

SHALOM



NEWSPAPER OF THE CENTRAL KENTUCKY JEWISH FEDERATION

DECEMBER 2006/JANUARY 2007

KISLEV-TEVET-SHEVAT 5767

Give generously and warm the hearts of others

Annual Day of Giving will be biggest ever—all we need is YOU

♦ ♦ ♦

By Jessica Berger and Jana LaZur

• What is the Day of Giving?

The Day of Giving is a volunteer effort that is fun and rewarding, during which more than 75 members of the Jewish community give their time during the holiday season to benefit well over 300 members of the entire Lexington community. The idea behind this day is that the Jewish Community can help staff organizations so that Christian employees can be relieved to spend more time with their families during the holiday season.

• When is the Day of Giving?

Most of the events will be held on Friday, December 22, with two additional events to be held on December 12 and 14. The entire month of December will serve as collection time. Please clean out your closets or make special purchases to benefit people or animals in need.

• How can I get involved?

There are two ways to get involved. You can either volunteer your time at one of the many locations or make donations during the month of December.

• What items are needed?

Baked goods
New/Gently used toys
Pet supplies
Baby Supplies
Toiletries
Warm clothing
Blankets and coats

see **Day of Giving**, page 7



Anne Graff and Pat Shraberg at last year's Day of Giving.

— CAMPAIGN NEWS —

Fall Raffle: Doing well by doing good

The CKJF Fall Raffle is a great opportunity to win money while helping the community. Only 450 tickets will be sold; they cost \$100. First prize is \$10,000 cash, and the second prize a week at a condo in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. You can buy a ticket by

- Logging in to <http://www.jewishlexington.org> and following the links for the CKJF Fall Raffle
- Sending us your check for \$100 with "Raffle" in the memo line, and we will mail you the ticket(s)
- Calling the office at (859) 268-0672
- Contacting any CKJF Board Member (see list on page 2 of *Shalom*)

The drawing will take place at the Winter Dinner on December 17, and you don't have to be present to win. If you wish to sell some tickets, please call us at the office. ✧

Central Kentucky Jewish Federation
1050 Chinese Road • Suite 203 • Lexington, KY 40502

Change Service Requested



Winter Dinner set for December 17

Don't miss out!

♦ ♦ ♦

By Jana LaZur

This year, the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation is happy to present a night of music, socializing, and delectable foods—including, of course, latkes—as well as a celebration of the third night of Hanukkah. Come to our Twelfth Annual Winter Dinner, to be held at the Sheraton Suites Hotel on Sunday, December 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the entire Jewish community. We have simply outgrown our previous locations and are happy to have more seats available. Nonetheless, it's important to make your reservations now. You can mail in the form on page 13 of *Shalom* or feel free to visit our website at www.jewishlexington.org and follow the links to the Winter Dinner to register online.

The evening will begin with the music of Lou and Aviva Bowling, who will play the grand piano and an electric violin in the beautiful atrium lobby while hors d'oeuvres are served. If you care for something stronger than soft drinks, coffee, or tea to accompany this course, there will be a cash bar in the lobby.

see **Winter Dinner**, page 3

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SHALOM

On Vacation

Taking a page
from the
Herald-Leader,
we invite readers to
send pictures of
themselves on vacation
with *Shalom*.

Please email
digital files to
di-ifr@bardstown.com
or send prints to the
CKJF office.

Let Us Know...

What's going on with you.
Send announcements and
pictures of special birthdays,
weddings, honors, celebrations,
happy and sorrowful occasions
to di-ifr@bardstown.com.

If you are not receiving Jewish weekly email and
would like to, please email your name and email
address to ckjf@jewishlexington.org



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Have a question? Ask a rabbi

The rabbis are now writing their 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 di-ifr@bardstown.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.

Opinions expressed by writers in *Shalom*

are not necessarily those of the editorial staff or advisors, nor of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation or its constituent communities, officers, staff, or committee members. Letters to the Editor are always welcome—send them to di-ifr@bardstown.com

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Get this paper delivered **FREE**
to your home ten times per year.

Mail your name and address to:

Shalom / CKJF

1050 Chinoe Rd., Suite 203, Lexington, KY 40502
or email at shalom@jewishlexington.org

Shalom Deadline

Deadline for articles for the February *Shalom* is January 10.

Email articles to di-ifr@bardstown.com.

Articles submitted in hard copy should be double-spaced.

Film Festival in the works

First showing to be Sesame Street documentary

The 2007 One World Film Festival will open on Sunday, February 11 with two showings of the documentary *The World According to Sesame Street* in the theater in the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main St. One showing will be at 2:00 p.m., the other at 4:30 p.m. All One World Film showings are free and open to the public.

"The film festival is now in its eighth year," Annette Mayer, chair of the film series explained, "and it has as its mission the selection of films that hopefully will stimulate discussion, explore ideas, and increase understanding of issues of race, gender, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation. We strive to bring various sectors of our community together to learn about each other through film."

The film festival usually consists of eight or nine films shown during February and March at the theater in the library, at the Kentucky Theatre, or at the Worsham Theater on the U.K. campus.

"The opening film in the 2007 series," Mayer said, "is a behind-the-scenes documentary which chronicles the Sesame Street productions' effort to film episodes in three politically scarred countries, Bangladesh, Kosovo, and South Africa, while honoring each nation's distinct cultural traditions."

The February issue of *Shalom* will have a complete listing of the 2007 One World Films. If anyone has any questions about the series, feel free to contact Annette Mayer at (859) 266-6073. The Central Kentucky Jewish Federation is among the festival's supporters. ☆



**The
OZS and TAI joint
Blood Drive**

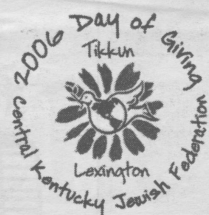
**will be at OZS on Sunday,
December 17, 2006
from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**There will be juice and great
bagels for donors.**

Winter Dinner (from page 1)

Bring the kids! There will be a separate kids' room complete with mature babysitters, crafts, games, activities, and maybe even a good movie. The children will have their own separate menu of cheese pizza and ice cream sundaes. This is free for those under 6, and only \$5.00 for ages 6 to 12. Relax and visit with your friends while knowing that your kids are well taken care of and having fun too.

We look forward to celebrating another holiday together, so please reserve your spot now and enjoy good friends and good food while taking a break from the stress of the holiday season. And don't forget to bring your *Hanukkah*. ☆



Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

2006 Day of Giving Sign-Up December 22nd, 2006

☐ **Yes, I am willing to volunteer my time.** (Please X a shift.)
Some volunteers will meet at the Giving Tent outside the CKJF office at the scheduled times to caravan to their locations. All volunteers will receive a confirmation letter in the mail.

- ☐ A. Catholic Action Center
- ☐ 1. Serving meals at 11:00 a.m.
 - ☐ 2. Working Christmas store 8:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.
 - ☐ 3. God's Garments - organizing and folding clothes at 10:00 a.m.
 - ☐ 4. God's Quarters - assisting with laundry from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- ☐ B. Meals on Wheels - delivering meals (2 locations) on
- ☐ 1. Friday, Dec. 22 at 10:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
 - ☐ 2. Monday, Dec. 25 at 10:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
- ☐ C. Lexington Humane Society - helping animals at 11:00 a.m.
- ☐ D. Florence Crittenden Home - serving dinner to residents on Dec. 12 at 6:00 p.m.
- ☐ E. Mayfair Village Retirement Home - share Hanukkah with Rabbi Cohen at 11:00 a.m.
- ☐ F. Shriner's Hospital - Assisting with program for patients at 10:00 a.m.
- ☐ G. Ronald McDonald House - cleaning from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- ☐ H. MASH unit (group home for youth in crisis). Bringing dinner on Dec. 14 at 6:00 p.m.

☐ **No, I am unable to work, but would like to help by donating the following items:** * Items will be collected at OZS, TAI, and CKJF during the entire month of December.

- ☐ A. Baked goods for the Ronald McDonald House
- ☐ B. New/Gently used toys for the Catholic Action Center and Ronald McDonald House
- ☐ C. Pet supplies for the Lexington Humane Society (dry pet food, collars, bowls, leashes, chew toys, cat play toys, old towels, blankets, crates/cages, cat litter, sheets, and pillowcases)
- ☐ D. Baby supplies for the Florence Crittenden Home
- ☐ E. Toiletries, warm clothes, coats for Catholic Action Center.

**Please complete this form and return it
to Jana LaZur at the CKJF office:**

Central Kentucky Jewish Federation
1050 Chinoe Road Suite 203
Lexington, Kentucky 40502

email: tikkun@jewishlexington.org
phone: (859) 268-0672
fax: (859) 268-0775

Online registration for this event will begin on November 1, 2006.
Go to www.jewishlexington.org and click on the corresponding link.



Tikkun Lexington is a program of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation

President's Message

Marty Barr



As we near the end of the year, I want to express my appreciation for the great job done by Linda Ravvin, Ricki Rosenberg, and Lowell Nigoff on the 2006 charitable campaign. They were innovative in their approach and introduced new programs to the campaign. The leadership that they showed during the campaign resulted in an average increase of more than ten percent from people who had previously given. Unfortunately, because of the movement of some people out of Lexington and the loss of a one-time gift, the total campaign revenues are roughly equal to those of 2005. Lowell, Ricki, and Linda are already looking at 2007 and developing new and exciting programs to help our campaign reach new highs in the next year.

On another topic, it appears that everyone one knows what Leisure Club and Camp Shalom are, but many do not seem to realize that they are programs sponsored by the Federation. In the same way, I am sure that many people do not realize that we provide scholarships to children who require financial assistance in order to attend either Camp Shalom or a Jewish overnight camp. In February, therefore, *Shalom* will begin a series of articles designed to present an overall view of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation and its contribution to Jewish life in Lexington.

I hope to see many of you at the Winter Dinner or the Day of Giving, or both. ✧

CKJF Fall Raffle

Proceeds to benefit local, overseas, and Israeli needs

Grand Prize: \$10,000

Second Prize: One week at a condo in Gatlinburg, Tennessee between January and June 2007



Only 450 tickets at \$100 each.

Drawing:
Sunday, December 17, 2006
CKJF Community Winter Dinner
Sheraton Suites, French Quarter

You do not have to be present to claim your prize.

Tickets may be purchased:

- online at www.jewishlexington.org
- from any CKJF Board Member
- by calling the CKJF office at 859.268.0672
- by emailing to ckjf@jewishlexington.org

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Compiled By Elissa Brown

Letter of the month

CHET

This month is being sponsored by the letter CHET. Chet is the eighth letter in the Hebrew alphabet. Chet is the first letter in *chayim*, which means life. Chet is also the first letter in the word Hanukkah (sometimes spelled Chanukah in English). Another word that begins with chet is *chag*, which means holiday.



Here's one way that you can make a chet with your body: stand straight with feet together and arms by your sides. Take a deep breath. Exhale and walk or jump your feet four feet apart and raise your arms parallel to the floor with your palms facing downward. Turn your left foot 90 degrees and take a deep breath. Bend your left knee and reach your left hand down to the floor. Place all your weight on your left leg, exhale, and straighten your left leg while lifting your straight right leg off the floor. Inhale and place your right arm on your right leg. Smile and take three to five deep breaths. (This excerpt was taken from *Aleph-Bet Yoga*.)

Did you know...

in southern Russia, Jews bake cakes with gelt inside them during Hanukkah!

Crafts

Window Paintings

Here's a wonderful way to brighten up your windows just in time for the holidays!

What you need:

- 3 dimensional fabric paint (use as many colors as you want)
- 1 piece of paper
- 1 pencil
- 1 large Ziploc bag

Directions

This is a simple craft that allows you to be as creative as you want. Begin by drawing your own design onto the piece of paper. Next, cover the piece of paper with the Ziploc bag. Then simply use your fabric paint and trace your design onto the Ziploc bag. Allow the paint to dry completely and then place the dry image in the refrigerator for two hours. Finally, peel the image off of the bag, stick it to a window, and enjoy!

Recipe

Applesauce

Here's a yummy recipe that will help you get in the holiday mood. This will pair well with latkes or stand alone as a delicious after school snack. It's also a great recipe to do together as a family!

