

In Memory of Harriet Cooper: Community Volunteer

By Hanna B. Smith



From its beginning, the Lexington Jewish community has been fortunate to have many members dedicated to the community's welfare. These men and women have given of their time, energy, and talents to create a vibrant Jewish life during their lifetimes, and to ensure that the community and its institutions continues to be there for future generations. Harriet Cooper, who died on October 28, 2014, was one of those wonderful people.

Harriet, husband Leon, and two of their children arrived in Lexington from Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1958. Their third child was born in Lexington.

Harriet graduated from Radford College, Radford, Virginia, and she held a teaching certificate. Like most married women of her generation, she was expected to devote her energies exclusively to her family. In later years, though, she worked as a research assistant, model, and operated a business together with her friend, Barbara Derer.

In spite of the social restrictions laid upon women of past generations, many of these women, Harriet among them, worked as volunteers to support and to improve the communities in which they lived and raised their children.

We have to thank our mothers and grandmothers for many of the cultural, social and legal institutions in our community that make our lives easier, and that we take for granted.

Harriet's neighbor, Judy Saxe, herself a tireless community worker, describes Harriet's great love for the Jewish community. According to Judy Harriet's commitment and hard work made Harriet a force in the Lexington Jewish community. Harriet was involved in the local chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women, Hadassah, the Jewish Community Association Forum Series, Ohavay Zion Synagogue, Camp Shalom, and the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation (now Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass). (continued, page 2)

Jewish Studies Program of the University of Kentucky announces March programs

This spring, the "Year of the Middle East" continues at the University of Kentucky. The program, a part of the College of Arts and Science's "Passport to the World" series, highlights the region of the Middle East through a number of exciting events. March features two noteworthy readings sponsored by The Jewish Studies program. All, including students, faculty, and community members—are welcome to partake in events that will prove to be both engaging and enlightening.

"A Reading and Conversation with Emily Raboteau"
March 26 @ 7pm – Niles Gallery

The American Book Award winner Emily Raboteau will read from and discuss her most recent work, *Searching for Zion: The Quest for Home in the African Diaspora*. The event is sponsored by the Jewish Studies, African American & Africana Studies, English Creative Writing, and Social Theory programs. (continued, page 5)

CAMPAIGN NEWS

For Women Only – An evening of vintage dance, dinner, wine and friendship.

Please join us on Thursday, March 19, 5:30 pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue for a women's night out. Leave work and family concerns at home and enjoy a delicious dinner, vintage wine and vintage dance. Our program of historic dance, choreographed to music by Jewish composers, is being brought to us by Lexington Vintage Dance. These dancers have performed in theaters, museums, historic homes, colleges, weddings, reenactments, and even the White House. They will perform a number of dances from periods beginning in 1800 through 1930 while wearing authentic costumes of those eras. The program will be narrated and accompanied by Dr. Lorne Dechtenberg. Dancers are Michael French, Paula Harrison, Tim Lamm and Barbara Ramlow. The buffet dinner will be catered by Gayle Bourne and sons Will and Ian.

The couvert for the evening is \$18 per person. A contribution of at least \$18 to the 2015 Women's Philanthropy Campaign of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass is requested. For reservations and information, please call Judy Wortman at 268-0672 or email her at jfb@jewishlexington.org.

(Harriet Cooper, continued from Page 1)

The National Council of Jewish Women closed its Lexington chapter in the 1970's. In the 1950's and '60's, when the Coopers arrived, the NCJW chapter was an active force in the Jewish as well as the general community. A picture in the Lexington Herald Leader of 1966 shows Harriet working on the Angel Ball, a fundraiser to meet the needs of Lexington's citizens. Harriet co-chaired the planning committee, together with Margaret Silbar. Other committee members were Minna Bloomfield (in charge of programs) and Gloria Katz (decorations chairperson).

According to the custom of that time, all four women in the picture were identified by their husbands' names. It took research to learn their own names, a task that the author undertook gladly, in order to give credit to these capable women.

In 1966, the women of the NCJW chapter surveyed Lexington's service agencies and then developed a volunteer bureau to direct volunteers to areas where they were most needed. A second project in 1966 was the Council's involvement in the Suitcase Theatre. The purpose of the project was to bring live dramatic productions as an educational tool into elementary schools in Fayette and surrounding counties.

An undated picture from the Herald Leader shows Harriet helping to plan for the Jewish Community Association Forum Series. JCA presented a variety of notable speakers and programs, among them the famous scholar, Dr. Abraham Heschel, professor of Jewish Ethics and Mysticism at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

Harriet was hospitality chair of the JCA. Others in the picture were Freda Lerner, chairwoman, Michael Baer, member of the speaker selection committee, and Robert S. Miller, treasurer.

In June 1971, the Lexington chapter of Hadassah and the University of Kentucky Albert B. Chandler Medical Center celebrated the 10th anniversary of the connection between the A.B. Chandler Medical Center and the Hadassah - Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Kerem, Jerusalem.

Both medical centers had opened in 1961. Under Marilyn Moosnick's leadership, Hadassah had sponsored a ball in 1961 to forge a relationship between the two medical centers. Marilyn's husband, Dr. Franklin Moosnick, was a well-known Lexington physician.

Harriet co-chaired the 10th anniversary ball, together with Marilyn Moosnick. Elli Norton, wife of Dr. Louis Norton, was general chairwoman.

Guest of honor at the ball was Dr. Kalman J. Mann, head of the Hadassah - Hebrew University Medical



Leon Cooper, Harriet Cooper, Irwin Cohen, Gail Cohen, Ellie Norton, Louis Norton. Staff photographer: Bill Hickey, Lex. Herald Leader. June 1971.

Center. According to Gail Cohen, who was president of the local chapter of Hadassah at that time, the gifts which Dr. Mann presented to the A.B. Chandler Medical Center are still on display there.

Among local dignitaries at the ball were former Governor A.B. Chandler and his wife, and the president and vice-president of the Chandler Medical Center and their wives. A picture, taken by Bill Hickey, staff photographer of the Herald Leader, shows the three women, Harriet, Gail, and Ellie, flanked by their husbands, looking radiant.

Harriet and Marilyn Moosnick cooperated also in other enterprises. Marilyn, who worked in television, also wrote and produced skits for Hadassah and for Ohavay Zion Synagogue. Harriet assisted with the production and acted in them. An undated picture, taken at the WLEX-TV studio, shows Harriet, together with Leon, Myron Katz, and Sheldon Derer, acting in a Purim play. This production was part of a series of Jewish holiday telecasts, produced under Marilyn Moosnick's direction.

Leon and Harriet were active as members of Ohavay Zion Synagogue, and in her later years Harriet concentrated her volunteer efforts mainly upon OZS. No job was ever too big or too small for Harriet. She served twice as Sisterhood president, raising funds for the religious school. She helped prepare food for various Synagogue events, and her challahs became famous. Harriet's tayglach recipe made it into the food section of the Jerusalem Post of December 1975. On Sunday mornings Harriet could be found in the OZS gift shop, where she worked until ill health made it impossible to continue.

In 2004, Ohavay Zion Synagogue honored Leon and Harriet with a dinner for their many years of service.

2 Rabbi Sharon Cohen, family members and friends

T.V. PURIM PRODUCTION



Undated photo of Leon Cooper, Harriet Cooper, Myron Katz and Sheldon Derer in a Jewish holiday telecast of Purim. The telecast was done at WLEX-TV studio under the direction of Marilyn Moosnick and Ted Friedman, and sponsored by Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

made speeches praising the couple for their commitment to the Jewish community, and expressing their love and admiration for Leon and Harriet as parents, grandparents, friends, and community workers.

In 2005, Harriet was one of the two President's Award recipients at OZS.

Speaking at the dinner in 2004, Simone Salomon, Religious School director, best summarized Harriet's personality and her influence in the community. In Simone's words: "Harriet has been a role model, a teacher, for me and so many other women. I saw a mother and business woman who always found time for the Synagogue, and to help others, while looking great and seemingly having some fun at the same time. You will still see Harriet in the gift shop, or the kitchen, or staffing the office with volunteers on Sunday morning. Then there is all the other stuff that maybe you don't see, how she always welcomes newcomers, invites people home for a Shabbat or holiday meal, finds time to bake an extra challah, is on the phone organizing meals for those who are sick, is in the kitchen of someone's home preparing the meal while they are at a funeral."

Harriet is survived by her husband Leon, three children, and six grandchildren. May her memory be for a blessing.

(With many thanks to Leon Cooper, Susan Caller, Gail Cohen, Simone Salomon, Judy Saxe)

Editorial

Barbara L. Goldman

How many of you have had to take a stand against cyber bullying that uses an anti-Semitic platform within social media? This new and mainstream form of anti-Semitism has crept up on many of us but is nothing new to teenagers within our own community. It is not uncommon for today's

youth, most especially those who utilize social media, to witness many different forms of bullies daily. According to a report conducted by the Anti Defamation League, between July 2013 and February 2014, over 1.09 Billion people in the world harbored anti-Semitic attitudes.

