

Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



March 2011

ADAR I/ADAR II 5771

UK Judaic Studies Program Gets New Director

Jeremy Popkin, professor of history at the University of Kentucky, has been named as the new director of the campus Judaic Studies program, replacing Oliver Leaman. Popkin has taught at UK since 1978, and, along with Dan Frank from the UK Philosophy department, was one of the founders of the program in the 1990s. He has taught courses on the Holocaust since 1979 and offered UK's first survey course on Jewish History in 1980.

"I'm looking forward to working with my colleagues to make the program a more visible presence on the campus," Popkin says. "We hope to offer students a wider range of courses, and design events that will attract an audience from the community." UK students can currently take a minor in Judaic Studies by completing eighteen hours of course work.

Funding from the Zanker Foundation also supports the Judaic Studies program's annual lecture series. There are two lectures this spring. On Monday, February 28, independent scholar and winner of the 2010 Luckens Essay Prize given by UK's program, spoke on "A Jewish Response to Crisis: Kabbalah and Jewish Mysticism." On Monday, March 28, Todd Presner, professor of

German Literature and Jewish Studies, will talk on "Digital Berlin: Mapping German-Jewish History through 'HyperCities'." Both lectures will be at 8 pm in the Niles Gallery room in the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library building on the UK campus. These lectures are free and open to the public.

Popkin and UK Arts and Sciences dean, Mark Kornbluh, have agreed that the name of the program should be changed to "Jewish Studies," the label used at most major American universities. "Judaic Studies suggests a program focused on the religion of Judaism," Popkin says. "Jewish Studies' indicates our intention to offer courses on all dimensions of Jewish life." "UK's program is a part of the academic curriculum," Popkin says. "Our courses are open to all interested students, and we want them to measure up to rigorous scholarly standards." "But," he adds, "we know the local Jewish community takes an interest in the program, and we hope to have the community's support as we try to make the program bigger and better." For more information on UK's Judaic Studies program, contact Jeremy Popkin (popkin@uky.edu), and visit the program's web site, www.uky.edu/AS/JudaicStudies. ☆

God's Pantry

By Karen Petrone

How many cabbages can you fit into a cardboard box? While scooping flour from a fifty-pound bag into a three-pound bag, can you eyeball exactly the right weight? Is hominy a vegetable? Does sloppy joe sauce have any meat in it? As a volunteer for God's Pantry Food Bank, you can find out the answers to these questions. All of Central Kentucky knows and values God's Pantry for its leading role in feeding the hungry in our community. Last year alone God's Pantry distributed 17.1 million pounds of food in 50 Kentucky counties.

But less well known is what God's Pantry offers to the thousands of volunteers who sort, package, and organize the wide variety of food donations received from farmers, community food drives, and large retailers. Whether repackaging bulk corporate food donations into smaller packages, or sorting the individual cans of food donated in local food drives, God's Pantry volunteers receive far more

than they give. At God's Pantry Family and Teen nights, children and teens are empowered as they learn first hand that they can devote their time to helping others. In a mere couple of hours, individual adult volunteers form ties with others in their group and have the opportunity to become a vital part of the Central Kentucky community at large. While doing physical labor such as moving heavy boxes or filling a Thanksgiving basket via the assembly line, volunteers also raise their own spirits and gain satisfaction in knowing that their hands-on work will make a difference in the lives of their neighbors. We volunteers are profoundly grateful to God's Pantry for giving us these wonderful opportunities to serve and to belong to our community.

Please join the Jewish Community's monthly volunteer night at God's Pantry on the third Tuesday of the month from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Upcoming spring dates are March 15, April 19, May 17, and June 21. Looking forward to seeing you there! ☆

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Women's Happy Hour on March 31

Calling All Women – please join us on Thursday, March 31 for a Happy Hour at Petra Mediterranean Grill at 5:30 pm. A light buffet supper, wine, and dessert will be served. In addition you will be treated to a comedy entitled "When I Look in The Mirror, I See My Mother" written and directed by Marcia Blacker. Come see your friends portray Jewish mothers and daughters through the ages. The cast includes Amy Faust Mayer, Angie Ornstein, Judy Saxe, Kathy Feinberg, Janice Newman, Angie Smith, Lynn Furness, Linda Ravvin, and Judy Wortman. The couvert is \$15 per person. Please bring your mothers,

daughters, sisters and friends. (Bring your mother-in-law and you will get a \$2.00 discount!)

At the program you will have the opportunity to make a gift of \$18 or more to the 2011 Community Campaign as we reinstitute Federation's Women's Philanthropy Division. Funds raised at this event will support local programs as well as services for our sisters and brothers in Israel and around the world. To RSVP, please contact Judy Wortman at 268-0672 or jfb@jewishlexington.org. ☆

Hold The Dates - Four Sundays in May

- May 1 - Yom Ha Shoah Commemoration - Temple Adath Israel - 11:00 a.m.
- May 8 - PJ Library Opening Party - Joseph-Beth Booksellers - 2:00 p.m.
- May 15 - Yom Ha Atzmaut Celebration - Ohavay Zion Synagogue - 12 Noon
- May 22 - Gala Tribute Dinner Honoring Susan and Steve Caller - Doubletree Suites - 5:00 p.m.

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It's Coming...

By Bonnie Sobel

After such a long winter, who could not be looking forward to the first signs of spring? But there is something else that brings joy to many of our hearts around this time of the year and that is the arrival of the new Mah Jongg card.

This card is to Mah players what a fashion show is to shoppers. It is their first glimpse at the new selection of combinations that a winning rack must sport. And while white shoes are sometimes allowed to be worn after Labor Day, no Mah players would ever think of using last year's card after the new card has come out.

The game of Mah, like many things in our country, comes from China. But being the good entrepreneurs that we Americans are, we modified the game a wee bit. The Chinese played for hundreds of years with the same Mah combinations embedded in their memory. We decided to put the combinations on a card, a card that changes each year. And, like stamps at the post office the card keeps going up in price. I ordered the large version with a font size of about sixteen for obvious reasons, and it cost me eight dollars. When I started playing, years ago, the small card was around a dollar and a half.

The Mah Jongg card is nothing fancy. Much like my husband's wallet, the card opens into three sections. On the front side, the hands appear in all their glory under categories similar to ones on the very first card that came out in 1937. Each color-coded hand consists of fourteen tiles made up of bams, craks, dots, dragons, winds, and flowers, reminiscent of the creative minds on the mainland. And at the end of each hand is listed its monetary value. Since some hands are harder to make than others, they are worth more

money. The good news is that the winner gets an instantly gratifying payoff. The bad news is that many hands are worth only a quarter with the winner often making no more than a dollar. Still the players take their winnings very seriously. I saw what happened in my mother's Mah game years ago when one of the ladies substituted a Canadian nickel for a US one; it wasn't a pretty sight! (Of course now that the currency rate has changed, a winner might be more accepting.)

On the back side of the card, all the rules are spelled out explicitly. Still, it is not unusual for each Mah group to add or subtract something unique to their game. For example in our group we "mush." (rhymes with tush). That gives us an extra chance to pick that missing tile. We would be reprimanded, big time, by the National Mah Jongg League for this addition to the rules, but luckily they don't make house calls.

That is all there is to the card; while it may not sound so exciting to someone who doesn't play the game, to my fellow Mah players, the 2011 card, like a crocus pushing its head up through the ground, signifies a new season. It brings with it the potential for interesting challenges and keen competition, but best of all it brings a reason to spend many happy hours surrounded by good friends; you know, the ones who are there at your granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah, and the ones who bring you chicken soup when you need it the most. So, my fellow Mah Jongg players, I hope you will have hours of fun playing on this new card so that your purse, at least some of the time, will be heavier at the end of the game than it is at the beginning, and that the friends you make while playing the game become as special to you as mine are to me. ☆

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Shalom Deadline

Deadline for articles for the April *Shalom* is March 10.

Email articles to shalom@jewishlexington.org



Message From Executive Director

Judy Wortman

Teaching Our Children

For a very small Jewish community,

we are blessed to have five rabbis. In addition to our two pulpit rabbis, Rabbi Marc Kline and Rabbi Moshe Smolkin, we are served by Rabbis Sharon Cohen, Uri Smith, and David Wortman who volunteer as teachers and writers. All five are teachers in our "Lunch and Learn with the Rabbis" series and with them we have learned about Jewish holidays, history, philosophy, and law. This wonderful program meets the last Tuesday of the month and all are welcome to attend. The Federation also hosts Rabbi Avraham Litvin of Louisville once a month. We are fortunate that all members of our community, regardless of their affiliation, have the opportunity to study with rabbis of varying backgrounds – Conservative, Reform, and Orthodox.

Last month Rabbi Sharon Cohen taught us about Ethical Wills. Unlike a Last Will and Testament or a Living Will, an Ethical Will is a legacy of values left to future generations. Some of us are fortunate enough to have known our grandparents or great-grandparents and have a good sense about what was most important to them. Some of us never knew them or lost them when we children. All of us now have the opportunity to write Ethical Wills so that our children and grandchildren will learn about our values and beliefs and hopefully adopt many of them. We also hope that they will learn about our values from the way in which we have lived our lives.