What you need:

- 4 apples (peeled, cored, & chopped)
- 3/4 cup of water
- 1/4 cup of white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon
- a medium size saucepan
- a fork or potato masher

Directions

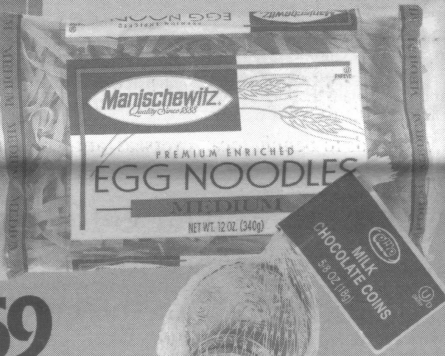
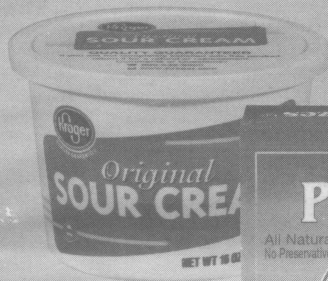
Begin by combining apples, water, sugar, and cinnamon in the saucepan. Cover and cook over medium heat for 15 to 20 minutes, or until the apples are soft. Allow to cool, then mash with a fork or potato masher and enjoy! (This recipe was taken from allrecipes.com.)

If you know of a good mensch out there, please contact Elissa Brown at elislexky@yahoo.com. ✧



Celebrating Chanuka

Items & Prices Good
December 1 thru December 16, 2006
344 Romany Road
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13-OZ. FROZEN
**Golden
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SAVINGS .30 WITH CARD

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2.59

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Candle**

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KOSHER
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Salt**

1.59

SAVINGS .40 WITH CARD

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ELITE
**Chocolate
Coins**

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SAVINGS .09 WITH CARD

6-OZ. MANISCHEWITZ
POTATO PANCAKE OR
**Latke
Mix**

2.69

SAVINGS UP TO .30 WITH CARD

From the Executive Director

Daniel Chejfec



No pressure

♦ ♦ ♦

One of the things I enjoy is dwelling on the treasures of Jewish literature. An opportunity came recently when we explored a chapter of *The Dibbuk*, by Shlomo Ansky in our Yiddish Club meeting.

In the portion we read, one of the characters – Rabbi Azriel – explains to his students that there is sacredness in everything, but some things are more sacred than others of their own kind. For example, among all the lands, the holiest is *Eretz Israel*. In *Eretz Israel*, the holiest city is Jerusalem. In Jerusalem, the holiest area is the Temple Mount. On the Temple Mount, the holiest site is where the Holy of Holies used to be. In the same vein, he explained why the holiest time is Yom Kippur, the holiest person was the high priest at the Temple, and the holiest word is the sacred name of God.

He went on to explain that before the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed, there was an occasion in the year

when all four “holiest” came together. It was during the Yom Kippur service at the Temple, when the high priest was expected to go into the Holy of Holies and pronounce the sacred name of God. It is said that if at that moment the priest had any stray thoughts or was in a sinful mood, the world would be destroyed. If the priest came out of the Holy of Holies alive and the world still stood, the people would rejoice with dancing and singing to celebrate the renewal of the cycle.

Rabbi Azriel went on to explain that each one of us is like the high priest, all of God’s creation is the Holy of Holies, every day is Yom Kippur, and every word spoken is like the name of God. We should then be aware that every word we utter has the potential to destroy the world—or to renew it.

I am bringing this story up because we have just finished another electoral cycle, and every day people of all parties have been uttering words to left, right, up, and down in order to get elected. Yet those many of those words were not exactly in tune with renewing the democratic covenant of our nation.

Jewish history teaches us that every time the Jews were defeated, it was because they were more intent on attacking each other than on trying to find common ground to present a united front. Jerusalem fell to the Romans for that reason,

as reflected in Josephus Flavius’ *Jewish Wars*.

We confront today, as American citizens, a reality in which false accusations are thrown as a

matter of course during electoral campaigns, staining not only the target of those accusations but the thrower as well. It would pay to apply Rabbi Azriel’s admonition and remember that every word we utter has the potential to destroy the average American’s confidence in the political system—or to renew it.

We also confront today, as American Jews, a reality in which Jewish identity is becoming increasingly

marginal for the majority of American Jews. Non-conversionary interfaith marriages in which the children are raised as non-Jews continue to be a concern. Jewish affiliation is at an all-time low and dipping. Internal squabbling among the branches of Judaism and among Jewish organizations appears to become more and more the norm rather than the exception. Again, it would pay to remember Rabbi Azriel’s admonition that every word we utter has the potential to destroy our community—or to renew it.

If we can hear Rabbi Azriel, maybe we will be able to rejoice in singing and dancing at the end of the day. ♦

Jewish history teaches us that every time the Jews were defeated, it was because they were more intent on attacking each other than on trying to find common ground to present a united front.

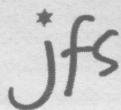
Want to give your kids a great Jewish experience next year but worried about the cost?



Jewish Family Services is now accepting applications for camperships and scholarships.

Scholarships are specifically for Israel programs.

Camperships are open to ANY Jewish day or overnight camp, including Camp Shalom and Gesher.



Contact Abby Miller for more information.
859.268.0672 or
jfs@jewishlexington.org



TAI Sisterhood announces programs for December and January

Hanukkah party and skin care programs to highlight winter meetings

♦ ♦ ♦

Temple Adath Israel Sisterhood’s December meeting will be a festive Hanukkah lunch (including latkes) and party on Wednesday, December 20 at noon. David Shraberg will entertain on the keyboard and Rabbi Kline will offer a special Hanukkah program. All members and prospective members of Sisterhood are invited, and are encouraged to bring spouses/roommates/significant others. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this joyous party. Babysitting will be provided if there is a demand; we need to know no later than December 15 if you will need child care. The cost for this luncheon will be \$9.00 per person.

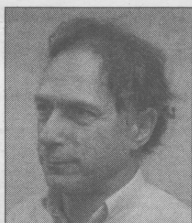
Dr. Laurie Massa of Belle Age Medispa in Dermatology Associates

will be the featured speaker at the January 17 meeting. Dr. Massa will speak on non-invasive cosmetic procedures and new methods of skin care to rejuvenate and maintain healthy, more youthful-looking skin. As an added bonus, one lucky attendee will receive a microdermabrasion as a door prize. Again, this meeting is January 17 at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served and will cost \$12.00 per person.

Please call the Temple at (859) 269-2979, to reserve your place for either or both of these meetings. Since we’re dealing with meals here, we really need to know how many of you are coming, so please don’t forget to make reservations. ♦

Third Opinion

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD



The Not-So-Friendly Skies

♦ ♦ ♦

In the past 50 years I've flown in everything from a military helicopter with its doors open to jumbo jets. I'm always a little nervous in the sky because I don't believe in heavier-than-air flight, but what the heck, the present climate makes even riding buses in London or trains in Spain somewhat fraught.

Returning from a bat mitzvah in Westchester County last May, I found myself waiting at Newark airport for a flight to Cleveland when a black-clad Muslim woman, only her eyes visible, walked into the waiting area. She sat down between two other women. No one paid any attention. After a few minutes, though, she got up and sat behind the ticket counter, out of sight of the agents, with two other men, also apparently Muslim.

I didn't need Delmore Schwartz, the Jewish poet, to remind me that "even paranoids have real enemies," and my mind began to race. (Note that this was well before the London arrests of Muslims alleged to be planning to concoct chemical explosives on aircraft flying from England to the U.S.) Were the two men plotting something? Was the woman even really a woman?

Despite my questions, I resolved to get on the plane, and did. After all, whole Jewish communities have too often been blamed and punished for the actions of individuals. And, I thought, there are about a billion Muslims; the percent who are terrorists must be very small, yes? The three boarded behind me....When we landed, my fellow passengers got off ahead of me without my seeing them. I had lived to fly again.

What the terrorists are doing is not just criminal in the ordinary sense, but something much worse. One has to go to the Hebrew Bible to find the right term for it, *po'alei aven*. This is translated "workers of iniquity" or "evildoers," but both terms are rather opaque. My dissertation research at Brandeis led me to conclude that *po'alei aven* are people whose actions invite the return of that disorder which God banished at

the beginning of Creation. In other words, they are agents of Chaos.

Unlike other ancient Near Eastern cultures, Judaism did not conclude that God's creative acts had destroyed or recycled Chaos, just banished it to the outer reaches of space, like those three villains in one of those Superman movies. (See Jon Levenson's *Creation and the Persistence of Evil*.) The random violence of terrorists invites Chaos to return, a theme found in all of H. P. Lovecraft's stories.

The perpetrators of these calamitous acts don't care that their actions will result in their own destruction; they don't realize that anarchy means the

The perpetrators of these calamitous acts don't care that their actions will result in their own destruction; they don't realize that anarchy means the end of their society, too.

end of their society, too. Yes, we Jews have the story of Samson killing more enemies with his death than he had in his whole life, but his action is never held up as a model for foreign or domestic policy.

Now we have the president of Iran talking like a suicide car-bomber.

In Genesis, God promises not to destroy the world again. He does not say that he will keep us from destroying ourselves. It does comfort me somewhat that people have been predicting the end of the world for at least the last 2,000 years and it hasn't happened yet. But even a stopped clock is right twice a day.

At the bat mitzvah we prayed the prayer for ALL the leaders of the world. When you come to think of it, that's a no-brainer. Happy landings.

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD (Brandeis), is an adjunct professor of Hebrew at UK and professor emeritus of Judaic Studies at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Penn. The title of this recurring column is drawn from the old chestnut, "Two Jews, three opinions." ♦



For all the celebrations in life!

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Day of Giving (from page 1)

• Where should I drop off donations?

Donations will be collected during the entire month of December at the Temple, the Synagogue, and CKJF.

• Who does the Day of Giving benefit?

Recipients include Catholic Action Center, Meals on Wheels, Lexington Humane Society, Florence Crittenden Home, Mayfair Village Retirement Home, Shriner's Hospital, Ronald McDonald House, and MASH unit.

• How has the Day of Giving grown?

In its first year, Day of Giving only had two recipients, Meals on Wheels and St. Joseph Hospital gift shops. Since then, the number of recipients has grown to nine locations. The number of participants has grown as well, from a handful at the beginning to around 100 volunteers now.

The Day of Giving is fun and an easy way to give back to the community!

Be sure to check out the ad on page 3 of this issue of *Shalom* for times, locations and sign-up. ♦

UK Donovan Scholars Program

THURSDAY, December 7 (reception)

SPEAKER: Mr. Bob Orbach

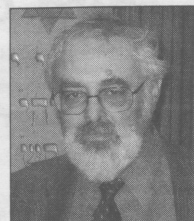
TOPIC: Pearl Harbor Remembered

Join us for a moving presentation on Pearl Harbor by the Historian of Man O'War American Legion Post No. 8

658 S. Limestone - Ligon House - Lexington, KY
257-2656 email: jhensel@uky.edu

Ask a Rabbi

Rabbi H. D. Uriel Smith



Question: Why is kabbalah the "new thing"? Are these people really studying true kabbalah?

Let us compare the article "Cabala" in the *Universal Jewish Encyclopedia* of 1940 with the article "Kabbalah" in the *Encyclopedia Judaica* of 1971. In the former article the author declares that the Cabala's "evil influence is too potent to be lightly overlooked." In the latter, Gershom Scholem gives a very dense, loving description of Kabbalah. These two articles show a major change of heart in the community's view of Jewish mysticism, from antagonism to support. The question is, why the change? Why has kabbalah become the "new thing"?

The larger community is often a generation behind the most sophisticated members of society, who express themselves in the *avant-garde* arts, science, and philosophy. When the ordinary people study the latest ideas, they generally study just summaries, searching out whether the *avant-garde* are giving true new perspectives or just crazy sets of ideas. In the case of mysticism, we now have a major *avant-garde* clash between such scholars as Richard Dawkins, Daniel Dennett, and Michael Harris, who declare religion—and, all the more so, mysticism—to be superstitious, part of the "confusions of our time," and pro-religion scholars such as Ian Barbour and Philip Clayton, arguing on general religious and scientific principles, David Bohm and Fritjof Capra, arguing from Buddhist or Taoist perspectives, Wolfhart Pannenberg and Langdon Gilkey, arguing from Christian perspectives, and Abraham Heschel and Eugene Borowitz, arguing from Jewish perspectives. All the latter indicate the validity of religion in general and mysticism in particular. (I will not touch "scientific creationism" and "intelligent design," which are parodies of science and in effect make a mockery of religion.)

