

# Shalom

FEBRUARY 2010

Newspaper of  
The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS



SHEVAT/ADAR 5770

## CKJF changes name, refines mission

What's in a name: a reputation, history, opportunity, connection, and recognition? We, as the central address for the Jewish community, both affiliated and unaffiliated, throughout Central Kentucky, have a new name: Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass. It is a name of distinction and pride that identifies with our national organization, the Jewish Federations of North America (formerly the United Jewish Communities) and with other Federations

throughout North America as they change their names to reflect a new sense of joint purpose. It also reflects the pride of being part of the state of Kentucky, and the high regard of the beautiful Bluegrass area throughout the world. The new decade brings with it both a new outlook and updated by-laws with a new mission statement for what was formerly known as CKJF—Central Kentucky Jewish Federation. ✧

## CAMPAIGN NEWS

### Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass Community Campaign to begin on March 21 New special event planned for community

The 2010 Community Campaign will begin on Sunday March 21 with our annual Super Sunday phonathon, which will again be chaired by Carole Wilson. Carole will be assisted by the Campaign Committee, co-chaired by Pat Shraberg and Angie Ornstein. This year we have planned a new special event for the community's fundraising festivities.

From 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., the community is invited to participate in a pizza lunch and a services auction. You will have time to volunteer making phone calls in the morning, pick up your children from religious school, and return with them for lunch and the auction. There will be two shifts for phone calling: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. As always, there will be complimentary breakfast, lunch, and nosherei for all volunteers.

We need phone solicitors and volunteers for the auction. We all can offer something to auction: babysitting hours, home-cooked meals, baked goods, office or home organizing skills, tennis lessons, or use of your vacation home. Use your imaginations; the possibilities are endless. Please consider what you have to offer the community. All the proceeds of the auction and the Super Sunday phonathon will go toward the 2010 community campaign.

Please call Judy Wortman at (859) 268-0672 or email her at ckjf@jewishlexington.org to volunteer. If you are home on Super Sunday, March 21, answer the call from your friends who are asking for your help in providing needed programs and services to our sisters and brothers here, in Israel, and around the world. Please give with a generous heart. ✧

## Rockin' Rabbis



Rabbis sing "Maoz Tzur" at JFB Winter Dinner. (see story on page 8)

## Mission Accomplished: Books successfully delivered to Ben Yakir At-risk youth enjoy horse lore

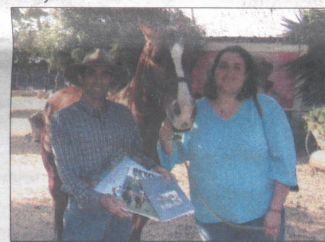
By Tamara Ohayon

In early November 2009 I was in Israel for two and a half weeks, spending time with family and traveling around this amazing country.

One of the highlights of my trip was visiting the Ben Yakir Youth Aliyah Village near Hadera. The purpose of my visit to Ben Yakir, an all-boys school for at-risk youth, was to safely deliver more than 20 books donated by the Jewish Federation's Equine Division. The collection included children's storybooks about horses and educational books on the training and care of horses, as well as on the horse racing industry.

A few years ago, the Equine Division of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation decided to send financial support directly to the Ben Yakir Youth Aliyah Village for its horseback riding therapy program. The resulting relationship with the children and staff at Ben Yakir is a natural fit with our local horse enthusiasts and industry professionals.

I began my tour there with Gavriel (Gabi) Azulay, the director of the horseback riding therapy program and manager of the farm on the property. Gabi walked us around the runs and sheds, showing us the well-kept facil-



Gavriel Azulay, Tamara Ohayon, and Arbel, the horse purchased by JFB Equine Division.

ity and healthy animals, cared for entirely by the students under Gabi's supervision. We also had the pleasure of meeting Arbel, the handsome horse our community purchased for the program.

After a few photos, we drove to the library, where an empty shelf had been prepared for the new books. A group of students from various grade levels joined us and took seats around a large table. When the suitcase was opened and the books passed around, the look of joy on the boys' faces was priceless. The younger ones were clearly excited by the beautiful pictures of the horses. Some of the older students with more advanced English skills were reading with great interest. All the boys asked

see Mission Accomplished, page 3

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# Shalom

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# Relief for HAITI

Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Haiti in the wake of the recent tragic earthquake. Here are some avenues for giving through the Jewish community.

**American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee** in partnership with **The Jewish Federations of North America**: [www.JDC.org](http://www.JDC.org) or  
P.O. Box 530, 132 East 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017  
Attn: Haiti Crisis.

**American Jewish World Service**: [ajws.org](http://ajws.org) or  
American Jewish World Service  
45 West 36th Street, 11th floor, New York, NY 10018-7904

**Union for Reform Judaism**: [urj.org](http://urj.org) or  
Disaster Relief Fund  
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633 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017

**United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism**: [uscj.org](http://uscj.org) or  
The Rapaport House International Headquarters of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, 820 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017-4504

Donations may also be made through TAI or OZS.  
Write "Haitian relief" on the memo line of your check.

## Please note the

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# Shalom Deadline

Deadline for articles for the March *Shalom* is February 10.  
Email articles to [jfb.shalom@hughes.net](mailto:jfb.shalom@hughes.net)



# Eli Eliezri's passing marks end of era for JDC

Since JFB (Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, formerly Central Kentucky Jewish Federation) funds the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) through our contributions to The Jewish Federations of North America (formerly UJC—United Jewish Communities), we thought our readers would enjoy seeing the kinds of projects and people that we have supported over the years. The following is an excerpt from the executive report of JDC President Steve Schwager.

Eli Eliezri passed away in Israel on Monday morning, January 4, 2010.

Eli officially joined the JDC family in the late 1980s, when he represented JDC while working on organizing and providing welfare to the Ethiopian Beta Israel community prior to the rescue mission called Operation Solomon. That was the first of many special projects that garnered Eli's attention. Disaster response and crisis management became his *raison d'être*—Sarajevo, Kosovo, Kenya, Indonesia, Thailand, Rwandan refugees in Goma, Zaire. When disaster struck, Eli was "the fixer," our "man on the ground," JDC's heroic "cowboy" who, in the finest JDC tradition, never saw a problem he couldn't fix and never faced a disaster where JDC couldn't come and improve the lives of the victims.

## Mission Accomplished (from page 1)

questions—for example, "Why is Kentucky so green?" and, "What made Secretariat a great racehorse?"

Not only has our community purchased a therapy horse and supplies to build a new barn, we have now given young Israeli boys exciting new materials to help them learn English and to feed their insatiable hunger for anything about horses. We can be proud of

Between 1991 and 1994, Eli organized and oversaw eleven rescue operations of the elderly and women and children—Jews and non-Jews—from the city of Sarajevo. Eli attended one set of board meetings, proudly carrying laminated copies of the official letters of permission, and justly boasted: "See, no one else has permission from all sides to work—only the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee!" Ambassador Richard Schifter, who was working on special White House assignment during the crisis in the Balkans, agreed. "Remarkable," he told Will Recant. "JDC is the only organization in the world that could have achieved this."

But Sarajevo was only a sampling. Because of Eli, JDC built sanitation facilities for tens of thousands of Rwandan refugees in the vast camps of Goma, Zaire. We flew into a refugee camp on the Somali/Kenyan/Ethiopian border where we supported 48,000 refugees by delivering mobile medical units that were developed in Israel. Eli established local partnerships in Kosovo where he oversaw a project that rebuilt not just one, but rather 36 schools. While there, Eli—as only Eli could—built a mosque in partnership with the Catholic Church and local Muslims, and with contributions from Jews. And he left fishing villages ravaged by the

2004 tsunami in Thailand in far better condition than before the wave hit.

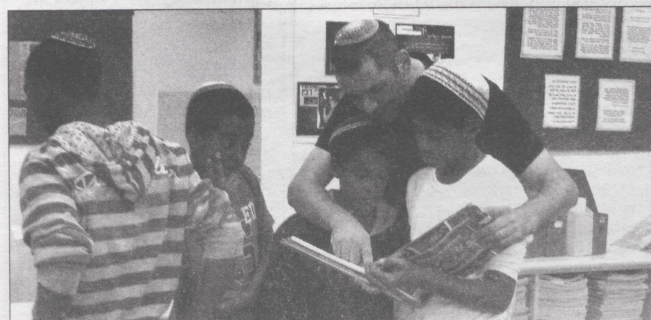
Will Recant recalls a perfect Eli story: "Everyone knew Mr. Eli, whose larger than life persona comes out every time I think of walking into the hotel lobby with him in Nairobi where we had arrived to piece together the program for Somali refugees in 1994. As we entered the lobby, Eli announced in a very large voice: 'Jambo, Jambo everyone; I am a diplomat and so is he (as he pointed to me); take us to the back room to register.' And they did. They gave us the VIP treatment, never realizing that we did not have diplomatic passports and Eli, in fact, had only stayed in the hotel once before."

If you ever met him, you would remember him. He was short, energetic, dark-skinned, a 10th generation Yerushalmi (someone born in Jerusalem)—a man with a sharp mind, a mischievous smile, a crooked kind of laugh, a good deal of chutzpah, a sense of adventure, and an almost childlike joy in "making things happen" when no one else could. He had the ability to move mountains in order to save lives—with little patience for formal niceties. He

was straightforward and driven.

Sometimes his determination to help took on a softer tone, reflected in a story recalled by Manlio Dell'Ariccia, JDC's Country Director for Ethiopia who lives in Rome. Manlio shared this brief vignette with me: "Eli was staying with us in Rome for Yom Kippur. During the meal before the fast, a thunderstorm triggered our house alarm, and there seemed absolutely no way to turn it off. But Eli, determined to give us peace and quiet over Yom Kippur, worked on it until he succeeded in getting it fixed."

Between 200 and 300 people attended Eli's funeral—an appropriate farewell to a man who devoted his life to helping others. He wasn't particularly old—in his early seventies—but the good he accomplished would certainly fill a lifetime "till 120"! This is a man I will never forget. And I hope that Eli's widow, Tami; his two daughters, Hagit and Yifat; his five grandchildren; and his entire extended family are comforted in knowing that the JDC family is also diminished by his passing and ever grateful for Eli's innumerable contributions to us. I believe it is truly the end of an era. ☆



Students and teacher enjoying new books.

Volunteers needed!

## SUPER SUNDAY & services auction!

### March 21 at the Federation

Phonathon 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon  
2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Lunch & Auction 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Please call Judy Wortman to volunteer for phone solicitation, phonathon assistance, or to offer services for the live auction. (See the front page of this issue for more details.)  
(859) 268-0672 or ckjf@jewishlexington.org



**The Jewish Federation**  
OF THE BLUEGRASS





## President's Message

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

Among the many changes happening at the Federation

this winter (see page 1 for the story about our name change and page 7 for information about our new production services), Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass has revamped our mission statement and bylaws.

