



THE BEAT GOES ON

The walls of Beat in the center of the Carmel resound with music. Renovations have been completed and the new Music and Arts Center is up and running.

Los Angeles community leader Stanley Gold, president of Shamrock Holdings, Inc., and well-known Israeli businessman Aaron Fogel, joined forces with the Haifa Foundation, the Municipality and Haifa's Culture & Sport Co. Ltd. to create a place where young people could realize their dreams – for their personal satisfaction or to pursue a professional career. And, they enlisted the talents of Jerusalem musical director Guy Adrian to help the young people learn to express and develop their abilities.

Mr. Adrian's Yellow Submarine Music Club is a Jerusalem icon for rock, jazz, ethnic and folk music, while reaching out to high school students with courses in music theory or performance taught by a professional, experienced staff with top-grade equipment. He envisions the same happening in Haifa, with eight to 12 different workshops, including one to train DJs in electronic music.

“We want this place to attract young people that love music – for pleasure and for their souls,” he said. “Everyone will be able to study here, regardless of his or her financial resources – they just have to love music and want to participate.”

The Center will also sponsor musical performances for the entire community, featuring the best Israeli artists, especially those with a Haifa connection.



Mayor Yona Yabav and Aaron Fogel with Stanley Gold, President, and Michael Geiger, Manager, of Shamrock International

ENHANCING EDUCATION

The Haifa Foundation is committed to enhancing the educational experience for students of all ages and capabilities by introducing or upgrading libraries in existing schools. So far this year, an elementary school and two schools for children and young people with special needs are the beneficiaries of this effort.

Libraries these days consist of more than books and quiet spaces — the new libraries are no exception. They include provisions for audio-visual learning, music and video corners and computer stations, with Internet access.

The Ehud Elementary School in Haifa's Ahuza neighborhood was one of Haifa's first schools to become self-governing. Its 620 students – from kindergarten to the eighth grade – are equal partners with their parents, teachers, the Haifa Municipality and the Ministry of Education in the school's educational process. The Ehud philosophy is based on the principle that the school defines its needs and uses its resources to fulfill these needs.

Self-governance has been in place for over ten years and has proved a success. More problematic is Ehud's nearly 50-year-old building and its lack of up-to-date resources. When they learned about this unique school and its needs, Martin and Barbara Coopersmith of Philadelphia decided to underwrite a multipurpose library resource center to help the students and staff realize their goals.

The 64 students of the Henrietta Szold School in the Kiryat Eliezer neighborhood – aged 6 to 15 – have a variety of emotional, mental and behavioral disorders,



Students at the new Ebud school library

as do the Ibn Gvirol Secondary and High School's 80 older students in the Kiryat Sprinzak neighborhood. Administrators and faculty of both special needs schools strive to prepare their students for life within the community while nurturing special skills such as art and music. In addition to the requisite therapeutic and educational staffs, the schools provide additional therapies and extra-curricular activities designed to assist their students in relating to the world around them.

Yves and Sarah Nahmias of Toronto, Canada, and the leadership of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, have assumed the responsibility of providing a new library for the school named for Hadassah's founder, Henrietta Szold. Like Ms. Szold, the school's staff believes in enhancing the quality of life for each and every person, enabling them to cultivate and maximize their academic potential.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, the Ibn Gvirol School is about to acquire a new state-of-the-art library with quiet corners, audio-visual and computer equipment to help their students realize their talent.

ADVANCING ARAB STUDENTS

For more than ten years, the Arab Friends of the Haifa Foundation have raised funds to assist Haifa's Arab students acquire a higher education. Each year, this group of dedicated donors – in Israel and the United States – distributes scholarships to promising young people. The recipients, in turn, commit themselves to work within the community, volunteering in schools, hospitals and facilities for the elderly.

Since its inception, over 600 young people have benefited from their efforts. This year, Mayor Yona Yahav presented Dr. Elias Mtanes with a Certificate of Appreciation acknowledging his leadership role in helping Haifa's students continue their education.



Mayor Yona Yahav recognizing Dr. Elias Mtanes for his work on behalf of Arab students

STUDYING THE SEA FROM DRY LAND

The Port Campus Project became a reality at a gala celebration where Mayor Yona Yahav announced the establishment of the Eugene Feiner Institute for Maritime Studies, the first of many projects designed to turn the downtrodden downtown area into a thriving academic, commercial and residential neighborhood. Mr. Feiner captured the spirit of the ambitious undertaking, noting that the Institute will deal with all aspects of the sea, for the navy and for civilians. He believes that one day, the Institute he is supporting will evolve into a national maritime college.

Mayor Yahav praised Mr. Feiner for his wisdom and understanding. “The Eugene Feiner Institute for Maritime Studies that is being established in cooperation with the university and the navy will give everyone an opportunity to study and research everything connected with the sea,” he said.

“This is the beginning of the connection between the navy and academia,” said Major General David Ben Ba’shat, Commander of the Israel Navy, which will allow us to research, study and develop our national treasure – the sea – so that we can realize its full potential.

Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze’ev, Haifa University President, and Prof. Ada Spitzer, University Vice President for External Affairs and Resource Development, were among the distinguished guests gathered for this very significant occasion.



Eugene Feiner (left,) at the inauguration of the Institute for Maritime Studies that bears his name, with Mayor Yona Yahav and Major General David Ben Ba’shat, Commander of the Israel Navy

Mr. Feiner, of Philadelphia PA, is a longtime supporter of the city of Haifa through the Haifa Foundation and a frequent visitor. Some of the projects he has supported, such as the Library Resource Center at the Nirim Elementary School in the Neve David neighborhood and renovation of the Sportec in Neve Sha’an’an are well-known; others, such as his contribution to the Haifa Film Festival, and his contributions to services for autistic children, support for Haifa’s medical centers and funding security vehicles, less so. The Eugene Feiner Institute for Maritime Studies is a tribute to his vision, his profound generosity and abiding friendship.

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

To ensure that Israel remains preeminent in the high-tech industry and the world of computer science, the Haifa Foundation, the Haifa Municipality and the University of Haifa Department of Computer Science created Etgar, a unique program whose name means challenge.

