contemporary

Congregation Olam Tikvah www.olamtikvah.org 3800 Glenbrook Road Fairfax, Virginia 22031



Volume 56, Number 6
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OT congregants contribute in larger communities

PETER MAER RECEIVES INTERFAITH ALLIANCE WALTER CRONKITE FAITH AND FREEDOM AWARD

Susan Kristol



Webster (L) and Maer (R)

On Monday, May 21, in Washington, DC, the Interfaith Alliance honored OT Board member Peter Maer, a longtime broadcast journalist and retired White House Correspondent for CBS News, and Judge William H. Webster, the only individual to have served as director of both the FBI and the CIA during his long

career of public service, as recipients of the Walter Cronkite Faith and Freedom Award. A large group of supporters of the Interfaith Alliance were present, along with past awardees and family and friends of both Maer and Judge Webster. Olam Tikvah and other Northern Virginia Jewish organizations were both well represented in the audience.

Rabbi Jack Moline, the president of the Interfaith Alliance, presided over the event. The presentation of engraved plaques was followed by speeches from both honorees.

Moline explains the basis of the awards:

"Judge Webster demonstrates an unwavering dedication to truth, a commitment to defending religious freedom, and a belief in the value of informed civic participation.

"Peter Maer had a nearly 40-year career in broadcast journalist that epitomized integrity, covering every president since Jimmy Carter, as well as disasters, impeachment trials, international crises and treaties. He truly embodies the commitment to advancing public dialogue on traditionally controversial and divisive issues."

During his speech, Maer spoke about the experience of attending a high school in Granite City, Illinois in which he was the only Jewish student in his class of 800. He shared that the experience taught him "the importance of forging interfaith alliances that I'm proud to say continue to this day."

He then deployed his journalistic skills by interviewing Judge Webster, age 95, about his career. Judge Webster's guiding principle was later inscribed on the wall of the conference center at the FBI: "Together, we will do the work that the American people expect of us in the way that the Constitution demands of us." Both honorees worked with many presidents over the course of their careers.

The final question of the evening was posed by Rabbi Moline: "What is the difference between an interview and an interrogation?" This prompted both honorees to discuss the importance of freedom of the press and the search for the truth, not just "the facts," as a way of ensuring the health and strength of our democracy.

See next column

BOB WATTS BECOMES FJMC SEABOARD REGION PRESIDENT

Irv Varkonyi

On Sunday, June 16, Bob Watts will be installed at a Men's Club year-end brunch for a two-year term as the 33rd president of the Seaboard Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (FJMC). Bob will be the third Seaboard President from OT, following in the footsteps of Irv Varkonyi and Bruce Gordon, who will swear in the new Seaboard officers. Olam Tikvah is the only club in Northern Virginia to have had members rise to the regional presidency. All OT congregants are invited to attend.

CLICK HERE to RSVP.

A retired Foreign Service
Officer currently working as a
consultant at the State Department,
Bob has served on the Men's Club
board since shortly after he, his
wife Linda and children Zach and
Vega joined OT in 2004. He served
as OT Men's Club President from
2014 through 2016. He has been
First Vice President of the region
since 2017 and chaired the past



L-R: Bob Watts, Steve Tursky, immediate past OTMC President; Jordan Baker

two Blue Yarmulke Person-of-the-Year events. At the international level, he has been the FJMC Chair for New Media and Remote and Online Training, published the weekly online Haftorah commentary, *The Unraveller*, and produced marketing and training videos for the FJMC.

The Seaboard Region oversees 23 men's clubs throughout Virginia, Maryland, DC and Central Pennsylvania, including about 1700 men. The regional organization's purpose is to promote FJMC programs across a wide range of activities, assist clubs in participating in regional and national activities, and in building club leadership and management. They strive to involve Jewish men in Jewish life and enhance the vitality of Conservative Judaism.

Continued from previous column

Maer assured the audience of his faith that our freedoms will endure despite "many challenges" we're witnessing today sometimes "from the highest level of government."