Article II of our new bylaws presents our mission statement as follows:

The Mission of the Federation (Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass) is to serve the Jewish people and its ideals locally, in Israel and throughout the world. Through coordinated fundraising, community-wide programming, social services, educational and other activities, the Federation seeks to:

- Build community;
- Provide assistance for those in need;
- Enhance Jewish identity;
- Develop effective Jewish leaders;
- Combat Anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination;
- Foster an understanding of Jewish culture and religion.

These are goals based on the principles of Judaism and of community responsibility. We strive to fulfill these goals in everything that we do. After all, the Federation is all of us, working together to enhance our community

and to make a difference, both for ourselves and the community at large. We can achieve the mission before us, with the guidance of Executive Director Judy Wortman, our incredible staff, and our very hardworking Board of Directors, which is composed of both at-large elected representatives and organization-appointed representatives. Together, our Board is a cross section of our community, volunteering on behalf of all of us, to further enhance both our local community and to contribute to the larger Jewish and world community.

I want to personally thank Lowell Nigoff and Linda Noffsinger for their hard work as our ad-hoc bylaws committee chairs. They spent many hours working to update our very old and ineffective bylaws and guiding the new bylaws through the Board process. I want to also thank Mike Grossman, whose invaluable advice was crucial every step of the way. Judy Wortman spent many hours reviewing and comparing the new and old bylaws and researching those of other Federations; her assistance and persistence is greatly appreciated.

I encourage everyone to look for our new bylaws at our website, [www.jewishlexington.org](http://www.jewishlexington.org); you'll also find there *Shalom*, the community calendar of events, and many other ways to connect to the Jewish community. Please make sure that we have your current email address—like most other organizations, we are trying diligently to reduce the number of trees that are sacrificed to get the word out. We are also adhering to a strict budget that reflects the times; being able to email you instead of posting mail helps the community bottom line. ✧

## 2010 Community Campaign

Super Sunday & Services Auction—Sunday, March 21  
Pacesetters Event—Sunday, April 25  
Benefactors Event—Sunday, May 23  
Equine Division Event—t.b.a.  
Thank You Event—t.b.a.



The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS

## Sim Shalom finds new facility

By Jesse Weil

Well, we did it! We signed a contract to rent the flat on Raday Street about a month ago, and then, by the skin of our teeth, got all the paperwork in to the Ministry of Cultural and Religious Affairs to get the 5,000,000 Forints (about \$27,000) that was offered us to help pay for the costs of renovation. For the past two months, our president, Gabor Radvanski, and our executive director, Judith Szabados, have been working flat out, negotiating the rental contract, then planning the renovation to the point that we could qualify for the grant, and since then, getting the renovation work started so that we can move in and start using our new premises as soon as possible. We're hoping for late February or early March.

The renovation work was started before the break for Christmas. The walls separating three contiguous rooms are being demolished to make one large room for services. The floors and walls are being refinished and repainted. The kitchen has been remodeled, and the bathrooms refurbished, and a storage area completely refinished. Just before Christmas, all our furniture and other belongings that had been stored in the building on Amerikai Street, for which we could not raise the \$200,000 renovation cost, were moved into the storage area at

Raday Street. Later in the spring, air-conditioning will be installed to make it comfortable for summertime use. People are starting to talk about how to decorate the rooms and what furniture we need to buy, build, or donate to have the space function properly for services, classes, library, and offices for administration and for the rabbi.

We've started a fundraising campaign among our own members for the renovation, furnishing, and payment of the rent. In less than one month, we've got pledges enough to cover the first eight to nine months of the rent. One week's rent is \$350, one day is \$50. ✧

*Sim Shalom is a Progressive Jewish Congregation in Budapest, Hungary. A member of the World Union of Progressive Judaism, it is led by Jesse Weil a member of TAI and his wife, the community's rabbi.*



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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](mailto: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](mailto:tamara@jewishlexington.org)



The Jewish Federation  
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## Third Opinion

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD

### Gettin' into the act

In an Internet publication, I recently came across this statement by a rabbi: "Abraham was not the first Muslim" (as Muslims claim). Though this flat denial won't do much to further Muslim-Jewish relations, I can understand his dismissal of the Islamic claim. After all, Muslims also claim that it was Ishmael whom Abraham almost sacrificed until shown a nearby ram to use instead. Does that sound familiar?

Similarly, Christians used to claim that they were the new Israel, that Isaiah 7:14's "Look, the young woman is with child..." really predicts the birth of Jesus some 700 years later. Isaac Leeser, who made the first Jewish Bible translation into English in America, deliberately read "this young woman," despite the absence of a demonstrative pronoun, to combat the Christian claim.

Mormons, who are now as numerous as Jews in America, maintain that they are the true Jews so that all the rest of us, Jews included, are actually gentiles. And then there was the revelation of Mormons baptizing the souls of dead Jews, which is theological body-snatching carried to its final and desperate conclusion. In 1995 they promised to call that one off, but evidently have not done so.

Given this context, the rabbi's impatience with the Muslim claim is understandable. But a flat denial is not worth much more than a flat assertion. Why, then, do the Muslims make the claim? Well, as that

great (non-Jewish) entertainer Jimmy Durante put it, "Everybody wants to get into the act." Our act.

Think about it. If emulation is the sincerest form of flattery, what should we say to those religions that want to steal our identity or that of our ancestors? It speaks to the continued power and worth of Judaism that we remain the object of such constant theological poaching.

But to return to the Muslim claim. Abraham, they say, was the first person to submit to the will of God. Muslims submit (that's what the word *muslim* means) to the will of God/Allah. Therefore, Abraham was a Muslim.

To anyone with a nodding acquaintance with Greek logic, this doesn't fly. It commits the fallacy called Excluded Middle Term. Another example: Communists like to eat; you like to eat; therefore, you're a Communist. It's also something of a reach historically, since Abraham and Muhammad are

separated by more than 2,000 years.

But since when do we Semites feel the need to be bound by Greek logic? Rabbi Akiba (second century) was once asked whether the world was determined or humans had free will. He answered, "The world is determined, but humanity has free will." Analyze that, Aristotle.

### And then there was the revelation of Mormons baptizing the souls of dead Jews, which is theological body-snatching carried to its final and desperate conclusion.

A century and more ago, certain German theologians were arguing that Jesus wasn't Jewish, but rather the descendant of outsiders who had been forcibly settled in Israel (the Northern

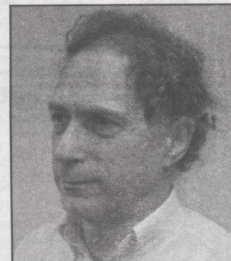
Kingdom) in the eighth pre-Christian century. Not to be outdone, Arthur Koestler argued (*The Thirteenth Tribe*, New York: Random House, 1976) that no Jews were Jewish, but that all of us were descendants of Crimean Khazars who had converted to Judaism in the tenth century. (Too bad no one pointed

that out to Hitler.)

In the face of all these attempts, the history and mystery of Jewish survival certainly ranks among the wonders of the world, ancient and modern. Then there's Israel, reborn as a state after a political absence of 1,813 years: that is, from the failure of the bar Kochba rebellion against Rome. No wonder the Dalai Lama met with a group of Jewish leaders (Roger Kamenetz, *The Jew in the Lotus*, Harper, 1994) to see how he might learn from us how to keep his own diaspora community together.

Everybody wants to get into the act. ✧

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."



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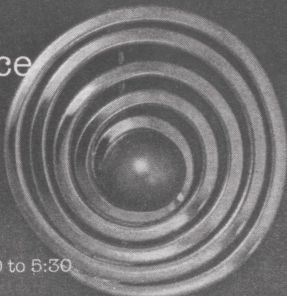
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## Camp Fair

Sunday, February 21  
12 noon - 2:30 p.m.  
Ohavay Zion Synagogue

~~Top five~~ <sup>six</sup> reasons to attend:

- Find out how to give your kids an unforgettable Jewish experience.
- Save time! Learn all you need to know about regional Jewish camps in just two hours!
- Hear first-hand experiences from campers, staff, and parents.
- Sign up for camp early and avoid being put on a waiting list.
- Find out camp dates early so you can plan a summer vacation with your spouse.
- Have fun!

The Jewish Federation OF THE BLUEGRASS



## From the Director

Judy B. Wortman

### Thank you to the Jewish community of Lexington

December of 2009 was a challenging month for the Wortman family. On December 5, my husband David was blessed with a life-saving operation and since then he has been recuperating from a liver/kidney transplant. Immediately after his surgery, we were inundated with offers of help and support from our new friends from the Federation, Synagogue, Temple, Hadassah, and the Havurah. Three weeks later I tripped over our dog, Buttons, and broke my right foot and had to have surgery. Again, came more offers of help—food, shopping, and transportation.

As many of you know, David and I have been in the helping professions for more than 35 years. David is a retired rabbi and a family therapist. I am a social worker. We have provided service to the Jewish communities of Philadelphia, Delaware, New York, New Haven, and more. Like many others, we are much more comfortable offering help than receiving it. I have learned in the past two months that one needs to learn how to accept help gracefully and that there are no rewards in heaven for trying to go it alone when that is detrimental to your health and well being.

Therefore I have many thank-you wishes to offer. First, we are most grateful to Dr. Roberto Gedaly and his transplant team at the University of Kentucky for saving David's life and for being the most caring, loving surgeons we have ever known. The staffs on the transplant floor and the transplant clinic are also amazing. They have made our journey so much easier than we anticipated.

I also have to thank Dr. David Burandt of the Lexington Clinic for operating on my foot and getting me up and around so quickly. As I write this column it is only ten days from the surgery and I will be on my feet and back at the office tomorrow.

Next I have to thank my twin sister, Linda Angelo, and brother-in-law, Larry Porter, for being with us every minute and for changing their lives dramatically in order to be on call. I couldn't have picked a better time to move here to be near my sister. To

my other Linda—Linda Ravvin—thank you for being an adopted sister. Linda has been a constant support during this time. She and Leon have housed our family visitors, shopped, cooked, and sat with me during David's operation.

Thanks also to staff of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass: to Tamara Ohayon, Jana LaZur, Paula Clancy, Gayle Bourne, and Talia Smolkin for working so hard these months while my presence at the office was erratic and for the many errands you ran—like buying chocolates and Graeter's ice cream—and even walking Buttons. You are a talented, incredible group of women.