On a particular Monday morning in early February, the BBC caught my attention when it reported that anti-Semitic incidents had reached a record level in the UK last year, according to the Community Security Trust. The Trust is known as a security "watchdog" for Britain's anti-Semitic incidents. The report stated the number of incidents had more than doubled to 1,168 in 2014, the highest figure reported since the monitoring of these incidents began by the trust in 1984.

It is easy to read these statistics and react with awareness, but are we truly responding in a way that only emotional awareness speaks? It is this attitude that has allowed events in history to happen, and if we do not become more actively involved emotionally, history will repeat again.

Although the Jewish community is diverse and multifaceted, the state of the world and the rise of anti-Semitism throughout the world has raised insecurities and fear for Jews and non-Jews. Anti-Semitism continues to linger and rise not only in British society but across Europe and America. These incidents have increased more so throughout Europe, however, it goes without saying that this is not just a European problem, or even just a Jewish problem. If we are to ensure that all minority communities continue to thrive, we must take a good look at the mentality and state of society. These communities are a reflection of the mental health of society and particularly the condition and treatment of the Jews in society.

One suggested solution to this increasing trend has been to ban social media users who spread racial hatred on sites such as Twitter and Facebook. Social media is a complicated free-for-all, (cont., page 5)



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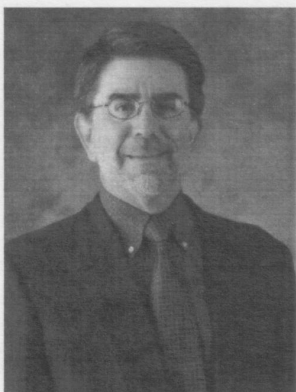
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President's Message

Michael Grossman

*Je suis Charlie!
Je suis Juif!
We are all Moaz!*

There seems to be no limit or end to the shocking news of the day. Already 2015 witnessed the Charlie Hebdo massacre in Paris,

the murdering of innocent Jewish shoppers in a kosher supermarket, ISIS beheadings, the brutal execution of a Jordanian pilot, indiscriminate killing of civilians by Boko Haram, and attacks on French soldiers guarding Jewish sites in France. Even an official Palestinian newspaper has been accused by Muslim extremists of publishing a cartoon of the Prophet Muhammad.

One might ask how the Jewish community in France got wedged between Charlie Hebdo's Muhammad bashing and the terrorist's barbarism. Anti-Semitism in France, and elsewhere in Europe, has risen to alarming levels, while Islamic extremism has reasserted itself as a threat in the heart of the West. The vast majority of Muslims reject the violence in their midst, but hate paints in broad colors and blurs all lines. Tensions threaten to escalate, and the Jewish community is an easy target. The Jews of France are living in fear. Some are looking to immigrate to other countries. Many are feeling betrayed by their own country.

Meanwhile, in Germany huge protests have gathered to protest immigration. Over 25,000 Germans gathered in Dresden to protest what they call the "Islamisation of Germany." Not coincidentally, Dresden is the home to one of the largest Neo-Nazi political parties in Germany. In France and the rest of Europe, many moderate Muslims worry that non-Muslims will have trouble distinguishing between them and the extremists.

ATTENTION PROUD GRAND-PARENTS, PARENTS, & STUDENTS

We want to publish any original writing produced by our community's elementary- and high-school-age children. If you're proud of something written by one of our kids, either fiction or non-fiction, please email it to shalom@jewishlexington.org

Wherever they have been welcome, Jews have carried the banners of morality, honesty, education and culture, following Isaiah's teaching to be "a light unto the nations." No people are perfect, but it is toward those ideals that we have always striven. Nowhere better exemplifies our contributions to society than the United States which benefits immeasurably from our influence, whether on stand-up comedy or the Supreme Court.

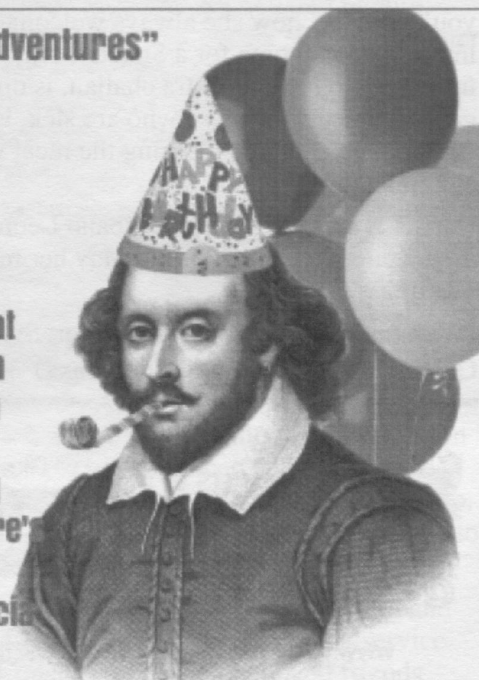
As disheartened as I am reading about these horrifying events, I draw strength in the knowledge that our community manages to balance the needs of tradition and continuity with an ever-changing world. Like all our local Jewish organizations, the Federation creates opportunities to participate and celebrate in Jewish life, to connect with the community and Israel. We help children understand Judaism—its values and traditions—through formal and informal educational opportunities. We connect Jewish families of all religious backgrounds to each other and to our community, and we instill pride in youth of all ages.

Though we reject violence, we too wish cycles upon society—cycles of tolerance, cycles of forgiveness, cycles of compassion and hope. After all, Judaism is in some measure the continuum of souls who have walked its footsteps and sought to fulfill its teachings. Words become true because of the actions behind them; therefore, our dignity as a people proves the veracity of our laws.

L'hitraot,
Mike Grossman

"Arts and Adventures"
Save the Date

April 23rd at 2:00pm join us for a fun afternoon celebrating Shakespeare's Birthday! Led by Marcia Blacker.



(UK Jewish Studies, continued from page 1)

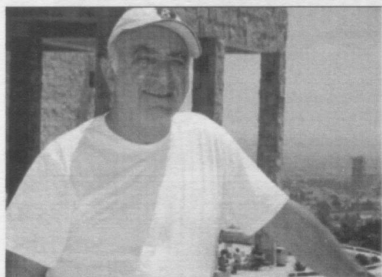


Her book takes readers on one woman's journey for a place to call her home. At the age of twenty-three, Raboteau traveled to Israel

to visit her childhood friend. While her friend appeared to have found a place to belong, Raboteau could not yet say the same for herself. As a biracial woman from a country still divided along racial lines, she'd never felt at home in America. But as a reggae fan and the daughter of a historian of African-American religion, Raboteau knew of "Zion" as a place black people yearned to be. She understood it as a metaphor for freedom, a spiritual realm rather than a geographical one. Now in Israel, the Jewish Zion, she was surprised to discover black Jews. More surprising was the story of how they got there. Inspired by their exodus, Raboteau sought out other black communities that left home in search of a Promised Land. Her question for them is the same she asks herself: "have you found the home you're looking for?"

Emily Raboteau teaches creative writing in Harlem at City College, and has had her fiction and essays widely published.

- Reading of *A Far Piece to Canaan* with Sam Halpern - March 30 @ 7pm - Multipurpose Room B108C, W. T. Young Library



Inspired by Sam Halpern's childhood in rural Kentucky, *A Far Piece to Canaan* tells the story of Samuel Zelinsky, a celebrated but troubled former professor who, after his

wife's death, reluctantly returns to the Kentucky hills where he lived as a child in order to reconnect with long-buried memories and make good on a forgotten promise.

Halpern was born in Kentucky to an immigrant Jewish family. He attended the University of Kentucky for undergraduate school, and then the University of Louisville for medical school. After time in the Navy during the Vietnam War, he practiced medicine. Following that, he became a professor at the University of California. His publishing history is primarily medical literature, but he has been writing for pleasure since childhood. *A Far Piece to Canaan* is Halpern's debut novel.

(Editorial, continued from page 3)

open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is no longer just for the journalist, broadcasters, and paid press. For the first time in history everyone has access to participating in the social media.

Free speech is and remains a vital part of who we are as American citizens. Without the multitude of voices longing to be heard we lose our checks and balances. But with this freedom comes a set of responsibilities. When these responsibilities are forgotten, displaced or abandoned freedom is abused and tolerance becomes anarchy.

If we are to strengthen our freedom and address these ever increasing incidents, we must stand up and educate ourselves and our fellow citizens on the complexities and language of anti-Semitism. Dialogue both online and offline is important, but the growing anti-Semitism in social media is a concern that must be addressed immediately. Casual thoughtless remarks and the rise of hate speech online have set a new standard of normal that did not exist even just 10 years ago. Hate speech against minorities only creates a lethal environment in which negative sentiments escalate and boundaries are breached.

