

Shalom

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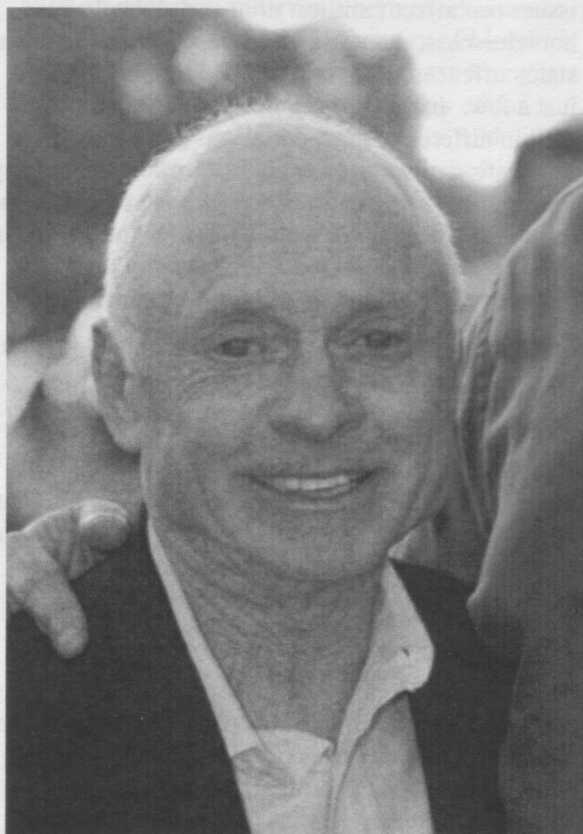
PROFILE: JUDGE KATHY W. STEIN – AT SERVICE TO FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

By Hanna B. Smith

“What does a family court judge do?” I asked Judge Stein while we met in her office at the Circuit Court house in downtown Lexington in July 2014. As a social worker for the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, I stood before family court judges many times. This was my chance to learn about a judge’s perspective of cases that revolved around children and family life.

Family court, which focuses entirely on the needs of families and children, is a fairly new concept in Kentucky. The first such court started as a pilot program in Jefferson County in 1991. This program was very successful, and other counties adopted it. The goal for the Commonwealth is to eventually implement family courts in all 120 counties. According to JUDGE PEDIA, an online interactive encyclopedia of

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CAMPAIGN NEWS

Equine Event to be Held on October 20th at KESMARC

Federation’s Equine Division will hold its annual event on Monday, October 20th at 6 pm at KESMARC, the Kentucky Equine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center on 258 Shannon Run Road in Versailles. The guest speaker will be Chris McCarron, retired thoroughbred horse racing Hall of Fame jockey.

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WEKSTEIN (cont'd from page 1)

courts and judges, the Kentucky family courts "are considered so progressive and successful that they are being used as national models".

The motto of family court is One Family, One Judge, One Court. The same judge in the same court hears all matters pertaining to a particular family. Many issues can affect families: drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness, domestic violence, child maltreatment, status offences, child custody and support, to name just a few. In the past, these issues were often handled in different courts, which gave rise to delay in or duplication of services or simply confusion. Having a family seen in one court and by the same judge allows for better understanding of the family's needs, leads to better decision making and ultimately to a better outcome for the family and for the community.

Family court is not adversarial but designed to rebuild people's lives within the limits of the law.

Kathy Stein is one of the four judges of the family court in Fayette County. Governor Beshear appointed her to the position in October 2013 to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Jo Ann Wise. Judge Stein was sworn in on October 21, 2013.

According to Judge Stein, family court is an effective program. The majority of people who appear in family court use the services offered, whether learning good parenting skills or treating substance abuse. This reduces recidivism. If termination of parental rights becomes inevitable, the children stand a good chance of being adopted into stable families. In most instances, the children are adopted by their foster parents, of whom they are living already with and who know and love them.

Judge Stein handles all truancy cases in Fayette County. A child's unexcused absence from school is often a symptom of family dysfunction that cannot be cured without addressing the underlying issues. Teaching high school early in her career, Judge Stein learned how to relate to adolescents. She attributed this skill to helping her reach out and elicit a child's cooperation in returning to school.

Clinical mental health issues, even in very young

children, have become more prevalent, according to Judge Stein. Unfortunately the general public still has misconceptions about mental illness, even though diagnosis and treatment have improved considerably, and health insurance covers the cost of treatment. People will not seek treatment for mental illness if they have no family or community support.

Judge Stein has excellent credentials for the position of family court judge. She holds a law degree from the University of Kentucky. Her education about the issues facing distressed families began when she worked as a prosecutor in the Fayette County Attorney's office. "This position opened my eyes to the scourge of domestic violence", she says. She used her position as a Kentucky legislator (House of Representatives, 1997 – 2008, Senator 2009 – October 2013) to champion the cause of families and children.

During those years, I met Judge Stein in the role of guardian-ad-litem, representing the interests of children who were wards of the state. Many attorneys shun this work, and it speaks highly of her that she assumed this obligation.

Why did she choose the legal profession to help families? "The judicial system makes for a civilized society", says Judge Stein. A good answer from the member of a people who started with the seven Noahite laws, went on to the Ten Commandments, and continued with the legislation of the Talmud.

How can the local community support the work of the family court? Judge Stein suggests that people support the various organizations providing services to families in distress. Some of these organizations, like the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for children in out-of-home care and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), rely heavily on volunteers. Staying involved with children's education and keeping one's eyes open for distress signals in those we meet are additional ways to support children and families.

MCCARON (cont'd from page 1)

McCarron began racing on East Coast racetracks in 1974 and soon won the 1974 Eclipse Award for Outstanding Apprentice Jockey in the US. He moved to California in 1977, the year he scored his first of three wins at the Kentucky Oaks. He won nine Breeders' Cup races, including five Breeders' Cup Classics, and rode six winners in the US Triple Crown Races. In 1989, he was inducted into the National Museum of Racing Hall of Fame. After 28 years in racing, he retired in 2002. He finished as thoroughbred racing's all-time leader in purse earnings with more than \$264 million in winnings.

In 2003, McCarron served as technical advisor, racing designer, and actor in the 2003 film *Seabiscuit*.

In 2005, McCarron opened the first riding academy in the USA, the North American Racing Academy, part of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, which he oversaw until his recent retirement.

Funds raised at the dinner will be used to support the horseback riding therapy program at Ben Yakir, a residential school and treatment center in Israel for at-risk youth. There is no charge for the event.

