

University of Kentucky Launches the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE) Jewish Kentucky Oral History Project

By Janice W. Fernheimer and Beth L. Goldstein

The project we have undertaken in compiling an oral history archive of Kentucky Jews has provided the opportunity for me to take the knowledge I have learned in the classroom and research the interviewees' histories in order to better define and understand the Jewish Kentuckian identity. This project has allowed me to better understand my personal Jewish identity and how it is affected by my Kentuckian identity. Jews have had a profound influence on the history of the state of Kentucky from the earliest Jewish settlers peddling throughout the state, to their role in the birth of the bourbon industry, all the way to the roles influential Jews in Kentucky play today. Jacob Ward, JHFE Undergraduate Scholar

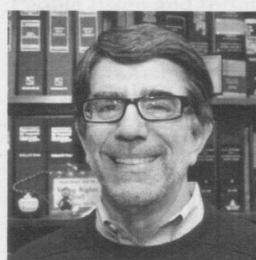
To preserve and promote Kentucky's important Jewish identity and heritage, the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Kentucky has embarked on a three-year project to collect, preserve, and make accessible oral histories from individuals across the Commonwealth's Jewish communities. This project aims to make visible the diverse traditions of Jewish identity that have been created in Kentucky synagogues, businesses, and institutions, and also to promote the idea that Kentucky's Jewish culture and contributions continue to thrive today. With generous support from the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE), the project team plans to collect a minimum of 55 oral histories from across the Commonwealth.

Led by co-Project Instructors Janice W. Fernheimer and Beth L. Goldstein, the team of researchers includes six undergraduate scholars and several community researchers (including Janice Crane and Arwen Donahue in Lexington). With assistance from the University of Kentucky Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, the team is using cutting edge technology -- the Oral History Metadata Synchronizer (OHMS) -- to make the interviews publicly accessible online. Each interview recorded will be digitally archived with an electronic index that enables the video and audio content to be easily searched by anyone who has Internet access. Each interview will also be linked to related photographic and document archives.

Another exciting aspect are the UK *(continued on page 2)*

President's Message

By Michael J. Grossman



Nearly three years ago, as I began my tenure as President of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, I spoke of the importance of service and giving back to the community so that we could continue to enrich our Jewish community for ourselves and future generations.

At that time, I also paid tribute to JFB's exceptional staff members, who provide programs and activities of the highest quality. This is in no small part thanks to the leadership provided by our beloved Executive Director for the past 7 years, Judy Wortman. We all read last month, with mixed emotion I'm sure, of Judy's decision to retire this summer and move to suburban Philadelphia to be near her family. It has been Lexington's great joy to have Judy in our midst for as long as we have. Judy's experience working in various medium and large Jewish community organizations helped us find creative ways to accomplish more with less. She helped us to think big, dream large, and push hard. *(continued on page 3)*

CAMPAIGN NEWS: For Women Only

By Judy B. Wortman

Please join us for an evening of good friends, good food, good wine, and an incredible speaker. The Federation's annual women's evening out will be held on Tuesday, March 22 at 5:30 pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue. Do you love designer shoes? Our speaker is Jane Weitzman, the Executive Vice President of Stuart Weitzman and the founding Vice President of Stuart Weitzman Retail. Jane spearheaded philanthropy for the company by generating funds to support breast and ovarian cancer research and awareness. Her efforts were brought to life through innovative charity events such as the Stuart Weitzman Celebrity Breast Cancer Auction. She serves on the Board and Executive Committees of the Greenwich UJA and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and the Board of 70Faces Media. She is on the Trust Board of Boston Children's Hospital and the Board of the Greenwich JCC. Jane and her husband Stuart have two daughters and a granddaughter.

The couvert for the evening is \$18. If *(continued on page 3)*

(UK Jewish Kentucky Oral History Project, continued from p.1) undergraduates working on the project. These JHFE Scholars come from within and outside of Kentucky; all are minoring in Jewish Studies. They research background information about the historical contexts of the interviewees, assist with interviewing and use the OHMS technology to index the interviews and link in archival materials. As they engage these oral histories, their eyes are opening to Kentucky's Jewish culture and to their own connections to that heritage. Jan and Beth, meanwhile, are learning how to teach undergraduates to conduct oral history research and plan to turn that learning into a new undergraduate course at UK on researching Kentucky Jewish history and identity.

The project goal is to have Jewish life in the Commonwealth broadly represented in this publicly accessible digital oral history archive. At least 50% of the people interviewed will come from greater Lexington and Louisville because of these areas' larger Jewish populations. We also plan to interview people from the historic and current communities throughout the Commonwealth, including Ashland, Owensboro, Paducah, Hopkinsville, Sadieville, and other locales. These oral histories will include people associated with Jewish Hospital in Louisville, the bourbon and horse industries, Jewish community organizations (synagogues, Federation, Hadassah, and more), and higher education, as well as businesses large and small. The work builds upon the well-developed research of Arwen Donahue in *This is Home Now: Kentucky's Holocaust Survivors Speak* (Kentucky Remembered: An Oral History Series 2009), Lee Shai Weissbach's *The Synagogues of Kentucky: Architecture and History* (1995), and Rosie Moosnick's *Arab and Jewish Women in Kentucky: Stories of Accommodation and Audacity* (2012).

Since August, the team has collected fourteen oral histories, mostly from University of Kentucky Jewish student life participants. This initial special focus on the history of Jewish Student life at UK, which reaches back more than 80 years with the formation of Hillel in 1938 and the Alpha Iota chapter of the Jewish fraternity Zeta Beta Tau (ZBT) in 1942, contributed to UK's current celebration of its sesquicentennial anniversary.

Key individuals from Louisville are also already in the collection -- like Prof. Lee Shai Weissbach, historian of Jewish Kentucky synagogues, and Larry Kass, director of corporate communications at Heaven Hill Distillery, the largest independent spirits distillery that is family owned and operated. It is none other than the Jewish Shapira family who founded, own and operate it. Additionally, we've been working to iden-

tify individuals outside of metropolitan Lexington and Louisville. These include people whose earlier lives were in small towns and rural areas of Kentucky. For example, Sam Halpern was born outside of Georgetown Kentucky, and lived in Burlington in northern Kentucky where his father made his living as a sharecropper. Although Halpern was also a UK alum, the main focus of his interview details his experiences as a Jewish tobacco sharecropper.

Community organizations are important partners in this effort. In Lexington, these have included the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, Temple Adath Israel and Ohavay Zion Synagogue, all of which have provided assistance in accessing important archival material and identifying potential interviewees. In Louisville, to date, these include the Jewish Community of Louisville and Temple Adath Israel, as well as University of Louisville Special Collections. These organizations have shared significant collections of extant oral histories that have not yet been made searchable -- ninety or so at U of L Special Collections, at least a one hundred at Temple Adath Israel (Louisville), as well as another collection that exists with Jewish Career and Family Services. The JHFE Oral History Project will help to build upon and advance this already rich historical record and make it more accessible to a wide public.

With the help of UK Digital Archivist Sarah Dorpinghaus, UK Special Collections is newly embarking on an effort to collect and catalogue for public access archival materials (documents, photos, etc.) related to Jewish life in Kentucky. So far, Temple Adath Israel Lexington, the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass and one private collection have agreed to partner with UK to share their documents.