Thank you to our community's rabbis and to their congregations for organizing meals, visits, and shopping trips. We have never eaten as well and we are so appreciative for the help from so many.

I firmly believe that this community is unlike any other. I have lived here only nine months and David just moved here in September. In spite of our brief tenure in Lexington, we have been blessed by your many tangible and intangible gifts.

Our greatest gift came from the anonymous donor of David's new liver and kidney. My most important message to my wonderful new friends here in Lexington is to ask you to consider becoming an organ donor and to let your families and your physician know that this is your wish. I can think of no greater act of tzedakah.

Todah rabbah! ☆



## Editorial

Ruth Poley, Editor-in-Chief

Hard times require hard decisions. In its deliberations last month, and in its efforts to be fiscally responsible, the Federation board voted to cut the *Shalom* budget by about \$6000 for the coming year. Had we continued business as usual, we would have had to cut our publication to six issues per year to keep expenses in check. None of us felt this would best serve our community. Publishing every other month would have removed all immediacy from our publication and severely limited our ability to disseminate information in a timely manner.

Thus, to maintain our schedule of ten issues per year we had to find a way to cut costs. Here's where the hard decision comes in. After working cordially with Direct Response for more than six years, we had to seek out new production services. Georgetown Newspapers, Inc. was able to offer us an arrangement whereby we could publish ten issues and stay within our new budget. We did offer Direct Response the opportunity to meet the new price but they were unable to do so. We have, therefore, changed our production provider to Georgetown Newspapers. We were sorry to sever our relationship with Direct Response, but we certainly left them with cordial feelings all around. We are confident that Georgetown Newspapers will be able to meet our needs professionally. An added benefit is that all production processes from layout to printing to mailing will be under one roof.

Along with the change of production service, you will see other changes

in *Shalom* this month. As the Federation has a new name, now the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass (JFB), you'll notice our new banner, designed by our talented Tamara Ohayon, and incorporating the new identity. You will also see some differences in the look of *Shalom*. Although we have tried to keep most of what is good about our layout, there are some changes we feel will improve the look and readability of the paper. We hope you feel the same.

This newspaper comes to you free ten times per year, regardless of whether or not you make an annual contribution to JFB. Last year, we asked for contributions to help keep *Shalom* solvent; your contributions are still important to keep this publication coming to you. If you contributed last year and can do so again, we would certainly appreciate it. If you did not send anything last year, please consider a contribution this year. One of the ways we considered making up the budget shortfall was charging for *Shalom* subscriptions. We emphatically do not want to have to resort to this. If you value this publication, please consider making a contribution today.

As always, we welcome your comments, suggestions, and editorial contributions to *Shalom*. ☆



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## Ask A Rabbi

H.D. Uriel Smith

### Is it good for the Jews?

**Q:** *Why do Jews who know a bit of their history keep on asking, "Is it good for the Jews?" "Is he/she good for the Jews?" "Can it happen again?" "Why us?"*

**A:** There is a story of one Hassidic master who prayed, "I know we are the Chosen People. But, *Rahmana*, O Merciful One, couldn't You choose someone else for a change?"

When the political Zionist movement began, a major reason given for this nationalist movement was the hope that it would make Jews like all other nations: again a people with a country. Without a country of our own we were at the mercy of every tinpot dictator, every despotic official, every bully. Jews had to keep a low profile, since they were easily attacked for all sorts of pretended reasons: "The Jews killed Jesus." "The Jews are enemies of the prophet Muhammad." "The Jews use blood in their matzos." "The Jews run the banks." "The Jews are Capitalists." "The Jews are Communists."

In November 1947 the UN voted to partition the British Mandate of Palestine into two provisional states, one Jewish and one Arab. The Palestinian Jews (soon calling themselves "Israelis") accepted the partition. Neither the local Palestinian Arabs nor the surrounding Arab countries accepted it. Instead, the surrounding countries attacked Israel from all sides. Arab Palestine never was formed, since Jordan annexed the West Bank and Egypt took over the Gaza Strip. While the Arabs described the Israeli war of independence as *An-Naqba*, "The Catastrophe," the real catastrophe had already occurred several years earlier to the Jews, since one third of world Jewry, some six million of us, had been annihilated in the 1939-1945 genocidal Shoah. (However, by now in several locations Holocaust Memorial Day has been "broadened" to commemorate the nonexistent "genocide of the Palestinian people.")

Israel had hoped that the formation of the State of Israel would make us *k-khol ha-amim* ("like all the nations"). They forgot that settling the Holy People in the Holy Land would create mythical problems among communi-

ties who found that Jews were participants in their foundation stories. Many Christians, Muslims, and Communists have foundational problems with Jews, Judaism, and Israel.

Jesus was a Jew who claimed to be the Messiah. The majority of the Jews disagreed. So, when the Romans crucified him the Jews were blamed for his death (see all four gospels).

When Muhammad fled from Mecca to Medina (the Hegira of 622 CE), the majority of the tribes living there were Jewish. Though upon his arrival Muhammad worked out a covenant between all of the Medinan tribes—Jewish and non-Jewish—and his Muslim followers who had fled with him to Medina (the *Muhagirun*), the covenant was soon broken. Two Jewish tribes were forced into exile from Medina, and all the male adults of the third tribe were "judiciously" killed. Most Muslims still blame the Jews for their opposition to Muhammad, even though much of Muslim law is similar to Jewish law, and the first

*qibla* (prayer direction) was towards Jerusalem. They put all the blame on the Jews, even though each of the earliest Muslim biographies of Muhammad describe him acting in ways that (for psychologists) indicate that he severely reproached himself for central events leading to the massacre of the last Jewish tribe.

And what about the Communists? Karl Marx was born Jewish, but his father baptized him as a Lutheran when he was 6 years old. (His father had been baptized a year before Karl was born.) Marx never learned much about Judaism, and what he thought he knew was mostly wrong. Furthermore, the major Communist heretic, Leon Trotsky, who had helped found the Red Army of Russia, was also born Jewish. So Jews appear centrally in the foundation stories of this atheist materialist religion. ("There is no God, and Marx is his prophet.")

Jews thus were central in founding the largest hegemonic religions,

religions that claim that their truth should prevail throughout the world. When the world is in inner harmony, most members of these religions are thankful that Judaism was so fruitful, giving birth to religions of such ethical beauty. But when the world is in disarray, and members of these religions become afraid, they want their myths to change. They demand that the Jews support their hegemonic truths, and thereby leave their Judaism. It does not help Jews that Judaism is tribal, believing that other communities are perfectly acceptable to God if their religion leads them to live ethical lives. Members of these daughter religions tend to project their own hegemonism onto Judaism, especially if they have absorbed emotionally their foundational myths. In times of disarray they tend to be scared that so many Jews are still around: either they emotionally tend towards Judeophobia, another term for

anti-Semitism, or in overcoming that emotion they tend to Judeophilia, oversupport for Judaism. They cannot emotionally remain neutral. Many of the Judeophobes use anti-Zionism to pretend that they

are not anti-Semitic.

In order to explain this Judeophobia further we need to recognize that holiness magnifies the dangers of falsehood. The sacred focuses attention on details. "The Tzadik (righteous) *be-emunato* (through his trustworthiness and trust) shall live" (Habakkuk 2:4). The theory of psychological and moral stages developed by Lawrence Kohlberg and James Fowler can be extended through semiotics and psychology into a theory of stages of cultural sophistication. On this basis we can identify two cultural stages where misinformation is most easily supported, where people most easily are blinkered, hiding themselves from truth. The one stage I call Conformist, and the other Postmodernist.

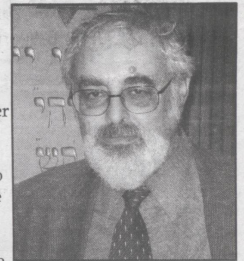
In the Conformist stage the community members perceive the standard of truth to be trustworthiness: if you hold the same fundamental beliefs that I do, most likely you are trustworthy; if not, most likely you are not trustworthy. In

the former case you can be trusted to speak the truth, in the latter case there

is no trust. Fundamentalist religious groups tend to be on this level. It is a waste of time to argue with such people, since by arguing you just prove you are untrustworthy. There are two ways to overcome such mistrust, both demanding long-term activity. The first is to get to know these people on a person-to-person basis, and show directly that you care for them. It helps if you work with them, or play with them, or have some strong emotional experiences in common with them. Thereby you can bypass differences in religious belief, or better still, turn Judeophobia into Judeophilia. (In one extreme case at HUC one such fundamentalist student exclaimed to his Jewish friends, "You are such wonderful people! I am so sorry that you all are going to hell!" His Jewish friends had to comfort him.) The other way is to help the community move to the next cultural stage, which involves learning other perspectives on life. For that to occur, people need to learn why such greater knowledge is necessary, and start enjoying the new possibilities empathic knowledge brings.

On the Postmodernist level there is no universal standard for truth. In their multicultural perspective they believe that each culture has equal rights in declaring its truth, no matter whether it is fundamentalist or democratic. If Israel declares that it has a better historical right to the Holy Land, Postmodernists argue that this declaration is a form of colonialism. In short, the Postmodernists are trying to impose their views on the Middle East. Their Postmodernism is hegemonic. They refuse to recognize that Jews do not want to impose their views on others, but just wish to survive as Jews. Worse, they refuse to recognize that some communities will lie about their own beliefs.

Until 2006, Hamas followed the traditional Muslim Brotherhood rules that they be true to their beliefs. On that basis they won a plurality in the Gaza Strip, since their leading opponent,



see **Good For Jews**, page 12



## Winter Dinner at Petra combined great food and community

By Jana LaZur

Whether you are a regular attendee or a newcomer to the Winter Dinner, we hope that you enjoyed the camaraderie and community interaction. The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass is proud to organize this event and is thankful for the volunteers on the Community Activities Committee for all the work they do to make this event and many others a success. Thanks to Evalyn Block, Aviva Bowling, Odette Kaplan, Mimi Kaufman, and Lisa Satin for all their efforts.

The evening began with a warm welcome by JFB President Linda Ravvin, followed by blessings led by local rabbis Kline and Smolkin; rabbis Smith and Korotkin joined in to lead everyone in a heart-warming rendition of "Maoz Tzur."

During dinner, the beautiful candlelight of menorahs and the strains of Hanukkah music provided atmosphere for the adults. Kids enjoyed an intense

game of dreidel in the next room, with cheese pizza and ice cream sundaes, while they were entertained with arts and crafts and games by capable babysitters Jeremy Noffsinger, Danny Shapiro, and Jonathan Feinberg.