Those of us who are givers must not only model the practice, but teach it. Writing an Ethical Will is one means of teaching our children not only to be donors themselves, but to teach tzedakah to their children. We must teach them that giving to others is not an option to consider after planning a vacation or buying a new car or paying for a bar mitzvah celebration.

For thousands of years, tzedakah has been considered as an obligation for all

Jews. The word does not mean charity; it means righteousness. All members of the Jewish community, whether they were rich or poor, were expected to give to those less fortunate. Tzedakah is a mitzvah – a commandment. Each generation saw that the generations before them observed this mitzvah. It was an expectation and children understood that they would do as their parents did.

Unfortunately, we are now living in a time where tzedakah is not seen as incumbent upon everyone. As you have read in other articles in *Shalom*, our campaign was down in 2010 and has steadily declined for the last number of years. In our community as in many others, our most generous donors are aging and they are not being replaced by younger people. This means that life giving and life enhancing programs and services provided by our Federations will continue to be reduced. In order to counteract this trend, it is critical for all of us to ensure that future generations understand that the needs of others are our responsibility. As our sage Hillel taught us, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? Yet if I am only for myself alone, what am I? If not now, when?" ☆

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Mitchell Barnes - Owner

Editorial

In the last weeks, the streets of Cairo were filled with demonstrators demanding democratic reforms in a country that has been ruled by military dictators since the overthrow of King Farouk after the 1952 revolution. The recent protest led to the resignation of Hosni Mubarak after 30 years as President of Egypt.

Since the Egyptian coup, demonstrators have taken to the streets of Libya and Iran. Earlier, governmental changes happened in Tunisia and Lebanon. Dictators in the Middle East are particularly vulnerable at this time. The movements for change, thus far, seem to be in favor of democratic reforms and not the creation of traditional Islamic countries (with the exception of the take over of Hezbollah in Lebanon and the coup in Tunisia).

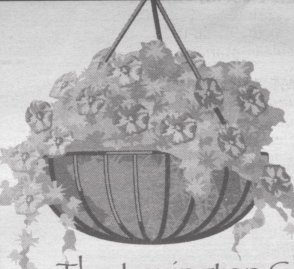
The question for us is the perennial query: "what does this mean for the Jews?" There are several answers to this question. First is that it is too early to tell. While the Islamic Brotherhood, previously outlawed in Egypt, will be legitimized, pundits do not expect extremists to take power in Egypt. The same is true in Libya. The mullahs in Iran, on the other hand, may not fall but they may be forced to take on more democratic laws than previously sanctioned.

The bad news is that all of this is speculation. Egypt will hold elections in September. The other nations are uncertain. Having a Hezbollah led government to the north may eliminate Lebanon as a non-combatant border state with Israel.

As Jews, we will need to watch these developments carefully. A more hostile Middle East is hard to envision. Yet, a Middle East unwilling or unable to progress towards peace will deal a serious blow to the possibility of resolution to the current Arab-Israeli conflict.

The role of the United States will not be insignificant. How Washington responds to this political upheaval will be crucial to Israel's future. Assuming no diminution in America's support for Jerusalem, the U.S. continued support of democracy and antipathy toward extreme Islamism will shape the next decades in the Middle East in general, and Israel in particular.

Let us hope that, when the dust settles, peace will become more possible – not less. Moreover, there will be a new, prosperous, democratic, and amiable Middle East. ☆



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Rand Paul wrong on Israel

Published by the Herald Leader on Friday, February 18

Senator Rand Paul has recently stated not only that he advocates cutting off all U.S. aid to Israel, but that he sees aid to Israel as fueling a Middle East arms race.

As a proportion of the total budget, aid to Israel is negligible. The Israeli military has been purchasing American military hardware for many years, and an elimination of this money would cost the U.S. many manufacturing jobs. Additionally, Israel has been at the forefront of developing military technology, and U.S. military aid funds joint projects that the American military has taken advantage of in Iraq and Afghanistan. This includes drone technology, which has saved countless American and Coalition lives. It is safe to say that Israeli technological achievements (which are at least partially funded by U.S. military aid) have helped keep American troops safer.

Israel is the only full-fledged democracy in the region. Tiny as it is, with only 7 million people, its presence serves as a model for the development of other democracies and free market societies in the region. Its own Arab population (including Muslims, Christians, and Druze) has more freedom, legal rights, social mobility, and economic opportunity than the vast majority of Arabs elsewhere in the Middle East. Many Arabs (Palestinians and others) seek to enter Israel because of the work opportunities afforded by its vibrant, high-tech economy.

Per capita, Israel has the highest level of technological entrepreneurship in the world, supported by a deep commitment to education. U.S. military aid to Israel allows Israel to continue its leadership in this (in spite of Israel's own high military budget) and work as a partner with the U.S. in creating a global high tech economy. This means jobs for U.S. citizens as well.

Israel's neighbors dwarf it in both population and geographical size. Many of these neighbors are sworn to Israel's destruction. While Israel will never have a quantitative edge militarily, Israel does have a qualitative edge, and it is this edge (partially due to U.S. military aid) that has prevented its destruction. If Israel were to lose that qualitative edge, its enemies would certainly become emboldened, and the

likelihood of a new and destructive war in the Middle East would substantially increase. Given our continued dependence on oil and our other strategic interests, this would almost certainly mean a much heavier financial and military U.S. investment in the Middle East than currently exists.

U.S. military support for Israel actually increases the likelihood for peace. Israel's qualitative military advantage makes it significantly more likely that it will take the risks necessary for a comprehensive peace agreement with the Palestinians (and the Syrians as well). Should Israel lose U.S. military support, it would certainly not be willing to withdraw from any militarily strategic positions it currently controls, negating the land-for-peace formula of United Nations resolutions.

The main backer of state terrorism and global jihad is Iran, and a decrease in Israel's military advantage (which would certainly occur should aid be reduced) would cause Iran to further fund anti-Israel and anti-American militias throughout the region. Israel has been on the front line of the global war on terror for many years. Unfortunately, it appears that Israel will be forced to fight this war for many years to come.

Given the burgeoning grassroots movements for freedom and democracy in the Arab/Muslim world (especially in Tunisia and Egypt), U.S. involvement in the Middle East and commitment to Israel is more important than ever. When a region reaches a turning point that has profound implications for the world and for America's own interests, the U.S. should not retreat, but stay engaged.

Nobody disputes that fiscal responsibility is a vitally important goal for our nation and that we will have to make painful budgetary sacrifices. Aid to Israel is in the interest of the U.S. from a financial, strategic, and moral standpoint. We encourage Senator Paul to reconsider his stance on this issue and to support fully funding our commitments to Israel.

Linda Ravvin, President, Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass
Laurence H. Kant, Chair of the Jewish Community Relations Committee
Mike Grossman, Co-Chair of the Jewish Community Relations Committee ☆

The Seder

By Gene Sittenfeld

Passover was to be observed at Uncle Aaron's house that year. And the Feldmans were more observant than we were: special dishes for meat or milk, polished silver serving plates and awful kosher candy that you always tried one more time thinking it couldn't be that bad (but it always was).

I was ten years old that spring, and even I knew that "Aunt Joy" was poorly named: she and her family lived across the city in an old cramped house that exuded a quiet sadness. My Grandfather, the patriarch of the family, lived around the corner from my Aunt and Uncle in yet another house he had built. We were the first to have moved to the (goyish) suburbs, although the others would soon follow: turning "exclusive communities" into "mixed" ones, and leaving the homes they vacated for "the schvartzes." Everything seemed to be spoken of in a code.

I would hear my Mom chat with Joy on the phone every afternoon. After a minute or so the conversation would dissolve into Yiddish, guttural noises flying out of my Mother's throat like geese at the lake.

You always miss the good stuff as a kid.

But this evening I would miss nothing. Tonight I was going to get to say "The Four Questions", the portion of the Passover dinner where a child asks the basic questions that the Seder service then answers. This would be the first time I could do this at a larger Seder, and only my brother knew that I had learned them in Hebrew!

I sang the questions every afternoon, actually having fun with my brother who uncharacteristically seemed interested in my progress that year. I had only done them in English for my family in the past, so it would be a wonderful surprise.

"Ma nishtana halleila hazeh," I would practice, trying to look like our Rabbi: pious and wise. It was going to be great fun.

I loved to have fun, but somehow fun usually led to trouble, and I seemed to be getting a reputation. Over the past year my nickname had gone from "Danny" to "Fearless."

Unfortunately, I seemed to be climbing the trouble meter as I got older. The thing people spoke about when my name came up that year became forever known as The Cheeseburger Incident.

One day, while visiting my Grandfather's house (he had gone to the bathroom, something that could take anywhere from twenty minutes to an hour), I had asked Mary the maid for a cheeseburger, and she had cooked it right up -- a delicious blend of meat and milk that would have gotten me kicked out of ancient Israel. It was an innocent mistake: the idea that I would either have known the laws of Kashrus or studied the Pentateuch (as my Hebrew teacher insisted on calling what we knew as "The Old Testament") was absurd.

