

Shalom

JUNE/JULY 2010

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Kentucky
UNBROKEN SPIRIT

SIVAN/TAMMUZ/AV 5770

Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher salute Jewish camping, adventure, and horse-mania July 26 to August 6

By Jana LaZur

With the World Equestrian Games coming to Lexington this summer, it seems appropriate that our Federation-sponsored camps should share the enthusiasm. Camp will include many enjoyable horse-related activities. Enjoy the beauty of Kentucky in a two-week day camp that has an excellent staff-to-camper ratio, superior activities and enrichment, and Judaic content. Whether it is spending time together with friends, making new friends, engaging in swimming, sports, or drama, enjoying nature, or just hanging out with other kids, Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher are here for you. **Save the last two weeks of summer, July 26 through August 6, for the annual summer day camp.**

Trained staff members are committed to ensuring the best experience for campers. Most of them have worked at this camp for years; many of them were campers here themselves, so they are very knowledgeable. An entire year of planning goes into making two weeks of Camp Shalom and Gesher a reality. There are specialists in storytelling, drama, nature/teva, sports-movement, swimming, putt-putt, hiking, exploring, singing, and dancing. Special events include Shabbat observance each week and the Maccabiah (Olympics) on the last Friday.

With so much time and energy put into providing a positive experience

and having a place where being Jewish is cool—even if it's not required—it's no wonder we keep having record attendance each year. But even with numbers as high as they are, there is always room for more campers. Our new location is much larger than in the past and the staff can handle at least double the number of campers. So please take advantage of a program that has been around for 42 years and gained experience each year. Only about ten percent of the community's potential campers have registered for this year.

There are many ways to pay less money for camp. If you register before June 2, you automatically get a \$15 discount for registering early. Also, if you refer a friend to camp, when your friend pays, a \$10 credit is issued to your account; there is no limit to how many new friends you can refer. To register online, simply go to our website at www.jewishlexington.org and follow the prompts to Camp Shalom. If you wish to pay by credit card, then online registration is your only source. You can also print a registration form from the website and mail it in. Please include a check for either the full amount or a \$50 deposit.

All fees must be in by July 15 so that we can adequately plan for staffing and activities and supplies. Please call the Federation office at (859) 268-0672 with questions. We hope that you choose Camp Shalom and Gesher this summer. ☆

Jewish Heritage Night with the Lexington Legends confirmed Sunday, July 18 at 2:05

Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 18 at 2:05 p.m. at the Applebee's Stadium, otherwise known as the home of the Lexington Legends baseball team. The entire community has been invited to celebrate Jewish heritage at the ballpark. If you still have Federation hats, camp T-shirts, or other clothing with Jewish content, please wear them on this day in the spirit of Jewish heritage.

Call the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass office to reserve your \$6 seats. These discounted tickets will be grouped in the same section. Also, every Sunday is Kids' Day at the stadium, so there are several exciting activities throughout the day for kids. After the game, kids under 13 can run the actual bases on the field. There is a large children's play area with inflatable games and live mascots to entertain the crowd of all ages. Of course, standard baseball fare will be available for purchase, including kosher beef franks.

There will be a community organization table with information about Judaism here and abroad, promotional items, hand-outs, and opportunities to enroll in camp, congregations, organizations, Jewish pre-schools, and the like. Eighteen kids from Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher will accompany the players onto the field when they are introduced, and Camp Director Kathy Feinberg will throw out the ceremonial first pitch of the ballgame.

Gates will open at 1:00 p.m. and the game begins around 2:00 p.m. If you have never been to a baseball game, this would be a great time to start. You can support the Jewish community, support camp, and support our local baseball team. Contact Jana at (859) 268-0672 or jana@jewishlexington.org to buy tickets to the game. If your child is between the ages of 5 and 13, you can also sign up to be one of the eighteen children who get to meet and accompany Legends players onto the field. ☆

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Pacesetters Event features Bret Caller, raises increased pledges



Steve Caller welcoming Bret to speak to Pacesetters.

The Pacesetters Event held on April 25 at the home of Susan and Steve Caller was a great success, thanks to the inspiring speech by their son, Bret Caller, who has recently been installed as president of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati. Bret spoke about the importance of Jewish service and philanthropy in his life and the model provided by his extraordinary parents. (An excerpt from his talk is printed in this issue of *Shalom*). Those who attended pledged a total of just

see **Pacesetters**, page 6

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STEWART HOME SCHOOL VISITATION SCHEDULE: June 17, July 15, August 26



The Stewart Home, located in Frankfort, Kentucky, is a residential school for individuals with disabilities. It is renowned throughout the country for the high quality of care given to the students, and attracts people from all across the country. Tikkun Lexington brings celebration to the Stewart Home's Jewish students by honoring Shabbat and Jewish holidays. It is a very special evening for all who participate, volunteers and students alike. Please call Jana at (859) 268-0672 or email jana@jewishlexington.org for more information

Hadassah selling Macy's Gift Cards



Looking for gift ideas for Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduations, birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, or to use yourself for that shopping you'll do anyway?

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These gift cards can be ordered in any denomination, may be used at any Macy's location in the U.S., and do not expire!

Not only will the recipient be thrilled to have the gift card, but you can feel good about helping Hadassah raise funds for its valuable programs here in the U.S. and in Israel.



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Shalom Deadline

Deadline for articles for the August *Shalom* is July 9.
Email articles to jfb.shalom@hughes.net

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Enjoying

Speech Excerpt

JFB Pacesetters Event, April 25

By Bret Caller

Not necessarily rivaling the teaching of Maimonides, I have created a list of ten personal principles that I believe best explains what drives me to take an active part in fulfilling the same dreams for my community. If you like, this is my top ten list of core values, and these precepts require more than just lip service, you must live by these rules.

10. Parents are the most important people in their children's lives. However, Jewish parents have a more complex role to fill. What I have come to realize is that if I want my children to "do Jewishly" then I need to set an example and "do Jewishly for myself." My mother and father lived Jewishly. "They did it and they do it." They were excellent role models, with multiple trips to Israel, education, kosher home, Jewish camps, synagogue, and tzedakah and what I learned from their commitment to these principle, I will pass on to my children.

9. I have a friend who was disciplining his son one day and his son said, "You're not my friend." My friend told him, "That is correct, I am your father. It is my responsibility to raise you and if at the end of this exercise we are friends, then so be it, but that is not my goal." I share this principle. My relationship with my children starts with me being a parent. Teaching them the importance of earning what they have and the mitzvah of generously helping others in need is taught not by continuously giving in to my children. Believe me when I tell you that growing up in the Caller Yeshiva you learn the value of a dollar and giving generously.

8. This next principle is difficult to publicly state. I believe that it is important to honor my/our parents. The respect that we show for our parents is a reflection of how we respect our world. It is easy to take our parents for granted, not to realize how they sacrificed for our benefit and never appreciate their perspective. Unfortunately, we never understand the real gift of life given to us by our parents until long after we have become parents ourselves. Therefore, we must start young and teach our children how important it is to honor our parents. By our example, they will learn what that means, not for a selfish reason that they will repay us for our acknowledgment of our own parents, but it will ultimately make them better parents and we will have fulfilled a commandment to honor our parents.

7. On Yom HaShoah we remembered the six million Jews that died for merely being Jewish. Every year this is a personal wake-up call to be an advocate for our people and work to assure our continued existence. There have always been forces working against the Jews and if we do not speak out, clearly articulate our concerns, be the conscience for the world, and support our causes, financially and with earnest vigor, then history will repeat itself and we will be doomed to suffer the atrocities of the past.

We must remember to nurture our personal Jewish lives, our Jewish community and to love and support Israel. Never be afraid to be Jewish, never be afraid to be proud of being Jewish and be vigilant to assure that the world

remembers that being Jewish is a mark of conscience for the world, not a mark for extinction.

6. How can we be a Jewish community without Jewish connections? Meeting people—meeting each of you—like-minded people gathering together or partnering to nurture a Jewish world. We are all part of a large Jewish family with a rich heritage, and without each other, we are alone. The only way that we can grow, the only way that we can prosper as a people, is to be a people.

5. It is blissfully easy to go through life without realizing how much there is to learn and how little we actually know. The only way to fulfill our covenant as Jews, is to study and learn. Gathering with the community members to learn from one another is the directive from the Exodus: do not end the journey, extend the inspiration.

4. That being said, inspiring others to give generously—guiding donors to a capacity giving level and watching the light bulb go off—is magical. Go out, speak to others, take an active role in this community, RAISE DOLLARS. I love the challenge of raising dollars.

3. Take a leadership role. Volunteer, go to a meeting, write a letter, do something that shows you care and do something that takes enough effort to make a difference. I want to be part of or lead an organization that gives more to me than I give to it.

2. The philanthropist Carl Linder spoke at a meeting I attended a few years ago and raised a key philosophical point for himself that explains why I get so involved in the organizations that I contribute money to their support. "I am giving while I am living so I know where it's going."

1. The most important reason why do I do what I do Jewishly is that I sincerely believe it is my obligation to make this world a better place for my family, my wife, my children, my friends, for each of you, and for myself. Tikkun olam is not merely a phrase, it is a mindset. This is not arrogance of purpose, it is born from a strong belief that if we don't each accept some responsibility for the good of all, then there will be nothing good to share.

I shared my list because it underscores how volunteering in the Jewish community (specifically at Jewish Federation) provides me the opportunity to put my values, my personal goals into action and to Live Jewishly. Living Jewishly is more than just a concept, it is a way of life and a commitment that we make to ourselves, our family, our community, and to our People who brought us to this place.

Living Jewishly links us to each other and allows each of us the gift of being part of a heritage that represents above all else the commitment of giving. People are talking about the economy: are things getting better or worse—who got laid off this week, will unemployment decline, when are things going to get better? Just seeing people out in the community is a constant reminder of the challenges our world is facing today. There is a lot of talk, but not always much action.

The needs in our communities, always great, grow larger every day. People who were donors last year are seeking assistance this year.

As Jews, we are blessed with the gift of unique perspective on surviving difficult times. While most of us have been fortunate not to have experienced similar difficult economic times, we have the innate skill of surviving even the greatest challenges life can bring our way. We know instinctively when it is time to set aside working primarily for ourselves and our families and to shift our priorities to working for the larger good.

Our Jewish tradition teaches us that we all have a responsibility for one another. Today our Jewish community depends upon the Jewish Federation more than ever to provide the necessary resources to handle the increased needs of the community. Preserving your community today requires all of you to give of your time and of your financial capabilities.

Some of you have already made your gift to the 2010 Jewish Federation Community Campaign. We thank you for your gifts and your leadership. However, if you have not made your

see *Speech*, page 6

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Enjoying refreshments before Bret's speech.



