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The Ronald Gardenswartz Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque



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THE 2008 NEW MEXICO HUMANITARIAN AWARDS DINNER

The 2008 inaugural New Mexico Humanitarian Awards (NMHA) Dinner is not to be missed! The event will take place on Thursday, August 21st at 6 pm at the Hotel Albuquerque. The JCC created this distinguished recognition program to raise awareness of the spirit of humanity and to inspire individuals, organizations and businesses to pursue humanitarian goals. The Humanitarian Awards honor those that have embodied an outstanding spirit of humanity in a local, national or international capacity.

This year's honorees and categories are:

Jack Holmes (Special Recognition/Lifetime Achievement Award) has dedicated his entire professional career to helping others through his work in the non-profit community. As the President and CEO of the United Way of Central New Mexico since 1997, he has attracted more donors and volunteers to the United Way than ever before and has been the catalyst for ten straight years of campaign growth.

Frankie (of blessed memory) and Werner Geller (Award for a couple) have devoted years of time and effort to create the New Mexico Holocaust and Intolerance Museum in Albuquerque. The museum addresses many forms of intolerance in addition to the lessons from past and present genocides. As a survivor of a Nazi Concentration Camp, Werner lives the testament of the Reverend Martin Niemoeller: "If you ever get out of here, be sure to tell the world what has happened."

State Senator Jerry Ortiz y Pino (Individual

Award) has worked as a social worker, social welfare program administrator, professor, community organizer and service planner. In addition to co-founding La Familia (a treatment foster care agency), he founded several charter schools, and served as director of the Albuquerque Department of Family and Community Services, New Mexico Advocates for Children and Families and the State Child Social Services Division. He currently serves as the Director of Family Services of HELP-NM and represents State Senate District #12.

Yad B'Yad (Special Project/Innovative Program) is a premiere organization that connects Jews and Christians. Founded by Susie and John Sandager, the organization, which means 'Hand in Hand' in Hebrew, is at the forefront of breaking down barriers between the Jewish and Christian Faith communities in Albuquerque. Yad B'Yad has become an international model for Jewish/Christian community-relations programs. Additionally, John serves as treasurer for the Jewish Community Center and Susie has been a committed volunteer for Hadassah and Bridges for Peace.

The Assistance League (Volunteer/Service Organization) is dedicated to turning caring and commitment into action through community-based philanthropic programs which serve all age groups. Staffed entirely by volunteers, the Assistance League recognizes the potential of volunteers in helping those less fortunate achieve a better, more meaningful life. Through its many programs, the members of the Assistance League make Albuquerque a better place in which to live. Last year, Assistance League of Albuquerque members reported 54,430 hours of community service.

The Native American Community Academy (Youth

Group) is a charter school whose core mission engages students, families, educators and the community to prepare students to grow from adolescence to adulthood. It also strengthens communities by developing strong leaders who are academically prepared and secure in their identity. Their philosophy is grounded in both the traditions of Native American people and a rigorous, modern approach to college-preparatory education.

The Selection Committee was given the difficult task of selecting these honorees from many extraordinary nominees in various categories. The Committee consisted of co-chairs **Pauline Eisenstadt** and **Julia Seligman**, along with members **Clara Apodaca**, **Loretta Armenta**, **David Campbell**, **Betty Sparrow Doris**, and **Laura Threet**. They put much individual and collective thought and consideration into their decision-making process, and we thank them for their service.

In addition to the awards already mentioned, the Harold B. Albert
(Continued on page 4)

JCC Designer Home Showcase



*Swingrass performs at the Designer Home BBQ,
June 28th, 2008*

Our spectacular Designer Home (a \$2.2 million Scott Patrick Home!) featured rooms decorated by seven fabulous designers. They included Ann Silva's Bernina Sewing Center, Sandy Schargel Interiors, Ansel's Interiors, Baby Furniture and Accessories, Bella Home, Elaine Burnidge from Leishman Interiors and Objects of Desire. The designers all gave their time and talent to make sure that the atmosphere was second-to-none. Over two thousand people toured the exquisite home nestled in the Bosque to view the creations of these talented professionals. Thanks to committee Co-chair **Denise Cordero-Lapetina** and members **Meryl Manning Segel** and **Kathy Erdman** for recruiting the designers.