Petra Mediterranean Bar & Grill's dining room was filled to capacity. Their staff provided great food and service. They even learned how to make potato latkes—and learned that next year they should make even more! Their falafel, hummus, lentil soup, spanakopita, and stuffed grape leaves, to name a few, were delicious. The evening came to a close with a beautiful dessert of baklava and fresh strawberries drizzled in chocolate. Many thanks to everyone at Petra.

Our last thank you goes to those who came out and shared their fourth night of Hanukkah with the community. For you and for those who did not come, we hope to see you next year! ✧



Eden Myers displays modern technology with Menorah app.



Schmoozing and fressing at dinner.

## JFS: At Your Service

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

### New Year! New beginnings! Fresh starts! Resolutions! CHANGE!

It seems that there is something built into people such that we welcome the opportunity that the New Year brings to turn the calendar page and turn over a new leaf. There is a hopefulness that accompanies making resolutions that implies it is possible to make changes to improve ourselves or better the world.

The need that we all have for a good freshening is evident almost everywhere we look in the first few weeks after January 1. Big box store checkout lines are full of folks buying tools for success: plastic storage organizers, workout clothes, discounted home exercise equipment, and diet foods. If you join a health club, the machines and pool are in full use, and if you join an exercise class, the back row is pretty crowded.

Wait a few weeks and the crowd thins. The world seems back to normal. I often wonder, as the resolution frenzy dies down, what became of all of those good intentions?

How and why do people create meaningful and lasting change?

Motivation is key in change. Most of the time when we make change it is because there is no other choice. For example, you learn how to work the new copy machine because the old one has been disconnected. Or you change jobs because your company closes. In these situations there is no choice but to move forward.

Change by choice is more complicated because it's optional.

If you don't pursue this type of change you are really no worse off than you were before. The change-by-choice process is uncomfortable because it takes you out of your old comfort zone. It's something that you have to make yourself want to do even when you don't feel like it anymore.

Readiness is an important factor in creating change by choice. Thinking about how you got to where you are now, why you want to change, and whether or not this is the right time are important factors in readiness for change. The objectives, or steps that you plan to take, are critical to reaching the goal. Having a backup plan for how to get back on track could also aid achieving success in reaching your goal.

With every change comes the opportunity for growth. Simply being willing to try a new approach to an old problem could lead to some very exciting and new results. Possibly exhilaration! Go forward with great resolve! ✧



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# Tzeason of Tzedakah extended volunteer season a success

By Dani Heller, EBCE Intern

The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass's Tzeason of Tzedakah in December, 2009 was a huge success. More than 115 first-time and returning volunteers helped more than 400 members of the community during the holiday season. Whether it was food, toys, coats, or time that was donated, everything combined beautifully to make this Tzeason of Tzedakah a great one.



Fran Bloom playing bingo with residents of Tanbark Nursing Home.

The program kicked off on December 1 with donations of items. On December 8, active volunteerism began when about ten volunteers traveled to the Stewart Home in Frankfort to celebrate Hanukkah with over 20 Jewish residents. It was an evening of celebration complete with dinner, menorah lighting, dreidel games, gelt, gift bags, Hannukah songs, and lots of hugs.

The next Tikkun Lexington Volunteers visit was to M.A.S.H. Services of the Bluegrass (an emergency shelter for youth) on December 9. Talia Smolkin, office social work intern, planned and supervised all activities at this location. She said, "It was a wonderful evening spent with the residents of M.A.S.H. We cooked together, ate dinner, and, of course, taught everyone how to play dreidel. The residents demonstrated tremendous strength as they talked about the challenges of their lives. Volunteers from all parts of our Jewish community came together, demonstrating warmth, humor, and kindness, as they performed this important act of Tzedakah." Pat Shraberg, our fantastic site leader, helped organize the event and worked hard to make all the volunteers and residents comfort-



Tamara Ohayon visits Pine Meadows Nursing Home with her dog.

able. Many thanks to Rabbi Kline, the Shraberg family, Chaz Foster, Carol and Samantha Kaplan, and Jana LaZur for coming out to help. And a special thank you to the Shraberg family for providing all groceries.

The Tzeason of Tzedakah continued throughout the week, as Svetlana Alkhasova and her piano students made a visit to Mayfair Manor on December 13. They performed a recital of singing and piano playing for the residents, their families, and the staff. Afterwards they all spent some time helping to set up snacks and visiting with the patients. As Svetlana recalled, "I appreciate so much organizing a concert at Mayfair Assisted Living Home. It was absolutely incredible in the way how Karen Wekman, Mayfair staff, handled the recital. By the time when we started, there was a full room of residents who were well situated and ready to listen to the concert. After the recital Karen had a very nice reception for everybody."

On December 14, volunteers went to the Florence Crittenton Home. Beth Ellen Rosenbaum was the site leader and described the experience: "It was a cool December evening as volunteers arrived armed with lots of pizza dough and toppings, in preparation for a make-your-own-pizza assembly line. Volunteers included Jana Lazur and her son Ryan, Talia Smolkin, Diane Svarlien and her daughter Corinna. We were joined in the kitchen by the young residents at the Crittenton Home. Everyone loved the opportunity to create individual pizzas, and while we were waiting for the pizzas to finish baking, we socialized in the dining hall. It was a relaxing and fun evening, especially because there were several little babies who got lots of cuddling from volunteers." Beth Ellen led a mini music class after dinner, and a parachute magically appeared to the strains of an old Balkan folk dance.

From December 21 to 23, volunteers helped out the Catholic Action Center by working in their Christmas Store, which provided a complete set of wrapped gifts and warm drinks and snacks to literally hundreds of homeless and low-income individuals and families. On December 23, volunteers delivered previously collected pet supplies to the Lexington Humane Society. The volunteers got to work with puppies, kittens, and cats as well as to help clean up around the shelter. Volunteer Darcie Jarman recalled, "Adira and I had such a good time. It was hard to leave there without taking a puppy (or three) home!"

December 24 and 25 were two very special days when many volunteers helped serve both dinner and lunch to the homeless at the Catholic Action Center. Thanks to the community donations of money and food as well as the Federation's budget, the Federation was able to bring enough food for both Christmas Eve dinner and lunch on Christmas Day.

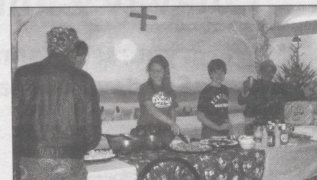
**According to Jane Grise,  
"It was a real pleasure to go  
visit. Put us down for next  
year!"**

This would not have been possible without a nice act of tzedakah from Kroger Foods as well. They generously discounted their perishable food on December 24 since their store would not open on December 25.

About 75 Tikkun volunteers delivered meals to over 125 individuals who are shut in for various reasons through the programs Meals on Wheels and Moveable Feast. This act has become a family tradition for many over the years. For a complete listing of volunteers please see our ad on page 16 of *Shalom*. We serviced three different operations of Meals on Wheels and also all



Bobbi and Drew Fried in a sea of sandwiches at the Catholic Action Center.

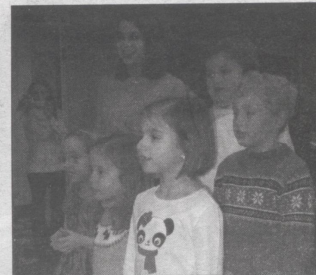


Rachel and Ben Swanson serving dinner with staff members at the Catholic Action Center.

Moveable Feast routes, totaling more than 30 routes that were delivered on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day so that the regular drivers could have a well-deserved break for the holiday with their families. Jana LaZur reports, "I get thank you notes and personal phone calls from these services thanking our volunteers for their time. It's nice to be able to help and have such a well developed relationship with these organizations!"

Our last mission took place on December 25 at two nursing homes. Volunteers at the Tanbark Healthcare Center included the Noffsinger family for the second year and the Grise family, who brought grandma Fran Bloom as well as their family dog, Darby, to keep the residents company. According to Jane Grise, "It was a real pleasure to go visit. Put us down for next year!" Volunteers also went to the Pine Meadows nursing home off of Versailles Road to play bingo and music and to visit. Many thanks to the Goldstein family for heading up this site a second year in a row as well as to Tamara Ohayon and Robert Ziegler for bringing their dog, Maggie.

Many thanks to all volunteers who took time from their busy schedules to think of others and make this the biggest Tzeason of Tzedakah yet. ☆



Students of Svetlana Alkhasova performing at Mayfair Village.



## Jewish Camp Fair to be at Ohavay Zion Synagogue

**Warm yourself planning for summer on Sunday, February 21 at noon**

With all the winter weather, it's a good time to think about camp for the children this summer. So mark your calendar for Sunday, February 21 at noon to get information on local Jewish overnight- and day-camping experiences. Ohavay Zion Synagogue will host a fundraiser lunch offered by the youth group as well as crafts and activities for children. There will be information booths for each camp. There will also be a video from each camp shown on a big screen, and speeches from camp

representatives, who will be available to answer questions.

The day camps showcased will be our very own Camp Shalom and Geshet. For overnight camps, learn about Camp Livingston, Camp Ramah, Camp Young Judaea Midwest, and Goldman Union Camp Institute (GUCI). This is an excellent opportunity for a close-up preview of the camp experience. We hope to see you there. ☆

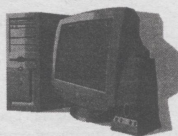
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10 | February 2010 Shalom

## Thank you to our 2009 contributors

Our community has accomplished a great deal in 2009 and the campaign has begun to rebound in spite of the economic downturn. We have rewritten our bylaws and renamed ourselves the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass. We have welcomed a new federation director and a new rabbi at Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

We have provided needed services to our brothers and sisters locally, in Israel, and around the world. We have resettled Jewish refugees from Yemen to New York and helped rescue and rebuild Haiti. We have funded both the Horseback Riding and Music Therapy programs at Ben Yakir, a Youth Aliyah Village in Israel, and have welcomed Gavriel Azulay, the director of the Horseback Riding Therapy program, on a visit to our community.

We have expanded our Day of Giving to a whole Tzeason of Tzedakah. We have observed Yom HaShoah and celebrated Israel's 61st anniversary with several Yom Ha'atzmaut programs. We celebrated Hanukkah together with a Middle East feast at the restaurant Petra.

Our Camp Shalom and Camp Geshet registration was the highest in years thanks to a wonderful program and additional campership funds that were available. We made a smooth transition from one campsite to another and look forward to the day when we will be able to have our own facilities and not be dependent on other organizations and the vagaries of winter weather for scheduling.

We provided almost 1,000 households with copies of *Shalom* so that they were kept abreast of the news of the Jewish community here and abroad. We sent out the Jewish Weekly to several hundred families who had furnished us with their email addresses and we have updated our website, which can be found at [www.jewishlexington.org](http://www.jewishlexington.org).