President's Message

Linda Ravvin, JFB (Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass) President

At the JFB annual meeting on May 26, we celebrated another year of accom-

plishments and events in the life of our community and the Federation. We have had a wonderful year with many things to be proud of. We have completed a very successful first year of stewardship by Executive Director Judy Wortman. She hit the ground running, starting at her first public event (last year's Yom Ha'Atzmaut), which took place even before Judy had actually assumed her position. Through all the personal challenges that she and David faced in the months immediately following, Judy worked at an amazing pace to introduce herself to the community and to encourage all of us to move forward in a cooperative manner for the benefit of everyone. In late fall, David underwent a double transplant, from which he is still successfully recovering. Judy remained dedicated to her new position and new community, working as a true professional to make sure that everything was accomplished. *Kol ha'kavod* to Judy! In recognition of her excellent work, the JFB board has renewed Judy's contract. I am very pleased that Judy will now continue as executive director at least until the end of April 2013.

Also during this past year, we saw a transformation: Central Kentucky Jewish Federation (CKJF) became Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass (JFB). We adopted the new name at the request of our national organization, Jewish Federations of North America, to begin our organization name with "Jewish" so that we are more easily identified, both locally and as part of our national network.

Another accomplishment this year was that we passed new, and amended old, bylaws, bringing our internal rules of operation up to date. Our bylaws had last been updated more than ten years ago.

Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher had an extremely successful summer last year, thanks to the hard work of the camp committee, chaired by Eden My-

ers, and the camp staff, led by Camp Director Kathy Feinberg. We are very fortunate to have Kathy, who works throughout the year to plan, to prepare the wonderful programs we offer our children, and to hire and train the camp staff. Kathy and Eden, you are greatly appreciated by all of us! Registration is already open for this summer. So hurry up—give your children and grandchildren our outstanding camp experience.

We had many incredibly successful programs throughout the year, offering both celebrations and commemorations. We thank the community activities committee for all its hard work and success. The transfer of the chairmanship to Evalyn Block was a smooth and easy process and exciting new programs are being explored for the fall.

The excellent support and efforts of Jana LaZur, as staff to both the camp committee and the community activities committee, as well as to Tikkun and Tzeason of Tzedakah, is greatly appreciated. Jana has the outreach skills and community contacts to help expand our programs. Thank you!

Jewish Family Services (JFS) was, because of the continuing economic crisis, even busier than ever assisting those in need in our community. Through the efforts of Paula Clancy, assisted by our excellent intern, Talia Smolkin, community needs were met and wonderful, entertaining, and educational programs were held. We thank Paula for her superb work as our JFS professional and continue to feel very fortunate to have someone of her caliber with our organization. We thank Talia for her dedication and hard work during her internship with us this past year and wish her luck as she continues her studies this summer at Yeshiva University in New York. Talia will be interning with Hospice for the coming year and we know that she will be a great addition to their staff. Thank you to Evelyn Geller for continuing to serve so ably as JFS chair.

Our community relations committee (CRC) has worked throughout the year with other organizations in the community to advance the understanding of current issues facing all of us. We

have co-sponsored programs dealing with Jewish approaches to environmental concerns and a mayoral debate focused on "green issues." We had a well-attended Yom HaShoah program with David Wortman as our excellent speaker, and wonderful participation by the area schools in the annual Emily Szekely Memorial Holocaust Education Essay contest. CRC co-chairs David Wekstein and Mike Grossman are looking for new participants to join the committee.

Jane Chaput now chairs the *Shalom* committee and is doing a fantastic job overseeing our most important communications vehicle. She is currently looking for an editor for *Shalom* to replace Mary Rosenbaum, who, regrettably, is leaving that position at the end of this year. Sadly, Ruth Poley, who has been our longstanding editor-in-chief, is also leaving *Shalom* at the end of this year.

Tamara Ohayon—what would we do without her? She works on just about everything: *Shalom*, publicity, communications, computer, and web site—she pulls it all together and handles it with dedication and verve and a sense of humor. Tamara has also been working with our new marketing committee, which she is leading in the absence of a chairperson. Thank you so much! Gayle Bourne is amazing—she volunteers time at least equal to that she is paid for, and she is meticulous in her work efforts.

Unfortunately, it is time to say goodbye to some of our longstanding board members. We are very sorry to have them leave, but they have all served the maximum terms allowed by our bylaws. Our thanks go to Mike Grossman, Pat Shraberg, Odette Kaplan, and Mimi Kaufman.

Mike Grossman, co-chair of CRC, has been Federation vice-president and served on the executive committee in that capacity. He has been a constant and consistent advisor, adding his legal knowledge and wise counsel to the board (and thereby to the community) throughout all of his tenure. He participated strongly on the search committee for our executive director and has always worked to further the goals of the Federation and the com-

munity together. It is my great pleasure to announce that Mike Grossman has received the President's Award this year in recognition of his many contributions to the community.

Pat Shraberg has been a consistently positive influence both on our board and JFB as a whole. She has almost always been the first to say "Oh, I can do that!" no matter what is being asked. She has served as a central member of our executive committee for the past few years, as our secretary, and as our campaign co-chair with Angie Ornstein. Pat will be truly missed for her excellent input, her dedication to the community, and her "go-get-'em" attitude.

Odette Kaplan has been an outstanding board member and community leader. At one point, she was both Hadassah chapter president and JFB board member at the same time. Talk about commitment to community! This past year Odette has also served on the executive committee and chaired our nominating committee, recommending the most incredible candidates for election to the board. Odette has been selected to receive the Volunteer of the Year Award in recognition of her superb efforts on behalf of the Federation and the community.

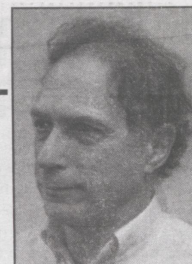
Mimi Kaufman is also completing her second term of office on the JFB board. We have been fortunate to have Mimi. She has helped in so many capacities—with Camp Shalom, with community activities (which she chaired), and with Tzeason of Tzedakah (formerly Day of Giving). She has generously offered to store our camp supplies and has been a true role model to others. Mimi fulfilled her role with JFB at the same time that she served as Sisterhood president at Temple Adath Israel.

I applaud the following people for accepting a leadership role in the Federation and the community by accepting nomination to the board: Amy Faust Mayer, David Shraberg, Hanna Smith, and Gary Yarus. I commend them for their commitment and future efforts on behalf of all of us and I look forward to working with them as part of our strong and forward-looking board. I

see President's Message, page 6

Third Opinion

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD



A Serious Man

The Coen brothers' films generally defy description and this one is no exception, but I have to try. So, say you got what you thought was a 5,000-piece picture puzzle and the box it came in had a cover illustration that showed a guy on a dung heap picking at his boils. Well, you'd think "Job," of course—but when you opened it you found it was about 1,000 pieces short and while most of what it did contain dealt with a modern Job, there were other pieces from the life of King David, some relating to a spurious episode from Eastern European folklore (this part of the film was in Yiddish with subtitles) and some from your bar mitzvah.

The film is set in Minneapolis, the Coen brothers' home town, in 1967, which happens to be the year of Joel Coen's bar mitzvah. The protagonist, Larry Gopnick, is a theoretical physics professor at an unnamed university, being considered for tenure even as his wife is divorcing him and his kids are, shall we say, less than model Jewish children—though the son ends up doing a very creditable job with his bar mitzvah Torah portion.

In his stress, Gopnick visits three rabbis, like the first three comforters who visit Job, and all three are, shall we say, useless. But hilariously so. The first, the "junior rabbi," is completely superficial; the second, the senior rabbi, tells a long tale of Kabbalistic mysticism and *gematriyah* that dead ends in meaninglessness; and the third, known only by his last name (a la Hillel or Shammai) has trouble remembering

the names of the musicians in Led Zepelin.

The fourth advisor, Elihu in the Book of Job, seems to be represented by Adam Arkin, playing a divorce lawyer.

There's other stuff that I can't really place in Job. Surly gentile neighbors. Larry's nogoodnik brother who lives with them. The man for whom Gopnick's wife is leaving him is one of these touchy-feely types who, it seems, has been writing anonymous letters to the tenure committee accusing Gopnick of moral turpitude. Ultimately, the charges prove true (though they weren't at the time the letters were written)—Gopnick, on his roof, spies a naked neighbor sun-bathing in her yard as David did Bathsheba and... But Sy Abelman, the "other man," dies in an auto accident on the way to his country club. What's that about?

Then there's the university colleague who "advises" Gopnick on how the tenure deliberations are going. He is obviously the Adversary/Satan figure in Job. Anyone who has gone through a tenure evaluation—indeed, any job evaluation—will relate to this part. Gopnick is brilliant, but he hasn't published anything. (During my tenure struggle at Dickinson one of the college's two Jewish trustees, a New York law professor, said of me, "I read his (published) stuff; it isn't any good." I almost developed an ulcer.)

As I said, though, this is not a point-for-point, modern retelling of the story of Job, as *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* was a pretty straightforward take-off on the Odyssey, but rather a Coen

brothers "riff" on Job as though the book were a piece of music and the brothers were Jewish jazz musicians. In fact, they tear the first part of the Job story off and put it at the end.

The movie was released in limited distribution (it never made Bardstown) because you have to have knowledge of and love for the Jewish tradition in order to understand it. It got some Oscar nominations but, as one reviewer put it, this is the kind of film you can make only after you've already won an Oscar.

You'll laugh, you'll scowl, but you will enjoy it. ☆

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."

The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass accepts donations for special occasions in honor or memory of important people in your life.

What an excellent way to both celebrate your loved ones and support the Jewish community at home and abroad.

Send us your special contributions with a note specifying the intent of your donation and let us know if you would like your contribution published in *Shalom*.

Thank you for your support of the 2010 Jewish Federation Community Campaign



Thank you to:

Kentucky Justice Association, Incorporated in honor of Dr. David Feinberg.

Evelyn Geller in honor of the director and staff of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass.

Ruth and Neil Poley in honor of Linda and Leon Ravvin on the birth of their new grandson, Myer.

Judy and Rabbi David Wortman in honor of the birth of Shani and David Bardach's son, and wishing a *refuah shlemah* to Terry Wilson.



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From the Director

Judy B. Wortman

Being Jewish today

This week I received a new edition of *Moment* magazine and was surprised to see that it was the 35th anniversary issue. I was surprised because I remember reading the first issue and it certainly doesn't seem that long ago. The lead story in this issue is a fascinating one. It asks two questions of 35 American Jews, many of whom are very well known to us, such as Itzhak Perlman, Joseph Lieberman, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Elie Wiesel, and Leonard Nimoy. Some are artists, some are scholars, some are social activists. The two questions are:

1. What does it mean to be a Jew today?
2. What do Jews bring to the world?

After reading the article, which I recommend to all, it seemed to me that it would be interesting to see how members of our community would answer this question. I have written my responses below and I invite others to share their own answers for future publication in *Shalom*.