None of these scholars, nor any others I have seen, have been able to explain why for centuries the sense of the sacred regularly weakened as societies become more

sophisticated, and yet suddenly a resurgence of religion arose on the most sophisticated levels. We can sense this development if we compare communal cultural levels with the personal stages of development described by Lawrence Kohlberg

Even if they do not fully understand the most sophisticated views expressed on the Kantian level, people search for answers in the mysticism of their own religion and the mysticism of other religions that make sense to them, doing so on the level that they understand.

(on moral stages) and James Fowler (on religious stages). In the Bible (written on a level I call Primoliterate, paralleling Kohlberg's and James' third level) sacred experiences are so powerful that the experience of God's presence is given a special term, *ka'vod* ("glory"). This experience is manifested well in Isaiah chapter 6 and Ezekiel chapter 1. This sacred experience is weakened on the next level of sophistication, the level I call Ishmaelian, after Rabbi Ishmael who consolidated it in his *Baraita d'Rabbi Yishmael*. On this level many esoteric Jewish mystical texts were written, such as the *Hekhalot Rabbati* (from the school of Rabbi Ishmael), the *Hekhalot Zutrat* (from the school of Rabbi Akiba), and *Sefer Y'tzira* (showing Pythagorean influences).

But the sense of public sanctity was sufficiently occulted that the rabbis searched for another public experience to name it. They declared that sacred scriptures and the use of *tefillin* "make the hands taboo" ("m'tam'in et ha-yadayim"

[Mishnah Yadayim III:3-4]. Taboo was still experienced publicly, but sanctity was screened.

On the next two levels (Kohlberg's and James' fifth and sixth levels), levels that Kurt Levin and Georg Henrik von Wright had called Aristotelian and Galileian respectively (named after Aristotle and Galileo Galilei), the sense of the sacred becomes ever weaker. The sacred is seen

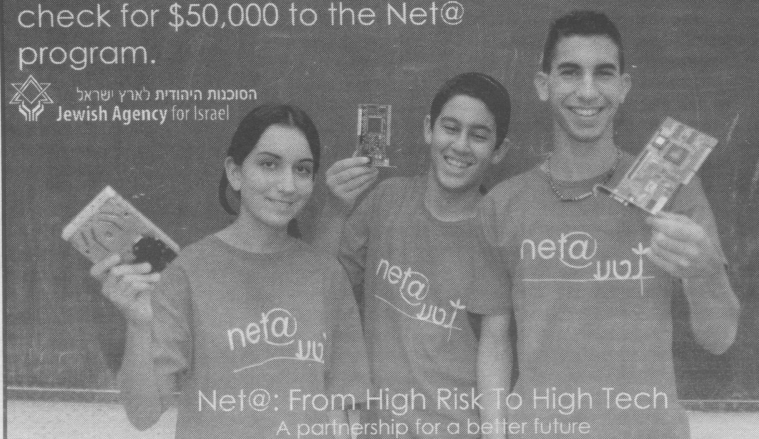
as being merely subjective, and thus from the Galileian perspective, having no scientific reality. However, in the following level (which I call Kantian, after Immanuel Kant, who developed the transcendental judgment perspective) the sacred is suddenly restored as having powerful effects. Freud tries to dismiss the importance of the mystical experience in his *The Future of an Illusion*. Rudolf Otto analyzes the sacred experience in his *The Idea of the Holy*. Martin Buber recognizes the power of God's presence in his *I and Thou*. Abraham Heschel recognizes the sacred power in his philosophical works. Based on their methodology, we can recognize that all these works are written on the Kantian level. This new sophisticated study of the sacred arises because the Kantian level introduces a technical search for understanding inner experiences. It gives an objective study of the subjective.

So today, when we are dealing with mysticism we are dealing not just with watered-down traditional Jewish mysticism. The effects of these more sophisticated analyses of the sacred filter down to the less sophisticated levels reached by ordinary interested individuals. Even if they do not fully understand the most sophisticated views expressed on the Kantian level, people search for answers in the mysticism of their own religion and the mysticism of other religions that make sense to them, doing so on the level that they understand. The Kabbalah, based on the Zohar (written by Moses de Leon around 1280 C.E.) and on Lurianic teachings (by Isaac Luria, d. 1572 C.E.), involves dialectic thinking on the Aristotelian level. It should be understandable by the average college student. So, even if they are learning Kabbalah Lite, a simplified form of Kabbalah, it can be based on the true Kabbalah.

As Rudolf Otto indicated, the sacred is not moral. It enhances harmony and disharmony, depending on the circumstances, beautifying harmony and making disharmony demonic. Thus, in order to survive under sacred pressures, members of a sacred community should act harmoniously. The Kabbalah attempts to maintain such harmonies, identifying within the ten *s'firot* a balance of the male and female, an equilibrium that maintains human equilibrium. In contrast, the ten *s'firot* of Christian Kabbalah are skewed by placing *sofiyah* (a female avatar of wisdom) within the top triad. The chakras of Hindu and Buddhist mysticism form a one-dimensional ladder without the two balanced sides of the Kabbalah Tree, and thus show no need to maintain this

CKJF has kept its commitment and sent the first check for \$50,000 to the Net@ program.

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'From despair to opportunity'

Rebuilding northern Israel

By Wendy Elliman

The "day after" began early Monday, August 14, when municipal public address systems across northern Israel announced to the million people huddling in bomb shelters that it was at last safe to come out. Men, women, and children in over 30 towns and cities warily emerged, some for the first time in days — and saw what 34 days and 4,000 rockets had wrought.

In Kiryat Shmona, over 2,000 homes, schools, factories, businesses, synagogues and kindergartens had been damaged, and more than 150 vehicles burned. Safed suffered damage to over 600 homes and 100 cars. In Nahariya, some 150 homes had taken direct hits, with hundreds more damaged. Destruction across northern Israel included more than 6,000 damaged buildings, the disruption of hundreds of businesses, banks, and public services, the burning of agricultural land, and costs estimated in excess of \$5 billion.

Within days, Israel Prime Minister Ehud Olmert pledged to rebuild northern Israel. "The essence of our mission is to push forward these events from despair to an opportunity," he said. "Billions will be invested... to turn the north into the paradise it can be."

On September 14, a month after the ceasefire was declared, Prime Minister Olmert and Vice Prime Minister Shimon Peres presented a detailed plan for revitalizing northern Israel, which the cabinet unanimously approved. Three quarters of the NIS 4 billion budget will come from government funds, with one quarter contributed by world Jewish communities and organizations such as State of Israel Bonds.

After the blow sustained by the region's 9,000 small businesses during the missile onslaught, development of industry Israel is a key element of the plan. Some NIS 184 million has been allocated for subsidizing salaries in industry and high-tech, supporting exports, and contributing to the physical development of industrial zones.

NIS 46 million is to be added to the agriculture and rural development budget for the north, both for new agricultural projects and to increase the acreage of land under cultivation. The Environment Ministry will finance large-scale rehabilitation of Lake Kinneret and northern waterways that include the rivers Jordan, Tzalmom,

Peki'in, and Kishon. The Health Ministry will construct much-needed new wings at hospitals and medical institutions in the north. The Infrastructure Ministry will reconstruct sewage systems, mainly in the non-Jewish sector, and the Transportation Ministry will provide millions for road improvements.

While the need for physical rebuilding is both visible and urgent, the government is also allocating a major portion of the revitalization budget for social purposes. "As with our national budget, preference will be given to education," said Prime Minister Olmert. "This is the basis on which equality is created and the north can be best developed. It's an investment that will catapult the region to a totally different standard of living."

Israel will be spending a total of NIS 700 million on strengthening its educational system countrywide. In the north, the Education Ministry plans to support 50 especially needy schools, improve the academic environment in several hundred



more, build 350 new classrooms and kindergartens, reduce school fees, and support schoolbook borrowing projects.

"Taking hold of this opportunity to revitalize northern Israel will impact on the economy of the whole country," the prime minister told the cabinet. "For many years, there have been promises. This time, we are allocating the funds and creating an unprecedented possibility... Our plan will, of course, be measured by its output. Not everything can change in overnight. We stand on the threshold of a lengthy and ongoing process that can reap great rewards."

For more information regarding Israel Bonds please call Columbus (1-614-231-3232/1-800-883-0707) or Cincinnati (1-513-793-4440/1-888-852-3195) or visit www.israelbonds.com.

Leisure Club Hanukkah Party

Tuesday, December 19
12 noon to 2 p.m.
at Temple Adath Israel
124 North Ashland Avenue

Join us for delicious homemade food,
entertainment, menorah lighting, and singing.

If you need a ride to TAI please let us
know by Monday, December 11.

jfs

RSVP to Abby Miller
at 859.269.8244

Jewish Federation
Central Kentucky





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Holidays at-a-Glance

By Mary Rosenbaum

Hanukkah (Dedication) or Feast of Lights

25 Kislev/December 15-December 22

Significance—Commemorates Jewish zealots' battling the Syrian tyrant Antiochus Epiphanes in the 2d century BCE and the subsequent cleansing of the Great Temple in Jerusalem. The popular legend is that the heroic Jewish Maccabees found only enough oil to light the ceremonial menorah (candelabrum) for one day; miraculously, it continued to burn for eight days, till the new supply could be brought. This holiday, like Christmas, seems also to have a solstice referent.

References—I Macc. 4:36-59, II Macc. 10:1-8 (not in Jewish or Protestant Scriptural canon)

Religious activities—Lighting the *hanukkiyah* or Hanukkah menorah each evening, with appropriate blessings.

Food—Dairy, especially anything containing or fried in oil—therefore, potato pancakes (*latkes*) for Ashkenazim and jelly doughnuts (*soufganiot*) for Sephardim are popular; an Italian delicacy is a fritter filled with anise seeds and raisins; nuts and candies (especially the gilt foil-covered, coin shaped chocolates called Hanukkah gelt).

Customs—Displaying the menorah where it can be seen from the street; playing dreidel; singing holiday songs; giving children a small gift (traditionally a coin) each night. (As our kids got too old to be interested in dime store stuff, we started getting one single family present for Hanukkah, such as a jigsaw puzzle or board game, that we could enjoy together throughout the week).

Requirements—Lighting one more candle or oil wick each night till the total of eight plus the *shamash* or master candle are lit, while saying the prescribed blessings.

From Celebrating Our Differences: Living Two Faiths in One Marriage, by Mary Helene Rosenbaum and Stanley Ned Rosenbaum (Ragged Edge Press, 1994); reprinted by permission. ☆

Ask a rabbi (from page 8)

balance. These other forms of mysticism were developed within majority religions that did not need the balance that Judaism needed in order to survive as a minority within multiple cultures. Furthermore, most of the authors of the major Christian and Buddhist mystic works belonged to monastic orders, while the Jewish authors were usually married. The male and female balance supported the marriage harmony. The Kabbalah thus teaches balanced harmony, even if it is Kabbalah Lite. If it is reduced to magic it is dangerous. If it induces ethical harmony, both internal and external, it is acceptable. ☆

10 • December 2006/January 2007 Shalom

JFS: At Your Service

Abby Miller, Director



JFS: At Your Service is a monthly column covering a wide range of issues. If you have a problem or a concern that you would like addressed in this Shalom column, please send your queries to JFS: At Your Service, c/o Jewish Family Services, 1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 203, Lexington, KY 40502. You can also call in your confidential questions at 269-8244 or email them to us at JFS@jewishlexington.org.

Home visiting deemed important and beneficial

♦ ♦ ♦

Genuine companionship, warm and lively conversations, open communication, and supportive nurturance... these are things that we all need and desire. In particular, those who are elderly, disabled, or homebound require and yearn for them. Home visits are key in alleviating physical, emotional, and psychological pain. Jewish Family Services (JFS) at the CKJF recognizes how vital home visiting is, and that is why we dedicate time and effort to visiting community members.

The visits are a positive experience for both the volunteers and those being visited. They also have a beneficial effect on family members and close friends of the individuals being visited. Visits by JFS volunteers help boost their energy levels, feelings of hope, and overall outlooks on life.

During recent home visits in this community, I have engaged in conversations on current events, hobbies, politics, entertainment, sports, books, religion, family, travel, cooking, history, life lessons, and much more. My home visits have included our sharing memories and reflections. They showed me photographs, artwork, and other articles significant to them. I always brought some treats. I also included hugs, because gentle human touch is comforting. I hope all JFS volunteer home visitors will form such relationships with the people they visit.