This is an opportunity for each of us to stand up as a society and refuse to tolerate hatred and discrimination being thrust into our faces, and educate people. Where do we draw the line as a people when we stop allowing freedoms to disintegrate into anarchy?

Note: Social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook are free and easy to follow. Users sign-up directly on the websites <http://www.facebook.com> or <http://twitter.com>. Readers can follow events and groups more easily and actively become more involved. The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass in addition to many area organizations and groups have pages, links, and active voices within social media.

Show Your Support

Help us keep Shalom solvent.

You may contribute online or mail a check to JFB, 1050 Chinoe Rd Ste 112, Lexington, KY 40502.

Please make checks payable to JFB and write "Shalom" on the memo line.

Giving levels

Chai - \$18; Double Chai - \$36; Three Times Chai - \$54; Haboneh (Builder) - \$72; Gibor (Hero) - \$90



Ask a Rabbi— Rabbi Sharon Cohen

“Why is this night different from all other nights?” Traditionally, this question is a starting point at the seder as we observe the holiday of Passover. However, one of my teachers and colleagues, Rabbi Ed Feinstein, suggests that this question is also the

perfect way to approach the holiday of Purim which we celebrate this month. How is Purim different from all other Jewish holidays? An intriguing question!

There is no doubt that Purim, often seen as merely a “kids holiday,” is unlike any other holiday on the Jewish calendar. On all other occasions, Judaism compels us to penetrate our facades -- to take off the masks that hide who we really are inside. On Purim, however, we don masks and costumes and we pretend to be who we are not. Year-round, we generally search for a clear appreciation of life and an unaltered perception of good and evil that exists in the world. On Purim, however, we are allowed to imbibe – enough to confuse the evil character Haman from the righteous hero Mordecai.

Year-round we pray with great joy and celebration – yet often balanced by a modicum of decorum – and we study the Torah and other holy texts with a desire for insight and wisdom. On Purim, however, decorum is tempered by pure celebration. We interrupt the reading of the Megila with noise from the gragger, and we playfully mock one another. The common conventions of the synagogue service are joyfully overturned, becoming what I like to call “organized chaos.”

Megilat Esther (the Scroll of Esther), upon which the holiday is based, tells the story of the evil Haman who plots to kill the Jews of Persia. Ahasuerus, the King of Persia, banishes his queen, Vashti, for disobeying his order to appear before him naked. He then declares that all wives must obey their husbands from here on out. Meanwhile, the king gives Haman the freedom to do what he wants, without even asking Haman’s plans. PURIM (lots) are drawn to decide which day the Jews would be killed, hence the name of the holiday and the date – the 14th of Adar. Esther, a Jewish woman, wins the beauty contest held to select a new queen. Mordecai, Esther’s uncle (some say cousin), must convince Esther that she alone can save the Jews by talking to Ahasuerus and averting the decree. Mordecai reminds her of her identity as a Jew and that she

would not be spared from Haman’s decree just because she is queen. Esther asks the Jews of the city to fast on her behalf. She holds a party inviting the king and Haman and wines and dines them. Eventually, Esther reveals to the King that she is a Jew and that Haman planned to kill her and all her people.

In the end, Haman is hanged – or impaled – the fate he had hoped to give Mordecai. The Jews are allowed to attack their enemy, causing all of Persia to shudder. Mordecai takes Haman’s place as the King’s viceroy, and Esther and Mordecai live happily ever after – but not before declaring a festive holiday on the same day originally chosen by Haman for the Jews’ demise.

Some read this fantastic story as a farce, as a tale of irony that may rank right up there with some of Shakespeare’s best! Think about it: The King throws out his queen Vashti in order to keep all the wives of Persia obedient to their husbands. So, what could be more funny than a group of men issuing a decree that they must be obeyed by their wives?! And how perfectly ironic it is to have the evil Haman be given the task of leading Mordecai through the town on a royal horse – something Haman suggested be done as a reward for himself, certainly not his arch-enemy! In a further twist, it is Mordecai who takes Haman’s place as the King’s advisor. The ultimate insult seeded in irony. King Ahasuerus? Read the story! I guarantee you won’t find a weaker or, quite frankly, more stupid king in ancient literature than Ahasuerus. The guy is a drunkard who can’t make a decision on his own and simply agrees to whatever Haman or his other attendants want.

In addition to the story’s farcical nature, many Biblical scholars point out that very little of the text can be corroborated by reliable historical evidence. As a result, some scholars view the story as either a folktale or a parody of the course of Jewish history and the persecution of our People. How often have we Jews as a People failed to overcome the evil intentions of others who wished to destroy or oppress us (enslaved by Egypt, slaughtered by the Amalekites, conquered by the Babylonians and later by Rome, persecuted during the Crusades, decimated by the Nazis)? Despite its use of irony and humor, the story of Esther could be seen as a source of inspiration for the oppressed and a message of identity and pride in being Jewish. No matter what the age, there will always be Hamans – individuals, people or societal problems – which require us to stand up for who we are as Jews, as well as demand we live up to our Jewish values and fight against tyranny, injustice and hate in our world.

Like many, sometimes, I struggle with the often glossed-over details of Megilat Esther: Haman’s impalement and the violence and killing wrought by the

Jews at the end. Yet, despite these troubling aspects of the Purim story and the important values of identity and of fighting oppression which we might argue are found in the text, I firmly believe that the holiday of Purim as it evolved wasn't really meant to be about serious themes; it is actually about the spirituality of laughter. As a holiday that is "different," Purim gives us the opportunity to let loose from some of our inhibitions, to look at life with all of its joys and happiness, and to liberate our minds and souls from the challenges of the real world. Purim teaches us that Jewish spirituality is much more than solemnity, quiet ritual, decorum, and serious study of serious texts. Laughter, humor and pure celebration are just as vital to our spiritual health.

The Rabbis of the Talmud taught that when the Messianic Age arrives all of the Jewish holidays would no longer be observed – except for Purim. The message is that even a world that is perfected needs laughter, joy, and celebration in it. Happy Purim – May it be for all a day of laughter, happiness, and good spiritual health!

Have a question? Ask a rabbi

The rabbis write columns in response to questions submitted by the readers. We encourage you--whether you are a member of the Jewish community or not--to submit your queries on theology, morality, ethics, religious observances, etc. for response by one of our rabbis. If you have an issue you would like to see addressed, please email it to shalom@jewishlexington.org and put "Ask a Rabbi" in the subject line of your email. (It may take quite a while until your question is answered or it may never be answered, if no rabbi selects it.) You will not be identified as the writer of the question to either rabbis or readers, nor will you be asked to specify which rabbi should answer.

Step back in time to the ancient Persian Empire as we relive the lives of King Ahasuerus and Queen Esther in the land of Shushan at the

Purim Masquerade Ball

Sponsored by

Ohavay Zion Synagogue & Temple Adath Israel

Saturday, March 7, 2015

7:30 - 11:00 pm

Andover Country Club

3450 Todds Road

\$25 per person • \$18 for ages 21 - 30

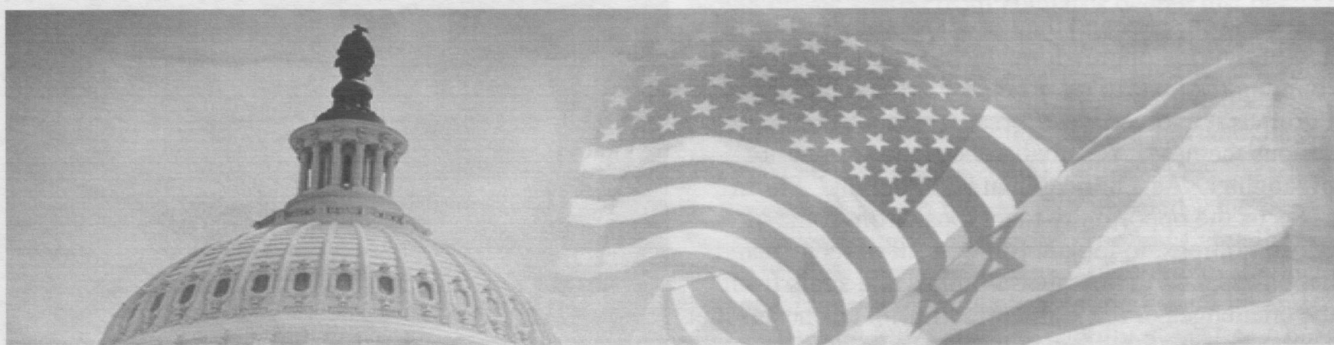
One drink included - cash bar thereafter.

Costumes Suggested

Music, Dance, Spiels, Food & Fun!