To be a Jew today means to be part of a continuum stretching back to Abraham and Sarah and stretching forth to countless generations of their descendants. For me, it means living the lessons I have been taught by my grandparents and parents and transmitting those living lessons to my children and grandchildren, thereby ensuring our family's place on that continuum. Those lessons include ethical principles such as service to others, tzedakah, education, and social justice. They also include the support and involvement in the Jewish community and its institutions including synagogues, Jewish federations, JCC's, Jewish camps, Jewish schools, and Zionist organizations. I have been privileged to witness my parents and grandparents model these values and commitments and I have tried to do the same for my children. I am equally blessed that my daughter and son-in-law are teaching these lessons to their four children and that my son and daughter-in-law will do the same when their baby is born. (Yes, my Mother's Day gift was the announcement of their first child on the way.)

What Jews bring to the world is the fact that we have survived these thousands of years because of the laws, tra-

ditions, and values that are rooted in our texts and our stories. While I don't believe we are chosen more than any other people, we have been blessed by a set of laws that have mandated how we live our lives on a daily basis, on a weekly basis, and on a yearly basis. We have been instructed how to treat our families, our neighbors, our employees, strangers, animals, and the environment. While many of these laws seem antiquated, we have also inherited a tradition of questioning and debating the laws. We have thereby learned flexibility, which has helped us to survive over the centuries throughout the many countries in which we have lived. Our texts and our stories have also brought us back to the land of Israel. Eretz Yisrael is another gift the Jewish people have given to the world. We have shown the world how a barren desert can become green, how refugees from all over the world can become an educated, productive people. We have shown that a democratic nation can be created in the Middle East. We have also shown the world that we are not perfect and that even in Israel we are striving to find a means to peace with our Palestinian neighbors as we have with our Egyptian and Jordanian neighbors.

I encourage all of you to think about your own answers to these questions and to write to me. You might want to look at the issue of *Moment* for inspiration. You can find the article online at www.momentmag.com. Please send your responses to me at jfb@jewishlexington.org. ☆



Pacesetters (from page 1)

under \$128,000 to the 2010 campaign, representing an increase of 3.9 percent over their gifts to the 2009 campaign. Thank you to Bret for his passionate remarks and to all those who made such generous commitments. Thanks also to Susan and Steve for hosting and to Angie and Rich Ornstein and Linda Ravvin for all their help that evening.

On May 6, the Federation held our first Super Sunday follow-up phonathon. We reached 25 people and raised

an additional \$2100. Had it not been such a beautiful, balmy evening, we might have found more people at home! Thank you to volunteers Carole Wilson, Super Sunday chair, and to Bill Lucas, Evelyn Geller, Janice Newman, Bob Grossman, and Linda Ravvin. We have hundreds of additional community members to reach before the campaign ends in December. Please answer your phone when you are called and give generously. ☆

Speech (from page 3)

gift to the 2010 Jewish Federation of Bluegrass Community Campaign, I ask you to do so.

Think about it: a \$500, \$1,000, or \$2,000 increase in your annual pledge will enable you to change the course of another person's life. We can create many miracles for the less fortunate and I promise that you will revel in the gain not dwell on the cost.

I do not urge you to do that which I do not believe in myself. I do not direct you to take a path that I am not willing to travel myself, rather I ask you to join with me and help secure our future.

So please, join me and dig deep into your heart and step forward with a generous gift. There are few gifts that have as much meaning as the ones that make the world a better place to live.

Every child we help is our child.

Every person we help is one of us.

Thank you for this opportunity to help lead our community and please share my joy in the belief of a great accomplishment. ☆

President's Message (from page 3)

thank David Wekstein for agreeing to serve a second term on the board and gladly anticipate his continued participation. I am honored to serve a second term on the board and as president of JFB for one more year.

Thank you to everyone who has stepped up to assume leadership roles in our community organization: Bob Grossman as vice president, Angie Ornstein as secretary, Bill Lucas as treasurer, Bruce Broudy and Evelyn Geller as at-large members of the executive committee. Bill Lucas, although fairly new to the Bluegrass, has quickly as-

sumed a leadership role, both on the board and as part of the campaign committee. Bill's efforts have been honored with the Young Leadership Award this year.

No successful organization functions without the input, support, participation, outreach, and leadership of many, many people who work together to further the goals of the organization and the community it serves. I wish to thank all of you who recognize the importance and value of community and the commitment it takes to act to improve the future for all of us. ☆



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What Israel Means to Me - essay contest winners

High School First Place – Ryan Lazur.

Israel means lots of different things to me!

Being a Jew, I am naturally going to be connected to the Holy Land of Israel. Whether I like it or not, Israel means a lot to me. I have never been to Israel and so I do not have firsthand experience. I actually have done some research on the internet about what Israel has accomplished, spiritually and otherwise.

In school, we have been taught about every major religion all over the world. I have learned that a lot of different religions want the city of Jerusalem for certain spiritual fulfillment. I think it is pretty cool that Israel holds so much religious diversity, yet I think it is not good that all these differing religions happen to hate each other. So in this sense Israel represents conflicts and religious oppression. After the Holocaust and the Spanish Inquisition, nobody wanted the Jews in "their" country so that's how we ended up in the Middle East surrounded by our enemies.

Many great ideas/inventions have found their way out of Israel, but what would you expect from the country with the highest ration of college degrees to population? The Israelis have invented instant messaging, firewall protection, little cameras to take pictures of people's organs, and Motorola (the inventor of the cell phone) has its largest R&D center in Israel. So in this sense, Israel "means" creativity and intelligence to me. Because of all the technology that has been produced in Israel, I want to continue this process by inventing something myself that can fix problems and help people.

Most people know Israel for its extraordinary air force and military. Israel has one of the largest air forces in the world. Israel is the 100th smallest country in the world, which makes this feat quite incredible. Israel's army is far superior to most military in the world. The fighting style of Krav-Maga was invented specifically for the Israeli military and it is now taught all over the world. By looking from this standpoint, Israel "means" strength. Though Israel's army is very powerful, they do not go out of their way to overpower other, weaker countries or kill innocent people.

In the Torah, Jacob was wrestling with an Angel, which can also be interpreted to mean that he was wrestling with his faith. Later the angel changed Jacob's name to Israel. The word itself carries great responsibility, compassion, and faith. By reading this story, I just kind of interpreted that the concept of Israel itself can be embodied by any person whom has "struggles" and really overcomes them and follows the laws of the Torah to the best of their ability. So I see Israel all the time, on TV and just in public.

Remember when I said at the beginning of the essay that I have never been to Israel? That doesn't mean that I do not plan to. Most of the population of Israel is Jewish, and some is Muslim. I would love to go to Israel so I could know what it was like to say something about a Jewish Holiday or Sunday school and everybody would know what I was talking about. When looking at Israel from this standpoint, Israel would "mean" equality. Even though Israel is seen as a Jewish state, it will let about everyone in.

This is what Israel means to me!

Middle School First Place Winner – Abby Miller, Eighth grade.

As a Reform Jew, Israel plays an important part in my bringing up. Although I've never been, I will visit when I'm 16 as part of my youth group. I hope one day to fully understand the meaning of Israel to the Jewish people.

To me, Israel is a safe place for all Jews to go. A place where I would never have to hide my religion. During the Holocaust Jewish people were discriminated against and even killed. It was a sad time for many families, and a horrible time for all of the Jewish people. Hopefully, Israel could be a place for Jewish people in that time. If anything that horrible would ever happen again, Israel would be where I would go.

The law of return says that any one with a Jewish grandparent can make aliyah to Israel. Because of this law, I feel I will always have a place to go.

In Sunday school this year we learned a lot about ancient Israel and the journey that the Jewish people made to the promised land. Learning about Israel has made me realize how important it

was to my ancestors, and how much they did to finally reach it. Learning about Israel has brought me a lot closer to my religion and my ancestors.

Middle School Honorable Mention – Ben Swanson, Eighth grade

Jews comprise .2% of the world's population. Although a tiny sliver of the world's population, our accomplishments have been disproportionately large. However, anywhere in the world Jews are still a minority. Except Israel.

In Israel, Jews are the vast majority. It is a place where Jews are fully immersed and accepted like nowhere else. It is a place for a .2% minority to gather together. Jews are the majority there like nowhere else.

Israel provides a community of people drawn together because of a shared heritage and common ancestry. Looking through history, we see that after the first exodus of Jews from Israel, when Jews were in Babylon, they were eager to return to Israel. Life in Babylon was great, but Jews were still the minority. They wanted to return to Israel.

Overall, what Israel means to me is a place Jews can be a cultural majority in an accepting and loving community.

High School Honorable Mention – Josh Grise

I was only four years old when I first saw the photograph. It was just a normal antique family portrait, darkened with age, and torn in the corners, but the mystery behind it remained in my mind. "They're ancestors," my grandmother would say. When I was ten, I learned the photo was of my grandmother's family, taken in the Ukraine, and that everyone had been murdered at Babi Yar Ravine. "Those were my grandparents; Rabbi Avrum and Brocha Gartzman. The woman standing was one of their twelve children; my aunt; and the two little ones were my cousins. I never got to meet them. There once was a huge family in Russia. One day, they all disappeared." I did not know it at the time, but this was the beginning of a long, life changing journey.

Personally, I have always been a curious person. I could never take "I

don't know" for an answer. With this in mind, I conducted a long, painstaking search for the missing family that lasted nearly six years. I first searched the US Holocaust Museum, records in Yad Vashem, White Pages phone book, as well as random strangers who had lived in the same shtetl; Chabna. I found second and third cousins of my grandmother, yet I could not find the family of Avrum and Brocha.

One evening, I received an email that was in Russian. "Dear Josh," it began. "My name is Faina. I am a third cousin of your grandmother's. You had contacted my cousin Jennie the other day. My father is still alive. He met Khana and Sarka during the summer of 1959 in Russia. We live in Moscow." I was astounded. I now had proof that two of my grandmother's aunts had survived. Unfortunately, contact had been lost, and the whereabouts of the family continued to remain a mystery.

One day, I decided to use the online phone directory, but try searching alternate spellings. I found a single person, Yevgenya Gartsman of Brooklyn, NY. Instead of a z, she had an s in her last name. Quickly, I dialed the number. "Hello?" a woman answered in a Russian accent. We began to talk.

"Yes," she said. "I am also a descendant of Avrum and Brocha. My grandfather was their son. Our family came to the US exactly eight years ago."

"What happened to the rest of the family?" I inquired.

"Why, they're all in Israel," she replied. My father and much of the family fled to Uzbekistan in 1941 during a big evacuation. Unfortunately, Avrum was 96 years old at the time. Avrum, Brocha, three of the children, and eight of the grandchildren stayed with them. The neighbors turned them in to the Nazis for 6 kilograms of salt. My father never forgave himself."

I had never thought much of Israel as a child. Of course I heard of the bombings and battles between the Jews and Arabs, but all of it was foreign to me. Now that I knew that we had family in Israel, my mind suddenly changed. I suddenly had an urge to go there and meet up with my grandmother's family. In the following months, I came

see Israel, page 11

JFS: At Your Service

By Paula Clancy, MSW, CSW, Director,
Jewish Family Services

Spotlight on the Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency

It is estimated that 75 percent of us will be in a nursing home at one time or another. Nursing homes present a wide range of services ranging from short-term rehabilitation to long-term permanent placement. Choosing a nursing home and understanding how care will be covered is a confusing maze which most people face with uncertainty. Once a choice is made there are questions and concerns about comfort and care.

