

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF OT PROGRAM YEAR 5779

The June 2 Congregational Meeting began with a video presentation, initially imagined by First Vice President Alan Gorowitz and created by Dan Noble, in which various Board members shared their personal highlights of OT's 5779 program year. These are excerpts from their remarks.



Debbie

Debbie Weber, Ways and Means Chair, focused on Noy Peri's Taste of Memories Program, commemorating fallen Israeli soldiers and victims of terror by preparing and eating some of their favorite foods.

Both Men's Club President Jordan Baker, and Sharyn Stahl, Adult Education Chair, mentioned Dr. Joshua Kulp's Scholar in Residence weekend. Jordan was "blown away" by learning the history of the Pesach songs, and Sharyn was fascinated by examining new facets of the Haggadah.

Melinda Roth, Adult Education Chair, spoke about the impact on her of the adult B'nei Mitzvah class. Nine adults took on the study of the Shabbat morning service, proving "it is never too late to learn."

Both Social Action Chair Clare Bachner and President Brittanie Werbel described aspects of the October 28, 2018 Power Packs Program, occurring the day after the Pittsburgh Tree of Life synagogue massacre.

Brittanie pointed out that hundreds of Christian and Muslim neighbors joined us, unafraid to be with us, despite the violence that had just happened.

Clare described the effect of partnering with the MakeSpace Mosque and St. Marks Catholic Church as "the coming together of many cherished values."

We supported each other's right to worship freely. We grieved together; as a community, we supported hungry children, to make sure they had food over the weekend.

Director Judith Cabelli shared the impact of the Power Packs Program on the OT Girl Scout troop, and Building and Grounds Chair Jerry Strauss explained what we have done with the \$74,000 grant from Homeland Security to "harden our building against the kind of attacks that occurred in Pittsburgh and Poway."



Clare



Brittanie



Jordan



Sharyn



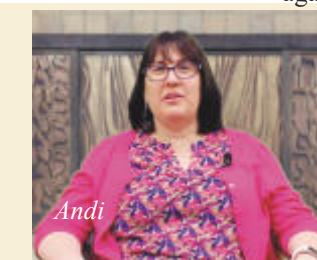
Melinda



Judith



Jerry



Andi



Peter

Board of Directors Secretary Peter Maer continued on that theme:

"Every time I enter the building, I see the embodiment of Olam Tikvah, our World of Hope.

"I often stop and soak in the sounds of OTRS students learning and having fun, the B'nei mitzvah students practicing."

On Shabbat, he remarks on the diversity: members for decades, young singles, marrieds, teenagers, every age in between. "I love seeing the 'stroller gridlock' in the sanctuary and the hallways, the young children rushing to the center bima to sing *Adon Olam*.

"It is the most welcoming of congregations. And that is why my wife, Elizabeth, and I joined, almost 40 years ago."

Sisterhood Co-President Andi Dorlester described a recent Shabbat morning service where all age groups were represented. An older couple celebrated a milestone wedding anniversary; a teenager received a yad award; and a baby was named who was the great granddaughter of a founding member.

I thought, "This is really a wonderful, vibrant place."

CLICK HERE to view the video. And, click on a photo to see that Board Member's full remarks.

On Sunday morning, June 2, the 19 Confirmation class students shared memories and inspirations that have defined their OTRS experiences.

Debra Beland Ackerman, Director of Education and Youth Activities, described the group's transition from learners to transmitters of information, "taking leadership in your own Jewish life."

Individual students highlighted various aspects of their OT education, from making a Chanukah music video in 4th grade and visiting the Holocaust Museum in 6th grade, to going with USY to Kings Dominion and learning about Israel through food. Class member Jonah Werbel sent the reminder that he was studying in Jerusalem "because of OT."

Shlichy Noy Peri recalled their experiences together in the Federation's Israel Engagement Fellowship Program, learning to debate issues about Israel and about Anti-Semitism. "I loved every second we spent together," she told them, adding, "I believe that significant learning is about asking questions."

Rabbi Ravski shared his impression of the group as "rarely accept[ing] the first explanation given to them." In sessions with each of the rabbis, they covered topics ranging from Jewish beliefs about death, descriptions of angels, Kashrut and Jewish ethical eating, and whether God is inherently good or evil. One student's take-away, "I should always look beyond differences to see what unites us."