For information and reservations, contact Judy Wortman at 268-0672 or jfb@jewishlexington.org.



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Judy Wortman

Changes at *Shalom*

After four years at the helm of *Shalom*, Rabbi David Wortman has retired. We thank David for his many unique contributions to the paper. In addition to bringing us news of world Jewry, Israel, and our own local Jewish community, he provided

us with profound and moving editorials. We hope he will continue to be a regular contributor to *Shalom*.

This issue is the first that is edited by Barbara Goldman. Barbara, who lives in Maysville, has had a career as a writer and editor as well as a chef, an educator, and even a bartender! Barbara received her BA from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2005 and spent the next nine years working as a newspaper reporter, copy editor, educator, layout designer, proofreader, and video journalist. Her writing has been published in a wide variety of newspapers, magazines, online publications, and cookbooks. Barbara has said that the position as editor of *Shalom* merges "her nine-year strive for journalistic excellence with her lifelong love of the Jewish Commonwealth."

In order to assist Barbara in her new position and to make *Shalom* exciting and relevant, we need your involvement. We are always looking for members of our community to write articles and share opinions through letters to the editor or op-ed columns. We want the paper to be dynamic and we encourage you to share your views. We would like *Shalom* to be a vehicle that reflects the talents, passions, and varying points of view of our diverse community. We also encourage young people in the community to write articles, opinion pieces, or poetry. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Barbara at shalom@jewishlexington.org.

At this time, I would also like to thank Kasey Hall who has been doing layout for our new online format as well as our hardworking volunteer editorial committee members: Hanna Smith who chairs the committee, Jane Chaput, Susan Cobin, and Betty Nigoff. They have worked tirelessly to make *Shalom* a quality newspaper. But it takes a village....



ASK A RABBI

Rabbi Sharon Cohen

Q: How did the holiday of Simchat Torah come to be? Why is this holiday celebrated at the end of an already long Jewish holiday season?

A: Each year during this season we talk about celebrating the "Holidays." Generally, people are referring to Rosh ha-Shana and Yom Kippur, the Ya'meem Nora'eem, "High Holy Days" on our Fall calendar which come during the Hebrew month of Tishrei. However, the holiday season doesn't stop with Yom Kippur. In fact, we are only just getting warmed up! Sukkot, Sh'mini Atzeret and Simchat Torah arrive only a few days afterward (the Reform Movement observes the latter two holidays on the same day). By the time we reach Simchat Torah each year, we often find ourselves with waning energy and excitement for yet another holiday; and we might question the wisdom of our ancestors to add an additional observance to this very busy month. But, Simchat Torah actually provides a wonderful ending to the High Holy Day season, for it combines the serious message of the High Holy Days with the sense of celebration and happiness of Sukkot.

The holiday of Simchat Torah, the festival of rejoicing with the Torah, is not found anywhere in the Bible. In fact, it isn't even mentioned in the Talmud. The first reference to this unique holiday is found in post-Geonic literature dating back to the early Middle Ages. On Simchat Torah, we celebrate the gift of Torah as we read the final sidra (portion) of the Torah and begin the Torah again by reading the first section of the book of B'raysheet (Genesis). It has been asked why the reading of the last portion in the Torah was assigned to this special holiday, rather than simply read on the last Shabbat of the year, the Shabbat before Rosh ha-Shana. Why was a special holiday created?

It seems that there was a desire on the part of our ancestors to join Siyum ha-Torah -- the joy of completing the cycle of Torah reading -- with Siyum he-Hag -- the joy of completing the long holiday period. The High Holy Day period is one in which we put a conclusion on the past year and begin anew. Similarly, on Simchat Torah we study V'zot ha-Brakha, the concluding portion in which Moses bestows his final blessings upon the Children of Israel, and we immediately begin again by reading the account of Creation. The message, of course, is that Torah, like life itself, is really never-ending. We are taught that even as we close the book, we immediately open it again.

In addition, on Rosh ha-Shana and Yom Kippur we engage in the process of introspection and doing teshuva -- recognizing what we need to do to become better human beings and the steps we must take to reach for the blessings of life in the New Year. For us as Jews, it is the Torah that teaches us how to be the best we can be and to craft a life of goodness. Thus, on Rosh ha-Shana and Yom Kippur we express thanks for the gift of beginning another year of life, and on Simchat Torah we celebrate the precious tool we have for making the new year one filled with holiness and meaning.

If you have ever been to a Simchat Torah service, you will know that it is unlike the holiday services that precede it. Although we always study the Torah text with reverence and understanding, Simchat Torah is marked by sheer revelry and joy. We dance seven times around the sanctuary with all of the Torahs in hand and sing songs expressing our love of Torah and its importance to us. In some communities, the Torahs are carried out onto the city streets where dancing and singing continue. Children wave flags and carry miniature Torahs as they dance. To add to the revelry, in many communities the prayer service on Simchat Torah is recited using upbeat and unusual tunes. We even have a wedding ceremony of sorts as the people called to the Torah for the readings that end and begin the Torah are called Hatan Torah and Hatan B'raysheet (Hatan meaning "groom." In the case of a woman being called

to the Torah the term Ka-la, "bride," is used.). Often, these honorees are individually paraded down the aisle of the sanctuary under a talit, just as a bride and groom stand under a canopy at their marriage ceremony. In doing so, we are reminded that we are betrothed to God through the Covenant of Torah.

While Simchat Torah often takes a back seat to the other holidays in the month of Tishrei, it is clear that its place as a part of the Jewish "High Holy Days" is not only well deserved, but very necessary. If Torah is an Aytz Hayim, a Tree of Life, then the holiday of Simchat Torah is the yearly celebration of its planting. As we end and begin again, we reaffirm our vow to learn, to teach, to observe, and to celebrate Torah.



JFS: AT YOUR SERVICE

By Mimi Kaufman, Director of Jewish Family Services

What do caregivers need?

According to the National Alliance for caregiving in collaboration with AARP, its estimated that more than 65 million people, 29% of the US population, provide care for a chronically ill, disabled, or aged family member or friend during any given year and spend an average of 20 hours a week providing that care. 13% of family caregivers provide at least 40 hours of care per week. These statistics are from a March/April 2012 journal article in *Social Work Today* reporting on a study done by the National Family Caregivers Association (NFCA) in conjunction with Allsup, Inc (a nationwide provider of Social Security Disability Insurance representation and Medicare plan selection services).

There is growing evidence that many family caregivers are not getting the support they need to

thrive. The top concerns that were cited in the study are taking care of their own personal health, lack of respite care, and meeting monthly financial obligations.