Etgar begins in the 10th grade, with high school principals identifying promising students and offering them the opportunity to participate in the program. Those who are interested must successfully pass an introductory computer science course to be eligible. Then they can choose to begin their university education in computer science during their final high school years and complete a B.Sc. degree with one year of university study, before or after military service.

The schedule is grueling. Students attend the University of Haifa a day and a half a week while still in high school, with many additional hours of homework preparation and review at home. Each Etgar student is matched with a mentor to assist them

and an educational advisor oversees the smooth integration of the students into the university setting. Each year, a new group of 10th grade students will be selected to begin the program.

Even with Israel’s stellar reputation in computer science, the age of qualified graduates is problematic. Most enter a university only after finishing their military service, so the majority of graduates are at least three years older than those in other countries.

Etgar is the solution. Its graduates will be involved in computer science at a younger age. With a B.Sc in hand at 19, they may enter the military where their advanced training will be an asset, and where they may even be able to begin studying for advanced degrees.

With the help of the Haifa Foundation, Etgar offers a unique, challenging opportunity for gifted high school students to realize their potential, contribute to the Israeli economy and to the entire society.

INNER CITY KIBBUTZ

For many years, Hadar, in the heart of Haifa, was a vibrant neighborhood. However, over time its appearance and population of 40,000 people changed significantly and the fabric of community life fell apart. Residents at the high end of the socioeconomic scale moved out and today, the population consists mainly of new immigrants from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia, Orthodox Jews and Arabs. The recent war only worsened the situation, especially for underprivileged families.

Now all that is changing, thanks to The Hadar Project, an initiative that offers students subsidized housing, scholarships and other benefits, along with the opportunity for social activism, in exchange for 12 hours a week of community work.

The concept of an urban kibbutz inhabited by youth movement graduates in various stages of their studies became a reality last October with the beginning of

the academic year. The students received 20 hours of training before they embarked on their personal and community projects focused on helping the residents help themselves, rebuild their community – physically and sociologically – and help people recover from the after-effects of the war.

Through their Open Apartments Project, the University of Haifa, the Municipality, the Haifa-Boston Connection and the Community Centers of Haifa have already shown that students can infuse a neighborhood with dynamism and energy. Now the Jewish Agency has added its assistance in applying the same principle to Hadar. Monica and Albert Barzilay of Geneva are lending their support through the Haifa Foundation – and everyone involved is watching with excitement and pride as the Hadar Project takes off.



"Hadar" Community Center, Haifa



HAIFANET CONNECTS THE CITY

The Internet has become an integral part of the educational process and Haifa has embraced it wholeheartedly, establishing HaifaNet, a comprehensive computer network for Haifa's 50,000 students from kindergarten to 12th grade, their parents and about 1,500 school teachers.

HaifaNet will be a boon for students, teachers, administrators and parents, allowing the easy exchange of information and educational material. Through this new medium, students will be able to interact with their peers in other schools throughout the city, communicate with students in Israel and abroad and participate in joint projects with them. They will be able to avail themselves of educational materials from school, home, public libraries or community centers.

Haifa's educators, municipal leaders and the Haifa Foundation believe that the new network will decrease the socioeconomic gap, increase the quality of education and ensure continuity for students who must remain at home. The ability to log in from home or other outside locations will enhance school activities and provide students with homework help and support before matriculation exams. Haifa participates in the national Computer for Every Child

project that donates computers and Internet connections to families that cannot afford them.

All Haifa public schools and a few kindergartens are connected to high-speed Internet and all public schools have some kind of Internet site. Many sites are very active, serve as a part of the school curriculum and contain a lot of content developed by local teachers; a few of them contain only general information about the school.

Haifa teachers vary in computer literacy and competency. Some of them may be considered at highest level worldwide while others are still reluctant to use the tool. Thus, part of this ambitious new project includes training for teachers to teach other teachers and a separate course for principals.

A separate section of HaifaNet will open on- and off-line communication channels for professionals in departments of education, the local Ministry of Education management, and other institutions involved in educational administration.

The project is now in its planning stage and will be followed by implementation stages that will include teacher training, a pilot project in three elementary schools, a special education school and a high school and an evaluation before the entire school system is connected.

SOCIAL SERVICES

CLORE ISRAEL FOUNDATION CREATES ANOTHER YOUTH CENTER

In the presence of Mayor Yona Yahav, distinguished guests and members of the local community, Dame Vivien Duffield, chair of the Clore Israel Foundation, dedicated a youth center in the Neve David neighborhood, the third Clore Israel project in Haifa.

The multipurpose center serves the 5,400 residents of this South Haifa neighborhood, almost half of whom are new immigrants from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia.

Perceiving a need for a new facility, the Clore Israel Foundation underwrote the renovation of the 30-year-old building that now provides a variety of programs

to about 1,000 young people and hundreds of adults. Sports activities abound – soccer, karate, ping-pong, chess and exercise – as well as social activities that include leadership-training programs for young people and cultural events. The hall, which can seat up to 140 people, is also the neighborhood location of choice for holiday celebrations and family events.

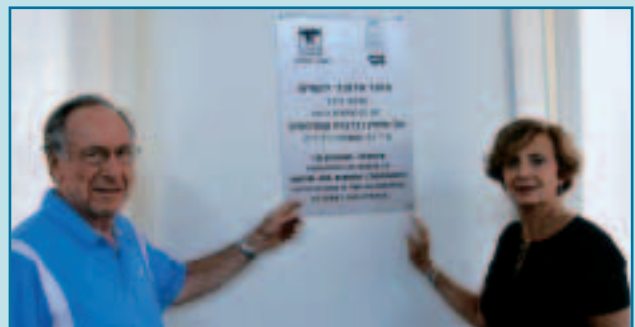
The new center is a source of pride to the aging and disadvantaged neighborhood of old-timers and new immigrants, and the children make a special effort to keep it in pristine condition. It also plays a particularly critical role in keeping youngsters off the streets and occupied in beneficial activities.