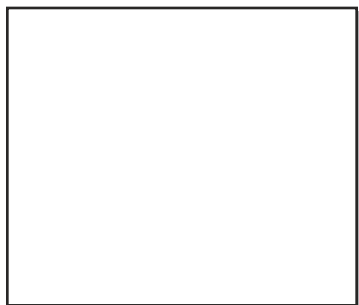


After the group assembled in front of the Ark, Rabbi Kalender handed them the same tallit their parents held above their heads at their 3rd-grade Siddur presentation. This time, however, they unfolded and held it up themselves.

Rabbi Ravski reminded us all of the words we chanted the previous day, as the congregation completed Parashat Bechukotai and, with it, the Book of Vayikra (Leviticus): *Hazak, Hazak, V'Nithazek*: Be Strong, Be Strong, May we be strengthened.

"May you find strength in taking your knowledge and putting it into action," he told the group. "May you be strengthened at every step along the way by the education you received at OT."

See **MAZAL TOV, CONFIRMATION CLASS**, Page 5



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Ed Faggen recognized with 2019 President's Award for Distinguished Service



The OT President's Award for Distinguished Service is awarded at the end of each program year for service to the congregation.

This year's recipient, Ed Faggen, has demonstrated exemplary selflessness in his service to others.

An OT member for almost 40 years, Ed has volunteered his time since his professional retirement at Annandale Terrace Elementary School.

He began as a reading mentor, helping individual students practice their reading. Then,

along with John Baer (z"l), he devised an ESL program for teaching English to their parents.

He eventually took over the program, evolving, expanding and changing lessons according to the parents' abilities. The parents come from many different backgrounds and speak many different languages. Some know almost no English.

He helps them write letters, compose resumes, and prepare for written driving tests.

Along the way, Ed added a citizenship class. In it, he teaches history, writing, and test-taking skills, and each year several of his students pass the citizenship test.

Note: These are excerpts from OT President Brittanie Werbel's remarks.

Shauna and Sierra Kaplan receive 2019 Linda Cohn Memorial Youth Award

This award, established by the Cohn Family to recognize student leadership, is made yearly to an individual who exemplifies Jewish values and dedication to scholarship and service. At the June 2 Congregational Meeting, Debra Beland Ackerman presented the award to Shauna and Sierra Kaplan.

Here are some excerpts from Debra's remarks:

Four years ago, a small group of OTRS 8th graders made a commitment to bring back to OT a USY chapter like the ones that existed at other shuls around the beltway.

Shauna and Sierra's contribution was to work to engage their peers. For them, it was about inclusion.

They met with their peers across the region to find out what works, how they could make it work so that their chapter would grow.

"There is not a teen in this building who has not been approached by one of these two young ladies to come to something."

If they saw you, they invited you. They texted or emailed.

When they learned that most youth groups used Instagram, they started an Instagram page.



Their goal this year has been to mentor younger high school students to "rise up," so that when they leave for college, others will have the tools and the passion to do what is needed to carry on.

"You should be very proud of these young women," who have been a part of this community all their lives.

(You can find their pictures in the Tot Shabbat siddur.)



In May, our OTUSYers were awarded Seaboard Region Chapter of the Year! A huge mazal tov to our teens, our adviser, Rafi Glazer, and our Assistant Director of Upper School and Youth, Brian Grossbard!

We say goodbye to our shlichah, Noy Peri



After two years, our congregation said l'hitra'ot to our amazing shlichah (Israel Emissary), Noy Peri, who also worked with students at Geshar Jewish Day School.

As our Shlichah, Noy presented programs and experiences for both OTRS students and families and the congregation at large. Among these were a Gilad Shalit panel; the Taste of Memories series; Mimuna (an end-of-Pesach, Moroccan and Yemenite celebration). Noy attended many Youth Group events. She created a cooking event in which parents competed with their middle and high-school age students. She also accompanied teens to AIPAC. She produced an end-of-year,

Israel-themed family experience for OTRS; and she was a lead educator for the Northern VA cohort of the Israel Engagement Fellowship.

Weekly, she taught the 8th- and 9th-grade Tikkun class and led 5th- and 6th-grade Shabbat morning group discussions.

Over her two years, Noy visited the homes of 75 OT congregants, and shared Shabbat dinners with nearly 225 congregants. The idea was to bring a conversation about Israel to the Shabbat dinner table, and allow people to get to know her in a more intimate setting.