Where to turn for free information and guidance? Call the Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency of the Bluegrass (NHOA) at (859) 277-9215. Sherry Culp, MSW, and her excellent group of staff and volunteers can provide free guidance and information about making placement decisions and helping to ease transition for a loved one, as well as answering questions about levels of care and financial coverage. There is also information about nursing home ratings at www.ombuddy.org.

The Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency can also assist when nursing home residents are having a problem. Part of their job is to help resolve complaints and to represent residents. If you have questions or concerns you can call anonymously for assistance.

There are many NHOA volunteers (and opportunities for volunteers) who assist residents as friendly visitors, as mealtime companions, and also lead group activities.

The Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency serves approximately 5,000

nursing home and family care residents and their families in a seventeen-county area around Lexington. The office is located at the Lexington Senior Citizens' Center, 1530 Nicholasville Road.

This is an important, free, and caring resource to keep in mind for your family or someone you know who is coping with changes and making their way through the maze of medical care.

A personal note from everyone at the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass: Talia Smolkin has completed her internship at JFS. She is now completing classes and next year will complete a different internship requirement here in Lexington. She will be very missed by all at the Federation; however, we are very appreciative that she has agreed to stay involved with JFS. We thank her for all of her help and kindnesses and wish her success as she completes her MSW through Wurzweiler School of Social Work of Yeshiva University. ☆



Only Lexington performance of Tzofim Israel Scouts slated

Inspirational program to take place 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 23 at Temple Adath Israel

Many Israelis, before enlisting in the army at the age of 17, audition to perform with a group that tours the United States during the summers and runs workshops, works at camps, and entertains while spreading energy and spirit for Israel. These Tzofim Israel Scouts get rave reviews from audiences of all ages. Their enthusiasm is contagious and their skills are impeccable. You may see their talent for yourself at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nBJxn1BK42c>.

We had thought that JFB would not be able to afford them this year. To our surprise and delight, it developed that they have never been to Lexington, and thought it would be a good experience, since we are directly located between their tour sites the day before and the day after they will appear here. We are happy to offer their performance at no cost to the community. Please come out and show the Tzofim Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan how nice folks are in Kentucky and how much we appreciate their appearance here.

We need homes for two of the youth from June 23 to June 24 at 9:00 a.m. Let us know if you are interested in hosting. If you have teenagers, it might be a nice experience for them to spend time with these fabulous and talented 17-year-olds who are fluent in at least two languages.

Rabbi Kline at Temple Adath Israel extends a warm invitation to come out for an evening of fun, entertainment, and pleasure. We hope for a large crowd to make these young ladies and gentlemen feel welcome in Lexington. See you at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 23. Please contact Jana at jana@jewishlexington.org or (859) 268-0672 with questions or if you would like to host. ☆

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Man vs Machine - an acknowledgment Or: "What can happen when a Millennial and technology don't get along"

By Tamara Ohayon

Some of you may have noticed that the Federation office recently experienced a series of email and Evite.com issues. While we often push the use of social networking and email marketing, and have openly been technology's cheerleader, we find that occasionally really strange things happen which cannot be controlled or fixed. It is unfortunate, for you and the office, that multiple "problems" occurred so close together. We are truly sorry for this and are working to find the source of the problem so that it may be avoided in the future.

We rely so heavily on technology these days, spend hundreds or thousands of dollars buying the best and newest software and equipment, take classes to keep up with what's current—at least that's what most other companies do. As a non-profit providing for a relatively small community, we cannot afford such luxuries.

As a result, the office operates with a mishmash of computer parts and software, no two machines are alike, and no two have the same programs or capabilities. We gladly accept donations of time, software, and hardware, and rarely take precious dollars out of the cash flow for necessary computer parts. But this will eventually hurt us more than it helps and we are trying to look into replacing as much as we can, or at least upgrading, without taking away from programming or overseas allocations.

Case in point, every day is a new challenge for the staff: "How can I trick this computer program into doing what I want and need it to do instead of what it was intended to do?"

I like to think it is an inherently Jewish trait to take what you've got and make the best of it. As a dedicated staffer of the Jewish Federation I want to assure you that we always do our absolute best to "make lemonade" but admit that sometimes, in the battle of man vs machine, the machine wins.

Here's some of the computer vernacular we have used in the office when frustrating situations arise:

Computer Bermuda – when something temporarily disappears from the screen and/or files and then spontaneously comes back, usually after the computer is rebooted.

Computer Infinity – It's gone and not coming back.

"Beam me up, Scotty" – I give up. Take me with you!

BRS – Big Red Switch (a.k.a. Executive Override) – This is when we say, "enough already" and shut down or hit the power button.

Plus a few that are inappropriate for *Shalom*... ☆

TAI to hold congregational dinner and discussion on June 12 Discussion to center on interfaith marriage but all are urged to attend

If you're in an interfaith marriage, have children or parents who are in one, are contemplating entering into one, or just an interested bystander, you'll want to come to dinner at Temple Adath Israel on Saturday, June 12 at 6:00 p.m. We'll start the evening with social time and Havdalah service. Dinner will follow and the evening will conclude with a discussion, "46 Years of Successful Interfaith Marriage: Do Not Try This in Your Own Home," to be led by Mary and Ned Rosenbaum.

Mary Helène Rosenbaum is executive director of the Dovetail Institute for Interfaith Family Resources and editor of *Dovetail: A Journal By and For Jewish/Christian Families*. She is the author of the article on interfaith marriage in the *Interfaith Encyclopedia of Marriage and Family Relationships* (MacMillan, 2003). She is also the author of two biblical novels, *A Seal Upon the Heart* and *Jezebel's Daughter*. Mary Helène is a practicing Catholic, a lector in her church for over 20 years, who served as executive director of Congregation Beth Tikvah (Reform), Carlisle, Pennsylvania. She is a certified Level 2 Emotional Clarity™ facilitator.

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD (Brandeis), is Adjunct Professor of Hebrew at the University of Kentucky at Lexington and Professor Emeritus of Religion and Classics (Judaic Studies) at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Ned frequently conducts Jewish religious services and Torah study; he also lectures on biblical and related topics for Catholic and Protestant groups. He tutors Hebrew

at Gethsemani Monastery (Trappist). His published work includes the books *Amos of Israel: A New Interpretation* (Mercer UP, 1989) and *Understanding Israelite History* (Mercer UP, 2002); he contributed a chapter to *Jesus Through Jewish Eyes* (Orbis, 2001, Beatrice Bruteau, ed.).

The Rosenbaums have spoken to Jewish, Christian, and secular groups in nine states and in England. They have been interviewed on radio and TV programs, including National Public Radio, *CBS This Morning*, the *Today* show, and the *Sally Jessy Raphael* show. *Celebrating Our Differences: Living Two Faiths in One Marriage*, with a foreword by Martin Marty (Ragged Edge Press, 1994 & 1997), is their account of a journey that began in 1963. They have three children and four grandchildren.

This evening will afford an opportunity to ask your questions, talk with others in similar situations, and get suggestions about dealing with some of those "sticky" issues—please join us.

We are charging \$5 per person to help defray costs. In addition, you are asked to provide a dish. We will provide a chicken entrée, soft drinks, wine, and coffee. You are asked to bring food as follows: if your last name begins with A-H—an hors d'oeuvre, I-Q—a side dish or salad, R-Z—a dessert. Your dish should be enough to serve eight. Dinner is for adults only and reservations are required; call Sandee, (859) 269-2979, by June 4 to reserve your place. ☆

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Opinion

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD

Haifa, "we've Got a Howler..."

So writes J. J. Goldberg in *Haaretz*. After alluding to the Talmudic statement that "two Jews have three opinions," he laments that six million American Jews are expected by our "leadership" to have just one opinion. Further, this opinion is supposed to support any line taken by any Israeli government. Goldberg rejects this notion and, of course, so do I.

The attitude is really a hangover from the Middle Ages, when the *Hofjude* (Court Jew), usually the richest Jew in town, would speak for—and often be responsible for—his community, for instance, when it came to paying fines or taxes levied against the group by the local prince or count or duke or whom-ever. America isn't Europe, but native proponents of Jewish unity, or should I say uniformity, would say that diversity of opinion gives aid and comfort to our enemies (a dearth of which we've never had).

However, the "other shoe" here is that we've always and ever been accused of too much clannishness, too much sticking together. It's a case of being damned if you do and damned if you don't. Under these circumstances I think the best course is for each of us to follow his/her conscience and support or oppose those Israeli policies that we find consistent or inconsistent with historical Jewish values. I recognize the problems inherent in not presenting a united front, but we've never done that. Never.

In Israel it was North versus South from the time of Solomon's death until... well, in the New Testament, a woman identifies Peter by his Galilean

accent. Even before biblical Israel was formed, in the period of the Judges, it was everyone against the Benjaminites, a tribe that was not redeemed in Judean eyes until the (fictional) story of Esther and her uncle Mordecai as belonging to Saul's tribe.

Josephus, the 1st century Jewish general and historian, recorded that during the Roman siege of Jerusalem in 70 c.e. there were three factions in the city struggling with each other over how to meet the threat. This no doubt contributed to our defeat, but I don't think a united Jewry would have fared much better. Rome was Division I and we've hardly ever been out of Division III.

Early Zionists were sharply divided over Britain's offer to give us a national home—in Uganda. No less a luminary than Theodor Herzl found himself on the losing side of that argument. A generation later there was division of the house over whether Hebrew or German (!) would be the official language of the Jewish state.

In the '30s there was a sharp split between those American Jews who supported a boycott of German goods and those who feared doing that would "make things worse." And during the war a delegation of "radicals" came here and tried to raise money for the Stern Gang, the extreme nationalists who, after the war, spearheaded the campaign of terror against the British.

We have had Jewish Democrats, Socialists, Communists, and Republicans. In the '30s, '40s, and '50s, two Reform rabbis, Abba Hillel Silver and Stephen S. Wise, were our *shtadlanim*, that is, Jewish "interceders" with the government. Silver was Republican; Wise

was a personal friend of FDR, much good it did him, or us. (More on that later this year.) The number of Jewish Communists should have been greatly reduced after the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact of 1939 that "guaranteed" non-aggression between Germany and the Soviet Union, but even that betrayal did not deter Julius and Ethel Rosenberg from becoming the first Jews (or anyone else) executed for treason in time of peace.

So I have to ask why the American Jewish community must speak with one voice about Israel. Is that the "penalty" we should pay for not living there so that we could, along with the Israelis themselves, criticize their own government?