The sustainable legacy of this project comes in four parts. First, this project establishes the JHFE Jewish Kentucky Oral History Collection at the University of Kentucky as the most expansive Jewish oral history collection in the Commonwealth with capacity for extensive, sustainable growth. Second, digital access to the collection will stimulate and generate awareness of Jewish presence and identity in Kentucky. Third, the project creates a generation-to-generation working model for community members and students to preserve and nourish Kentucky Jewish identity. Fourth, we aim to embed this model into the University of Kentucky curriculum through the proposal and development of a new undergraduate course on Kentucky Jewish history and identity.

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The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence Scholarship

The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence Scholarship aims to encourage and support Jewish Studies on the University of Kentucky campus. Students selected to become JHFE scholars will declare and commit to completing a minor in Jewish Studies in a maximum of four years. They will also attend and participate regularly in Jewish Studies programming on campus. As part of the JHFE scholar experience, they will be expected to participate in an original scholarly research project under the guidance of a Jewish Studies faculty mentor. This experience will include work helping to build, index, and make accessible the growing Kentucky Jewish Heritage Oral History repository. Any undergraduate who will pursue a Jewish Studies minor is eligible to apply. If awarded, the scholarship provides \$4000 per year of study for up to four years of scholarship support.

If you have any questions about the application please contact [Beth Goldstein](#) or [Janice Fernheimer](#).

Eligible students must have a minimum 3.0 GPA, 25+ ACT composite score or 1130 M+CR SAT. They must be declared as a Jewish Studies minor (or declare one upon receipt of the award). Continued support requires meeting the terms of the scholarship including remaining in good academic standing and maintaining a 3.0 GPA in Jewish Studies courses.

Deadline for completing the application is March 27, 2016. The application can be accessed [online here](#).

FOR WOMEN ONLY

Tuesday | March 22 | 5:30 pm | OZS

Guest Speaker, [Jane Weitzman](#), author and Executive Vice President of Stuart Weitzman, the designer shoe company. Wine and light dinner served. Couvert \$18 and a minimum gift of \$18 to the 2016 Women's Philanthropy Campaign.



The Jewish Federation
of the Bluegrass

(President's Message, continued from p. 1)

Judy brought warmth and wholeness to our community. These are qualities that serve a small Jewish community such as ours well. We know that she did not look at her position so much as a job as she did a passion, and a calling. As Confucius said over 2500 years ago, "If you choose a job you love, you will never have to work a day in your life." I'm not sure Judy ever worked a day in her life.

People listen and follow Judy, not because they have to, but because she is intelligent, compassionate, and knowledgeable about Jewish matters. Her community is drawn to her and trusts her. Although Lexington's Jewish community is small, it is still diverse, made up of Jews identifying as secular, humanist, Reconstructionist, Reform, Conservative, Orthodox and Chabad. Jews in Lexington are also diverse in the way we live out our Jewish lives. Judy has tried to bridge those differences, find commonalities and celebrate them. She has done a remarkable job.

Judy has celebrated joy and heartbreak during her 7 years in Lexington. As her Lexington family, we have shared both the good times and sad times with her. We are fortunate that she has led and nurtured a dedicated group of individuals at the Federation that will help JFB carry on without skipping a beat. This is a legacy that Judy has left for us and future generations. In Judy's farewell to the community, she spoke of the community study which the Presidents' Counsel initiated last year. She expressed her hope that participants would use the report, which results from the study, as means to ensure our sustainability as a creative, dynamic and supportive community. I can't think of a better gift for Lexington to give to Judy as a thank you for her service to our community.

(Campaign News, continued from p. 1)

you bring your mother-in-law, you will receive a discount of \$3.00. Guests will be asked to make a minimum gift of \$18 to the 2016 Women's Philanthropy campaign. The deadline for reservations is March 17. For reservations or if you have questions, please call Judy Wortman at 268-0672.

Show Your Support

Help us keep Shalom solvent.

You may contribute online or mail a check to JFB, 1050 Chinoe Rd Ste 112, Lexington, KY 40502.

Please make checks payable to JFB and write "Shalom" on the memo line.

GIVING LEVELS

Chai - \$18; Double Chai - \$36; Three Times Chai - \$54; Haboneh (Builder) - \$72; Gibor (Hero) - \$90

Ask A Rabbi: Rabbi Shlomo Litvin



Why would you go to Israel?

I write this from my balcony in Jerusalem overlooking the beauty of the capital of Israel and, perhaps, the Jewish people. As I was leaving Lexington to go on this trip I was asked: "why would you go to Israel with your family? What is the purpose of your trip?"

For me personally the answers are manifold. In addition to having family spread across Israel, I had been asked to speak in several schools and yeshivot. I also have a beautiful new daughter who has never been to her homeland. I don't really need much urging to visit the Land of the patriarchs and matriarchs, the land of David and Dayan, and the land of our past and the future. The question however, stuck with me. Why do three billion people a year visit a country the size of New Jersey? Why do people from all backgrounds, locale, religions and cultures, make their way to Eretz Yisrael?

So as I traveled I asked eight of my fellow tourists, pilgrims, and visitors what their reasons were. Their answers were as diverse and beautiful as Israel herself.

Inga Berman- Copenhagen, Denmark

"My family lived in Denmark for 150 years before the Shoah. My family and I were lucky to be smuggled out to Sweden. We returned here but my brother refused to live in fear ever again. I am going to see him and his children. To me Israel means family, both blood family, and spiritual family."

Eric Christesen- Stockholm, Sweden

"Israel is the history of the world. Every nation desired it, fought for it and killed for it. It is the place of man's birth and the cradle of our civilization. As a student of history, Israel is a required trip. Israel is a time machine that can take you back as far as you would like to go."

Machmoud Alinah- Bayda, Libya

"Israel is freedom. I grew up and lived in a culture that made me hate myself for the feelings I had. When these feelings matured I was banished from my family and threatened in the streets. I ran away to Europe, living in Spain and France, but had never been home till I had come to Tel Aviv. I came here a month ago and have applied for citizenship. Israel is acceptance and love."

Louis (Levi) Koppel- Pittsburgh, PA

"I grew up in America, not particularly religious. My

family visited synagogue on the High Holidays, but that is where our Jewish life ended. I came to Israel on Birthright this summer and extended after my tour. Israel is my heritage and inheritance that I never knew I had."

Rabbi Marc Kline- New Jersey (formerly Lexington, KY)

"I came to Israel with a group of rabbis and pastors. The trip is designed to promote unity and dialogue. Israel is the land of our shared culture. We have more similarities and more to learn from one another than that which separates us."

Dr. Rudolf Strauss- Munich, Germany

"My feelings towards Israel and her people are strong. What happened not too long ago in my country forever shows that the Jews need a strong homeland. I plan to visit the museum (Yad VaShem) while I am here and celebrate all the Jews have accomplished here in such a short time."

Mark Wilson- Los Angeles, CA

"I provide capital for tech start-ups all across U.S. and Europe. So for me Israel is a treasure trove. Israel is the most innovative country on earth. The advancements made here, even in just the last five years, are tremendous. Israel is becoming a major player in the global economy, and I only see that growing in the coming years."

