A Family Legacy of Giving Back

Giving back to the community has a long history in Bob Lurie’s family—in fact, all the way back to the Gold Rush era, when San Francisco’s Jewish community was first established.

Lurie’s great-grandfather on his mother’s side, Samuel Wolf Levy, was an early pioneer and one of the founders of the local Jewish community, emigrating here from Alsace, France, around 1851. Levy was a member of Congregation Emanu-El and served as president of the Pacific Hebrew Orphan Asylum and Home Society for 40 years. Lurie’s father, Louis, who moved to San Francisco from Chicago in 1914, also was a philanthropist, making significant contributions to local Jewish needs.

“My father started the Louis R. Lurie Foundation in April 1949 in San Francisco as a way to give back to the area he loved,” says Lurie.

So, when Lurie, a San Francisco real estate developer and former San Francisco Giants owner, along with his wife, Connie, made a significant, unrestricted endowment gift to the Federation’s Centennial Campaign, he continued his family’s proud tradition.

Lurie’s life and career have been deeply rooted in San Francisco and the Bay Area. He graduated from Menlo School in Atherton and Stanford University, with a detour at Northwestern. He took over his father’s real estate company in 1972 and was soon building and leasing some of San Francisco’s most iconic commercial properties, including 555 California, the Mark Hopkins Hotel, and the Curran Theatre. Lurie is perhaps best known for his past ownership of the Giants. He bought the team in 1976 when it was on the verge of being sold and relocated to Toronto—and successfully kept the Giants in the city. He hired the National League’s first African-American manager, Frank Robinson, and the team won the 1989 pennant. Lurie sold the Giants in 1992.

Lurie says that he and Connie made their Centennial gift because of their deep respect for the Federation’s mission and how well it implements its objectives. Bob made his first donation to the Federation in 1953, and he and Connie have continued to give through their Donor Advised Fund and contributed to numerous programs and campaigns across the decades. Among the organizations they have supported are Congregation Emanu-El, Mt. Zion Hospital, the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, and the Federation.

“A major factor in our gift is our respect for the sense of community the Federation demonstrates, as well as for what it has accomplished,” says Lurie. “Its in-depth involvement with the issues and the impact it has on our community are outstanding. We also appreciate the fact that its doors are open to all. We think that is the best approach to bringing friendship, understanding, and compassion to all people.”
Chairman’s Report

The Federation brings together the builders of our community and the innovators of the future to sustain and grow a community that is vibrant, welcoming, and secure. The Centennial Campaign protects current investments in the Jewish community and ensures that the people, organizations, and programs that we so proudly support will continue to thrive into the future.

I am so pleased to report that $164 million has thus far been secured in legacy commitments and realized gifts to the Federation’s Endowment Fund toward the Centennial Campaign’s goal of $250 million by 2025. The lasting impact that Centennial donors make is profound. These funds are supporting Jewish engagement for thousands of Bay Area teens and young adults, high quality Jewish camp programs for our youth, Israel experiences and leadership training, Jewish arts and culture, and seed-funding for innovative Bay Area nonprofits addressing new needs. Through these endeavors, we are continuing to carry out the vision of those who came before us—of a flourishing community imbued with Jewish values.

Within these pages are a few community members who have answered the call for a new generation of visionaries to make their mark on the future, inspiring future generations. Thank you to each of you who has stepped forward to affirm your legacy intentions. If you have not yet had the opportunity, I invite you to join in the planning for the future welfare of our community by formally making or confirming your Centennial gift. Thank you for your enduring commitment that will help write the next chapter of our community’s history.

Jim Koshland
Chair, Centennial Campaign

P.S. There is a card located within this newsletter to respond confidentially if you have questions or would like more information.

A Treasure for Future Generations

“What an extraordinary framework Judaism is for raising children with strength of character, strength of values, and self-awareness rooted in history. We are thrilled to be a part of this great Jewish community and its wonderful education systems for all our families.”

– LAURA LAUDER

The Book of Life is a stunning work of art that houses a unique treasury of testimonials from local donors, recording their ideals and motivations for keeping our Jewish community strong and healthy.

Designed by renowned Bay Area artist Joseph Goldyne, the book is prominently displayed in the Federation’s building at 121 Steuart Street in San Francisco.

All Centennial donors are invited to compose messages that will permanently document the personal thoughts, stories, and values that deepened their Jewish identity, and inspired their philanthropy.

Along with being included in the Book of Life, donors who have made commitments of $250,000 or more will have their names inscribed on Jerusalem stone in the artistically crafted Wall of Honor, located in the Federation’s lobby. They will also receive Centennial recognition at other Federation offices and in a digital display.

