

Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Kentucky
UNBROKEN SPIRIT

SIVAN/TAMMUZ/AV 5772

June/July 2012

Seder in Shanghai

By Lynn Cooper

Seder in Shanghai... sounds like the name of a comedy starring Owen Wilson and Ben Stiller. However, this was my experience last month when I scheduled a trip to China before checking my calendar.

When I discovered I would be in Shanghai instead of at Mom & Dad's for Seder, I searched the Internet for "Passover Seder in Shanghai." A surprising amount of information appeared...much more than I would have expected.

There has been a significant Jewish community in Shanghai since the 1850's; the first wave came from Iraq and India on the wave of the Opium Wars. During the 20's and 30's thousands came from Russia. During World War II Shanghai became one of the few places in the world to provide refuge to the European Jews from the Nazis. By the end of the war, Shanghai was home to over 24,000 Jews.

By the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the community had dwindled, and many Jewish sites in Shanghai were destroyed. Two synagogues remain but are not used with much frequency as these are monitored by the Chinese government. I toured the Jewish Refugee Museum that told the stories of some of the Jews in Shanghai.



Celebrating Passover in China. Lynn Cooper is third from left.

There is an active Chabad in Shanghai, currently led by Rabbi Avraham Greenberg, which serves approximately 150 Jews made up of ex-pats and visiting business people and tourists.

So...back to the Seder. When I searched for a "Seder in Shanghai" I found an invitation to participate in a Seder held at the Renaissance Hotel Pudong (a neighborhood in Shanghai). The ticket was about \$60.00 with the option to make an additional donation.

I had no idea what to expect...would this night be even more different than usual? The Seder was called for 6:30. The setting was similar to a large sit-down bar mitzvah dinner in the ballroom of the Renaissance. When I arrived at 6:15 there were only two women sitting at one of the tables - I joined them and learned they were principals from Los Angeles in Shanghai as part of an exchange program.

see Shanghai, page 13

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Additional opportunities for tzedakah

Our Jewish community is blessed to have so many committed donors who make it possible for us to provide programs that enrich Jewish life and assist those in need locally, in Israel, and around the world. Many of our constituents aren't aware that there are other means of support in addition to the annual campaign.

One such avenue is by donating an automobile, motorcycle or other vehicle. Federation can make the arrangements necessary to pick up the vehicle; all the donors need to do is give us the title. Donors will receive a tax deduction for the value of the car. More information about this program is available on our website, www.jewishlexington.org.

Another means of support is by tribute contributions in honor of a special occasion or in memory of someone who has died. These tributes can be in any

amount and we will send a card to the person to be honored or to the family of the person to be remembered. If the contributor agrees, these tributes will be printed in *Shalom*.

Our monthly newspaper, *Shalom*, is a large component of the Federation budget. It is mailed to about 1000 homes. We encourage all our readers to consider committing to a voluntary subscription to *Shalom* for the cost of \$18 or more. By subscribing to the paper, funds used to print and mail *Shalom* can be used to support other programs and services.

Many of our children and grandchildren attend Camp Shalom and other Jewish resident camps. The costs of these programs are significant. A number of our families cannot afford

see Opportunities, page 14

Popkin receives fellowship

University of Kentucky history Professor Jeremy Popkin was recently appointed a fellowship for the 2012-13 academic year by the National Humanities Center. Popkin is one of 33 fellows who will have the opportunity to work on an individual research project and share ideas in seminars, lectures and conferences.

"The National Humanities Center is an ideal environment for scholars," Popkin said. "It is set up to encourage the exchange of ideas." Popkin will spend the year researching how the historical period that gave birth to the American Bill of Rights and the French Declaration of the Rights of Man also produced many forms of, what he called "unfreedom," which included an unprecedented expansion of the slave trade and the Reign of Terror.

"I'm looking forward to the rare opportunity to spend a year thinking and writing about a problem that has intrigued me since I was an undergraduate," Popkin said.

This year marks the 35th class of scholars to be admitted since the center opened in 1978, the same year that Popkin began his tenure at UK. During that time, Popkin has taught both graduate and undergraduate courses on the era of the French Revolution, French history and the Holocaust.

The fellowship is awarded to humanistic scholars in the fields of history, literature, philosophy, anthropology, art history, classics, linguistics, musicology, religion and Scandinavian studies. ☆

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Shalom

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The PJ Library is a national program offered locally, which mails free, high-quality and age appropriate Jewish children's literature

and music to families on a monthly basis.

All families raising Jewish children ages six months to eight years are welcome to enroll. JFB is proud to offer your family, through our partnership with local donors and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, this opportunity to explore the timeless core values of Judaism through books and music.

Enroll your children or grandchildren today! Call us at 859.268.0672 or visit www.pjlibrary.com and visit our Lexington community page.

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 what we do to the levels of those who come. No long-term commitment necessary. No charge. Worth every cent, at least!



The Jewish Federation OF THE BLUEGRASS



Lunch and Learn with our
Lexington community rabbis

Tues., June 26 with Rabbi Sharon Cohen

Tues., July 31 with Rabbi Marc Kline

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.



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Shalom Deadline

Deadline for articles for the August *Shalom* is July 10.
Email articles to shalom@jewishlexington.org

President's Message

Bob Grossman, JFB President

When I talk about Federation to Jewish folks in Lexington, the following question often lurks unspoken in the background. Why does Lexington need a Federation? After all, we already have two congregations and the Havurah. Doesn't Federation merely add to the "tzedakah burden" of Jewish members of the community without really bringing anything new to the table?

Good question. I hope that by the time you finish reading this article, you will understand why Lexington needs a Federation.

First, OZS, TAI, and the Havurah are primarily religious organizations. Certainly, Jews share many religious beliefs and practices, but Jewishness is not only about religion; it is also a matter of ethnic and even national identity, Israel, as well as God and Torah. The Federation is the place where Jews who express their religious identities in different ways can come together and express their ethnic and national identities. Those expressions may take various forms: financial and political support for the State of Israel, financial support for members of the Jewish community facing hardship both here and abroad, and educating our non-Jewish neighbors to reduce anti-Semitism are just a few of the activities that Federation undertakes uniquely.

Second, it is difficult to bring members of OZS, TAI, and the Havurah together in a single forum. In an unfortunate tradition, whose origins reach back about a hundred years to the mutual condescension between assimilated German Jews and more observant and recently-arrived eastern European Jews, there continues to be an emotional and institutional barrier separating Temple and synagogue members. I think that this barrier has weakened over time, and I hope it continues to

weaken, but it is still there. Through activities such as Camp Shalom & Gesher, the Winter Dinner, the Yom Hashoah commemoration, and the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration, Federation provides a place that both Temple and synagogue members can claim as their own.

Third, support for Jewish organizations is not a zero-sum game. The more ties that Jews in our community build to any of our organizations, the more that all of our organizations benefit. When the Federation subsidizes Jewish camping experiences for our community's children, it does so because research shows that kids who attend Jewish camps are much more likely to join Jewish congregations and raise Jewish kids themselves. On a purely financial level, many of the most generous donors to Federation are also the most generous donors to the religious organizations. Face it; many of us, including me, could afford to forego a few luxuries (eating out, entertainment tickets, vacations) in favor of giving more to Jewish charities. The barrier to increased giving to all of our Jewish institutions is not other Jewish institutions or even secular charities; it is all the other temptations that beckon for our money and attention.

By the time you have read this editorial, unless there was a revolt at the Annual Meeting, I will have been elected for a second year as president of your Federation. My goal over the next year is to use our Federation to foster a greater feeling of community among all of our Jewish neighbors, regardless of their affiliations to the religious organizations. ☆



Letter to the Editor

Dear Friends,

I was most surprised and pleased to accidentally discover today the article on the Skuller-Cohen family of Lexington, as published in the December 2008/January 2009 issue of *Shalom*.