If you would like to participate in a purim spiel contact 266-8050 for more information

Prepaid RSVP by March 2nd to Office@Ozs.org or Laura@lextai.org



THE AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A SPECIAL BRIEFING

Turmoil in the Middle East: *The Impact on the U.S.-Israel Relationship*

Featuring
Leslie Mirchin
Director of AIPAC Israel Office

Israel faces many security challenges in the Middle East including Iran's nuclear program and the instability raging throughout the region. Leslie Mirchin, Director of AIPAC's Israel office and a Lexington native, will give an exclusive briefing on the turmoil in the region, the increasing threats to Israel and the state of the U.S.-Israel relationship. In addition, we will discuss how we can work together to support a strong U.S.-Israel relationship and a safe Israel.

Monday, March 9, 2015 • 7:00 PM

**This program is free and open to the community, but registrations are required.
To register, visit www.aipac.org/Lex2015.**

**Temple Adath Israel
124 North Ashland Avenue • Lexington, KY 40508**

For additional information, please contact Todd Young at 678-254-2627 or tyoung@aipac.org.

About Our Speaker

Leslie Mirchin is the Director of the AIPAC Israel office. Prior to that role, she was the AIPAC Israel office Director for Policy and Research. Having previously worked as a lobbyist in AIPAC's Washington headquarters and on Capitol Hill Leslie has a keen understanding of the workings of both Washington and Jerusalem. As Israeli's high tech industry was beginning to blossom in the late 1980's, she established and served as the Director of the U.S. office of HK Strategies, an Israeli-based consulting firm for hi-tech Israeli companies intent on exporting products to the U.S. market. She also worked at the Jewish Women's Archive in Boston and is the founder of several organizations that serve children with special needs.



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ASK JFS

Mimi Kaufman

Warning Signs Your Older Family Member Needs Help

Changes in physical and mental abilities that sometimes occur with age can be difficult to detect for older adults and their family members, friends, and caregivers. Here are some

common warning signs of behaviors that may indicate the need to intervene.

Has your loved one:

1. Changed eating habits, resulting in losing weight, having no appetite or missing meals?
2. Neglected personal hygiene, including wearing dirty clothes and having body odor, bad breath, neglected nails and teeth, and sores on the skin?
3. Neglected their home, with noticeable changes in cleanliness and sanitation?
4. Exhibited inappropriate behavior, such as being unusually loud, quiet, paranoid, agitated, or making phone calls at all hours?
5. Changed relationship patterns, causing friends and neighbors to express concerns?
6. Decreased or stopped participating in activities that were once important to them, such as bridge or book club, dining with friends, or attending religious services.
7. Exhibited forgetfulness, resulting in unopened mail, piling papers, missing appointments, or not filling prescription medications.

8. Mishandled finances, such as not paying the bills, losing money, paying bills twice or more, or hiding money?

9. Made unusual purchases, such as buying more than one subscription of the same magazine, entering an unusually large number of contests, or increasing purchases from television advertisements.

Problem solving through the options of how to help your older relatives stay independent can be slightly overwhelming. It is important to discuss these behaviors with their primary care physician if you can. This can be difficult, but hopefully, very helpful in the long run. Sometimes getting just a little bit of help in the home is all that is needed for a person to continue to live independently.

Where can you go for help? Feel free to call the JFS office (859)269-8244 for some guidance and help with problem solving. Also, here are a few resources that are valuable when looking into care for your elders:

Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging

699 Perimeter Dr., Lexington, KY 40417
(859) 269-8021 or 1-866-665-7921

Department for Aging and Independent Living

275 Main Street 3E-E, Frankfort, KY 40621
(502) 564-6930

Department for Aging and Independent Living

<http://chfs.ky.gov/DAIL>

National Eldercare Locator

<http://www.eldercare.gov>

Elder Law

<http://www.kyelderlaw.com>

Kentucky Resource Market

<http://drd.chfs.ky.gov/>

Source: Eldercare.gov

**Want to give your child a cherished Jewish camp experience?
Looking for your next adventure in Israel?
Worried about the cost?**

JFB's Jewish Family Services (JFS) is now accepting confidential applications for camperships to not-for-profit Jewish summer camps in the region (including our local Camp Shalom) and scholarships toward not-for-profit Israel educational programs. Income is a criteria used to evaluate eligibility for camperships.

Deadline for applications is April 1, 2015.

Applications can be requested from JFS.

For more information, contact
Mimi Kaufman, JFS Director,
at (859) 269-8244 or
jfs@jewishlexington.org.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



Jewish Federation of North America Board of Trustees Meeting

By: Michael Siegal, Chair, JFNA Board of Trustees

JFNA is the parent organization of all the federations in North America. Linda Ravvin is a Board member.

As a winter storm loomed over the East Coast, the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Federations of North America met for one of the largest leadership gatherings of the year to discuss the whirlwind of issues facing the Jewish world; among them, Jewish life on campus, Jewish education and engagement and rising anti-Semitism in France and throughout Europe.

Jewish Life on Campus

One half-year after Operation Protective Edge, Jewish students on university campuses face an increasing range of anti-Israel activity.

In a presentation to the Board pollster Frank Luntz, suggested effective ways to speak about Israel to different types of audiences. Emphasizing the need for Jewish students to use aggressive messaging on campus, Luntz raised alarms about anti-Israel activities, which are often also anti-Semitic. JFNA's Israel Action Network has been working with Luntz, along with pollster Mark Melman, to help organizations on campus develop better messaging, build coalitions, and identify new tactics for pushing back on boycott, divestment and sanction activities against Israel.

In anticipation of the escalation after the 2014 summer conflict, JFNA convened and coordinated additional efforts by key organizations serving Jewish college students. Jewish Federations raised \$550,000 to fund several short-term campus-based programs. Although there has been an unfortunate rise in sophisticated anti-Israel activity on campus, we were pleased to learn that there has been an even larger increase in pro-Israel activity across North American college campuses.

Our work on campus is not just episodic. Eric Fingerhut, President and CEO of Hillel International, briefed the Board and presented Hillel's five-year strategic plan. With 400,000 Jewish students on campuses throughout North America, Hillel continues to have the largest on-campus Jewish network on the continent. Between the 25% of local funding to Hillel programs provided by Federations, and the allocation to Hillel International from the Federation/National Agency Alliance, Jewish Federations collectively are the single largest funding source of the Hillel system. Their primary focus continues to be inspiring and fostering vibrant Jewish life on campus.

In their new plan, Hillel is opening an office of innovation to incubate new ideas and support promising

practices from both inside and outside Hillel. In addition, Hillel will equip every local site with a Jewish educator to enhance the content of programs and activities. Eric spoke about the robust Jewish life on campus and thanked the Federation community for our ongoing commitment and support. Following the presentation, the Board discussed the role Federations want JFNA to play in relating to and supporting Hillel International and the range of issues and challenges of engaging Jewish students.

Jewish Education and Engagement

The conversation moved beyond the college campus to a lively discussion about all levels of Jewish education. Given the fact that Federations spend 30 to 50 percent of local allocations on Jewish engagement, and in the aftermath of the Pew report on Jewish life in America, communities are increasingly focused on what is needed to strengthen education and engagement efforts. JFNA will be developing a new planning unit to focus on Jewish education and engagement and support for local efforts around the U.S. and Canada. The Board leadership discussed the priorities Federations have for where JFNA should be focusing the work of this unit.

Anti-Semitism in France

Since the horrific events in France there has been an outpouring of support from the North American Jewish community. Jewish Federations across the continent have held vigils and memorial services and provided philanthropic support to help victims' families and enhance security at the nearly 500 Jewish sites throughout France, from schools to supermarkets. Of particular concern is the safety of the more than 32,000 children attending Jewish day schools.

Especially this week, as we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, we remain keenly aware that anti-Semitism is far from eradicated. The Conseil Représentatif des Institutions Juives de France (the Umbrella Body for French Jewish Organizations) reports that violent anti-Semitic acts doubled in France in 2014. Jewish Federations and our partner agencies will be there to support and assist the Jews in France and Europe, whether they choose to stay in their respective nations and combat anti-Semitism, or they make aliyah, or resettle in North America, as so many Europeans did in past centuries.

At our meeting, David Brown, incoming Chair of the Israel and Overseas Council, led a discussion with Malcolm Hoenlein, President of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, which focused on the growing anti-Semitism in Europe. Hoen-

lein, who has traveled back and forth to the region multiple times this year, said the community in France is shaken and feels isolated. He pointed to the importance of staying focused on events in Israel and those that affect the world Jewry.

Misha Galperin, President and CEO of International Development at The Jewish Agency, reminded the Board that, thanks to their ongoing support for core funding, the Jewish Agency is ready to support those who would like to make aliyah. To date, 5,000 French Jews have submitted requests to make aliyah this year – triple last year's total. On February 7, Jewish Federations will host a leadership mission to Paris to support the local community there and hear directly from the leaders of the French Jewish community and the families of those who perished in the Paris attack.

Additional items of importance:

Corporate Business

The Board approved an amendment to the JFNA pension plan, closing participation in the defined benefit pension plan to union hires after 12/31/2014. The plan had previously been frozen for non-union employees.