There are many forms of caregiving including assistance with personal needs such as bathing and toileting, managing finances, transportation and everything in between.

There are many faces of caregivers too. Traditionally people tend to automatically think of women family members as the caregivers, but men are often the caregivers as well, and good ones, too. There are endless scenarios of caregiving roles, but the thing that they all have in common is that a family caregiver can find taking care of oneself particularly challenging. It is, however, a must because if the caregiver falls apart, everyone around them suffers.

Caregiver burnout is real and can be a serious problem. The best way to combat burnout potential is to get support and respite however possible. Social workers can help by providing suggestions of where to find respite care. Respite care can be expensive but finding a buddy for support is free. Finding a buddy can happen formally through a support group or informally through personal connections. Two caregivers can talk to each other about things that they may not want to say in a group. Feelings of isolation are still quite common with family caregivers, in fact, 75% of those reported in the study that they struggle with this. Sometimes primary caregivers can use the help of a social worker to arrange a family meeting to facilitate some team caregiving. There are things that family members can help with, even when they live out of town, that can ease the stress of the primary caregiver.

Caregivers, especially those that suddenly have to care for their parents, may end up not only having to become medical experts, but financial experts as well, as they may be thrown into the role of taking care of their parent's financial matters. It may be helpful in the beginning for caregivers to get some professional help with financial planning. The burdens may be heavy but the rewards

can be great. The real key to staying healthy as a caregiver is having support.

*The new **Pathways Resource Guide** has just come out. It is a wonderful, free resource guide for the Lexington area. It is put out by the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living. There are copies in the JFS office as well as both congregations. Please feel free to take a copy. It is full of helpful information!! Also, feel free to call the JFS office at 269-8244 with questions and concerns.*

The Meaning of Play

Announcing: PJ Playgroup

By Talia Smolkin

The great Mr. Rogers said, "Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood." (<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0736872/bio>) Play is endlessly important. So get the sippy cup. Velcro those shoes. Brush your kid(s) hair (or don't). Buckle that car seat. Come to PJ Playgroup. It's time to play!

Starting on **Sunday, October 12**, our Jewish community is coming together for our littlest ones to play. PJ Playgroup will meet the second Sunday of each month, **10:15-11:30 am** during the school year. It is an opportunity for families with kids under 4 years old to come together, have time to informally play, eat a light snack, and perhaps sing a song, create a craft, or read a PJ Library book.

The whole Jewish community is coming together for this. Locations will alternate between Ohavay Zion Synagogue, Temple Adath Israel, and other fun locations around Lexington.

By now, certainly the families with an older child in religious school have noticed that playgroup is at the same time as the religious schools in our

community. This is a great time to create space for play with the younger sibling(s).

It is becoming clearer every day how important play is. NPR is one of numerous media outlets to recently report on this. In an August article, NPR quotes scientist Sergio Pellis as saying that play, "is what prepares a young brain for life, love and even schoolwork." (<http://www.npr.org/blogs/ed/2014/08/06/336361277/scientists-say-childs-play-helps-build-a-better-brain>) Play helps us build critical connections in our brains, and in this case, can build wonderful connections Jewishly and in our community. At PJ Playgroup, under supervision of their parents/guardians, children can make friends, as well as create those wonderful warm connections to being Jewish. At PJ Playgroup, parents can have sacred time to play with their children, and visit with friends of their own.

The first playgroup is Sunday, October 12, 10:15-11:30 am, at Temple Adath Israel.

Following is the calendar for the year.

There will be updates as the year goes on, so contact pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org to guarantee complete information.

RSVPs can also be sent to pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org to guarantee sufficient snack.

Date	Location
October 12	Temple Adath Israel - 124 N. Ashland Avenue
November 9	Ohavay Zion Synagogue - 2048 Edgewater Court
December 14	To be announced
January 11	Temple Adath Israel
February 8	Ohavay Zion Synagogue
March 15	Centered - 309 N. Ashland Avenue, Suite 180
April 12	Temple Adath Israel
May 10	Ohavay Zion Synagogue
June 14	To be announced

Playing benefits us neurologically, creatively, and socially. Playing together makes it even more meaningful. So wash the breakfast dishes, put on your shoes, brush your hair (or don't), grab your keys, and bring your kid(s). It's time to play.

Announcing:

pj playgroup

Beginning October 12, 2014

One Sunday a Month

10:15 am to 11:30 am

Locations will alternate.

Our 1st playgroup is at TAI

please RSVP to

pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah Progressive Dinner Saturday October 25

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah, will hold a progressive dinner on Saturday, October 25. This is the fourth consecutive year for this popular fundraiser. Guests will begin the festive evening at the home of Dr. Martin and Odette Kaplan for wine and appetizers and then disburse to individual homes for an elegant dinner. Dessert and Havdallah will complete the affair at the home of Dr. Leon and Linda Ravvin. There will be music, door prizes, and lots of laughter and great conversation. Tickets are \$54/person paid in advance. Please contact Evalyn Block ateblock3375@gmail.com for more information or RSVP to Kathie Kroot at kvk4660@aol.com.



EDITORIAL

By Barbara L. Goldman

"The free expression of the hopes and aspirations of a people is the greatest and only safety in a sane society." —Emma Goldman (Living My life, 1931)

During the summer months my 80 year-old Father was thrilled to learn of the editorial position becoming available with Shalom this fall. Every time I saw him, which was daily, he asked if I had applied. I hadn't. I was sure the committee was looking for someone older and more established in a leadership role within the central Kentucky Jewish community.

Growing up my family cherished our copies of Shalom. My parents were chiropractors based out of Maysville, Kentucky and any link to other Jews throughout the Bluegrass helped us to feel like we were a part of that community. We regularly drove an hour and fifteen minutes along a two-lane highway to get to religious school, Shabbat services, and other youth group events.

"Did you apply for the position?" Arnold Goldman, a third generation Jew from Albany, New York asked me daily for weeks. He knew I wanted the position and couldn't understand why I was holding myself back.

"You don't ask, you don't get," announced my Father. The next time Dad asked me if I had applied, my answer finally changed. I can still envision the childlike grin on his face when I announced I had been called back for an interview.

I am truly humbled to be following in the footsteps of Rabbi David Wortman. His direction, leadership, and integrity have led this wonderful newspaper through continued success. The eloquence

and determination spoken throughout his editorials has lifted the voices of our Jewish Commonwealth community.