I do quite a bit of work (genealogy, cemetery catalogues, community mega-trees, etc.) in connection with the Columbus (OH) Jewish Historical Society (CJHS) on whose Board I have served for a number of years. When giving a talk to a local Sisterhood this past Monday evening, a woman approached me with some questions about her family, many of whom are connected with the Skuller-Cohen story. In fact, she mentioned to me that her aunt – Lena Mickler Skuller – was from Lexington. Hence, the story rang a very loud bell, and was most thoroughly enjoyed.

In addition to that connection, I was interested in the Skuller family (and those who spell their name Sculler)

since they had deep and long roots in the Columbus area, especially in the jewelry business.

Furthermore, the story's reference to the Mickler family was of special interest, both because of some work that I have done in connection with the Piqua, OH Jewish cemetery, and the fact that I have had many years' interactions with the surviving Mickler relatives in Columbus.

As an added personal note, I can almost count myself as a member of your extended community: my aunt and mother were born in Mt. Sterling KY in 1902 and 1904, respectively, while my grandfather was running a small store there.

I thoroughly enjoyed the article. Please convey my compliments to the author.

Regards,
Jules J. Duga
julesduga@columbus.rr.com (home)

B'nai Mitzvah: Felix Satin

Felix Satin, son of Jonathan and Lisa Satin, will become a bar mitzvah on Shabbat, June 16, 2012, at Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

Felix' bar mitzvah project was to educate people about the work of the International Book Project, to raise funds for the International Book Project by

asking for donations, selling "Books Change Lives" T shirts, and doing a book drive for the new library at Mary Todd Elementary School.

Proud grandparents are Marci and Ernie Zied, Canton, Georgia and the late Florence and Leo Satin. ☆



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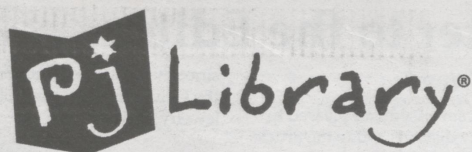
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JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES and SONGS

By Ilona Szekely

There is something really exciting for children about getting their own package in the mail. My daughter Emilie rushes to the door each day to look and see if mail has arrived and if there is anything for her. Most days she is disappointed. Yet, for the last year she had the blessing of knowing that in fact a package would promptly come every month from the PJ library.

Upon the PJ package's arrival, Emilie has formed a ritual with these special books. She frantically opens up her present and then curls up in my lap so I can read to her. While seemingly not a big deal, at age 8 and an avid reader herself, these moments where she still curls up on my lap are becoming fewer and more precious. So when a PJ library book arrives each month, both of us have a great deal to anticipate.

One exciting recent change for Emilie is that while she has grown up with these books in her personal library, she can now read them to herself.

While Emilie is a part of our Jewish community, attending religious school, and services at Ohavay Zion Synagogue, there is an amazing connection to the Jewish world that she receives through the pages of each book. The books she reads are a powerful way to bring her Jewish education home. Having talked to others who are not so involved in the Jewish community and maybe don't plan to be at the moment, the books provide a sense of caring from other Jews and perhaps an identity for their children.



I can still remember many of the stories that I read as a child at bedtime; they helped form my world and identity today. The special selections we receive each month will have a deep and lasting impact on my child. Having read almost two years' worth of PJ library books to Emilie as part of our bedtime ritual, I can say that these stories have impacted both of us. The books have taken us to places in the past, creating an understanding of our history, the folklore, and humor, of our people. What a powerful way to introduce identity and cultural heritage to the next generation! I am excited that we have the PJ library in our community, and I hope that our children are able to benefit from it for many years to come.

Ilona Szekely, Ph. D., is a Professor of Art Education at Eastern Kentucky University and has authored several articles on arts education. She is also on the board of the Kentucky Art Education Association. Ilona is the Principal of the Religious School at Ohavay Zion Synagogue, in Lexington, Kentucky. She reads PJ Library books with her daughter Emilie who attends Hebrew and Sunday school. ☆

Would you like to be featured as a PJ Library family in one of our publications? Feel free to send in an article like this, or even a quick blurb and/or bio. Don't forget a photo! We might publish it in places such as this paper, in a PJ Library e-newsletter, or Facebook. Call Tamara or Talia at 268-0672 for questions or more information.



JFS: At Your Service

Talia Smolkin, JFS Director

Different Backgrounds. One Family. (Continue to) Discuss.

Our vibrant community has come together on

several occasions, in different ways, to talk about interfaith relationships. As the Jewish Family Services Advisory Committee came together to plan this spring's Family Life Education program on interfaith relationships, we discussed the continuing relevance of the topic and that similar programs have been conducted over the years. A great number of families are part of an interfaith relationship, and unique questions often arise for families as they combine different backgrounds. Complex questions arise for those with relatives in interfaith relationships as they navigate roles and family matters. These quandaries arise, as well, for couples as they navigate what this means for their relationship to each other, their families and their faiths.

As we geared up for the program, many of our community members and leaders stated the salience of the topic in their lives as well as the significance of the matter in our local and worldwide Jewish community. People shared stories about discussion groups, conflict and reconciliation with families, friends and communities, and their evolving perspectives. I learned more from The Jewish Outreach Institute about how community organizations can take care that their policies, papers, programs, and daily interactions thoughtfully welcome families in all forms.

On May 9, a group of parents and grandparents of couples in interfaith relationships came together to discuss the relevancy in their lives. Led by Dr. David Feinberg, they discussed their situations, the variety of perspectives, their love for their families, and how they might balance their wishes with respecting their families' choices. They considered the tools in the book *Twenty*

Things for Grandparents of Interfaith Grandchildren to Do (And Not Do) to Nurture Jewish Identity in Their Children, by Rabbi Kerry Olitzky and Paul Golin.

This Family Life Education program of Jewish Family Services (JFS) was a great moment to come together and discuss this important subject. Many thanks to the JFS Advisory Committee, and David Feinberg, for their passion, insight, and commitment. And of course, significantly, this program was neither the beginning nor the end of the discussion. As many discussed interfaith relationships before the program, I am certain this will continue over the years. Couples and families of couples in interfaith relationships can connect with each other to share experiences and discuss common issues of concern, and families in various forms can connect and share in how we each relate to our Jewish identities and community.

The Jewish Outreach Institute (www.joi.org) is a fascinating resource that reaches out to families in interfaith relationships and helps communities be more welcoming. It has resources on interfaith relationships, Jewish holidays and tools for individuals and communities. Certainly, there are many other resources as well with varying perspectives. But most importantly, we continue to think and discuss our Jewish identities and the wide variety of forms of Jewish families, so we can all continue to feel welcome, pursue our Jewish lives, and share this rich community.

To contact Talia Smolkin, JFS Director, for information, referrals, or other needs, e-mail jfs@jewishlexington.org or call (859) 269-8244. ☆

Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates 100th anniversary

By Michael Ades

The OZS Centennial celebration began in February with a special service and program, at which Beth Goldstein and Rafi Finkel were honored for the countless hours each of them has spent and continues to commit in service to OZS.

The celebratory April weekend began on Friday night with about 200 members, friends from out of town, TAI, and the Lexington Havurah. The OZS choir, led by Anat Rubinstein, was a highlight of the evening. The OZS former Presidents Alan Stein and Beth Goldstein spoke with nostalgia and good humor. A wine, cheese, and dessert Oneg followed and the conversations went on to well after 11 p.m.

The traditional Shabbat service on Saturday was followed by a Kiddush luncheon, attended by about 275. The OZS choir again led the congregation in song. President Jonathan Glixon gave remarks and Rabbi Smolkin gave the Torah "Drash" sprinkled with Centennial comments. Honors during the service were provided to descendants of several founders, former Rabbis Uri Smith and Sharon Cohen and numerous other former presidents, Sisterhood presidents, education and other OZS leaders.