While my transgressions were escalating in both planning and execution: taking a class or two off to eat the non-kosher chicken at the restaurant across the street, turning off the Eternal Light, letting the air out of the Rabbi's tires in the synagogue parking lot, it was all in good fun. After all, I was just an innocent boy.

I knew that things would be different tonight: for one thing, the cousins who lived in Uncle Aaron's house were girls. And since I didn't have a sister, I only knew the rough and tumble ways of boys. The older cousin was in a modern beehive hairdo, still two years removed from her nose job. (How we giggled upon seeing her with a Band-Aid on her nose after she returned to school from her "vacation").

But this year, as we pulled up to my Aunt's house in our new Buick Electra 225 (with "speed control"), there was a surprise: the local TV station had parked a big truck in front of the house. A TV crew was there, and they were going to broadcast our Seder! This was the same station (Channel 7)

see Seder, page 6



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Third Opinion

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD

Power to the Jewish Atheists!

By Ned Rosenbaum

This piece might also have been titled "Can Bill O'Reilly Really Be That Stupid?" I'm sure most of you have seen Mr. O'Reilly's triumphant jab at Mr. Dave Silverman, President of American Atheists, in which he claimed that atheist Silverman could not explain why the tides move with such astonishing regularity. I have since seen several other O'Reilly clips in which he does likewise with the Sun.

Poor Bill O'Reilly. I'm sure he would have been happier had he lived in the seventeenth century when the Catholic Church was able to suppress Galileo for claiming the Earth was not the center of the solar system, or maybe in the sixteenth, before Johannes Kepler first advanced the heliocentric theory.

Stunned by this display of cosmic stupidity, Silverman was at a loss for words. He could have answered that the moon controls the tides, but O'Reilly would have asked who controls the moon. This form of question, however, is spurious. It assumes that

something/someone does control things. (In logic this is the fallacy of petitio principii, or "begging the question.")

The proper response to this pseudo-question is that any "system" must to some degree be self-sustaining or else it will fall apart as quickly as it comes into being. This might have been too deep for O'Reilly, though, so I would have asked him to explain the tsunami that killed 250,000 people in fourteen countries in 2004 or the earthquake last year in Haiti that killed almost as many. Whose Master Plan does that represent?

Isaac Newton was correct; there is no need for a teleological explanation of the Universe. This does not mean that a guiding force, God, does not exist, only that we cannot safely infer one from the Universe that we know. Maybe that's why Judaism does not require us to profess a belief in God as a condition for membership in the Jewish community. And why we are so concentrated upon improving the world we inhabit.

Not that Judaism doesn't speculate on the larger issues. Ecclesiastes' famous, "I returned, and saw under

the Sun(!)...that time and chance happeneth to them all." (King James Version 9:11ff.) applies to planets as easily as to people. We happeneth to live on a planet that has won the "lottery," being placed in what astrophysicists call the "Goldilocks zone," not too hot, not too cold; metal core, enough liquid water and air and sufficient gravity to keep stuff from floating off into space. The moon's gravity tugs at the oceans, but doesn't do more than slosh them around.

If you think I'm taking undue midrashic liberty here, consider also this text:

When I observe the Heavens, the work of Your fingers,
The Moon and stars that You established, [I think]
What is man(kind) that you even remember him?
Human beings that you bother with them?
And yet, You have diminished him but little from the Divine.

(Ps. 8:4-5, my translation)

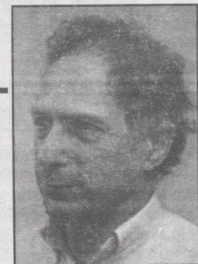
The Psalmist, David or some other, knew less about the Universe than we do, did not know what a galaxy

is let alone that there are some 200 billion of them in the Universe. But even if he did, I doubt his words would have changed.

Myself, I am not an atheist and I'm amused by those such as the American Atheists who have the chutzpah to declare that there is no God. I see too many things that hint of God; the very existence of Jews after all these millennia; the Hebrew Bible - our "portable Fatherland" as Heinrich Heine called it; the re-birth of Israel after an absence of 1,813 years; the Sabbath.

Anytime you're ready, Mr. O'Reilly, any time. ☆

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD (Brandeis), is a retired 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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RABBI EIZIK and the GURU JOKE

By Hanna B. Smith

Rabbi Eizik Taub (1751 – 1821) of Nagykallo, Hungary, is credited with introducing Hassidism into Hungary. A scholar and gifted musician Rabbi Eizik went among the working people, both Jewish and Gentile, and listened to their songs. He incorporated many folk tunes into religious services and he also composed songs himself. One of his songs became very popular throughout Hungary.

Altogether, Rabbi Eizik was comfortable with people of different backgrounds, and he often wore Hungarian costume. Rabbi Eizik's love of music is reflected in one of the stories told about him, "The Singing Saint" (see: Josef Patai in Andrew Handler: "Rabbi Eizik", Associated University Presses, Inc. 1978).

Two Hassidim from Lublin, Poland, hearing their rebbe speak highly of Rabbi Eizik, decided to visit him. The two men arrive at Rabbi Eizik's house on Erev Pesach. They find Rabbi Eizik, dressed in peasant shirt, baking matzah together with his followers. While baking, the whole group is singing psalms and folk songs to the accompaniment of a three-man band. The baking done, Rabbi Eizik spends the afternoon in the fields, enjoying the Spring air and learning a new song from a shepherd.

At the Seder that night Rabbi Eizik uses the newly-learned song, and he will not let the Prophet Elijah leave until he has sung with Rabbi Eizik.

The two Hassidim who expected Rabbi Eizik to expound on Talmud and share kabalistic insights are not impressed, and

they give a negative report upon returning to Lublin. Their own rebbe tells them, though, that music is a valid approach to the Divine.

Like all stories about tzaddikim, this story is meant to teach and to inspire, and it reminded me of guru jokes where the guru turns out to be a simple man. The two Hassidim do not understand that wisdom and simplicity can go hand in hand. They want a tzaddik (guru) who will explain to them that which they have not grasped on their own. Rabbi Eizik does not fit the mold, and the two men are out of their comfort zone in his presence.

Instead of allowing themselves to experience something new – the relaxed yet disciplined atmosphere in Rabbi Eizik's presence, the joy with which he and his companions fulfill the mitzvot, the Rabbi's empathy with the needs of the Hungarian people – the men criticize and reject what they do not understand.

Seeking wisdom is a life-long, individual journey, composed of insights gained on the way. The two men in our story have closed their minds to new experiences and are merely asking for confirmation of what they know already. Back in Lublin their own rebbe tried to set them right. We hope that they were capable of listening to him. ☆



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Seder (from page 4)

that showed Pick Temple, the cowboy who I loved to watch each afternoon.

Not only was I going to shine to my family, all of Washington would be getting to hear my soon-to-be-famous rendition of The Four Questions! We entered the house in a rush. I was in my new blue suit. Yes, my husky blue suit. We would go to that sad corner section of the clothing store for fat kids where I would shamefully take whatever the salesman would push at me, as opposed to my slim brother who got the choices of a wardrobe fit for a teen idol.

Inside the house there were bright lights, cameras, steely grey microphones and cables strewn out along the floors. You could smell the brisket cooking and great excitement was in the air.

"Ladies and Gentleman, my good friends and assembled guests, we are doing something VERY SPECIAL tonight," intoned our Rabbi in his deep voice. He had been invited for the occasion.

Of course I had recognized his car outside. "When we do our Seder ritual this evening we will be broadcasting our service to all of Washington."

The Rabbi went on to proudly introduce "the news director" who gave us the ground rules like it was the beginning of a Redskins game and he was George Allen: "Hi folks, this is gonna be great! In just a couple of minutes, thousands of people will be watching you live on Channel 7. You watch good old Channel 7 News don't ya? Sure you do."

I nodded eagerly, thinking of Pick Temple. ☆

To be continued in the April issue of Shalom.

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Deadline for applications is April 1, 2011. Applications can be requested from JFS or downloaded from the JFS page at <http://www.jewishlexington.org>.

To obtain an application or more information, please contact Paula Clancy, Director of Jewish Family Services, at (859) 269-8244 or via email at jfs@jewishlexington.org.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

jfs

Israel Bonds launches 2011 campaign

Finance Minister hails Israel Bonds an "Anchor of Stability"

A night of extensive highlights culminated with the announcement of \$140 million in Israel bond sales and commitments to purchase as the Bonds organization officially launched its 2011 campaign on January 30 in Boca Raton, Florida.

The campaign inaugural, hosted by television icon Henry Winkler and chaired by Bonds National Chairman Fred Zeidman, featured the presentation of the Theodor Herzl Commemorative Medallion to 11 distinguished recipients.

Bonds President and CEO Joshua Matza, who will be returning to Israel in the coming months after heading the organization for over nine years, received a special tribute led by Finance Minister Yuval Steinitz. In his remarks, the finance minister - who praised Israel Bonds as "an anchor of stability" - called Matza's achievements "remarkable," citing accomplishments in sales and promoting a positive image of Israel. Following his remarks, the finance minister joined in presenting Matza with a special sculpture created by renowned Israeli artist Frank Meisler.