I am beyond elated to be working with editorial committee Hanna Smith (chair), Betty Nigoff, Jane Chaput, and Susan Cobin. As well as, professional supporters Judy Wortman, Tamara Ohayon, and Kasey Hall. This driven team has already been a fountain of invaluable information and kindness since my interview process began.

This September my father passed away. He had been sick with heart failure for sometime now. I am relieved for his body and mind to now be free of the burden of sickness. Yet, we are never prepared for the shock of losing someone we love.

I pondered and pondered this editorial. Not sure how to best approach it, what stories and relationships to explain. I have procrastinated it for days. Even wondered if I should skip this month. But that's not my style or Dad's.

Dad loved my brother David, my mother Rita, and myself very much. Yes we loved him because we were related to him, but we also loved him because of the KIND of father he was. He always made sure we knew he loved us very very much. He shaped us, giving us a core value system that clearly defined who we would become, values that defined who HE was: A friend to the sick. A man who kept promises and honored commitment, a healer, a man of integrity. An enemy of the bigoted and intolerant. A menace to salami and various salted meats the world over.

Whenever we stumbled, he could have accepted our fussing and moaning and advised us to take the easy way out, to give up, and to quit. But he fully expected us to see things through, all the way to the end, to go forward when others would stop. He taught us to push ourselves, and assured us we would be amazed with what we could accomplish if we believed in ourselves like he did. And he was so right – about all of it.

Dad taught us to live a life rooted in love and

hope. There is enough poverty in the world for everyone to have a full load. But there is also enough prosperity in the world for everyone to have a full load.

Hope is the companion of power and the mother of success (Samuel Smiles). Many things motivate people: money, cars, drugs, power, and recognition, to name a few. Yet all these pale in significance compared to the motivating power of hope and love. Without hope people drift into despair and apathy. What motivates people? Hope. What motivates change? Hope.

As the October days quickly pass us by, we must not forget to live each day embracing our hopes, and remembering to tell those around us we love them.



UK Jewish Studies October Events

The University of Kentucky's Jewish Studies Program is known for offering compelling and diverse events each year. This next semester will prove to be especially exciting, as the College of Arts and Science's program Passport to the World is titled "Year of the Middle East". The program explores the culture and history of a particular region, and this year's focus requires collaboration with the Jewish Studies Program to offer additional events and activities that will provide people with the opportunity to learn and grow together. Starting in October, the calendar offers two different events

that promise to engage, entertain, and give people the chance to connect with each other. The UK Jewish Studies Program invites students, faculty, and members of the Lexington community to attend the following events:

"Pilgrimage in a Tourist Age: The Case of Birthright Israel" *October 27 @ 7:00pm - UKAA Auditorium W.T. Young Library*

The Jewish Studies program will host this event in conjunction with the College of Arts and Science's Passport to the World: Year of the Middle East. Professor Shaul Kelner of Vanderbilt University will be visiting campus to speak about how Birthright Israel affects Jewish and other identities. The visit will coincide with the reading of Sarah Glidden's *How to Understand Israel in 60 Days* in Professor Fernheimer's ENG/WRD 401: Comics and Conflict in Israel/Palestine course. Students, faculty, and community members will have the chance to speak and interact with Professor Kelner.

"Papirosen", *October 30 @ 7:00pm - Worsham Theatre*

A screening of the award-winning 2011 documentary "Papirosen" by Gaston Solnicki will take place on campus. The film mixes footage from various decades to explore the Jewish experience in Argentina and follows several generations of a single family. The event is free of charge and open to the public.

YEAR OF THE MIDDLE EAST EVENTS LISTING

Sept. 30: Ami Pedahzur "Start-up Army: Military Entrepreneurs and the Evolution of Israel's Special Operations Forces" *UKAA Auditorium W. T. Young Library 7:00pm*

Oct. 27: Shaul Kelner "Pilgrimage in a Tourist

Age: The Case of Birthright Israel" UKAA Auditorium W.T. Young Library 7:00pm

Oct. 30: screening of "Papirosen", a 2011 documentary made by Gaston Solnicki that mixes footage from various decades to explore the Jewish experience in Argentina 7:00pm Worsham Theatre

Nov. 10: Ilan Troen, "The Significance of Being First; Competing Jewish and Arab Discourses" 7:00pm location TBD

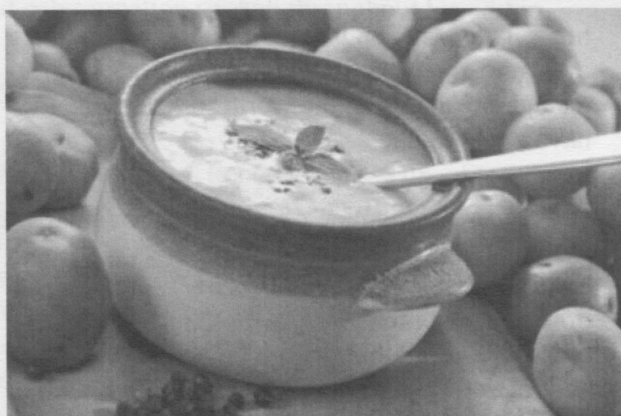
Nov. 17: Ariel Sabar "My Father's Paradise: How a Jewish Kid from Los Angeles Traveled to War-time Iraq in Search of Roots, Identity, and His Father's Improbable Life Story" 7pm location TBD

Dec. 5: Benyamim Tsedeka "The Israelite Samaritan Today" time and location TBD

Feb. 23: Sami Shalom Chetrit screens & discusses his film "The Black Panthers (in Israel) Speak" 7pm location TBD

April 16: Claudia Roden "Gefilte Fish and Couscous" time and location TBD

*for the most up-to-date information, please check our website <http://jewishstudies.as.uky.edu/>



Potato Soup

By Vivian Bitensky

Now that the weather is getting cooler enjoy a delicious bowl of hot soup for supper.

(Makes 8 cups soup)

6 potatoes, peeled and cut into 2 ½ inch cubes
(2 ½ pounds)

2 medium onions, diced

2 carrots thinly sliced

2 celery ribs, thinly sliced

1 quart low-sodium vegetable broth

1 tsp. dried basil

1 tsp. salt ½ tsp. pepper

¼ cup flour

1 ½ cups fat free half and half

Fresh celery leaves

Combine first 8 ingredients in 4 ½ quart slow cooker.

Cook, covered at HIGH for 3 hours or until vegetables are tender.

Stir together flour and half-and half; stir into soup.

Cover and cook 30 minutes or until thoroughly heated.

Pour into bowls and garnish with celery leaves.

Enjoy!