Home visits help people who rarely leave their homes feel connected with the outside world. Many of them have their meals delivered to their homes, hire people to do their household tasks, and usually only leave their homes for doctors' appointments, making the interactions of the home visits especially important. JFS volunteer visitors are happy to accommodate their needs in regard to duration and frequency of visits, time of day, day of the week, and the like. Additionally, "home" visits include a variety of settings: private homes, assisted living facilities, retirement communities, nursing care/nursing home facilities, hospitals, hospices, and so forth.

Family members and close friends are grateful for the visits to their loved ones, and they appreciate the commitment of the volunteers. The home visits give

family members a break from being the only connection for their loved ones. Thus, family members begin to feel less stressed, and less guilty about their loved ones not having much contact with other people. Many think that the home visits have helped their loved ones be more energetic, active, and happy, as well as being stimulated to greater alertness. Finally, numerous family members, especially those who do not live nearby, have remarked that they feel more secure knowing that the volunteer visitors keep an eye on the safety, health, living conditions, and overall well-being of their loved ones.

I would like to acknowledge Barbara Barr, Angie Ornstein, and Julie Smoak for being regular volunteer home visitors and for helping make this JFS program such a successful experience for everyone involved. They say they enjoy doing the home visits and feel blessed to have formed strong and caring relationships with the people they visit. They also encourage others to become actively involved.

Home visiting will continue to be an important part of the JFS program. Please feel free to contact me if you or someone you know wants or needs a home visit. Also, if you are interested in becoming a volunteer home visitor for JFS, please contact me. We here at JFS can work with you to develop a convenient schedule. You can either email me at jfs@jewishlexington.org or call my office at (859) 269-8244. Just remember that JFS is here to provide help, support, resources, and services to the community. Do not hesitate to contact me if JFS can assist you in any way. ☆

The rabbis are now writing their 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 di-ifr@bardstov.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.

Community Relations Committee news

By David Wekstein

The Community Relations Committee (CRC) of CKJF has continued its activity advocating on behalf of the Jewish people and the State of Israel. Recently a member of the committee attended the board meetings of the constituent organizations and, with the permission of the president of the organization, took time out of the meeting to ask each member of the board to write a letter to one or more members of Congress and/or the President. These letters thank the recipients for their support of the State of Israel and ask for their continued support. The CRC provides the paper, pens, envelopes, and addresses for these letters and then places them in the mail immediately after the meeting. To date more than 30 letters have been sent, and there are three organizations that will be participating in December.

The committee also has organized a letter writing campaign to the editor of the *Herald-Leader*. Twelve members of the Jewish community have volunteered to participate. Each week one of them writes a letter to the editor. Although many do not get published, they are all read and should some influence on the editors of the paper.

A number of years ago there was a history teacher at Tates Creek High School who claimed that the Holocaust never occurred. In response to this the CRC identified five members of the Central Kentucky community (three Jewish, two non-Jewish) who had either been a prisoner in a concentration camp or a concentration camp liberator in the Allied army. Otis Singletary, then president of the University of Kentucky, volunteered to act as a moderator and Channel 18 agreed to televise the program. The one-hour program, *And I Was There*, was televised at 8:00 one Saturday night. It was extremely well received by the community and won a Louie for the best nonprofit program of the year from the Kentucky Board of Advertisers.

Henry Clay High School is opening a history library. The CRC will give the library a DVD of *And I Was There*, plus DVDs of the unedited interviews. This will be of particular interest to the high school because one of the participants in the program was Colonel Coleman, a history teacher at the school and an icon in the school's history.

The Community Relations Committee is in the process of establishing a speakers' bureau. This will be a proactive program, with information about the program disseminated throughout the community. In addition, a number of organizations will be contacted and asked if they would like a speaker on Judaism, Israel, or the like. We are actively looking for people to be speakers. If you would like to participate, please contact David Wekstein at mwdwrek@insightbb.com, offering your services and including a paragraph or so describing your areas of competence and telling us a little bit about yourself.

The committee solicits your advice and suggestions as to how we can further the goals of the CKJF, the Jewish community, and Israel. Log in to Sounding Board on our website, <http://www.jewishlexington.org> and voice your opinion, or call or email your comment to the Federation office. ☆



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Sonya Zhukovskaya and Barbara Barr.

CKJF Leisure Club visits Kentucky History Museum

Hanukkah party to follow on December 19

By Ruth Moser

In October the CKJF Leisure Club went to the Kentucky History Museum in Frankfort. This was a first visit for many members.

The day began with lunch at CKJF, then we boarded vans and drove along I-64. The trip was enlivened by the definitive Kentucky experience of horse sightings, and the autumn pleasure of moving through a landscape of colorful leaves.

At the museum we walked through the permanent exhibit, a time-line of Kentucky history. The exhibit even

includes Lenox china, now owned by a Louisville liquor company (this was of special interest to me, a native of Trenton, New Jersey, where Lenox originated). We also enjoyed the Lewis and Clark exhibit, which will be replaced in the spring by one on immigration.

If you have not yet come to a Leisure Club event, it's not too late. You can begin on December 19 with our annual Hanukkah party. Hope to see you there. ☆

Know Your Board

By Elissa Brown

Michael Grossman is a current board member of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation and serves as chair of the Community Relations Committee. He was born in Wisconsin, grew up in Los Angeles, California and has lived in Lexington for the past 20 years. He and his wife, Kathy, have three children: Andrew, a law student, and Jonathan and Becky, who are also students. Mike and his family are members of the Ohavay Zion Synagogue and the Lexington Havurah. He is the executive vice president and general counsel of Clark Material Handling Company. Mike joined the Board because he wanted to do his small part to see that CKJF continues to serve the Jewish community in Central Kentucky for generations to come. He would like to see a community center and a permanent site for Camp Shalom. Mike feels that CKJF is a wonderful organization that has enriched Jewish life in Central Kentucky. ☆

Advertise Your Business

The *Shalom Newspaper* is published ten times per year. It is a free newspaper mailed to over 1,800 local businesses and households. *Shalom* is distributed free of charge at Jewish organizations and local retail outlets in greater Central Kentucky, and is the most effective, cost efficient way to reach Central Kentucky's Jewish community.

Rates

Full Page 10" x 12.75" \$180	1/2 Page Vertical 4.9" x 12.75" \$110	1/2 Page Horizontal 10" x 6.375" \$110
1/4 Page 4.9" x 6.375" \$70	1/8 Page 4.9" x 3.191" \$45	Business Card 3.625" x 2" \$25

Classified ads are up to 60 words for \$9.
Each additional word is 10 cents.

- * All other ads are billed at \$12 per column inch.
- * Ad production is available at an hourly rate.

Deadline

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

Terms

Statements are billed on publication date and are due upon receipt.

The Central Kentucky Jewish Federation 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 CKJF. CKJF reserves the right to reject any material it deems objectionable for any reason.

Rates are subject to change upon a 30 day notification.

Contact Tamara Ohayon at the CKJF office.
(859) 268-0672 or shalom@jewishlexington.org



Birth defects

What are birth defects?

Birth defects are structural or functional abnormalities present at birth that cause physical or mental disability. Some may be fatal.

Researchers have identified thousands of different birth defects. Currently, birth defects are the leading cause of death for infants during the first year of life.

What causes birth defects?

Birth defects have a variety of causes, such as:

- Genetic problems caused when one or more genes doesn't work properly or part of a gene is missing
- Problems with chromosomes, such as having an extra chromosome or missing part of a chromosome
- Environmental factors that a woman is exposed to during pregnancy, such as rubella or German measles while pregnant, or using drugs or alcohol during pregnancy

What are the different types of birth defects?

There are two main types of birth defects: structural and functional/developmental.

Structural birth defects are related to a problem with body parts. Some physical problems include cleft lip or cleft palate, heart defects, such as missing or misshaped valves, and abnormal limbs, such as a club foot. They also include neural tube defects, such as spina bifida, problems that are related to the growth and development of the brain and spinal cord.

Functional birth defects are related to a problem with how a body part or body system works. These problems often lead to developmental disabilities and can include things such as:

- Nervous system or brain problems - such as learning

disabilities, mental retardation, behavioral disorders, speech or language difficulties, convulsions, and movement trouble. Some examples of birth defects that affect the nervous system include Autism, Down syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, and Fragile X syndrome.

- **Sensory problems** - such as blindness, cataracts and other visual problems, and varying degrees of hearing loss including deafness
- **Metabolic disorders** - involve a body process or chemical pathway or reaction, such as conditions that limit the body's ability to get rid of waste materials or harmful chemicals. Two common metabolic disorders are phenylketonuria (PKU) and hypothyroidism.
- **Degenerative disorders** - are conditions that might not be obvious at birth, but cause one or more aspects of health to steadily get worse. For example, X-linked adrenoleukodystrophy (X-ALD), which was the focus of the movie *Lorenzo's Oil*, Rett syndrome, muscular dystrophy, and lysosomal disorders are examples of degenerative disorders.

In some cases, birth defects are caused by a combination of factors. Some recognized patterns of birth defects affect many parts or processes in the body, leading to both structural and functional problems.

What are the treatments for birth defects?

Treatments for birth defects vary by disorder. Talk to your health care provider for more information about treatments for birth defects.

Courtesy National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. National Institutes of Health. Reprinted by permission.

January is National Birth Defects Prevention Month. ☆

Let Us Know...

What's going on with you. Send announcements and pictures of special birthdays, weddings, honors, celebrations, happy and sorrowful occasions to di-ifr@bardstown.com.

Join us for the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation's

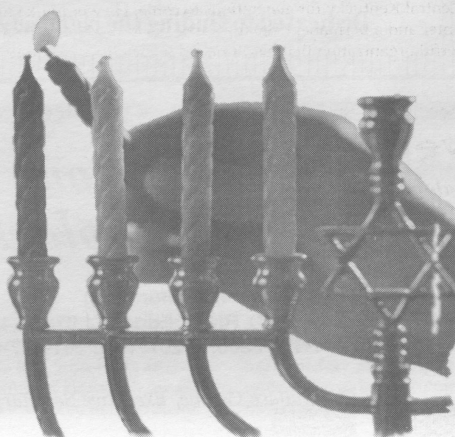
12th Annual
Winter Dinner

Sunday, December 17th, 2006

6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at
Sheraton Suites Lexington

2601 Richmond Road,
in French Quarter Square

*Seats fill up fast. Make your reservations
early! Deadline for reservations is
Monday, December 11th.*



- ♦ Hanukkah party complete with latkes.
- ♦ Four-course meal.
- ♦ Free childcare - Have your kids enjoy fun craft projects and games in a supervised setting.
- ♦ The cost is \$20 for adults, \$5 for kids 6-12, and no charge for children 5 and under.
- ♦ Bring your own hanukiah and candles.
- ♦ Convenient location, ample parking.
- ♦ As always, we are supporting God's Pantry. We ask that you bring two non-perishable food items for each person in your party.
If you forget to bring food, you will be asked for a \$2 per person donation.
- ♦ Please check in at the door upon arrival.

Name(s) of adult(s) and kids over 12

Names of kids 6 - 12

Names of kids 5 and under
(no charge)



Deadline for reservations:
Monday, December 11th.

Questions?
Call CKJF at 268-0672

of Adults _____ X \$20 = _____

of Kids _____ X \$5 = _____

Total _____



**Please enclose a check for the
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Online registration will be available starting November 1. Go to www.jewishlexington.org and click on the link.

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Dr. Wallace Greene, Executive Secretary

Scholarship applications are now available for the
2007-2008 academic year for those planning to spend
the year studying in Israel.

The Alisa Flatow Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by
the family of the late Alisa Flatow, who was killed in a terrorist
attack in Kfar Darom, Israel on April 9, 1995. She was spending
the year studying Judaism in Israel.

Applications are available only from our website:

www.alisafund.org

Applications should be submitted on-line.

If the application is downloaded it must be typed
or completed in a word processor format before
it is submitted.

Deadline for receipt of all completed applications
is February 15, 2007.

It is not necessary for a student to be
accepted to a school in order to apply.

Questions may be directed to:

Dr. Wallace Greene, Executive Secretary, from the website.

Music of the Stage and Screen a big hit

**CKJF-sponsored concert
best-kept secret in town**

♦ ♦ ♦

By Mimi Kaufman

If you like music, old movies, and inexpensive nights out you would have loved this concert. The Community Activities Committee of CKJF presented this free performance by the Lexington Community Orchestra conducted by Jonathan Roller.