Father William Burke- Omaha, NE

Israel is the land of godliness. Any religious person would gain from a trip to this land. I lead a trip twice a year, to educate my church and to strengthen our connection with Israel.

As for me, my answer reflects many of the people I met. I could never limit myself to one reason.

Israel is a place of family and history, of freedom, acceptance, and love. It is the Holyland, a place of unity and spirituality, and a place of innovation and the future. There and many more good reasons to visit Eretz Yisroel. I encourage you to find yours.

Have a question? Ask a rabbi.

The rabbis write columns in response to questions submitted by the readers. We encourage you 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.org 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.

ASK JFS: Advance Medical Directive/ Living Wills

By Mimi Kaufman



It can be such a depressing topic to talk about the “what if’s” that could happen as a result of a severe cognitive disease or accident that leaves one incapacitated. This article is targeted to families dealing with Alzheimer’s disease; however, advance care directives are helpful for everyone to consider. So often, an adult

child will enter the picture after a crisis with his or her parent, only to realize that not only has dementia set in, but it is worse than they thought, and there is no instruction book. Writing advance medical directives can, and should be thought of as an instruction book that you write now on behalf of your older self, for later, in case it’s needed. Through this tool, one can maintain the quality of life that one would want should one fall victim to a severe cognitive disease like Alzheimer’s. Having advance medical directives takes the guesswork away for caregivers about how one wants to be cared for in the event one is unable to communicate one’s wishes. This can take a big burden off caregivers as they can quickly become so involved with the daily care-giving needs and care-coordination crises. It can help to prevent arguments between family members. The more instruction you can give, no matter how silly some of the requests may sound, the better (within reason of course). For example, a father in his late seventies has said to his children, “no matter what kind of shape I’m in, I want my bowl of double-fudge ice cream during the evening news everyday.” Now dad is 85 years-old and has had a major cognitive decline and severe heart disease. He is now living in a personal care facility, but thankfully, he has already communicated his wishes and the adult children all understand and respect them. Hopefully it can be arranged that he gets his ice cream even though it’s not really that healthy.

An Advance Medical Directive has two components:

A Health Care Power of Attorney –This person will be in charge of decisions regarding your health and well-being when you can no longer manage.

A Living Will - Documents the types of treatment or procedures you want in the event you become terminally ill and treatment would serve only to prolong the dying process.

Setting up an Advance Medical Directive involves thinking deeply about the things in your life that are most meaningful to you and determining your willingness for medical interventions. Talk to your physician if you have questions regarding medical procedures. You need to choose someone you trust to be in charge. Talk to the person you choose as your health care power of attorney about your feelings and wishes. Ask them if they have questions. The Advance Medical Directive needs to be signed and notarized. Typically, people do this with their attorneys. To locate an elder law attorney who can draft the directives visit www.NAELA.org.

JFS: At Your Service is a monthly column covering a wide range of issues. If you have a problem or a concern that you would like addressed in this Shalom column, please send them either by mail to Jewish Family Services at 1050 Chinoe Road Suite 112, or by email to jfs@jewishlexington.org. You can also always call with your confidential questions at (859) 269-8244.

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Jewish Pets

By Hanna B. Smith

In January one of our cats died. Mister Grey, so-named after his sleek silver-gray fur, was a sweet-natured, playful companion whose antics amused and occasionally irritated us.

Originally, Mister Grey had belonged to a neighbor, but when a large dog moved into that household, Grey decided to relocate. The dog was a friendly soul, and he and Mister Grey could have gotten along. But Grey preferred to share house and yard with two, and eventually three, other cats. Another of our cats, called Many, became his best buddy with whom he played and shared naps.

Of all our cats, Mister Grey demanded the most attention. He followed my husband and me around the house. Wherever one of us stood or sat, there was Grey, one elegant little paw raised and his expression hopeful. He never quite outgrew his kitten behavior. Until the last few months of his life he would chase his tail and he would push us with his nose or paw to make us pet him.

He was very gentle, though, and I developed a feline patty-cake game with him which he loved. Never once did he scratch me, not even by accident.

Had Grey been human, he would have been diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. He was endlessly and aimlessly active, even at times when the other cats held their siestas. Then he would collapse into a deep sleep. Fortunately, he responded well to a feline version of time-out and limit setting. Grey never pouted, and he only cold-shouldered us for a bit whenever we came back from a journey.

If this sounds human, remember that cats are mammals too. Even if cats' brains are considerably less complex than human brains, cats are capable of feelings, thoughts and of learning. How else would have cats, dogs, and other domestic animals adjusted to living with humans?

Jewish law, Halakha, teaches us to treat all animals humanely, in the best sense of the word. This teaching is expressed in the principle of *tza'ar ba'alei hayyim*, not causing suffering to living creatures. Any human action that causes an animal to suffer needlessly is not permissible. In Modern Hebrew *tza'ar ba'alei hayyim* is translated as prevention of cruelty to animals.

This concern extends also to animals in the wild. The rabbis abhorred hunting for pleasure. Animals who presented a potential danger to humans were to be avoided. Only as a last resort were they to be killed.

The rabbis permitted animals to be slaughtered for food as long as the slaughtering was done with the

least physical and mental suffering to the animal. There are prohibitions against slaughtering young animals in front of their mothers and against removing eggs from a bird's nest while the mother bird is present.

Halakha concerning animals covers a wide field and many situations. This article will only address household pets. Edward M. Friedman, in his article on animals in "The Observant Life, The Wisdom of Conservative Judaism for Contemporary Jews" (published by the Rabbinical Assembly, New York), states that keeping animals as pets, purely for the enjoyment of its owners, is a fairly modern invention. The rabbis of antiquity considered pet animals an indulgence of wealthy gentiles and concentrated their efforts on domesticated working animals.

Today, machines do work formerly done by animals, and attitudes about keeping animals as pets has changed considerably. In addition, research has given us a better understanding of our own as well as of animals' psyches.

Our economic system fractures families and communities. Pet animals provide companionship for lonely people. Their visits help raise the spirits of patients in nursing homes and hospitals. Some parents use pets to teach their children how to care for and assume responsibility for another creature and to observe and to emotionally adjust to the life-cycle, from birth to death. Touching a friendly animal has a calming effect. The further our lives are removed from nature, the more we pursue it.

Many animals today are working animals, though the nature of their work has changed. For example, seeing-eye dogs assist the blind. Some dog breeds are trained to work with police, custom officials, and the

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MARCH 2 & 7
OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE

7:00-7:50p SHANA SIPPY
SEX, JEWS, AND GENDER

8:10-9:00p JEFF SIEGEL
IF I WERE A RICH MAN:
THE JEWISH PERSPECTIVE ON
MONEY, WORK, & ACHIEVING GOALS



military. Horses, and sometimes donkeys, are used in therapy work with physically and emotionally-challenged children.

In these situations, the lines between working animal and pet are frequently blurred. Seeing-eye dogs are, by the nature of their work, companions of one person and members of a household. Quite often, police officers and others will adopt the dogs with whom they have worked, after the dogs retire.

The principle of causing no suffering to living creatures also applies to today's family pets and working animals. The animals must be properly cared for, and the prospective pet owner has to be sure that s/he can meet the animal's needs. Edward M. Friedman especially mentions exotic animals, some of which may be on the endangered species list. Can a prospective pet owner really provide the nutrition and environment in which these animals thrive? How often are these pets abandoned because they become unmanageable as they mature?