REIKI

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Reiki is a hands-on relaxation technique used to promote healing in adults, children, and animals. For more details and explanation please see my web site.



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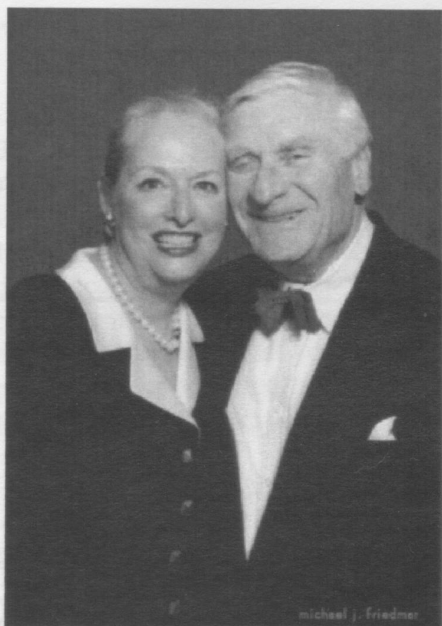
Web site: <http://www.elaynelivingwithreiki.com>

As a Reiki Master (Teacher)

I can teach you how to treat yourself, others, and pets.

As a Reiki Practitioner

I can give you Reiki treatments at my place or yours.



In Appreciation of Renee and Cokie Hymson

Once again we acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of Temple members past and present. Sheldon ("Cokie") and Renee Hymson's devotion to Temple Adath Israel goes back decades.

Cokie was born in Louisville but grew up in Providence, Kentucky, where his father had started a clothing business. After serving in the U.S. Navy, he joined his older brother, Maurice, who established Hymson's Tots and Teens department store on 163 East Main Street. Cokie opened its shoe department.

Renee was born and raised in St. Louis and came to Lexington via Texas, following a first marriage whose upside was her beloved daughters, Patty Kahn and Marcy Hambleton. Renee's parents had moved to Lexington, where her father joined TAI. Renee and Cokie married in 1957, and she joined him at Hymson's where they ran the shoe department together until the store was sold in 1979.

In his later years, Cokie chaired the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) division of the local Better Business Bureau. Throughout his life, his debonair charisma was well-known and loved, as was his skill on the trumpet, both classical and jazz. He played with the Donovan Scholars program locally, across the country, and in Canada, and memorably blew the *shofar* over the High Holidays.

Renee's path-breaking life—a working mother and wife, well before this profile became the norm—is beautifully recounted in a section of Rosie Moosnick's book, *Arab and Jewish Women in Kentucky: Stories of Accommodation and Audacity* (The University Press of Kentucky, 2012). Renee's commitment to supporting other women in their quest for education, agency, and self-expression began with her own children: both graduated from college—Marcy in the first computer science program at the University of Kentucky—and Patty earned a Ph.D. in art education. It extended to Renee's treatment of her customers, her role in starting the continuing education program at the University of Kentucky, and her fund-raising for the Women Writers Conference at UK. Currently, she spends winters in Sarasota, Florida, savoring the symphony, opera, theater, dance, lectures, films, and books—schooling herself after years of work—and daily reading her beloved *Wall Street Journal*.

The Temple has been an integral part of the entire Hymson family's Jewish life. Cokie and Renee were married here, and Marcy and Patty attended and played the organ for religious school, were confirmed here, and participated in youth group, of which Patty became president in 1970. Cokie and Renee each served on the Temple Board and participated in Brotherhood and Sisterhood, respectively. In addition, Cokie served as president of the local chapter of *B'nai Brith*, and Renee was active in *Hadassah* and the Jewish Federation. Today, when in town, Renee never misses a *Chavurah Chochma* gathering.

Prior to Cokie's passing in 2008, he and Renee discussed the bequest that would go to the Temple on his death. They both wanted a gift of this size to address a current need, rather than simply be added to the General Fund or reserved to bear future interest, and Cokie left it up to Renee to designate its use.

Due to their generous and thoughtful philanthropy, Temple Adath Israel has been able to secure the services of a certified public accountant to standardize our financial reports, develop CPA-recognized protocols for maintaining internal control of our finances, and conduct the first audit in our temple's history.

We are grateful for Temple members like Renee and Cokie, who remember the Temple and are so responsive to its current needs.

Where do we go from here?

By Marty Solomon

Israel has suffered in several ways because of the most recent 50-day war with Hamas. It was costly in lives as some 60-plus Israelis died. Millions were spent which is now leading to increased national debt or raising of taxes. Tourism, a vital source of income for Israel, was severely curtailed and has not yet recovered and, rather unfairly, Israel has been labeled the aggressor by much of the world, perhaps increasing anti-Semitism in some places. And it seems that wars with Hamas every two years become increasingly costly as Hamas rocketry continues to improve its reach.

The real question now is: What can be done to prevent this from happening again two years from now? Clearly, what has been tried before has not worked. As they say, the definition of insanity...

So what might work? Israel is faced with a double problem: Hamas in Gaza and the Palestinians in the West Bank. Fatah, under the leadership of Mahmoud Abbas, is Israel's best friend in the Middle-East. Abbas has been influential in keeping the lid on disgruntled Palestinians in the West Bank and has worked with Netanyahu in being able to eliminate some checkpoints. What his people need is hope for a better life. Rather than viewing Israel as the enemy, it is possible for them to view Israel as a partner in the road to an improved standard of living.

How could that happen? Israel could prop up Abbas as a real partner, creating some factories which would employ Palestinians, giving Abbas and Netanyahu credit for their partnership. Then, on an incremental basis, checkpoints and roadblocks could be slowly removed every so often if no violence erupts. Some paved roads could be opened to Palestinians. Abbas could be given some of the money being withheld to pay Gazan workers.

Gazan's would quickly see the improvement in their lives and lives of West Bank Palestinians. They would see that Israel had become a partner for hope and would realize that Hamas is not the answer for their future. Fatah and Abbas would be able to take control of Gaza, a true unity government could work with Israel and, with Israel's help, disarm and defang Hamas.

Over a few years of progress for the Palestinians and security for Israel, it might then be possible to seriously consider a two-state solution.