The problem of Jewish unity has raised its head again, especially since the UN seems about to turn its attention

to Israel's presumed nuclear capacity. If I represented Israel and were asked about that, I'd say, "We are surrounded by more than twenty Muslim/Arab countries. We've been attacked several times since 1948 and even now have some of our "neighbors" calling for our destruction. Whatever nuclear stuff we may have, I can assure you it will not be used in a first strike on anyone. Rather, we trust that—as with the Mutually Assured Destruction that kept the U.S. and the USSR from trading nukes during the Cold War—our enemies will realize that committing national suicide is not in their best interest."

Do you think we could all agree on that? ☆

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Mazel Tov to new board and officers of TAI



Samye Miller Stith, outgoing president, installs Ken Slepian as a new President.



New board members - back row (left to right) Stephen Auer, Barry Gerall, Brent Hasken; front row, Amy Messer, Pat Shraberg, Debra Booker.



New TAI executive board - back row - Stacey Myers-Wilson (Treasurer) and Micah Kaufman (First Vice President); front row - Judy Engelberg (Second Vice President), Ken Slepian (President), Betty Nigoff (Secretary).

Israel (from page 7)

in contact with over 50 people, all related to my grandmother, and all in Israel; all in Ashkelon. While my family wanted to meet them, they in turn wanted to meet us.

I finally received the opportunity during the Spring of 2010. My sister had been living in Tel Aviv for a year, and I had not seen her. As a surprise gift, I was sent to visit her. Once in Israel, I called one of the relatives, a cousin who was my age named Miylana. My sister and I were immediately invited to their home the day after Passover. We met many people that day, and were treated as honored guests. The women had cooked an eighteen course meal in our honor, and the elders held toasts to us for reuniting the family.

Before I left, I pulled out the old photograph I had first encountered as a toddler, and held it up to an eight-six year old Elena

(my grandmother's younger cousin). Though she only spoke Russian and I only spoke English, we both understood. From her pocket, she withdrew an old photograph. It was the same photograph taken in Chabna during the summer of 1928. She pointed to the subjects. "Avrum, Brocha, Khana, Mama, Mishe, ya (me)." To me, Israel means family. ☆

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TREASURES FROM THE VAULT



HENRI DE TOULOUSE-LAUTREC, *Chien japonais (detail)*, color photograph, gift of Mrs. Robert B. Meyer

May 2 – July 25, 2010



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June/July 2010 *Shalom* | 11

Community enjoys Yom Ha'Atzmaut dinner and celebration



12 | June/July 2010 Shalom

Mid-summer TAI congregational picnic planned

Fun and games at Veteran's Park on July 11

If it's starting to feel like endless summer along about mid-July, we're going to put a little fun in your life. Plan to attend the big picnic on Sunday, July 11, at Veteran's Park. This is sure to be a fun-for-all event. There'll be races and games for the kids, a softball game for adults, contests, and some surprises. If none of that is your thing, there's plenty of shade where you can enjoy socializing with old friends or making some new ones. If you don't know many people in the congregation, we want to meet you—come join us.

We're still in the planning stages but wanted you to get this date on your

calendar so you can be sure to be there. We're also looking for volunteers to help with all the activities. If you're new to the congregation, this is a perfect way to meet some new people. If you'd like to organize the softball game or some other young adult activity, if you're good with activities for kids, if you have some musical talent, if you have ideas, we'd love to have you work with us on this event.

First, write it on your calendar now. Second, contact Ruth Poley, rgp@insightbb.com or (859) 245-5027, and let her know how you'd like to help with this event. ☆

Federation promotes lunchtime health program

JFB, inspired by the Temple Adath Israel program promoting heart health through walks and healthier eating, is now offering a lunchtime exercise program. Beginning in early June, lunchtime "Get Moving" exercises will take place every Monday and Wednesday from noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Federation offices in the Chinoy Shopping Center.

If we have guest instructors on a particular day, there will be a minimum fee; on other days the program will be entirely free. On nice days, we might

put on tennis shoes and go walking outside. On other days we might work indoors with instructors or exercise videos. We will announce the schedule as we line up guest teachers, videos, or even perhaps Wii games that promote fitness, but the key to maintaining a healthy body is to move!

Please make a point of participating whenever your schedule allows. Contact Jana at (859) 268-0672 or jana@jewishlexington.org with questions or to volunteer to teach a class. ☆

Hadassah Casino Night a success

Hadassah hosted its annual fundraiser, Casino Night with Live and Silent Auctions, at Temple Adath Israel on May 2, 2010. Everyone enjoyed the vegetarian Italian meal, catered by South Van Events, and the lovely table decorations, which featured red-checkered cloths, gaming items, and flowerpots.

Once again there were many unusual and beautiful items, including hamsas and mezuzot from Israel, condos in Hilton Head and French Lick, baskets full of goodies of all types and much more. The auctioneer, Dave King of Grant County Real Estate and Auctioneer Company, engaged the audience in bidding on live items such as a UK football signed by Coach Joker Phillips

and a Lexington Legends box. As a result of the auction bids and the raffle ticket sales, Hadassah raised approximately \$10,000 for the administration of the chapter, which in turn helps us support Hadassah's projects.

Hadassah thanks those who supported this annual event with their attendance, raffle ticket purchases, or bids at the auction. The committee worked extremely hard and appreciates the response from everyone. The donations from businesses and individuals in the Jewish community and the community at large are very much appreciated. Without all this support, the tremendous success of the annual fundraiser would not be possible. ☆

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For more information contact Jana LaZur at
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*Contact Jana before using our on-line form if you are registering first-time campers.



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Rabbis
address
April 2

Death by Chocolate sweetens somber subject

By Hanna B. Smith

On April 21, 2010, Jewish Family Services, under the auspices of Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, presented a program about Jewish funeral customs and practices. To lighten this serious topic the JFS committee provided a spread of chocolate desserts.

Presenters were Rabbi Marc Kline, Rabbi Moshe Smolkin, and Daryl Berry of Milward Funeral Directors, Inc. Also present were Dan Scalf, CEO of the Lexington Cemetery, and Michael Ades and Joe Rosenberg of the Spinoza Society, the Jewish Burial Society. Rabbi Uriel Smith gave the invocation. JFS Director Paula Clancy welcomed the nearly 50 attendees. Federation President Linda Ravvin acknowledged Judy Wortman, who was celebrating her first anniversary as federation director. Linda thanked the JFS Committee and Social Work Practicum Student Talia Smolkin for developing the program.

All three presenters stressed the importance of leaving instructions for one's funeral well ahead of time. Rabbi Kline and Rabbi Smolkin discussed Jewish funeral practices as they pertain to the moment of death, the funeral, the gravestone unveiling, and the formal mourning period. These practices ensure that the dead body is

treated with utmost respect. They also guide the living through their time of mourning and ease them back into the mainstream of life.

According to the rabbis, Jewish funeral practices are based upon practical considerations. For example, the custom of dressing the dead body in simple white garments derives from Rabban Gamliel II HaNasi, head of the Jewish community of the Roman Empire in the early 2nd century. Rabban Gamliel opposed the sumptuous funerals of his time, which bankrupted many people.

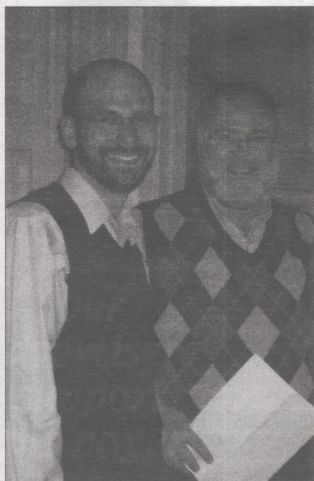
The presenters recognized that funeral customs may vary from region to region and that many families today prefer to personalize the funeral service. For example, instead of a formal funeral oration, one or more family members may reminisce about the deceased. This is acceptable as long as the solemnity of the occasion is preserved. Modern cemetery rules are also more relaxed about burying Jewish and non-Jewish spouses together.

Daryl Berry explained that Milward Funeral Directors is prepared to work with the Jewish community to accommodate our funeral practices. Having worked for a Jewish funeral home in Louisville, he is familiar with Jewish funeral customs. In response to a question about prepaid funerals, he explained that the money is placed in trust and is not paid to the funeral home until the services are actually provided.

The city has a fund to assist indigents with funeral costs. The Federation has also helped defray funeral expenses in cases of need.

The question of cremation was raised. The rabbis explained that Halakha does not permit cremation. Few rabbis will officiate at a cremation, though some rabbis may conduct a memorial service for the deceased.

JFS plans to present further diverse topics of interest to members of the Greater Lexington Jewish community. Please watch *Shalom* for announcements. ☆



Rabbis Smolkin and Kline prepare to address "Death by Chocolate" audience, April 21.

Book Excerpt: Weaving the Bonds of Marriage

From *The Tapestry of Jewish Time*, by Rabbi Nina Cardin

No matter how many times people have fallen in love, each time it is new. Though billions of men and women inhabit this planet, Judaism lets us imagine that each couple is a reflection of that first couple, as much the center of the world as were Adam and Eve. The sixth blessing of the wedding ceremony speaks to God about the bride and the groom, saying, "open the floodgates of happiness for these two lovers, just as you brought joy to Your Creation in the garden of Eden, long ago. Blessed are You, God, who gladdens the hearts of groom and bride."

Bringing joy to newlyweds is a mitzvah that surpasses that of study. The Talmud tells us that if a student is studying and a bridal party passes in the street, he should put aside his books and join the entourage. The learned rabbis, to whom all the community turned for models of modesty and propriety, would themselves shamelessly and with abandon dance before the bride and the groom. The Midrash tells us that in the absence of any friends or extended family in the garden of Eden, God served as a shushbin (a member of the wedding party) to Adam and Eve.

A joyous marriage is the foundation of the world. We celebrate first-time marriages and second-time marriages. We celebrate weddings at which parents escort their children down the aisle and weddings at which children escort their parents down the

aisle. Whether individuals are barren or fertile, young or old, bringing them together is a holy task. The Talmud records that a woman once asked a rabbi, "What has God been doing since Creation?" "Making marriages" was the reply. Why? It is an extension of Creation. We are created the first time at birth. We are created anew through marriage.

Beyond weaving together two lives, marriage allows us to build a home for ourselves and for our children, safe and secure and full to love. To feel little arms around our necks, to have a child pull us excitedly by the hand, to watch our children achieve or stumble and pick themselves up again, to watch them fall in love and build a home of their own—these are among the greatest joys of our lives. "To see the children of your children, that is called peace within Israel." These are the words we sing at wedding feasts. These are the gifts and the dreams that marriage give us. ☆

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Israel 21c: Israeli and Jordanian women are in business for peace

By Karin Kloosterman

An Israeli-American academic has initiated a program that may both advance disadvantaged women from Israel and Jordan and build peace among nations.

They arrive with ideas for waste management, new media, health clinics and environmental education, speaking Arabic or Hebrew. Funded by the US federal government, 10 aspiring women entrepreneurs—five from Jordan and five from Israel—are heading to the United States this month to engage in a mini-MBA experience that will hopefully, ultimately advance peace in the Middle East.

Prof. Meir Russ, an Israeli-American academic living and working in the US at the University of Wisconsin, came up with the idea that may both advance disadvantaged women and build peace among nations.