Dame Vivien Duffield, Chair of the Clore Israel Foundation, and Sir David Sieff, Foundation Trustee, cut the ribbon that marks the opening of the Neve David Youth Center. From left: Mayor Yona Yahav; Helena Glazer, World WIZO President; Kay Weinberger, Foundation Trustee; Dame Vivien Duffield; Sir David Sieff; Haifa Foundation's Administrative Director Sam Propper and Executive Director Dani Neuman

TELEPHONE TALK

In honor of their 50th wedding anniversary, Martin and Barbara Coopersmith of Philadelphia chose to celebrate by enriching the lives of Haifa's senior citizens. When they learned about the Telephone Center for the Elderly, they stepped forward to assist the Municipality by renovating a space in a centrally located building and providing new furniture and equipment. Now, volunteers staff the Telephone Center, calling the elderly to inform them of available services, answer questions and just generally brighten their days by showing that their city – and the Coopersmiths – care.



Martin and Barbara Coopersmith dedicate the Telephone Center for the Elderly

THE FATTAL FAMILY HONORS THEIR PARENTS



David Fattal (third from left) dedicating the playground in memory of his parents Katy and Joseph Fattal, with childhood friends Shimshon Harel, Ziv Shchori and Itamar Chizik

“**T**he dedication of the playground in memory of our parents, Katy and Joseph Fattal, was one of the most moving ceremonies in our lives,”

David Fattal said. David and his brother Yitzhak, who head Israel’s Fattal Hotel chain, chose to memorialize their parents’ lives and their accomplishments by establishing a playground behind the Kiryat Eliezer Stadium. Mayor Yona Yahav and many members of the Fattal family were present for the impressive and emotional dedication.

Katy and Joseph Fattal were an immigrant success story. Born in Iraq, they immigrated to Israel in the 1950s. Upon their arrival in Haifa, they created a new and meaningful life – Joseph as the head of his own law firm and Katy as the city’s preeminent designer whose elegant shop attracted people from far and wide. They were devoted to their children, who grew and prospered in Haifa. David and Yitzhak decided that the most appropriate tribute to their parents would be a playground where Haifa’s young people could enjoy games and activities that would help them grow and prosper as well.

COMING TOGETHER IN KIRYAT CHAIM

Sue Ressler decided to honor her husband’s memory by establishing the Emmerich Ressler Youth Center in the Kiryat Chaim neighborhood. With the assistance of fellow Philadelphians Joe and Renee Zuritsky, members of Renee’s family from Canada and the London-based Dorset Foundation, they are renovating an existing structure, adding additional rooms, including a computer room, and furnishing it from top to bottom so the young people of the neighborhood have a place for after school activities. The outside will benefit from new landscaping and a better basketball court – all to make the Youth Center an attraction for the young people of the neighborhood.

Kiryat Chaim has a mixed population with a large number of new immigrants, many from Ethiopia. Everyone involved feels it is important that these young people have a special place where they can interact with their peers and acclimate to their new surroundings. All believe that giving these children a well-equipped home away from home will give them a chance for a better future.



COMPLETING THE CIRCLE

The dedication ceremony of the Derech Hayam Circle in memory of Mila Brenner was modest and low-keyed, “appropriate to the kind of man he was,” said Mayor Yona Yahav. “In spite of his extraordinary success, he was humble and sensitive to others and their needs, which he put first.”

In the presence of his widow, Michal, and his two sons, Dani and Avner, the mayor reflected on some of Mila Brenner’s contributions to the State of Israel and the city of Haifa. He played a key role in the establishment of Israel’s navy in which he served as Deputy Commander. He continued his love affair with the sea, first in Israel’s Merchant Marine and then as the founder of the Atlantic Fishing Company. Although he considered himself a simple sailor, his company became a pivotal force in Israel’s shipping

industry, while he quietly continued to serve his country on many occasions during the time of the Six-Day War and the Yom Kippur War.

Mila Brenner came to Haifa in 1948 and remained an integral part of the city until his death. He supported a number of Haifa causes – a sports center and swimming pool, the Beit Hachayal soldiers’ center and Rambam Medical Center’s Medical School – and was the driving force behind Gan Hayered, an institution that strives to provide developmentally and emotionally disabled children with an environment that offers structured opportunities for cognitive growth, social interaction, physical fitness and extra-curricular enrichment.

Mayor Yahav paid tribute to his wife and children for continuing Mila’s tradition of involvement in their native city and their country.



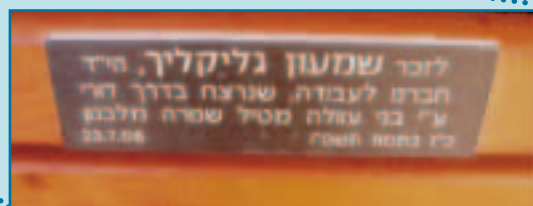
Nautical sundial by Yael Artsi marks the Mila Brenner Circle



Mayor Yona Yahav remembers Mila Brenner with his widow, Michal, and his son, Dani



A bench in one of the Sephardic Nursing Home’s gardens honors the memory of Shimon Glicklich, one of the Haifa victims of last summer’s war. Shimon was on his way to work at the Home when a missile packed with iron ball bearings hit the road he was on and fatally injured him.



HONORING THE PEOPLE OF BULGARIA



A 33-person delegation from Bulgaria, including the head of the Jewish community, a representative of the president of Bulgaria and the president of the Bulgarian Rotary Club, traveled to Haifa for the inauguration of Bulgaria Square. The event attracted a number of distinguished guests including Petro Dimitrov, Bulgarian Ambassador to Israel, and former Israel Ambassador to Bulgaria Emanuel Zissman and Dr. Ran Lin, President of Israel-Rotary, who joined members of the Haifa Municipality for the occasion. The square is located in the Western Carmel neighborhood and the street on which it is located

has also been named in honor of the Bulgarian people.

During the solemn ceremony, Mayor Yona Yahav spoke movingly of the “heroic acts of the Bulgarian people,” who worked diligently to save Bulgarian Jews during the Nazi occupation. During the gala evening event that followed, Mayor Yahav presented awards to Harry Sessler, Chairman of the Bulgarian Jewish community in Haifa and the North, and Andrei Krislavov, the presidential envoy.