Causing no suffering means patronizing only ethical pet breeders and avoiding so-called puppy or kitten mills where pets are bred without regard to their health and safety. Adopting pets from animal shelters is a way of helping animals.

While keeping their pets safe, owners also have an obligation to prevent their pets from causing injury or damage to people and property.

During the last weeks of his life, Mr. Grey became increasingly frail, though he still ate and sought our

company. Finally he became very weak and disoriented. A visit to the veterinarian confirmed that Grey's kidneys had ceased functioning, a common ailment in old cats. The next phase, according to the vet, would be severe pain and eventually death. The vet recommended "putting Mr. Grey to sleep", as the phrase goes, in order to spare him suffering.

Halakha permits euthanizing an animal who is terminally ill and in constant pain, to spare the animal further suffering. Judaism forbids cremation of people, but there is no prohibition against cremating animal remains. When spring comes, Grey's ashes will be buried in our flower garden, under a sweet-gum tree.

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Wittenberg Matzoh

Introduction by Susan Cobin

I did not know much about the family of my grandmother Anna Goldberg (nee Wittenberg) while I was a child growing up in Los Angeles. My grandmother was born and grew up in Chicago, lived a couple of decades in Akron, Ohio, and moved to Southern California with my grandfather Morris Goldberg in the 40s. I knew that her parents, Abraham and Sarah Wittenberg, immigrated from Poland and that they were observant Jews. I knew that Abraham owned a matzoh factory, Wittenberg Matzoh, that Manischewitz eventually put out of business when Manischewitz modernized and Wittenberg Matzoh did not.

Yet when I fortuitously came across this article, "Under Every Stone" by Jim Craig, I learned that Abraham had two brothers, Isaac and Levy, who co-owned the business with my great-grandfather. I learned that the family had had a falling out when two of the brothers sued the third for libel. I'd never known any of this. I also found out that I have Wittenberg cousins I never knew existed. When Randall and I were visiting Chicago last December, we met my four lovely Wittenberg descendants for the first of what I hope will be many visits. None of them had heard of Abraham Wittenberg, I'd never heard of Levy, and none of us had heard of Isaac.

Included in "Under Every Stone" is a photo of Wittenberg Matzoh. The young woman standing to the right is Anna Wittenberg; the other woman is her niece, Mildred. This photo is featured in several books about Jewish Chicago.

Under Every Stone

A member of The Association of Graveyard Rabbits~ As I say in my Find a Grave profile, "There is a story under every stone". While photographing graves for Find A Grave or genealogy research, I have come across many interesting stories about the people buried under those tombstones. In this blog I will share some of the most interesting of these stories with you. Why? So these people will not be forgotten. ~Jim Craig - Evanston, Illinois USA - Contact me at: jwcraig11@comcast.net

Friday, July 18, 2014

CHICAGO'S MATZOH KING - Levy Wittenberg

As I have mentioned before, Jewish Waldheim Cemetery in Forest Park, Illinois has many beautiful and distinctive monuments. I have featured some of the more interesting monuments in this blog, but Wald-

heim has its share of unusual monuments as well. Such is the case at Gate 45 - Kovner. Wandering around on a bleak winter day in February of 2012 fulfilling Find a Grave photo requests I happened upon this unusual monument:



As you can see, there is a bust of a solemn looking man at the top. Below that it says:

Levy Wittenberg
Died June 12, 1907

Donated
From
L. Wittenberg
to the
Congregation
Auel Jacob
1899

I had a feeling that there might be an interesting story here and I was right. Let's see what we can "dig up" about Levy (also spelled "Levi") Wittenberg, Chicago's matzoh king.

Levy Wittenberg was born in Kolnich, Russia in February of 1850 to Israel Wittenberg and Sara, nee Cohen. We know that Levy had at least two siblings, Abraham (1865-1934) and Isaac (1880-1937) because they sued Levy for libel in 1903 - but more on that later. Levy Wittenberg came to the United States in 1880 and settled first in New York and then finally in Chicago.

While still living in Russia, Levi Wittenberg married Gitel (Katie) nee Newman (1850-1940) circa 1870 while both were twenty years old. Katie told the census taker in 1900 that she had given birth to seven children, and all seven were still alive at that time.

Here they are:

Louis (1870-1915), born in Russia

Hyman (1873-1911), born in Russia

Leah (1875-1945), born in Russia

Ida (1879-1912), born in New York

Levi/Harry (1885-1979), born in New York

Moses/Morry (1888-1975), born in Chicago

Alexander (1889-1941), born in Chicago. Alexander used the surname "Witte"

In later years Levy said that he had moved to Chicago in 1883 but that is unlikely unless he came out to Chicago ahead of the rest of his family.

Levy Wittenberg became a naturalized US citizen on October 17, 1890.

No matter when he actually arrived, Levi quickly established himself as one of the top Jewish bakers in Chicagoland. Here is a photo of Wittenberg's bakery, circa 1900:



Levi Wittenberg was not without his share of controversy. The following article appeared in the Chicago Daily Tribune on June 30, 1903:

TWO BROTHERS SUE A THIRD

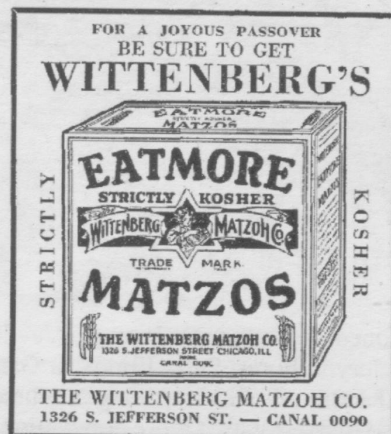
Charge Him With Libel in Issuing Circulars Attacking Their Business Integrity.

Three brothers are complainants and defendant in a libel case brought before Justice Richardson yesterday. Abraham and Isaac Wittenberg, bakers at 529 Jefferson street, charging Levy Wittenberg with libel. The trouble started shortly before the Passover feast in April. The matzos for the feast were bought from Abraham and Isaac Wittenberg, at a reduced price. Then, it is charged, Levy Wittenberg issued circulars of a libelous character, attacking the quality of the food sold by his brothers. One circular stated:

"Do not buy from them what are called matzos, while in fact when you open the bundle you find the broken fragments of various food articles."

According to the complainants, the circulars were intended to attack their honest. Justice Richardson continued the case until July 9th.

It is not recorded how the case turned out, but Levy Wittenberg's bakery was still producing and selling matzoh long after the founder was gone:



Now what about the monument that piqued my interest in the first place?

As I mentioned, at the top is a bust of a stern faced man. Lower down it says "Levy Wittenberg, Died June 12, 1907" and then "Donated From L. Wittenberg to the Congregation Auel Jacob 1899."

Is the bust at the top a bust of Levy Wittenberg? Here's his photo, and a closeup of the bust - judge for yourself:



I'm afraid that my research has hit a brick wall here. I could not find anything about the Congregation Auel Jacob, past or present, nor could I find anything about Levy Wittenberg donating a monument or a bust of anyone.