Saturday evening the celebra-

tion continued with a gala at the restored Lyric Theatre beginning with a Havdalah service followed by a band, food, and dancing with about 235 attending. Also, present, was a videographer who conducted interviews with many families about their OZS family histories and impressions of the Centennial celebration. The fun and fellowship went on until midnight.

Sunday morning 145 OZS celebrants enjoyed a delicious brunch at Joe Bologna's. The attendees reminisced happily in their former religious home. For many, the Maxwell Street Synagogue was the place of their bat or bar mitzvahs, britot, a few funerals, numerous High Holiday and other services, their religious education, and decades of meetings, socials, and other activities.

The weekend ended with a memorial service led by Rabbi Smolkin in the Jewish section of Lexington Cemetery. This service was followed by the unveiling by their children of the monuments for Sonia Moosnick, Marilyn and Franklin Moosnick, longtime devoted OZS members.

And so, after 100 years, an estimated 21 rabbis, 34 presidents, 39 Sisterhood presidents and numerous other officers, board members, Sunday and Hebrew School principals, teachers and aides,

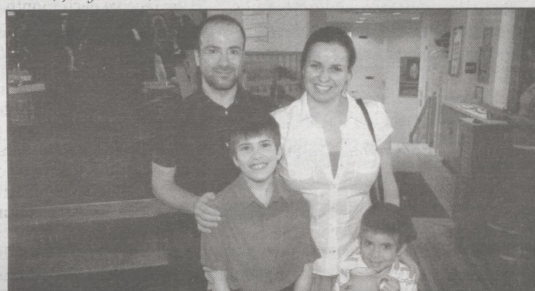
committee chairs, librarians, and its many members, OZS continues to thrive into its second century.

Special recognition and thanks for a hugely successful Centennial go to Co-chairs Simone Salomon and Teri Harper, their committee and others who devoted many hours to the celebration. A 124-page Centennial Book was produced largely by Shirley Bryan and Joyce Mischner (for a copy call the OZS office: 266-8050). And finally, thanks go to the generosity of the nine major sponsors and numerous other contributors whose support was indispensable to the OZS Centennial.

Ohavay Zion Synagogue was incorporated on April 12, 1912 by David Ades, Berel Kravetz, Sol Kahn, Nathan Rogers, and Joe Rosenberg as Ohavay Zion Congregation. OZS started with about 25 families, mostly from the Kovno province of Lithuania. In 1914, OZS purchased a Presbyterian church on Maxwell Street (now Joe Bologna's Restaurant). OZS steadily grew and moved in 1987 to its present building at Alumni and Edgewater Court. Now OZS has 186 family members, an enthusiastic and dedicated Rabbi Moshe Smolkin as its religious leader, a full complement of services and activities as an egalitarian Conservative synagogue, and a vibrant pre-school program (Gan Shalom). ✧



Bob Baumann, Judy Baumann, Judy Saxe, Stan Saxe, Gail Cohen, Abe Levine, Judy Levine, Hanna Smith, Rabbi Uri Smith.



Constantine and Olga Vulakh and sons David and Joseph.



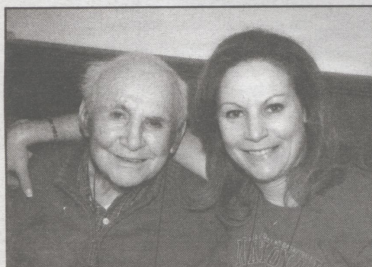
Seth, Erin, Jon, and Art Salomon.



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Ted Friedman & daughter Greta Rothschild.



Carol Kaplan.



Harriet Cooper, Ira Cooper, and Tina Trent.

Ask A Rabbi

Rabbi Sharon Cohen, Family Support Liaison, KODA-Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliates



Q: If mutilating the body after death is not possible under Jewish law, how is organ donation permissible? Why is it so important?

A: There are a number of reasons why our ancestors attached the reading of Ruth to the holiday of Shavuot. Some reasons focus on agriculture and the hope for a messianic era, though I believe that embracing our Jewish identity is the most central reason.

A: For years, the overwhelming perception within the Jewish community regarding organ donation was that it was against *Halakha* – Jewish Law. We know as Jews that it is our custom to bury our loved ones quickly, to avoid doing anything to the body that might alter it (like embalming, and yes, cremation), and to treat the body with great dignity (avoiding open casket funerals, dressing the body modestly in burial shrouds, etc.). Our Tradition teaches us that our bodies, even in death, belong to God, and as such, we are to uphold the mitzvah of *Kavod ha-Met* (honoring the dead) and the principle of *hesed* (acts of kindness, care and concern).

Even as we recognize these principles as vital to our understanding of death and burial, there is a third principle that plays a major role in our end-of-life and death decisions: *Pikuah Nefesh* – the obligation to save people's lives. This commandment is so deeply embedded in Jewish Law that, according to the Rabbis of the Talmud (and subsequent generations of scholars), it takes precedence over all other mitzvot. The only exceptions to the priority of saving a life come when one is threatened to commit murder, engage in idolatry, or take part in an incestuous or adulterous sexual act. One may even violate Shabbat in order to save one's own or another's life.

We could simply end our discussion here, cite *Pikuah Nefesh* as the reason organ donation is permissible, and call it a day. However, we all know that Jewish Law is never that simple!

Although *Pikuah Nefesh* technically overrides the mitzvah of honoring the dead and the principle of doing acts of kindness and care, it does not mean that we ignore these other very important obligations. In fact, in the case of organ donation, all three responsibilities continue to be fulfilled in tandem. Rabbi Elliott Dorff, a foremost scholar on Medical Ethics and current chair of the Conservative Movement's Committee of Jewish Law and Standards, describes it beautifully:

Saving a person's life and acting faithfully and kindly to others are values so sacred in Judaism that if a person's organ can be used to preserve someone else's life, it is actually an honor to the deceased person to use the organ in that way. Enabling a person to live through donation of an organ is also a supreme act of hesed – and the fact that the organ is a gift freely given is an important part of how both the donor and the recipient perceive it.

Thus, the opportunity to donate not only saves another's life, but also is considered an act that actually enhances, not detracts from, our mission to give kindness to and show honor for the dead.

While as Jews we are taught that organ donation is the noblest of ideals – and even an imperative – we are sometimes swayed from donation by psychological and emotional factors alone. In my role as a Family Support Liaison with Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliates (KODA), I have encountered many families (non-Jewish to this point) resistant to the idea of organ donation primarily based upon the fact that they don't want their loved one's body "cut on." I always explain to families that their loved one will be treated with the utmost dignity. S/he will remain in the same hospital room and with the same nursing staff until taken to the operating room. The retrieval of organs is done by transplant surgeons under sterile OR conditions just like any other surgery. After the organs

are removed, sutures are placed just as would be done in closing up a wound in a regular surgery so there is no disfigurement of the body. Everyone recognizes that the donor is not merely a body, but a person who has loved and is loved by others. Although the donation process may delay burial by a day or so, dignity of the body is always paramount in the process, and the common rituals associated with Jewish burial and mourning are not in any way affected by organ donation.

Despite education campaigns to the contrary, the misconception within the Jewish community that organ donation is "against Jewish Law" is still popular. Until now, the State of Israel has ranked at the bottom of Western countries on organ donation. Doctors in Israel have had little success in changing long-held attitudes against donation especially within the ultra-Orthodox Haredi community. Transplant surgeons found that Haredi Jews were accepting transplants, but refused to be donors based on "religious" reasons; and even secular Jews were citing "religious" reasons for refusing donation. To combat this, Dr. Jacob Lavee, a heart transplant surgeon, worked to create a new law taking affect this year, which gives priority to transplant patients who have, themselves, agreed to donate their organs. If two patients have identical medical needs for an organ transplant, priority will be given to the patient who has signed a donor card, or whose family member has donated an organ in the past. With this novel approach, Israel becomes the first country in the world to include "nonmedical" criteria into its donor/transplant process. A huge public awareness campaign about organ donation was launched as well resulting in an overwhelming number of Israelis registering as potential donors. Israel is already seeing the effects as consent rates for donation have increased and transplants have increased more than 60 percent so far this year.