The square, the initiative of the Rotary Clubs of Israel and Sofia, Bulgaria, was constructed and dedicated with the assistance of the Haifa Foundation.

HECHT PARK IS HAPPENING

Plans for Hecht Park are in their final stages and construction has begun on this important stretch of land bordering the sea at the southern entrance to the city. As currently envisaged, Hecht Park will be the largest park in Haifa, extending over 20 acres.

The park will be built on the ancient site of Tel Shikmona, between the National Institute of Oceanography and the Maxim Restaurant. Hecht Park has been designed to embrace nearby neighborhoods – and all the citizens of the city – with a broad expanse of green, dotted with bicycle paths, playing fields and areas for other sports, an amphitheater and sculpture garden. Most of all, it has been designed to provide a place to enjoy nature and leisure time activities. Along the seaside promenade, there will be a windsurfing enclave as well as special places for fishing and diving.

The Hecht Foundation, its trustee Harry Sessler, the Haifa Municipality and the Haifa Foundation have come together to turn the neglected Tel Shikmona area into Haifa’s newest recreation spot.



SCENES FROM THE WAR

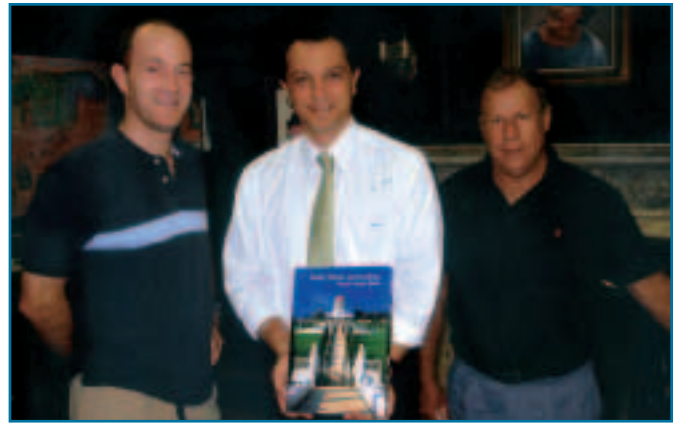
The horrific sights, sounds and smells of last summer's war have ended, but for thousands of Haifa's citizens, the damage has not yet dissipated, neither the physical damage and nor the personal trauma. During the dreadful month-long experience, the city was filled with friends from abroad, who came to bring substantial aid and show their support during that difficult time. Others from Jewish communities around the world expressed their concern with financial gifts and packages for the soldiers, sailors and citizens. The Canadian Committee for the Haifa Foundation and the American Associates of the Haifa Foundation in Los Angeles launched extensive campaigns that continue to assist Haifa families impacted by the 33 days of rocket attacks.



Damaged post office on Rebov Hanevi'im

GETTING AWAY FROM IT ALL

Thanks to Roby Young, former member of the Israeli national soccer team and currently the Athletic Director, founder and Assistant Director of Buckley Summer Program, 25 Haifa youngsters spent two weeks at the Buckley Country Day School in North Hills, NY. The group consisted of Ethiopian children from the Neve Yosef neighborhood and children from throughout the city, selected with the help of Haifa's local radio station.



The Buckley Country Day School welcomed war-weary children. Pictured on left: Haifa youngsters tour the streets of New York; Pictured on right, from left, Doug Bartlett, director, Buckley Summer Program; Dr. Jean-Marc Jubel, Headmaster, Buckley Country Day School; and Roby Young, founder and assistant director, Buckley Summer Program



In Trieste, courtesy of the New Jerusalem Foundation

The New Jerusalem Foundation and its Executive Director, Zvi Raviv, arranged for a group of Haifa children – along with some from Nahariya and Kiryat Shmona – to travel to Trieste, Italy, where Trieste's Jewish community hosted them for two weeks.

Special thanks go to Andrea Mariani, President of the Trieste Jewish community, and Vito Anav, Vice President of the Organization of Italian Immigrants, for arranging this meaningful respite from the war.

SCENES FROM THE WAR

WELCOME VISITORS,

JULY 13 TO
AUGUST 14, 2006
33 DAYS OF WAR

94 rockets fell in populated areas

Hundreds fell in open space

101 warning sirens

12 citizens were killed

273 citizens were injured

482 people applied for compensation for home damages

119 for damages to cars

10,047 participated in activities in centers for children

9,423 older children helped in different frameworks including those that worked outside the city

2,316 people stayed at boarding schools

2,600 volunteers brought food and assistance to the community

97,000 calls to city hot line as opposed to 33,000 normally

3,000 calls in connection with welfare

360 families were taken care of in shelters

3,812 hot meals were brought to families

2,521 families received food staples

5,232 games and entertainment kits to families

146 elderly transferred to old age homes outside the city

100 elderly given assistance with medications

During the dreadful days of rocket attacks, Haifa was blessed with the loving concern of friends and strangers who immediately became friends. They came to visit and to stay, to help in the shelters and food kitchens, with toddlers and senior citizens. They brought clothes and gifts for the soldiers and toys for the children. They gave of themselves and on behalf of others who could not come.



Elva Rosner of Dunwoody, Georgia, distributed toys to children in a Haifa bomb shelter. She was among the 63 Hadassah activists who traveled to Haifa at the height of the bombing, where they shared shelters with the local population and made substantial contributions to support the Rambam Medical Center and help Haifa during the traumatic experience.



Matthew Altman (right) at the food shelter

Matthew Altman of Los Angeles, dropped everything – his job, his home and his family – and came to Haifa to help, because “being Jewish is being part of Israel.” Definitely a part of the war effort, he worked in a food shelter preparing meals for people who were housebound and in the Beit Koenig Soldiers Center preparing packages of necessities companies and people had donated for the soldiers in the north.

Members of the Iranian American Jewish Federation of New York, under the leadership of Presidents Elias Kalimian and Shahram Yaghoubzadeh, and Co-Chairman David Emrani, made a major contribution to provide air conditioners for Haifa’s bomb shelters, so that people forced to spend hours inside would not suffer from the summer heat, along with the stress of the war.