Levy Wittenberg did die on June 12, 1907 at home, 580 N. Canal Street, from lobar pneumonia complicated by diabetes. According to his death certificate he was fifty-eight years old:

16149 BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS. 36297
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH: CITY OF CHICAGO. 20377
 16149
 UNDERTAKER'S REPORT OF DEATH. 92
 1. Name of Decedent: Levy Wittenberg
 2. Sex: Male Color: White Place of Birth: Poland Father's Birthplace: Savage Mother's Birthplace: Poland
 3. Age: 57 years, 12 months, 24 days. Lived in Illinois: 24 years, in Chicago: 24 years.
 4. Date of Death: June 12, 1967 at about 9:30 P.M.
 5. Cause of Death: Ischemic Heart Disease
 6. Place of Death: 19 So Canal St
 7. Place of Burial: 2 Waldheim 10. Undertaker: J. Wittenberg
 Date of Burial: June 14, 1967 Address: 379 West 1st St
 Home: 10 So Canal St Telephone: 447-1177
 PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE OF CAUSE OF DEATH.
 I Certify That, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the cause of death of the above named and described decedent was as hereunder written:
 Cause or Causes of Death: Immediate and Determining: Lobar Pneumonia 50
 Contributing Cause or Complication: Diabetes
 Witness my hand, this 13 day of June 1967. Signature: M. L. Lewinstein
 Address: 278 So. Jefferson St To Canal 66

As I mentioned above, he was buried at Jewish Waldheim Cemetery in Forest Park, Illinois at Gate 45 - Kovner. In addition to the imposing monument, his grave is also marked with a more conventional tombstone:



So the mystery of the monument "Donated from L. Wittenberg to the Congregation Auel Jacob in 1899" will have to remain a mystery for now. Maybe one of my readers will have some information that will solve the mystery for us. One of the frustrating parts of genealogical research is that there are some mysteries that never are solved; some questions that are never answered. But that's what makes it so much fun, as well.

Levy Wittenberg, Chicago's Matzoh King - may he rest in peace.

This "Under Every Stone" blog post can be found at <http://undereverystone.blogspot.com/2014/07/chicago-matzoh-king-levy-wittenberg.html>

B'tayavon: Cheese Blintz Soufflé

By Vivian Bitensky

An easy way to make a traditional favorite.



Ingredients

- 1 lb. cottage cheese
- 1 (3 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
- 3 Tbs. butter
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- Fruit Topping

1. Heat oven to 325 degrees. Butter 8-inch square pan.
2. Place cottage cheese, cream cheese, butter and sugar in food processor; process thirty seconds or until smooth. Add flour, eggs, lemon juice and baking powder; process several seconds until smooth. Pour into pan. Sprinkle with cinnamon.
3. Bake forty-five minutes or until top is puffed and springs back when lightly touched and edges are golden brown. Cool 5 minutes (center will sink during cooling). Serve warm with fruit topping

Enjoy!



Join the Summer 2016 Camp Shalom Staff!

Seeking creative, responsible teens and young adults for 2-week local day camp. Click here to learn more.

A Story, an Author, and a Jewish Community

By Talia Smolkin

Stories make up our world. They add dimension and color to the way we look at ourselves, our families, our history. They can help us think more deeply and increase our empathy.

This January, our community discussed one person's story of the not-too-distant past. Through this story, we had the opportunity to learn more about our Jewish family, and widen our perspective.

The book for this year's One Book Jewish Lexington program was *A Backpack, a Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka*, by Lev Golinkin. The community was invited to read this book and come together for a discussion.

Golinkin's memoir tells the story of his childhood in the Soviet Union, his family's immigration to the United States, and his look back as an adult.

The discussion was co-sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass (JFB) and the Lexington Chapter of Hadassah. Hadassah regularly has a monthly book club, and this year we were able to join forces in this natural partnership.

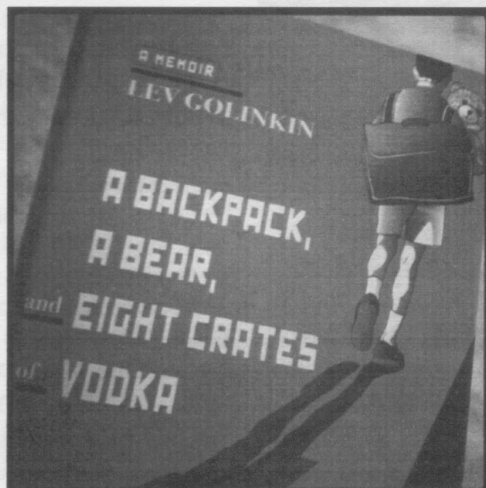
Dr. Karen Petrone, Professor of History at the University of Kentucky, led the discussion. As a specialist in Russian and Soviet Cultural and Gender History, she provided context to Golinkin's story and guided us as we considered the book. It also turned out that aside from her expertise in the field, there were other reasons that Dr. Petrone was great for this role. It was only after Dr. Petrone had been asked to be part of the program, that Judy Wortman, Executive Director of JFB discovered her name in the acknowledgements for Golinkin's book. As it turned out, Go-

linkin consulted with her regarding historical details in his memoir.

In addition, thanks to Dr. Petrone connecting with Lev Golinkin, the group was fortunate to have the author himself join the discussion from afar. After discussing initial impressions of the book, the group called Golinkin on the phone. He gave more insight into his own life, and we dug into questions about topics such as community, immigrant experiences, the relationship between Jewish communities and Russian immigrants, and Russian immigrants' experiences with Israel and the United States. Perhaps one of the most powerful moments was our community's reflection on how we responded to Russian immigrants as they came to Lexington decades ago. And, as Temple Adath Israel is bringing in two refugee families from Democratic

Republic of Congo this year, we discussed that we can best serve each individual by honoring their whole being. Finally, we discussed just how important it is to continue asking members of our community – including the many individuals who immigrated here from Russia – to share their stories.

For more information about One Book Jewish Lexington, or to share what books you would like to read in future years, please contact Talia Smolkin at talial@jewishlexington.org.



For more information about the Book Club of the Lexington Chapter of Hadassah, please contact Gail Byers byershousehold@yahoo.com or Vivian Bitensky bitenskyvivian@yahoo.com.

Per Lev Golinkin's request, if you read *A Backpack, a Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka*, please consider writing a review on www.amazon.com or www.goodreads.com.

Want to give your child a cherished Jewish camp experience or an adventure in Israel? Worried about cost?

Jewish Family Services (JFS) is now accepting confidential applications for camperships to not-for-profit Jewish summer camps in the region (including our local Camp Shalom) and scholarships toward not-for-profit Israel educational programs. Income is a criteria used to evaluate eligibility for camperships. **Deadline for applications is April 1, 2016.** Applications can be requested from JFS.

For more information, contact Mimi Kaufman, JFS Director, at (859) 269-8244 or jfs@jewishlexington.org.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



Israel21C: New York says 'shalom' to Israeli startups

Expanding from the Big Orange to the Big Apple, young Israeli companies find a welcoming ecosystem of peers, mentors and investors.

By Abigail Klein Leichman

(Originally published online February 15, 2016)



Israeli entrepreneurs are storming Manhattan. Image via Shutterstock.com

"Next to Tel Aviv, New York is the second place I wouldn't want to gossip about anyone in Hebrew," jokes Yali Saar, the 26-year-old CEO of Tailor Brands, an online platform for creating logos, branding materials and presentations.