So, why is organ donation so important? Currently, in the U.S., there are

over 110,000 people waiting for the lifesaving gift of an organ transplant; close to 800 of those live here in Kentucky. It is estimated that over 6,000 people die each year waiting for a transplant – about 18 individuals each day. Conversely, in 2010, nearly 22,000 successful organ transplants were performed. One might argue, "I am just a drop in the bucket, so let someone else do it." What people often forget is that one drop can make a difference! Out of all deaths that occur in the U. S. annually, only about 1% are medically eligible to be donors. That makes every eligible donor vital to the process – especially in Kentucky where poor health in the overall population further limits the number of potential donors. Last year there were about 100 organ donors in Kentucky. It doesn't sound like much, but when we stop to realize that one person has the potential to save up to eight lives through donation of the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small bowel, the difference a single donor can make can be astounding. Even if a donor can only give the gift of a single organ, the donation is no less important – especially to the recipient and his/her family. At KODA, we think of each donor as nothing less than a true HERO, and each donor family as heroic in allowing for donation.

I am happy to say that in my 9 months at KODA, I have worked directly with two Jewish families (both visiting from out of town) – guiding them through the organ donation process. Both families understood organ donation not just as "something good to do", but also as "the Jewish thing to do." In my mind, there is no higher gift one can give in death, than to give to another the gift of life. You can learn more about KODA, organ donation, and how to join the Kentucky Organ Donor Registry at www.kyorgandonor.org. ☆

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.com 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.

The 10th Annual Emilie Szekely Holocaust Awareness Writing Project

Contemporary Lessons of the Holocaust

In memory of Emilie Szekely, the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, in conjunction with the Szekely family, is proud to sponsor a special annual writing contest on the Contemporary Lessons of the Holocaust. Emilie Szekely was a Holocaust survivor who for many years dedicated herself to speaking to students in Kentucky about her experiences in Auschwitz and Bergen-Belzen. The writing project is an effort to continue Emilie's life work of keeping the lessons of the Holocaust a living memory.

The Emilie Szekely Holocaust Awareness Writing Project welcomes the contribution of students from the Central Kentucky area. Judging will be divided into two categories: Middle School and Elementary School.

The following are the winners in each category:

Why We Should Remember the Holocaust

by Amelia Loeffler, 4th Grade
1st Place Elementary School Winner
SCAPA Elementary School
Kelly Gunn, Teacher

During World War II, a man named Adolf Hitler gained control of a huge army called the Nazis in 1933. Hitler's goal was to kill every Jew and disabled person. He started small by making rules that made it against the law for Jewish people to have a job or own stores. He made all of the Jewish people wear a yellow star. Then he started to take all of the Jews and "relocate" them. He took them to concentration camps and made them work. They were given almost no food and many starved. Many Jews died because the Nazis killed them. In all about 11 million people died, and about one-quarter of all those people were children under the age of 15. Can you imagine living in a country where people are being killed just because they are different?

We should be very thankful that we do not live in a country where people are

being killed just because a dictator is in charge, and be thankful that we are all treated equally. Today we live in a country where the government is run by more than one person. We have a president, vice president, Senate and a Congress. We vote for the person that we think should be in charge. In our fortunate country, people are not killed or taken away because they are a certain religion. In the United States all people have equal rights.

We should learn about the Holocaust and remember all the people who died. We should remember the courageous members of the Resistance, and the people who were killed by Hitler and his army of Nazis. The Resistance was made up of people who knew what Hitler was doing was wrong. They secretly tried to stop the Nazis by destroying buildings and things that were valuable to the Nazis. If they were discovered, they would be killed. The people who were members of the Resistance didn't know the real names of the other people in the Resistance. That way if the Nazis discovered that one person was in it and wanted to know the names of others that were in the Resistance, the person could truthfully say that they didn't know.

If we don't learn about the Holocaust then it might be repeated. That might happen because people might not know to stop a bad person from gaining power. People might not know how to protect themselves, and other countries might not get involved until it is almost too late to stop the killing. This would be bad and people could get killed. If people are told about the Holocaust, they'll know more about how bad dictators are and that dictators should be stopped.

Learning about the Holocaust is important, because if we don't, then how can we appreciate the brave members of the Resistance, or remember the people who perished? If we don't learn about the Holocaust, then tragic events might be repeated. Learning about the Holocaust is important because, if we don't, then bad things might happen and the Holocaust might be forgotten.

see Writing Project, page 13

B'nai B'rith Sports Night Steak/Salmon Cookout

The Stanley Rose Lodge of B'nai B'rith is pleased to announce that Coach Joker Phillips will be the featured speaker at our annual cookout this year.

The Sports Night evening will be held at Temple Adath Israel on Tuesday, July 31 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The entire community is invited to attend.

The cost for the meal is \$15.
Reservations are necessary and may be made by email to bbsteakdinner@comcast.net or by calling Abe Rabiner at (859) 263-0039.

Be sure to state which entrée you want, steak or salmon.

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JCPA Announcement: Divestment Resolution Defeated in Methodist Church

An attempt to force the United Methodist Church (UMC) to divest from three companies doing business with Israel was overwhelmingly defeated today at the UMC's quadrennial General Conference. Instead the UMC supported a motion calling for "positive investment" into the Palestinian economy, by a 3 to 1 margin. "We are glad that responsible voices in the UMC were able to defeat this harmful proposal and focus on positive investment," said JCPA President Rabbi Steve Gutow. "The rejection of divestment is a welcome outcome and a relief to me and the over 1,200 American rabbis who signed an unprecedented letter to Church delegates offering partnership in peacemaking and warning that divestment would undermine ongoing efforts for peace and damage interfaith relations." Gutow added that "Divestment is a blunt tool that, by singling out Israel, actually makes reconciliation more difficult." Had the divestment resolution passed, it would have required the UMC to divest from

Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola Solutions. Efforts to remove divestment language succeeded in the early stages of the General Conference and attempts to add it back failed in committee and plenary by 2-1 margins. The final resolution, which calls for positive investment, passed by a 3-1 margin. The Rabbinic letter was signed by clergy in all 50 states. The letter was coordinated by the Jewish Council for Public Affairs and the Israel Action Network, a joint initiative of the Jewish Federations of North America and the JCPA, together with leaders from the American Jewish Committee and the Conservative, Reconstructionist, Reform, and Orthodox movements. Notwithstanding the positive outcome on divestment, serious concerns remain, as the General Conference also narrowly passed an unhelpful resolution rebuking Israeli settlements and calling for a boycott of products made in them – although explicitly rejecting a boycott of products made in Israel. ☆

TAI elects new leadership



PHOTO BY GARRY HOOVER

Anne Graff, Joe Grobstein, Judy Engelberg, Ken Slepyan, Rabbi Marc Kline, and Dianne Bazell.

At TAI's recent Annual Meeting, new officers and Board members were elected. They are:

New Board members

Joe Brill
Diana Clewett
Trevor Creamer
Rosie Moosnick
Deborah Nelson
Lowell Nigoff
Janet Taff
Lisa Taulbee

Executive Committee

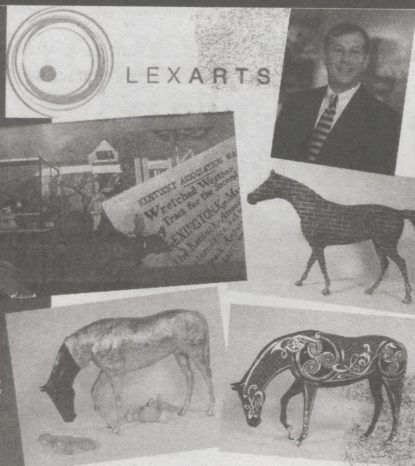
President	Judy Engelberg
1st VP	Joe Grobstein
2nd VP	Debra Booker
Treasurer	Dianne Bazelle
Secretary	Anne Graff
Past Pres.	Ken Slepyan

*JFS Jewish Family Services Upcoming Programs

Leisure Club

Thursday,
June 28
12 noon
at JFB

Lunch & Arts
Review by Jim
Clark, President
and CEO of
LEXARTS



For more information about these events, to RSVP, or to arrange transportation to the event location, please contact Talia Smolkin at (859) 269-8244 or jfs@jewishlexington.org.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



PHOTO BY GARRY HOOVER

Joe Brill, Janet Taff, Deborah Nelson, Diana Clewett, Mickey Hernandez.