Moving Youth Forward:

THERAPEUTIC HORSERIDING AT BEN YAKIR YOUTH VILLAGE FUNDED IN PART BY THE EQUINE DIVISION OF JFB

Ben Yakir was originally founded to help orphans and other young refugees in the earliest years of Israel's statehood. Today, Ben Yakir continues to support at-risk youth through its exemplary therapeutic boarding school that is dedicated to providing intensive intervention for troubled adolescents. Ben Yakir is home to 120 teenagers who are referred to the school by local social work and educational professionals for residential education and care. The therapeutic horseback riding program provides a special form of educational enrichment that complements Ben Yakir's formal school curriculum. Riding and related animal care activities offer students creative, challenging experiences that help staff identify and nurture previously unexpressed talents and capabilities that enhance students' self-esteem and self-awareness. Below and on the following page are thank you notes from a few of the students !

Yosef



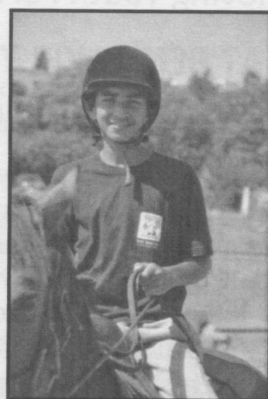
I moved to Israel from Ethiopia when I was nine years old, with my parents and two siblings. My family is close, and my parents always encouraged us to succeed, but we had a hard time with money and my parents worked a lot. It was always difficult for me to concentrate at school, and I became very frustrated with my life.

When I came to Ben Yakir, the staff encouraged me to join the horse riding program. The first time I came close to a horse, I was terrified. I desperately wanted to learn to ride, but I was too scared. My instructors were persistent, showing me continuous encouragement and support. It was due to these people that I finally let go of my fears and rode. From that first moment I was hooked. I developed a strong connection to the horses. I love them, I feel close to them, and when I ride, I feel safe.

I want to thank everyone who has helped to enable the riding program at Ben Yakir. I know that I personally have gained a lot from it. The horses make me feel calm, and riding strengthens my self-confidence.

Thank you.

Ohad



I joined Ben Yakir when I was in eighth grade. My parents noticed that I had difficulty learning in school, and needed to be in a different environment which would help me grow. I had dropped out of school and had trouble making friends.

When I first came to the village I was quiet and didn't speak to many of the other kids. I didn't make friends easily. I called my mother many times telling her that I wanted to go home. Then the staff decided that I should join the horse-riding program, and it changed my life. They saw that I loved animals and easily became close to them, unlike with other kids.

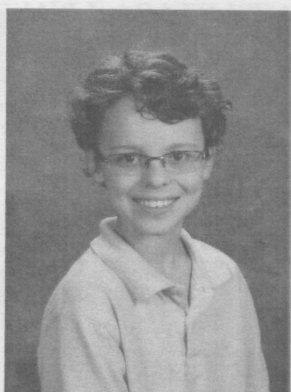
Working with the horses has opened me up to new possibilities and given me confidence in myself and my abilities. I now have a close group of friends, and even got nominated to be in charge of caring for the horses. It made me so happy to know my friends and instructors had confidence in me.

Thank you, Bluegrass, for maintaining this program at Ben Yakir. It has made me a different person.

Ohad

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT

Your continuous support is enabling Ben Yakir's students to participate in the Therapeutic Horseback Riding program in the village. Your contribution has given these boys the opportunity to explore new talents and strengths, while improving many additional aspects of their daily lives. We thank you for your involvement, and deeply appreciate your partnership in this life-changing program.



Bar Mitzvah Announcement: Ethan Russell Concors

With your upcoming Bar Mitzvah, the Jewish Federation in Lexington wishes to announce your Bar Mitzvah in their bulletin "Shalom". If you could please email Hanna Smith (hannab.smith@gx.net) the following information by the 15th of the month before, she will make the announcement.

October 25 – **Ethan Russell Concors (TAI)**, son of Larry and Cathy, grandson of Mel and Carole Ann Concors of Louisville, KY and Virginia Barnes of Waikoloa, HI. Project: Down Syndrome Awareness. Ethan has coordinated a team for the Down Syndrome Association of Central Kentucky (DSACK) Walk for Down Syndrome for two consecutive years, 2013 and 2014. The team includes family, friends, and members of his Boy Scout Troop and helped raise awareness and acceptance of people with Down Syndrome. His work also raised money to be used for services and programs intended to help people with Down Syndrome. Participation in the team has led some of the boys in his troop to earn their Disabilities Awareness Merit Badge.

--- 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:

- The marriage of Lauren Goldenberg and Jake Constantine. Lauren and Jake reside in San Francisco, CA. Lauren is the daughter of Debi Gall and the sister of Liza Goldenberg.
- The Bar Mitzvah of Henry Beck (OZS), Oct. 11, son of Antony and Angela Beck.
- The Bat Mitzvah of Nell Adkins (OZS), Oct. 17 & 18, daughter of David and Lisa Adkins.
- The Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Russell Concors (TAI), son of Larry and Cathy Concors. The birth of twin girls, Maya Jeanne and Hannah Lucy, daughters of Amy and Jeb Messer, granddaughters of Lowell and Betty Nigoff, niece of Brian Nigoff

Condolences to:

- The family of Roy Meyers, brother of Carl Meyers
The family of Dr. Arnold H. Goldman, husband of Rita Goldman, father of David and Barbara Goldman

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

The first sessions of the Jewish Education Lexington Learning Institute (JELLI), co-sponsored by Ohavay Zion Synagogue and Temple Adath Israel, will be held:

Wednesdays, November 5 and November 12

Temple Adath Israel

7-9 pm

Rabbi Roberts will discuss
"What Jews Believe about
Life After Death" (7-7:50 pm)

Rabbi Smolkin will discuss
"Jewish Mysticism" (8:10-9:00 pm)

Refreshments served between talks.
All community members are invited.

Save the date for studying together with wonderful volunteer teachers
on January 7 and January 14, from 7-9 pm, at Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

JELLI

**Jewish
Education
Lexington
Learning
Institute**

ADULT LEARNING NOVEMBER

**SAVE THE DATE
NOVEMBER 16, 2014**



10AM TO 12PM @ OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE

TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL NEWS

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 October 17th when we celebrate Simchat Torah and the annual Consecration Service.**

TOT SHABBAT

Our **Tot Shabbat** Friday night service is held on the last Friday of each month (during the school year).

TEMPLE TOTS

The **Temple Tots** program is designed to give 2 1/2 and 3-year-old children and their parents a positive and nurturing beginning to their Jewish educational experience. We meet about once a month (during the school year.)