SCENES FROM THE WAR

WELCOME HELP



Tim Brown, a retired businessman from Minnesota, distributing food at Lev Chash, a volunteer organization for the needy. Mr. Brown is the founding director and Chief Executive Officer of the Vietnam Veterans Foundation, an organization that has been providing charitable and educational assistance to needy war veterans and victims nationally and internationally since 1987.



John Fishel, President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles (left), Rabbi David Wolpe and Executive Director Howard Lesner of Los Angeles' Sinai Temple, (right) met with Mayor Yona Yahav, (center) toured the city, examined the damage and offered their assistance.



Several years ago, after Ft. Lauderdale and Haifa became Sister Cities, the United Jewish Community of Broward County became a powerful presence, especially with its commitment to helping renovate the Haifa Naval Base. Concerned for the sailors stationed in Haifa during the war, the Broward's UJC, under the leadership of Nikki Packer, Director of the Federation's Jewish Community Foundation, sent packages filled with basic needs for 2,000 sailors, which volunteers distributed.



Rabbi David Baron of Los Angeles' Temple Shalom of the Arts and Temple Executive Director Esther Adir, traveled to Haifa to stand alongside the people and the city. During their meeting with Mayor Yona Yahav, they invited him to address their congregation on the eve of Yom Kippur.

Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder and dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, and Assistant Dean Abraham Cooper joined members of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, who traveled to Haifa to be there and to help.

HELPING HANDS AT HOME

For an entire month, parents brought their children to one of seven underground city parking lots that were converted to playgrounds and amusement centers. Located on the lowest level so that the children wouldn't hear the bombs and the sirens, soldiers, teachers and principals helped Haifa's children from all age groups ignore the war with entertainment and special activities. The cost to the city – \$20,000 a day.

Hundreds of Haifa's young people came forward and volunteered their help to the elderly, housebound and people simply afraid to leave their homes. With powers of attorney in hand, they cashed welfare, pension and pay checks, bought food and necessities that they delivered daily.



Underground parking lot converted into a recreational area

A PICTURE PAINTS A THOUSAND WORDS

Only a few minutes after the outbreak of the war, journalists and press photographers were already on the scene, documenting the damage and danger visited on Israel's citizens –at the Rambam Medical Center, the destroyed house in Bat Galim; at the carnage in the railroad workshop and in the vale of death in Kfar Giladi. Until the last day of the fighting, as rockets pounded Haifa time after time, they remained at their posts.

After the fire and fury ceased, the Association of

Journalists of Haifa and the North decided that this documentation, these terrible pictures and the small moments of grace, had to be shared – the citizen whose home was destroyed, the battlefield, the cows grazing in the fields in the shadow of cannons, the soldier returning home unhurt, the wounded soldier and his friends who will not return.

Their pictures are currently on exhibit at Los Angeles' Simon Wiesenthal Center's Museum of Tolerance and other locations in the US.



Aftermath of attack on Haifa train depot

WAR WORRIES AT THE ZOO

While Haifa's citizens scrambled to find shelter as rockets rained down on Israel's third largest city for 33 days, Dr. Etty Ararat, CEO of the Louis Ariel Goldschmidt Haifa Educational Zoo, and Head Veterinarian Dr. Ayelet Shmueli, D.V.M., looked for ways to ease the stress of the zoo's 1,000 animals. They were also concerned that a bomb would fall on the zoo itself, letting hundreds of wild animals loose into the neighborhoods that adjoin the 29,000-square-foot zoo in the middle of the city. The safest solution for all, they decided, was to keep the animals in their nighttime enclosures around the clock, where the thick walls would shelter them.

Most of the animals managed to adjust to the strange situation, enjoying the extra attention they received, the games the keepers played with them and the special food treats. But Brie, Bubba and Benny, three eight-year-old Syrian bear siblings, were so stressed at being confined to their three-room suite that Dr. Ararat and Dr. Shmueli decided to make an exception and let them out into their usual habitat during the day – only enticing them inside when the sirens sounded and the bombs began falling.

One day early in the more than month-long onslaught, Dr. Shmueli noticed that Bubba was beginning to limp. Examining a 225-pound bear is not easy under the best of circumstances, and Bubba's pain made it more difficult. Anesthesia was the only answer. Under sedation, the cause of Bubba's distress was obvious – a raw open wound on her hind leg that was infected and beginning to become gangrenous. "We really thought we were going to lose her," the zookeeper said. "We gave her antibiotics and for a while, she was better. Then her condition deteriorated."

Caseloads of jam arrived, courtesy of a local

manufacturer; David Chudnow, Treasurer of the Los Angeles Friends of the Haifa Foundation, sent money for the expensive medicine. "With more jam and more antibiotics – a lot more of both – we finally saved her," Dr. Shmueli said, "but she lost two toes. The minute we began to treat her, she began to put weight on her leg and began to eat. As long as she ate, we knew she was getting better."

While the bombs were falling and Brie, Bubba and Benny receiving special treatment, just next door, lions Gov, Simba and Jungle learned to live with the unusual conditions, as did tigers Sara and Barbara and leopards Roz and Sherry. "We created an inside environment for them that replicated the one they knew and gave them special games and toys so they would not fight among themselves," Dr. Shmueli explained. "When the sirens sounded and the bombs began to fall, they paused and listened. Some of the animals huddled together, taking comfort from one another."

The war is over. The animals have returned to their daily routines. So far, they show no sign of post-traumatic stress disorder. These days, if you want the bears' attention, all you have to do is open up a jar of jam and they come running, sticking their tongues through the bars to lick the sticky sweetness from the teaspoon their friend Ayelet offers them.

By the way, Bubba's war wound made her an international celebrity. Her plight and her story – along with tales of life in the zoo during the war – were broadcast on the BBC and MSNBC and described in the Pittsburgh Tribune Review newspaper.



Dr. Ayelet Shmueli coaxes the bears inside

"Bubba's leg has healed and she is almost back to normal," says Dr. Etty Ararat, CEO of Louis Ariel Goldschmidt Haifa Educational Zoo. "I wish I could say the same about the zoo. The war had a major impact on us financially. Closing the zoo cost us more than \$250,000 – about 45 percent of our entire budget. During the summer, families come and spend a day, walking the trails, visiting the animals, learning in our Educational Center, enjoying our Nature Museum and the Botanical Gardens, picnicking and playing."