Joining in the presentation were Chairman of the Board Richard Hirsch, Vice Chairman David Halpern and immediate past chairman Michael Siegal.

In his acceptance, Matza said Israel Bonds and its supporters were building "a beautiful state - the homeland that belongs to all of us." Over the course of Matza's tenure, the organization has realized more than \$11 billion in worldwide sales.

Recipients of the Theodor Herzl Commemorative Medallion were: Frances Chan and Richard Allen, New York; Beth and Marc Andler, Boston; Sandra and Malcolm Berman, Baltimore; Sandy and Stanley Bobb, Washington, D.C.; Nancy and Alan Bomstein, Tampa; Alvin Lloyd Brown, Miami; Marian and Leo Goldner, Toledo; Anne and Norman Jacobson, Palm Beach; Sharyn and Bert Model, New Jersey; Beverly Sandler, Chicago; and Ann and Murray Spain, Philadelphia.

Development Corporation for Israel/State of Israel Bonds, which has been consistently praised by international ratings agencies Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch, as well as the IMF, offers securities issued by the government of Israel in the United States. Israel has never defaulted and maintains a perfect record on payment of principal and interest on securities it has issued. Capital realized from the sale of bonds has been utilized to develop every facet of Israel's economy. ☆

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March 2011 *Shalom* | 7

SIM SHALOM NEWS

By Jesse Weil, from Budapest, Hungary

January was a very quiet month; no holidays or other special events. We just shoveled snow and tried to avoid falling on the ice, just as you've been doing.

But now we're gearing up for our second big fund-raising campaign to bring in the money we need to pay the rent on our fine new premises. Last year's campaign was very successful; in fact even better than we'd hoped for. In Hungary, it's traditional for religious institutions to get most of their financial support from the national government. This support goes to the Catholics, the Protestants and the Jews. The only problem is that the money always goes to some umbrella organization, which then distributes it to the individual congregations, schools, hospitals, etc. In Hungary, the Jewish umbrella organization is controlled by the Neolog movement in Judaism. The Neologs were a reform group in Hungary about 150 years ago, starting many progressive innovations in services and Jewish life. It consisted of the people who didn't want to follow the more strict customs and laws of the Orthodox. But over the decades, it has evolved into a much more conservative movement; sort of an Orthodox Light. So now, for them, Reform or Progressive Judaism is not considered to be "real" Judaism. We allow women to

have equal rights and responsibilities in the synagogue and even to become Rabbis. The upshot is that they feel it would be wrong to share any of the government financial support for the Jewish religion with the Reform movement. And it's not just the money! Though there are empty synagogues in Budapest that the Neologs control, they wouldn't think of letting us use one. So Sim Shalom is on it's own with respect to financial support, and finding premises.

Last year when we found our present new synagogue, we had our first big internal fundraising campaign in order to raise the money to pay the rent and utilities. The result was an increase in donations from our members by more than a factor of three. They really stepped up and came through with the money not only to pay the rent, but to buy much of the furniture that was needed. In the meantime, we've added many new members to the congregation, attracted by the beautiful synagogue space and the new programs we've been able to start. So I'm hopeful that this year's campaign will be even more successful. I think it will because our members are starting to learn that *tzedakah* is an integral part of Jewish community life. We've even managed to run two fundraisers during the year for other worthy causes. So wish us luck as we go out to raise the rent. ☆

JFS: At Your Service

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

Two Resources Recommended by JFS Committee members

Frequently folks call to share new or updated resources with me so that I can help spread the word in the Jewish Community. This month I would like to highlight two recommendations from members of our Jewish Family Services Committee.

It's tax time again and Dawn Verney, who is with United Way 2-1-1, shared that taxpayer assistance is available by dialing 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment. If your household income was less than \$49,000 in 2010 the Central Kentucky Empowerment Project (CK-EEP) provides free tax preparation and filing.

This free service can have your tax refund to you in just 7-10 days. For most people this saves an average of \$150-\$300 tax preparation fees. CKEEP also promotes two tax credits—the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit. Each year thousand of people could qualify for these tax credits, yet many fail to claim them.

Evelyn Geller, JFS Chair,

brought to my attention two publications which are available compliments of UK Health Care by calling 1-800-333-8874. "Long Distance Caregiving" provides a checklist of suggestions to help you know if your loved one who lives out of town is getting the help he or she needs.

"So Far Away" is an excellent booklet for long distance caregivers which provides answers to many questions about how to know if help is needed, how to share decision making within the family, and keeping up with needs for more care related to medical changes and futures planning.

I appreciate any resource information our readers would like to share. In addition, I hope that you will call me at 269-8244 so that we can put heads together to help with your particular situation. ☆



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For more information about this program visit
www.itnbluegrass.org or call 859-252-8665.

Diabetes and Passover

By Hanna B. Smith

Jewish Holidays with their emphasis on food present a challenge for the diabetic, and none more so than Passover. Matzah, haroset, wine and grape juice are high in carbohydrates, as are many dishes traditionally served at the Seder meal, such as matzah balls, carrot tsimmes, compotes made from dried fruit, and potato kugel. Help is available, though.

The Jewish Diabetes Association (www.jewishdiabetes.org, e-mail: nechama@jewishdiabetes.org) issues an annual newsletter with comprehensive information on how to have a healthy and enjoyable Passover while meeting the holiday's religious obligations. The newsletter addresses the needs of Type 1, Type 2, and Gestational Diabetes.

There is information on when to take and how to adjust an insulin dosage to meet the later than usual eating time and other requirements of the Seder. As with all medical needs, the Jewish Diabetes Association recommends that individuals check with their health care provider first. Oral diabetes medications are kosher for Passover, according to the newsletter, but vitamin supplements may not be so. *Ensure*, a nutritional supplement that some diabetics take, is considered chametz. In case of doubt about a needed food or medication, diabetics are advised to check with a Rav, a rabbi qualified to make decisions about what is permissible for Passover.

The carbohydrate content of various types of matzah is discussed as well as the minimum amount that will fulfill the mitzvah of eating matzah. Rabbi Yisrael Rice, a Chabad rabbi with whom I consulted, recommended spelt matzah because of its higher fiber content. Dietary fiber can be subtracted from carbohydrates.

The newsletter discusses the requirement of drinking four cups of wine or grape juice in detail. There is also a list of popular kosher wines and grape juice and their carbohydrate contents. The Jewish Diabetes Association also issues a brief sheet discussing insulin use on Passover.

Mailing address of the Jewish Diabetes Association is: 1205 East 29th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11210. Telephone: 718-303-5955.

The newsletter also contains a few Passover food recipes. For a more extensive list of Passover recipes go to www.cinnamonhearts.com/Passover-Pleas04.htm. You will find seventeen pages of recipes under the heading of Passover Pleasures. Use caution though: while carbohydrates in each recipe stay within recommended limits some ingredients nevertheless push these limits. Two or more of these dishes eaten together may exceed the amount of carbohydrates that your body can handle safely.

Personally, I plan to keep Passover simple this year.
Chag Sameach!

Attention proud grandparents, parents, and students

We want to publish any original writing produced by our community's elementary- and high-school-age children. If you're proud of something written by one of our kids, either fiction or non-fiction, please email it to shalom@jewishlexington.org

"Lunch and learn with our Lexington community rabbis"

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At 12 noon on the last Tuesday of each month, in the JFB office, rabbis, on a rotating basis, will be discussing the holidays, the Torah portion of the week, and other topics of interest. A dairy lunch will be offered at a nominal charge. If you are interested in attending, please call Judy Wortman at 268-0672 so we can order lunch for you.



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March 2011 Shalom | 9

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Please pardon any inadvertent errors or omissions.

JFB 2011 budget continues efficiency focus

Campaign decrease results in tough choices; more support needed

By Bill Lucas, JFB Treasurer

The JFB Board approved the 2011 budget on January 30, 2011. Unfortunately, the positive direction experienced in 2009 did not continue in 2010. As a result some very difficult actions were required.

Despite the challenging economic conditions, JFB ended 2009 with Campaign income of \$327,000, which was an increase from the 2008 Campaign of \$311,000. However, the 2010 Campaign ended at approximately \$309,000. Although there was a net increase in the number of new donors, the gifts by these donors did not offset decreases in other gifts. The Lexington community continues to respond to these uncertain

economic times with caution, which directly influences our Campaign results. This is certainly understandable, as we all know family members or friends who have been impacted by the fragile state of the economy. Unfortunately, it is during these times when the Jewish community needs the JFB's resources the most.