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 session will be October 18th.**

TALMUD STUDY

We are studying the *Pirke Avot*, 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. **October 11th and 25th**

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 October 11th and 25th.**

GENERATION TAI DINNER FOR OCTOBER

Generation TAI is our Chavurah group for young adults. Programming runs the spectrum from worship to social action and from Shabbat to holiday meals. **This month, we will be having a special a PRE-Yom Kippur & First Friday Dinner on Friday, October 3rd at 5pm - Location TBD *NOTE: this is BEFORE services.** Please contact Reva Schottenstein at rschott86@hotmail.com or call her at 859-221-9473 to reserve your seat.

ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT

Consider making a difference in the life of a child at Ashland Elementary School this year! You could help a student improve reading and/or math skills. You could also provide support and encouragement as a mentor. Perhaps you would enjoy assisting a teacher in the classroom. These experiences will enrich your life as you interact with children at our "adopted" school.

Even a half hour a week can make a difference! Schedules are always flexible for your commitments and travel.

If you are interested in volunteering at Ashland or want more information, contact Maureen Wrobel at mowrobel42@gmail.com or call at 859-272-4491. All volunteers must complete a quick and easy online background check form for the Fayette County Schools. Instructions are on the Temple website or contact Maureen for assistance.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Why should you support Sisterhood with your membership dues?

Do you have a child in Religious School?

Sisterhood makes yearly donations to our Religious School and gives each Consecrant, Bar or Bat Mitzvah child and Confirmand a gift.

Are you interested in issues affecting women?

Sisterhood offers dynamic programs on contemporary issues and the opportunity to join together with over 75,000 Reform Jewish women in taking a stand on issues that affect us as women.

Do you enjoy the opportunity to be with other women?

Sisterhood offers a variety of social and educational events, with speakers, cultural programs, and spiritual experiences.

Do you want to bring Judaism into your home?

Our gift shop allows you to purchase items crafted by Israeli and other artisans.

Without you, we are one member short!

Please contact our Financial Secretary, Deborah Flo-

menhoft at dflomenhoft@gmail.com.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to Beth Pitman for opening up her beautiful new home to us on September 10th for our Salad and Dessert Bash. A wonderful time was had by all!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF A MAH JONG GROUP?

The Temple would like to begin a Mah Jong group to play one day a week. Those who want to learn are also welcome. If you are aware of a group that is currently playing, please contact the Temple office at 269-2979 to let us know. If you are in a group or know of a group that plays any day but Monday, call the office so we can pass the information on to Rabbi Daniel and his wife, Elaine. She is looking for a group to join.

MAZEL TOV!

To **Ethan Concors**, son of Larry and Cathy Concors
on becoming a Bar Mitzvah on October 25, 2014

IN MEMORIUM

We mourn the passing of...

Roy Meyers, Brother of Carl Meyers

Dr. Arnold H. Goldman, husband of Rita Goldman, father of David and Barbara Goldman

OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE NEWS

October 2014

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!

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS AT OZS FOR 5775

Please join us at OZS for all our holiday celebrations. All are welcome!

And please call if you have any questions: 859 266-8050.

Yom Kippur Evening: Friday, October 3, promptly at 6:45pm

Yom Kippur Morning: Saturday, October 4 at 9:15am with *Yizkor*

Sukkot First Day: Thursday, October 9 at 9:30am

Picnic in the Sukkah: Sunday, October 12 at 12:00pm

Shemini Atzeret Morning: Thursday, October 16, 9:30am with *Yizkor*

Simchat Torah Evening: Thursday, October 16 at 7:00pm

YOUNG OZS-ERS

Young OZS-ers come together for Friday night kabbalat shabbat and dinner once a month, followed by singing, learning and socializing, in addition to coming together with the rest of the congregation.

Please contact [Amia Kurs](#) for more information or join our [facebook group](#).

KIDS' SHABBAT

Please join us for this month's Kids' Shabbat service on **Friday, October 24 at 5:30pm.**

Kids' Shabbat is our monthly Shabbat Service for younger children. We light candles, drink grape juice, eat pizza, sit together on beautiful carpets, sing songs, and read amazing stories from the PJ Library. Newcomers and friends are always welcome!

This year's Kids' Shabbat services will be held Fridays at 5:30pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue on the following dates.

November 21

OZS Community Hanukkah Party: December 19

January 16

February 20

March 20

April 17

May 15

For more information or to RSVP, email Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com.

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. Our next backpacking date will be in October at OZS.

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 our membership chair Kathy Grossman at 268-2596 or email Rabbi Smolkin at Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

LEXINGTON HAVURAH

The New Year is an Open Book

Before Us

By Gail R. Cohen, President

As I start my new term as President of the Lexington Havurah, I look forward to a year of study, celebration, and socializing. In the Havurah, we manage to blend all of these in our participatory, collaborative framework. Each member brings his or her own skills, background, and flavor to our activities, in a very supportive environment.

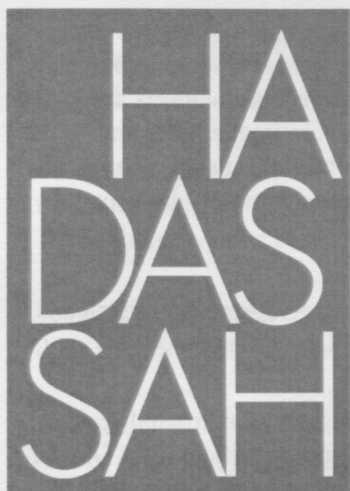
This is a very special time in our calendar. It is a time of renewal and reflection. We look back at the past year to examine our behavior in general, but especially our behavior toward other people. Hopefully, we can smile and feel satisfied about the way we have conducted ourselves in our personal and professional lives. If we are honest with ourselves, we may find instances where we have fallen short. The Jewish rules we live by tell us that we may set things right by asking forgiveness and making peace with those whom we may have offended. What a deal! What an opportunity!!

At the beginning of October, the book is open before us. May we all make good use of the opportunity afforded us.

On October 12th, the Havurah community will come together in joyous celebration of Sukkot. We will meet at the home of a member. If you would like more information about that event, or any other Havurah event, please contact me at gail.cohen@twc.com.

Best wishes to all for a sweet and happy year.

"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 Synagogue 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.



Hadassah News:
Over the Rainbow
in 5775H

By Melanie
Shapiro

The Jewish year of
5775 has now be-
gun. The Lexington

Chapter of Hadassah board and I welcome you back to a year of learning and doing, a year of practical Zionism, a year to fulfill the promise of the rainbow.

