



# Menorah Park Foundation

## 10th Annual Holocaust Museum Trip



Thanks to a number of donors and memorial gifts, twenty-three members of the Menorah Park staff and one Holocaust survivor, visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. on September 6. The staff members, all of whom work with survivors on the campus, always find the trip eye-opening and emotional.

Funding for this year's trip came from the Senta & Sol Kahn Holocaust Education Fund, the Wolf Family Foundation, Nathan L. & Regina Herman Charitable Fund of the Jewish Community Federation, University Heights Lodge, Jeanette & Morris Bir, Jim and Delores Kleinman and donations in memory of Hans Youngman and Jack Glaser.



***George Adler, a Menorah Park resident who was a passenger on the ship Exodus, had an especially interesting trip when he met with Genya Markon, Curator of Collections who is conducting research on survivors from the Exodus.***

## Holocaust Museum Needs Your Help

During the trip to the Museum this year, staff members asked for our help in two areas.

One was to be sure that all of the Holocaust survivors living on the Menorah Park campus were registered in the Museum's data base. The Museum has a registry of thousands of names and is trying to see that all survivors are registered, even if posthumously. They explained that there are always people contacting the Museum trying to find survivors from their towns for information, reunions or genealogical purposes.

Secondly, they are looking for pictures, artifacts, documents or anything else dealing with Jewish life in Europe before World War II or after. They would be happy to duplicate any materials and return them to families for their own collections. Too often families keep memoirs, pictures and certificates which, over time, disintegrate with age. The Museum staff would be happy to help protect these precious memories.

Survivor Registry Forms are available in the Foundation office or can be downloaded from the museum's website at [www.ushmm.org/remembrance/registry](http://www.ushmm.org/remembrance/registry). For more information contact Barbara Gross at (216) 595-7324,

# Donor Spotlight: Leonard Senkfor

As the youngest of 12 children, Leonard Senkfor describes his family as poor, though he didn't know it because there was an abundance of love from his parents and siblings. After graduation from The Ohio State University, where he received his degree in Mechanical Engineering, he worked at two companies that manufactured gears. When he was up for a promotion as the vice president of one company, he was told "he went to the wrong church and couldn't have the job." It was because of this blatant anti-semitism that he became determined to start his own company.

In 1970, Leonard founded the Precision Gear Company where he was president until his retirement in 1995. Starting early in life, philanthropy was always an important part of his life. Since retiring Leonard has devoted much of his time managing the Senkfor Family Foundation, which he established in 1995.

When asked why philanthropy is so important to him, Leonard says, "I have been so blessed, but I always remember where I came from and I want to give back." Leonard knows first hand what Menorah Park provides, as his mother and three sisters (of blessed memory) lived here, and a fourth sister will soon be a resident.

Menorah Park has been a priority of the Senkfor family for many years, with many different kinds of gifts. In 1999,

Leonard established the Senkfor Family Intergenerational Program Fund, which supports intergenerational programs throughout the Menorah Park campus. When Wiggins Place was built in 2004, he made a generous donation which provided the private dining room enjoyed by tenants and their families regularly. Leonard supported the Family Partners program for many years and when it was replaced by the annual campaign this year, he continued his generosity. When asked to support the resident's trip to Israel, he was happy to help.

Our frequent visitors can't help but notice Leonard's most recent gift in the Menorah Park main lobby - a large-screen TV that provides up to the minute information about what's going on around the campus. As a trustee of both the Menorah Park board and the Menorah Park Foundation board, Leonard is also generous with his time and expertise.

Leonard feels strongly that is important to teach his family about philanthropy, and through his foundation, he can pass on these values. All of his children and grandchildren are Senkfor Family Foundation board members and meet several times during the year to make grant allocations.

Menorah Park is grateful to Leonard for including Menorah Park in his ongoing and generous charitable giving, with major capital gifts, a donor fund and in supporting the annual campaign and special projects. Leonard Senkfor is the perfect example of how one person can make a big difference for our residents now and in the future.



**Leonard Senkfor**

## Donor Fund Provides Grandparents Day Celebration



The Anne S. Greenfield Grandchildren's Fund provided the annual Grandparents Day Celebration at Menorah Park. This year's theme was a Disney cruise. Residents, their children and grandchildren set sail on September 9th and enjoyed arts and crafts, hand massages and had their shipboard pictures taken as well as other activities.



# Stone Gardens Holocaust Memorial Dedication

Mover and shaker Al Blitstein is an example of a man who had an idea and made it happen. Al, a resident at Stone Gardens, felt that there should be a living memorial to the 6 million Jews who lost their lives in the Holocaust. He brought the idea to the Stone Gardens Mitzvah Corps, which eagerly accepted the project. Together they decided to plant 6 weeping cherry trees with a commemorative boulder, next to the rose garden at Stone Gardens.

