

Media Release
Jewish Foundation of Memphis
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**NICK RINGEL ELECTED BOARD PRESIDENT AT JEWISH FOUNDATION
14TH ANNUAL MEETING**

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 29, 2010– The Jewish Foundation of Memphis, celebrating 14 years of service to Memphis area Jewish agencies, elected well-known Jewish communal leader Nick Ringel as board president at its annual meeting held April 21 at the Memphis Jewish Community Center.

Elected for two years, Mr. Ringel succeeds Ronna Newburger who served as president for the last two years.

The meeting also featured a special presentation, Generations of Giving, highlighting families who have a formal relationship with the Jewish Foundation of Memphis spanning 3 or more generations. Twenty-three families who have either signed the Endowment Book of Life, been inducted into the Legacy Society, hold a donor advised fund or are members of the Foundation’s teen philanthropy program, B’nai Tzedek, were honored.

In assuming the presidency, Mr. Ringel said, “I am proud to be taking the helm at this time in the history of the Foundation. We are well-established with a proven track record of responsible management and fiscal oversight. Over the years the Jewish Foundation has evolved into the comprehensive resource for charitably-minded Jewish families.”

Nick Ringel, founder of Makowsky, Ringel, Greenberg L.L.C., along with Jerome Makowsky is currently principal of Penn Investors, also with Jerome Makowsky. Originally from Ohio, Ringel moved to Memphis in 1964 and immersed himself in the Jewish community. He has a long history of leadership in the Jewish community and has served on the board of Temple Israel as president as well as the boards of Hebrew Union College and Memphis Jewish Federation. Ringel has also served as chair of Federation’s Annual Campaign, Temple Israel’s Generations campaign and along with his wife, Judy, chaired the Foundation’s ongoing initiative Create Your Jewish Legacy. He and Judy have three children and six grandchildren.

In her final remarks as outgoing president, Ronna Newburger thanked the board of directors for their service, noting, “We have the best leadership in town. We have 12 at-large members elected by the board of directors and 3 board members from each of our

partner agencies. We truly benefit from the best leadership our community has to offer. I am grateful for the time they have devoted to helping to build the permanent assets of our Jewish community agencies. It has been an honor to serve along with you.”

Newburger concluded by thanking all outgoing board members and presenting them with a gift for their dedicated service to the Foundation.

Foundation executive director Laura Linder opened her remarks by bringing attention to the impact the Foundation has had in providing ways for Jewish Memphians of all ages to be generous. Special recognition was given to the 86 members of the Foundation’s Professional Advisory Group (PAG). The PAG is comprised of attorneys, CPAs, insurance professionals, financial planners and investment advisors who support the mission of the Jewish Foundation.

“Each member of our Professional Advisory Group has made a commitment to promote charitable giving with their clients and to utilize the Jewish Foundation as a resource when it is appropriate to do so,” Linder said.

Ms. Linder went on to comment on the work the Foundation has done during 2010. Highlights include establishing 20 new donor advised funds during economically challenging times, and facilitating the Foundation for Jewish Camp’s incentive program. This summer, 30 children who have never been to a Jewish camp will experience their Judaism at a Jewish overnight camp thanks to support from Temple Israel and local donors Debra and Alex Saharovich.

Following Ms. Linder’s remarks, Foundation past president, Nat Landau paid tribute to outgoing president Ronna Newburger and presented her with a Women of Valor tzedakah box in appreciation for her vision and dedication to the Foundation during the past two years.

“Ronna’s commitment to sustaining and maintaining our Jewish home for generations to come was her mantra during her tenure as president,” stated Landau after reading the statement written by Ronna and her husband, Hal, in the Jewish Foundation’s Endowment Book of Life.

Landau concluded by saying to Newburger, “Ronna, our community is stronger because of your leadership. We are more focused on the needs at hand and have a greater understanding of the importance of endowing the financial future of our Jewish community. Thank you for your leadership.”

Presented by the nominating committee for election to a two-year term on the executive committee were Nick Ringel, president; Kay Usdan Saslawsky, vice president; Sandy Blockman, treasurer; and Diane Mendelson, secretary.

Individuals newly appointed to the Foundation’s board and the partner agency each represents include Cary Rotter, Jewish Family Service; Mark Fogelman, Bornblum Solomon Schechter School; Julie Levy, Anshei Sphard Beth El Emeth Congregation and Mark Wender, Jewish Family Service.

Individuals re-appointed to the Jewish Foundation board and the partner agency each represents included Scott Sorin, Bornblum Solomon Schechter School; Andy Saslawsky, Memphis Jewish Home; Pat Chafetz, Jewish Family Service; Bobby Cohen, Baron Hirsch Congregation; Laurie Cooper, Memphis Jewish Federation; Morris Thomas, Memphis Jewish Community Center; Marlin Graber, Margolin Hebrew Academy; Stanley Bilsky, Beth Sholom Synagogue; Kenneth Wurzburg, Temple Israel.

Seven individuals were elected for at-large board positions - Ron Belz, Bruce Feldbaum, Charles Jalenak, Earl Magdovitz, Rose Morrison, Raymond Shainberg and Andie Uiberall.

Five individuals rotated off the board - Alan Harkavy, Laura Harkavy, Irvin Serenco, Bobbie Shainberg and Mike Stein.

Nat Landau, immediate past president of the Foundation, presented the nominating committee report. Members of the nominating committee were Sandy Blockman, Hallie Cohen, Alan Harkavy, Bernard Lipsey, Jerome Makowsky, and Ronna Newburger.

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