"We focused on women first because there is a social impact. They are changing the social fabric of society," he tells ISRAEL21c, emphasizing that the ultimate goal from the US side is to promote business development and improve trilateral relations among the US, Jordan and Israel.

Russ secured funds for the Young Entrepreneurs Program (YEP) so that deserving women will be able to benefit from the MBA-type experience at the University of Wisconsin in two stages of leadership training. Their program is to include workshops, job shadowing, site visits and cultural activities in the Green Bay area.

Coming from Israel, Russ knows that despite the official peace treaty, nothing much has been done to encourage relationships between the citizens of Jordan and Israel. After meeting a colleague who was bringing Jordanian students to the US to learn entrepreneurial practices, Russ conceived a joint project that would forge connections between the US and both Israel and Jordan, and worked to convince the State Department to provide funding.

"I know how entrepreneurial Israel is," Russ says, "and I know that there are pockets of women from Ethiopia [in Israel] and Arab Muslim women who are not getting the same opportunities as others, and thought about bringing some of them to the US." Not to mention that connecting Israel to Jordan

through entrepreneurial activities, also, "serves a bigger purpose," he adds.

Jordan is considered a moderate country in the Middle East, and is already involved in ongoing projects with Israel in areas such as emergency preparedness, water technologies and the environment. Organizers and funders hope that the YEP program will expand the opportunities, and enable Jordanians and Israelis to know each other a little better.

A first focus on women

It was easy for the organizers to find willing participants from Israel, including women from the Israeli Arab sector. It was a tougher job finding qualified candidates in Jordan, but with the help of colleagues there, Russ managed to find them and is now looking forward to meeting the women next month in the US.

As a professor of management who earned an MBA in Israel and started a business in the country many years ago, Russ believes that there is more to entrepreneurship than just starting a business.

"We looked at the women's personalities, more than their business ideas," says Russ, explaining that the priorities were to determine whether the women could "use our help, and whether their backgrounds lead to an entrepreneurial way of thinking, and maturity of business ideas."

The selection process is underway, with projects being chosen based on merit and the feasibility of connecting between the enterprises in Israel and Jordan. Among the businesses that the young women aspire to set up is a health clinic for the poor, an environmental education center for young people, a family magazine and a studio for graphic design.

"Some already have academic and professional backgrounds related to business, while others have little business background but good entrepreneurial ideas," says coordinator Jay Harris.

"All of them have been able to explain how they can benefit from our training program."

Russ wants to help the participants to grow their own ideas and work together. "Hopefully a group of us will go back to Israel and Jordan later in the

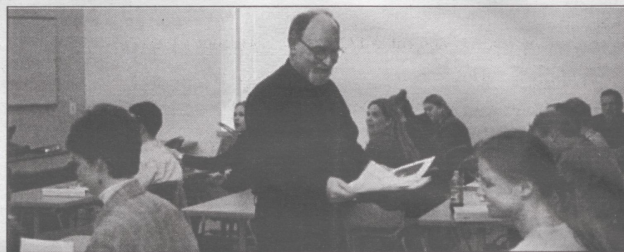
year. We are looking to develop some kind of network," he explains. And it seems that with the two-year grant from the State Department amounting to nearly \$300,000, and Russ's expectation that the project will run for at least the next six years, there's ample time for a network to take root.

Businesses with social impact

Business people from the Green Bay area and faculty members from the university will be involved in the training process. Support will also

come from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce, the Wisconsin Entrepreneurs Network and the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

On the Jordanian side, partners include the American Chamber of Commerce in Amman and the King Abdullah Fund for Development; while in Israel, the Israel-American Chamber of Commerce and Industry along with the Bengis Center for Entrepreneurship at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev will help to coordinate ongoing activities. ☆



Israeli-American Russ Meir is developing a program to help bring opportunities to young women entrepreneurs from Jordan and Israel.

***jfs Jewish Family Services**

Upcoming Programs

Leisure Club Patriotic Tea
 Thursday, June 17
 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

at the JFB Office
 1050 Chinoe Road Suite 302

with speakers Bob Orbach and John Kalbfleisch
 There will be a flag folding ceremony and musical selections by John Kalbfleisch on the harmonica.

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

The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUE GRASS

B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Ruth Poley



Summer Salads

Although we are definitely omnivores in our house, we do enjoy meatless meals on occasion. We never think of them as vegetarian or vegan meals (and no, those are not dirty words, nor do they signify some weird or unpalatable foods), they're just foods we like to eat that happen not to contain meat. The vegan part is easy for me, as I'm allergic to cow's milk and eggs so they're never part of our everyday fare. This month I'm printing three summer salads—two of them are vegan, the third contains meat that could be eliminated entirely or replaced with baked, seasoned tofu. Any of them would make a satisfying light lunch or dinner on a hot day; just serve with some crusty bread. I hope you try one or two of them; I think you'll enjoy them.

Tropical Salad

- 1 large, ripe mango, peeled and cut in 1/2 inch pieces (about 1 1/2 cups)
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 3 Tbsp. fresh lime juice
- 3 Tbsp. rice vinegar or 1 Tbsp. white wine vinegar
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 1 lb. mixed baby lettuces
- 1 cup diced, peeled jicama
- 1/2 cup salted roasted cashews or macadamia nuts

Combine 1/2 cup mango with next 6 ingredients in blender. Puree until smooth; season with salt and pepper. (Can be made three hours ahead; cover and let stand at room temperature.)

Toss dressing with lettuce, jicama, and remaining mango. Sprinkle with nuts.

Avocado Salad with Pine Nuts, White Beans, and Roast Beef

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

Combine avocado and lemon juice in a mixing bowl and toss gently. Add beans, oil, roast beef, pine nuts, onion, parsley, rosemary, salt, and pepper, and gently toss to mix. Adjust seasonings, adding salt, pepper, and lemon juice to taste.

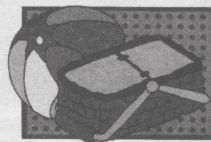
Chickpea and Olive Salad with Fennel

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

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

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

You're invited to a



Picnic

Please join us for the
Temple Adath Israel
congregational picnic on
Sunday, July 11 at 3:30 p.m.,
Veteran's Park Pavilion #3

There'll be races and games for the kids, a softball game for adults, contests, and some surprises. If none of that is your thing, there's plenty of shade where you can enjoy socializing with old friends or making some new ones. If you don't know many people in the congregation, we want to meet you—come join us.

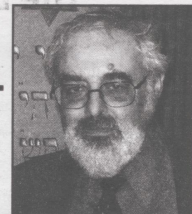
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Ask A Rabbi

Rabbi H.D. Uriel Smith



Q Do miracles happen today? If so, how would we recognize them?

A Rabbi Akiba in a few words enunciated two major paradoxes (Mishnah Avot 3:19), which seem to imply that there are no individual miracles, but the whole existence of the universe is miraculous. The first paradox uses four Hebrew words: *Ha-kol tzafui, v'-ha-r'shut n'tunah* ("Everything is foreseen, yet freedom is given"). It seems that God foresees everything, and therefore, even what we think are miracles are part of the original creation, and thus part of the regulated universe. Later, Avot 5:9 confirms this by stating that the miracles in the Bible were "created on the eve of Sabbath in the twilight."

Nevertheless, Rabbi Akiba indicates that miraculously we are free to act, and God does not coerce our choices.

Akiba continued with a seven-Hebrew-word paradox: *U-v'-tov ha-'olam midon, v'-ha-kol l'fi rov ha-ma'aseh* ("The world is judged [leniently] by grace, yet all judgment accords with the majority of deeds"). God is both mercifully lenient and judges with strict justice.

Rabbi Akiba's paradoxes fitted the Aristotelian perspectives of the world whereby everything could be defined. What did not fit the norm was either illegal or immoral or miraculous. So, if something was very unusual, it was "an act of God." This does not work with the modern scientific view originated by Galileo and Kepler. This view develops models of every area of study. The model includes both normal and abnormal occurrences in its range. So, an event that was once considered miraculous must now be fitted into the model, or the model must be modified to include it in its range.

A paradox that fits this modern Galilean perspective can be formulated in five Hebrew words: *Olam k'-minhago noheg* ("The universe acts [strictly] according to its laws" [b. *Avodah Zarah* 54b]), *v'-ha-hashgahah p'ratis* ([God's

providence extends to individuals"). We know to our sorrow that God never breaks the laws of creation. Too many tragedies have befallen us in Jewish history to deny this truth. Yet, once we open our hearts to God's presence, we find God is present in all our activities. Providence is extended to us.

So, how now do we decide something is miraculous? Taking the crossing of the Red Sea as our paradigm, I would require four indicators. (1) It fulfills a human need unexpectedly. (2) It occurs at the right time. (3) It proceeds within the range needed. (4) It changes permanently the way we perceive the world.

I have to assume that some mothers told their children that "the angel of God who went before the host of Israel moved and went behind them" to guard them from the Egyptian army.

(1) A young man came to the Baal Shem Tov and told him, "I can show that the splitting of the Red Sea follows the laws of nature." The rabbi responded, "And who created the laws of nature?"

The earliest narratives of the Red Sea crossing tell of "a strong east wind" that drove the sea back all night, "and made the sea dry land" (Exodus 21:14). At dawn the wind died down and the waters returned, swamping the Egyptian troops chasing the Israelites. The version of the sea splitting, forming watery walls, is a narrative set down centuries later after many Passovers during the period of the Judges and, later, the First Temple period, when they reenacted the watery crossing through the River Jordan (Joshua chaps. 2-6; I Samuel 11:14-15; Hosea 12:12-14; Micah 6:5). The earlier version gives an unusual event that is not beyond the natural laws of nature. The later version arose over the centuries, making the event much more miraculous.

(2) Moses knew that the Egyptian troops did not like to fight during the night. So when the wind arose, he ordered young men to keep the campfires burning so that the Egyptians would think that the camp was still occupied, while he got all the fleeing slaves to cross the Red Sea, whose waters were being blown aside.

If the wind had arisen a day earlier or a day later, there would have been no miracle. It arrived just when needed.

(3) The wind was strong enough to blow the waters aside, but not so strong that it would have stopped the Israelites from crossing with their goods and their animals. It was strong enough to keep the Egyptian troops from leaving their camp to check the slaves' encampment, but not so strong that Israelites' campfires used to camouflage the slaves' movements would have been blown out.

(4) We may compare the crossing of the Red Sea to the Dunkirk evacuation in 1940. During that evacuation the winds across the English Channel died down sufficiently for smaller boats to cross from England and ferry hundreds of soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk. The Brits still refer from time to time to the miracle of Dunkirk. However, its memory has largely died down. The memory of the crossing of the Red Sea was strong enough to be reenacted "from Shittim to Gilgal" (Micah 6:6) for at least five centuries, and it is still remembered every Passover.