Why the rainbow? Well, the Shabbat after Bereshit, when the Torah readings “begin at the beginning,” is the story of Noah and the Flood. All kids love the idea of animals entering the ark two by two. Who doesn’t prefer to do things, especially new things, with a partner? Lifted by the promise of new beginnings and success, the Lexington Chapter of Hadassah will sail on to rest on firm ground. The rainbow in the story of Noah was set in the sky by God as a promise not to bring another devastating flood. Our Hadassah rainbow has a further meaning. The seven colors of the rainbow remind me that there are many different women who make up our chapter, each with varied talents and aspirations of which we may not be aware. Yet, together, like a prism, we focus our abilities into a bright, white light.

In my September column, I described some examples of “Hadassah Heroism” from the conflict in Israel, telling how both of our wonderful

hospitals in Jerusalem treated military casualties and civilian victims of terrorism. I also mentioned how our Youth Aliyah villages are used as a safe refuge for Israelis living near the Gaza border. I also told you about 5 Lexington teenagers who were in Israel at the time on Young Judeaea summer trips. I want to share with you some thoughts from one of those teens, Jamie Sobel-Smith. She

received the highly selective *Hadassah Leaders of Tomorrow Award* and spent five weeks traveling in Israel on full scholarship with Young Judeaea’s Discovery Program. Jamie is a life member of Hadassah and writes in her blog:

“I’ve been home for a while now – school has started, as will swimming soon – and my life has descended back into its usual chaotic routine, but I am not the same. Everything seems so unreal now, because for me, Israel was reality. I feel like I should be devoting all my time to advocating for Israel...”

“Though we didn’t get to see all of Israel, we really did have a true Israeli experience- probably even more so than we would have without the war. Even with all that ignored, I really will never forget my first time overseas, spent in a country I love with people I love.”

You see now why Hadassah nurtures opportunities for growth and learning that will produce the leaders of tomorrow.

I’ve included these stories to remind you of how vital Hadassah is to the State of Israel and how important your support is to that work. If you have responded generously to Hadassah’s appeals for fully furnishing and opening the operating rooms in the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Hospital Tower and/or to requests for emergency funds for Operation Protective Edge, thank you. Jane Chaput, our Fundraising VP is always happy to help you choose a meaningful gift that will make possible the shelter of a Neurim, the medical care of our extraordinary doctors and the cultivation of future Jewish leadership.

Though we may be living through difficult and even frightening times – rocket attacks in Israel, dangerous weather phenomena, a struggling economy – we are promised the rainbow of 5775. When Yip Harburg wrote “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” for the movie *The Wizard of Oz*, he described the world we’d all love to create and live in, where the “dreams that we dare to dream really do come true.” Remember, just as with a rainbow,

the sky's the limit for us. There's no beginning and no end to where we can go together, Hadassah sisters.

B'Shalom,

Melanie

Crisis in the Ukraine

The Jewish Federations of North America is re-opening its Ukraine Emergency Assistance Fund in light of the serious deterioration of conditions in eastern Ukraine. Thousands of Jews in the Donetsk and Lugansk areas have been forced to flee their homes, or have been isolated in these war-torn regions. JFNA is asking all Federations to consider the urgent needs resulting from this situation and to respond to the best of their ability.

Background

For the first time since World War II, there are displaced Jews in Europe. Countless thousands have fled their homes, joining more than 340,000 estimated refugees in this war-torn region.

It took more than two generations to rebuild the Jewish community in Ukraine following the atrocities of the Holocaust. But after six months of unrest, the Ukrainian Jewish community is once again at risk.

In the last few weeks, the intensity of the fighting between Ukraine and pro-Russian rebels has catapulted. More than 3,000 people have now lost their lives, with thousands more wounded. And while the country's estimated 300,000 Jews are not direct targets of violence, many have been caught in the crosshairs.

Those who can are departing for safety, many to Israel with the support of Federation partners. But those who can't—the elderly, the infirm and the poor—are in need of daily assistance.

Nearly 20,000 Jews are living in active war zones, in areas where shootings are common and buildings have been decimated. Large supermarkets are closed, most medications are unavailable and ATMs are out of order. Public transportation is severely restricted and the water supply is compromised.

In these areas, aid from Federation partners means the difference between life and death.

This crisis speaks to the most fundamental reasons why Jewish Federations are so critical. Our Ukrainian brothers and sisters are in need. We cannot turn away. We can make a difference.

Talking Points

Earlier this year Federations raised and allocated an initial \$1 million to meet urgent emergency needs, but the situation has deteriorated.

Ukraine has been gripped by unrest since Euromaidan protests erupted in Kiev in late 2013. Since April, more than 3,000 people are estimated to have lost their lives in the conflict, with thousands more wounded.

- The number of displaced people in Ukraine has nearly doubled—approaching 260,000—while Ukraine's economy is deteriorating.
- The recent rapid escalation of violence in Ukraine has put Jews and Jewish institutions directly in the line of fire. Hospitals are overcrowded and unable to manage the influx of the sick and wounded.
- Shootings in the street are common, large supermarkets are closed, most medications are unavailable and ATMS are out of order. Public transportation is restricted and water supplies are compromised. Ukrainian citizens who are able to leave are fleeing by the thousands, but some have no choice but to stay.
- Countless thousands of Jews, including many of

the most vulnerable, have fled the war-torn eastern region. Those who are too sick or fragile to leave have remained in what's left of their homes and suffered for weeks without water or electricity.

- Lugansk and Donetsk, two of Ukraine's hardest-hit cities, were once home to 25,000 Jews. Today, most have fled, including a large population of elderly, disabled and impoverished Jews in need of food and medicine. Through our trusted partners, Federations throughout North America are in a position to help.

- Social workers and volunteers working with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee are risking their lives to bring life-saving necessities to nearly 5,000 of the most at-risk Jews in the region.

- The Jewish Agency for Israel has already seen a 151 percent increase in aliyah from Ukraine during the first half of this year, compared to the same period last year. This number is expected to grow.

- Among those who rely on Hesed welfare and community assistance programs, 2,000 have been displaced and are living in refugee camps, in need of food, water and medicine.

CRISIS IN UKRAINE



The Jewish Federations
OF NORTH AMERICA

It's Almost Here!



December 2014!

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

Our 2014 Contributors

Thank you for your generous donations to keep *Shalom* solvent.

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Elaine & Steve Silver

1 anonymous

DOUBLE CHAI

Gale Lazarus

GIBOR

Jacquelyn Johnson

1 anonymous

Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Volume

XIII

Issue 8

Tishrel/
Cheshvan

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.

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Opinions expressed in *Shalom* are not necessarily those of the *Shalom* editorial staff or the JFB or its constituent organizations.

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Newspaper of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass

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