PHOTO BY GARRY HOOVER

Rabbi Marc Kline, Lowell Nigoff, Joe Brill, and Dianne Bazell.

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A one-year membership is free for your children, ages 6 months to 8 years old only, and space is limited, so contact us by phone at 859.268.0672, email us to pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org, or scan the code below with your smartphone to go to the online enrollment form now.

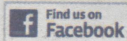


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JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES and SONGS

June/July 2012 *Shalom* | 9

Hadassah Central States Region Spring Forum

By Betty Nigoff

Hadassah Central States Region Spring Forum Agenda was held April 28-29, 2012. Melanie Shapiro, Kathie Kroot, Evalyn Block, Odette Kaplan, Betty Nigoff, and Judy Worell attended the forum from Lexington. We met new Hadassah members from our region, along with a developing chapter from Louisville, and renewed friendships from past forums. We had an educational Skype call from Barbara Sofer in Jerusalem who spoke to us about all the wonderful Hadassah Hospital happenings. She is very inspirational, and we all enjoyed talking with her.



Kathie Kroot shows off her goody bag.



Kathie Kroot, Odette Kaplan and Melanie Shapiro.



Betty Nigoff, Judy Worell, Odette Kaplan, Melanie Shapiro, Kathie Kroot, and Evalyn Block.

We had a session about remembering the past, embracing the present, and looking to the future. Our own Bella Abzug (Evalyn Block) was featured along with Ruth Ginsburg, Sophie Tucker, and Betty Friedan. This was quite an entertaining part of the program, and Evalyn should consider an acting career. She was wonderful, totally, as Bella Abzug. She received many accolades throughout the evening.

We all enjoyed this forum, and look forward to the fall forum. ☆



Evalyn Block (aka Bella Abzug).



Ruth Ginsburg, Sophie Tucker, Betty Friedan, Bella Abzug.

B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Ruth Poley



Some light summer fare

In the summer, I'm a fan of any meal that comes together quickly and doesn't heat up the kitchen. The following two salads meet the criteria and have the added benefits of being somewhat out of the ordinary and tasting delicious. Serve them on a bed of Bibb lettuce leaves for an extra special treat.

Avocado Salad with Pine Nuts and White Beans

- 1 ripe avocado, peeled, seeded and cut into 1/2 inch dice
- 1 to 2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice, or to taste
- 2 cups cooked white beans (cannellini, great northern, navy), rinsed well and drained
- 3 tbsp. top quality extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tbsp. toasted pine nuts
- 3 tbsp. finely chopped red onion
- 3 tbsp. finely chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 1 1/2 tsp. chopped fresh rosemary
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 oz. thinly sliced and slivered roast beef or turkey (optional)

Combine avocado and lemon juice in a mixing bowl and toss gently. Add beans, oil, pine nuts, onion, parsley, rosemary, salt and pepper, and roast beef or turkey (if using) and gently toss (be careful not to mash the avocado) to mix. Adjust seasonings, adding salt, pepper and lemon juice to taste.

Chickpea and Olive Salad with Fennel

- 3 cups chickpeas, freshly cooked or canned, rinsed and drained
- 1 large clove garlic, finely minced
- 18 European style olives (try the olive bar at Liquor Barn), pitted and halved
- 2/3 cup finely diced fresh fennel*
- 2 tablespoons minced scallions
- 2 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon black olive paste (available in fancy food shops, or mash up a few olives that you've bought)
- 5 tablespoons fruity extra-virgin olive oil
- salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Place the chickpeas in a bowl and gently mix in the garlic, olives, fennel, scallions, and parsley. In a separate bowl mix the lemon juice with the olive paste and olive oil. Pour over the chickpea mixture and toss gently. Season with salt and pepper and mix again.

*The most readily available, best, and least expensive fennel in town is usually at Meijer's.

NOTE: If you have an appropriate food story you'd like to share, or a recipe you think others in the Jewish community might enjoy, please email me at rgp@insightbb.com

Yom Ha Atzmaut Celebration



Israeli dancing.



Lew and Aviva Bowling.



Rafi Finkel and Rabbi Marc Kline.



OZS and TAI choirs.



The Nelson Family shares a meal together.

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Shanghai (from page 1)

The room didn't fill up until 6:45 and the Seder began at 7:00.

My other tablemates were a family from London and a husband and wife from New York who travel in China to train therapists. We had a great time!

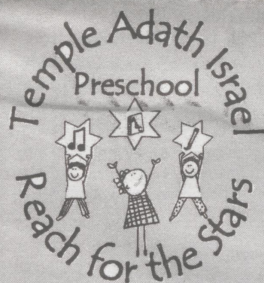
The main difference with this Seder (other than it was in China), and the part I enjoyed the most, was when Rabbi asked volunteers to recite the first of the four questions in their own language. We had Russian, Italian, French, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, and American Sign Language.

Everyone at our table expressed how we thought about not going...blowing off the Seder... but in the end we were all so glad we came. The spirit of connectivity of Jews from around the world coming together to celebrate Passover was very strong.

The neat thing was, in such a foreign culture as China, I found a Seder that was almost exactly the same as sitting at Harriet & Leon's table... we even got wind-up frogs that hopped around during the recitation of the ten plagues! I have to say, though, Mom's food is much, much better! ☆

ATTENTION proud grandparents, parents, and 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



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Writing Project (from page 7)

Remembering the Holocaust

By Amelia Hurt, 8th Grade
1st Place Middle School Winner
Tates Creek Middle School
Ann Kelly, Teacher

What do we do when monsters walk the Earth, inhuman cruelty lurking behind such human eyes, stealing souls away from their homes only because they are different, condemning them to short lives of horror and deaths that seem to linger an eternity? We thank God it is not us the monsters seek and move on. How do we react when bodies walk the streets, shells of people bound in chains, defeated and trudging along, their forlorn and terrified faces the only part of them that even seems alive and their own legs carrying them to their deaths? We stand aside and pretend not to see. What do we say when a sadistic man rises to power and preaches of his plans to eliminate an entire people because they are so easy to blame for all his country's problems, and it seems like everyone listens and agrees without question? Absolutely nothing. This sounds like an unspeakable nightmare, surreal but painfully tangible. But in reality, this is not a frightening dream; it is a disturbing memory. In the 1930's and 40's, this is exactly what happened.

During this time in history, people of the Jewish ethnicity became the scapegoat for German society. Adolf Hitler, a very cunning and skillful man, evil in all his ways, made influential speeches to the people of Germany, convincing them that all of German's problems were entirely caused by Jews. His ignorance spread like wildfire. Everywhere, his face became plastered on walls and his words were worshipped like the testaments of a god. Hitler gathered an army of what were called the Nazis that made his opinion a way of life to anyone who would cooperate and then silenced anyone who didn't. But Hitler and his men's most brutal action was the systematic murder, or genocide, of millions of "undesirables": the Jews. This period of hatred and prejudice was called the Holocaust.

Some may believe the Holocaust was entirely Hitler's fault. He started the spark, so the fire that followed was all his doing. They are wrong. What about everyone else, people who physically had nothing to do with the Holocaust, but watched while it happened, totally aware? Where were they?