Treasurer Stephen Silverman reported that JFNA distributed approximately \$260 million for overseas needs in 2014. That amount includes distributions of core (unrestricted), community electives, Israel Emergency campaigns, the Ukraine Assistance Fund, Supplemental Giving, and U.S. Government grants to The Jewish Agency, JDC, ORT and the Ethiopian National Project. It also includes supplemental giving to other NGOs in Israel.

Sari Anne Rapkin, Chair of JFNA's Audit committee, reported that independent auditors Loeb & Troper issued an unqualified "clean" opinion on JFNA's consolidated financial statements and the United Israel Appeal's financial statements and they issued a management letter stating that there were no material weaknesses in JFNA's system of internal controls. The Board voted to accept the audited financial statements.

Bylaws Amendment Resolution

Richard Sandler, Governance & Bylaws Committee Chair, presented an amendment to the JFNA bylaws intended to streamline the top leadership positions, which were established at merger. After some discussion the Board approved the resolution to 1) remove the position of Executive Committee Chair, 2) remove four Vice Chair positions, and 3) have one single Vice Chair who would serve in the Chair's stead should s/he become unable to serve.

Update and Vote on the Global Planning Table Committee Representation

David Butler, outgoing chair of the Global Planning Table (GPT), reported that the GPT is now focused on fundraising for and launching its three new initiatives: the Israel Children's Zone, JQuest and iREP. The Global Planning Table is also analyzing allocations' trends by communities as a resource for local community decision-making.

The Board approved amending the bylaws to increase the representation of Large-Intermediate, Intermediate and Small Federations by one city each on the Global Planning Table Committee, and to increase the representation of Intermediate and Small Federations by one city each on the Partnership Committee.

Vote on Public Policy & Priorities

David Butler, Chair of the Human Services and Public Policy Committee, reported on the development process of the proposed policy priorities. The process began in late October, when Federations received a survey on a range of issues including charitable giving, international affairs and long-term care. They were asked to assign a high, medium or low priority to numerous categories in each of the general areas. JFNA Washington convened a

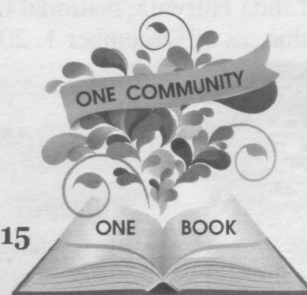
Read *The Golem and the Jinni* by Helene Wecker

and join us for a
community-wide discussion
led by University of Kentucky
Professor of English,
Randall Roorda

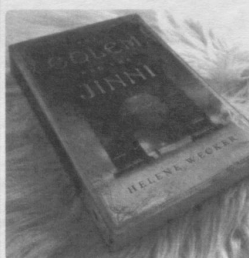
Tuesday, March 24, 2015

7:30 p.m.

**in the Jewish Federation of
the Bluegrass office**



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OF THE BLUEGRASS**

THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE
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policy prioritization call for all Federations. The Board approved the priorities as recommended.

Report on Consulting & Community Development

Harvey Barnett, Chair of the Consulting and Community Development Committee, gave an overview of the committee's five areas of focus: liaising directly with Large-Intermediate, Intermediate and Small Federations, providing support for affinity groups and Federation planners, supporting mergers and collaborations, granting funds and supervising research. He offered recent examples of these services such as helping Vancouver with its strategic visioning process; supporting the Monmouth and Middlesex merger; reestablishing an innovation fund for Small and Intermediate Federations and consulting on local community studies for a range of cities.

Report on National Young Leadership

Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz and Darren Lederfine, co-chairs of National Young Leadership, recapped a summer of activities, including a Vice Chair retreat and NYL's role in the Campaign Chairs and Directors mission to Greece and Israel. At their retreat in Charlotte, NC, Cabinet raised more than \$1 million dollars, with a 21% gift-for-gift increase.

Update on Philanthropic Resources

Linda Hurwitz, National Campaign chair, reported that, as of December 1, 2014 Jewish Federations had

raised more than \$726 million for the annual campaign, with an average increase of 7.5%. National Women's Philanthropy raised nearly \$172 million, and the Network raised nearly \$5 million. She highlighted Federations' critical role in aiding Holocaust survivors, and urged Board members to identify donors to invite to a fundraising event for survivors in New York on March 9.

Report on Fisher Flight

Kim Fish, JFNA Associate Vice President, reported on Fisher Flight, a national program – funded by the Max and Marjorie Fisher Foundation and supported by JFNA. The initiative targets young couples with significant means and helps them discover meaningful ways to connect to Federation. After 9 years (and 92 alumni) the program has seen a 54% card-for-card increase for the annual campaign and \$8.7 million in gifts to other Jewish agencies. Micki and Sam Mizrahi from Toronto spoke about how the experience changed their lives. Sam Mizrahi said, "We would have given to our Federation without Fisher Flight, but not to the same degree – and certainly not with the same heart."

I was pleased to preside over the meeting with Dede Feinberg, Chair of the Executive Committee and Jerry Silverman, President and CEO.

Sincerely,
Michael D. Siegal
Chair, Board of Trustees

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Passover Mandel Bread

By: Vivian
Bitensky

When my 25 year
old granddaughter
was in nursery
school, her teach-

ers compiled a book called Beyond Charoset. This
recipe is from that booklet and has been a family fa-
vorite ever since. I hope you will enjoy it too!

½ cup oil
1 cup sugar
3 large eggs
Juice and rind of 1 lemon
1 ¾ cup cake meal
½ cup potato starch
1 Tbsp cinnamon
Nuts and raisins (bakers choice)

Beat first four ingredients together
Add cake meal and starch
Fold in raisins, nuts and cinnamon
Form 4 "breads" and place on greased cookie sheet
(let mixture stand for 30 minutes before forming
loaves)
Bake at 375 for 35 minutes
Slice when still warm and return to oven for 15
minutes more to toast.

Enjoy!

pj playgroup
March 15th
10:15-11:30 a.m.
at Centered
309 N Ashland Ave Ste.180
For families with
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Come play!
Click here to RSVP.



The Jewish Federation
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Thursday, March 19, 2015

Ohavay Zion Synagogue

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THE LEXINGTON CHAPTER OF HADASSAH

Melanie Shapiro, President

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It's Time To Get Moving!

"Simple changes in terms of physical activity can prevent a very large percentage of heart

disease...I think the most important message for a woman to take home is how much is really in her own hands and under her control." —*Harvard-trained cardiologist Dr. Donna Zfat-Zwas is Director of Hadassah Medical Organization's Linda Joy Pollin Cardiovascular Wellness Center*

As President of the Lexington Chapter of Hadassah, I am proud and excited to share with you the launch of **Every Step Counts**, an initiative of Every Beat Counts: Hadassah's Heart Health Program™. Over 2000 people nationwide are expected to participate in this six-month walking challenge April 1– September 27, 2015 (Passover through Sukkot). Track your steps with a pedometer and an easy-to-use website to help build heart healthy habits that can last a lifetime.

- Online registration has already started: Hadassah.org/everystepcounts
- Challenge starts April 1.
- There are 3 challenge levels. One is perfect for you!
- You'll record your steps online with Walker Tracker. Walker Tracker will even convert dozens of other activities to add to your total step count.
- \$18 registration fee.
- Open to everyone age 18+, regardless of ability levels or age.
- You'll need a pedometer, comfortable shoes and a commitment to get yourself moving! (Smart phones have apps that can track your steps...more about that on the website).

The idea is to walk the number of steps from our New York offices on Wall St. to the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. It doesn't matter if you walk 5 miles or 500 miles, if you walk quickly or slowly, you'll be taking those steps toward healthier living. Our local chapter will be sponsoring events and activities to support this important initiative. Be sure to attend our kick-off event on Sunday, April 12 (subject to change) at the Central Library (Room A). There will be a panel of professionals to talk about heart health, nutrition and lifestyle, exercise physiology and step counts,

as well as an expert on walking and running who will give us great tips on how to stay safe while walking, the proper attire to wear the correct shoes and so much more! We'll even give you some ideas about where to take your next long walk in Lexington. The program starts at 2:00 and will be followed by some "heart smart" refreshments.

Starting in April, there will be monthly "Buddy Walks" at the Arboretum to offer companionship and support for the strides you are taking toward a healthier life. Everyone is encouraged to participate... Hadassah members and associates, friends, family, colleagues and neighbors. Bring the doggies (on a leash of course) or pop the little ones into a stroller and walk! Indoor walking counts too! Watch for emails in the coming weeks.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death among American women.

But there's plenty you can do about it. Doctors say that even ten minutes of walking at a time can change your life. So, get moving with Hadassah! Happy Trails!

B'Shalom,
Melanie



Give yourself the gift of a healthier life with Every Step Counts: Hadassah's Walking Program

You're invited! Walk with us on a virtual route from our New York headquarters to our hospitals in Jerusalem. Challenge yourself, your family, and friends to take real steps to a healthier life. All you need are a pedometer, comfortable shoes, and a commitment to get yourself moving! There are three challenge levels and one's perfect for you! You'll record your steps online with Walker Tracker. Walker Tracker will even convert dozens of other activities to add to your totals, such as housecleaning, biking, or using a wheelchair.