To fund the program, Rabbi Kalender initially appealed to certain families who had expressed a love for Israel. They made a two-year commitment, and they unanimously agreed to fund a

*See **THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS**, Page 8*

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Around Olam Tikvah

B'nei Mitzvah



Saturday, July 6

Alexi Wirpel,

daughter of Andi & Bill and sister of Spencer, is a rising 8th grader at Lake Braddock Secondary School. Alexi loves to read and swim, and she has been a figure skater at Fairfax Ice Arena for 6 years. Alexi also loves hanging out with her friends and would like to thank each and every one for supporting her in different ways.

Alexi's mitzvah project is volunteering and doing as many good deeds as possible before she turns 18 years old. She and her family look forward to celebrating with family from all over, including Connecticut, California, and Israel.

Parashat Korach

Saturday, July 13

Susanna Fertel,

daughter of Iren & Josh and sister of Danny, is a rising 8th grader at Ormond Stone Middle School. Susanna is very creative! She is an amazing writer and a vivid reader. She is also passionate about singing in her school choir and solo, and she enjoys dance and theater.

Susanna's favorite place to vacation during the summer is Outer Banks, N.C. For her Bat Mitzvah project, Susanna plans to buy non-perishable food items to contribute to the **Outer Banks Food Pantry** during her Bat Mitzvah beach week this year. Susanna is excited to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah with her grandparents, Betty Fertel, Sofia Plits, and Lazar Kaganov, as well as her family and friends from near and far.

Parashat Chukkat



From Our Hearts

Mazal Tov

We wish a hearty mazal tov to...

Andrea & Jerry Gross, on the auf ruf of their daughter, Lisa,
and Jordan Keitelman

Staci & Brian Grossbard, on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter,
Sydney

Anna & Scott Persky, on the B'nei Mitzvah of their sons,
Henry and Oscar

Joan & Don Sacarob on the marriage of their granddaughter,
Sydney Merin, to Daniel Silvermintz

Carol & Abe Schneier, on the marriage of their son,
Neil, to Liliana Gregory

Condolence

We acknowledge the passing of ...

Irene Axelrod, mother of Ellen Hilert.

Edith Bloom, mother of Murray Bloom.

Kiddush Sponsors

*Thank you for your donations to the Kiddush Fund,
in honor of your July anniversaries.*

July 1-4

Rachel & Elijah Alper; Jane & Bill Behrmann;
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Cindy Rosen & Robert Schwartz (15); Yvonne Fujimoto & David
Shurberg; Laurie & Shawn Vergott

July 5-11

Florence & Al Bernstein; Sandy & Zvi Provisor;
Beth & Fabian Rivelis

July 19-25

Maria & Lester Koransky; Lisa & Robert Maher;
Diane & Joel Miller

July 26-31

Tamara & Jeff Cohen; Alice Sue & Arnold Hecht;
Marilyn Feldman & John Krug

From page 3

Mazal Tov

Confirmation Class of 5779

Jake Beland
Nathaniel Close
Leeanne Crowley
Madelyn Dallas
Claire Feil
Ethan Feil
Rachel Friedman
Jacob Goldberg
Nathan Goldberg

Sarah Hasson
Asher Hartunian
Jacob Hemmerdinger
Reuben Hemmerdinger
Sydney Jacob
Sara Pearlstein
Jacqueline Sherry
Ethan Specht
Noah Staten
Jonah Werbel

*Thank you to
Carol Klevan, Linda Meyer, and Carol Shaman,
for making anniversary calls.*

Directory Errata

Please correct the following information in your Directory:

1. The Klevan zip code is 20147.
2. Correct email for Joan Heller is hellerjoan49@gmail.com .

Thank you for your donations, which were received by May 31, 2019.