They were standing aside, allowing

millions to perish under the reign of demons, knowing it was wrong, but never attempting to intervene. Then, as soon as they were confronted with the truth, they denied ever having suspected any violence among such prejudice as a way of keeping blood off their hands and their dishonorable decision of keeping mum from haunting their conscious. No one stepped up and spoke out against the Holocaust when it really mattered. There was no mercy, for few were courageous enough to give it. Scared, innocent people were caught in the midst of pointless discrimination, and they needed someone to come and provide that mercy. Stripped of their humanity, weak, and surrounded by hatred, so many relied on the thinning hope of rescue for the will to go on. Yet we sat and did nothing. It was just as much the fault of the bystanders who let it happen.

It is everyone's responsibility to create a better, undivided world, and the Holocaust was a time when those responsibilities should have been embraced and acted upon instead of shunned. We cannot simply play the roles of bystanders and then wait around for people to save themselves. We have to speak out against the discrimination we see in people no matter how minuscule or seemingly unimportant it may be. We have to care. We have to see the wrong that is placed right in front of us no matter how hard it is to accept. But most of all, we need to understand the horrors the human race is capable of and fight for them to end.

I know this probably sounds like a tall order to some, but honestly it's easier than it seems. What all of this basically boils down to is to make a difference, we cannot be indifferent. When someone is suffering, anyone else caring is a blessing, even now when society is not nearly as divided as it has been in recent times. We could do things as small as telling a bully in school to stop ridiculing another student or befriending a new, unaccepted employee at work. We could start forming relationships that are blind to ethnicity, gender and race and develop a mindset that all people are equal. Even little actions like this could make a very meaningful change in one person's or many people's lives. We need to remember the Holocaust. It reminds us of all the tragedies prejudice can cause and how long something so terrible could continue when no one fights for its victims. We have to keep the souls of the departed close in our hearts, for they will give us all the reason we need to keep something like the Holocaust from ever happening again. ☆

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Jane Chaput, President

Israeli medical clown helps treat children worldwide

Several months ago in this column, I referred to trained medical clowns so I thought that I might expand on this topic for this June's column. I had never really heard of medical clowns until I got involved with Hadassah and at first wondered about them. Therefore, of course, I did a little research that I am happy to pass on to you.

Clown Care is a program in hospitals and medical centers involving visits from specially trained clowns. They are sometimes called "Clown Doctors" or (Dream Doctors) which is a trademarked name in several countries. These visits to hospitals have been shown to help healing patients with the positive power of hope and humor. There is also an associated positive benefit to the staff and the families of patients.

Israel has become a global leader in the field. The University of Haifa now offers a bachelor's degree in medical clowning. The field combines nursing, psychology, physical therapy and the history of medicine together with juggling and improvisational comedy.

The program, funded by the Israeli-based Magi Foundation entirely from private donations, has placed 70 clowning specialists in 17 hospitals and clinics all across Israel.

David Barashi is a Hadassah Hospital medical clown who has traveled all over the world with Hadassah medical teams bringing his unique brand of healing to suffering children wherever needed. He has volunteered in Hadassah's outreach in India, with AIDS-stricken orphans in Ethiopia, with tsunami survivors in Southeast Asia, with civilians in northern Israel

during the war with Lebanon, and in earthquake-stricken Haiti.

Barashi earned an undergraduate degree in nursing and theater arts from the University of Haifa. He also writes, directs, produces, acts and works as artistic director on various plays and projects. He helps physicians relate to acutely and chronically ill children and their parents, and he often is able to use laughter to help children endure painful and stressful medical procedures.

Barashi was one of four Israeli clowns who arrived in Haiti on the Friday following the earthquake. As delicately as Barashi and his colleagues work with sick youngsters in Hadassah Hospital, seeking their unspoken permission to come closer, that delicacy was magnified many times among the traumatized children they met in Haiti. "We took our cue from the youngsters," he said.

There was a little girl whose crushed leg had been amputated just above the knee. Her dressing needed changing but she was in pain and screaming: "Be careful of my leg!" Barashi went over and repeated her words, as best he could in the language in which she spoke them. "She stopped struggling and stared at me," he said. "I said her words again. And then I chanted them and then began to sing them, mugging around. She giggled and joined in my 'song,' correcting my pronunciation as we sang - and the nurse changed her dressing."

Research on the physiological health benefits of laughter has been conducted for decades and continues internationally. As demonstrated by Hadassah's David Barashi and his colleagues, medical clowns speak a language that needs no translation. ☆

Opportunities (from page 1)

to send their children. We have a fund that provides need-based scholarships for these campers and merit-based scholarships for Israel programs for teenagers. Additional funds for these scholarships are always welcome.

Most importantly, we invite you to consider a legacy gift. Planning this

gift now will inspire generations. A legacy gift can provide programs for children and families, support our elderly, and assure that the Jewish traditions and culture we hold dear will live on and flourish. For information about any of these giving opportunities, please contact Judy Wortman at 268-0672 or jfb@jewishlexington.org. ☆

Our 2012 Shalom Contributors

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Marjorie Weiss

*In honor of her father, Ernest Guter.

Congratulations and Yasher Koach
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for their dedication and hours of volunteer time
to help our community and the work of the Jewish Federation.

Connie Loventhal
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Elissa Weinstein
The Young Leadership Award

Linda Ravvin
The President's Award

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum (z"l)
The Ruth Gerard Poley Award for Excellence in Writing
given posthumously

Special thanks to our incoming Board members
Lori Bernard, Mimi Kaufman, Seth Salomon, Paul Tillier, & Mickey Hernandez

and our exiting Board members
Bill Lucas, Jennifer Miller, & David Shakib

and to all of you who continue to both serve on the Board and offer
countless hours of volunteer time and financial support.

Additional thanks to all of
those Board members and
friends who helped before
and after the event.



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Kids' Shabbat and PJ Library

An invitation for all those with young Jewish children:

Kids' Shabbat is our monthly Shabbat Service for 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.

Please join us for another exciting year of Kids' Shabbats, Fridays at 5:30pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue!

August 17
September 14
October 19
November 16
December 14
January 4
March 15
April 26
May 17

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

Youth Shabbat and Stewart Home

Youth Shabbat is geared for ages 8 through 18. We begin by welcoming in our friends from Stewart Home with a pizza dinner. Then we all celebrate Shabbat with our students helping to lead services. This is a wonderful Shabbat Program filled with music and joy.

Please join us for another exciting year of Youth Shabbat and Stewart Home Services, Fridays at 5:30pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue!

August 24
October 12
November 2
December 14
January 11
February 1
March 8
April 12
May 10

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

Young OZS-ers' Shabbat

An invitation for Jewish folks in their 20's and 30's:

Young Jews celebrate Shabbat with Fabulous Friday Nights Filled with Food, Fun, and Festivities. This is a great way to meet other young Jews and celebrate Shabbat. Newcomers and friends are always welcome!

Please join us for another exciting year of Young OZS-ers, Fridays at 6:00pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue!

September 7
October 26
November 30
December 21
January 25
February 15
March 22
April 5
May 3

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

Ohavay Zion Synagogue Shabbat Morning Services

Please join us any Saturday morning of the year, as Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates Shabbat. Our worship is filled with joyous song and fascinating Torah discussions. 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!

Special Class: The Basics of the Saturday Morning Service

Please join us as we learn the meaning behind the prayers. We will also learn how to quickly recognize where we are in the service, and what's coming up next. These 4 short classes will be held over 4 Shabbats from 1:00 to 1:30pm on May 19th, May 26th, June 2nd, and June 9th. All are welcome.

The Friday Nights of July -- Shabbat in the City

Join us Friday evenings in July as we venture out of Ohavay Zion Synagogue and into the greater city of Lexington. During July we will enjoy our Friday night services in congregant homes with nosh and fun socializing. Please email office@ozs.org for more information.

Friday Morning Talmud Study

The Talmud Study group meets each Friday morning for prayer, food, and study. The morning begins with the brief Shacharit service at 7:30am followed by a light breakfast and study. Newcomers 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. Please join us Tuesday afternoons from 5:45pm to 6:15pm.