The zoo is always crowded during vacations and holidays, with school groups making up the rest of the more than 100,000 visitors annually. Yet, even though the war ended in August, the zoo was relatively empty during the High Holidays, as Israelis had not yet returned to touring the northern part of the country.

Dr. Ararat hopes that the pace will pick up, that old friends will revisit and new ones will arrive to enjoy the pleasures of this little enclave of wild life minutes away from the hustle and bustle of Israel's third largest city.



Dr. Etty Ararat

NOBEL LAUREATE GRACES LOS ANGELES LUNCHEON

The Los Angeles branch of the American Associates of the Haifa Foundation proudly welcomed Nobel Laureate Prof. Aaron Ciechanover at a luncheon in his honor.

Prof. Ciechanover, a graduate of Haifa's Chugim High School, currently serves as a Distinguished Professor in the Center for Cancer and Vascular Biology in the Faculty of Medicine at Haifa's Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. Proceeds from the event have been earmarked to establish a library at Chugim High School.

During his speech, the 2004 Nobel Prize winner in Chemistry described his many years of research and praised the education he received during his

formative years in Haifa. He also quoted frequently from a booklet of adages prepared for him by Stanley Black, one of the event's sponsors. Stanley and Joyce Black, Haifa Foundation supporters for many years, were involved in establishing a Center for the Advancement of Learning in the Carmelia neighborhood.

Lou Kestenbaum and Carmel Levy joined Mr. Black in sponsoring the afternoon's event, which was attended by nearly 100 people. Ed Lasman, President of the Los Angeles branch of the American Associates of the Haifa Foundation, and Board of Directors' members Nomi and Adam Seidenberg helped organize the very successful afternoon.



From left: Adam Seidenberg, Prof. Aaron Ciechanover and Nomi Seidenberg



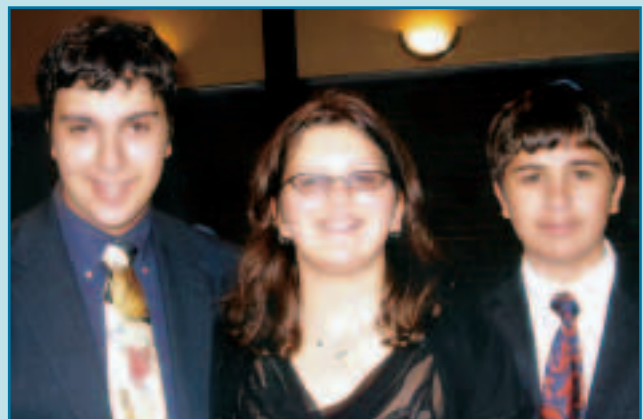
From left: Stanley Black, Prof. Aaron Ciechanover, Carmel Levy, Trudy and Lou Kestenbaum

ELANA ROSENBERG REJOICES

When Elana Rosenberg asked that her Bat Mitzvah guests celebrate the event by contributing to the Haifa Foundation, she was following in the footsteps of her brothers, Alex and Michael, and her parents, Amy Goldman and Rabbi Scott Rosenberg of Temple Reyim in Newton MA. While she has not yet chosen a specific project, her decision to mark this very special day in her life by giving to others, reflects the Jewish and philanthropic values with which she was raised.

Elana's parents founded the Julius and Bertha Kronick Kindergarten Enrichment Center in the Kiryat Chaim neighborhood and sponsor annual Passover seders for the needy. Alex established a library in the Rambam Elementary School in Haifa's Neve Sha'anah neighborhood and Michael

contributed to the physical fitness center in the Neve David Community Center.



From left: Alex, Elana and Michael Rosenberg

TORONTO TURNS OUT TO HONOR TOBY FELDBERG

More than 1,000 people turned out to honor Toby Feldberg, Chairman of the Canadian Committee for the Haifa Foundation, at a festive evening that featured a performance of *Golda's Balcony*, starring stage and television actress Valerie Harper.

During the pre-performance reception, Mrs. Feldberg's numerous community activities were detailed as person after person rose to pay her tribute. Yona Gazit, National Executive Vice-President of Israel Bonds Canada, presented her with the Golda Award for her outstanding leadership and Dr. Amnon Rofe, Director of Haifa's Bnai Zion

Medical Center, praised her many philanthropic initiatives and her wish to dedicate the evening's proceeds to the Haifa Foundation, with the express purpose of joining the crowd of well-wishers department at Bnai Zion. Israeli Consul General Ya'akov "Kobi" Brosh, a Haifa native, expressed his official and personal appreciation for her countless efforts on behalf of Israel and especially for his hometown.

The celebration continued with a dessert reception after the curtain came down, with Ms. Harper joining the crowd of well-wishers, adding her genuine warmth and sparkling smile to the gala evening.



Actress Valerie Harper (right) with Toby Feldberg

In October, the Canadian Committee sponsored the musical *Life is Like a Movie* to support Bnai Zion's planned pediatric surgery department.



Members of Detroit's Jewish Federation Lauren and Phillip Fisher Class of a Million Mission expressing their solidarity with Haifa

FRIENDS AND FAMILY



In Los Angeles, Mayor Yona Yabav (right) with Marvin Markowitz (left) and Sam Delug (center)



In New York, Dr. Rivka Yabav and Mayor Yona Yabav meet with New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg

A GIFT OF MUSIC TO SOOTHE THE SOUL

During last summer's war, Roger Cukierman, Chairman of CRIF (Conseil Représentatif des Institutions juives de France), accompanied three members of the French parliament, including the French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy, on their fact-finding mission to Haifa. And when he returned to Paris, he described what it was like to be in Haifa as rockets rained down on the city and residents huddled in bomb shelters.

M. Cukierman returned to Haifa in the fall heading a mission of CRIF board members, to demonstrate the French Jewish community's continued support for Haifa and its residents. During their visit, he presented Mayor Yona Yabav with a substantial donation to be designated for a special project that CRIF would continue to support well into the future.