The JFB Board is maintaining the prudent and responsible approach of budgeting the upcoming year's expenses based on the results of last year's income. The approved balanced budget for 2011 is \$340,225, which includes campaign income as of 12/31/10 of \$309,000. This total budget also includes program income such as Camp Shalom tuition, advertis-

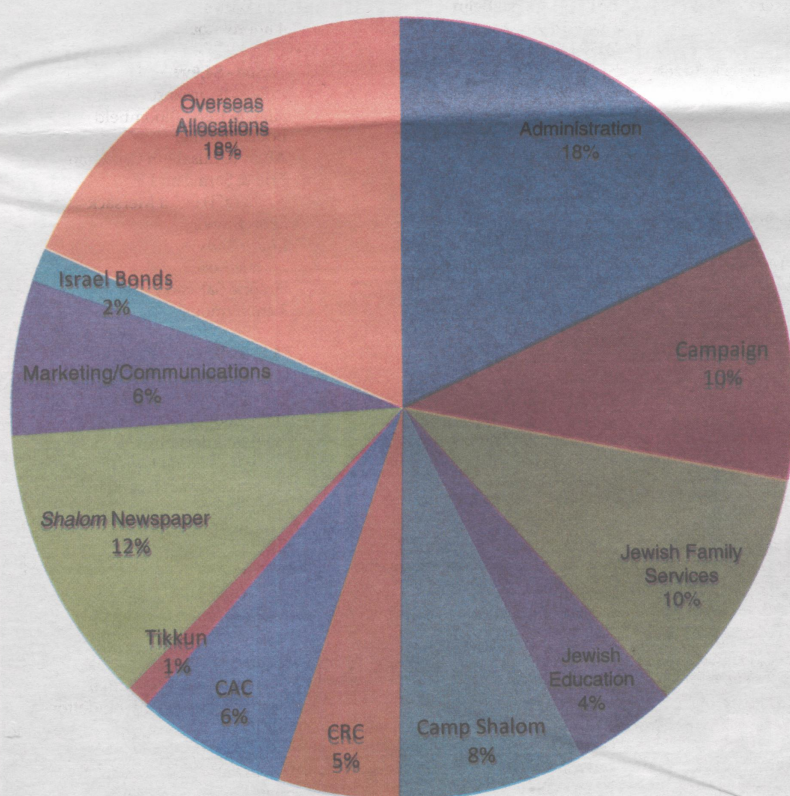
ing revenue, special contributions, etc. Our campaign income in 2010 proved a stark reminder that the economic recovery may take much longer than any of us would like. As the JFB adjusts to this lower level of support, it is important to share details of the relentless focus on reducing expenses so we can maximize the impact of our contributions.

The JFB staff did an admirable job of slashing expenses wherever possible. This includes significant reductions in expenses such as insurance and accounting services. Additionally, all staff travel or participation in regional, national programs and conferences was eliminated. Program subsidies were also decreased. Even with these reductions, the Board was forced to make one of the hardest decisions it could: the elimination of a staff position. As JFB President Linda Ravvin shared in the last edition of Shalom, the Community Activities Director position was eliminated. Please know that this decision was not made without exploring every alternative and engaging in extensive discussion. While the JFB will continue to look for every opportunity to reduce expenses further, we must be equally diligent about finding ways to increase Campaign results.

Why is Campaign so critical?

The donations made to the Campaign are what enable the impact the JFB can have on the Jewish community here in Lexington and across the world. As a reminder, the JFB does not provide funds to the State of Israel or other government organizations. All of your gifts go directly to non-governmental organizations that help those in need and enrich Jewish culture. For example, expense savings were re-allocated to efforts such as increasing the amount for "camperships," scholarships for children to attend Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher as well as other Jewish, non-profit resident camps in the region. As was also discussed in the last issue of Shalom, several members of the community donated above and beyond their typical Campaign contribution to start the PJ Library initiative here in Lexington. Additionally, JFB made it a priority to maintain its allocations to special initiatives such as the Ben Yakir Equine and music programs in Israel. Finally, the Board agreed to keep the replenishment of our endowment funds on track so that in the future, we can utilize these endowments once again as a prudent source of programming. Considering the variety of tough decisions made in finalizing the 2011 budget, it is only appropriate to close with a sincere request for additional support. In previous years, the Campaign approached the \$400,000 level and our recent results are moving in the wrong direction. Tzedakah is one of the tenets of our lives as Jews and the JFB is an excellent way to ensure that your tzedakah is distributed efficiently. Therefore, when approached to give to the 2011 Campaign, please pause and think of all the good that can be done by increasing your gift.

2011 Budget



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College of Fine Arts

www.UKOperaTheatre.org

Ask A Rabbi

Rabbi David Wortman

Q: Why is milk not fleishik since it comes from a cow?

A: The simple answer is that milk is a product of the cow, not the cow itself. Also, one does not have to kill the cow to get the milk. In a similar way, peanut oil is permitted on Pesach – but not peanut butter. The oil is the product of the peanut, not the peanut itself. If you smash the peanut, the oil comes out. Peanut butter is the smashed peanut and, therefore, forbidden. (Peanuts are legumes.)

This may seem like splitting hairs to non-observant Jews. Yet to understand the origins of the laws is to grasp the nature of its development over three thousand years.

One of the earliest references to kashrut in the Torah may be from the story of Noah and the Ark. We are first told that Noah took one pair of each animal onto the Ark. Then, suddenly, we are told that he took one pair of the unclean animals and seven pairs of the clean animals. Why the discrepancy? Modern scholars would posit that the two versions derive from different authors, namely J and E. However, another interpretation is that the one pair concept was meant to represent that Noah was concerned with perpetuation of the species of each animal on Earth. The seven pair of clean and one pair of unclean was engendered by Noah's desire to make a distinction

between kosher and non-kosher to show the people that God favors those animals that are not forbidden to the Israelites. In Noah's eyes there was no contradiction.

Biblical kashrut is simple. We are given a few sets of instructions and various lists of those animals that we can eat and those that we cannot. The much more detailed set of rules is to be found in the Talmud, particularly in tractate Hulin. To the traditional Jew, the Talmud represents the Oral Law of divine origin, just as the Torah is the Written Law of divine origin. Therefore, all of these details come from God and are inviolable.

Many more questions concerning kashrut arose over the years. New foods would be encountered. New materials would be used for cooking and serving implements. Each of these queries would challenge the biblical and Talmudic explication of the Law. The new questions would be submitted to learned rabbis who would answer them. The collection of these answers is called Responsa. The Responsa literature has grown over hundreds of years since the completion of the Talmud in the 4th century.

So what has all of this to do with why milk is not fleishik? It shows us that the laws of kashrut have been an evolving set of principles meant to give us guidance. Furthermore, a study of the Responsa would show that another

major theme is the juxtaposition between strict adherence to the Law and the practical realities of everyday living. It would not be practical to slaughter a cow every time one needed milk. Moreover, not only cows give milk. All mammals do. The separation of milk from meat would consequently apply to all kinds of milk and all varieties of kosher meat.

This has been a cursory and, in some ways, simplistic look at kashrut. The full set of Laws is complex and requires every mashgiach years of learning to begin to have a mastery of the subject. If you have a question about kashrut, it is best to ask your rabbi. Bon appetit. ✧

Have a question?

Ask a rabbi

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

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

TAI adult choir formed

By Debra Booker

TAI is thrilled to announce the formation of its Adult Choir, "Shir Adat"—roughly translated as "song of community." It consists of about 12 members who practice every Sunday morning, under the incredibly talented and creative director, Lorne Dechtenberg. Lorne is a professional, dedicated, and energetic leader; he is a great singer, composer, writer, actor and plays multiple instruments. Lorne is a recent transplant from Houston, Texas where he attended the University of Houston on a National Merit Scholarship earning multiple degrees in Music Composition. Lorne grew up in South Florida and has been singing since before he could talk. The music and arts are in his blood; he is the great-great grandson of the chief musician to Russia's last czar.

He got to Lexington by way of a multi-year fellowship to the University

of Kentucky; he accepted the prestigious award and has since completed degrees in Composition and Orchestral Conducting. He has written 4 operas, 3 musicals, 2 TV pilots, a symphony, and a book about music theory. He is currently Co-Founder and Artistic Director of the Bluegrass Opera. TAI feels blessed to have such a talent donate his time and energy to the congregation, to help build community and shared spirit through the making and sharing of music.

Shir Adat, TAI Adult Choir, will be singing Friday, March 18 at 7:30 pm and Friday, April 29 at 7:30 pm. They will sing approximately every 6 weeks. Please check the TAI bulletin for dates.

For more information on Lorne Dechtenberg, please visit www.talenthouse.com/lorne.

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah invites you to our Annual Fundraiser

COME TO THE CABARET

featuring Lorne Dechtenberg and Friends

Sunday April 10, 2011 5:00 p.m.

\$30.00 per person

Temple Adath Israel 120 North Ashland Avenue

Live Music & Entertainment "Big Bucks" Raffle Drawing Games & Prizes Fabulous Food Beer and Wine Live Auction

RSVP by April 6, 2011 to Gayle Bourne at lexhadassah@yahoo.com or 859-312-0359

B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Ruth Poley

I am so over this winter, and I'm sure I'm not alone. While I would love to be giving you a recipe for fresh peaches or a great salad, the truth is we're not quite out of the woods yet. For the last gasp of winter, and as a bridge to lighter foods to come, I'm offering this simple vegetable soup. It's easy to make and, while not quite substantial enough to serve as dinner, would make a lovely lunch or a nice first course for dinner. Enjoy it, and keep thinking spring thoughts. This recipe is from New York Times food columnist, Mark Bittman.