Through our Jewish Family Services we assisted numerous people with emergency loans, counseling, and referral. We sponsored a number of excellent Family Life Education Programs such as "Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect." Our Leisure Club met for socializing, learning, and lunch.

Our Community Relations Committee continued to make our presence known in the general community and co-sponsored programs with the media, schools, and other civic and religious groups.

We thank you all for your generous hearts, and hope to be able to accomplish even more in 2010.

**TODAH RABBAH**



**The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS**

\*\*\* The list at right includes the names of all those members of the community who **pledged and paid their gifts in full** for the 2009 campaign, unless they requested anonymity.



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11 anonymous

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The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS



## Good For Jews (from page 7)

Fatah, was considered corrupt. However, soon after Iran became their sponsor, Hamas accepted the Shiite view of *taqiyya* (sacred deceit due to wariness or fear). Just as the present Iranian government deceives its citizens, Hamas deceives not only outside nations, but also its own Gaza Strip citizens. But the Postmodernists leading the Goldstone UN Commission, the Human Rights Watch, and Amnesty International refused to recognize that every witness from the Gaza Strip was under a death threat if they deviated from the *taqiyya* dictated by Hamas, and therefore their testimony to the Goldstone Commission was completely tainted.

One of the ways that Jews survived as a minority was always to try to understand others as well as themselves.

Rabbi Akiba stated, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," (Leviticus 19:18) is the great ruling in the Torah." Ben Azzai told him, "When God created man, He created him in the image of God" (Genesis 5:1), is a greater ruling, since thereby, you may not claim, 'If I have been hurt or humiliated, another should be equally hurt or humiliated.' If you wish to say that, you will be wishing to hurt or humiliate the image of God" (y. Nedarim 9:5; Genesis Rabba 24).

Rabbi Akiba accepted Ben Azzai's argument (m. Avot 3:18). The Bible further supports this by noting that one should not just love one's neighbor, but also the stranger, "for you know the heart of a stranger, since you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Exodus 23:9; cf. Exodus 22:21; Leviticus 19:33-34; Deuteronomy 24:17-18).

Why the emphasis on being slaves in Egypt, combined with the emphasis on being a stranger (*ger*) minority? Centuries before Hegel pointed out, in his *Phenomenology of Spirit*, that slaves and servants tend to know more about being human than their masters, the Bible emphasised this point. Masters tend to see their servants merely as tools (in a modern society, bureaucratic execu-

tives often have the same myopia). The servants depending on the whims of their masters survive only if they quickly learn how and why people, especially their masters, change and interact. Similarly, a country's majority, in their pride, usually do not think of the feelings of strangers. The strangers, in learning to conform, are constantly aware of when to speak and when it is dangerous to speak.

Jews in the Diaspora have always understood what it is to be a minority and a stranger. Most Israelis have forgotten this. In 1967, when Israel captured Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, the Israelis in their euphoria were not able to consider the long-term consequences for the people living in these areas. The Israelis decided not to decide what to do with these territories, for they assumed that the Arabs eventually would make peace with Israel, relieving Israel from having to make a decision. They projected upon the Arabs

in the neighboring countries their own yearning for ultimate peace. The Israelis did not want to know that, with the barriers down between them and their Palestinian neighbors, they should have tried communicating more fully with them. Even though Arabs are the largest minority in Israel, Arabic is not required in

Israeli public schools. Those who teach Arabic find that the majority of the Jewish students do not want to learn it. In contrast, English is a required foreign language for non-Orthodox public schools, and is favored by most students. (Many of the Orthodox prefer Yiddish.) When dealing with *hasbarah* (explaining Israel's position) the major Israeli effort is in dealing with international law, a Western-based type of law. Very little effort has been put into *hasbarah* in Arabic for the Arabs.

While the Palestinians have become a political and religious football in the United Nations, they also have become a separate nation, whose members are under continuous pressures and terrors, both self-imposed and outsider imposed. The outsiders' Judeophobia has continually reinforced the anti-Zionism of the Palestinians, making it much harder to create dialogues and

mutual empathy between Israelis and Palestinians. Both Israelis and Palestinians are under parallel caricaturing forces imposed from the outside. The Postmodernist scholars and organizations trying to impose peace from the outside refuse to work for peace through the cultural and religious traditions of the Middle Eastern peoples involved.

The best solution to the antagonism is to try harder in creating programs where both sides learn to understand and empathize with each other, even though they both have to remain on guard until sufficient numbers on both sides have learned this empathy. Palestinians and Israelis on the Conformative level should be trained

to think on more sophisticated levels. Those who wish to organize that training will have to develop beyond the Postmodernist level. The Muslims have to recognize that the Quran (5:23-29, 7:137, and 17:7-8) indicates that the children of Israel have prior rights to the Holy Land. Jews have to recognize that strangers (*gerim*, including *geray toshav*, "resident aliens") who dwell in the Holy Land should have the same legal rights as the homeborn (*ezrah*) (see Exodus 12:49, 22:21, 23:9; Leviticus 19:33-34; Deuteronomy 24:17-18). As our kabbalists would put it, you need to work with both *hesed* (loving-kindness) and *din* (judgment) in order to bring peace. ☆

## 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 British Are Coming!

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## Jewish Family Services program on child abuse prevention well received

By Hanna B. Smith



Rev. Kristen Bentley addressed issues of keeping children safe within faith-based communities.

When I told a friend about planning child-abuse prevention training for the Lexington Jewish community she said, "I thought there were no dysfunctional families within the Jewish faith." I heartily agreed with my friend while thinking, "May it be so!" Nevertheless I presented my proposal to the Jewish Family Services Committee, who unanimously accepted it.

On October 7, 2009, members of the Central Kentucky Jewish Community gathered to listen to Dr. Allen Brenzel, Director of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Kentucky, Reverend Kristen Bentley of Arlington Christian Church, and our own Rabbi Audrey Korotkin discussing children's safety within a faith-community.

The training was presented by Jewish Family Services and Central Kentucky Jewish Federation, in collaboration with KSU Cooperative Extension Program/SKY Families. Guests were Curt Ehrmantraut, who represented the Friends of Children Faith-Based Committee, and Amanda Harrison, Regional Trainer for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

Dr. Brenzel, consultant to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services and co-founder and associate director of the University of Kentucky's Center for the Study of Violence against Children, has lectured extensively on child mental health and child victimization issues. He especially addressed the religious school teachers and youth workers in the audience.

Dr. Brenzel defined the legal concept of child abuse and neglect, and he showed graphic material of injuries. Some injuries can masquerade as accidents. Dr. Brenzel reminded the audience to listen carefully to caretakers' explanation of how an injury occurred. Anyone working with children is legally obligated to report suspected

abuse. Dr. Brenzel explained the reporting process and the services that local child protection agencies provide for troubled families.

Reverend Kristen Bentley addressed the practical issues, including confidentiality, that clergy face in keeping children safe within the confines of their faith community. Good communication among religious school teachers, youth workers, and parents is essential. Classroom and sanctuary buildings should be well lighted, easily monitored, and without hidden corners and back exits that might facilitate child abduction.

Rabbi Audrey Korotkin quoted the Tanakh and rabbinic literature exhorting us to care for and protect children. She addressed the issue of discipline versus abuse. Rabbi Korotkin also spoke to the fear Jewish communities may have of reporting to secular authorities. Referring to *halacha* and to the *Shulchan Aruch*, she pointed out that crimes deserve to be punished. If Jewish authorities lack the power to punish, then civil authorities have to step in.

Jewish Family Services presented this training in response to an appeal by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky to faith-based communities to become partners in child abuse prevention. It appears that JFS was first among the local faith communities to respond to the appeal. JFS's timely response generated goodwill for the Jewish community and resulted in KSU Cooperative Extension Program/SKY Families offering JFS their training facility at 1140 Red Mile Place free of charge. Many thanks to their director, Marion Gibson, for her generosity. Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky is reaching out to JFS as a possible partner in the child abuse prevention network. JFS Director Paula Clancy and committee member Hanna Smith plan to explore this further.

JFS also thanks Rabbi Marc Kline and Rabbi Moshe Smolkin for their support. A special thank-you to Jeff Kaplan of Subway for his contribution of sandwiches.

JFS plans further training events for the Jewish Community. ☆

## Jewish young professionals might meet their matches at first-ever regional speed dating event

Single? Still haven't found your special Valentine? At the first-ever Regional Jewish Speed Dating Party, you just might meet your heart's desire. Join other Jewish young professionals, 21 to 35, from Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, Indianapolis, Lexington, Louisville, and Toledo on Saturday, February 13 at downtown Cincinnati's Westin Hotel on Fountain Square.

The event is free with advance reservations and is being sponsored by Access, Cincinnati's popular program

for Jewish young adults, which is an initiative of The Mayerson Foundation.

Advance reservations are mandatory. Space is limited and will be allotted on a first come, first served basis.

For more information about hotel reservations and other general inquiries, or to RSVP for this event, please contact Lisa Hacker at (513) 373-0300 or [lisah@mayersonfoundation.org](mailto:lisah@mayersonfoundation.org). For more information about Access visit [www.jypaccess.org](http://www.jypaccess.org). ☆

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Space is limited and will fill up quickly.

**We'll help you break the ice**  
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Please contact Lisa Hacker for more details or to RSVP\*  
**(513) 373-0300 or [info@jypaccess.org](mailto:info@jypaccess.org)**

\* Want to stay the night? We've secured a special room rate at The Westin Cincinnati Hotel where the event will be held. Please ask Lisa Hacker for details!

This event is open to all Jewish young professionals between the ages of 21-35.  
Access is an initiative of The Mayerson Foundation.



[www.jypaccess.org](http://www.jypaccess.org)



# Book Excerpt: The Jester

(From *Capturing the Moon*, Rabbi Ed Feinstein, editor; Behrman House, 2009)

Every child is asked, *What do you want to be when you grow up?* The response is usually some sort of profession: *I want to be a lawyer, or an astronaut, or a scientist. But as we grow up, we realize there is a better answer: I want to be me—the most authentic, honest person I can be. Whatever work I can do, I never want to forget who I really am.*

There was once a king who ruled his kingdom with wisdom and compassion. As he approached the end of his days, everyone in the kingdom wondered who would be the next ruler. Would it be one of his children? An adviser? A general?

To keep the contenders from fighting over the throne, the king put his instructions in a letter, which was to be opened only on the day of his death. It named the person who would succeed him on the throne.

When that day arrived, the kingdom mourned its wise and caring leader. And then all eyes turned to the king's letter to see who would rule in his place. With great ceremony the prime minister opened the letter and read the instruction. Whom had the king chosen? Not one of his children, nor an adviser, nor a general. The king had chosen the jester. The jester would be crowned king!