But he noted the need more than faith, quoting Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, who marched with Martin Luther King in Selma:

THE OPPOSITE OF GOOD IS NOT EVIL;
THE OPPOSITE OF GOOD IS INDIFFERENCE.
IN A FREE SOCIETY WHERE TERRIBLE WRONGS EXIST.
SOME ARE GUILTY BUT ALL ARE RESPONSIBLE.

See INTERFAITH ALLIANCE, page 8

June 2019 Page 2

Mazal Tov. GRADUATES!

Graduating From

Will Be Attending

Miami University

Allison Belkowitz Sam Belkowitz **Emmett Dorlester** Jason Eisen Aaron Engelberg Zack Gamerman Molly Goldberg Noah Goldfarb Hannah Golub Shauna Kaplan Sierra Kaplan Eden Neifeld Jacob Pearlstein Steven Rubino Lucy Shichman Abby Schultz Rachel Shurberg

Samuel Stone

Brandeis University, Masters in Psychology South County High School University of Virginia Robinson Secondary School Tel Aviv University, MA, Political Science & Political Communications James Madison High School Fairfax High School Robinson Secondary School

W.T. Woodson High School Fairfax High School Fairfax High School W.T. Woodson High School Centreville High School Old Dominion University W.T. Woodson High School W.T. Woodson High School W.T. Woodson High School

James Madison University The Ohio State University Christopher Newport University Virginia Tech Clemson University University of Mary Washington **Bradley University**

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Community outreach with ordinary meatloaf...

Steve Klein

Nothing warms and fills a belly on a cold night like Sara Astrow's meatloaf.

Since 2007, when OT's Hypothermia shelter program began, Astrow has been whipping up roughly 24 pounds of ground beef each time the Social Action Committee assists an area church to provide overnight relief for the homeless.

Most recently, that outreach took place on February 11 at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, about four miles south of OT on Twinbrook Road in Fairfax.

"Yes, yes, yes! Sara's meatloaf is the hit of the entire Hypothermia shelter program!" says Committee chair Clare Bachner, with her usual enthusiasm for anything that involves OT community outreach.

With about five pounds of beefy protein filling each aluminum tray, the guests have come to know and anticipate Sara Astrow's meatloaf.

"As you can see, it is a hit with the folks," Astrow said at Lord of Life. "It's not a family recipe, just easy and yummy.

"A guest saw me in the parking lot of a shopping center one day, and across the lot he called out, 'Hi meatloaf lady!' I've been called worse!"

How did meatloaf become the signature food of the Hypothermia shelter program?

"It started out because we were working at a church on Christmas Eve, and I could not in good conscience serve tuna noodle casserole to the guests," she remembered. "So, we came up with the idea of meatloaf and roasted potatoes as a good, home-cooked meal, and comfort food at its best.

"I have discovered that this is my passion—making people feel welcomed, loved, and no longer hungry."

Bachner relates that OT's Hypothermia shelter program began after several people had frozen to death in Fairfax County. The Interfaith community got together with Fairfax County and organized a program whereby for one week a month, from mid-November through mid-March, one church would house the homeless from 5:00pm to 7:00am the next morning, providing dinner, some form of recreation, then breakfast and a bag lunch.

As a result of his regular meetings with the Interfaith community, Rabbi Kalender saw an opportunity for OT to participate. As Social Action chair, Bachner reached out to Arlene Darke, the coordinator for Lord of Life. Together, they coordinated a volunteer schedule to serve dinner one of the evenings the church was taking care of the homeless.

"It quickly became apparent that we could offer more than that," Bachner adds. "In time, it became taking the whole shift of providing dinner, staying overnight, and providing breakfast the next morning."

This year, the church had enough volunteers to stay overnight and do the morning shift, so OT provided dinner and entertainment until the overnight shift began.



Irv Varkonyi, Sara Astrow, and the trademark meatloaf

Many OT congregants have participated, including during Christmas eve and day. OT members also serve Astrow's meatloaf at the MLK Interfaith dinner at Bailey's Crossroads and with the church that coordinates with the Northern Virginia Jewish Community Center.

Eric Rothberg has organized overnight shifts for many years. The guests enjoy Annie Schwartz's bingo games. Other regulars, according to Bachner, have included Sylvia & Reuben Ambaruch, and Ilka Shore-Cooper.