One version of the story reminds us of the mothers who encouraged their children during the dangerous crossing of the Red Sea. When they had left Egypt they told their children to watch the "pillar of fire by night"

that led the Israelites, so they would not get lost. When they crossed the Red Sea

there was no pillar of fire in front of them, but the camouflage campfires were kept burning behind them. I have to assume that some mothers told their children that "the angel of God who went before the host of Israel moved and went behind them" to guard them from the Egyptian army (Exodus 14:19-20). This little detail remained part of the stories recited during the Passover pilgrimage of the Judges' and the First Temple period, and thereby entered into the Bible. This also became part of the miracle.

So I would answer: Yes, miracles do occur today. However, we often are too jaded to recognize them. We need to calm down and open our hearts to see them. ☆

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Have a question?

Ask a rabbi

The rabbis write columns in response to questions submitted by the readers. We encourage you—whether you are a member of the Jewish community or not—to submit your queries on theology, morality, ethics, religious observances, etc. for response by one of our rabbis.

If you have an issue you would like to see addressed, please email it to jfb.shalom@hughes.net and put "Ask a Rabbi" in the subject line of your email. (It may take quite a while until your question is answered or it may never be answered, if no rabbi selects it.) You will not be identified as the writer of the question to either rabbis or readers, nor will you be asked to specify which rabbi should answer.

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Lynn Furness, President

Summer is upon us in Central Kentucky, which means we will likely face the oft-repeated cycle of drought and deluge that adds to our environmental concerns here. Many use rain barrels and irrigation drips to mitigate against the harsh effects of the elements. In Israel, the mitigation may not be as easy or even possible. Specifically, a twelve-year drought has ravaged our homeland, especially the Negev. For the first time in 30 years, families who have called this area their home may be forced to leave. Hadassah is working with Jewish National Fund to further develop the Negev so that young families can continue calling Israel home for generations to come.

Over the years, with the help of generous donors like you, Hadassah and the Jewish National Fund have teamed to drain swamplands, plant forests, develop water resources, and preserve Israel's ecology. Help us continue these vital efforts to guarantee that Israel has the critical resources it needs to ensure agricultural and industrial growth. You can purchase tree or water certificates by contacting our JNF chair, Melanie Shapiro, at bluegrassgirl55@yahoo.com or (859) 523-6166.

In other environmental areas, Israel leads the way in looking for alternative energy sources aimed at reducing CO2 emissions and promoting the use of renewable energy. An Israeli company is actively developing and designing efficient solar power plants around the world, while Israeli municipalities are contributing to international projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, Jerusalem soon will be home to the world's first all-electric car network. Electric cars will reduce the world's dependency on oil, lower air and noise pollution, and eliminate carbon emissions from cars that create greenhouse gases. The company undertaking this venture, Better Place, will begin testing cars in September 2010 and hopes to have 70 to 100 vehicle recharging stations in place by 2011.

Better Place will provide lithium-ion batteries to power the cars and the

infrastructure to refresh or replace them. One battery will enable the cars to travel 124 miles per charge. Better Place will install parking-meter-like plugs on city streets and construct service stations along highways to replace the batteries. Solar technology, being developed in southern Israel, will generate the electricity to power the cars.

Israel is not only the first country to host this technology, but is also where the original technology was invented. Under the Better Place model, "Consumers can either buy or lease an electric car from the French automaker Renault or Japanese companies like Nissan," wrote *New York Times* columnist Thomas Friedman, "and then buy miles on their electric car batteries from Better Place the way you now buy an Apple cell phone and the minutes from AT&T."

To learn more about Better Place and how Israeli culture fosters a unique combination of innovative and entrepreneurial intensity, check out *Start-Up Nation: The Story of Israel's Economic Miracle*, by Dan Senor and Saul Singer. This book is a featured selection in "On The Same Page: A Hadassah Book Club Guide," which the Lexington Chapter Book Club consults when it makes its selections. For further information on the book club, please contact Jane Chaput, chaput1@windstream.net or (859) 245-8624.

Hadassah also addresses environmental concerns on both the region and chapter levels, where efforts to go green include using e-vites and capitalizing on other forms of electronic media instead of using paper copies to help preserve our forests. In this way, Hadassah continues to be in the forefront of issues that concern our populace today.

We are all proud to belong to an organization that listens and adapts as times change. Call today and become an active participant in Hadassah. Everyone has something to contribute, whether it's to help save the environment or plan a program. I hope to hear from you soon. ☆

Gan Shalom Preschool

An Early Childhood Program for Toddlers & Preschoolers at Ohavay Zion Synagogue

Now enrolling for the 2010-2011 school year.

Creativity & Learning through Diversity.

We welcome children from all ethnic, religious, social, and economic backgrounds.

- Flexible Full Day and Part-time Programs
- Warm, Nurturing Environment
- Special Enrichment Programs
- Ages 18 months to 5 years (Pre-K)
- Quality, Licensed Childcare and Preschool Programs
- Weekly Fitness and Music Programs
- Real Life Activities, Hands-on Learning
- Cultural Awareness, Highly Qualified Teachers
- Small Child/Adult Ratios

Convenient Location: On Alumni Drive just off of New Circle Road. Five Minutes from UK.

For more information 335-9922 or visit www.ganshalom.com

Cool Facts About Israel

A Revolution That Is Changing Our Planet.

On Earth Day 2010, Israel's Ministry of Tourism, North America launched a 24-month promotion, "Israel: One Hundred Years of Green" which

underscores Israel's pivotal role in the worldwide environmental movement. For many destinations around the world, latching on to the "green" bandwagon is all the rage. In Israel, these practices and ideologies have long been integrated into every aspect of Israeli life.

Among the programs being focused on this year are the new Ariel Sharon Ayalon Park which is being transformed from the 2,000 acre Hiriya garbage dump on the outskirts of Tel Aviv into an eco-friendly public park (www.ayalon-park.org.il/Eng/), the new bike share program in Tel Aviv which includes 1,500 bicycles at 150 points around the city, and the zimmerbus guestrooms in Ezuz which are constructed from retired buses and made into lovely vacation homes in a beautiful spot in the Negev (www.zimmer.co.il).

Jewish National Fund also released a report this year showing that more than 240 million trees have been planted in Israel since 1901. Israel is currently the only country in the world which has a higher percentage of trees now in relation to its size than it did 100 years ago, and contains approximately 211,500 acres of forestry.

To learn more about the "Israel: One Hundred Years of Green" projects, go to <http://travelgreenisrael.com/category/100-years-of-green/>

The Lexington Havurah

Judy Goldsmith, President

The Lexington Havurah, founded in 1978, is a network of diverse people dedicated to Jewish learning and renewal, community building, and tikkun olam (repairing the world). A havurah is defined as a gathering or community of friends. The Lexington Havurah is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the National Havurah Committee. Members plan, conduct, and share responsibility for all services. For additional information about services or membership in the Havurah, please contact me at (859) 338-5725, goldsmith@insightbb.com, or the co-chairs of the Membership Committee, Evelyn Geller (859) 278-3609, evelynkadimah@aol.com, or David Feinberg, (859) 223-1304, kufjm@insightbb.com.

I've been thinking about volunteerism, recently. It seems to be a huge piece of our lives for so many of us.

Some years ago, I argued with a friend who thought I should be giving more of my time.

"But I manage the dance group," I protested.

"That's not the same. You do that for pleasure," she said.

"Is that bad? It's not just me dancing by myself."

"How many dancers do you have?"

At the time, very few. I argued that we brought pleasure to our audiences—also not so many—and performed necessary rituals, like dancing at sunrise on May Day. (We do so; whether it is indeed necessary is unclear.) Most of all, I argued that an activity can be both fun and worthwhile.

The parallels with being president of the Havurah are clear.

There are many reasons we give of our time, and they vary not only from person to person but from time to time for each of us. The most important part is, "Because I can." That means that I am blessed with the time and energy to do this.

I've been thinking about volunteerism a lot recently because I will be stepping down as president of the Lexington Havurah. It has brought me great pleasure to serve, but I reached a point of overwhelmedness, and need to step back for a while.

The wonderful thing about the Lexington Havurah is that the entire membership volunteers. It's a members-run congregation. Members of the board have the additional tasks of coordinating it all, but it is a participatory group. The question isn't, "Will you volunteer," but "How?"

I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event or service. At some point, I'll be co-leading the service, or putting out the snacks.

Upcoming services include June 19: Saturday night, Potluck and Havdalah 7:00 - 9:30 p.m., and July 17: Shabbat morning service plus light lunch, 10:00 a.m. For more information, give me a call at (859) 338-5725 or email me at goldsmith@insightbb.com.

The Havurah will also join with Ohavay Zion Congregation to arrange a summer Jewish/Israeli film series, one each in June, July, and August. Watch the Community Calendar for dates and titles! ☆

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

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

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

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

Are you on the Jewish Federation's email list?

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

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

tamara@jewishlexington.org



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

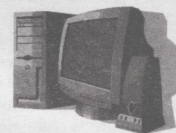
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Advertise Your Business

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

Month-To-Month Rates

Full Page 10.167" x 11.42" \$200 BW \$300 Color	1/2 Page Vertical 5" x 11.42" \$132 BW \$215 Color	1/2 Page Horizontal 10.167" x 5.645" \$132 BW \$215 Color
1/4 Page 5" x 5.645" \$88 BW \$132 Color	1/8 Page 5" x 2.72" \$60 BW \$105 Color	Business Card 3.277" x 2.15" \$40 BW \$82 Color

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

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

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

Rates for contracted terms (per issue)**

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

Terms

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

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

Deadline

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

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

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



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Temple Adath Israel

124 N. Ashland Avenue • President, Samye Miller Stith • (859) 269-2979

Sisterhood News

Mazel Tov to the newly installed
Executive Board for 2010-2012

President—**Rebecca Young**
First Vice-President—**Ruth Poley**
Second Vice-President—**Becky Savage**
Third Vice-President—**Laura Creamer**
Fourth Vice-President—**Elissa Weinstein**
Recording Secretary—**Deborah Florenthof**
Treasurer—**Debbie Masters**
Financial Secretary / Correspondence—**Christy Roth**
Past President—**Mimi Kaufman**

We also want to recognize the following women and their positions for 2010-2012

Parliamentarian—**Marilyn Lieber**
Oneg—**Deborah Nelson**
Mitzvah Crib—**Julie McKee**
Teacher Appreciation—**Angie Ornstein**
Break-the-fast—**Mary Engel**
Seder—**Leona Stern**
Gift Shop—**Mindy Heller**

These dedicated women are the heart and soul of our Sisterhood. Our Sisterhood is 115 members strong and we look forward to many more women joining our diverse group. Please join us for our first event. Bingo Night on June 19 at Temple. The proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit our Religious School. Look for your invitation in the mail. Have a wonderful summer.