The Jester? Everyone in the kingdom thought this must be a joke. How could a fool be king? But such were the king's instructions. And so the jester was brought before the royal court. Royal retainers removed his jester costume and cloaked him in the robes of the king. They removed his jester hat

and crowned him king. And they sat him on the royal throne.

At first the situation was awkward—for the new king as well as his kingdom. But over time it turned out to have been a brilliant choice. The jester was every bit as wise, as compassionate, and as insightful as the old king had been. He listened to everyone with care—advisers, generals, even the commoners of the realm. He treated everyone who came before him with respect and with kindness. He used his powers to bring peace and prosperity to his kingdom. To the amazement of all in the royal court, the jester came to be a superb ruler. And everyone in the royal court—indeed, everyone in the kingdom—came to love him.

There was a mystery surrounding the jester-king, however. Every so often he would retreat to a distant room in the palace, a room to which only he had the key. For a few hours he would lock himself in that room. And then he would return to the throne and

resume his duties. Most members of the royal court assumed he went to the room to think, to meditate, or perhaps to pray. They accepted the mystery as part of their beloved king's life.

Once an ambassador came from a far-off land. The ambassador spent many hours with the king. He grew to appreciate the king's wisdom and his kindness. It was rare, he thought, for a king to listen as carefully as this king listened. It was unusual for a king to seek advice from everyone who appeared before him. It was remark-

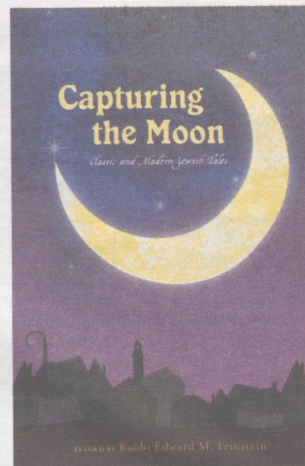
able for a king to care as deeply and to work as hard for the good of his subjects as this king did.

When the ambassador noticed that the king occasionally disappeared into his distant room, he wondered, "What does the king do in that locked room? Why does he go there? What is it in that room that helps him rule with such wisdom and kindness?" The ambassador just couldn't let go of the mystery. So one day when the king retreated to his room, the ambassador secretly followed behind. When the king closed the door, the ambassador crouched down and peered through the keyhole. There he took in the king's great secret.

In the privacy of the room, the king took off his crown and his royal robes and put on the costume of a jester. Around and around the room he danced the jester's dance, making funny faces and singing the silly songs of a jester. Then he stood before a great mirror and recited to himself: "Never forget who you are. You may look and sound and act like the king, but you are only the jester. You are only the jester pretending to be the king. Never forget who you are."

Now the ambassador understood it all. He understood the source of the king's deep wisdom. He understood that the king's kindness and greatness emanated from his humility. And now he knew the secret of the king's humility. This knowledge made the ambassador love the king even more deeply. He vowed his everlasting loyalty to the king. And he vowed to keep the king's secret.

Over the years the king and the ambassador grew



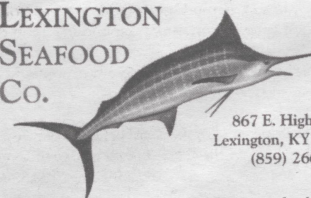
close. One day when they were alone, the ambassador confessed what he had done and what he had seen. "I promise you on my life that I will never reveal your secret," he declared. "But there is one thing I have never been able to figure out: Of all the people in the royal court whom the old king could have chosen to succeed him, why did he choose you? Why did he choose the jester?"

The king smiled at his friend and replied, "And who do you think he was before he became king?"

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**Now the ambassador understood it all. He understood the source of the king's deep wisdom. He understood that the king's kindness and greatness emanated from his humility.**

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## B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Ruth Poley



### Simple Comfort Foods

In early December the TAI Sisterhood and Chavurat Chochma groups sponsored a joint Hanukkah party for members of the Temple. Yours truly was pressed into service to make the entrée for the group. I chose to make meat loaf and roasted vegetables. The attendees had an overwhelmingly positive response to these simple comfort foods and many people requested the recipes, especially for the meat loaf, declaring it was the best they ever ate. I promised those people I would publish the recipe in my next column, and it appears below.

I take no credit for this recipe (although I did tweak it a bit). It came from a *Betty Crocker Good and Easy Cookbook*, which was part of what we have laughingly referred to over the years as Neil's trousseau. It is long out of print, and although I have looked at more recent iterations of this book, I've never seen this recipe in any of them. Six years ago I wrote a column giving specific instructions for roasting vegetables. If you'd like a copy of that, just email me.

#### Favorite Meat Loaf

3 slices soft bread  
1 cup tomato or V8 juice  
1 egg  
1 lb. ground beef + ¼ lb. ground turkey + ¼ lb. ground veal OR 1 ½ lbs. ground meat loaf mix, OR 1 ½ lbs. ground round  
¼ cup minced onion  
1 tsp. salt  
¼ tsp. each of pepper, mustard powder, sage, celery salt, garlic salt  
1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce

Heat oven to 350°. Tear bread into a large mixing bowl. Add everything else except the meat and mix thoroughly. Add meat and mix it all together. Form into a loaf in a shallow pan or place in a loaf pan. Bake one hour.

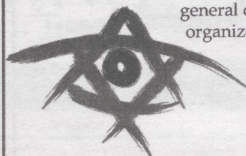
This recipe can be doubled or tripled easily. Just adjust the baking time (doubled bake for 1 ½ hours, tripled bake for about two hours—the meat should not be pink). Baking time is somewhat dependent upon the shape you form it into.

For a "surprise" loaf you can mold 3 hard boiled eggs or 12 large stuffed olives in the center of the loaf before baking. ☆

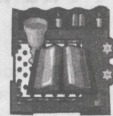
**NOTE:** If you have an appropriate food story you'd like to share, or a recipe you think others in the Jewish community might enjoy, please email me at [rgp@insightbb.com](mailto:rgp@insightbb.com)

### Spring/Summer 2010 registration opens February 17th!

Taglit-Birthright Israel provides a gift of first time, peer group, educational trips to Israel for Jewish young adults ages 18 to 26 from around the world. Taglit-Birthright Israel is a unique partnership between the people of Israel through their government, leading Jewish philanthropists, and local Jewish communities and Federations. Contact Tamara Ohayon at the Federation office if you have general questions about the trip, or for suggestions on how to organize. (859) 268-0672 or [tamara@jewishlexington.org](mailto:tamara@jewishlexington.org). Visit their website for more information!



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## Women's Community Seder *Passover from a Woman's Perspective*

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

### Deadline

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

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



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## STEWART HOME SCHOOL VISITATION SCHEDULE:

February 11 & April 15 & May 14 (Family Weekend) at 6:30 p.m.

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



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Special thanks to  
Mondell's Bakery, Kroger, and Subway  
for donating food and reduced price groceries  
for meals brought to MASH Services of the Bluegrass,  
the Florence Crittenton Home, the Stewart Home  
School, and both lunch and dinner at the  
Catholic Action Center.



The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS



# Israel 21c: Cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian companies sets the pace for building peace



Murad Tahboub, managing director of Asal Technologies in Ramallah

## Based on articles by Karin Kloosterman and David Shamah

Israel is second only to California's Silicon Valley for high-tech innovation and arguably, it's the best in the world for high-tech research and development. To be more competitive, Israelis, like their American counterparts, are now outsourcing programming jobs to people in India and China.

Recently a new trend has started: Israeli companies and branches of multinational companies in Israel are outsourcing work to Palestinians. While the thought of outsourcing to Palestinians might not have seemed plausible at first due to security concerns, after trying the idea out, Israelis are finding it a superior solution for many reasons.

"We realized that instead of fighting each other and throwing bombs we needed to work together," said Jonathan Levy, general manager for the chip manufacturer Winbond in Israel. "I started thinking that it would be better to hire a Palestinian engineer to develop our less complex products, for

reasons related to cost calculations as well as problems of language, culture and deadlines," he said in a local newspaper.

During a meeting of the Young Presidents' Organization, Levy was introduced to Murad Tahboub, the managing director of Asal Technologies, in Ramallah, who manages a team of about 35 full-time and 12 part-time Palestinian programmers.

Cost-effective labor, working in the same time zone, a workforce with a good command of the English language and high productivity rates, make Palestinian programmers desirable, but not just for Israelis, but any multinational company, says Tahboub.

"But not only in Palestine but in all areas where there is political instability," says Tahboub, who studied at an American college in Europe: "If people have good jobs, if their kids are getting an education, if there is good medical treatment and retirement plans, then they would not think radically, and would try to improve what they have."

Hiring Palestinian engineers Tahboub concludes, "is an investment in peace."

Zvi Schreiber's G.ho.st (the Global Hosted Operating System, pronounced "ghost") is a shining example of how economic ties can lead to building trust and prosperity. The company's virtual operating system allows users to store files, write and save documents, surf the Web, and even send instant messages. The company's staff is made up of residents of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority—who have to

meet and collaborate virtually, through video chats and on-line conferences.

The innovative company provides users with a uniform desktop and interface for individual users from any computer, anywhere in the world.

"Your files and e-mail follow you wherever you are, and so does your work environment, with all your personal settings and applications," says Schreiber, explaining how G.ho.st differs from existing online storage and e-mail solutions.

The G.ho.st office in Ramallah has about 40 employees, and much of the application's development is done there, while a smaller Israeli staff, working in Modiin, takes care of corporate and marketing duties for the company.

Because of security restrictions that prevent employees from each office traveling to the other office, the two

staffs communicate mostly through the Internet, with an always-on video conference or through IM.

As far as relations between the two groups are concerned, "we don't limit communications between employees to work-related matters," says Schreiber, although of course, as a place of business, work issues predominate. But politics crops up too, especially when a major event affecting Israel and the PA occurs. "We have had some spirited discussions on political issues, whether through IM or on the company's blogs, but all the discussions have been respectful and issue oriented," Schreiber says.

Expressing a sentiment similar to that expressed by Murad Tahboub of Asal Technologies, Schreiber points out that everybody has a stake in peace—because everyone has a stake in economic prosperity. ☆

## Camperships and Israel Scholarships are now available

Want to give your children a special and cherished Jewish experience? Concerned about the cost?

Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, through the confidentiality of Jewish Family Services, is now accepting applications for Jewish summer camperships and Israel scholarships.



Scholarships are specifically for Israel programs and are not tied to income. Camperships are for not-for-profit Jewish day or overnight camps, including our local day camps Camp Shalom and Camp Geshar. Income is one of the criteria used to evaluate eligibility for camperships.