Interested in Ohavay Zion Synagogue?

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming Jewish community. If you are interested, or if you know someone new to the Lexington area who may be interested in learning more about Ohavay Zion Synagogue, please call our membership chairs Ricki Rosenberg at 221-2121 or Harriet Cooper at 269-1136, or email Rabbi Smolkin at Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

Planning on leaving town for a few months? Going on a long vacation? Moving any time soon?

You can help save the Jewish Federation money by informing us of your plans and preventing the U.S. Postal Service from charging us for returned mail and address change notices.

Before you go, call the Federation office or send us an email and let us know if you would like the mail sent temporarily to a different address, at no charge to you, or halted for a certain number of months. Give us a chance to get it right for you on the first mailing.

Contact Tamara at (859) 268-0672 or tamara@jewishlexington.org

Are you on the Jewish Federation's email list?

We send updated announcements and special event details weekly to those who wish to receive them.

Send Tamara Ohayon an email if you would like to join the list.

tamara@jewishlexington.org



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June/July 2012 Shalom | 15

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The Jewish Federation
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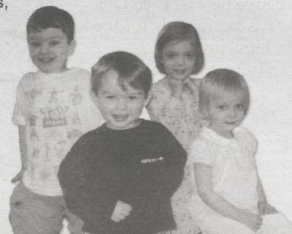
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The Lexington Havurah

Jeremy D. Popkin, 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 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 popkin@email.uky.edu, or the co-chairs of the Membership Committee, Evelyn Geller (859) 278-3609, or David Feinberg, (859) 223-1304, kdfm@insightbb.com.

"Learning What Community Really Means"

By Jeremy D. Popkin

Last week, the Lexington Havurah lost one of its longtime members, Isabel Russotto. Isabel was the sister of Gail Cohen, who was, together with her late husband Irwin "Ernie" Cohen, one of the founders of our congregation in 1978.

Unlike Gail, who remains a pillar of the Havurah and of many other Jewish organizations, Isabel never led us in prayer at any of our services. She never helped keep our group going by occupying a position on our board. She never contributed to our lively discussions about the weekly parsha or current issues.

Isabel could not take her turn doing these things, as the other members of our participatory congregation do, because she had the misfortune to be severely handicapped. It was only thanks to Gail Cohen's exemplary devotion that she was able to attend many of our services. And yet I learned some real lessons about the importance of community from Isabel Russotto.

Even if she struggled to express it, Isabel clearly found being with us at our religious services deeply meaningful. She listened intently to our prayers and songs. She knew the names of the congregation's members. She could sense it when we were sharing a feeling of sadness or of joy, but she responded to our moods in her own way. I'll never know what Isabel could have understood of my life, but she would sometimes stop me as I was on my way out the door after a service and tell me earnestly, "You take care."

Keeping a group like the Havurah going takes people who can plan things. It takes people who have learned Jewish ritual practices. It takes people who are not afraid to get up in front of a group and speak, or even sing. Most of all, however, it takes people who can make others feel that coming together to share fellowship is important. That was something Isabel did as well as any of us. Isabel, we'll miss you.

This column is my last as president of the Lexington Havurah, an office I am now turning over to Stanley Saxe. This column may be a modest bully pulpit, but I have enjoyed sharing it with my fellow Havurah member Judy Goldsmith. The last time I wrote a regular newspaper column, it was for the editorial page of the Berkeley Daily Californian. The time was the early 1970s, and I'm sure Richard Nixon always took my advice to heart.

The early 1970s, when I was in graduate school, were also the first years when I joined a Jewish group. We called ourselves the Radical Jewish Union, we had a terrible softball team called "The Elders of Zion," and we put out a newspaper, the Jewish Radical, one of whose articles was actually cited in a debate in the Israeli Knesset. It's been fun returning to Jewish journalism after all these years, and perhaps Shalom will give me another chance when I return from my upcoming sabbatical year, during which I will be a research fellow at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina.

☆

Temple Adath Israel

124 N. Ashland Avenue
President, Ken Slepian • (859) 269-2979

Chavurat Chochma program

We will meet again on July 27 at 11:30 AM in the social hall for an interesting program following lunch. Cost is \$6 per person. While this program was designed for those sixty and over, anyone may attend. RSVP to Sandee by July 23, 2012 at 269-2979.

Kollel study group

Kollel meets at 9 AM every two weeks in the TAI Library. The group explores cultural, ethical, and historical aspects of our 4000-year tradition. Its emphasis is on dialog and exploration. Please join us any time. **June 2, 16 & 30; July 14 & 28.**

Torah study

Rabbi Kline conducts the study of the Tanakh (the Bible) from the Book of Joshua and beyond using the new Jewish Study Bible on alternate Saturdays at 9 AM in the Library. **June 9 & 23; July 7 & 21.**

Parsha

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 AM to take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Rabbi will lead some, and everyone also will take turns. Join us on **June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30; July 7, 14, 21, & 28.** We will have worship with Parsha on June 16 and July 21. See you in the library!

TAI Preschool

Katherine Henry, Director

Preschool Spots Available

- Two Year Olds can come two, three, or five days a week
- Three Year Olds can come three or five days a week
- Four year Olds come five days a week

Our hours are 8:30 to 12:00 (we

are a half-day program).

We will be offering early-bird drop-off at 8:00 a.m. and also a lunch bunch on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. for an additional charge.

Please contact Katherine Henry if you have any questions or would like to sign up for the 2012-2013 school year. The number for the preschool is 269-1915.

PICTURE THIS...

Temple Adath Israel celebrates Art and Bourbon with An Art Auction, Bourbon Tasting and Hors d'oeuvres.

Saturday, June 2, 2012, 7-9 PM at TAI

ATTEND: \$10 per person/\$18 per couple

SPONSOR: Sponsorship for event from \$150

For more info, contact Laura Hopkins at laurhop146@aol.com or 269-1659.

SIM SHALOM NEWS

By Jesse Weil, from Budapest, Hungary

Sim Shalom's congregational Seder this year was held in the Club of Authors and Artists, a famous gathering place for the more creative inhabitants of Budapest, and also a place with a very fine chef. The Israeli owner was most kind and cooperative in helping us set up for the evening, and making sure that the meal was the best we've had in all the community Seders I've ever attended. Goose leg, salmon, and vegetarian were the choices. Over a hundred people attended, including guests from the U.S. and Israel, and many Hungarians for whom this is one of the main Jewish events in their life. Rabbi Kelemen passed out the reading assignments from

the Haggadah and other sources telling of the Jewish people's search for freedom. And, the evening ended with our now traditional pouring back of Elijah's cup of wine into the bottle. It was a great and inspiring evening.

Two weeks later we carried out another 12 year-old tradition, welcoming Rabbi Joel Abraham from Scotch Plains, NJ and his confirmation class for Friday night services. Every year Joel brings his kids to Europe for a week of visiting significant Jewish places in Germany, Poland and Hungary. After the downers of holocaust museums and Auschwitz and the Warsaw ghetto, they need to see that Judaism is still alive and thriving again in this land with so many bloody memories. So we welcome them to our Shabbat services, get them to participate with the English parts of our Siddur, and after a hearty meal of pizza and palacsinta (Hungarian version of crepes with a sweet filling), end the evening with a sing-along of the songs from our songbook. Every class is different, some outgoing, some more reserved. This one was all boys, including two Jacobs and two Brians. Our youth group members helped break the ice due to the big cultural differences. It was fun talking to them, once we got started. We greatly value this connection to our sister congregation in the U.S. who give us so much support on many levels.

On the political scene, we are now reregistered as a Religious Association, rather than as a Religious Institution (Church), as we were before the government passed its very restrictive new Church Law. Next year we can reapply for the status of Church, which would bring significant financial advantages. ☆

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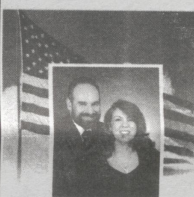
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OZS Gala Celebration



PHOTO BY NEIL SULIER PHOTOGRAPHY

A Havdalah service led by Rabbi Smolkin kicked-off the event.