Mr. Blitstein's children, Shelly and Tom Weisz, donated the start-up funds for the project and Stone Gardens residents raised the remainder through a variety of fundraising events.

The trees and boulder were dedicated on July 13 in a beautiful ceremony attended by a number of dignitaries including Beachwood Mayor Merle Gorden, Beachwood Council President Mel Jacobs and Dr. Betty Pickney representing Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones.



**Albert Blitstein**

Mr. Blitstein wrote these beautiful words inscribed on the boulder:

"This living memorial is dedicated to the 6,000,000 Jews who died in the Holocaust. It is to verify that we shall never forget them. The six weeping cherry trees we have planted in their memory signify that although six decades have passed since the Holocaust, we still weep for them."

Our thanks to Mr. Blitstein for the wonderful idea, his children for making his dream come true and the Stone Gardens residents to their enthusiastic participation in this project.



**Participants from the Mandel Adult Day Center enjoyed spending the day at the Holden Arboretum thanks to the Fannie & Edward Baker Cultural Enrichment Fund.**

## A Special Thank you to .....

- Everyone who contributed to Menorah Park's annual campaign
- Helen & David Nagusky for their continued support of the drumming program at Menorah Park
- Two individuals who donated cars
- Sandra & Ozzie Berman for the establishment of the Marcella Katz High Tea Fund
- The family of Rose Glazer for sponsoring a staff appreciation party on the Friedman Pavilion
- The Martin E. & Evelyn K. Blum Fund of the Jewish Community Federation for special funds
- The Barbara & Bob Brenner Break-the-Fast Fund for sponsoring our September 22 meal
- Judy & Marvin Ritzenberg Flower Fund for providing holiday flowers
- All the families who name Menorah Park, Stone Gardens, Wiggins Place and the R. H. Myers Apartments as recipients of memorial donations
- The estates of W. Hayden Thompson & Estelle Epstein

## There's Still Time to Make Gifts with IRAs

Thanks to a federal law passed in 2006, you may be able to donate up to \$100,000 of your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a non-profit organization, tax free, if you are at least 70 1/2 years old. This incentive will only last through December 31, 2007.

Donors who gave up to \$100,000 of their IRA in 2006 can give another \$100,000 this year. The provision allows only for direct cash gifts.

For more information on making a gift using your IRA, contact your financial professional.

*The Menorah Park Foundation, a Supporting Organization of Menorah Park Center for Senior Living  
Edwin Z. Singer, President • Barbara Gross, Director • Carol Wolf, Assistant Director • 216-595-7324*

## Tzedakah Project Wins Rave Reviews

As noted in the June issue of this newsletter, Menorah Park is celebrating its own 13th birthday this year with every child celebrating their b'nai mitzvah. We've received such wonderful thank you notes we wanted to share excerpts from some of them with you.

"Thank you so much for the amazing tzedakah box. It is very beautiful and I enjoy using it. I'm glad you were thinking of me on my special day"

"My dad and I want to thank you for remembering us on our B'nai Mitzvah. We are already planning how to share our change with those less fortunate."

"Thank you for the lovely gift you sent my daughter. It was so kind of the Foundation to honor the children this way."

"Thank you for the beautiful tzedakah box. Congratulations to Menorah Park on its milestone."

"Thank you for the beautiful tzedakah box. I promise I will put it to good use!"

"I hope to fill my tzedakah box many times to help the community."

"What a wonderful mitzvah you are doing, sharing the joy of giving with young people. Yasher Koach."

We're thrilled the Foundation could sponsor this project and that it has been so well received by synagogues, temples, parents and the b'nai mitzvah kids.



**The 2007-2008 Teen Philanthropy Board hosted a casino party at The R.H. Myers Apartments with casino games and prizes.**

*Star light, star bright,  
for all the stars we see tonight,  
we wish we may, we wish we  
might, have the wishes we wish  
tonight!!*

### Menorah Park

- A Donor Restricted Fund for Passover seder leaders - \$5,000 minimum
- Computer software geared to improving memory - \$1,200
- Funding to provide Distance Learning sessions - \$200
- New playground surface for FUNDamentals Children's Center - \$3,500

### The R.H. Myers Apartments

- Gas fireplace - \$6,500
- Renovation of the Convenience Store - \$20,000
- Planters for the dining room - \$250 a piece

### Wiggins Place

- Outdoor exercise stations - \$2,400 - \$3,500 a piece
- Sponsors for individual musical programs - \$150 +
- Distinguished Employee Donor Restricted Fund - \$5,000

### Stone Gardens

- A Panini grill - \$1,300
- Dining room centerpieces - \$750
- Wireless sound system for hearing impaired tenants - \$3,800

### Campus-wide

- Tickets to Indians, Cavs, Browns games (in advance please)
- Unopened bottles of liquor or kosher wine for the Happy Hour at Wiggins Place The R.H. Myers Apartments or for Menorah Park's Cabaret Lounge

Flowers from your simcha!!