions, which brings us to the word *mensch*. A *mensch* is a good person, someone who has a sense of what is right and responsible, someone who helps others without an expectation of return. There is no higher compliment we can pay another individual than to call them a *mensch*.

Mensches are the heart and soul of JSS. Please give generously.

*When you donate to the United Way, their volunteers decide what portion of the total will be allocated to JSS. However, if you choose to designate JSS, your gift is guaranteed to the agency.

As hard as we try, we may have left some names out. Please call us at 278-1808 so we can apologize and be sure to include your name in our next issue.



Mensches make us whole.

Thank You to Friends of JSS (continued)

Judith Leland
Joan Lerman
Shirley Leshin
Eva Lesser
Mark Levenstein
Ruth Levey
Allan and Sandra Levin
Daniel and Kathy Levin
Felice Levin
Rosalind Levin
Beatrice Levine
Betty Levine
Mike Levinson
Irving Levy
Jeffrey C. Levy
Lawrence Levy
Marvin Levy
Herbert Lewis
Judith Lichtenstein
Michael Lichtenstein
Joan and Allen Liegel
Jeff Lindholm and Leslie Fields
Daniel and Bettine Lipman
Jonathan and Susan Lipp
Steven and Janel Lipton
Barbara Lockwood
Frank L. Loeb
Nancy Loewenstein
Barbara Lorman
Maxine Lowell
Yael and Eric Lund
Lois Lurie
Jill Lynch
Victor Macdruso
Ilse Mack
Madison Public Library Foundation
Madison Symphony Orchestra
Jill Maidenberg and Richard Thal
Sherwood Malamud and Barbara Spar
Malamud
Kristina Maldre
Harriet Malina
Harvey and Rona Malofsky
Bobbie and Bill Malone
Elaine and Patrick Maney
Frank and Frances Mann
Kent and Valerie Mannis
Marsha Mansfield and Steven Schooler
Anne Marion
Constance and William Markey
Marshall & Ilsley Trust Real Estate
Department

Charlotte Martin
Deborah Martin
Jeffrey Martin
Rudolf Mathias
Howard and Sally Mazur
Charles and Gayle Mazursky
Karen McCarthy
Kris McConnell and Maggie Quinchia-Rios
Jana and William McFarlane
Lorraine Meisner
David Melnick and Molly Kane
Janet Mertz and Jon Kane
Gary Messinger
Gloria Meyer
Ilse R. Meyer
Victoria J. Meyer
Christopher D. Meyers
Andrew Michels
Andrea Miller
Barton and Karen Miller
Evelyn and Arnold Miller
Igor and Maria Milovets
Donald and Kathleen Miner
Joel and Deborah Minkoff
Danial Minkus
Paul and Sherry Minkus
Barry and Irene Mirkin
Bilha Mirkin and Yair Mazor
Leslie and Denise Mirkin
Barbara Yaffe Mitchell and John Wright
Mitchell
Stuart Mondschein and Ruth Frawley
Mel Morgenbesser
Paul and Sophia Moroz
Steven H. Morrison and Goldie Kadushin
Stuart Morse
Fred Moskol
Sam Moss
Norene and Samuel Mostkoff
Ralph and Charlotte Musin
Sam and Fay Nager
Sylvia Naiman
Judith Nelson-Stern
Jayne Neuendorf
Kathleen Nichols
Maier J. Novick
Ava Olsen
Paul Olson
Sam and Maria Onheiber
Maureen Oostdik-Hurd
Kenneth Opin and Jan Silvers