PHOTO BY NEIL SULIER PHOTOGRAPHY

Judy Saxe, Susan Caller, Macki Bobys, and Sandra Berger.



PHOTO BY NEIL SULIER PHOTOGRAPHY

Guests and old friends danced into the night to live music.

18 | June/July 2012 Shalom

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:

Nancy and Phil Hoffman on the birth of their new granddaughter, **Maren**. Maren is the daughter of **Mark and Kristen Hoffman**.

Ethan Archer, son of **Sandra and Sandy Archer**, on becoming a bar mitzvah at OZS.

Judy Saxe upon being honored by national Hadassah.

Brant and Jacquelyne Hostetler, on the birth of their daughter, **Sofia Analise Hostetler**.

Past Presidents of TAI who will be honored on Shabbat, June 22, 7:30 PM. Guest Speaker: Dr. Eli Capiluoto.

Aaron McKee who received the Outstanding Chemistry Major Award from the Dept. of Chemistry at the WKU Ogden College of Science & Engineering Student Awards Ceremony. Aaron

is the son of **Julie Diamond McKee and Chadwick McKee**.

Nicholas Waltman, who received a scholarship from Sayre School. Nicolas is a rising 11th grader and the son of **Dr. Jonathan & Wendy Waltman**

Condolences to:

The family of **Larry Gerson**, husband of **Ida Gerson**, son of **Dr. Kenneth Gerson**, father of **Brian and David Gerson**, brother of **Dr. Arlene "Cooky" Gerson** and uncle of **Hadass V. Gerson**.

Bobbi & Andrew Fried, on the death of Bobbi's mother, **Marian Perel**.

Charles & Deborah Kratzer, on the death of Charles' brother, **John Kratzer**.

Gail Cohen on the death of her sister, **Isabel Rusotto**.

Stewart Home Visits -Volunteers Welcome!



Jewish Family Services of JFB welcomes volunteers who wish to visit Jewish residents at the Stewart Home School in Frankfort, Kentucky. Stewart Home visits are both meaningful and fun for both volunteers and residents. Volunteers typically carpool from Lexington.

Help make a difference in the lives of others. Volunteer now!

This year's schedule:

JUNE 28 (THURS) - Program run by JFB staff and volunteers.

AUGUST 21 (TUES) - Fun program and pre-Rosh Hashanah celebration.

OCTOBER 4 (THURS) - Special program and Sukkot celebration.

DECEMBER - Chanukah party.

To find out more or volunteer, contact Talia Smolkin at jfs@jewishlexington.org or 859-269-8244.



The Jewish Federation OF THE BLUEGRASS Jewish Family Services

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The **Shalom Newspaper** is published ten times per year. It is mailed to over 1,200 local businesses and households. **Shalom** is distributed free of charge and is the most effective, cost-efficient way to reach Central Kentucky's Jewish community.

Month-To-Month Rates

Full Page 10.167" x 11.42" \$220 BW \$300 Color	1/2 Page Vertical 5" x 11.42" \$132 BW \$215 Color	1/2 Page Horizontal 10.167" x 5.645" \$132 BW \$215 Color
1/4 Page 5" x 5.645" \$88 BW \$132 Color	1/8 Page 5" x 2.72" \$60 BW \$105 Color	Business Card 3.277" x 2.15" \$40 BW \$82 Color

Center Spread 21"x11.42" \$440 BW • \$600 Color.

*All other ads are billed at \$12 per column inch.

*Ad production is available at \$15 per hour.

Rates for contracted terms (per issue)**

Size	5x	10x	w/Color
Full	210	198	+75
1/2 Vert.	125	121	+75
1/2 Horiz.	125	121	+75
1/4	82	77	+40
1/8	55	50	+40
Bus. Card	38	28	+40
Dbl. Truck	420	396	+160

**A contract must be signed prior to insertion of the first ad. Prepaid contracts will be discounted 10% off the total.

Terms

The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass will not be responsible for errors, except to cancel charge for such portion of advertisements as may be rendered valueless by error.

All material is subject to approval by the Federation. The Federation reserves the right to reject any material it deems objectionable for any reason.

Deadline

Deadline for camera-ready art is the 10th of the month prior to the month of publication.

For more details about advertising please contact Tamara Ohayon at the JFB office.
(859) 268-0672 or tamara@jewishlexington.org



Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass
CENTRAL KENTUCKY

GUIDED CANOE TOUR OF ELKHORN CREEK THRU FRANKFORT!
JUNE 17
10 A.M.
\$15/PERSON
 Bring your own lunch.
 Carpools strongly encouraged.
 RSVP to Tamara by June 8.

Guided Tour & Tasting
July 15 at 4:30 p.m.
 501 West Sixth Street
 RSVP by July 11th
 More info coming soon.

KOSHER BBQ CONTEST & COLOR WAR

AUGUST 19 @ 4:30 PM. JACOBSON PARK
 Contact Tamara for more info about entering the cooking contests (vinegar coleslaw, brisket, chicken, or pie...which we'll eat first!) Semi-strict guidelines apply. Cost for this event will be advertised soon! Open to all Jewish singles & couples (even if you aren't both Jewish), ages 21 to "40-ish", in Lexington and surrounding counties.



YBJ is a gathering of local Jewish adults, ages 21 to "40-ish" (about 45), who get together monthly for social events. Join our mailing list. Contact Tamara Ohayon at tamara@jewishlexington.org, (859) 268-0672, or find us on Facebook!

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Community Calendar

• **JFB - Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass - www.jewishlexington.org**

• 1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 112 • 268-0672 • Robert Grossman, President

• **OZS - Ohavay Zion Synagogue - www.ozs.org**

• 2048 Edgewater Court • 266-8050 • Jonathan Glixon, President

• Minyan Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:45 p.m. Tuesdays are D'vine Minyan: wine at 5:00 p.m., service follows. Friday evening rotating Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 p.m., Kids' Shabbat 5:15 p.m., Shabbat dinners 6:00 p.m., Young OZS-ers' Shabbat dinners 6:00 p.m. Check OZS Google calendar for monthly schedules. Shabbat Services Saturdays 9:30 a.m.

• **TAI - Temple Adath Israel - www.textai.org**

• 124 N. Ashland Avenue • 269-2979 • Ken Slepyan, President

• Shabbat Services first & second Friday at 6:30 p.m., remaining Fridays 7:30 p.m.; Worship Service Saturday 10:30 a.m.

• **HAD - The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah - www.centralstates.hadassah.org**

• Jane Chaput, President • chaput1@windstream.net

• **HAV - The Lexington Havurah - www.lexhavurah.uscjhst.net**

• 338-5725 • Jeremy Popkin, President • popkin@uky.edu • Shabbat Services monthly, call for schedule.

• **BB - B'nai B'rith Mid-America Region, Stanley Rose Lodge #0289**

• 1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 112 • Bruce Broudy, President • bbrou@lexclin.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Shavuot	Memorial Day	Lunch and Learn with our local rabbis				
27	Shavuot - JFB Office Closed	28	29	30	31	June 1
JFB Yiddish Class		JFS Advisory Committee Meeting (Members only)				
JFB Major Gifts Event	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits			OZS Bar Mitzvah	OZS Bar Mitzvah
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
YBJ Canoes Kentucky						
JFB Yiddish Class	17	18	19	20	21	22
Hadassah Book Club		Lunch and Learn with our local rabbis	JFB Board Mtgs	JFS Leisure Club		23
24	25	26	27	JFB Community Visit to Stewart Home School	28	29
JFB Yiddish Class			Independence Day			30
July 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
JFB Yiddish Class						
YBJ Visits West Sixth Brewery	15	16	17	18	19	20
			JFB Board Mtgs			21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28