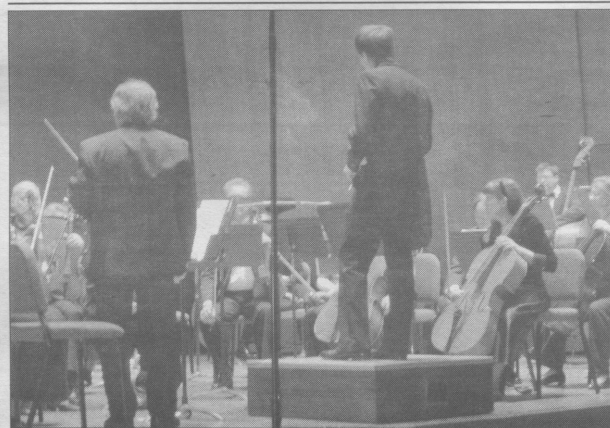
Aviva Bowling opened the evening with a welcoming speech on behalf of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation. She let the crowd know that, in addition to sponsoring the concert, the Federation offers a wide variety of community service such as Jewish Family Services, Camp Shalom, Tikun Lexington, and Community Relations.



Aviva Bowling congratulates Jonathan Roller.

The concert featured music from *Hello Dolly*, *An American in Paris*, *Gone with the Wind*, *Lord of the Rings*, and *Showboat*. The orchestra played for about an hour and a half to an audience of some 250 people. It seemed to listeners that time stood still; each piece was better than the last. As if the free concert were not enough, there was also a nice reception afterwards.

Thank you to CKJF and the Community Activities Committee for sponsoring and organizing this event. Thanks also to all who attended. We hope to see even more of you next time. ☆



Fall Concert: The orchestra tunes up.

OZS Social Action Committee seeks support

By Bob Grossman

The OZS Social Action Committee asks for your support for the following activities in the coming months.

- The joint OZS-TAI Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, December 17 at OZS from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You must be at least 17 years old to give blood, but you are encouraged to bring your children along to watch the process. Donors cannot have given in the previous eight weeks. Real, delicious bagels imported from Louisville will be provided for donors.

- Harrison Elementary continues to need donations of winter clothing and other children's clothing. Please place your donations in the treasure chest in the OZS lobby. Also, monetary donations in support of Harrison's book fair are gratefully received. Send the check to OZS, but write "Harrison Book Fair" in the lower left corner.

- Harrison Elementary gratefully welcomes any community members who can work with students during the school day. You can have children read to you, help them with their homework, or, if you have the skills and desire, even help teach lessons. No teaching experience is necessary, but you should be able to participate once each week. Contact Fran

Friedman at (859) 271-3846 if you are interested in helping out.

- Together with TAI, we are continuing to provide a work detail at God's Pantry on the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:30. God's Pantry is located at 1685 Jaggie Fox Way, off Georgetown Road north of New Circle Road. The work involves sorting donations of food. Contact Mollye Schwab at (859) 881-1686 if you're interested in joining in on this kid- and adult-friendly mitzvah.

- *The Jewish, Earnest Way to Stop Tobacco Smoking* is a new book by Dr. Abe Bohadana, a Jewish pulmonary medicine specialist with years of smoking cessation experience who uses humor and liberal references to Jewish scripture and tradition. The foreword is written by OZS' very own Dr. Steve Kraman, pulmonary specialist at the University of Kentucky.

Several copies of this book have been donated to the OZS bookstore, with all proceeds going to benefit Harrison Elementary School. Here is your chance to do a mitzvah for yourself and the community and increase your biblical scholarship, all for only \$12.00. Get a copy for yourself or a loved one before they are all gone! ☆

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FACTS ABOUT ISRAEL

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Israeli scientists developed the first fully computerized, radiation-free, diagnostic instrumentation for breast cancer.

At sea, the sky's the limit

Israel's ports are focus of rapid development

♦ ♦ ♦

By Wendy Elliman

The port at Ashdod never aimed to replace Haifa's port. Yet, replacement is exactly what happened last summer. In July, with Haifa an ongoing target of Hezbollah missiles, a decision was taken to close down the port.

For the next month, the smaller Ashdod port, 25 miles south of Tel Aviv and well out of missile range, worked around the clock to absorb the enormous flow of rerouted sea traffic. The port's recently completed \$900 million enlargement and modernization was a blessing to shippers, importers and exporters alike.

Haifa Port took heavy missile damage around one of its gates, although there were no injuries, and within days of the ceasefire, local and foreign shipping companies were returning to regular shipping schedules.

With Israel's commercial seaports (principally those at Haifa and Ashdod, but also the Eilat Port) handling 98 percent of Israel's import and export cargos, their safety and smooth functioning have enormous and growing economic importance. By the end of the next decade, annual cargo traffic is expected to more than double, reaching 65 million tons.

Israel's efforts to provide the necessary infrastructure began almost a decade ago, with the creation of a 10-year plan. Within this framework, the \$900 million Eitan

Project at Ashdod added four deepwater quays to the existing 14, built 5,100 feet of operational quay, extended the main breakwater by 3,450 feet and built a new terminal. This has been one of the largest infrastructure projects ever undertaken in Israel, culminating in the country's first fully computerized container port.

At Haifa Port, a \$300 million Carmel Terminal is being built with a 2,100-foot quay, together with supporting stacking areas and a new gate. It is scheduled to open in 2007.

The development of Israel's ports was among the very first projects facilitated with Israel Bonds funding, and the Bonds organization continues to fund port expansion.

The Israel Ports Development and Assets Commission (IPC) is currently preparing a 50-year development master plan. The IPC announced \$150 million will be invested in ports infrastructure in 2007, with most of the sum going towards the Eitan and Carmel Terminals. According to IPC Director-General Shlomo Brayman, \$1.9 billion will be invested in port development projects over the next decade.

For more information regarding Israel Bonds please call Columbus (1-614-231-3232/1-800-883-0707) or Cincinnati (1-513-793-4440/1-888-852-3195) or visit www.israelbonds.com. ☆

History of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict – Part XIV

From Partition to Israel's Independence

By Daniel Chejfec

Like pretty much everything else connected with the Arab-Israeli conflict, the war of 1948 became a controversial issue. To begin with, the war is known in Israeli history as either *Milchemet Komemiyut* (War of Dignity) or *Milchemet HaAtzmaut* (War of Independence). Arabs, however, refer to the war as *Al Naqba* (The Catastrophe). There is also a controversy concerning when it started; some say May 12, 1948 with Israel's declaration of independence, while others include the pre-declaration hostilities which started immediately after the vote on UN Resolution 181 as part of the war. For the sake of simplicity, we will consider that it started in November of 1947.

It is useful, first and foremost, to understand who was fighting whom. On the side of the Jewish community were the forces of the Yishuv with an imperfect coordination between the forces following Ben Gurion and those following Begin and Shamir. On the Arab side were the armed forces of Egypt, Syria, Transjordan, Lebanon, Iraq, the Holy War Army, and the Arab Liberation Army.

The Jewish forces numbered, in the beginning, 29,677 troops, but that number would swell to 108,300 by the end of 1948 because of the influx of refugees and volunteers from all over the world.

The Egyptian forces did not join the fight until May 1, 1948 and were initially 10,000 rising to 20,000; Iraqis initially contributed 5,000 troops, rising to 18,000; Syria contributed 2,500, rising to 5,000; Transjordan started with 6,000 troops and doubled them, while Lebanon provided

only 1,000 troops. There were also 800 to 1,200 Saudis and an unknown number of Yemeni troops. The forces from the Arab states numbered, then, about 26,000 in the beginning, rising to 59,000 by the end of 1948.

For the Jews, manpower was really not a problem, but supplies were. Jewish forces were short of about everything, and the Arabs controlled many of the supply roads, making the situation for the Jewish community precarious.

In addition, there were the two Palestinian Arab armies, the Holy War Army and the Arab Liberation Army. The Holy War Army followed the Mufti and the Arab Higher Committee; the number of their troops is difficult to estimate, but some have claimed they numbered between 20,000 and 35,000. Their main commanders were Abd al-Qadir al-Husayni, related to the Mufti, and Hassan Salameh, the father of Ali Hassan Salameh who would be known many years later as Abu Hassan, the chief of operations for the Palestinian organization Black September.

The other Palestinian force was known as the Arab Liberation Army, supported by the League of Arab Nations as a counterbalance to the Holy War Army. It was commanded by Fawzi al-Qawuqji. Their numbers are estimated at 3,500 to 6,000, and they were coordinated with the forces of the Arab League.

The balance of forces at the beginning of the hostilities was, therefore, 30,000 Jews against a combined Arab force of about 50,000. By the end of 1948, the balance of forces was an estimated 100,000 Jews and about 95,000 Arabs.

Arab forces were well equipped with British and French weapons and commanded by British- and French-trained professional soldiers.

For the Jews, manpower was really not a problem, but supplies were. Jewish forces were short of about everything, and the Arabs controlled many of the supply roads, making the situation for the Jewish community precarious. Also, most of the Jewish soldiers were untrained.

To understand the war, it is useful to know that there were different stages

to the military actions. The first stage can be best described as "the battle of the roads." During this part of the war, Palestinian Jews tried to ensure supply roads for the isolated Jewish communities in different parts of the country, while the various Arab forces tried to lay siege to those very same communities in the hope that the Jews would abandon them.

The first attacks appear to have been focused on isolating Jewish Jerusalem from the coastal area, with attacks on busses connecting the city with Tel-Aviv and Netanya. Casualties escalated on both sides into the thousands by April 1948. The Jewish forces, forced to choose where to deploy with limited resources, practically abandoned the Negev and tried to hold to a corridor of land connecting Jerusalem with Tel-Aviv. The Jerusalem / Tel-Aviv road changed hands several times in this

first stage of the war. Toward the end of this period, the Haganah was able to buy weapons from Czechoslovakia through an operation known as Operation Balak, and began to hold some hope for holding the line against the Arab troops.

The fact remained that the first important objective of the Haganah was to ensure supplies for Jerusalem, the largest of the Jewish communities separated from the battle lines consolidated around the central region of the country. The road between Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem changed hands often, and clashes between Jews and Arabs in Jerusalem were common. By the beginning of 1948, the Arab Higher Committee implemented a series of car bomb attacks against the *Palestine Post* (today's *Jerusalem Post*) and at the Mahane Yehuda market. After these attacks some British soldiers deserted the British army. Some of them, like Eddie Brown and Peter Madison, joined the Arab forces under the Mufti's command, while others sided with the Jews. By March of 1948, the hostilities were in high gear, and in that month alone 271 Jews and 257 Arabs were killed in battle.

April 1, 1948, can be seen as the beginning of the second phase of the war. By then, Operation Balak had brought significant amounts of materiel for the Jewish fighters, although most of them were still untrained and many of them were Holocaust survivors speaking different languages, thus making coordination increasingly difficult. In April the Haganah launched Operation Nachshon, intended to break the siege of Jerusalem and bring relief to its Jewish population. In preparation for the final push, Haganah forces attacked and destroyed the headquarters of Salameh (Holy War Army), thereby allowing for Haganah preparations on the coastal plain. On the other end, Jewish forces captured Castel, an Arab village that controlled access to Jerusalem. On April 6, Haganah forces attacked in the Latrun area and took over the Arab villages of Wadi al-Sarrar, Arab Hulda, and Deir Muheisin, clearing the mountain road to Jerusalem. The Palmach, using 60 trucks, was able to bring much-needed supplies to besieged Jewish Jerusalem. After fierce battles, the Jews prevailed and retained control of the road until April 20, when the Arabs again cut the road.

Battles in the North also redrew the map, and several victories by the Haganah secured the road between the Central region and the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee). On the eve of Independence, when a decision needed to be made as to whether declare independence or not, the strategic situation was dire.

see Conflict, page 17

Ecological design from the scale of dwellings to the scale of cities.

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Facts about Israel

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Conflict (from page 16)

On April 6, the Zionist General Council established a People's Administration headed by Ben Gurion and consisting of thirteen ministers. As the time set for the British withdrawal on May 14 approached, the Americans exerted significant pressure on the Jewish provisional government to accept a plan under which there would be a cease fire and neither side—Arab or Jewish—would declare independence, putting Palestine under a caretaker government to determine its future. This plan was proposed and championed by General Marshall, secretary of state under the Truman administration.

To decide on a course of action, the provisional government met on May 12 and listened to several reports about the situation on the ground. Golda Meir was the first to report, reviewing her negotiations with King Abdullah of Transjordan. The king had proposed that the Jewish entity become a protected autonomous region under his rule. Should the Jews reject this offer, the Hashemite Kingdom would have no other alternative but to join the rest of the Arab forces in the offensive against the Jewish State.