Steven and Kaaren Oreck
Alan R. Orenberg
Michael and Karen Ostrov
Carol Ottenstein and Ronald Sklansky
Sandie Ottenstein
Perle and Asher Pacht
Thomas Palay and Diane Gutmann
Arnold Paradise
Portia S. Paradise
Angela Paratore z"l
Dorothy Paris
Seymour and Ruth Parter
Robert and Janelle Pasch
Mark and Judy Paschen
Marilyn Penn
PEO Sisterhood - Chapter BW
Seth and Leslie Perelman
Serge and Jane Perepel
Aliana Perez
Kato L. Perlman
Pamela Phillips Olson and Steven Olson
Hannah Pickett
Charles and Barbara Pickhardt
Jeremy Pierotti and Kathryn Klibanoff
Judy and Daniel Pierotti
Allen and Judith Pincus
Evan and Jane Pizer
Arthur Polans and Myra J. Schultz
Susanne Policano
Jonathan and Elissa Pollack
Seth Pollak and Jenny Saffran
Lorraine Pollock
Isabelle Polner
Sandra Porter
Angelos and Maureen Poulakidas
Martin and Lynn Preizler
David and Christine Puchalsky
Purple Moon Foundation
Marvin Rabin
Judy Rabinowitz
Paul Rabinowitz
Belle Radwin
Robert Radwin and Pamela Potter
Ragsdale Spitz & Reuschlein
Mary Ramberg
Rebecca Ramirez
Warren and Gerry Randy
Mitchell and Sharon Rapkin
Miriam and Ruben Reininger
Linda Reivitz

Continued on page 9

Thank You to Friends of JSS (continued)

Bruce Renwick and Carol McLain
Nancy and David Resnick
Susan Reusser
Mikhail and Tatyana Reyfman
Armand Richman
Renee Richmond z"l
Gary and Judy Ries
Joan and Kenneth Riggs
Roberta Riportella
J. Brian Roberts, Jr.
Barbara Robins
Celeste L. Robins
Miriam Robinson
Larry Rodenstein
Michele and James Rohan
Shirley Roman
Harry and Nina Rosefelt
Cynthia and Robert Rosen
Max and Betty Rosenbaum
Margie Rosenberg and Joanne Holland
Martin Rosenberg
Elaine Rosenblatt
Michael Rosenblum and Justine Harris
Dayl and Arnold Rosenthal
Ellen Rosner and Barry Perkel
Ron Rosner and Ronnie Hess
Beverly L. Ross
Jeff Ross
Judith Ross and Richard Bowman
Judy and Jeffrey Ross
William D. Ross
Barbara Roth
Harry and Karen Roth
Joan Rothberg and Steven Segall
David and Reine Rothblatt
Judith and Michael Rothschild
Arlene and Hershel Rotter
Ron and Cathy Rotter
Royal and Muriel Rotter
Sanford and Susan Rotter
Martin and Cindy Rowe
Jonathan Rozenfeld and Jill Korey
Hiasaura Rubenstein
Ellen and Allen Rubin
Judith and Robert Rubin
Larry Rubin
Nathan Rudin
Paulette Rufenacht
JoAnn Salin
Frank Salomon
Gary and Kathy Sandefur
Alex and Gaby Scharlack
Robert and Marney Scheele
Steve Scheibel and Jane Pearlmutter
Adam Schesch
Joan Schmit
Alice and David Schneiderman
Dolly Schoenberg
David and JoAnn Schoengold
Francis and Sally Schrag
Judith Schreiber
Eric Schulenburg
Donald and Sue Schuster
Ruth and Howard Schutzbank
William Schwab and Leslie Grant
Darlene and Stuart Schwartz
Robert and Sandy Schwartz
Sandra Schwartz Bryan and George Bryan
Alan and Laurie Schwartzstein
David and Shelley Schwarz
Howard Schweber
Simone Schweber and Jonathan Ivry
Diane Seder and Bruce J. Rosen
Gary Seltzer
Jane and Sion Shabtaie
Amy Shapiro and Jeff Olenick
Marshall and Susan Shapiro
Ina G. Sharkansky
David and Marsha Shaw
Joan Sheehy
Michael Shelton
Yoram and Lucyna Shenker
Helen Sher
Sara J. Sherkow z"l
Elena Sherman
Jack Sherman
June and Seymour Sherman
Karen R. Shevet Dinah
Earl and Anita Shrago
Lawrence and Linda Shriberg
Judy and Ben Sidran
Daniel and Ruth Siegel
Eve L. Siegel
Frank and Margaret Siegel
Aimee Siegler
David Silverberg and Elizabeth Huebel
Jeanne and Joe Silverberg
Cindy Silverberg Kamps and David Kamps
Carl and Elizabeth Silverman
Lynn Silverman
Florence Sinaiko
Roz Sinaiko
Joyce and Laura Sincher
Marcus and Blanche Singer
Robert and JoAnn Skloot
Marshall Slemrod
Sergey and Vera Slesarev
Thedora Smith
Francie Smith Saposnik
Ina and Theodore Smolker
Elliott and Norma Sober
Betty Solomon
Esther and Frank Solomon
Louis and Elsbeth Solomon
Paul and Sherie Sondel
James and Melissa Sosman
Debra and Jack Spear
David and Sharon Sperling
Barbara Spierer
Michael and Sue Spitz
William and Barbara Spitz
Gloria and Sandy Spitzer
Jeffrey and Sheryl Spitzer-Resnick
Vladimir and Alexandra Srug
Euna Staniforth
Charlotte Stein
James and Andrea Stein
Leonard and Karen Stein
Greg and Andrea Steinberger
Rose Steinig
Mary Stern
Steve Stern and Florencia Mallon
Helen and Alexander z"l Sternberg
Gerald and Vicki Stewart
Melissa Stewart and James Baldwin
Jill Stillman
Rochelle Stillman
Norton and Lois Stoler
Elinor and Jerome Stotsky
Marylyn and Stewart Stroup
Sylvia Sugerman z"l
David Sulman and Anne Altshuler
Joshua Sulman
Naomi Sussman and Marc Meketon
Sutton Place Association
Tatyana and William Swanson
Ida Swarsensky
Louis and Julie Swedarsky
Ester Sweeney
Bessie Sweet
Clara Sweet