Laura Lauder, new chair of the Federation’s Endowment Committee, signing the Book of Life
Tad Taube has been widely associated with Jewish philanthropy in the Bay Area, in Israel, and in his native Poland, which he fled on the brink of the Holocaust.

After experiencing Ellis Island and a year in Manhattan, young Taube and his parents settled in California. At Stanford, Tad earned an undergraduate degree in Industrial Engineering, and after three years in the U.S. Air Force, he returned to Stanford to earn a master’s degree in Industrial Management.

Taube started a real estate development and management firm called the Woodmont Companies. In the late 1960s, he met Joseph and Stephanie Koret, who owned the apparel company Koret of California. When their company fell on hard times, Taube led a turnaround effort. Under his leadership as chairman and CEO, Koret of California returned to profitability, facilitating a favorable sale to Levi Strauss in 1979.

Taube says that it wasn’t until he was in his 30s that he thought seriously about his family’s devastation from the Holocaust, and his responsibilities as a Jew. At the urging of a friend, philanthropist Karl Bach, he joined the board of the American Friends of Hebrew University—and quickly grew connected to many Jewish organizations.

“Hebrew University intrigued me because it is one of the world’s greatest educational institutions, and became my entrée into Jewish institutional life,” he says. “That journey as a committed Jewish community member has continued for the past 50 years, including 32 years as Koret Foundation’s president.”

This year, Taube and his wife, Dianne, cemented that commitment to the Jewish community with several significant gifts to Jewish organizations in the Bay Area, Israel, and Poland, including support of the Federation’s Centennial Campaign.

In addition, Taube Estate-funded endowments will significantly support the Bay Area’s Jewish ecosystem, including JFCS, all three Bay Area Federations, Bay Area JCCs, the Contemporary Jewish Museum, The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life at U.C. Berkeley, the Jewish Home, Stanford Hillel, Stanford Chabad, and many others.

The Taube’s magnanimous gift will help ensure that many of the Bay Area’s Jewish institutions remain vibrant and financially sustainable for years to come. The depth and breadth of their generosity exemplifies a profound commitment to the community.

When asked about his legacy, Taube made it clear that he has no plans to slow down. He still actively manages his real estate and management firm, plays tennis on a regular basis, and is intimately involved with his philanthropic pursuits.

“I would like to be thought of as somebody who was committed to principles of Jewish peoplehood, helping others, particularly youngsters and those in need, and nurturing my love of our great American democracy.”

– TAD TAUBE
The following generous donors have left legacy gifts, made formal Centennial commitments at all levels, reaffirmed their intention to include the Federation in their estate plan in the past seven years. Up to $249,999, permanent funds or reaffirmed commitments at all levels

Anonymous (18)
Don Abramson
Hyman Agid z”l
Maimoona M. Ahmed
Jeanne and Philip Alper z”l
Beverly Z”l and David Altman
Edith and Peter Altmann z”l
Hilde and Alfred Amkraut z”l
Robert Charles Armstrong z”l
Millie and Aron Aronovsky z”l
Marie Aslan z”l
Yetta and Morris Bach z”l
Beverly and Arnold Bardoff z”l
The Barlow Family
Keith P. Bartel z”l
Jack Beckerman z”l
Fritzi Benesch z”l
Daniel Benjamin z”l
Annette M. Berger
Aline and Warren Berl z”l
Jean Katherine Bernstein z”l
Crownie and Martin Billik
Lenore Kay Bleadon
Judy Gold Bloom
Betty and John Blumlein z”l
Jerome and Dolores Braun
Margot E. Braun z”l
Arthur and Lucille Brown z”l
Martin and Geri Brownstein
Nell and Linda Brownstein
Aviva Shiff Boedecker
Jane and Summer Burrows z”l
Irving David Caplan z”l
Ruth Carolyn z”l
Helene H. and Frank J. Catz z”l
Geraldine Crane z”l
Robert F. Cowan
Dr. Elaine Dallman z”l
Dotty and Stuart Day z”l
Ezra and Judith Day z”l
Robert and Jan Newman
Barbro and Bernard Osher
Karen and Brian Perlman
Shirley and Robert Raymer
Joyce and William Remak z”l
Society

Funds

If your name has inadvertently been omitted from the list of Centennial donors who reaffirmed their commitment to the Federation, please contact Linda Solow Bouwer at LindaB@sfjcf.org or call 415.512.6232.