The best vegetable soup ever, no kidding (Mark Bittman's title for this recipe).

Makes 10 servings

Ingredients

3/4 cup olive oil, more or less
2 onions, peeled and chopped
2 carrots, peeled and chopped
2 celery stalks, peeled and chopped
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 bunch parsley, washed and chopped, thick stems discarded
2 or 3 cabbage leaves, chopped
1 bunch chard, preferably white, washed and chopped
1/4 cup tomato paste
3 to 4 cups cooked white beans, like cannellini, with their liquid if possible

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

Preparation

Put about a third of the olive oil in the bottom of a deep pot and turn the heat to medium. Add half the onion, carrot and celery, and cook, stirring occasionally, until they soften, which takes about 10 minutes. Add about half of the remaining oil and repeat the process, seasoning with salt and pepper as you go. Add the remaining oil with the parsley, cabbage and chard, and cook, stirring occasionally, until everything is softened but not browned. Add the tomato paste and stir.

Mash the beans so that they're about half mashed and half more-or-less whole. Add this mixture to the pot, along with any bean cooking liquid and enough water to make the whole mixture stewy but not watery. Continue cooking, tasting and adjusting the seasoning as necessary, until all the vegetables are very tender and the soup is hot. Serve hot or warm. ☆



Ruth Poley receives special award

The night was cold and there were patches of ice around, but the atmosphere inside Fulin's Restaurant was warm and inviting. Over 100 attendees enjoyed the food, the lighting of Hanukkah candles, and the camaraderie of December 5.

Linda Ravvin, President of the JFB, welcomed everyone and announced a very special award. Linda reminded everyone that Ruth Poley was retiring as Editor-in-Chief of *Shalom*. Linda recounted Ruth's many contributions to the paper over the past 10 years, and presented Ruth with the "Ruth Gerard Poley Award for Excellence in Writing"

which will be awarded at the Annual Meeting on June 1, and subsequently given annually.

Ruth accepted the award and commented that she was "touched and honored" and that she would still contribute to the paper; she promised to continue to provide her B'tayavon column. Ruth encouraged the assembled group to support the paper and the new editorial staff as they carry on the commitment to provide the "Jewish community with information regarding the Federation and the organizations it serves."

Hadassah's 2010-2011 Donor Campaign

Kathie Kroot, Donor Chair

Imagine having Kaddish said for a loved one beneath these beautiful windows at the Chagall Chapel in the Abbell Synagogue at Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Jerusalem. During this year's Donor Campaign, five Hadassah members committed to *Perpetual Yahrzeits* for their loved ones who will forever be remembered during the *mincha* (afternoon) service on the anniversary of their death.

You too may wish to honor a loved one with a *Perpetual Yahrzeit*. A tax-deductible donation of \$1,000.00 to Hadassah will insure your loved one is always remembered. Choose from payment plans of \$250 for 4 months or \$100.00 for 10 months, or write one check to Hadassah for the entire amount. If you have any questions, or would like a *Perpetual Yahrzeit* form, please call me at 269-8034. Checks can be sent to Kathie Kroot, 500 Laketower Drive, Unit 69, Lexington, KY 40502. ☆

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Lynn Furness, President

By Lynn Furness

On the 14th of Adar, we celebrate the Festival of Purim, a minor holiday connected to an historical event. The Book of Esther in the Bible recounts the events that this holiday celebrates. Most of us are very familiar with the story of Esther and how she saved the Jews of Persia in the fifth century B.C.E. She did so by risking her life to enter the presence of King Ahasuerus, without prior permission, an act punishable by death. Esther did this to seek annulment of the decree by the King's second in command, Haman, to exterminate the Jews of Persia.

What many may not know is that Esther's Hebrew birth name was Hadassah. Hadassah means myrtle. Myrtle, one of the sacred plants of Sukkot, is said to represent those who have good deeds to their credit. How fitting that Henrietta Szold and her colleagues chose the Hebrew name of a Jewish heroine for the organization they started in 1912. From the beginning, Hadassah has followed the example of Queen Esther (née Hadassah) in doing good deeds for Jews and non-Jews alike. Starting with basic health care treatment and education in Palestine, Hadassah's efforts have grown into a world-renowned medical organization.

As Esther took a risk in going to the King to seek mercy for her people many centuries ago, Hadassah took a risk in this century to build the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower. Designed to enable Hadassah's exceptional health-care professionals to extend their trailblazing work, the Tower will have additional space for individualized medical treatments, gene and stem cell research, computer-guided surgery and other groundbreaking advances.

A sophisticated communications infrastructure will support seamless integration of all clinical and research projects and make patient information immediately available.

As medical modes and patients' needs continue to change, so will the flexible interior of the Tower. It will be easily adaptable to incorporate the pressures of progress with minimal disruption to patient care and comfort. The building also includes many environmentally friendly innovations including the use of residual heat to conserve energy and fuel-saving recycling of condensation water from the steam system.

The Tower isn't only about the state of the art building though. It is really about the people who will receive medical care in the Tower. With soothing healing gardens, rooms tailored to patient needs and a comprehensive resource center, it will provide a therapeutic environment for patients and their families. The Tower will be a fitting addition to Hadassah Medical Organization, which is a beacon for everyone who needs medical care in Israel and around the world.

As we read the *megillah* this year, let us be re-inspired by Queen Esther's acts and renew our dedication to Hadassah, her worthy successor. May the heroic efforts of this organization meet with as much success as our ancestors achieved. And, in the spirit of Purim and its tradition of *shalachmones* (sending gifts), if you wish to make a donation to Hadassah Medical Organization or the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower, visit www.hadassah.org or contact the Fundraising Vice President of the Lexington Chapter, Pat Marx, at 231-9553 or the President, Lynn Furness, at 873-0328. ☆

The Lexington Havurah

Jeremy Popkin, President

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

New Life for the Jewish Past

By Jeremy Popkin, Havurah President

In addition to my position as president of the Lexington Havurah, I am also a faculty member in the UK History Department. For the past several months, it has been my privilege to oversee a job search that should have resulted, by the time this column appears, in the hiring of my department's first full-time specialist in the field of Jewish history. It has been a stimulating opportunity for me to see what is going on in this lively academic field these days.

When most people think about Jewish history, they are likely to think about a few dramatic episodes: the kingdom of David and Solomon, the Roman destruction of the Second Temple, the "Golden Age" of Spain, the influx of East European Jews into New York's Lower East Side, the Holocaust.

The dozens of candidates who applied when we advertised our position, trained at universities in the US, Britain, Israel, Germany and Russia, ranged far more widely. Surprisingly few of them deal with any of the topics I've just listed. Instead, they have delved into Jewish experience in a wide variety of less well-known times and places: Italy during the Renaissance, Turkish Palestine in the eighteenth century, Poland after the Holocaust.

The subjects of their research were rarely the big names most of us remember from Jewish Sunday school: we had no applicants who had focused

on Rabbi Hillel, Moses Maimonides, Moses Mendelssohn or Theodor Herzl. Instead, my colleagues on the search committee and I read about Jewish brides in ancient Palestine, young Jewish revolutionaries in early twentieth-century Russia, and municipal administrators in Tel Aviv during the 1948 war.

Virtually all of our applicants were determined to make it clear that they did not belong to the "lachrymose" school of Jewish history, in which the story of the Jewish people is seen as a long tale of suffering and persecution, culminating in the Holocaust. Instead, they were determined to show that, wherever they have lived, Jews have established vibrant communities and lived fulfilling lives. This was as true of the scholars dealing with the Talmudic period as it was of the surprisingly numerous applicants working in the new field of "Israel studies."

Many of these young (at least by my standards) scholars have also challenged the idea of Jewish history as a world unto itself, closed off from the history of the other peoples among whom Jews have lived. Their research projects stress the wide range of interactions between Jews and non-Jews across the centuries.

Jews are given to worrying about the future, but my exposure to the new work being done on Jewish history has reassured me that our past is in good hands. I'm sorry that we can only hire one applicant from among this pool of lively minds. But I am hopeful that my new colleague will do a good job introducing UK students to exciting new visions of the Jewish past.

Attention proud grandparents, parents, and students

We want to publish any original writing produced by our community's elementary- and high-school-age children. If you're proud of something written by one of our kids, either fiction or non-fiction, please email it to shalom@jewishlexington.org

More offerings for Passover

By Sharon Thompson, Herald- Leader Food Writer
Reprinted with permission

The Manischewitz Company has added more than 25 items to its Passover products list.

Manischewitz, the company that has made Kosher foods since 1888, is

introducing new candy, baking mixes, breakfast items and ready-to-serve freezer items, including blintzes and sweet potato pancakes. The company also has a new health and wellness icon that will be placed on matzo, macaroons, soups, condiments and meal ingredients to show that the product is all natural and has no MSG or other artificial ingredients. Go to Manischewitz.com.

Advertise Your Business

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

Month-To-Month Rates

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

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

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

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

Rates for contracted terms (per issue)**

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

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

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

Deadline

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

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



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Temple Adath Israel

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

"Finding a Jewish Path While the Ground Shifts Beneath Us"

Here are the upcoming dates for Larry Kant's class at Temple Adath Israel: **March 6, April 17, May 15.** We meet at 10 a.m. in the Sisterhood Lounge.