Saar is one of a growing number of Israeli entrepreneurs establishing a presence in Manhattan for easier access to a large pool of customers, employees, mentors and investors.

"They are coming here and finding a supportive ecosystem," says Inbar Haham of the New York office of Magma Ventures Partners, a venture capital firm based in Tel Aviv.

"New York has always been a place for companies to raise capital, but historically there weren't a lot of early-stage VCs. Now we see more VCs and angels expressing interest in early-stage companies," she tells ISRAEL21c.

"Specifically for Israeli companies, the market in Israel is too small and they have to think of a global strategy. They can either go to the West Coast or to New York; New York is a better option because the time difference isn't as big and you can take a direct flight overnight."

Israeli Mapped in NY, created by Guy Franklin in 2013, has made it easy to see the penetration of Israeli high-tech companies in the Big Apple.

Now hosted on the made-in-Israel MapMe website for which he is chief evangelist in New York City, Israeli Mapped in NY invites Israeli startups to add a "pin" for free, pending Franklin's approval. Currently it

maps about 250 startups, four accelerators, four co-working spaces, six investment houses and one "ecosystem partner," LeumiTech.

Directors of many of these companies – including Taboola, Datorama, Kaltura, Via, Innovid, HYPR, Vroom, WeWork, Oliver, MyCheck, CrushMobile, Cups, Tripda and SiSense — appear in a fresh new video Franklin produced, shot by an Israeli videographer hoping to make his own connections to the community.

WeWork and Taboola were among 35 Israeli companies in New York that raised a total of \$1 billion between March 2014 and February 2015.

What qualifies a company to be on Israeli Mapped in NY? "If one of the founders is Israeli, then for me it's an Israeli company," Franklin tells ISRAEL21c.

"For example, one cofounder of WeWork grew up in Israel and in the first two years everyone treated the company as Israeli. Even though it's now huge and global, and people don't consider it Israeli anymore, it's really part of the Israeli startup community in New York."

Franklin, 39, is among several Israeli expats helping newcomers find their feet, and their community, in New York City. He moved from Tel Aviv in January 2012 to work as an accountant at Ernst & Young dealing with startups, as he had done at E&Y in Tel Aviv. Before long he noticed a trend of Israelis setting up operations in the city.

"People knew they were here but nobody unified this community and gave them a title, so I created the map to help people visualize Israeli success and innovation in New York," says Franklin, who left E&Y to found his own startup.

"I help them connect with the community to get assistance, whether where to rent an office or where to find professional services or employees. Israeli startups raised a lot of money in 2015 and usually need to increase their staff, but they face the struggle of competing with about 4,000 other great startups in New York that are very connected with the ecosystem. I wanted to expose their place in the system."

Accelerating and connecting Israeli startups in NYC

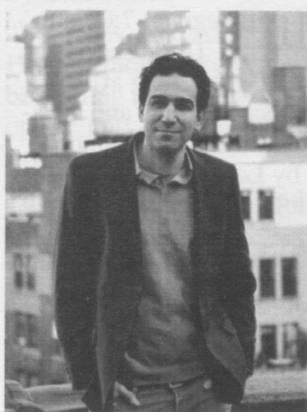
In late 2014, Israelis Eyal Bino, Sharon Mirsky and Arie Abecassis cofounded ICONYC Labs in Manhattan exclusively to accelerate early-stage Israeli companies.

"We realized there is a big opportunity here, especially now that New York is a great tech hub," Bino told ISRAEL21c. "There's a lot of curiosity about Israeli startups, but [investors] want them here to work with

them.”

The program launched its first cohort in spring 2015, focusing on industries for which New York City can provide a competitive advantage.

“This includes mainstays such as ad-tech, ecommerce and financial services, as well as burgeoning areas in New York City like digital health, IoT hardware and software and even ag-tech,” Bino says.



Eyal Bino in New York. Photo: courtesy

Lior Vaknin, an Israeli entrepreneur living in New York City, founded Israeli Startups NYC in 2014 to create synergy between the Israeli and New York tech communities. Today the group boasts 5,000 members from both these communities, and offers an online one-day incubator and one-on-one consulting.

On March 1, Israeli Startups NYC will host its second pitch night for American and Israeli tech startups. One of those participating in last year’s inaugural event was HYPR, a hot Tel Aviv- and Manhattan-based startup in the influencer marketing space, which recently raised \$5 million in seed funding.

One foot in each country

Like HYPR and Tailor Brands, many of the Israeli startups dotting the Big Apple continue to maintain headquarters in Israel.

“I see that in the last few months, every month a few Israeli companies are expanding to New York — not moving away from Israel, but expanding,” says Franklin. “I think we will see more companies raise money in 2016 and an outcome of that is expanding to New York because their market and investors are here.”

Magma Venture Partners’ Haham points out that having offices in Tel Aviv and New York gives startups an overlap in time so that somebody is nearly always “home” when customers and potential partners and investors come knocking.

Tailor Brands started out in Tel Aviv, “and after our first [funding] round we had to make a decision whether to stay or move,” says CEO Saar.

ICONYC teaches its startups how to craft emails, pitch products and run an investor meeting in fluent English and in sync with local cultural norms, among other skills. Business and funding acceleration and operations support are provided in exchange for common equity averaging about eight percent.

“Our investors are in Tel Aviv and New York. Israel has outstanding marketing talent and you can achieve good growth without being present in the US, but in terms of branding or the way the ecosystem views you, there is a power to being based in New York. VCs in the US prefer not to invest without a US presence, US reporters prefer writing stories about companies based here, and the sort of brand recognition B2C companies gain here is a lot stronger than what you see in Israel.”



The Tailor Brands team (with CEO Yali Saar in the middle) in their office on Park Avenue and 23rd Street in Manhattan. Photo: courtesy

By the end of this year, Tailor Brands expects to have 18 employees split 40/60 between Tel Aviv and Manhattan. “It’s important for us to keep an Israeli presence going,” says Saar, who flies back and forth every two months.

Saar gives credit to Franklin and others for helping to make such a vibrant Israeli startup community in New York. “There are many activities to bring people together, and we help each other.”

Franklin also created Israeli Mapped in Boston, currently showing about 100 startups, and the Israeli Executives and Founders Forum has a map of about 100 Israeli companies in California.

“The next will be London, because there are many Israeli companies moving there as well,” Franklin reveals.

This article can be found online [here](#).

ATTENTION PROUD GRAND-PARENTS, PARENTS, & 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

THE LEXINGTON CHAPTER OF HADASSAH

Dianne Bazell, President

Hadassah Shabbat 2016: March 18-19

By Dianne Bazell

This month marks Hadassah's third Hadassah Shabbat Zachor, when Hadassah chapters

throughout the country will lead services at their local congregations on March 18-19. *Shabbat Zachor* (the Sabbath of Remembrance) is the Shabbat preceding *Purim* and holds particular significance for Hadassah as an organization, which was founded by Henrietta Szold during Purim in the spring of 1912. (Hadassah, which means "myrtle," was another name for Esther [2:7].)