We're serious about our fun. Come walk with us into your healthy future. Even ten minutes at a time can change your life. Read the President's column in this month's Shalom for details on how to get started making "Every Step Count." You will also find information about local programs and activities that support this important health initiative. Or contact Evalyn Block at eblock3375@gmail.com or Kathy Feinberg at feinbergkathy@gmail.com.

THE LEXINGTON HAVURAH

Gail Cohen, President

The Lexington Havurah, founded in 1978, is a network of diverse people dedicated to Jewish learning and renewal, community building, and tikkun olam (repairing the world). A havurah is defined as a gathering or community of friends. The Lexington Havurah is affiliated with the United Synagogues of Conservative Judaism and the National Havurah Committee. Members plan, conduct, and share responsibility for all services. For additional information about services or membership in the Havurah, please contact me at gail.cohen@twc.com.

By Gail Cohen

As I sit writing this piece, it is early February in Lexington. The air is cold and moist. It is still very much winter. The Lexington Havurah has just enjoyed the celebration of a

Tu B'Shevat Seder. Nothing is in bloom, and it is very hard to understand why we are celebrating "the New Year of the Trees," while there is still a bit of snow on the ground here and there.

But, I have just returned from Israel, where signs of spring are everywhere. As we drove through the hills of Judaea, patches of color were appearing. Almond trees were blooming while we sang a well known song on Tu B'Shevat. Flowers were sprouting.

The temperatures were moderate, even in Jerusalem, where they had an unusual snow storm only a few weeks before.

Perhaps, by the time you read this article, spring will have begun to reach Lexington too.

On March 7, the Havurah will be holding a Shabbat morning service at 10 a.m. For more information please call: (859) 272-1459.

Make a Donation to JFB in Someone's Honor or Memory

Make a donation to the Jewish Federation in honor or memory of someone, or in celebration of a special occasion, and help JFB nurture the values of tikkun olam (repairing the world), tzedakah (charity and social justice) and Torah (Jewish learning) within our Jewish community at home and abroad.

Send us your special contributions with a note specifying its intent. Also, let us know if you would like your contribution published in this box in Shalom. You may also make your special contribution online.

Celebrate your loved ones and support our Jewish community by giving a special contribution. Thank you for your support.

Thank you to:

- Bruce and Bobbi Esmark in memory of Rabbi David Wortman.
- Marilyn Swan in memory of Rabbi David Wortman.
- Marcia Blacker in memory of David Wekstein.
- Linda and Leon Ravvin in memory of Leon Block and Jeanette Ezrine.

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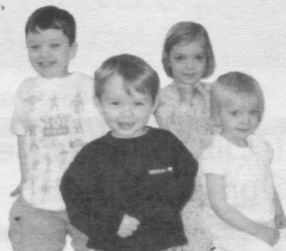
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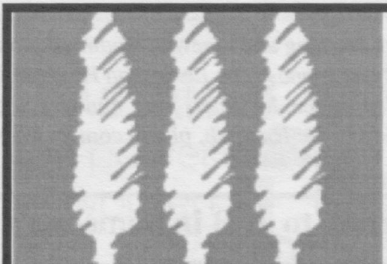
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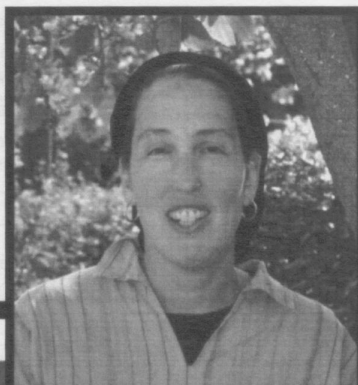
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Aviva Bowling: Music

MARCH 15, 2015

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For questions contact: Elizabeth Buckley
ebuckley819@gmail.com

OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE NEWS

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WELCOME

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming congregation in Lexington, Kentucky. Through the framework of Conservative Judaism, we explore our Jewish identities and form community. We celebrate our diversity and welcome newcomers. Please join us!

PURIM

For more information on our Purim events including, the whole Megillah reading, children's activities and the story of Esther and the adult masquerade ball, please contact our office at 859-266-8050.

COMMUNITY SHABBAT

Please join our whole OZS community as we celebrate Shabbat together with our friends from Stewart Home on Friday, March 13 at 6:00PM. After dinner and schmoozing, we will have a brief but spirited service. For more information or to RSVP please call the OZS office at 266-8050 or email at Office@ozs.org. All are welcome!

PJ Library PLAYGROUP

March 15 at Centered from 10:15-11:30 Families with kids under 4: Come play! We come together as a community on the second Sunday of each month (mostly) during the school year for a playgroup for our littlest kids and parents/guardians. Please RSVP to pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org so we have enough snacks.

KIDS SHABBAT

Please join us for Kids Shabbat, Friday, March 20 at 5:30PM as we light candles, drink grape juice, have something to eat, sit together on beautiful carpets, sing songs, and read amazing stories from the PJ Library. Newcomers and friends are always welcome! RSVP to the office if you can join us.

CONGREGATIONAL PASSOVER SEDER

Now accepting reservations for details contact the office.

YOUNG OZS-ERS

Young OZS-ers come together each month for singing, learning and socializing. Please contact the office for more information or join our facebook group.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

Please join us any Saturday morning of the year, as Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates Shabbat. We begin at 9:30am, though please feel free to join at any time during the service. Our worship is filled with joyous song and fascinating Torah discussions. The service concludes around noon, and all are invited to schmooze over lunch after the service. This is a wonderful way to celebrate Shabbat and to meet some nice Jewish folks here in Lexington. Newcomers and friends are always welcome!

TUESDAY MINYAN

Tuesday Minyan is a special time at OZS. During this brief service, students and adults both pray and learn together. There is a warm atmosphere and something for everyone to enjoy. Please join us Tuesday afternoons from 5:45pm to 6:15pm. All are welcome!

BACKPACKING FOR GOD'S PANTRY

Join us each month during the school year as backpacks are filled with food that children take home on weekends from Mary Todd Elementary School. All of the food is child-friendly, nonperishable, easily consumed and vitamin fortified. Check weekly announcements & Facebook for date & times.

STUDYING THE PROPHETS

Please join us Wednesdays at noon as we explore the book of Jeremiah through the teachings of our Jewish tradition. We have a wonderfully diverse group of learners and terrific conversations. All are welcome!

TALMUD STUDY

The Talmud Study group meets each Friday morning for prayer, food, and study. The morning begins with a brief Shacharit service at 7:30am, followed by a light breakfast, and then fascinating study of the Talmud. Newcomers are always welcome!

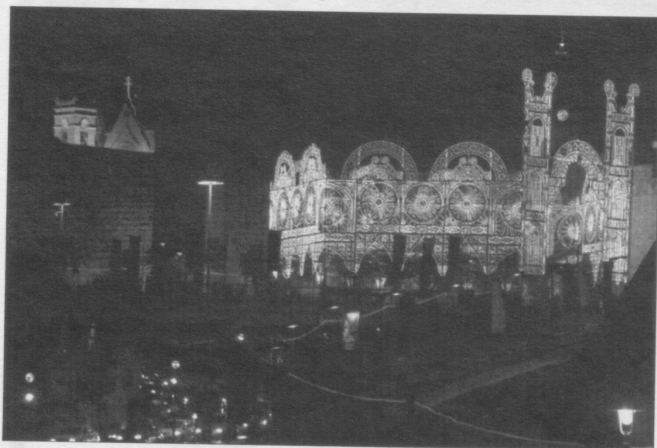
INTERESTED IN OZS?

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming Jewish community. If you are interested, or if you know someone who may be interested in learning more about Ohavay Zion Synagogue, please call the office at 859-266-8050 or email Rabbi Smolkin at Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

Your ultimate guide to the top 30 events in Israel in 2015

By Abigail Klein Leichman

From the Red Sea Jazz Festival in February to the Hula Valley International Bird Festival in November, there's something for everyone.



An installation at Jaffa Gate lights up the Jerusalem night, as part of the Jerusalem Light Festival.

No matter when you visit Israel, you can be sure there will be festivals and other special events on tap somewhere in the country.

ISRAEL21c has chosen 30 events from February through November (December warrants a separate listing), to feature in our ultimate guide to 2015 in Israel. It's not an exhaustive list, but it does provide a glimpse into the festive future. If you've got other favorite events please add them to our comments below.

Dates are subject to change, so do confirm ahead of time. And because many happenings are announced only weeks or days beforehand, check tourism websites shortly beforehand for the most updated information.

1. Shokoland, Feb. 12-14, Old Railway Station, Tel Aviv

Representatives from boutique chocolate shops will be on hand to sell their unique tastes. Israeli ice-cream makers will whip up different chocolate flavors. Chocolate beer, chocolate sculptures, and chocolate fondue sets will also be plentiful. And there will be workshops on how to roll the perfect praline or truffle.