Moshe Sharett, in charge of Foreign Affairs, was the second to report. He referred to the American proposal, and he estimated that "the main sting in the ceasefire isn't military, but political. It is not about putting a stop to the war, but about the Jews waiving the establishment of an independent state on that date."

Israel Galili and Ygael Yadin reported on the military situation, stating that the situation was in need of a miracle. They further expressed their opinion that with American support, the chances of prevailing might be about 50-50; without American support they were nil.

While the provisional government considered all this, the forces following Menahem Begin were making their own preparations. On April 9, the forces of the Etzel and the Lehi attacked the Arab village of Deir Yassin, in a battle that was to become another controversial issue in the history of the conflict. It is called a massacre by the Arabs and a battle by the Jews. Whatever it was, it left large number of Arab civilians dead and it became a rallying cry for Palestinian Arabs. The village was, clearly, defended by soldiers, but they were shielding themselves with the civilian population of Deir Yassin. This controversy, however, demands a more extensive analysis than is possible in the context of a general description of the conflict. Four days after the Deir Yassin incident, the Holy War Army ambushed and killed a medical convoy of 77 doctors and nurses on their way to Hadassah Hospital.

Deferring to Ben Gurion's appointment as head of the provisional government, Begin notified him that a ship carrying weapons for the Irgun and the Lehi was due to arrive in Haifa on May 15, 1948—a day after the proposed Declaration of Independence. The ship was the *Altalena* and it would become a point of conflict between the forces of Begin and Ben Gurion.

Popular belief has it that the government session on May 12 called for a vote, and that it was narrow one. What really happened on that meeting may never be fully known, but the immediate result was that the provisional government decided to declare independence of the Jewish State the moment the last of the British troops left Palestine. At that point, Jews controlled only a fraction of the territory assigned by the Partition Resolution, and many Jewish communities were isolated, with the road under Arab control.

By whatever mechanism they decided, the provisional government decided to move ahead with the Declaration of Independence as planned, and they did so on Friday, May 14, 1948—the 5th of Iyar 5708 according to the Jewish calendar. The Declaration was to inaugurate a new phase in the war—but that is material for our next article.

While the government was meeting to decide whether to declare independence, the last bastion of the Jewish communities of the Gush Etzion, south of Jerusalem, fell to the Arabs. While the Haganah still controlled the Tel-Aviv/Jerusalem road in theory, the Arabs made it impossible for supply convoys to take relief to the besieged city. It looked more and more as though the Jewish State was going to be stillborn. ✧

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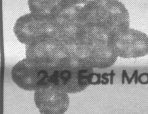
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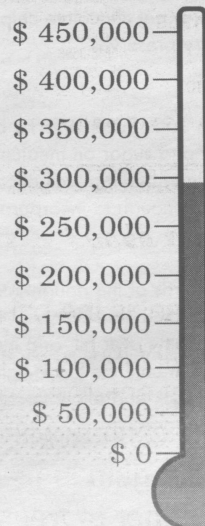
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December 2006/January 2007 Shalom • 17

The Sounding Board

New topics will be posted each month.

The Sounding Board is a new page on the CKJF website which allows anyone to join in on debates about current issues of interest to the Jewish community at home and abroad.

We'll see you online!

Log in at www.jewishlexington.org



B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

Ruth Poley



When I write this column, I generally try to use recipes that are healthy or at least have some redeeming nutritional value. Well, forget that—it's holiday time. No one else is worrying about your diet; why should I? I've got a cookie recipe that will knock your socks off (not to mention what it will do to your cholesterol). This one is very easy to make and everyone will love it and think you're a great baker. And if you eat only one, it won't do very bad things to your body. Happy Hanukkah, Happy New Year, happy *fressing*.

Strawberry Shortcake Cookie Bars

13 oz. (3 sticks plus 2 tbsp.) unsalted butter, at room temperature
1 2/3 cups granulated sugar
2 large eggs, at room temperature
3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 2/3 cups walnuts, toasted and chopped
1 1/2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
2 cups strawberry preserves

Heat the oven to 350. Butter a 9x13 baking pan. With a mixer, cream the butter and sugar on medium speed until fluffy. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the flour and mix just enough to incorporate. Add the nuts and mix just until blended.

Press about two-thirds of the dough into the prepared pan, sprinkle the chocolate chips evenly over the top. Spread the strawberry jam evenly over all, and then crumble the remaining dough on top. Bake until the top is lightly browned, about 1 hour. Put the pan on a rack and allow to cool completely. Cut evenly into 1-1/2-inch squares.

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.

Leisure Club lunch and storytelling event: An entertaining experience

By Abby Miller

The November 8 Leisure Club lunch and storytelling event at Joseph Beth Booksellers Café was an exciting experience for the 23 community members who attended. The lively session involved delicious refreshments along with engaging storytelling by Barbara Barr and Etta Pollan, two talented members of Spellbinders (a national non-profit organization whose mission is "to bring together young and old people to create connections, advance literacy, and enrich the lives of children, community members, and volunteers alike"). The private-room atmosphere was pleasant, and everyone enjoyed interacting there. All in all, it was a memorable Leisure Club event.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Leisure Club event, which is the annual Hanukkah party, at Temple Adath Israel on Tuesday December 19 from 12 noon till 2:00 p.m. Admission and all food and drinks are free of charge. Entertainment will include music of professional piano

player Harold Sherman, singing, menorah lighting, dreidel playing, and refreshments including home-made potato latkes, kugels, salads, fruits, brownies, cookies, and much more. So please RSVP for the Hanukkah party and for any other future Leisure Club events by calling me at the CKJF office at (859) 269-8244.

The Jewish Family Services Leisure Club Committee has planned several more exciting events for the next few months, so please look for your invitations in the mail and the advertisements in *Shalom* and in the bulletins and newsletters of Temple Adath Israel and Ohavay Zion Synagogue. If you do not currently receive the invitations in the mail and would like to be put on the Leisure Club mailing list, please contact me at my office at (859) 269-8244, and I will add you to the list. Moreover, if you ever need a ride to any of the Leisure Club events, then please let us know because we hire a reliable transportation service. Please join us for all of the exciting upcoming Leisure Club events. ✧

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Five Minutes from UK

2006 General Assembly in Los Angeles tackles difficult issues

By Daniel Cheiffe

There is no neat way to describe what happens at the largest annual gathering of American Jewry. With more than 5,000 delegates, the General Assembly of the United Jewish Communities is the largest working meeting of the American Jewish Community, where Federations from around the country tackle the questions and challenges facing the Jewish community—and we have no shortage of those. I can only report on those meetings I participated in and on the general climate of the assembly.

On Sunday morning, November 12, at the Endowment Leadership Institute (ELI) workshop, we analyzed the differences in motivation for participating in the Jewish community among four generations of American Jews: the Traditional Generation (aged 61 to 80); the Baby Boomers (42 to 60); Generation X (26 to 41) and Generation Y (25 and younger). The differences among these generations parallel the differences among those same generations in American society overall, whose perceptions were shaped by the events of their formative years that defined their values. Still, these differences merit attention when it comes to reaching out to them for participation in the Jewish community. The study we analyzed, aptly named "From WWI to the WWW," tracks the revolutionary changes in communication and the geopolitical changes of our world to provide a solid foundation for planning. The good news is that Generation Y is profiling itself as the strongest generation of Americans since the Traditionalist in their commitment to Israel and to Jewish life. The bad news is that they are all younger than 25, meaning that it will take a while for them to make their mark.

The ELI program was followed by the opening plenary, during which we heard from Zeev Bielsky, chairman of the Jewish Agency, and Tzipi Livni, Israel's foreign minister, among others. But probably what had the greatest impact on me were the stories told by an army major about the Hezbollah war. The stories were not about heroism or war per se, but about the resilience of the Israeli people. The first was about a wedding in a bomb shelter in Kiryat Shmonah between a young girl of

Moroccan descent and her fiancé. According to Moroccan tradition it is bad luck to postpone a wedding, so they found a way to perform the ceremony and celebrate even in a bomb shelter. The second story: in Haifa, while running to a bomb shelter with his gun on his shoulder, he stopped to help an old lady walking her poodle. The old lady looked him over and made it perfectly clear she was not impressed; neither was her poodle, which just raised his leg as dogs do. The third story was about the major being invited for dinner by a restaurant owner while katyushas were falling in Haifa and Mozart was playing in the background, a meal he described as probably the best of his life. The message was that while Hezbollah was able to initiate a war and get many people killed, they could not stop the wedding of a young girl, or scare an old lady, or stop a hungry soldier from enjoying a good meal overlooking the Mediterranean in Haifa. While I missed sharing the Vocolot Concert with the Lexington community, I nonetheless felt privileged to hear these incredible speakers.

The special challenges of small cities had their own place at the GA, with professional and lay leaders exploring ways to fulfill our mission in times of change. Small cities are, indeed, a source of creative thinking and I was impressed by some of the ideas shared at the workshop, ideas I hope to implement in some way for our own community.

Monday started with a plenary session on the Jewish people and where we are, at which representatives of the Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform movements highlighted the challenges faced by synagogue life and the need to invest in Jewish education and in developing the human resources we need.

The second plenary of the morning brought Fareed Zakaria, editor of *Newsweek International*, and Bernard Henri Levy, author of *Who killed Daniel Pearl?* Both of them addressed the issue of "Emerging Global Realities and the Challenge of Radical Islam." They shared their views on the origins of jihadism and the threat it presents to the West and the Muslim world itself, as well as some of the implications this has for American foreign policy.

After these plenary sessions we had a lunch for presidents and executives with the UJC leadership, during which we explored the more specific challenges we face as a system. We reviewed the results of the Israel Emergency Campaign and how the money is being spent in supporting those affected by the war and by helping in the rebuilding of Israel's north. Particularly poignant was the description of the situation in Kyriat Shmonah and Metulah, where infrastructure was heavily damaged during the fighting.

The next meeting I attended was another plenary session, at which we heard former prime minister and opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu and Canadian MP Dr. Irwin Cotler on "The Challenges of the Jewish People at the Beginning of the 21st Century." The speakers, while agreeing on the seriousness of the challenges we face, differed widely on their approach to them, disagreeing with each other and with the official positions of the government of Israel.

Of personal interest to me was the session dealing with the current situation in Argentina and Uruguay and the

work of the JDC. The good news is that the economy is beginning to pick up; the bad news is that there is a generation of people, ages 50 to 75, which is essentially unemployable and still dependent on our support. I felt proud to be part of the Federation system that supports the work of the JDC.

Monday culminated in a reception for GA participants organized by the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles and the Milken Foundation, featuring music from Jewish composers in the incredible atmosphere of the Music Center's world-class Walt Disney Concert Hall, as well as a Yiddish theater review. Among the performers were Theodore Bikel, Leonard Nimoy, and Cantor Alberto Mizrahi.

Tuesday started with a session featuring Israel's minister of tourism, MK Isaac Herzog, and Israel's minister of education, MK Prof. Yuli Tamir, as well as Moshe Oofnik, of *Rehov Sumsum* (Israeli Sesame Street) fame. The ministers (not Moshe) explored the needs of Israeli society on the wake of the Hezbollah war.

The next workshop I attended was presented by Prof. Warren Bennis and dealt with the needs and characteristics of leadership in changing times, not as power wielders, but as facilitators of change. It was a truly inspiring discussion looking to the future of the system.

The rest of Tuesday afternoon we spent in workshops dealing with strategic planning, the situation in Darfur, the implications of the 2006 elections for the domestic and international agendas of the Jewish community, and innovations in Jewish education. It would be impossible to convey everything that was said in the limited space of an article, but I hope to share much of it with you in the months to come.

The GA public sessions concluded, appropriately, with a plenary session at which we listened to Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. He thanked us for the support of the Federation System for the work of the Israeli government and the Jewish Agency as well as the JDC during the trying times of the Hezbollah War. While nobody expected him to make great revelations about his meeting with President Bush just before he came to LA, he did say several things worth highlighting:

- Israel will not, cannot, tolerate those who deny its right to exist and prepare the means to achieve their goals of destruction (referring to Iran).
- He will not rest until Ehud Goldwasser, Eldad Regev, and Gilad Shalit are brought back home to their families.
- He wanted to make very clear that "Israel wants peace, Israel hopes for peace, and I (Olmert) am ready to meet with Chairman Abbas any time with no preconditions, but we (Israel) will not negotiate with those in Hamas who seek our destruction."