Annual Campaign

IN MEMORY OF

Edward Recht, by Jim Rosenberg

Capital Improvement Fund

IN HONOR OF

Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Specht,

by Lilly & Stuart Eder

Bat Mitzvah of Lauren Boyett,

by Debbie & Mark Weber

Birth of Melanie Elise Kirsch, daughter of Debbie & Steve, granddaughter of Shula & Jack Friedman, by Lynn Phillips

Birth of Oriana Dar, granddaughter of Myra & Jerry Strauss, daughter of Jacqueline Gran & Aaron Strauss, by Lynn Phillips

Birth of Shai Cooper, grandson of Ilka Shore-Cooper & Fred Cooper, son of Dina Herbert & Benjamin Cooper, by Lynn Phillips

Jordan Baker receiving the Blue Yarmulke Award, by Liz & Peter Maer

IN MEMORY OF

Arlyne Meyers, by Lynn Phillips

Edith Bloom, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Gloria Singerman, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Irene Axelrod, by Anita & Steve Dienstfrey;
Debbie & Mark Weber

Larry Kalender, by Lynn Phillips

Marion Friedman, by Anita & Steve Dienstfrey

Sande Burstein, by Lynn Phillips

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Debby Swichkow, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Comfort and Condolence Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Larry Kalender, by Evelyn & Joel Paul

Dorothy Edison and Alexander Levin Library Fund

In appreciation for the aliyah we received on April 26, 7th day of Passover,

by Ruth & Ed Diener

Emanuel Passamaneck Prayer Book/Tallit

IN HONOR OF

Engagement of Rachel Ellis to David Maher,
by Barbara & Jim Finkel

Jordan Baker's receipt of the Blue Yarmulke Award, by Barbara & Jim Finkel

Sharon Sherry's recognition by Geshar Jewish Day School, by Barbara & Jim Finkel

*OT Chorale, Fine Arts and Social
Action Committee contributions
are listed in the Tzedakah Fund.*

Tzedakah

IN MEMORY OF

Isadore Levine, by Roz Sloan & Art Levine
Larry Kalender, by Elana, Rich, David, and Sarah Plotnick; Florence & Al Bernstein

Sande Burstein, by Barbara & Jim Finkel;
Elana & Rich Plotnick

Edward Recht, by Elana & Rich Plotnick

Gerald Brissman/Lyle Miller/Carol Samuels Youth & College Fund

IN HONOR OF

Allen reading Torah for Lori's Aliyah,
by Lori & Allen Zobler

Birth of Matinel Hannah Kahn, granddaughter of Barbara Holleb, daughter of Aimee Holleb & Stephen Kahn, by Barbara & Jim Finkel

Birth of Melanie Elise Kirsch, daughter of Debbie & Steve, granddaughter of Shula & Jack Friedman, by Barbara & Jim Finkel;

Barbara & Robert Cohen; Sue & Ken Cohn
Birth of Oriana Dar, granddaughter of Myra & Jerry Strauss, daughter of Jacqueline Gran & Aaron Strauss, by Barbara & Jim Finkel
Birth of Shai Cooper, grandson of Ilka Shore-Cooper & Fred Cooper, son of Dina Herbert & Benjamin Cooper,

by Barbara & Jim Finkel

Birth of Theo Shoon, grandson of Leona Shoon,
by Lori & Allen Zobler

IN MEMORY OF

Abraham Morris, by Gloria Brissman

Charles Kon, by Karen & Barry Hemmerdinger;
Sue & Ken Cohn

Larry Kalender, by Lori & Allen Zobler

Linda Cohn, by Sue & Ken Cohn

Pearl Brissman, by Gloria Brissman

Sande Burstein, by Sue & Ken Cohn

Sylvia Finkel, by Lori & Allen Zobler

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

River Leshan Hill, by Sue & Ken Cohn

Harold T. Rib

Torah & Religious Articles Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Gloria Singerman,

by Anita & Steve Dienstfrey

Sylvia Finkel, by the Toobin Family

Jerry Werbel Memorial Landscape Fund

IN HONOR OF

Birth of Madeleine Joy, great granddaughter of Mimi & Len Levine,

by Alice Sue & Arnie Hecht

Birth of Malka Bracha, great granddaughter of Bernice Kaufman, by Judy Werbel

Birth of Matinel Hannah Kahn, granddaughter of Barbara Holleb, daughter of Aimee Holleb & Stephen Kahn, by Judy Werbel

Birth of Shai Cooper, grandson of Ilka Shore-Cooper & Fred Cooper, by Sally Amster & Paul Arnstein; Judy Werbel