Continued on page 10

Thank You to Friends of JSS (continued)

Helen S. Sweet
Howard A. Sweet
Lawrence and Jessica Sweet
Merle and Pat Sweet
Michael Sweet and Leonard Zwilling
Richard Sweet and Judy Zvara
Sheldon and Gerda Sweet
Shirley Sweet
Sidney Sweet
Sophie Sweet
Sue Sweet
Doris Tarachow
Ethel Waisman Tarkow and Harold Tarkow
Jane and Tom Taves
Gamber F. Tegtmeyer
Rayla G. Temin
Harvey Temkin and Barbara Myers Temkin
Julius Temkin
Irene Temple
Temple Beth El Sisterhood
Elisha Terre
Sylvia Thal
Cindy and Ken Thomas
Joanna Thompson
Ronald Thorstad
Max and Esther Ticktin
Rowland Todd
Shirley Toomey
Lewis and Peggy Toppel
Total Care Dental
Louise Trubek and David Max
Ruth Tsotsis
James Van Gemert
Franny Van Nevel-Bach and Steven Bach
Uri and Hagit Vardi
Laurence M. Victor
Nerissa Victor
Yelena Vilshanskaya and Simon Elterman
Nadya Vinokur
Lauren Vogel and George Turnbull
Shirley Volpiansky
Helen Vukelich
Burton and Georgia Wagner
Bernice and Michael Wahle
Phyllis and Steve Wainger
Gerda Wald
Peter and Toby Wallach