We invite all donors, including members of the Living Legacy Society who have previously informed the Federation of their intentions at all levels, to reaffirm their commitment to the Federation. Please contact Linda Solow Bouwer at LindaB@sfjcf.org or call 415.512.6232.
Legends of Generosity

Edith z”l and Benjamin Dorfman
Dr. Ronald Steven Dunn
Maryxne Earl z”l
Dr. Jack and Seena Elfant z”l
John L. and Linda L. Elman
Barbara and Jeff Farber
Wesley z”l and Bonnie Fastiff
Sylvia and Michael z”l Felsenstein
Louis and Janet Fisher z”l
Dr. Martin Fleshman z”l
Susan and David Folkman
Eleanor and Albert Fraenkel
Tom and Myrna z”l Frankel
Lilli and Max Frank z”l
Isabelle and Edgar Freuder z”l
Mara and Raphael Friedman z”l
Peter and Luz M. Frohwein, in memory of Hans and Flore Frohwein z”l
Rebecca and Seymour Frohmer z”l
Louise H. Ginsburg z”l
Dr. Abraham and Natalie Goetz z”l
Jane Blumberg Goldberg z”l
Sylvia and Captain Walter Goldenrath z”l
Eric Goldman
Kurt Goldstrom z”l
Adean Golub
Rabbi Marvin Goodman and Deborah Kelman
Doris Livingston Grasshoff z”l
William z”l and Frances Green
Lorene and Samuel Greenblatt z”l
Flora Greenhoot z”l
Erna z”l and Guenter Gruschka
Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Gunsberg
Peter Haas, in memory of his parents Ernst and Helen Haas z”l of Portland, ORE.
Susan Hamlin
Helen z”l and Arthur Hausman
Ida G. Hodes
Gerald Hoytt z”l
Dr. Alex and Bernadette Inkeles
Barbara R. Jacobs
Phyllis and Alvin Janklow
Ellen and Robert Jasper
Raymond Kaliski z”l
Dorothy and Harry Kalb berg z”l
Joel Kamisher
Rosemary and Daniel Kaplan, in memory of Lisabeth Kaplan
Tom and Kendra Kasten
Isabel F. Kaufmann z”l
Emil Knopf
Vivian and Sidney Konigsberg z”l
Peter z”l and Carol Kornfeld
Stephanie and Morris z”l
Krantz
Bernis and Larry Kretchmar
Linda and Frank Kurtz
Adele and Donald Langendorf
Jack Langsam z”l
Albert Leaver z”l
Warren G. Lefort
Joseph J. Levin
Lenore and Lewis B. z”l Levin
Harold and Phyllis Levy z”l
Lucille and Henry z”l Libicki
Mel and Bettie Lichtman
Greta and Eric Livingston z”l
Eva T. Lokey z”l
Hans Lowhurst z”l
Caroline and Brian Lurie
Lois and George Maisels z”l
Susan and Jay Mall
Elie and Gerry Marcus z”l
Marlyn G. McClaskey z”l
Barbara J. Meislin/
Purple Lady Fund
Frank G. Meyer
Erika Miller z”l
Susan and Bill Mirbach
Ruth Morse z”l
Milton Mosk
Judith Moss
Charlotte Newman z”l
Leah Noher
Adele R. Passalacqua
Helen and Milton Pearl z”l
Rose Penn z”l
Herbert and Frances Perkins z”l
Frances Pivnick z”l
Lilly Radcliffe z”l
Jan Cook Reicher
Joyce Baker Rifkind
Caryl Lancet Ritter
Gloria and Milton Roberts z”l
Miriam and Eddie Robinson z”l
Patricia and Robert Ronald
Ray H. Rosenman z”l
Gerald B. Rosenstein z”l
Marjorie Rosenthal z”l
Maureen and Paul Roskoph
Luba R. Ross
Barbara and Julius Roth z”l
Lottie L. and David T. Rothschild z”l
Phyllis Rubenstein z”l
Esther Rubin z”l
Ellen and Jerry Saliman
Wendy Croft Salinsky z”l
Ethel Salwen z”l
Loren and Shelley Saxe
Gail Schlichter z”l
Adrienne and Norman Schlossberg
Carol Schussler
John R. Schwabacher
Grace Shulman z”l
Nathan z”l and Rebecca Siegel
Edward Silverberg z”l
Alice and Daniel Simon z”l
Esther and Richard Siirinsky
Emily Skolnick z”l
Mildred Snitzer z”l
Vivian Solomon z”l
Susan Wander Sorkin
Paul Spitz z”l
Marlene and Martin Stein
Walter R. Steinberg z”l
Ruth S. Steiner z”l
Elishe M. Stevens z”l
Anne Strauss
Dr. and Mrs. Irving B. Tapper z”l
Olga Thein
Isabelle and Lawrence Tomsky z”l
Charlene and Sid z”l Tuchman
Gertrude Vederoff z”l
Dorothy R. and Walter z”l Vogel
Myron and Jerrie Rubenstein
Wacholder z”l
Joseph z”l and Kathi Wahed
Thomas L. Waite z”l
Alfred and Lee Weber z”l
Esther Y. Wedner
Lewis and Helen Weil z”l
Margot and Ernest Weil z”l
William and Arden Weinberg z”l
William and Roschelle Weiman z”l
Marilyn K. z”l and Raymond L. Weisberg
Charles and Barbara Weiss
Otto and Idell Weiss
Ema and Herman Wertheim z”l
Gail Wilensky
Kathy Roberts Williams
Celina (Basia) and Jacob Wisniewski z”l
Gerda Wodlinger z”l
Margaret and Martin Zankel
David R. Zemansky z”l
Mark Zitter and Jessica Nutik Zitter
Alanna Zrimsek and Morton Levin