2. The Red Sea Jazz Festival, Feb. 19-21



Eilat decorated for the Red Sea Jazz Festival. (Avi Hazeev)

The fifth annual winter edition of the annual international Red Sea Jazz Festival at the Eilat port will feature 19 musical performances, a jam session and four master classes. Among the artists participating are Israeli singer-songwriter-guitarist Tamar Eisenman, the Enrico Rava Quintet from Italy and Indonesian child prodigy pianist Joey Alexander.

3. Tel Aviv Samsung Marathon, Feb. 27

This multi-course event also is a yearly citywide celebration designed for professional long-distance runners as well as beginners. Watch along the sea-shore and main streets of Tel Aviv as runners compete in the full marathon, half marathon, 10K, 5K, and a Kids Mini Marathon as well as a 42K hand-cycle race for people with special needs. Some 40,000 people are expected to participate, making the Tel Aviv Marathon the most popular running event in Israel.

4. Sounds of the Old City, March 9-12

Musical bands and ensembles will perform authentic music on central stages and in the streets of Jerusalem's Old City quarters (Jewish, Muslim, Armenian and Christian), each matched to the character of the quarter. Visitors will follow a circular route from the Jaffa Gate. Free entrance; 7-11pm.

5. Fifth annual Jerusalem Winner Marathon, March 13

Several different tracks are available to runners and hand-cyclers, from full marathon (42.2K) to 800 meters. Some 2,500 participants are expected from all over the world. The full route takes runners past the

city's most prominent historical sites.

6. Eilat Birds Festival, March 15-22



Migrating storks. (Israel Tourism Ministry)

Organized by the Israel Ornithological Center of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, the Eilat Birds Festival brings together birders from the world over during the peak of spring migration in southern Israel. Special packages are available at the Isrotel Agamim Hotel, which hosts the event now in its ninth year.

7. International Clown Festival, Netanya, March 18-20

Clowns from Israel and other countries will offer performances and workshops, some for free.

8. Festival of Wine & Plenty, Zichron Yaacov, March 25-26

In the picturesque Ramat Hanadiv gardens, local wineries and producers of cheese, olive oil, jams and baked confections will offer tastings, workshops and cooking demonstrations.

9. Ahava Dead Sea Festival, April 5-8

For the 19th year, the Dead Sea will be the setting for a rock music festival that many Israelis and tourists anticipate all year long. In addition to performances by Israel's top artists, guests may take advantage of guided tours in the area. If you're more into the indie alternative music scene, head to Ashdod during this same time period during Passover to catch the famous Boombamela Festival.

10. 18th annual Stone in the Galilee sculpting symposium, Maalot-Tarshiha, April 5-8

Fourteen of Israel's most prominent sculptors are

invited to create art for public spaces during this open-to-the-public event in the north, allowing spectators to watch the process from start to finish. There'll be indoor exhibitions and dialogues as well.

11. Independence Day, April 22-23



Tel Aviv beachgoers enjoying last year's IAF flyover. Photo by Sarah Schuman/Flash90

From the night of April 22 through the night of April 23, Israelis will be celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day) with cookouts, shows, fireworks displays and other celebrations. If you're in Tel Aviv, check out the giant fireworks display over Rabin Square and the Israel Air Force flyover above the shore.

12. Jacob's Ladder Festival, May 14-16 and Dec. 4-5

Known as "Israel's friendliest musical and social event," this twice-yearly bluegrass, folk, country, blues, Irish and world music extravaganza has been taking place since 1976 on the grounds of Nof Ginosar Hotel on Lake Kinneret (Sea of Galilee).

13. Open House Tel Aviv, May 14-16



Explore some of Tel Aviv's most interesting buildings. Photo by Omri Amsalem

One weekend a year, Tel Aviv opens up private spaces – designer lofts, urban villas, unique synagogues, architecturally significant public buildings, curious construction sites, plazas and gardens – to the public to explore. Check the website in April for the complete schedule.

14. Israel Festival, May 1-31

The Israel Festival offers professional performances by Israeli and international artists in Jerusalem's distinctive venues. This 53rd year puts a spotlight on local talent appearing at the Sultan's Pool, First Station, Israel Museum, Jerusalem Theater, International Convention Center, Hartman Institute, Gerard Behar Center, YMCA and the Ein Karem neighborhood.

15. Tel Aviv Jazz Festival, May

Held at the Cinemateque, Tel Aviv's long-established annual festival draws international performers and audiences as well as Israeli musicians. The festival emphasizes a particular style or country in each year, but always covers the spectrum of jazz from traditional to modern, newcomers to veterans, and encompasses jazz-influenced world music and other genres.

16. Fifth annual Jerusalem Light Festival, June 3-11

Dozens of light installations, displays, shows and sales of one-of-a-kind lighting products will be featured throughout the Old City from 8-11pm each night of the festival (except Friday; and from 9 to midnight on Saturday). Free admission.

17. Israeli Opera Festival at Masada, June 4-13

This year's festival will feature, for the first time, two fully staged opera productions: Puccini's *Tosca* (June 4, 6, 11, 13) conducted by Maestro Daniel Oren and Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* (June 5 and 12) conducted by James Judd.

18. White Night Festival, Tel Aviv, June 25

This annual all-night arts festival commemorates historic Tel Aviv's awarding of World Heritage Site status from UNESCO in 2003. Concerts, fairs, workshops, parties, tours, games, sing-alongs, storytelling, dining specials – a full list of available events will be posted on the municipality's website a few weeks ahead of time so you can plan out your night.

19. International Festival of Puppet Theater and Film, Holon, July 26-31

"The Princess Not Laughing" at the 2010 puppet festival in Holon. (Ornan Breyer)

Featuring puppet makers and artists from Israel and around the world, this festival has been held annually since 1995 at the Puppet Theater Center in Holon. On the schedule are plays, shows and story-telling from Israel and abroad; evening screenings of feature films with puppets, documentaries about puppeteers, TV shows and commercials featuring puppets; exhibitions about theater puppets and puppet artists; In workshops and master classes for adults and children. In the plaza outside there will be free street performances.

20. Karmiel Dance Festival, July 28-30

About 5,000 dancers from Israel and abroad annually take part in more than 100 events and performances at this huge annual festival in Karmiel, a central Galilee town between Acre (Akko) and Safed (Tzfat). For folk-dance teachers and enthusiasts from abroad, there'll be an Israeli folk dance course given in English from July 20-31, including sightseeing and admission to the festival. Information: dbenshalom@013.net.il

21. Jaffa Nights, four Saturday nights in August

The streets of Old Jaffa are closed to traffic and become the scene of Israel's largest street festival for this four-week extravaganza. Stages and performance

Yom HaShoah April 19 at Temple Adath Israel.

Program will include reflection, discussion, lighting of memorial candles, as well as presentation of Emilie Szekely Holocaust Essay Awards.

SAVE THE DATES

April 26 at Ohavay Zion Synagogue. This year will include celebration and learning. More details coming soon!

Yom Ha'atzmaut



areas take over the squares and lanes, and some of Israel's leading performers put on free street theater, concerts and arts-and-crafts exhibitions. The party often lasts until dawn.

22. 40th annual Jerusalem International Arts & Crafts Fair (Hutzot Hayotzer), August 10-22



This photo from last year's Hutzot Hayotzer was taken by Yonatan Sindel/FLASH90

Look and buy: The handiworks of artists from Israel and 30 countries around the world will be displayed in the artists' colony near Sultan's Pool just outside the Old City walls. Every night is capped by a live concert by one of Israel's most celebrated performers. It runs every evening from 6-11pm except Friday (and after sundown Saturday). Entrance fee; special children's activities.

23. 28th annual Klezmer Festival, Safed, Aug. 18-20

Held in the mystical Galilee city of Safed, this musical event showcases dozens of artists performing "Jewish soul music" on eight stages and in the ancient cobbled alleyways of the city. Also: an outdoor arts-and-crafts sale, tours and children's events.

24. Jerusalem Sacred Music Festival, Sept. 1-4

This annual event brings together international and Israeli artists in performances under the stars, opposite Jerusalem's ancient walls and in houses of prayer. Audiences may take part in "A Night Stroll" at the Tower of David, comprising performances, ceremonies and a series of "Testimony Encounters" — guided tours that trace the sacred sounds that play year-round in Jerusalem.

25. Speedo Sea of Galilee Swim, Sept. 19

About 12,000 swimmers of all ages and nationalities are expected at this largest Israeli amateur sports event, now in its 62nd year. Choose between routes of 1.5 and 3.5 kilometers.

26. Haifa International Film Festival, late September

Founded in 1983, this is Israel's oldest annual international film festival. Held on Mount Carmel overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, the festival offers close to 300 screenings, many of which are world premieres. Outdoor events, workshops and film competitions are part of the festivities.