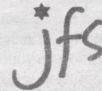


Deadline for applications is April 1, 2010. Applications can be requested from JFS or downloaded from the JFS page at <http://www.jewishlexington.org>.

Paula Clancy, Director of Jewish Family Services  
(859) 269-8244 • [jfs@jewishlexington.org](mailto:jfs@jewishlexington.org)



The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS



Save the date

Sunday, April 18

**YOM**  
**HAATZMAUT**  
Israel Independence Day

Community-wide Celebration



## The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Lynn Furness, President

New years bring with them the promise of the future as well as a chance to look back. As Hadassah moves toward its 98th year and a commemorative celebration in Israel, we look back to its beginning. The beginning really occurred in 1904 when Henrietta Szold and her mother, Sophia, traveled to Palestine. On that trip they witnessed untreated disease and unrelieved poverty throughout the area.

Back in the United States, Henrietta had a study group for women. We are told that her mother remarked, "This is what your group ought to do... you should do practical work in Palestine." The seed was planted, nourished, and flourished.

Three years after Miss Szold returned to the U.S., her women's study group became an activist Zionist organization. Hadassah was born with the expressed mission of *aruhat bat ami*, or "the healing of the daughter of my people."

Today Hadassah still embodies this mission of teaching, healing, and rescuing through the various projects it supports with the help of its members, associates, and friends. Hadassah is also a powerful leader on women's issues in the United States, especially in the health field.

Hadassah's work in all its breadth and depth continues to challenge us in our fast changing world. Technological advances permit us to advance our humanitarian work well beyond America and Israel to the farthest corners of Europe, Asia, and Africa.

We can look back with pride to our modest beginning and look forward with confidence to a future Hadassah is prepared to meet with resourcefulness and competence. We think Miss Szold and her mother would be encouraging, impressed, and grateful to see Hadassah now. ✧

## Hadassah Happenings

### Universal Design

Thursday, February 18, 2010 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Tates Creek Library: Susan Bachner, life member of Hadassah, author, and consultant will present a program on universal design. This all-inclusive design approach enables people of various abilities, ages, and sizes to have equal access to living spaces. Members, associates, family, and interested members of the community are invited to attend.

### Casino Night

May 2, 2010 at Temple Adath Israel: More information to follow.

### Closing Meeting

May 16, 2010: Maestro Scott Terrell, conductor of the Lexington Philharmonic, will be the featured speaker. Look for more information in an upcoming issue of *Shalom*.



The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS

### President proffers special thanks to the community

What a fantastic community this is! You are all incredible. You have not only opened your arms and your hearts to Judy and Rabbi David Wortman over the past few months, but you have supported them during David's illness and transplant surgery and Judy's foot surgery with an outpouring of food, visits, transportation, and love. I know how much this has meant and continues to mean to them and how grateful they are to everyone. The Federation staff worked extra hard to make sure that everything continued efficiently and smoothly during this period. Thank you to everyone for being so absolutely wonderful and helpful; that is the true sense of community.

## Hadassah celebrates Hanukkah

A festive evening celebrating Hanukkah and 100 Years of Young Judaea took place December 17, 2009 at the home of Judy Baumann. The evening began with a menorah lighting ceremony in which each candle lit represented a value, goal, or accomplishment of Young Judaea. Judy Saxe and Gail Cohen led the ceremony and candles were lit by former Young Judaeans or Hadassah members with connections to Young Judaea.

After the menorah lighting, celebrants feasted on a cornucopia of desserts as each attendee brought her favorite sweet treat to share. The festivities concluded with Hadassah's traditional gift exchange. With a lot of laughter and kibitzing as gifts were chosen and then perhaps "surrendered" to someone else, socks proved to be the most popular. Who knew?

It was an enjoyable evening for all. If you couldn't make it this year, mark your calendar to attend in the future. ✧



Save the date

*Yom HaShoah*  
Holocaust Remembrance Day  
Community-wide Commemoration

*Sunday, April 11, 2010*  
Ohavay Zion Synagogue

**Do you have the winter blahs?**

*Do you wish spring was here?*

**Hadassah has the answer...**

*Flower Power is coming!*

You will be able to buy cash certificates to be redeemed at Proper Plants on Military Pike

*You will find a beautiful selection of hanging baskets, patio plants, flowers, herbs, and vegetables.*



**START PLANNING NOW!**

Look for more information in the March issue of *Shalom* and in Hadassah mailings or call Carole Wilson (859) 277-0979



## 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) 269-7218, goldsmith@cs.uky.edu, or the co-chairs of the Membership Committee, Evelyn Geller (859) 278-3609, evelynkadimah@aol.com, or David Feinberg, (859) 223-1304, kdffm@insightbb.com.

Recently, my massage therapist told me that all my energy was "out here, in another plane," her hands cupping where I have always imagined my aura to end.

This made me think of the spheres of existence we discuss on Tu b'Shevat. "There's a Jewish holiday," I told her, "in which we discuss different planes, and model them in terms of fruit. Would you like to come with me this time?"

"Model the universe in terms of fruit?" she said. "I think I'd like that."

"The heavenly plane has no fruit associated with it," I told her.

"Wow," she said.

It occurred to me later that I had made a leap from "planes" around myself to the crystalline spheres that I image when we discuss the mystical cosmology on Tu b'Shevat. But why not? If the shell around a walnut is symbolic of one of those spheres, why shouldn't my aura be one, too?

There are many things I like about Tu b'Shevat. Of course there's the fruit, both as symbol and as fruit. And there's the sense of permission I feel then, more than with most holidays: to invent and recreate the ritual; to read about trees, fruit, cosmology; to see the universe contained in a walnut shell or apple seed; to hold in my hand, in

my mouth, a direct connection to the nourishing earth and rain and sun; and to stop and remember how we are nourished by that we can hold, touch, taste, and then, finally, by whatever the opposite of accretion is, by that which has no concrete, sensual presence of its own.

Another thing I like is the fracturing, not of G-d, but of our experiences of the cosmos. Some religions have many gods or avatars. (In the dictionary that came with my Mac, the first definition of "avatar" is "a manifestation of a deity or released soul in bodily form on earth; an incarnate divine teacher.") We understand that there are many ways we can relate to Creation. This is about us and about Creation rather than about the One. On Tu b'Shevat, we use fruit to represent some of those relationships. Food for thought.

If you would like to join us for our Purim shpiel on February 28, give me a call at (859) 338-5725 or email goldsmith@insightbb.com for details. We're also planning several movie nights.

Meanwhile, I wish you all a good 2010. I hope that this year, the world moves closer to peace and economic stability. I don't know how we'll get there. We may have to invent new ways to think about, and act, as part of tikkun olam, of repairing the cracks in all of those crystal spheres. (My new year's resolution: To resolutely mix metaphors as needed.) ☆



Be happy.  
It's Adar!

Happy Purim  
from the  
Board and staff of



The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS

## B'nai B'rith plans full year of activities

B'nai B'rith International has been a global voice of the Jewish community since it was founded in 1843. It works for Jewish community, security, and continuity and fights anti-Semitism and intolerance around the world. The local chapter is the Stanley Rose Lodge #289, founded over 150 years ago. Locally our goals focus on education, social events, service projects, and the local Hillel chapter. In November we hosted our congressman, Ben Chandler, who spoke at a well-attended brunch at the Doubletree.

Although we missed this year, we plan to revive the late summer or early fall steak/salmon banquet with a speaker of interest. Finally, to round out the year we plan to sponsor another brunch with one of our esteemed politicians as guest speaker.

Please be looking for announcements in *Shalom*, the Jewish Weekly, and the other bulletins and online resources. We welcome new or past members. Contact David Rose or Abe Rabiner for details about membership or activities. ☆

We plan to have a speaker from the Anti-Defamation League in February or March. In late 2008, the speaker discussed the turmoil on our college campuses as it relates to Israel and other Jewish concerns. In the spring or early summer we will once again sponsor a day with the Lexington Legends baseball team.



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and our community

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Paula Clancy, MSW, CSW  
at 269-8244. Office hours are:  
Mon., Weds., 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Tues., Thurs. 8 a.m. - 12 noon



These services are free and entirely confidential.

The JFS volunteer committees also coordinate Family Life Education programs and Leisure Club activities for seniors. We hope that you will join us in these community programs. Please call if you would like to participate or to share ideas for topics of interest.



The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS



## Temple Adath Israel

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

### Jewishness

Please join Peter Schogol for an educational series on the origins of secular Judaism. This series will look at the history, culture, politics, and legacy of "worldly" (Yiddish *veltlich*), i.e. secular, non-religious Jews, from the roots of this population in Eastern Europe to its fullest flowering in America, where it continues to evolve and influence our culture and politics at all levels.

We will meet in the Sisterhood / Brotherhood lounge at 10:00 a.m. on the following dates: February 14, March 14, April 11, and May 9.

For a good, short article on the phenomenon of Secular Jewishness/Judaism you might check out <http://www.pjvoice.com/v18/18702secular.aspx>.

### 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 to the library on alternate Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. and join the provocative and friendly discussion. February 6 & 20

### 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. February 13 & 27.

### Study on the weekly Torah portion

Join us each Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m. in the library to take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Rabbi Kline will lead some; participants will take turns leading others. We plan to reintroduce classical texts and write the new mishnah, which will become classical over the next hundred years. The format will be different than either Torah study or Kollel. Bring a brown bag lunch.

### God's Pantry Night on Tuesdays

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 email [Petrone@uky.edu](mailto:Petrone@uky.edu). Join us on February 16, 2009.

### Chavurat-Chochma (A Friendly Gathering of Wisdom)

We will meet on February 26 to schmooze and enjoy an informative program. The cost is \$6 per person. Please RSVP by February 22.

### Hadassah

WHAT:  
Women's Community Seder  
WHEN:  
Thursday, March 18, 2010  
TIME: 6:00 p.m.  
PLACE:  
Temple Adath Israel  
COST: \$10 per person  
RSVP by March 11 to Tamar Ohayon at [lexhadassah@yahoo.com](mailto:lexhadassah@yahoo.com) or (859) 420-3925.



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cell 396-4357

### Sisterhood News

Fight off the February blues by spending time with your Sisterhood friends! This month is our annual Valentine Dinner for the Florence Crittenton residents co-hosted by Sisterhood and the Women of the Lexington's Junior League. Enjoy an evening of fellowship and make a difference in a young girl's life. Please let the Temple office or Rebecca Young know if you would like to help out and attend. This month is also Sisterhood Shabbat on February 26. It would be wonderful to see everyone there.