Following February's shelter, Bachner received a letter from Diane Pennessi. It read, in part: "Thank you for helping to make this year's Hypothermia shelter program a success. Guests truly appreciated the food, the transportation, the clean bathrooms, and that you kept us all safe with your safety patrols. But most of all, year after year, our guests talk about how friendly and welcoming you are. You made them feel at home, and for that I am truly grateful."

Of the OT participants, Bachner adds, "It was a cold, rainy night and our volunteers were warm and gracious with each person. Everything was done to make sure the room was ready for them, whether it was setting up chairs and tables (Irv Varkonyi), welcoming people with hot drinks and snacks, preparing or serving food, and or sitting down interacting with our guests. People were well cared for throughout the evening.

"After the meal, Annie Schwartz had a terrific game of bingo, which the guests truly enjoy! As a matter of fact, if we didn't provide meatloaf and bingo, they wouldn't know it was Congregation Olam Tikvah!"

As always, Bachner welcomes new volunteers as well as donations to the Social Action Committee

We save lives by giving blood



Hi Lori,
Thanks again for another
Successful blood drive at
Olam Tikvah Congregation.
We collected 52 blood products
which means 156 lives
Can be potentially Saved!
Best, John Roman

Sara's Meat Loaf
Start with 5-to-7 pounds of ground beef
Cut up 2 onions
Mix with 2 eggs
Add bread crumbs, salt-and-pepper,
garlic powder
Form it into a loaf in the pan.
Top with ketchup
Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes,
or until it is cooked through
"Very easy, no secret, just standard meat loaf!"

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Around Olam Tikvah B'nei Mitzvah

Saturday, June 1 Parashat Bechukotai Henry Maxwell Persky and Oscar Benjamin Persky,



sons of Anna Stolley Persky & Scott Persky, and brothers of Ruby Bernice, are the grandsons of Phyllis & Merle Persky, who will attend the service, and Jo Ann (z"l) & Dr. Paul Stolley (z"l). They are 7th-graders at Frost Middle School. They have two dogs, Jebbie and Jellybean (Bean).

Both Henry (L) and Oscar (R) play hockey with the Reston Raiders and swim for the Somerset Olde Creek Stingrays. Henry has been playing piano for seven years. Oscar also swims for the Fairfax Foxes. Henry likes playing video games, reading about black holes, and creating songs on his synthesizer. Oscar likes watching the Giants and the Caps play, getting ahead of his schoolwork, playing basketball and football with his friends, and meeting local politicians. Their B'nei Mitzvah project is to bring the **Anti-Defamation League's "No Place for Hate"** program into Frost Middle School. They look forward to sharing this important day with friends, family and their community.

Saturday, June 15 Sydney Grossbard,

Parashat Naso

daughter of Staci & Brian, is a 7th grader at Lanier Middle School. She enjoys reading, acting and trying to see every Broadway show ever made. Sydney loves spending time friends, especially her summer family at Camp Tevya. This will be her third summer there. Sydney treasures her weekly dinners with her Dad since she was age 5. Together they have been to over 250 different restaurants. She loves being with her grandparents at their lake house in the spring, summer, and fall. She also looks forward to our annual pilgrimage to Arizona to spend Thanksgiving with her other grandparents and her cousins from California!

For her Bat Mitzvah project, Sydney has been raising money for the **Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter** here in Fairfax. She is beyond excited to share her Bat Mitzvah with her sister, Zoe, her parents, and friends and family from all over.

PLAYARE -

From Our Hearts

Kiddush Sponsors

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

June 1-6

Sara & Paul Astrow; Erin & Marc Dreyfuss; Susan & Oron Haus; Amanda & Maxwell Hyman; P'nina & Jim McCabe (15); Ellen & Josh Oppenheim; Rimma & Semyon Reznik (55)

June 7-13

Carol & Louis Connor; Lisa & Joel Friedman; Beth Liebmann & Peter Friedman; Stacey & Marc Herwitz; Mimi & Gary Krauss; Debra & Paul Mendelson (35); Rachel & Eric Rothberg; Hillary & Bruce Rubin (25); Patricia & Stanley Schneider; Maxine & Ronald Sherwin; Bonnie & Jeff Siegell; Diane & Jeffrey Zarkin

