

DHFLA Today

The newsletter of the Dallas Hebrew Free Loan Association

Spring 2010

Save the Date...10-10-10

DHFLA Will Honor Mike Friedman at Anniversary Gala

DHFLA is hosting a spectacular gala on October 10, 2010 (10-10-10) honoring Mike Friedman and our 75th anniversary of making interest free loans in the Dallas area Jewish community. Event co-chairs are Louis Marx and Shirley Strauss. Honorary co-chairs are Bennett Glazer and Herb Weitzman. The event will be held at the Westin Park Central, with a 6:30 p.m. start time. Master of Ceremonies will be Brendan Higgins, formerly of KXAS/NBC Dallas.

Using the sponsorship sheet and return envelope enclosed in this newsletter please indicate your level of participation. Sponsorship opportunities are limited; secure yours today! Single tickets and table sponsorships (10 seats/table) are available as well as advertisements in our tribute book. See the enclosed sheet for details or contact the office at DHFLA@sbcglobal.net or 214-696-8008. Deadline for ad copy is August 27, 2010.



DHFLA to Host IAHF Annual Conference



Dallas Hebrew Free Loan is honored to be the host for the 28th annual conference of the International Association of Hebrew Free Loans, October 10-12th, 2010. Event chairpersons are Caroline and Stanley Kaye, both past presidents of DHFLA. Hebrew Free Loans throughout the world, including Canada and Israel will be gathering in Dallas to exchange ideas, procedures and other information to further the concept of "Gemilut Hesed", which is to aid worthy persons in becoming or remaining self-supporting, self-respecting members of their community, by aid of **interest free loans**.

Non-Gala Gala Raffle Winners

We are pleased to announce the winners of our "Raffle for the Future" who helped us sow the "Seeds of Hope II" at the DHFLA fall Non-Gala Gala fundraiser.

- Daniella Smith of Dallas
- Esther Axel of Dallas
- Ron Romaner of Dallas
- Tootsie Fonberg of Dallas

Your Membership is Critical

Your membership dues and donations are vital for funding DHFLA loan programs. If you aren't a member, please join. If you are already a member, now is the time to renew! DHFLA now accepts online donations via credit card or paypal! Click the "make a donation" button at www.dhfla.org.

"He who lends without interest is more worthy than he who gives charity." - The Talmud

Saying Thanks...

Kathryn and Jimmy Wilson want to tell their story so that others will benefit from DHFLA, as they have. The youngest of their four children, Tzidkiah, at 14 months, was diagnosed with a rare blood disorder that causes uncontrolled bleeding. During the first eight months after his diagnosis, Tzidkiah was hospitalized over 10 times, requiring many blood transfusions and other life saving interventions. Because of the enormous medical bills, the family had fallen behind on rent, car payments, and utilities. The loan they received from DHFLA helped bridge the gap so they could care for their ill son and keep a roof over the family.

Like so many others in this down economy, the Wilsons also experienced periods of unemployment, some directly related to their son's illness. "We are so grateful that there was help for our family when we needed it most," said Kathryn.



front row (left to right) Adayah, Naaryah; back row (left to right) Kathryn, Jimmy, Tzidkiah, Yoshiah

"In 2002 I applied for one of the first post secondary education loans made possible by Dallas Hebrew Free Loan. My father had passed away suddenly, and my dreams of attending law school had been put on hold as I worked to help support my mother and younger brother. Today, I have graduated from law school and am a practicing lawyer. My brother applied to medical school and with the help of a DHFLA education loan is on his way to becoming a physician. None of this would have been possible without DHFLA. We are so grateful assistance was available when we needed it." – M.G.

"We have four children, one of whom is disabled, so even when things are going well, life can be a struggle. Our only car broke down, and we did not have the funds to pay for repairs. For my husband to continue to work, we made the decision to live separately, one of us caring for the children, the other staying with a friend who lived near a DART station so the commute to work could continue. We had been apart for about a month when we learned about Dallas Hebrew Free Loan and its interest-free loans. Our loan application was processed very quickly and the people we met with were kind and empathetic. Thank you DHFLA for helping us get back together as a family!" – M.L.

Shabbat Mishpatim

February 12-13, 2010, Dallas-area rabbis and DHFLA board members reminded the community that DHFLA is here for those who need assistance.

Dorothy Wolchansky, DHFLA loan committee chair, explains: "Parshat Misphatim calls upon Jews 'not to exact interest from the needy.' It is specifically this Biblical injunction that has guided DHFLA in helping Jews in our community to remain self-supporting, with their self-respect for 75 years."

During Shabbat Mishpatim, in shul, our board members answered questions about our loan programs. A sincere thanks to all the rabbis and DHFLA board members who made the 2010 Shabbat Mishpatim outreach to the community a great success!

Partnering with DJCF: Create a Legacy

We are excited to be partnering with the Dallas Jewish Community Foundation in their "Create a Jewish Legacy" program.



This program encourages legacy gifts that will sustain our Jewish community for future generations. A legacy gift is a simple and meaningful way to help guarantee a strong Jewish community for generations to come.

To learn more about how you can make a legacy gift to DHFLA and strengthen the Dallas Jewish Community for generations to come, please contact 214-696-8008 for a confidential discussion.