### Social Action

Tutors in various subjects are needed for students at Ashland Elementary School, our adopted school. You can help a child reach his/her potential by volunteering for just a few hours a week. Contact Anne Graff ([agraff8@aol.com](mailto:agraff8@aol.com)) or Austin Cantor ([ahcantor@insightbb.com](mailto:ahcantor@insightbb.com)) for more information and to volunteer.

Books and Bagels Book Sale and Yard Sale on Sunday, February 21. Your donation of books, records, CD's, DVD's, etc. will help raise money to support numerous social action projects. Please leave your donations on the back of the stage in the social hall. Items should be in boxes or bags marked "For Social Action Sale." We will not start collecting items for the yard sale until mid-January.

### One World Film Festival

Thursday, March 11, Kentucky Theatre, 5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

#### At Home in Utopia

Documentary of thousands of Jewish immigrant garment workers who in the mid-1920s pooled their resources and built four cooperatively owned and run apartment complexes in the Bronx.

Thursday, March 25, Kentucky Theatre, 5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

#### The Lemon Tree

Feature film based on the true story of a Palestinian widow who takes care of her family's West Bank lemon grove.

**Temple Adath Israel Preschool**  
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# Ohavay Zion Synagogue

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

## OZS Sisterhood

The OZS Sisterhood will have a Shabbat and Kugel Fest on February 6. Favorite kugel recipes of Sisterhood members will be served at the Kiddush luncheon.

## Adult Education

**The Writings of the Bible:** Wednesday midday: 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

**The Writings of Jewish Mysticism:** Thursdays, after minyan: 5:45 - 6:30 p.m.

**Jewish Parenting Class:** Sunday mornings, after morning minyan: 9:45 - 10:15 a.m.

Come and learn about holidays, rituals, blessings, and stories. Starting date to be announced.

## 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 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 from 5:45 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. A great way to end your day!

## Focus Minyan

Stay tuned for information about a Focus Minyan (all levels welcome). Using mystical techniques, we will reveal the hidden layers of Jewish prayer.

## Kids' Shabbat

A monthly Friday evening Shabbat for children ages 4 to 9, with pizza, song, and schmoozing: 5:15 p.m. on February 12.

## 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. This month's Tish is scheduled for February 26 at 8:00 p.m. Watch the OZS website (<http://www.ozs.org/>) for the coming months' Tish schedules and topics.

## 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. This month's movie is tentatively scheduled for February 17.

## February Shabbat Schedule

February 5 - Shabbat service begins at 5:45 p.m. at OZS.

February 12 - Kid's Shabbat at 5:15 p.m.

February 19 - Shabbat Service begins at 5:45 p.m. at OZS; Stewart Home visit.

February 26 - Tish Service at 8:00 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.

## 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.



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Deadline for early enrollment  
is February 22, 2010

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## Around the Community

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

### Mazel tov to...

**Dan Liebman**, who received the Outstanding Alumni Award from the UK College of Communications and Information Studies.

**Elisia Cohen**, who was also honored by the UK College of Communications and Information Studies.

**Nat and Judy Sandler** on the marriage of their son, **Mark Sandler**, to **Jessica Horton** on August 2, 2009.

**Fran and Clark Mandel** on the birth of their daughter, **Anna Joy**, on November 30, 2009.

**Darra and Ron Hofman** on the birth of their son, **Ezra**, on December 9, 2009.

**Karen Arrowood and Jason Card** on their marriage on December 27, 2009.

**Marsha and David Rose** on the birth of their grandson, **Braden Reece Walter**, on December 10, 2009, in Rockville, MD. Proud parents are **Nicki and Steve Walter**.

### Bat Mitzvah

**Merav Eres**, daughter of **Dr. Avi and Ronit Eres**, embarked upon the road toward adult Judaism when she was called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah at Ohavay Zion Synagogue on December 19, 2009. Her older brothers, **Tomer and Ittai**, also participated in this joyous celebration.

Merav, a seventh grade student at Montessori Middle School of Kentucky, replied, "That's a hard one!" when asked to identify her favorite subject. She identified three areas as her favorites. She likes Spanish because she has a teacher who "makes it awesome." She calls Spanish a "great class." Merav's second choice is humanities because "I like history and find humanities very interesting." Merav's third favorite subject was science, because "In science I get to do so many things and test so many projects and get so many answers."

Although the range of extracurricular activities is limited, Merav will soon begin playing basketball for her school. Outside of school she also participates in a basketball league.

Merav is still very much involved in her Mitzvah Project. Some time ago she saw a documentary about poverty and poor health care in Eastern Kentucky. Consequently, she began collecting and donating dental products to a van that gives free dental care to people in eastern Kentucky. Recently, she visited eastern Kentucky to see for herself the poverty that exists there—poverty that "so many people don't know about." She feels that the need there also includes books and clothes. Merav says, "I will do whatever I can to remedy poverty."

### Condolences to...

**Lynn Martin, LisaMarie Coleman, and Leah Martin** on the death of their wife and mother, **Karyn Martin**, on January 5, 2010.

The family of **Ada Lee Michalove**, who died on December 6, 2009.

**Dan Yarus and Gary Yarus**, husband and nephew of **Alice Yarus**, who died on December 6, 2009.

**Carole and Terry Wilson** on the death of Terry's aunt, **Kiki Friedman**, in New Jersey on January 15, 2010. Kiki was a longtime member of the Havurah.

**Faith and Cory Erdmann** on the death of Faith's grandmother in Owensboro.

The **Ruttenberg Family** on the death of their mother, **Pauline Ruttenberg**, in Lexington on January 11, 2010.

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

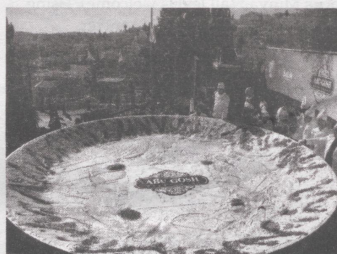
Thank you to:

Linda and Leon Rayvin for their donation in memory of Kiki Friedman



The Jewish Federation  
OF THE BLUEGRASS

## Cool Facts About Israel



ISRAEL SETS  
GUINNESS  
WORLD RECORD  
FOR LARGEST  
SERVING OF  
HUMMUS

New York - January 15, 2010: A new Guinness World Record was set for the largest serving of hummus this week in the multi-cultural village of Abu Ghosh near Jerusalem, Israel. The record-breaking hummus dish weighed 8,992 pounds and was spread into a 20-foot satellite dish, beating the previous Guinness World Record set in Lebanon two months earlier. The event was organized by Jawdat Ibrahim, owner of the Abu Ghosh restaurant, and presided over by Guinness judge Jack Brookbank.

For more information, visit [www.goisrael.com](http://www.goisrael.com).



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"I probably have reviewed over three to four thousand shows which still cannot compare to what I saw tonight. I give this production Five Stars, that's the top! The best word to use is 'mind-blowing!'" said Richard Connema, seasoned critic for Talkin' Broadway.

"It is really out of this world! There is no word to describe it... If I had to describe it, the words might be 'divine,' 'reborn,' and 'hope,'" said World-Renowned cellist Christine Walevska who has come to see the performance for the last four years.

"It's not just pretty, pretty, it's seriously pretty — a lot of depth and meaning...It's a new realm of dance," said Vanessa Harwood, former principle dancer with the National Ballet, Officer of the Order of Canada.

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[Kentuckycenter.org](http://Kentuckycenter.org)

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89.3





# Community Calendar

• **Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass - [www.jewishlexington.org](http://www.jewishlexington.org)**  
 • 1050 Chinoe Road • Suite 302 • 268-0672 • Linda Ravvin, President

• **OZS - Ohavay Zion Synagogue - [www.ozs.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.centralstates.hadassah.org)**  
 • Lynn Furness, President • [mamanebs@yahoo.com](mailto:mamanebs@yahoo.com)

• **HAV - The Lexington Havurah - [www.lexhavurah.uscjhst.net](http://www.lexhavurah.uscjhst.net)**  
 • 338-5725 • Judy Goldsmith, President • [goldsmith@insightbb.com](mailto:goldsmith@insightbb.com) • 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](mailto:bbrou@lexclin.com)

| Sunday                                                                                                 | Monday                                                                                           | Tuesday                              | Wednesday                               | Thursday                                                                                       | Friday                                                                | Saturday                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31<br>Yiddish Class<br>at the Federation<br>Hadassah Board<br>Meeting                                  | February 1<br>Federation<br>November Mission<br>to Israel meeting,<br>7:00 p.m. at<br>JFB office | 2<br>Chabad - Rabbi<br>Litvin visits | 3<br>Shalom deadline,<br>passover issue | 4<br>UK Judaic<br>Studies lecture                                                              | 5                                                                     | 6<br>Jewish Single<br>Speed Dating<br>Westin Hotel,<br>Cincinnati                          |
| 7<br>Rosh Chodesh<br>Adar                                                                              | 8<br>President's Day<br>Rosh Chodesh<br>Adar                                                     | 9<br>God's Pantry<br>Night           | 10                                      | 11<br>Hadassah -<br>Susan Bachner,<br>Universal Design,<br>Tates Creek Library<br>at 7:00 p.m. | 12<br>Chavurat Chochma<br>Luncheon at TAI<br>11:30 a.m.               | 13                                                                                         |
| 14<br>Yiddish Class<br>at the Federation<br>Book & Yard Sale<br>at TAI<br>Jewish Camp Fair<br>Noon-OZS | 15                                                                                               | 16                                   | 17<br>Federation Board<br>Meeting       | 18<br>Ta'anit Esther -<br>Fast of Esther                                                       | 19<br>Sisterhood<br>Shabbat & new<br>members Oneg<br>7:30 p.m. at TAI | 20                                                                                         |
| 21<br>Purim<br>Havurah<br>Purim Spiel                                                                  | 22<br>UK Judaic<br>Studies<br>lecture                                                            | 23                                   | 24                                      | 25                                                                                             | 26<br>OZS Bar<br>Mitzvah<br>Zachary Schneider                         | 27<br>OZS Bar<br>Mitzvah<br>Zachary Schneider<br>OZS Sisterhood<br>Shabbat &<br>Kugel-fest |
| 28<br>Yiddish Class<br>at the Federation<br>Hadassah Young<br>Women's<br>Coffee/Bagel<br>Get Together  | March 1                                                                                          | 2<br>Chabad - Rabbi<br>Litvin visits | 3                                       | 4<br>One World Film<br>Festival<br>Kentucky Theater<br>5:00 & 7:30 p.m.<br>"At Home In Utopia" | 5                                                                     | 6                                                                                          |
| 7                                                                                                      | 8                                                                                                | 9                                    | 10                                      | 11                                                                                             | 12                                                                    | 13                                                                                         |