Expressing grateful appreciation, Mayor Yabav soon informed M. Cukierman that city had decided

the new Music and Arts Center on the Carmel was a project worthy of CRIF's generosity and commitment to Haifa. Their gift would be used to expand the music studies curriculum and to bring outstanding performing artists and orchestras to Haifa – providing greater opportunities for Haifa residents to learn and to listen.



Roger Cukierman presenting Mayor Yona Yabav with CRIF's donation



In Ft. Lauderdale, from left: Morris Shirazi; Ft. Lauderdale Mayor Jim Naugle; Mayor Yona Yabav; Nuccia McCormick, Chairman, Greater Ft. Lauderdale Sister Cities International; Steven P. Naimoli, President, Greater Ft. Lauderdale Sister Cities International

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS, KAY

Well-wishers and admirers from Israel and abroad turned out in force to pay tribute to Kay Weinberger at the evening formalizing her retirement as Executive Director of the Clore Israel Foundation. Haifa Mayor Yona Yahav was among the dignitaries who gathered to thank her for the efforts she expended on their behalf and congratulate her as Foundation Chairman Dame Vivien Duffield (right) named her a Trustee.

Working closely with Dame Vivien during her 17 years as Executive Director, they ensured that the Clore

Israel Foundation would fulfill Sir Charles Clore's commitment to Arab-Jewish cooperation and coexistence and improving the lives of all Israelis through educational and social projects.

Throughout her years of service, Ms. Weinberger assisted the Haifa Municipality and the Haifa Foundation in realizing the Foundation's projects in the city – the Clore Children's Library and Cultural Centre at Beit Hagefen, the creation of the Clore Neighborhood Centre in Ein Hayam and the establishment of the Clore Youth Center in Neve David.



Kay Weinberger (left) with Clore Israel Foundation Chairman Dame Vivien Duffield



Mendl and Pauline Schwartz

GIVING PEACE A CHANCE

Since 1985, Mendl, Pauline, Stan Schwartz and families of Toronto have held an annual golf tournament in memory of their father Wilfred "Toots" Schwartz. Proceeds from last year's golf classic, which was called "Give Peace a Chance," were earmarked for a playground in the Hadar neighborhood where all of Haifa's children could congregate and get to know each other regardless of their religious or ethnic background.



French Minister of Foreign Affairs Philippe Douste-Blazy (center), accompanied by leaders of CRIF (Conseil Représentatif des Institutions juives de France), paid a wartime visit to Haifa and met with Mayor Yona Yahav

HAIFA-BOSTON CONNECTION

LIVE GENEROUSLY - CONNECTING PEOPLE

When the war broke out last summer and Haifa came under attack, Boston's Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP), which partners with Haifa in numerous projects through the Haifa-Boston Connection, embarked on an Emergency Campaign. The result: Haifa received more than \$3 million in contributions. Boston was the largest contributor to Haifa's war efforts and post-war rebuilding. Contributions were designated for aid, medical supplies and air conditioning for bomb shelters, trauma counseling and medical equipment for two hospitals; and strengthening buildings to withstand rocket attacks, among other projects.

The effort also provided scholarships for students at the Technion and Haifa University who were called up for military service.

But perhaps the most important act of support was exhibited by the assistance to small businesses provided by the Haifa Small Business Development Center (M.A.T.I.) in partnership with the Boston Jewish community. Three hundred interest-free loans of sums up to 50,000 NIS were issued to businesses in crisis. Some businesses received free financial, operational and marketing consultation to help them survive the difficult times.

One such business was the Yam Building Materials Co. operated by owner Moti Chrepshnik. It all began when Moti met Avi Feigenbaum, executive director of M.A.T.I., in a bomb shelter during one of the missile

attacks. "Summer is our biggest season," says Moti, "but the sudden war brought everything to a halt. Customers stopped coming and bills had to be paid. We were in a terrible bind and M.A.T.I. came to the immediate rescue. In less than a week, while missiles kept firing, we received a loan. It saved us from going under."

M.A.T.I. is also helpful in the promotion of women in business, and on the eve of Rosh Hashana sponsored a major fair in one of Haifa's largest shopping malls, giving public support to more than 150 business women.

"Boston's Jewish community has a 50 per cent share in Haifa," Mayor Yona Yahav told two dozen Bostonians in Haifa for the joint steering committee meetings of Boston-Haifa Connection. The mayor was referring to 18 years of programs and exchanges between Boston and Haifa.

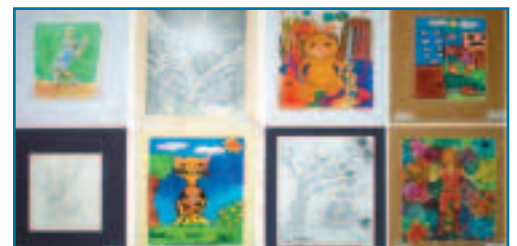
"The biggest accomplishment of the Connection was the number of phone calls and e-mails Bostonians sent to Haifa residents," said Gadi Sassower, the partnership's Haifa-based chair. "No other community in the U.S. has something like Boston does with Haifa."



Sy Friedland of CJP's Social Services Committee, and Chester Black, CJP Chairman of the Haifa-Boston Steering Committee, compare progress with Yossi Gluzman, CJP Staff Representative in Israel



Myra Kraft (center), Chairman of the Board of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston, visiting a shelter in downtown Haifa during the war



Pictures painted by children from Haifa's Hadar neighborhood were sold at a Haifa-Boston gala event

A FOND FAREWELL



The Haifa Foundation joins hundreds of admirers bidding farewell to Murray and Miette Smith. Murray served as Deputy Secretary General of the Baha'i International Center in Haifa. Now, after 13 years, the Smiths are returning to New Zealand leaving behind many friends in Israel.

WE REMEMBER



Our good friend and former Executive Director of the Haifa Foundation Yehiel Navot passed away this fall. We will miss his warm and humble presence.

In 2000, Yehiel was honored as an outstanding Haifa citizen – an honor he richly deserved. Born in Haifa, he served with the pre-state Palmach. He acquired a BA and a B.Sc. in business administration and worked as a chemical engineer in private industry.