z”l – Zichrono Livracha, of blessed memory

List in formation, as of August 10, 2017

In their intention to make a legacy gift, to reaffirm their commitment now to join the Centennial Campaign. They intend to leave a legacy to the Jewish Community Federation, our sincere apologies.
LindaB@sfjcf.org or call 415.512.6232.
The Bay Area Jewish community mourns the passing of beloved community leader and philanthropist Gerson Bakar, who died on June 5, at the age of 89. Bakar, in tandem with his wife, Barbara Bass Bakar, was a giant in the San Francisco philanthropic community, instrumental in the development and growth of the Museum of Modern Art, UCSF Mission Bay Campus, BRIDGE, and the Haas School of Business at U.C. Berkeley.

Bakar’s impact on the Bay Area Jewish community was profound. He played a leadership role and was one of the most generous benefactors in the capital campaigns to rebuild the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, Menorah Park, and Jewish Family and Children Services’ Gary Shupin Independent Living Community.

For decades, Bakar was one of the Federation’s most committed leaders and generous benefactors. He served on the Federation’s Endowment Committee for more than 20 years, and it was his real estate acumen and financial backing that helped the Federation move into its current headquarters on Steuart Street. Gerson and Barbara also made a generous commitment to the Federation’s Centennial Campaign, contributed to the Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE), as well as earmarking an additional gift to the unrestricted endowment fund.

Bakar’s magnanimous contributions to Jewish institutions in the Bay Area go back many decades.

“Asking me why the Jewish community is important to me is like asking me why the sun and rain are important,” he said. “I just cannot imagine my life without the ongoing challenges of being part of the Jewish community.”

“Given that so many of us believe that it is important to maintain the current Jewish community and to provide for future generations, we still have the question of ‘why we should support the Federation?’” he said. “Well, we cannot have a vital Jewish community if we all try to be Jewish hermits tending to our own gardens. Over the years, the Federation has provided the ‘community’ of the Jewish community, and it is an honor to be a member.”

Indeed, Bakar’s choice to be an active leader has profoundly changed our community. He was a giant, unlike any other, and a person who led by example. His legacy will be seen and felt by generations to come.

“Asking me why the Jewish community is important to me is like asking me why the sun and rain are important. I just cannot imagine my life without the ongoing challenges of being part of the Jewish community.”

— GERSON BAKAR
The new Wall of Honor is the centerpiece of the Federation’s lobby and stands as an eternal tribute to the Centennial donors’ extraordinary generosity, recognizing those individuals and families whose gifts begin at $250,000. The individual Jerusalem stones in the sculpted wall allow new donors to be added and celebrated each year. Centennial donors at all levels will be prominently recognized.

You can ensure a strong Jewish future
If you would like to ensure that your annual gifts live on in perpetuity, you can do so with a Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE) or a Lion of Judah Endowment (LOJE). Or you can establish or add to a special purpose fund in an area of particular importance to you. Perhaps you would like to make a gift to the Federation’s endowment or another fund that will meet the future needs of our community.

Choose your gift vehicle. The simplest and most common way to make a legacy gift is through a bequest, which is a gift from your will. Another easy vehicle—with great tax advantages—is your retirement plan (401(k) or IRA). To benefit from additional income during your lifetime, consider a charitable gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust. Donor Advised Fund remainders, life insurance, and gifts of real estate, or other appreciated property are options that also can provide significant tax savings.

We are available to have confidential conversations about your philanthropic and estate planning goals, which will help prepare you to work efficiently with your professional advisers on the best options for you.

To begin or continue the conversation, contact Linda Solow Bouwer, Director of Endowed and Planned Gifts, by calling her at 415.512.6232 or emailing her at LindaB@sfjcf.org.