IN MEMORY OF

Allen Zelkind, by Judy Werbel

Gloria Singerman, by Betsy & John MacCarthy

Jeff Swartz, by Alice Sue & Arnie Hecht

Larry Shuman, by Judy Werbel

Paul Goldsmith, by Deedy & Ed Eisenson

Sande Burstein, by Brenda & Marvin Klemow;
Judy Werbel

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Al Fuchsman, by Judy Werbel

Kirby Newman, by Judy Werbel

Marie Taubman, by the Toobin Family

Rabbi Itzhaq M. Klirs

Memorial Adult Education Fund

IN HONOR OF

Birth of Matinel Hannah Kahn, granddaughter of Barbara Holleb, by Debbie & Mark Weber
Birth of Melanie Elise Kirsch, daughter of Debbie & Steve, granddaughter of Shula & Jack Friedman, by Debbie & Mark Weber;

the Toobin Family

Birth of Shai Cooper, grandson of Ilka Shore-Cooper & Fred Cooper,

by Debbie & Mark Weber

IN MEMORY OF

Arlyne Meyers, by Bernice Stern;

Diane & Joel Miller

Charles Kon, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Edith Bloom, by Hebrew Conversation Class

Edward Recht, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Gloria Singerman, by Barbara & Jim Finkel

Larry Kalender, by Kitty & Jack Timmes

Marion Friedman, by Barbara & Jim Finkel;
Debbie & Mark Weber

Sande Burstein, by Debbie & Mark Weber

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Shula Friedman, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Thank you to Rabbi Kalender and Rabbi Ravski for your support with Lauren's Bat Mitzvah,
by Team Boyett

Thank you to Rabbi Kalender for his support and in memory of my mother, Selma Bubel,
by Owen Bubel

IN HONOR OF

Birth of Matinel Hannah Kahn, granddaughter of Barbara Holleb, daughter of Aimee Holleb & Stephen Kahn, by Joan Isenberg-Samuels;
Carol & Jacob Klevan

Olam Tikvah, by Roz Sloan & Art Levine

IN MEMORY OF

Arlyne Meyers, by Joan Isenberg-Samuels
Gloria Singerman, by Ronnie Rodriguez

TZEDAKAH, Continued from page 6

Larry Kalender, by Alice Sue & Arnie Hecht;
Bernice Stern; Beth & Barry Reisig; Bonnie
& Jeff Siegel; Bonnie & Larry Roffenbender;
Carol & Jacob Klevan; Debbie & Mark Weber;
Debby Swichkow & Ray Ellis; Diamond-Tap-
per Family; Diane & Joel Miller; Ellen & Steve
Rubenstein; Jane & Bill Behrmann; Joan &
Don Sacarob; Joan Isenberg-Samuels; Karen &
Barry Hemmerdinger; Linda & Aron Glasman;
Linda & Walter Meyer; Lisa & Joel Fried-
man; Maddie & Rich Cassell; Marci & Alan
Benheim; Michele & Stuart Endick; Sandy
Tiemann; Tamara & Edward Faggen
Marion Friedman, by the Toobin Family
Sande Burstein, by the Toobin Family

Robert Natkin Religious School Fund**IN HONOR OF**

Libby Saypol, Thank you for supporting Lau-
ren for her Bat Mitzvah, by Team Boyett

IN MEMORY OF

Arlyne Meyers, by Linda & Aron Glasman
Edward Markowitz,

by Randee & Jerry Markowitz

Harry Shnipper, by Randee & Jerry Markowitz

Larry Kalender, by Bernice Kaufman; Joanne
& Tom Stryer; Randee & Jerry Markowitz

Sande Burstein, by Joanne & Tom Stryer;

Randee & Jerry Markowitz

Shirley Menachem,

by Randee & Jerry Markowitz

Stahl Family Experience Israel Fund**IN HONOR OF**

50th wedding anniversary of Birgitta & Mar-
shall Hoffman, by Elizabeth & Martin Weiner

Birth of Melanie Elise Kirsch, daughter of
Debbie & Steve, granddaughter of Shula & Jack
Friedman, by Shelly & Joel Palley

Birth of Oriana Dar Strauss, granddaughter of
Myra & Jerry Strauss,

by Elizabeth & Martin Weiner

Birth of Parker Henry Toobin, grandson of Merle
& Michael Toobin and nephew of Adam Toobin,

by Bill & Jane Behrmann

College graduation of your grandson,

Isaac Witlin, by Judy & Stan Schretter

IN MEMORY OF

Arlyne Meyers, by Shelly & Joel Palley

Barney Shapiro, by Bonnie & Michael Witlin

Charles Kon, by Sarah Elpern & Bruce Waxman

Edith Bloom, by Ronnie Rodriguez

Irene Axelrod,

by Sarah Elpern & Bruce Waxman

Irving Witlin, by Bonnie & Michael Witlin

Jack Finberg, by Ellen Finberg

Larry Kalender, by Elizabeth & Martin Weiner;