In *Parashat Zachor* (Deuteronomy 25:17-19), which is read following the seven Torah *aliyot* on *Shabbat Zachor*, Jews are commanded to "Remember what Amalek did to you on your journey after you left Egypt." The Book of Esther, read each year the following week at Purim, hearkens back (in 3:1) to this injunction to remember by identifying Haman, would-be destroyer of the Jews of Persia, as a descendent of Agag, King of the Amalekites (Amalek), the marauding nomads of the Sinai, whom Joshua overwhelmed en route from Egypt (Exodus 17:8-16).

HADASSAH
the power
of women
who **DO™**

Many, though not all, members and associates of our Lexington Chapter of Hadassah are affiliated with either Temple Adath Israel or Ohavay Zion Synagogue—or both—and we will once again jointly lead Friday evening and Saturday morning *Shabbat Zachor* services.

Friday's service on March 18 will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Temple, followed by an oneg. Torah service at the synagogue will begin Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m., followed by a kiddush lunch. Temple and synagogue members and associates will take part in both liturgies, and our choirs, led by Lorne Dechtenberg and Jaemi Loeb, will be combined at each service.

This annual community observance is one of the many ways in which the Lexington Chapter of Hadassah brings members of the Jewish community together while respecting our distinct liturgies and customs. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend these services and to stay and enjoy the oneg and the Kiddush lunch.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Ruth Scott (rascot0@yahoo.com) or Connie Grobstein (j.grobstein@twc.com).

Hinei ma tov uma nayim shevet achim gam yachad (Psalm 133).



PURIM

TAI/OZS Purim Carnival
Sunday, March 20
10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
at Temple Adath Israel

Kids Megillah reading will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the Carnival will begin at noon.

There will be games, food and fun for everyone so please plan on participating.

Pizza, drinks & Hamantaschen available for purchase.

Cost: \$5/person or \$10/family for unlimited play wristbands

There will not be Sunday school that day at OZS.

Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us along with TAI for the Megillah reading at Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

Make a Donation to JFB in Someone's Honor or Memory

Make a donation to the Jewish Federation in honor or memory of someone, or in celebration of a special occasion, and help JFB nurture the values of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), *tzedakah* (charity and social justice) and Torah (Jewish learning) within our Jewish community at home and abroad.

Send us your special contributions with a note specifying its intent. Also, let us know if you would like your contribution published in this box in *Shalom*. You may also make your special contribution online.

Celebrate your loved ones and support our Jewish community by giving a special contribution. Thank you for your support.

Thank you to:

- Debbie Aminoff in memory of Ruth Kraman
- Debra Wekstein in memory of Merle and David Wekstein
- Judy Wortman in memory of Irma Rosenstein

THE LEXINGTON HAVURAH

Gail Cohen, 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 Synagogues 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 gail.cohen@twc.com.

By Gail Cohen

"Be happy, it's Adar," goes the saying, referring to the Hebrew month. Spring is coming and everything will be coming to life. This is a year in which we have the opportunity to be twice as happy, because there are two Adars.

This is a leap year on the Hebrew calendar, as well as on the standard calendar. While on the standard calendar we add one day (February 29), on our Hebrew calendar we add an entire month (Adar II), and that is why our Jewish holidays are always "early", or "late. Have you ever heard anyone say, "Passover is right on time this year?"

Does the addition of an extra month to our calendar give us catch-up time? I don't know, but we certainly could all use some of that. It would be good for the Havurah, because we had to curtail some of our activities during the last month due to extreme weather.

We will go happily forward in Adar II, celebrating Shabbat and holidays together. We would love to have you join us. If you would like information about our March activities, please call me at (859) 272-1459.

know how for the next stage

Wondering how to plan
for what's next in life?

Or how to manage the
responsibilities of caregiving?

Or how to best cope with disabilities?

Wondering about insurance, Medicare,
housing options, safety, estate planning,
memory, staying active, getting around and more?

know what? A dream team of experts will have the answers at the free **i know expo**. Browse over 80 exhibits, experience new products, learn about new resources and have your questions answered at round table discussions led by experts in the field. Bring your questions and a friend.

know when. **Sunday - April 3, 2016**
12 - 5 PM

know where. **Bluegrass Ballroom**
of the Lexington Center

know more. www.iknowexpo.org  
Free admission
Free parking



Jewish Family Life Education Series Presents:

Internet Safety In-service

Police Detective Tyson Carroll with Crimes against Children will talk to us about the dangers and problems that our tweens and teens can easily run into and how to prevent them.

Thursday March 10th 7:00pm
Jewish Federation Office

Co-Sponsored by Jewish Family Services and the OZS and Temple's Sisterhood and Brotherhood. Join us for a very informative evening and light refreshments. This particular session is intended for the parents only.

RSVP: JFS@jewishlexington.org or call Mimi at 269-8244

Major Gifts Brunch

Save the Date

Sunday, May 22 at a private home.

Speaker Jerry Silverman,
President of the Jewish
Federations of North America.

OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE NEWS

2048 Edgewater Court • Kathy Grossman, President • (859) 266-8050

WELCOME

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming congregation in Lexington, Kentucky. Through the framework of Conservative Judaism, we explore our Jewish identities and form a community. We celebrate our diversity and welcome newcomers. Please join us!

JELLI

Jewish Education Lexington Learning Institute
Please join us for these exciting two-part programs presented by and for members of the Jewish community. And of course, there will be a nosh between the two speakers!

March 2 & 7 (Wednesday and Monday) at OZS

7:00-7:50 p.m. - Shana Sippy - Sex, Jews and Gender

8:10-9:00 p.m. - Jeffrey Siegel - If I Were A Rich Man: The Jewish Perspective on Money, Work, and Achieving Goals

PURIM

Join us for the TAI/OZS Purim Carnival, **Sunday, March 20 from 10:30-2:00 p.m. at TAI**

Kids Megillah reading will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the Carnival will begin at noon. There will be games, food and fun for everyone so please plan on participating. Pizza, drinks & Hamantaschen available for purchase.

Cost: \$5/person or \$10/family for unlimited play wristbands

There will not be Sunday school that day at OZS.

Then on **Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.** join us along with TAI for the Megillah reading at OZS

KABBALAT SHABBAT

Please join us on **March 11th at 5:30 p.m.** for our Kabbalat Shabbat Services. What a terrific way to begin the weekend, with a brief but spirited service and with beautiful melodies and wonderful friends. Everyone is welcome. Let's bring in Shabbat together!

KIDS' SHABBAT

Please join us for this month's Kids' Shabbat service on **March 18th at 5:30 p.m.**

Kids' Shabbat is our monthly Shabbat Service for younger children. We light candles, drink grape juice, eat pizza, sit together on beautiful carpets, sing songs, and read amazing stories from the PJ Library. Newcomers and friends are always welcome! This year's Kids' Shabbat services will be held Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at Ohavay Zion Synagogue on the following dates: April 15 and May 20. For more information or to RSVP, email [Dominique Olbert](mailto:Dominique.Olbert)

HADASSAH SHABBAT

March 18th at TAI, followed by Oneg, and March 19th at OZS, followed by lunch.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

Please join us any Saturday morning of the year, as Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates Shabbat. We begin at 9:30 a.m.; though please feel free to join at any time during the service. Our worship is filled with joyous song and fascinating Torah discussions. The service concludes around noon, and all are invited to schmooze over lunch after the service. This is a wonderful way to celebrate Shabbat and to meet some nice Jewish folks here in Lexington. Newcomers and friends are always welcome!