Yehiel was equally known for his volunteerism. He founded the Rotary Carmel branch of the Rotary, and engaged in activities helping the blind, the disabled and the elderly. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

Dear Friends,

Where ever I go these days, people ask me about the war – what was it like, how did Haifa's citizens react and have they recovered from its impact.

Frankly, the war took us all by surprise – we never imagined that we would be such a principal target. After the initial shock, our population responded with resilience and courage. They took the daily stress in stride and learned to cope with more than a month's worth of attacks – often several in one day.

The war also took the Haifa Foundation by surprise. We, who focus on improving the quality of life for the people of Haifa, suddenly found ourselves thrust into creating and managing an emergency campaign. Our normal educational, social service, cultural and coexistence programs were put on the back burner as we organized a massive effort to provide food for the homebound, daily activities for the children and comfort and relief for the adults.

And we succeeded in telling Haifa's story to the world – through our special website and through our Haifa Foundation friends. We know that in normal times, we reach thousands of people who want to be part of Haifa's special character, to help us build and grow. The reaction to our war effort proved that our message has been heard – often in places we least expected. Your response was overwhelming. Our American and Canadian partners came forward in full force – with special fundraising efforts and personal visits – and we found new friends in Brazil, Argentina, Australia, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, France and other countries throughout the world. You bolstered our spirits, warmed our hearts and made it possible for the Haifa Foundation to reach out and help.

For the most part, the war is behind us, although the lessons we learned during those difficult days remain etched in our minds and memories. We are back to our traditional work of supporting education, communal services, culture and coexistence, but now our agenda also reflects last summer's events – establishing a new crisis management center, creating a mobile crisis management center, treating victims of post-traumatic stress disorder, upgrading our shelters, securing safe spaces and providing e-learning for stay-at-home students.

We are still reaching out to bring current news and future plans to Friends of the Haifa Foundation and we have broadened our scope to include our new friends in far-flung places. Through the Israeli website Hevre, we are asking former Haifa'ites to identify themselves and tell us where they are, so they can reconnect to their city, learn about what we have done and what we are planning to do.

As we share our triumphs and tragedies, we are aware that we are not alone, that together with you, we can and will build a better future for our people and for our city.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dani Neuman".

Dani Neuman,
Executive Director





Dear Friends,

Whenever I have visited the United States – as a private citizen and as Mayor of Haifa – I have found the American Jewish community warm and welcoming, interested in hearing the latest about Israel and especially about our city. However, my most recent trip will remain engraved in my mind forever. I

was overwhelmed by the reception I received wherever I went, by the outpouring of emotion, the caring and concern I heard in people’s voices, the questions that were asked and my answers eagerly anticipated. I cannot tell you how much it meant to me, how much it will always mean to me.

For many abroad, last summer’s war may have slipped into the recent past, but for me and for all of us here in Haifa, it is still with us. Over 100 missiles hit Haifa directly; 200 fortunately missed. We suffered injuries and deaths, extensive damage and trauma that will take a long time to recede.

The war has passed but the death, damage and destruction remain. We are repairing our streets and buildings and have buried our loved ones. Most of the physical reminders have been erased. It will take much longer to heal the psychic wounds buried hidden in people’s minds and souls.

Many of you came to be with us last summer, risking your lives to show that you cared. As the bombs were falling and the sirens screaming, you sat with us in our shelters and together we surveyed the damage when the all-clear sounded. Many of you could not come, but let us know how you felt – with packages for our citizens and our soldiers, toys for the children in the shelters and food for those confined to their homes. You called, you wrote, you sent e-mails and faxes and made personal donations. You organized campaigns in your cities and towns and sent us contributions to help us with the tasks at hand and those that came later. Thank you so very, very much.

While we have not forgotten, we have resumed the rhythm of our lives. Our streets and parks are filled with people, our universities open, our high-tech centers moving ever forward.

A few months ago, our city was once again packed with people who came to join our annual Festival of Festivals. This special celebration is a Haifa hallmark, recognizing the Muslim, Jewish and Christian holidays that coincide at the end of the year. More than exhibits and events, art, music and dance, the Festival of Festivals is a statement of what Haifa is, who its citizens are and how – despite a war that pitted Arab enemies against all Israelis – we live together in peace, harmony and friendship.

The Haifa Foundation

38 Hechalutz St.
Haifa 33113 Israel
Tel: 972-4-862-8593
Fax: 972-4-862-8532

Dani Neuman,
Executive Director
Sam Propper,
Administrative Director
Tamar Livneh,
Office Manager

Board of Directors

Yona Yahav, *Chairman*
Joseph Gluzman,
Deputy Chairman
Willi Z. Aptowitz
Ilan Beck
Liora Birnhak–Marcus
Eliyahu Brakha
Itzhak Kabilio
Joseph Khoury

Moshe Gutman
Yair Lipchutz
Dan Mandel
Dorothy Rosenberg
Alexander Samuel
Gad Sassower
Moshe Shachal
Jeannette Solomon
Koby Zeid

Haifa Foundation News

Written and produced by
Sarabeth Lukin
Photos by Paul
Melling, Zvi Roger,
Herzl Shapira, Lenny
Maschkowski
Design: VistaSpinner

haifund@netvision.net.il

www.haifa-foundation.org

**American Associates
of the Haifa Foundation**

c/o Nomi Seidenwerg
235 S. Tower Drive # 303
Beverly Hills, CA 90211
Tel: 323-658-5522
Fax: 323-658-6333
email: seidenwerg@sbcglobal.net

**The Haifa Foundation
(N.A.) Inc.**

Herbert Rose
1065 Avenue of the Americas
Suite 1700
New York, NY 10018
Tel: 212-981-9060
Fax: 212-981-9071

**Canadian Committee
for the Haifa Foundation**

Maya Goldenberg
101 Thornhill Woods Drive
Thornhill, ON L4J 8R5
Tel: 905-707-5598
Fax: 905-707-5288
email: haifafund@rogers.com

The Haifa Foundation

Aviad Efrat
4 Drumalbyn Road
Bellevue Hill
Sydney 2023
Australia
Cell: 6140-6382499
email: aviad_efrat@hotmail.com