We study sacred Jewish texts, including Bible, Midrash, Talmud/Mishnah, and Kabbalah, to explore how we can adapt story and tradition to a life of wisdom. We look at language and wording, multiple interpretations and meanings, historical context, and mystical significance. Right now we are exploring the life of Jacob and are in the midst of discussing Jacob's dream vision on his way from Beer Sheva to Haran in Genesis 28.

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

Rabbi Kline's Introduction to Judaism class is open to the Lexington Community as well as the Temple family. If you are interested in learning about Judaism, plan to sign up for this class and meet new friends and expand your knowledge. The class dates are **Sundays, March 27, April 3, 10, 17, & 24 beginning at 3 PM.** - Call Sandee at the Temple office for more information.

Sisterhood:

Thank you, thank you, thank you Sisterhood members! I can't thank you enough for supporting Sisterhood. A portion of your dues is budgeted for leadership development. Because of your support, I was able to attend the Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) Leadership Conference in San Francisco Feb. 4-6. The weekend's exciting and educational agenda offered workshops to help improve leadership skills, networking time with WRJ lead-

ers and staff as well as other Sisterhood members from across the country and Canada, a variety of informative guest speakers, and spiritually uplifting Shabbat celebrations. Mimi Kaufman attended this conference as well. We are so proud that Mimi is now the Southwest Area Director of the Central District. She is the liaison between the Sisterhoods in her assigned area and our district board. We can't wait to share the things we learned this weekend. We came back to Lexington rejuvenated and eager to get to work to continue building our membership and improving our programs. Thanks again to our fantastic members. We are stronger together.

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Sisterhood Members Only Brunch will be held on Saturday, April 10 at 10:00 AM at Rebecca Young's home.

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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.

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Are you on the Jewish Federation's email list?

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

tamara@jewishlexington.org



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

CONGREGATIONAL PASSOVER SEDER

Tuesday Evening, April 19, 2011

Temple Adath Israel

6:00 P.M.

Reservations required by Tuesday, April 12, 2011 - must be accompanied by check. There will be a late charge of \$5.00 per person after Tuesday, April 12

	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
Adults	\$16.00	\$19.00
Children (12 & under)	\$ 8.00	\$10.00

Make check payable to: Adath Israel Sisterhood

Send reservations to:

Leona Stern, 704 Kirkland Drive, Lexington, KY 40502
or Passover Seder c/o Temple Adath Israel, 124 N. Ashland Avenue, Lexington, KY 40502

Menu: Matzoh Ball Soup, Gefilte Fish, Chicken, Brisket, Oven-browned potatoes, Assorted Vegetables, Dessert, Wine, Juice, and Coffee.

RESERVATION FORM MUST BE RETURNED BY April 12, 2011.
ONLY 200 SEATS AVAILABLE.



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Purim Events

The OZS Religious School will celebrate Purim with a carnival on March 20th from 10:00AM to 2:00PM.

The OZS Youth Group will be baking and selling Hamentaschen. Several flavors will be available. The deadline to order is March 8th. Call the OZS office at 266-8050 or check the website (www.ozs.org) for pricing and updates on flavor selections.

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Event

Joint Sisterhood/Brotherhood meeting: 'Pushing Up Daisies'... Making a planned transition - March 27th, 1:00-3:00 pm in the OZS Social Hall. Speakers TBA. Contact the OZS office for additional information and updates.

Kids' Shabbat & PJ Library

A monthly Friday evening Shabbat for children ages 4-9, with pizza, song, stories, and schmoozing - 5:15 pm on March 4th.

Shabbat Dinner

Come for Shabbat dinner and socializing and enjoy some singing and

learning as well. Please R.S.V.P. to the OZS office to make your reservation for this fun event. (266-8050 or ozslex@insightbb.com) The next Shabbat Dinner is scheduled for 6:00 pm on March 11th.

Young Professionals' Shabbat

Young Jewish Professionals in their 20's and 30's get together Fabulous Friday Nights for Food, Fun and Festivities. Please join us and feel free to bring friends. The next Young Professionals' Shabbat is scheduled for 6:00 pm on March 25th.

Community/Chazak Shabbat

Join us as our religious school shifts this day from Sunday to Shabbat. Students will join in leading services. Parents will have a chance to learn with the rabbi. And the whole community will celebrate Shabbat together. *(As a special celebration, this Community Shabbat we will be honoring the elders of our community).* Community Shabbat this month is on March 26th.

Bible Study

Wednesdays at noon: This month we

will continue our exploration of the Book of Samuel.

Friday Morning Talmud Study

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

Weekday Minyan and Learning

A Minyan is held each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at 5:45pm in the Sanctuary. On Tuesdays we talk about prayer, and on Thursdays we explore the teachings of Reb Nachman. Please come, learn, and help make a minyan!

D'Vine Minyan on Tuesdays

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

March Shabbat Schedule

Celebrate Shabbat! The Friday night schedule for March is:

March 4th - Kids' Shabbat at 5:15PM

March 11th - Shabbat Dinner at 6:00PM

March 18th - Kabbalat Shabbat at 5:45PM

March 25th - Young Professionals' Shabbat at 6:00PM

We hope you will also join us for our spirited Shabbat Morning Service each Saturday morning at 9:30am 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 269-1585.



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Send reservations to:

Leona Stern, 704 Kirkland Drive, Lexington, KY 40502
or Passover Seder c/o Temple Adath Israel, 124 N. Ashland Avenue, Lexington, KY 40502

Menu: Matzoh Ball Soup, Gefilte Fish, Chicken, Brisket, Oven-browned potatoes, Assorted Vegetables, Dessert, Wine, Juice, and Coffee.

RESERVATION FORM MUST BE RETURNED BY April 12, 2011.
ONLY 200 SEATS AVAILABLE.



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269-2979**

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Purim Events

The OZS Religious School will celebrate Purim with a carnival on March 20th from 10:00AM to 2:00PM.

The OZS Youth Group will be baking and selling Hamantaschen. Several flavors will be available. The deadline to order is March 8th. Call the OZS office at 266-8050 or check the website (www.ozs.org) for pricing and updates on flavor selections.

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Event

Joint Sisterhood/Brotherhood meeting: 'Pushing Up Daisies'... Making a planned transition - March 27th, 1:00-3:00 pm in the OZS Social Hall. Speakers TBA. Contact the OZS office for additional information and updates.

Kids' Shabbat & PJ Library

A monthly Friday evening Shabbat for children ages 4-9, with pizza, song, stories, and schmoozing - 5:15 pm on March 4th.

Shabbat Dinner

Come for Shabbat dinner and socializing and enjoy some singing and

learning as well. Please R.S.V.P. to the OZS office to make your reservation for this fun event. (266-8050 or ozslex@insightbb.com) The next Shabbat Dinner is scheduled for 6:00 pm on March 11th.

Young Professionals' Shabbat

Young Jewish Professionals in their 20's and 30's get together Fabulous Friday Nights for Food, Fun and Festivities. Please join us and feel free to bring friends. The next Young Professionals' Shabbat is scheduled for 6:00 pm on March 25th.

Community/Chazak Shabbat

Join us as our religious school shifts this day from Sunday to Shabbat. Students will join in leading services. Parents will have a chance to learn with the rabbi. And the whole community will celebrate Shabbat together. (As a special celebration, this Community Shabbat we will be honoring the elders of our community). Community Shabbat this month is on March 26th.

Bible Study

Wednesdays at noon: This month we

will continue our exploration of the Book of Samuel.

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 7:30am followed by a light breakfast and study. Newcomers are always welcome!

Weekday Minyan and Learning

A Minyan is held each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at 5:45pm in the Sanctuary. On Tuesdays we talk about prayer, and on Thursdays we explore the teachings of Reb Nachman. Please come, learn, and help make a minyan!

D'Vine Minyan on Tuesdays

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

March Shabbat Schedule

Celebrate Shabbat! The Friday night schedule for March is:

March 4th - Kids' Shabbat at 5:15PM

March 11th - Shabbat Dinner at 6:00PM

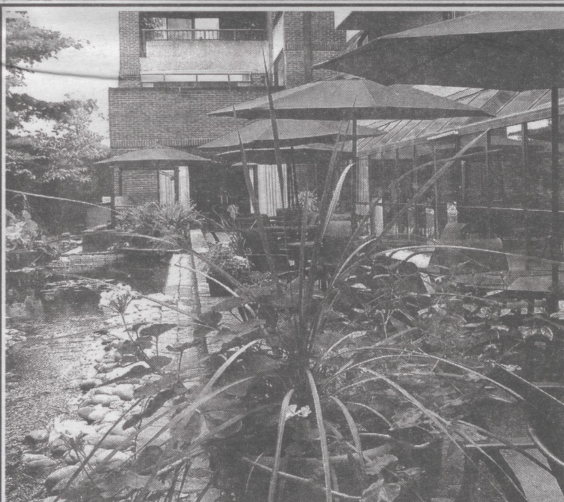
March 18th - Kabbalat Shabbat at 5:45PM

March 25th - Young Professionals' Shabbat at 6:00PM

We hope you will also join us for our spirited Shabbat Morning Service each Saturday morning at 9:30am 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 269-1585.