June 14-20

Linda & Gary Bergman; Mindy & Warren Cohen; Sue & Ken Cohn; Meredith & Ed Finn (50); Joan & Steve Heller; Julia & David Margulies; Donna & Richard Rubino; Sara & Richard Shack; Carol & Paul Shaman; Ilisa & Stephen St. Pierre (25); Leslie & Irv Varkonyi

Thank you to Lynne Dubin, Barbara Holleb, Linda Meyer, Joanne Stryer, and Claire Tanenbaum, for making anniversary calls.

June 21-27

Florence & Robert Brodkey; Deedy & Ed Eisenson (60); Sandra & Leon Esterowitz; Heidi & Benjamin Freeman (20); Norma & Robert Greenbaum; Deborah & Andrew Guillen; Stacey & James Kaplan; Betsy & John MacCarthy; Maurine Simon & Mark Rubenstein; Charlotte & Eric Salzman; Carol & Abe Schneier; Lori & Allen Zobler

June 28-29

Myra & Gordon Gondos (50); Carol & Jack Klevan; Sandy & Robert Tiemann

Condolence

We acknowledge the passing of ...
Selma Bubel, mother of Owen Bubel
Sande Burstein, mother of Sharon Sherry
Marion Friedman, mother of Joel Friedman
Arlyne Meyers, wife of Arnold Meyers
Edward Recht, father of Linda Recht
Gloria Singerman, mother of Fred Singerman
Milton Tulkoff, father of Rebecca Tulkoff

See FROM OUR HEARTS, Page 8

June 2019 Page b

Thank you for your donations, which were received by April 30, 2019.

Capital Improvement Fund IN HONOR OF

Birth of Malka Bracha, great granddaughter of Bernice Kaufman, by Debbie & Mark Weber Marie & Glenn Taubman's 35th wedding anniversary, by Debbie & Mark Weber Marty Hill's special aliyah,

by Debbie & Mark Weber Melanie Eisen and Sharon Sherry, receiving honors at Gesher's 36 Anniversary Gala, by Debbie & Mark Weber

IN MEMORY OF

Sylvia Finkel, by Traci & Eliot Goldberg

Comfort & Condolence Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Bobbie Dizenfeld, by Annie & Alan Schwartz Sylvia Finkel, by Anita & Steve Dienstfrey; Carol Schuffler

Emanuel Passamaneck Prayer Book/Tallit

IN MEMORY OF

David Fishkin, by the Chavurah Larry Kalender, by Mimi & Len Levine

Gerald Brissman/Lyle Miller/Carol Samuels Youth & College Fund IN MEMORY OF

All our yahrzeits, by Susan & David Schwartz Carol Samuels, by Jody & Michael Samuels Larry Kalender, by Jody & Michael Samuels Larry Shuman, by Sue & Ken Cohn Sylvia Finkel, by Sue & Ken Cohn

Harold T. Rib Torah & Religious Articles Fund

Thank you for your thoughtfulness: Bunny Kaplan, Brenda & Marvin Klemow, Natalie & Julian Levine, Roberta & Henry Wulf,

by Sandy Rib

IN MEMORY OF

Charles Kon, by Annie & Alan Schwartz Sylvia Finkel, by Annie & Alan Schwartz; Florence & Robert Brodkey

Jerry Werbel Memorial Landscape Fund

IN HONOR OF

Bat Mitzvah of Helen Leiner,
by Natalie & Julian Levine
Bat Mitzvah of Laura Fargotstein,
by Natalie & Julian Levine
George Billinson, for his excellent work at OT
while Rabbi Kalender was in the Shiva period,
and his kind words about Julian's grandfather,
by Natalie & Julian Levine

Tzedakah

Halli Weiner and Laura Strouse for reading portions of the Megilah on Purim,

by Natalie & Julian Levine

IN MEMORY OF

Arlyne Meyers, by Mimi & Len Levine Jerome Werbel, by Brittanie & Dan Werbel Larry Kalender, by Judy Werbel;