The Designer Home was also the venue for special events held in June. The festive opening, *Baile en el Bosque*, featured salsa lessons under the stars by Double Time Dance Studio. The lessons were such a hit, we are looking into partnering with Double Time to provide dance sessions in the group exercise room! A special thank you goes out to **Vince Baca**, husband of Designer Home Committee Co-chair **Elisa Baca**, for being our MC for the night.

The state-of-the-art kitchen in the Designer Home was much too inviting not to have a cooking class included in our schedule of events. Vivace Italian Restaurant's Gordon Schutte generously gave of his time and talent for an evening of unrivaled cuisine and culinary expertise. He did not disappoint the sold-out class with his four course Italian dinner that included step-by-step instructions and demonstrations, not to mention some delicious food!

The successful and festive Bluegrass & BBQ capped off a month-long whirlwind of activities. "Swingrass" delighted the crowd of over 125 by providing musical entertainment which included swing, jazz and bluegrass. A big thanks goes out to band members Todd, Carl, Liz, Mike and Art for their performance.

In addition to the above mentioned committee members, **Rivka Gisser**, **Marilyn Gruen**, **Tammara Pezzarossi**, **Annabell Poteat** and **Genie Stuart** were also instrumental in the planning and organization of the month-long Designer Home. We couldn't have done it without the dedication of the volunteers on this committee!

- Peggy Hughes

Lexus of Albuquerque Golf Invitational



Golfers, Ron and Sol Taylor

Prizes were awarded for closest to the pin, "grabbin' the green" and longest drive contests. There were two chances to win a new Lexus! Also, names were drawn for thousands of dollars worth of raffle prizes. The day was topped off by a delicious banquet and it all added up to a relaxing and great day of golfing!

Sun-drenched skies, warm breezes and the friendly atmosphere of beautiful Four Hills Country Club greeted golfers at the 8th annual Lexus of Albuquerque Golf Invitational.

Co-chairs **Debbie** and **Dr. Jay Greenhood** were committed to providing a first class tournament. With their leadership, planning and organization, this year's event was one of the most successful golf outings yet!

At the banquet, current golf committee member and former chair **Steven Rogers** recognized volunteer **Pat Abel** for his long term dedication to the golf event. It wouldn't be the tournament it is without Pat's steadfast support.

None of this could have occurred without the generous support of our sponsors and participants. Headed up by **Tom Bohlman** and **Lexus of Albuquerque**, their backing allows the proceeds of this event to support the tradition of exceptional community service and education that has been the mission of the JCC and Congregation Albert. All the proceeds the JCC received will go toward supporting children's scholarships, programs, and services. Please review our sponsor list and support them if at all possible.

See you on the links next year!

- Peggy Hughes

JCC Orcas

The JCC Orcas Swim Team completed its season hosting the district swim meet on Thursday, July 17. With practices 5 days a week and swim meets and team socials at least once a week, the swim team provides a unique opportunity for learning to swim, getting in shape, and making lifetime friends.

As rewarding as it is to watch kids learn to do something for themselves, like becoming better swimmers, what has been even more rewarding and amazing to watch are kids learning to do something for others. In mid-June, more than half the team (swimmers, parents, siblings and coaches) worked together to make over 40 quilts for children in the D'Vora project. We hope to make this an annual event to continue to reach out to our community and show our appreciation for how this community has taken care of us.

- Jana Price

Contributions to the JCC

In Honor of Bob White's Birthday

*Carole & Harold Albert
Shirley and Harold
Gardenswartz
Shelley and Herb Koffler*

In Memory of Ruy Fischer

*Eileen Grevey Hillson
Jennie Negin &
Harold Folley
Traxys North
America LLC*

In Memory of Lillian Miller

*Ramona & Ed Caplan
Marcia & Larry Lubar
Marilyn & Stan Stark*

Thank you for choosing to make a donation to the JCC. We sincerely appreciate your support and welcome the opportunity to send a personalized card whenever you wish to let family and friends know you are thinking of them. Please call Sarah Katz at 348-4463 for assistance.