He ended his presentation on a hopeful note, stressing that this war made evident to Israelis as never before that the American Jewish community stands with them, a fact made clear by the many solidarity missions from Jewish Federations around the country who visited Israel during the war.

see GA, page 20

GA (from page 19)

There were many sessions I did not attend because I had to choose where to go, but the comments I received from those who made different choices from mine tells me that the quality of the presentations and the discussions was uniformly great, a fact reflected in the Open Board of Trustees and Delegate Assembly Forum, which took place on Wednesday morning, with high-quality discussions and exploration of policies that will shape the work of our system for the next twelve months.

And in 2007, the General Assembly will be in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Opryland Hotel between November 11 and November 14. If you have a chance, plan on attending—it is always an uplifting experience. ☆

Israel 21c: Israel Railways comes of age

By Wendy Elliman

On Sunday, July 16, a Hezbollah rocket laced with metal ball bearings scored a direct hit on Haifa's main railway depot. Eight Israel Railways workers lost their lives — underscoring, in the most tragic of ways, Israel's increasing emphasis on rail transportation. "Ten or 15 ago, there would have been insufficient rail traffic for eight workers to congregate in a single depot," commented an official.

The rapid development of Israel's rail network and its growing importance as a viable transportation alternative is clearly told in the numbers: 5.6 million rail passengers in 1997, 23 million in 2004 and an estimated 65 million by 2010. In 1997, 113 trains operated daily. The number grew to 288 per day in 2004, and is expected to reach 548 by 2007.

And this is still only the beginning. An ambitious \$4.5 billion six-year development plan launched by Israel Railways in 2004 aims to upgrade and construct several more rail lines, build over-and-underpasses, expand cargo infrastructure, centralize traffic control management systems, electrify all lines, increase rolling stock, and build new stations. In April 2006, the plan was revised and upgraded, with its budget increased to \$6 billion and the scheduled completion postponed from late 2008 to late 2011.

The plan calls for existing railways to be upgraded and 15 entirely new lines to be built, including the 45-mile Valley Line between Haifa and Beit Shean, and links connecting the Beersheba district with central Israel.

Funding will be raised by Israel Railways with repayment financed via the state budget. Israel Bonds investments will play an important role in the project.

For more information regarding Israel Bonds please call Columbus (1-614-231-3232 / 1-800-883-0707) or Cincinnati (1-513-793-4440 / 1-888-852-3195) or visit www.israelbonds.com. ☆

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♦ ♦ ♦

By Wendy Elliman

Among the key economic sectors affected by Israel's war with Hezbollah was tourism. A reduction in expected tourist visits, combined with soaring fuel costs, resulted in losses for El Al and many Israeli travel agencies. However, with steps being taken to curtail costs and rebuild tourism, last summer's turmoil is seen as just a blip in a burgeoning success story.

By the end of 2006, some 9.3 million passengers had passed through Israel's new \$1 billion Ben-Gurion International Airport, which was inaugurated in November 2004. According to Israel Airports Authority Director-General Gabi Ophir, this represented a 10 percent increase over 2005, and approached the record numbers for the year 2000.

As a result, the airport will undergo a \$200 million expansion. Construction will begin next year, and by decade's end will add another runway and a fourth

parking lot to the already large airport's facilities. The \$100 million cost of each will be met through the Israel Airports Authority budget. A 30-year-old public corporation, the Authority is supervised by Israel's Ministry of Transport, whose infrastructure projects have been supported by Israel Bonds investments since the earliest years of the state.

Transport Ministry Director-General Gideon Siterman said, "With the increase in passenger traffic and flights, it was decided that now is the time to implement the project (to) reduce congestion and enable more landings and takeoffs."

For more information regarding Israel Bonds please call Columbus 1-614-231-3232 ~ 1-800-883-0707 or Cincinnati 1-513-793-4440 ~ 1-888-852-3195 or visit www.israelbonds.com. ☆

Israel 21c: Jerusalem's light rail preparing to roll

By Wendy Elliman

Parisians hated the Eiffel Tower when it was new in 1889 and Jerusalemites of the 1960s detested the now much-admired Knesset building. So Shmuel Tsabari, project manager for the light rail transit system currently under construction in Jerusalem, is unfazed by fierce opposition to its costly centerpiece, the ultramodern 1,000-foot bridge that will take trains from Jaffa Road to Herzl Boulevard.

"It's a rail bridge, but it will also be a monument," he says of Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava's slender curved span, which he compares to a harp or a shofar. "It will be lit at night, and Jerusalemites and tourists will stroll along it."

Work on the elegant 2,600-ton single column suspension bridge is much further ahead than people realize. Its 70 anchor bases — each 75 feet deep and 4 feet wide — are already drilled, and work is now finishing on the bridge's eastern and western bases.

In December, 24 metal sheets made in Padua, Italy, and each weighing 40 tons, will be transported to Jerusalem from Haifa overnight and used as temporary pillars to support the bridge platform. In January, the 120-foot pylon, also being made in Italy,

will arrive in three sections. Once that's in place, the 68 cables or strings that will support this unique suspension bridge will be laid at a rate of four to six strings a night. The final stage, probably a year or so from now, will see removal of the temporary ramps and pillars, laying of the rail track and restoration of road traffic under the bridge.

January 5, 2009, is the projected date for 46 state-of-the-art streetcars to begin making their way down the light rail track. Every four minutes, a tram will glide through one of 24 stations along the eight-and-a-half-mile route — starting out from the Pisgat Ze'ev suburb in the north of the city, running south down Highway 1 to Tsahal Square, turning west along Jaffa Road, crossing the Calatrava bridge, passing the central bus station and continuing up Herzl Boulevard to Yad Vashem.

Two-thirds of NIS 3.2 billion cost of the light rail project is being met by CityPass, a consortium of French, Italian and Israeli companies that received a 30-year concession to build and operate the system. The remainder comes from the government, with support from Israel Bonds investments.

Repeated revisions of the route and controversy over the Calatrava bridge have made doubters of many Jerusalemites as to deadlines and even the system itself. Here again, Shmuel Tsabari is all optimism.

"The light rail will begin operating on time if not earlier, and won't cost a penny more than budgeted," he predicts. "And once it's up and running, we'll all wonder how we ever lived without it!"

For more information regarding Israel Bonds please call Columbus (1-614-231-3232 / 1-800-883-0707) or Cincinnati (1-513-793-4440 / 1-888-852-3195) or visit www.israelbonds.com. ☆

Around the Community

Mazel Tov to...

Bob and Jo Belin, on the birth of their grandson, **Max Salzinger**, on October 13, 2006. The proud parents are **Ruth Belin** and **Mark Salzinger** of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Linda and Leon Ravvin on the engagement of their son, **Michael** to **Anna Wittman**.

Condolences to...

Chela and David Kaplan on the death of Chela's mother, **Dolores Richardson**, on October 28, 2006.

Phil Berger and family on the death of his wife, **Sandy**, on November 14.

Abby Miller on the death of her grandfather, **Morris Munic**, on November 19.

Marcia Risk Freedman on the death of her father-in-law, **Harold Freedman** on November 11.

Refuah Shlema to...

- Bill Bloom
- Sara Levy
- Kaye Frankel
- Judith Liebman
- Evelyn Levy

THE LEXINGTON HAVURAH

David R. Wekstein, President

The Lexington Havurah, founded in 1978, is a diverse network of 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 responsibilities for all services.

For more information please contact President David Wekstein at (859) 269-4454, or mwdrwek@insightbb.com.

Kabbalat Shabbat featured discussion

After a delicious potluck supper, the Friday evening service on November 3 was filled with talk. Judy and Stanley Saxe led the service. During a hiatus in the liturgy, all in attendance participated in a lively and serious discussion concerning the pros and cons of ordaining gays and lesbians as rabbis. Passionate discourse explored both sides of the question. The conclusion was that there is no easy answer to the issue and that it will take some time to resolve.

Shabbat Morning Services Saturday, December 2

On Saturday morning, December 2, the Lexington Havurah will conduct a service at 10 a.m. at the Lexington Hearing and Speech Center on North Ashland Avenue. Larry Bitensky will lead the service. Evelyn Geller and Larry Bitensky will be hosts for the morning.

Havurah Hanukkah Party Saturday Evening, December 16

The annual Hanukkah party of the Lexington Havurah will take place on December 16 at the home of a member of the Havurah. It will commence at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck supper. All present will light *hanukkiot* (Hanukkah menorahs). We will enjoy traditional treats of the season including latkes of all varieties and *sufganiot* (jelly doughnuts).

Havdalah Saturday, January 6

The ever-popular Midwinter Havdalah will take place on Saturday, January 6. As always, the Havurah will enjoy a potluck supper, followed by havdalah. It will be held at the Lexington Theological Seminary, 631 South Limestone. Leaders of the service will be Carole and Terry Wilson. Hosts for the evening will be Kathy and Mike Grossman and Eve Podet.

THE LEXINGTON CHAPTER OF HADASSAH

President, Odette Kaplan

The most recent Lexington Hadassah event, on November 5, 2006, was a gourmet lunch at Hilton Suites with a dynamic guest speaker, Renee Resnik, national vice President of Hadassah. She talked about the various Hadassah programs in Israel, including the latest advances in patient care and research at the Hadassah Hospitals; she stressed the important role of Hadassah College Jerusalem in providing technical and academic education with emphasis on underprivileged youth who might not otherwise be able to attend college.

She also touched on the many Hadassah programs in the U.S. and other countries. The health initiatives include support for stem cell research and breast cancer awareness. She mentioned medical doctors from several African countries receiving advanced training at Hadassah and other Israeli hospitals.

Finally, she talked about Young Judea, a vital component of Hadassah, and the Youth Aliyah program in Israel. Hadassah is a sponsor of the latter, which addresses the unique needs of adolescents from the former Soviet Union, Ethiopia, and elsewhere all over the world.

Since 1926 Hadassah has worked hand in hand with Jewish National Fund in helping transform Israel's barren desert and rocky terrain into a green and beautiful land. This has been accomplished primarily by the planting of trees, but also by reservoir and dam building and water conservation. During the Hezbollah War, over 4,000 rockets were aimed at northern Israel; many of them fell in forests and set off fires. At least 750,000 trees were burned, which JNF described as the worst forest catastrophe in Israel's 58-year history. It will take at least 50 years for the forests to return to their previous state.

JNF needs us to help by making contributions to purchase trees. This can be done by sending certificates honoring or memorializing loved ones or friends. The cost is \$11.00 per tree. Please contact our JNF chairperson, Judy Craft to make a purchase: (859) 245-8445 or jcrafty@hotmail.com

The next Lexington Hadassah event is a Hanukkah party, December 6, 2006. Invitations will be sent to Hadassah members. Any interested non-Hadassah members can call Odette at (859) 271-8332 or Membership Vice President Fran Morris Mandel at (859) 543-8985.

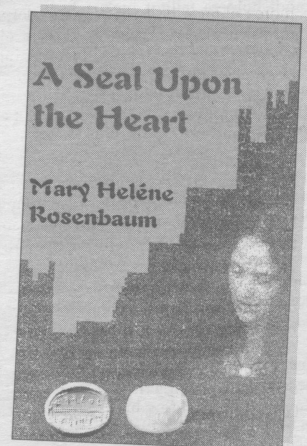
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TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL

124 N. Ashland Avenue • President, David Shraberg • (859) 269-2979

Sisterhood

Prepare for fun and information at upcoming Sisterhood meetings. Wednesday, December 20 is the date for our Sisterhood Hanukkah Party. We'll have lunch (including latkes) while we are entertained by the musical stylings of our very own David Shraberg. Rabbi Kline will provide an interesting and informational program. Bring your spouse/roommate/significant other and enjoy a festive afternoon in celebration of this joyous holiday. The cost will be \$9.00 per person.

We'll experience a change of pace in January, when Dr. Laurie Massa of Dermatology Associates will give us the lowdown on non-invasive cosmetic procedures and new methods of skin care to rejuvenate our skin and maintain healthy, more youthful-looking skin. As an added bonus, one lucky attendee will receive a microdermabrasion as a door prize. This meeting will be on Wednesday, January 17, at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served; the cost is \$12.00 per person.

Call Sandee at the Temple, (859) 269-2979, to make reservations for these two meetings.