Natalie & Julian Levine
Larry Shuman, by Lynn Phillips
Lorrie Strawser, by Bev & Ron Goldberg
Pasquale Tamburrino, Sr., by the Toobin Family
Roberta Dizenfeld, by Lynn Phillips
Sylvia Finkel, by Natalie & Julian Levine;
Lynn Phillips; Deedy & Ed Eisenson

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Kirby Newman, by Bennie Zelkind

Kitchen Fund

Good wishes to Sylvia & Reuben Ambaruch on their new home, by Ruth & Ed Diener Thank you to Leona Shoon and Melissa Benson for all their help, by Laura Conover

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Edith Krantzman, by Ruth & Ed Dienser

Rabbi Itzhaq M. Klirs Memorial Adult Education Fund

IN HONOR OF

Laura Fargotstein, Mazal tov on your Bat Mitzvah, by Lorin Riskind

IN MEMORY OF

Charles Kon, by Lynne & Elliott Dubin Irene Katz, by Barbara & Jim Finkel Pasquale Tamburrino, Sr.,

by Barbara & Jim Finkel Sylvia Finkel, by Melinda & Mark Roth; Lisa & Joel Friedman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Thank you to Rabbi Kalender and Rabbi Ravski for their support and guidance during Diane's end-of-life period and my grieving,

by Norman Fertman

Thank you to Rabbi Kalender for all his support, by Laura Conover

IN HONOR OF

Mazal Tov to you, Daniel, and all the Gesher Class of 5779/2019,

by P'nina, Jim, and Karina McCabe

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

IN MEMORY OF

Andre Rich, by Madeleine Rich George Samuels, by Barbara & Robert Cohen Harris Plotkin, by P'nina McCabe Larry Kalender, by Edith Krantzman; Neil Schlussel; Elissa & Marvin Kon; Carol Schuffler; Ronnie Rodriguez; Lila Abrams; Stephanie, Ilan, Alexa, Lia and Noa Sussan; Anita & Stephen Dienstfrey; Lynne & Elliott Dubin; Sandy & Al Gabriel; Ellen Finberg and Family; Eileen & Norman Leshan; Barbara & Robert Cohen; Rochelle & David Salzman; Marie & Glenn Taubman; Beverly & Norman Polmar; Annie & Alan Schwartz; Lisa & Joel Friedman Sol Cohon, by Carol & Jack Klevan Sylvia Finkel, by Rochelle & David Salzman; Beverly & Norman Polmar

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Kirby Newman, by Carol & Jack Klevan

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Stacy Oshry, by Susan Akroyd

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R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Kirby Newman, by Lynne & Elliott Dubin

Stahl Family Experience Israel Fund IN HONOR OF

Birth of Parker Henry Toobin, grandson of Merle & Michael Toobin and nephew of Adam Toobin, by Bonnie & Michael Witlin;

Beth & Barry Reisig

Paul's Shabbat aliyah,

by Bonnie & Michael Witlin

Peter Maer's award, by Bonnie & Michael Witlin

IN MEMORY OF

Larry Kalender, by Karen Hoffman Maurice Witlin, by Bonnie & Michael Witlin Miriam Katz Witlin, by Bonnie & Michael Witlin

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Ecris Williams, by Bonnie & Michael Witlin

Tzedakah Fund

IN HONOR OF

50th wedding anniversary of Birgitta & Marshall Hoffman, by Sue & Roland Leiser Birth of our granddaughter, Oriana Dar Strauss, daughter of Jacqueline Gran & Aaron Strauss,

by Myra & Jerry Strauss

Sharon Sherry, by Leona Shoon

IN MEMORY OF

Aaron Scheidlinger, by Jeffrey Scheidlinger Abraham Glickman, by Stuart Glickman Page 7 June 2019