Hank and Elizabeth Walter
Mona Wasow and Richard Brualdi
Ziva and Jim Wear
Lisa Webne-Behrman and Harry Behrman
Elliot and Nancy Weiman
David and Dina Weinbach
David Weiner and Nedda Gabriela Olazabal
Fran and Marc Weiner
Frances Weinstein
Sybil Weinstein
Bernard Weisblum
Hobart and Doris Wells
Harvey and Bonnie Wendel
Henry Wertheimer
Cheryl Rosen Weston
Janice K. Wexler and Ronald N. Walker
Lorelei Wexler
Russell and Liz Whitesel
Jean Willard
Deena and Peter Williams
Fred Williams
Lucille and Meyer Williams
Bruce Winkler
Marjorie Winkler
Joel and Susan Winnig
Suzanne and Mitchell Wolf
Barbara Wolfe
Susan and Lawrence Wolfensohn
Beverly Wollach
J. Martin Wolman
Richard and Ellen Wolman
Harold and Charlotte Woolf
Clarice and Arthur z"l Wortzel
Beatrice Wright
Sandy Wright and Michael Soref
Michael and Nancy Yaffe
Milton and Joanne Yatvin
Blossom Yeaman
James and Nancy Youngerman
Peter and Sylla Zarov
Lenor Zeeh
Joan and Steven Ziegler
Daniel and Irene Zimmerman
Laurie Zimmerman and Renee Bauer
Robert Zitowsky
Nancy Zucker and Michael Burns

As hard as we try, we may have left some names out. Please call us at 278 1808 so we can apologize and be sure to include your name in our next issue.

Did you know..?

- Sandy Bierman, featured in the last issue of *Connections*, has undergone a kidney transplant and is doing very well. Best wishes, Sandy.
- On August 25th, Director of Senior Services, Francie Smith Saposnik marks her 25th anniversary with JSS. *Mazel tov*, Francie!
- JSS senior summer outings have included: a visit to the Wisconsin Triennial Exhibit at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, a tour of the Governor's Mansion and the annual barbeque at the Goodman Campus.

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

Immigrant & Refugee Services

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

Volunteer Services

Louise Goldstein, MSW CVA, Ext. 26
louisejss@mjcc.net

Vehicle Donations

Sherry Minkus, Ext. 12
sherrym@mjcc.net

Connections

Barbara Spierer, *Editor*

Christine Pavelko, *Designer*

Janice Beers, Louise Goldstein,
Rachelle Richardson, Barbara Spierer
Contributing Writers



The Ties that Bind

BY JANICE BEERS
Director of Immigrant & Refugee Services

Once in a while, someone special crosses your path and changes the course of your life for the better. My friend, Albert was such a person.

Albert and I met serendipitously at a coffee shop in 1998. He was there with his running friends. Somehow, I mustered the courage to walk up to the group and inquire about their running. "I have a new running partner," Albert declared, before he even knew my name!

For an entire year, Albert ran all of the local races at my pace. We always crossed the finish line with smiles on our faces, even if we were at the back of the pack. We became close friends over the years. We helped each other through trying times. Especially hard for Albert was the untimely death of his niece, Lizzette.



Some of you might have known Albert. He worked at the Bread Barn. When runners saw him at races they often exclaimed, "Hey—aren't you the "Bread Guy?" Albert became a mentor to many of the high school and college students who worked at the store. "Albert treated us with respect and talked to us as if we were adults," explained one of the young women.

Last fall, Sara Fountain walked into my office, asking for assistance with her immigration papers. She was born in Jamaica. When she was a young girl, her mother fell ill with cancer, and her grandparents brought her to the United States when she was just 8 years old. The day she left Jamaica, her mother passed away.

When I met Sara, I immediately took note of her last name. "I have a close running friend with the same last name," I told her. "You know Albert?" she

exclaimed. Sara is married to Albert's nephew, Tim.

This past March, Sara and I were disheartened to learn that Albert had been diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer. That didn't stop him, though, from continuing to offer support to Sara and Tim through the difficult immigration process. Albert and his wife, Eve, became Sara's financial sponsor. That would have been enough; but Albert and Eve went one step further and insisted on paying the filing fees as well, a very generous gift.

Albert passed away on June 14th. Sara and I held each other and cried when we heard the devastating news. We couldn't believe that this vibrant man was gone. He was buried next to his beloved niece, Lizzette.

Sara and Tim's interview with the Milwaukee USCIS office is just a month away. I will proudly represent this couple in honor of my special friend, Albert Fountain.