Other 2015 film festivals: Docaviv International Documentary Film Festival in Tel Aviv, May 7-16; Tel Aviv LGBT Film Festival, June 6-15; Cinema South Film Festival, June 7-12 at the Sderot Cinemateque; Jerusalem Film Festival, July 9-19; Spirit Film Festival at the Tel Aviv Cinemateque, Oct. 22-24.

27. Tel Aviv Furniture Exhibition, October 11-17

If you love interior design, you need to be at the annual Furniture Exhibition at the Tel Aviv Exhibition Center to see the latest collections of more than 120 Israeli and international companies including Beitili, Hollandia, Ziv Kitchens, Natuzzi, Nicoletti, Dr. Gav, Aeroflex, Ultima, Simmons, Night Sleep, Etmaleh, House Inn and Zaga. For the first time, the show will provide a stage for companies specializing in home styling, accessories and styling various spaces in the home. Free admission.

28. Tel Aviv Water Games, Oct. 15-19

This inaugural international LGBT sporting event and cultural festival will welcome teams from around the world competing in swimming, diving, rowing, beach volleyball and other water and waterside sports. Also planned are sunset yoga and acrobatics, bicycle tours of the city and late-night celebrations.

29. Open House Jerusalem, Oct. 22-24



Cool architecture comes alive at Open House Jerusalem. This is the Monastery of St. Charles Borromeo. Photo by Vardit Zimmerman

Brought to you by the same production team as Open House Tel Aviv (see item 12), Open House Jerusalem

TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL

124 N. Ashland Ave • Pat Shraberg, President • (859) 269-2979

WHO WE ARE

Temple Adath Israel is a Reform Jewish congregation - We celebrate Torah, Justice, Tradition, and Faith. Our mission is to inspire Jews, to ensure a vibrant Jewish present and future by nurturing a multi-generational love for our tradition. Our "Community Center" approach to Judaism gives families a host of unique ways in which to love living relevant, soulful and experiential Jewish lives. Please call the Temple Administrator for more information if you are interested in affiliating with the Temple. The phone number is 269-2979.

FAMILY SHABBAT

Our lively Family Shabbat takes place on the second Friday of each month at 7 PM. We sing songs and enjoy great stories geared to our families and their young children, but with valuable messages for all. TAI has a potluck dinner preceding the service at 6 PM on Family Shabbat night. Our next Family Shabbat will be on March 6 when the 7th, 8th and 9th grade Religious School classes will participate in the service.

KIDS' SHABBAT

Our Kids' Shabbat Friday night service is held on the last Friday of each month (during the school year) and is geared towards children 7 years old and younger and their families. Our next Kids' Shabbat will be Friday, March 27.

PJ LIBRARY READING TIME

TAI has dedicated space in our Youth Library and our Anita Mersack Outdoor Reading Garden for families to share in our growing collection of PJ Library Books, before, during, and after religious school. The collection is in our Youth Library and our Librarian Leona Stern loves to share in reading time with many families or even just one. These books provide our young children with wonderful introductions to the magic of Jewish storytelling.

KOLLEL STUDY GROUP

Kollel meets at 9 AM every two weeks in the TAI Library. The group explores cultural, ethical, and its historical aspects of our 4000-year tradition. The emphasis is on dialogue and exploration. Please join us any time. Our next sessions will be March 7 & 21.

TALMUD STUDY

We are studying the PirkeAvot, a section of the Talmud on alternate Saturdays at 9 AM in the library. The discussion is always lively and informative and you can join the group anytime. We will meet on March 14 & 28.

PARSHA

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 AM in the library as we take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Various Temple members will lead some discussions and everyone will take turns. We will meet on March 7, 14, & 28 (No Parsha Study on March 21 due to a Bar Mitzvah).

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Mitzvah Crib Month

Throughout the month of March we will be collecting items for The Nest - Center for Women, Children and Families.

The Nest provides free counseling, parenting education, emergency childcare and basic supplies for families in crisis. The following is a list of requested items. A basket will be placed in the temple hallway to collect your donations. Thank you for supporting this important project.

- *diapers
- *general toiletries
- *baby toiletries
- *new/lightly used children's clothes (birth to 5 yrs)
- *new/lightly used small children's toys
- *new/lightly used baby equipment
- *baby wipes

Vashti's Banquet - A Night Of Merriment

All women are invited to join us for a night filled with wicked fun on Sunday, March 15 beginning at 5:30 pm in the social hall. Delicious Mediterranean food and beautiful entertainers will delight us. Sisterhood members - be on the lookout for your invitation!

Upcoming Events

April 24 Sisterhood Shabbat

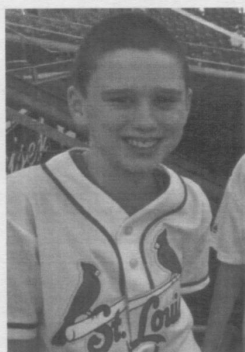
GENERATION TAI DINNER

Generation TAI is our Chavurah group for young adults. Programming runs the spectrum from worship to social action and from Shabbat to holiday meals. We will have a dinner on the first Friday of every month. Our next dinner will be Friday, March 6. We will have a Pizza Night Out with the location TBD. Please contact Reva Schottenstein at rschott86@hotmail.com or call her at 859-221-9473 to reserve your seat.

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of Leon Block, brother of Evalyn Block (Garry Hoover); Jean Mizell, mother of Mike Mizell (Regina); and Carl Goldschmidt, father of Carol (Ron) Hustedde and grandfather of Michael Hustedde.

BAR MITZVAH



Amy and David Lowery invite you to share in their great happiness as their son MAXWELL FRANK is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah Saturday, March 21 at 10:30 a.m., Temple Adath Israel, 124 N. Ashland Avenue, Lexington, KY

Kiddush luncheon immediately following the morning service.

Max will also lead the Shabbat evening service Friday, March 20, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Our speaker for Friday night will be Rabbi Mark Shook, the grandfather of the Bar Mitzvah, Max Lowery, and author of the book, "The Ezra Scroll". He will speak on *The Samaritans---who they were, and do they exist today*.

provides a rare peek inside some of the city's most unusual edifices. Check the website in early September to see the full schedule of offerings.

30. Fifth annual Hula Valley International Bird Festival, mid-November



Migrating cranes in the Hula Valley.

Tens of thousands of migrating cranes descend on the Agamon Hula Ornithology and Nature Park every November, along with at least 200 other species of feathered friends – 500 million in all — headed to their winter homes in Africa from Europe and Asia.

--- AROUND THE COMMUNITY ---

Please note: Information for Around the Community comes to us from a variety of individuals and Jewish institutions. It's a pretty haphazard arrangement; except for b'nai mitzvah, we do not have the resources or staff to collect information or research each item. If you would like to see an event or life passage in your family acknowledged here, please be sure we get the full and correct information as you would like to see it printed. Send notices to shalom@jewishlexington.org. Remember, we welcome photos too!

Mazal Tov to:

- Jill Rappaport and Michael Genovese, on the birth of their son Ezra Bennet Genovese.
- Maxwell Frank Lowery, and family, on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah.

Condolences to:

- The family of Leon Block, brother of Evalyn Block (Garry Hoover).
- The family of Jean Mizell, mother of Mike Mizell (Regina).
- The family of Carl Goldschmidt, father of Carol (Ron) Hustedde and grandfather of Michael Hustedde.

ATTENTION PROUD GRAND-PARENTS, PARENTS, & STUDENTS. We want to publish any original writing produced by our community's elementary- and high-school-age children. If you're proud of something written by one of our kids, either fiction or non-fiction, please email it to shalom@jewishlexington.org

Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

The editorial staff has the right to edit, accept or reject all articles submitted for publication in Shalom. Articles should not exceed 500 words. The appearance of any advertising

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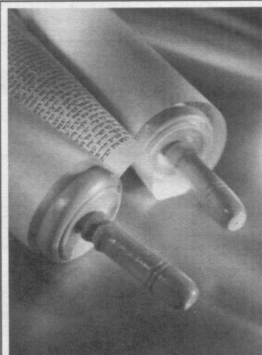
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Lunch and Learn with our
Lexington community rabbis

March 31 with Rabbi Moshe Smolkin

At 12 noon on the last Tuesday of each month, in the JFB office, rabbis, on a rotating basis, will be discussing the holidays, the Torah portion of the week, and other topics of interest. A dairy lunch is offered at a nominal charge. If you are interested in attending, please call Judy Wortman at 859-268-0672 so we can order lunch for you.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

First and third Sundays of the month
Yiddish Drop-in!

10:30 a.m. at the JFB office. An hour of Yiddish with Refoyl Finkel (Rafi Finkel). Beginners welcome, fluent speakers welcome, and those who remember "a por verter fun der heym" also welcome. We'll adjust waht we do to the levels of those who come. No long-term commitment necessary. No charge. Worth every cent, at least!