Cultural and Arts Corner

Jewish Book and Author Events

Our JCC is part of The Jewish Book Network, a membership organization of nearly 100 participating community sites, JCCs, synagogues, Hillels, Jewish Federations and other Jewish organizations, that host Jewish book programs. Through our J's participation in the network, we have access to 150-200 authors interested in touring Jewish book events and the opportunity to network with others who do Jewish cultural programming and book events throughout the US and Canada.

I was fortunate to attend this year's Jewish Book Council three day conference held the last week of May in L.A. In addition to sharing ideas about producing successful book and film events, each day I 'speed-dated' 50 – 60 authors with recently published books, who each had two minutes to give their 'shpiel'. Yes, it is a bit overwhelming to keep track of each author while paying attention to what they're saying and how they're saying it. Yet, it is an absolutely terrific way to see how well an author engages and entertains their audience and how they'd 'play' here in Albuquerque.

There are many wonderful authors the JCC is requesting to bring to Albuquerque for talks and book signings. We are planning a cluster of events in November (Jewish Book Month) which (subject to confirmation) will include Martin Fletcher, the current NBC News Bureau Chief in Tel Aviv who has just penned: "Breaking News" – a real-life, cross-continent adventure story. Stay tuned for many exciting, upcoming author visits and book signings in the Fall 08 and Spring 09.

-Phyllis Wolf

Raffle Results are in!

"I don't believe it!" "I'm speechless!" "I don't know what to say!" Those were the first words JCC member **Elaine Roderick** uttered when she learned that her name was the first one drawn in the JCC Big Ticket Raffle drawing held at the final event of the JCC Designer Home Showcase on June 28th. As the winner, Elaine had her choice of several prizes and she chose \$10,000 in cash! Our congratulations go out to her and her son Jordan, a CIT in our summer camp program.

Second place went to **Chris Stubblefield**, who chose \$3,500 cash. \$3,000 cash was chosen by **Eric Spurlock**, third place winner. **Havi and Dave Graeber** chose a 42 inch big screen TV. **Velina Vassar**, **Roger Ames** and **Rachel Salper** all opted for \$1,000 each and **Susan Milden** was the winner of a Bernina Sewing Machine! Not only did we have the Big Ticket Raffle, we also conducted a successful silent auction/bundled raffle. These baskets were filled to the brim with myriad gift certificates and goodies.

The winners of these incredible baskets were:

Janine Schwartz – Tanoan CC

Emily Zambello – Molly Maid Package

Greg and Nelly Valdez – JCC 6 Mo.

Membership Package

Jo Tedstrom – Wedding Package

Kathy Erdman – Kid's Day Out Package

Joyce Rapp – The Flying High Weekend

Jordan Chavez – Fun and Games

Heidi Oury – Pharmica

Betsy Shaw – Decorate & Spruce Up

Janet Ford – JCC 6 Mo. Membership

R.J. Wilson – Sports Outdoors

Lourdes Romero – San Pasqual's

Marilyn Stark – Golf - Isleta

The volunteers who were the driving force behind this project, were **Genie Stuart**, **Kathy (Kat) Erdman**, **Annabell Poteat**, **Tammara Pezzarossi** and **Rivka Gisser**.

Thanks to all the volunteers and to everyone who participated in the raffles and the silent auction. The proceeds of these events will go toward children's scholarships, programs and services here at the JCC!

- Peggy Hughes

Welcome New Members!