Planning for the Future

Midlife and Aging Families of Persons with Serious Mental Illness

October 13, 2007 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Courtyard by Marriott Madison East (608)661-8100
2502 Crossroads Dr., Madison, WI

**Please Note: This conference is for consumers, parents, siblings and others involved in the lives of adults with serious mental illness.*

Featured Speakers:

James A. Jaeger J.D., Elder Law Attorney
Legal issues and Financial Planning

David Mays M.D., Psychiatrist
Meeting the Challenge and Open Discussion

Speaker TBA
Issues Related to Social Security

Donna Wrenn, Executive Director of NAMI Wisconsin
Beneficiary Plan

Registration: Includes workshop, continental breakfast, lunch and snack. Registration, along with credit card information, can be phoned in or emailed. All participants will receive a letter to confirm their reservations for the training.

Registration is limited to the first 50 people

Sponsors: NAMI Wisconsin, UW Madison School of Social Work, and Jewish Social Services of Madison.

Planning For the Future Registration Form

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Meal preference: Regular diet Vegetarian diet

Request: Social Work CEU's Certificate of Attendance

Early Registration Fee: \$12 Deadline: September 7, 2007

Standard Registration Fee: \$15 Deadline: September 21, 2007

Charge Payment: Visa Master Card Account

_____/_____/_____/_____ Exp. Date _____/_____/_____

Checks: Make payable to: NAMI Wisconsin, 4233 W. Beltline Hwy., Madison, WI 53711.

Call NAMI Wisconsin at (608) 268-6000 or (800) 236-2988 for further information. Some scholarships are available. Please complete and return this form to NAMI Wisconsin Inc., 4233 W. Beltline Hwy, Madison, WI 53711 before September 21, 2007.

The Right Stuff – Jeff Erlanger z”l

Many generous people volunteer for Jewish Social Services, often touching lives as they go about their assignments. One exemplary individual is Jeff Erlanger, of blessed memory.

Jeff, a Madison native and Edgewood College graduate, began volunteering for JSS in 1995, while he was still a student. For many years, he delivered Hanukkah menorahs to nursing home residents, brightening their holiday and insuring that they were not forgotten. From 1998 until 2001, Jeff served on the JSS Board of Directors. Most recently, he was a telephone reassurance volunteer for an elderly woman who he called, faithfully, five days a week. These conversations helped her feel more secure as she adjusted to life in a retirement community. Whenever asked to perform a *mitzvah*, Jeff happily complied, saying that he enjoyed having the chance to help someone in some tangible way.

Jeff managed all of this in spite of his quadriplegia. He would tell you that he really wasn't doing anything special; he was just doing the right thing. He also understood "the right thing" to mean fighting hard on behalf of people with any kind of disability. He worked to insure that Madison become a fully inclusive community. With that mission in mind, Jeff served on several City of Madison and Dane County commissions and committees and campaigned hard for City Council, coming in a respectable second.

Sadly, Jeff died recently at the age of 36, leaving Madison minus a tireless activist and all around *mensch*. His obituary

included these words which describe Jeff perfectly. "He lived his life with boundless enthusiasm, taking advantage of every opportunity to make a friend or make a difference...He was never defined by his disability, and his optimism and accomplishments inspired us to see possibilities instead of obstacles."



At JSS we also strive to see possibilities instead of obstacles, offering our clients hope, along with concrete solutions to difficult problems. If you are inspired by Jeff's example, you might want to become a volunteer somewhere in the community.

To discuss possibilities, contact Louise Goldstein, (278-1808 ext 26, louisejss@mjcc.net) or go to www.volunteeryourtime.org

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

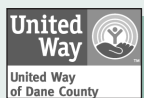
Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Madison, Wis.
Permit No. 1341

Jewish Social Services of Madison CONNECTIONS

Published by Jewish Social Services of
Madison four times a year



6434 Enterprise Lane
Madison, WI 53719
Tel (608) 278-1808
Fax (608) 278-7814
E-mail jss@mjcc.net
www.jssmadison.org



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