Judy & Stan Schretter; Shelly & Joel Palley

Marilyn Davis, by Liz & Peter Maer

Marsha Palley, by Shelly & Joel Palley

Sande Burstein, by Sarah Elpern & Bruce

Waxman; Shelly & Joel Palley

Tzedakah Fund**IN HONOR OF**

Birth of Melanie Elise Kirsch, daughter of
Debbie & Steve, granddaughter of Shula &
Jack Friedman, by Marcy & Michael Marcus;

Ilese & Roger Vorcheimer

Birth of Shai Cooper, grandson of Ilka
Shore-Cooper & Fred Cooper,

by Betsy & John MacCarthy

IN MEMORY

Abe Miller, by Diane & Joel Miller

Arlyne Meyers, by Francine & Robert Staiman

Avrum Lubing, by Lael Lubing

David Black, by Rick Black

Dorothy Bopp, by Richard Bopp

Elizabeth Dienstfrey, by Stephen Dienstfrey

Emanuel Stern, by Bernice Stern

Ester Hersch, by Lilly & Stuart Eder

See TZEDAKAH, page 8



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David Kalender, Rabbi.....dkalender@olamtikvah.org
Evan Ravski, Asst Rabbi.....eravski@olamtikvah.org
Brittanie Werbel, Presidentotpresident@olamtikvah.org
Rochelle Goldberg, Syn. Admin.rgoldberg@olamtikvah.org
Erin Dreyfuss, Prog. Coordinator ...edreyfuss@olamtikvah.org
Lisa Friedman, Editorlisafriedman@verizon.net

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July-August 2019 Calendar Highlights

JULY 2019

SUN	14	9:30am	Sisterhood Group Tour of the Jewish Museum of Maryland
SUN	14	2:00pm	Family Mini Golf

AUGUST 2019

SAT	10	8:45pm	Ma'ariv and Eicha, Tisha B'Av
SUN	11	9:00am	Shacharit and Eicha, Tisha B'Av
SUN	11	8:15pm	Mincha and Ma'ariv
FRI	16		SAVE THE DATE: Congregational Shabbat Dinner

TZEDAKAH, continued from page 7

Florence Koransky, by Lester Koransky
Freyda Shimansky,
by Alice & Michael Weinreb
Frieda Eisenstein, by Fran Eisenstein
Gershon Bornstein, by Pearl & Steve Raikin
Harriet Miller, by Rhoda & Mark Miller
Harris Cherin, by Michelle Avda
Harry Sacarob, by Don Sacarob
Herman Staiman,
by Francine & Robert Staiman
Hilde Krug, by John Krug
Hugo Olsson, by Birgitta & Marshall Hoffman
Hyman N. Caplan,
by Betsy & John MacCarthy
Ida Feldner, by Abram Feldner
Irving Fertman, by Norman Fertman
Irving Gordon,
by Carol Gordon & Steven Rosenthal
Jack Znilek, by Pearl & Steve Raikin
Jacob Klitzner, by Jaclyn Blumenthal
Jacqueline Davis,

by Sandra & Leon Esterowitz
Jay Horne, by Debra & Herman Stein
Jessica Blumenfeld, by Lynne & Elliott Dubin
Joe Williamowsky, by Diane & Joel Miller
Larry Kalender, by Francine & Robert Staiman;
Joan & Paul Blumstein; Lilly & Stuart Eder;
Myra & Gordon Gondos; Sheryl & Harold
Tudor; Marcy & Michael Marcus
Lila Fleischman, by Amy Tursky
Lois Johnstad, by Barry Bielsker
Louis Cornell, by Judy Schretter
Maier Schluskel, by Neil Schluskel
Marion Friedman, by Betsy & John MacCarthy
Mel Liebmann, by Beth Liebmann
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third year when it became a reality. Their generosity made it possible to run the program completely independently of OT operating funds.

NOTE: These are excerpts from Laura Strouse's remarks.

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