TZEDAKAH, Continued from page 6

Andrew Schwartz, by Jack Blumenthal Beatrice Greenbaum,

by Robert A. Greenbaum Bella Rabin, by Karen Rabin & Jeff Handler Beverly Chapel,

by Anita & Stephen Dienstfrey Carmine Signorelli, by Marsha Feldman Charles Kon, by Barbara & Jim Finkel Dale Pollino, by Rebecca Pollino David Phillips, by Lynn Phillips Diana Friedman, by Peter Friedman Ehud Cooper,

by Ilka Shore-Cooper and Fred Cooper Elaine Tanenbaum,

by Claire & Mark Tanenbaum Eliahu Miller, by Shula Friedman Emily Bruck, by Karen Rabin & Jeff Handler Esther Felsen, by Sheila Felsen Florence Liss, by Irene Smith Fred Shoon, by Leona Shoon Gerald Stern, by Rita Way Harry Moskowitz, by Bunny Kaplan Herbert Glickman, by Stuart Glickman

Hyman Goldfarb, by Sandy Gabriel Ida Frishman, by Rita & Gideon Frishman Irving Grauman, by Freda Tannenbaum Isaac W. Smith, by Irene Smith Isadore Miller, by Ellen & Steve Rubenstein Jack Finberg, by Leona Shoon Jack Pollino, by Rebecca Pollino Jean Sobel, by Francine Lasken Jerry Sleph, by Beverly Sleph Jillian Schapiro, by Maurine Simon Joyce Gorowitz, by Alan Gorowitz Jules Fried and Jan Fried, by Judith Douglas Julius L. Cohen, by Mimi Levine Larry Kalender, by Ilese & Roger Vorcheimer Leah Zisenwine,

by Karen Rabin & Jeff Handler Leland Hill, by Paul Hill Louis Reisig, by Barry Reisig Louis Walder, by Joan Sacarob Mary Joffe Feldman, by Joan Sacarob May Shoon, by Leona Shoon Meyer Wildfeuer, by Amy Friedman Milton Wolfe Wacksman, by Allyson Jacob Miriam Aizer, by Barbara Finkel

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R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

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June-July 2019	Calendar	Highlights
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	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>2019</u>		
	SUN	2	8:30am	Minyan
	SUN	2	9:00am	OTRS Confirmation Ceremony
	SUN	2	10:15am	Congregational Meeting and Brunch
	SUN	2	12:00-4:00pm	Northern Virginia Israel Fest at JCCNV
	SUN	2	7:00pm	ABBA Kickball and Highballs at Ratcliffe Park
	SAT	8	8:15pm	Erev Shavuot, Tikkun Leil Shavuot
	SUN	9	9:30am	Shavuot Service
	MON	10	9:30am	Shavuot Service, Yizkor
	SUN	16	9:45am	Men's Club Annual Meeting Brunch
	SUN	23	9:45am	Sisterhood Volunteer Appreciation Brunch
	SUN	30	9:30am	Young Families Play Date at Providence Park
JULY 2019				
	SUN	14	11:00am	Sisterhood Group Tour of the Jewish Museum of Maryland

From Our Hearts

Continued from page 5

Mazal Tov

We wish a hearty mazal tov to...

Shari Boyett, on the Bat Mitzvah of her daughter, Lauren Ilka Shore Cooper & Fred Cooper, on the birth of their grandson,

son of Dina Herbert & Benjamin Cooper Maria & Gary Frankel, on the Bat Mitzvah

of their daughter, Aliyah

Nogah & Rob Helfant, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jacob

Barbara Holleb, on the birth of her granddaughter, Matinel Hannah Kahn, daughter of Aimee Holleb & Stephen Kahn Debbie & Steve Kirsch, on the birth of their daughter,

Melanie Elise, granddaughter of Shula & Jacob Friedman Marilynne & Steven Specht, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Zachary, grandson of Lilly & Stuart Eder,

nephew of Renee & Marcus Eder

Myra & Jerry Strauss, on the birth of their granddaughter, Oriana Dar, daughter of Jacqueline Gran & Aaron Strauss

INTERFAITH ALLIANCE, Continued from page 1

The Interfaith Alliance, according to their website, "is the only national interfaith organization dedicated to protecting the integrity of both religion and democracy in America." On a national level, the organization promotes legislation that

"protects the boundaries between religion and government," and in localities across the nation it promotes grassroots activism. It was founded in 1994.

For more information, CLICK HERE.