President's Letter

Planning for the Next 75 Years



We are eagerly looking ahead to October when we celebrate DHFLA's 75th anniversary of making interest-free loans in the Dallas area Jewish community. This Gala event is not just about looking back on the first 75 years of our

organization, it's about looking forward to the next 75 to ensure that we will be around to help more people in need than ever before. So please join us as we mark this important occasion (and have some fun in the process!)

I am pleased to announce that, as part of the Gala celebration, we will honor **Mike Friedman**. Additionally, our honorary co-chairs are **Bennett Glazer** and **Herb Weitzman**. I encourage you to become a Gala Sponsor today. It is only with your support that we can move to the next level of helping the greater Dallas community in what has become a time of severe economic need on many fronts.

The economic climate is not improving quickly enough, and demand for DHFLA interest-free loans continues to rise. We want to be able to help all the eligible people who come to us in their time of need, and only your ongoing support makes this possible.

Please fill out the enclosed sponsorship sheet and make the commitment to the continued future of DHFLA and those in our community who need us most. Your donation provides the funds that help put families back on their feet, send promising students off to college, help the elderly with home health care, and more. It is DHFLA's mission, and our personal duty, to give back. - Arthur Skibell, President

In Memoriam

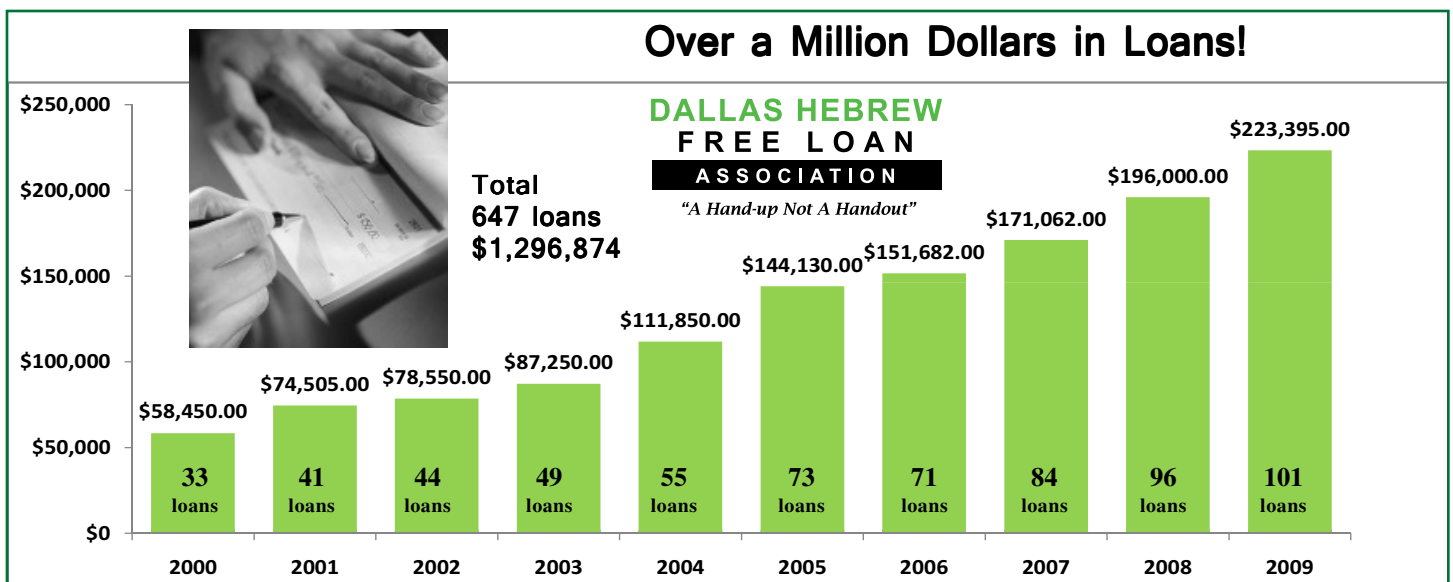
Martin Samuelsohn 1915-2010

Martin Samuelsohn, lifetime member and strong supporter of Dallas Hebrew Free Loan Association, passed away on February 16. Martin, "Uncle Marty" to all who knew him, was born July 3, 1915 in Rochester, New York. He was preceded in death by his wife of 47 years, Marie Testa Samuelsohn. He graduated City College of New York, attended St. John's Law School, then transferred to SMU School of Law in 1939, graduating in 1941. Martin spent most of his career in the liquor business, opening "Marty's" Liquors on Greenville Ave. in 1943. He was president of the Shearith Israel Brotherhood and started the first Boy Scout Troup there. Among his many interests, he volunteered for SCORE, the Dallas Bar Association and SMU Dedman School of Law, and he received many awards and honors from the community. His passions were his family and promoting education among community youth. He will truly be missed by all for his "sunshine" smile and sparkling personality.



We Want to Hear *Your* Story!

Has a DHFLA loan been important in your life? We'd love to share your experience (anonymously, if you wish). Please contact DHFLA@sbcglobal.net or call 214-696-8008. Help us spread the word that DHFLA makes a difference!



**DALLAS HEBREW
FREE LOAN
ASSOCIATION**

"A Hand Up Not A Hand Out"



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**Save the Date:
Anniversary Gala
10-10-10
(see page 1)**

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* Deceased

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