Barbie & Kevin Barker

Rachel Greenhood

Linda & Roy Hogan

Stacy Pokorski

Lydia & David Sparks

Lauren Ariaz

Anastacia & Ed Carter

Shelley & Greg Martinez

Alex Medvedev

Mona Painter

Zeek Carrillo

Shannon Sieberg

Diane Ratchner &

Christopher Harmon

Carole Harris

Diane Mitchell & Ben

Kornegay

Frances & Tom Torres

James Daniels

Bev Esquivel-Chavez

Cathie Cannon

Stephen Cotton

David Griffin

Brandi & Gregory

Kreitman

James Lee

Parent of Shay Argyres

Helene Fellen

Jennifer & Warren

Michelsen

Moushumi Bhattacharya &

Arup Das

Leigh Reddinger

Jade & Robert Wolf

Melissa Mahan & Joshua

Montoya

LaRae Vigil

Mark Chavez

Sarah Hoey

Jane & John Widner

Debra Aragon

Lisa & Scott Cummings

Alexandra Fuentes

Cindi Quam

Sheena & Justin Zemke

Leonard Herrera

Summer Willis

Allison & Todd Bisio

Stacey & Shawn Ducat

Pamela & Patrick Garcia

Shelly Fritz

Karen Ortiz

Kater Zemke

David Borsheim

Katy Brown

Dani Freeze

Eva Rehfeld

Jodi Loftis

Pam Spicer

Kimberly & Kenneth

Treece

Vincent Costanzo

Virginia Brady & Edward

Girard

Loranda Gomez

Jennifer & Mark Mahoney

Lauren Myers

Yvette Farah

Denise Grenier

Courtney & Matt Custer

LuAnn Hartmann Rael

Jim Dunn

Jill & George Garcia

Amanda & Brian Montoya

Lauren Bull

Marsha Davis

Kelly & Brian Kessack

Jessica Madrid



JCC President, Meryl Manning Segel gives \$10,000 Big Ticket Raffle first prize check to winner Elaine Roderick

Spinning as Cross Training

So, you're an avid road cyclist, distance runner, basketball player, dancer or soccer enthusiast. You have been training the same way for years, and lately, you are failing to see the results of your tried and true regime. Or even worse, you are suffering from overuse injuries or burnout. Take heart. Cross training may be the answer you have been searching for and our Spinning program may be the low-impact, non-weight bearing activity that will help you restore and improve your fitness. The benefits of the Spinning program to participants are many:



- **Low-impact exercise.** While providing both high intensity workouts and active recovery, Spinning classes challenge participants without stressing their joints.
- **Personalized training in a group setting.** With its heart pumping music and the camaraderie of classmates, the addition of Spinning classes can break the monotony that can accompany training alone, while allowing each participant to set individual goals.
- **Stress-free environment.** By eliminating traffic and weather worries, the ride you desire can be obtained with a small turn of the resistance knob. A Spinning class has no traffic lights, potholes or thunderstorms to interrupt your workout.

For those of you who are road cyclists or mountain bikers, our Spinning program can help to take your riding to the next level:

- **Improve your pedal stroke.** With a forty-pound flywheel, Spinner bikes are a chain driven, fixed gear bike, permitting you to smooth out your pedal stroke and increase your pedaling efficiency.
- **Training variety.** With the use of heart rate monitors and varied training zones, Spinning classes provide a unique range of training. When it comes to training, change and variety are extremely beneficial.

All of our Spinning instructors at the JCC of Albuquerque are certified through the Johnny G Spinning Program. Johnny G, an ultra-distance athlete and former world-class cyclist, created the program to help cyclists train in the off season, since its implementation, the program has broadened to provide people of all fitness levels with a wonderfully challenging cardiovascular workout. Spinning can be the ultimate cross training tool to assist you in improving your fitness level. Please check out the Spinning schedule for class times and remember to sign in at the front desk for class. Water and a towel are essentials for class.

- Lisa Brown

(continued from front page)

Community Service Award will be presented. This award honors those whose service to the JCC and the Jewish community are exemplary and distinguished. This year's recipients are **Helen Grevey and Jay Hertz**. This couple has a long and outstanding record of community involvement, leadership and commitment to innumerable organizations throughout Albuquerque. Helen has been active in the Jewish Federation of New Mexico and the YMCA Board of Directors. She has served as President of Jewish Family Service and is the current President of the David Specter Shalom House. Jay is past president of the Jewish Community Center. Both have been important in the creation and perpetuation of a strong and thriving JCC.

A special thanks to Committee Co-chair Elisa Simon for coordinating the bios!

Tickets to the 2008 inaugural New Mexico Humanitarian Awards Dinner are \$150 each (of which \$100 is tax-deductible) and tables for ten are available for \$1,500 (of which \$1,000 is tax-deductible.) For more information or to purchase tickets and ads, please contact me at 348-4450 or peggyh@jccabq.org.

- Peggy Hughes

Upcoming JCC Events

August 21, 6:00pm - New Mexico Humanitarian Awards Dinner

The JCC is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of New Mexico



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