Shop 'til you drop

If you haven't stopped by the Gift Shop lately, what are you waiting for? Surely you have noticed our new shelves and the beautiful items in the window! The shopping season is approaching fast and Sisterhood wants to ease your shopping worries. We have lots of new merchandise, many items arriving daily, including jewelry, toys and games for all ages, candleholders, tallitot, mezuzahs, and menorahs. We also carry dictionaries and flash cards for those who are learning Hebrew. If you are looking for a gift for any occasion, please check out our selection of glass platters and bowls, plus items by artists such as Gary Rosenthal, Emily Rosenfeld, and various Israeli artists. If there is something you do not see in the shop, please ask; we would love to help you get exactly what you want! Also, it is not too early to order Hanukkah gelt by the box and/or dreidels—please give us your order right away.

Sisterhood would like to give a heartfelt thank-you to Micah Kaufmann for lending his expertise in building and installing the glass shelves in the Gift Shop.

TAI Book Group

TAI Book Discussion Group will meet on January 24, 2007 to discuss *American Pastoral* by Philip Roth. Philip Roth's 22nd book takes a life-long view of the American experience in this thoughtful investigation of the century's most divisive and explosive of decades, the 60s. Returning again to the voice of his literary alter ego Nathan Zuckerman, Roth is at the top of his form. His prose is carefully controlled yet always fresh and intellectually subtle as he reconstructs the halcyon days, circa World War II, of Seymour "the Swede" Levov, a high school sports hero and all-around Great Guy who wants nothing more than to live in tranquility. But as the Swede grows older and America crazier, history sweeps his family inexorably into its grip: His own daughter, Merry, commits an unpardonable act of "protest" against the Vietnam War that ultimately severs the Swede from any hope of happiness, family, or spiritual coherence.

Shylock is coming to town!

Gareth Armstrong, a Welsh actor and member of the Royal Shakespeare Company, has created a fascinating production based on the world's most famous fictional Jew. This award winning play confronts and confounds stereotypes as seen through Shylock's only friend—and the only other Jewish man in all of Shakespeare—Tubal. Tubal, a comic storyteller, conjures up a cast of characters from Pontius Pilate to Adolf Hitler in this dazzling play exploring Shylock and his world.

Discounted group tickets are available through Toni Reiss, program coordinator for the February 10, 8:00 p.m. performance. Call the Temple to get your name on the list. Cost and reservation deadline will be announced on the Temple website and in the Wednesday email. After the show, we will meet for desserts and discussion at a place to be determined at a later time.

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 9:00 a.m. in the Library. Dec./Jan. schedule is 12/9, 12/23, 1/6, & 1/20.

Kollel Study Group

Joe Engelberg leads this study of fundamental ideas of Jewish life and thought. Among these are spirituality, the nature of God, biblical and traditional injunctions and laws, Jewish history, principles of the Reform movement, and the relation of Judaism to Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism. Drop in the library any time and join in the provocative and friendly discussion. Dec./Jan. schedule is 12/2, 12/16, 12/30, 1/13, & 1/27.

Tuesday Bridge Club

The Tuesday Bridge Group meets in the Temple Library beginning at 11:00 a.m. Bring your lunch and play until 2:00 p.m. You don't have to be an expert to join. This group is going strong, so if you like to play bridge, here's your chance to join and socialize with fellow Temple members. If you wish to join in, please check with other players or the Temple office each week to see whether the group is playing.

Adult Education with Larry Kant

The Sunday Adult Education class with Dr. Larry Kant ("Finding a Jewish Path While the Ground Shifts Beneath Us") will focus on another volume (volume 1) of the Jewish Lights "My People's Prayer Book" series, *The Shema and Its Blessings*. As we did last year, we will explore the deeper meanings and symbolism of Jewish prayers texts. Upcoming date for this year: **December 10.**

Chavurat-Chochma (A Friendly Gathering of Wisdom)

Join us on December 1 for a chance to schmooze and enjoy an informative program. Call the Temple office at (859) 269-2979 to reserve your spot. While invitations are particularly sent to members of the congregation 60 years old and better, all are welcome! We meet most months to schmooze, nosh, and share our wisdom.



Temple Adath Israel Preschool
is now enrolling for the 2006-2007 school year.

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We look to December and January with a sense of anticipation and joy as we celebrate Hanukkah and the secular New Year.
We wish everyone a very Happy Hanukkah and a very happy 2007.

Havdalah and Hanukkah at OZS

Join us for our annual OZS Congregational Hanukkah Party on Saturday evening, December 16 as we welcome in the second night of Hanukkah. We will begin by saying farewell to Shabbat with a special Havdalah service followed by a communal Hanukkah candle lighting. Bring your own menorah and candles to light. Singing, dessert, fun, and a dreidel tournament are in store as we celebrate the Festival of Lights. Call the office for more information or to let us know you are coming.

Social Action

Give Blood, Get Bagels! Help the Central Kentucky Blood Center increase their much-needed blood supply by joining the OZS/TAI Blood Drive. The Annual Blood Drive will be held at OZS on Sunday, December 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Call the OZS office for more information.

The OZS Social Action committee invites you to join us on the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 till 7:30 p.m. as we sort food donations at God's Pantry. Contact Mollye Schwab at (859) 881-1686 if you are interested in participating on this kid- and adult-friendly mitzvah.

Machon OZS: Adult Education News

"Adult Ed at the Movies," OZS' new adult education once-a-month movie series, continues with a viewing and discussion of the film *The Da Vinci Code* on Wednesday, December 13, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at OZS. On Wednesday, January 17, we will watch and discuss the movie *Everything Is Illuminated* from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Save the dates!

A new Machon OZS "Speaker's Series," addressing a wide variety of topics including maintaining a healthy body and brain, Hospice care, estate planning, landscaping and gardening, and Israeli politics and the economy, is scheduled to begin in January. The first session of the series will be Wednesday evening, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. Call the office for more information.

"Modern Ethical and Social Issues from a Jewish Perspective," taught by Bennett Bayer and Rabbi Sharon Cohen, examines some of the most pressing social and ethical dilemmas and issues facing us as Americans and as Jews. In December, the class is scheduled to meet on Sunday, December 10 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. January: TBA. All are welcome. Please call the OZS office for more information.

"Looking for God in Everyday Life," taught by Dr. Art Shechet and , will meet this month on Sunday evening, December 3, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Call the office for more information.

Gift Shop

Hanukkah's near, but do not fear
The stock we have will make you cheer.
Come by on Sunday (10 a.m. -12 p.m.), or give us a call.
Do your shopping here, not at the mall!
The OZS Sisterhood Gift Shop is well stocked with unique Judaica items, including Hanukkah candles, menorot, and other related gifts. Why shop online or in

other cities for Jewish gifts? Call Harriet Cooper, Susan Caller, or the OZS office for more information.

Shabbat at OZS

We welcome in Shabbat during the Kabbalat Shabbat service on Friday evenings at 5:45 p.m. Feel free to come "as-is" from work or other activities and join us for the spirited evening service before heading home for your Shabbat Dinner. Friday, January 19, will be our special Chili and Soup Shabbat Dinner at 6:15 p.m. with the Kabbalat Shabbat Service led by our Religious School students following at 7:30 p.m. The last Friday in January, the service will again be at 7:30 p.m. with a special program and oneg. Residents of the Stewart Home will be here for their monthly Shabbat at OZS on Friday, December 1. Join us for our Shabbat Morning Service each Saturday morning at 9:45 a.m. Kiddush lunch follows each week.

Gan Shalom Preschool

If you are looking for creative gifts for the holiday season, then don't miss Gan Shalom's **Holiday Gifts** on December 3, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Local artists and vendors will have lots of wonderful items available. There is something for everyone! All proceeds go to support Gan Shalom. For more information, contact the Gan Shalom office at (859) 335-9922.

Daily Minyan

Our daily minyan continues to meet each evening, Monday through Thursday at 5:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please come and help make a minyan!

OZS Religious School News

The Religious School had a busy fall. In November, the B'nai Mitzva class participated in "Honor Our Elders" month with a special Shabbat morning program that honored the elder members of our congregation. The Religious School students donated their *tzedaka* collected during the semester to God's Pantry in support of the Thanksgiving Baskets program for the holiday. On Friday evening, January 19, the Religious School will sponsor a Chili and Soup Shabbat and lead the Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m.

Save the date for our special "Havdala and Herbs" Saturday evening program in celebration of Tu b'Shevat on February 3.

Our **Junior Congregation** program continues on January 27 at 10:45 a.m. in the Music Room. The program is coordinated by Judy Levey and led by Asher Finkel and Miriam Davis-Rosenbaum. We encourage parents to attend with their kids.

Our **Midrasha** program, coordinated by Shirley Bryan and Darcie Jarman, has had a fantastic few months studying a unit on Jewish and Yiddish Theatre. In addition to reading and discussing the play *The Last Night at Ballyhoo*, led by our resident theater expert Marcia Blacker, the students participated in a backstage tour of the Lexington Children's Theater to get a sense of what is involved in putting on a play. On December 3, they will attend a performance of *The Chosen* in Louisville and finish the semester discussing aspects of Yiddish Theatre. As part of a service project, the students sorted food at God's Pantry. In January, Midrasha will focus on the Jewish Life Cycle.

Youth Group News

In celebration of Shabbat, in November, USY participated in a special USY Shabbat during which they led the various parts of the service, read Torah and delivered a *D'var Torah* during the Shabbat Morning Service at OZS. A *yasher koach* goes to Miriam Davis-Rosenbaum, Religious Education vice president, for organizing the participants. Also in November, USYers traveled to Michigan for the annual Fall *Kinnus*. During Winter Break, several USYers will be attending the USY International Convention in Boston. Plans are in the works for our youth to join the Jewish and the greater Lexington community in the annual Martin Luther King March in January.

OZS Congregational Trip To Israel

Preparations continue as OZS joins with Congregation Beth Am in Longwood, Florida, for a spectacular twelve-day trip to Israel, February 18 through March 1. Several OZS members are planning to participate in this first-ever OZS trip. If you are interested, it may still not be too late to join us. Call Rabbi Cohen for more information.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



CKJF - Central Kentucky Jewish Federation • 1050 Chinoe Road • Suite 203 • 268-0672 • Marty Barr, President

OZS - Ohavay Zion Synagogue • 2048 Edgewater Court • 266-8050 • Sanford Goldberg, President
Daily Minyan Mon.-Thurs. at 5:45 p.m.; Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Friday Evenings at 5:45 p.m.; on the last Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. with Oneg and program following • Shabbat Services Saturday at 9:45 a.m.

TAI - Temple Adath Israel • 124 N. Ashland Avenue • 269-2979 • David Shraberg, President
Shabbat Services Friday 7:30 p.m.; Worship Service Saturday 10:30 a.m.

HAD - The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah • Odette Kaplan, President

HAV - The Lexington Havurah • 269-4454 • David Wekstein, President • Shabbat Services monthly. Call for schedule.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Chavurat-Chochma Luncheon	Havurah Shabbat Morning Service
26	27	28	29	30	December 1	2
Gan Shalom's Gifts Galore	Yiddish Club at CKJF	• OZS Board Meeting • TAI Board Meeting	Hadassah Hanukkah Party			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
B'nai B'rith Brunch		Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits	• Stewart Home visit 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. • OZS Adult Ed at the Movies		Hanukkah	• Hanukkah • Havurah Hanukkah Party
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
• Hanukkah • OZS/TAI Blood Drive at OZS • Gan Shalom Hanukkah Party • Winter Dinner at Sheraton Suites	• Hanukkah • Yiddish Club at CKJF	• Hanukkah • Leisure Club Hanukkah Party	• Hanukkah • TAI Sisterhood Luncheon & Hanukkah Party	• Hanukkah • Rosh Chodesh Tevet	• Hanukkah • Rosh Chodesh Tevet • Day of Giving	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	• Christmas Day • CKJF Office Closed • Day of Giving additional		• CKJF Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m. • CKJF Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Asara B'Tevet - Fast of the Tenth of Tevet	Yiddish Club at CKJF	• OZS Board Meeting • TAI Board Meeting				
31	January 1	2	3	4	5	6
		Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits	• Shalom Deadline for February issue			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
OZS Adult Ed	• Martin Luther King, Jr. Day • Yiddish Club at CKJF	• OZS Board Meeting • TAI Board Meeting	• OZS Adult Ed at the Movies • TAI Sisterhood Dinner			Rosh Chodesh Shvat
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
OZS Adult Ed			• CKJF Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m. • CKJF Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. • TAI Book Discussion Group • OZS Adult Ed Speaker Series			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Yiddish Club at CKJF					
28	29	30	31	February 1	2	3