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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 mitzvot, we do not have the resources or staff to collect information or research each item. If you would like to see an event or life passage in your family acknowledged here, please be sure we get the full and correct information as you would like to see it printed. Send notices to shalom@jewishlexington.org. Remember, we welcome photos, too!

The Stanley Rose Lodge of B'nai Brith is pleased to announce our open brunch with featured speaker, newly elected Mayor Jim Gray on Sunday, March 13th, starting at 10:00 AM at the Doubletree Hotel, Richmond Road and New Circle (same as last year). Remember it is daylight savings time.

The meeting is open to the community and the cost is \$20 per person, which will include lox, bagels, eggs, and coffee, etc. Please RSVP to BBBRUNCH@COM-CAST.NET by March 9th.

Attention book lovers...what have you read lately that you just can't wait to tell your friends about? Here's a chance to share it. Join us the third Thursday of each month for TAI Book Club at 7:30pm in the Sisterhood Lounge to gather and discuss our favorite books. Our focus will be books by Jewish authors or with Jewish themes. Nosh, schmooze and discover new titles and old favorites. Next meeting: Thursday March 17
Thursday April 21
Thursday May 19

TAI will be starting a new monthly class with Rabbi Kline called: "Torah Lishmah - A Look at Jewish Traditions with Rabbi Kline" It's starting in March and will generally be the second Thursday of each month. Topics will be varied and interesting, always encouraging introspection and discussion. Topics may pertain to upcoming holidays/seasons and also topics we've always wondered about but never thought to ask! Classes will last approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours.

Mazel tov to...

Mike Ades who was appointed as Treasurer of the LFUCG Human Rights Commission.

Gail Cohen on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter **Robin Silver**. Robin, who is the daughter of **Elaine and Steven Silver** of Chicago, has been a camper at Camp Shalom. Gail was one of the founders of Camp Shalom.

Jonathan Miller was named "Person of the Year" by the Kentucky Conservation Committee for his efforts in the area of "Green" energy initiatives for state government as Secretary of the Finance Cabinet.

Jana LaZur and Eric LaZur on the upcoming Bar Mitzvah of their son **Kevin Tyler** on Shabbat, April 2, 2011

Condolences to ...

Harold and Claire Weinberg on the death of Harold's father, **Aaron Weinberg**

Tamara Ohayon on the death of her grandfather, **Simon Ohayon**

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Gayle Bourne and Renee Reynolds would like to announce The Miqvah Foundation of the Bluegrass

This is a new not-for-profit organization that is forming for the purpose of constructing a non-sectarian, egalitarian Miqvah facility on Lexington. We would like to organize a meeting for the purpose of writing a charter, completing incorporation papers and creating a 5 year plan toward the MFB's goals for small yet attractive facility. Please contact Gayle Bourne at 859-268-8663 (home) or email miqvah@windstream.net for more information.

STAFF WANTED FOR CAMP 2011

Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher are now accepting applications for staff positions. Both camps will be in session from July 25 to August 5, 2011.



Camp Shalom - *Ofarim* - campers ages 4 and 5
Tsolim - campers ages 6 and 7
Chalutzim - campers ages 8 to 10
Camp Gesher - campers ages 11 to 15

Counselors must be above the age of 15. Counselors-in-training must be at least 14 years of age.



Staff are responsible for supervising and engaging their campers, ensuring their well-being throughout the day, and assisting, or sometimes leading, programs. Individuals who feel they have expertise or experience in a particular specialty area should mention these abilities in their applications.

Interviews will be held at JFB. Please call ahead to arrange a time.

Applications may be obtained through the JFB office or online at www.jewishlexington.org by following the links to Camp Shalom.



Call 859.268.0672 or email to jfb@jewishlexington.org for more information.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



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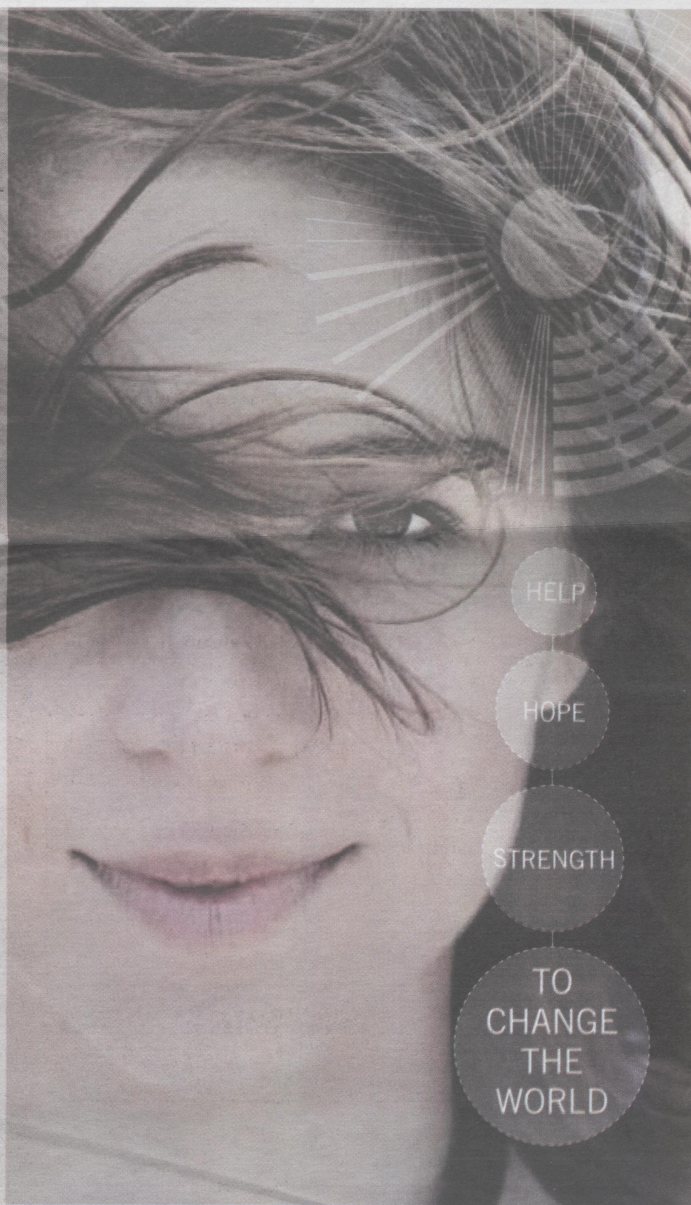
It's a promise that social services and community organizations will remain strong and active for all of us. And for you.

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The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



To learn more go to www.jewishlexington.org
or call 859.268.0672

Photographs by Jonathan Levine, Jeffrey Lamont Brown and John Adkins

JEWISH FEDERATION 2011 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



Community Calendar

• **JFB - Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass - www.jewishlexington.org**
 • 1050 Chinoe Road • Suite 302 • 268-0672 • Linda Ravvin, President

• **OZS - Ohavay Zion Synagogue - www.ozs.org**
 • 2048 Edgewater Court • 266-8050 • Moshe Smolkin, Rabbi; Beth Goldstein, President
 • Daily Minyan Mon.-Thurs. at 5:45 p.m.; Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Friday evenings at 5:45 p.m.; on the last Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. with Oneg & program following • Shabbat Services Saturday at 9:45 a.m.

• **TAI - Temple Adath Israel - www.lextai.org**
 • 124 N. Ashland Avenue • 269-2979 • Marc Kline, Rabbi; Ken Slepyan, President
 • Shabbat Services first & second Friday at 6:30 p.m., remaining Fridays 7:30 p.m.; Worship Service Saturday 10:30 a.m.

• **HAD - The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah - www.centralstates.hadassah.org**
 • Lynn Furness, President • mamanewbs@yahoo.com

• **HAV - The Lexington Havurah - www.lexhavurah.uscjhost.net**
 • Jeremy Popkin, President • popkin@email.uky.edu

• **BB - B'nai B'rith Mid-America Region, Stanley Rose Lodge #0289**
 • 1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 302 • Bruce Broudy, President • bbrou@lexclin.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		OZS Board TAI Board				
27 JFB Super Sunday	28	March 1 Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits	2	3 Shalom newspaper deadline	4	5
6 B'nai B'rith Brunch	7	8 Hadassah Board Meeting	9	10 TAI Bookclub	11	12
13 Purim Young Bluegrass Jews	14	15 JFB Board Meeting	16 Hadassah Cincinnati Museum Trip	17	18	19
20 OZS Brotherhood/ Sisterhood Event	21	22 Lunch and Learn with our local rabbis	23	24 JFB Women's Campaign Event	25 TAI Bar Mitzvah	26 TAI Bar Mitzvah
27 TAI on Rye	28	29 OZS Board TAI Board	30	31	April 1 OZS Bar/Bat Mitzvah	2 OZS Bar/Bat Mitzvah
3	4	5	6	7	8	9