God's Pantry Night on Tuesday

Please join representatives from the entire Jewish community at God's Pantry on the **third Tuesday of each month**, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. We will sort food to be distributed to the homeless and assist God's Pantry in fulfilling the needs of the hungry in Kentucky. For more information and directions, please contact Karen Petrone at (859) 226-9145 or Petrone@uky.edu. Join us on **June 15 & July 20**

Chavurat-Chochma (A Friendly Gathering of Wisdom)

We will meet on June 25 and July 30 to gather and schmooze and enjoy an

informative program. The cost is \$6 per person. Please RSVP by May 26.

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 on alternate Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. and join in the provocative and friendly discussion. **June 12 & 26 and July 10 & 24**

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. **June 5 & 19 and July 3, 17, & 31**

Study on the weekly Torah Portion

Join us each Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m. to take a look at the Torah portion for each week. The rabbi will lead some, everyone will take turns on others. We plan to reintroduce classical texts and write the new midrash, which will become classical over the next hundred years. The format will be different from either Torah study or Kollel. Bring your lunch. See you in the library! ☆



For a day that is worth the best...
Bar and Bat Mitzvahs
at



—Lansdowne Shoppes—
For more information, call Jennifer Burchett at 859.335.6500, ext.105
or email her at jrburchett@lytle.com.



Please join us on
Saturday, June 12 at 6:00 p.m.
for dinner and discussion* at Temple Adath Israel

"46 Years of Successful Interfaith Marriage: Do Not Try This in Your Own Home," to be led by Mary and Ned Rosenbaum

We are charging \$5 per person to help defray costs. In addition, you are asked to provide a dish. We will provide the entrée, soft drinks, wine, and coffee. You are asked to bring either an hors d'oeuvre, side dish, salad, or dessert. Your dish should be enough to serve eight.

Dinner is for adults only and reservations are required; call Sandee (269-2979) by June 4 to reserve your place.

* While the discussion is aimed at interfaith couples, all are welcome to participate. If your children or parents are in an interfaith marriage, you may find this program interesting.





Temple Adath Israel Preschool
Expanded Quality Program
for toddlers and preschoolers

Now enrolling for the
2010-2011 school year.

- Full-day and Half-day programs available (8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.)
- Classes available for children 18 months-5 years of age
- Extended care options daily until 5:30 p.m.
- Foreign language, music and art enrichment programs for all ages
- Nurturing, family environment

CALL: 269-1915
124 North Ashland Avenue
Lexington, KY
"25 Years of Excellence"

Temple Adath Israel Preschool
Expanded Quality Program
for toddlers and preschoolers

Now enrolling for the
2010-2011 school year.

Ohavay Zion Synagogue

2048 Edgewater Court • President, Beth Goldstein • (859) 266-8050

Friday Morning Talmud Study

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

Weekday Minyan

A Minyan is held each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at 5:45 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please come and help make a minyan.

D'Vine Minyan on Tuesdays

Tuesday is D'Vine Minyan Day at OZS. Join your friends for a relaxing glass of wine and socializing each Tuesday afternoon beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the OZS Library (or outside when the weather is nice.). The brief afternoon/evening minyan follows in the sanctuary. A great way to end your day.

Kids' Shabbat

A monthly Friday evening Shabbat for children ages 4 to 9, with pizza, song,

and schmoozing—5:15 p.m. on June 11. Kids' Shabbat is not scheduled for July.

Tish Gathering with Rabbi Smolkin

Tish, n. (Yiddish, fr. German *Tisch*, table) a gathering around the rabbi's table, usually on Shabbat, often with singing, story telling, or discussion. Each event will have a different topic, to be announced in advance. The June Tish is scheduled for June 4 at 8:00 p.m. There is no Tish scheduled for July.

Young Professionals' Shabbat

Young Jewish Professionals in their 20's and 30's get together Fabulous Friday Nights for Food, Fun, and Festivities. Please join us and feel free to bring friends. The next Young Professionals' Shabbat is scheduled for June 25; however, none is planned for July.

Night at the Movies at OZS

We will explore Jewish topics, history, and contemporary film from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., with free popcorn provided. In June the movie is scheduled for June 23; July's movie will be shown on July 14.

June Shabbat Schedule

Celebrate Shabbat. The Friday night schedule for June is:
June 4 – Tish service begins at 8:00 p.m. at OZS.
June 11 – Kids' Shabbat at 5:15 p.m.
June 21 – Shabbat Service begins at 5:45 p.m. at OZS
June 25 – Young Professionals' Shabbat at 6:00 p.m.

We hope you will join us for our spirited Shabbat Morning Service each Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. with Kiddush Lunch following in the Social Hall.

July Shabbat Schedule

"Shabbat in the City," a celebration in selected congregant homes throughout the month of July.

We hope you will join us for our spirited Shabbat Morning Service each

Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. with Kiddush Lunch following in the Social Hall.

Membership Committee

If you know someone new to the Lexington area interested in learning more about Ohavay Zion please call Simone Salomon, Membership Chair, at (859) 269-1585.

SPARE PARTS & EQUIPMENT

60 Years of Service

346 Richmond Avenue
Lexington, KY 40502-1458
(859) 266-2188 or Fax (859) 268-1877

Mitchell Barnes - Owner

Jewish Heritage Night at Applebee's Park

Sunday, July 18 at 2:05 p.m.

All children ages 5 to 13
can run the bases on
the field after the game.

Lexington Legends
vs Hickory Crawdads

Represent! Wear your old Jewish Baseball cap, Camp Shalom or Camp Gesher t-shirt, "Kentucky" hebrew shirt, etc. to show your affiliation with the Jewish community.

Stop by our community table and learn about our local Jewish organizations.

Do your children go to Camp Shalom or Camp Gesher? Call the JFB office early and your kids could be one of the 18 campers running on the field with the Lexington Legend players, a "Field of Dreams" for Sunday Kids' Day.

See Camp Director, Kathy Feinberg,
throw the first pitch!

To purchase tickets contact
Jana LaZur at (859) 268-0672 or
jana@jewishlexington.org



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



Around the Community

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

Mazel Tov to...

Ken Slepian, Micah Kaufman, Judy Engelberg, Stacey Myers-Wilson, and Betty Nigoff on being elected to the executive committee of Temple Adath Israel.

Rosalind Weisenberg, who celebrated her 100th birthday in May. Rosalind is the mother of Jan and Dave Doctrow and the grandmother of Mindy Heller, Lisa and Robert Doctrow, Robbie and Jeff Doctrow, Amy and Matt Doctrow, and Pam and Ken Gould.

Danielle Heller, who will be attending the University of Kentucky and has been selected to be a member of the 2010-2011 University of Kentucky Dance Team. Danielle is the daughter of Mindy Heller, the granddaughter of Jan and Dave Doctrow, and the great-granddaughter of Rosalind Weisenberg.

Marshall Roorda on winning a \$2,500 award from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Bat Mitzvah

Martine Nelson, daughter of William (Bill) and Adrienne Nelson, will be called to the Torah when she begins her journey into adult Judaism as a bat mitzvah at Temple Adath Israel on June 5, 2010. Her older sister, Tyler, will also participate in this joyous event.

Martine is a sixth grade student in the Spanish immersion program at Bryan Station Middle School. She has been in this program since kindergarten. Her favorite subject is orchestra, because it is "one of the only classes in school where you can be creative. It's kind of a way to express yourself." Martine's primary instrument is the string bass, but she also plays the viola, the piano, and the guitar. In addition to her musical

and academic activities, Martine plays soccer.

For her Mitzvah Project, Martine goes to a nursing home and plays the piano for the residents. She enjoys this undertaking so much that she hopes to continue it after her bat mitzvah.

Condolences to...

Tina and Mark Simpson on the death of Tina's mother, Joyce Emma Laughrey Holland, on April 23, 2010.

Gigi Gentry, long-time Hadassah member and chapter treasurer for four years, on the unexpected and untimely death of her husband, Mike Gentry, on April 30, 2010.

Elayne and Ralph Crystal on the death of Elayne's father, Joseph Shapero, on May 7, 2010. Joseph was also the grandfather of Jeremy Crystal and Amy Regan.

Vivian Bitensky and Larry Bitensky on the death of Vivian's husband, Larry's father, Harold Bitensky on May 16, 2010.



Martine's
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specialty cakes and desserts
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weddings or any occasion

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859.771.4473 for more info or to order direct

TOGETHER.

We can teach our children,
and our children's children.



Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher provide a comfortable environment where kids can be proud of their Jewish heritage and shared culture, helping them grow into the Jewish leaders of tomorrow. By investing in our children through positive Jewish educational experiences, like Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher, we set the groundwork for continuity in our local community and beyond.

*Honor the past.
Ensure the future.*

Support the 2010 Jewish
Federation Community Campaign.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS
Our connection. Our voice. Our community.



Community Calendar

JFB - www.jewishlexington.org

1050 Chinoe Road • Suite 302 • 268-0672 • Linda Ravvin, President

OZS - Ohavay Zion Synagogue - www.ozs.org

2048 Edgewater Court • 266-8050 • Moshe Smolkin, Rabbi; Beth Goldstein, 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 & program following • Shabbat Services Saturday at 9:45 a.m.

TAI - Temple Adath Israel - www.lextai.org

124 N. Ashland Avenue • 269-2979 • Marc Kline, Rabbi; Samye Miller Stith, President
Shabbat Services first & second Friday at 6:30 p.m., remaining Fridays 7:30 p.m.; Worship Service Saturday 10:30 a.m.

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

Lynn Furness, President • mamanewbs@yahoo.com

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

Judy Goldsmith, President • goldsmith@insightbb.com • 338-5725 • Shabbat Services monthly, call for schedule

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

1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 302 • Bruce Broudy, President • bbrou@lexclin.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					TAI Bat Mitzvah	TAI Bat Mitzvah
30 Havurah Annual Retreat Yiddish Class at JFB	31	June 1 Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits	2 JFS Committee (members)	3	4	5 TAI Membership Outreach Dinner 6:00 p.m.
6 Hadassah Board Meeting	7	8 God's Pantry Night	9 "Get Moving" program begins, Noon - 1:00 p.m. JFB	10 JFS Leisure Club Patriotic Tea 2:00 p.m. JFB office	11	12 Havurah Potluck & Havdalah
13 Yiddish Class at JFB	14	15	16 OZS night at the movies Israel Scouts 7:00 p.m. TAI	17	18 Chavurat Chochma 11:30 a.m. TAI	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Yiddish Class at JFB	28	29	30	July 1	2 Shalom newspaper Deadline	3
4 Hadassah Board Meeting TAI Congregational Picnic 3:30 p.m.	5 Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits	6 OZS night at the movies	7	8	9	10 Havurah morning service 10:00 a.m.
11 Yiddish Class at JFB Lexington Legends Jewish Heritage night 2:05 p.m.	12	13	14 JFB Board Meeting	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
JFB Camp Shalom & Camp Gesher	JFB Camp Shalom & Camp Gesher	JFB Camp Shalom & Camp Gesher	JFB Camp Shalom & Camp Gesher	JFB Camp Shalom & Camp Gesher	JFB Camp Shalom & Camp Gesher Chavurat Chochma 11:30 a.m. TAI	31
25	26	27	28	29	30	