TUESDAY MINYAN WITH LEARNING FROM PIRKEI AVOT

Tuesday Minyan is a special time at OZS. During this brief service, students and adults both pray and learn together. There is a warm atmosphere and something for everyone to enjoy. Please join us **Tuesday afternoons from 5:45 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.** All are welcome!

STUDYING THE PROPHETS

Please join us **Wednesdays at noon** as we explore the book of **Jeremiah** through the teachings of our Jewish tradition. We have a wonderfully diverse group of learners and terrific conversations. All are welcome!

TALMUD STUDY

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

BACKPACKING FOR GOD'S PANTRY

Join us each month during the school year as backpacks are filled with food that children take home on weekends from Mary Todd Elementary School. All of the food is child-friendly, nonperishable, easily consumed and vitamin fortified. Check weekly announcements & Facebook for date & times.

INTERESTED IN OZS?

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming Jewish community. If you are interested, or if you know someone who may be interested in learning more about Ohavay Zion Synagogue, please call the office at 859-266-8050 or email Rabbi Smolkin at Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL

124 N. Ashland Ave • Pat Shraberg, President • (859) 269-2979

WHO WE ARE

Temple Adath Israel is a Reform Jewish congregation - We celebrate Torah, Justice, Tradition, and Faith. Our mission is to inspire Jews, to ensure a vibrant Jewish present and future by nurturing a multi-generational love for our tradition. Our "Community Center" approach to Judaism gives families a host of unique ways in which to love living relevant, soulful and experiential Jewish lives. Please call the Temple Administrator for more information if you are interested in affiliating with the Temple. The phone number is 269-2979.

KIDS' SHABBAT

Our Kids' Shabbat service is held on the second week-end of each month (during

the school year) and is geared towards children 7 years old and younger and their families. **Our next Kids' Shabbat is March 12th.**

PJ LIBRARY READING TIME

TAI has dedicated space in our Youth Library and our Anita Mersack Outdoor Reading Garden for families to share in our growing collection of PJ Library Books, before, during, and after religious school. The collection is in our Youth Library and these books provide our young children with wonderful introductions to the magic of Jewish storytelling.

KOLLEL STUDY GROUP

Kollel meets at 9 a.m. every two weeks in the TAI Library. The group explores cultural, ethical, and its historical aspects of our 4000-year tradition. The emphasis is on dialogue and exploration. Please join us any time. **Our next sessions will be March 5th & 19th.**

TALMUD STUDY

We are studying the Pirke Avot, a section of the Talmud on alternate Saturdays at 9 a.m. in the library. The discussion is always lively and informative and you can join the group anytime. **We will meet on March 12th & 26th.**

PARSHA

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 a.m. in the library as we take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Various Temple members will lead some discussions and everyone will take turns. **We will meet on March 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th.**

PURIM

See OZS announcements for details about joint OZS/TAI Purim activities.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

March Mitzvah Crib!

Throughout the month of March we will be collecting items for The Nest - Center for Women, Children and Families. Be on the lookout for your invitation to our Baby Shower on **Sunday, March 20th!**

The Nest provides free counseling, parenting education, emergency childcare, and basic supplies for families in crisis. The following is a list of requested items. A basket will be placed in the temple hallway to collect your donations. Thank you for supporting this important project.

- *diapers
- *general toiletries
- *baby toiletries
- *new/lightly used children's clothes (birth to 5 yrs)
- *new/lightly used small children's toys
- *new/lightly used baby equipment
- *baby wipes

Please join us on **Friday, April 29th** for our Sisterhood Shabbat.

HADASSAH SHABBAT

March 18th at TAI, followed by Oneg, and March 19th at OZS, followed by lunch.

GENERATION TAI

Generation TAI is our Chavurah group for young adults. Programming runs the spectrum from worship to social action and from Shabbat to holiday meals. This month we will have:

Friday, March 4th - Potluck after Services

Please contact Daniel Baker at dsbaker7@gmail.com to reserve your seat or go to our Facebook page for more information on all of our activities.

COOKING CHAVERIM

The TAI Cooking Chaverim have met to make challah, pita and falafel, and chicken noodle soup. It's been a lot of fun getting together to learn new recipes while getting to know other community members better. We will gather next to make Hamantashen for Purim. Bring your costumes and groggors (or just your willingness to yell whenever you hear He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named's name) to TAI on **March 19 at 1:00 p.m.** We'll be meeting April 16 to make matzo and gefilte fish. Cooking skills are not necessary but be ready to get your hands dirty!

UK Jewish Studies Event

March 31, 7 p.m. Boone Center - Marni Davis presents "Jews and Booze: Becoming American in the Age of Prohibition"

Marni Davis examines American Jews' complicated relationship to alcohol during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the years of the national prohibition movement's rise and fall. Davis offers a novel perspective on a previously unstudied area of American Jewish economic activity: the making and selling of liquor, wine, and beer. Alcohol commerce played a crucial role in Jewish immigrant acculturation and the growth of Jewish communities in the United States. But prohibition's triumph cast a pall on American Jews' history in the alcohol trade, forcing them to revise, clarify, and defend their communal and civic identities -- both to their fellow Americans and to themselves.

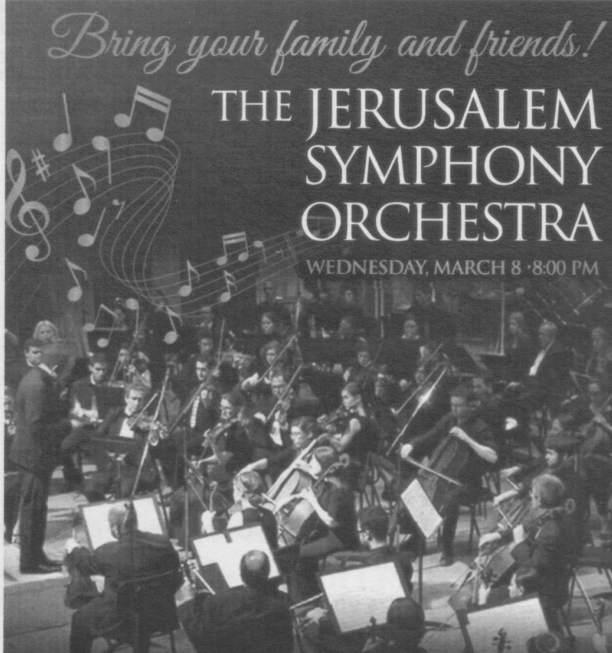


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Committee members meet monthly to edit articles, and occasionally write them as well. If you enjoy journalism or just staying current with Jewish events locally and worldwide, bring your enthusiasm to the Shalom team!

Contact Barbara Goldman, Editor-in-Chief
shalom@jewishlexington.org



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If you're interested in volunteering your articles please contact Barbara Goldman, Editor-in-Chief
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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 shalom@jewishlexington.org. Remember, we welcome photos too!

Condolences to:

- The Cooper family, on the passing of Lynn Dubinsky Cooper, sister-in-law of Leon Cooper.
- The Fried family, on the passing of Bobbi Fried. Bobbi is survived by husband Drew, and children Joshua (Mickey) and Emily.

ATTENTION PROUD GRAND-PARENTS, PARENTS, & 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 Barbara Goldman at shalom@jewishlexington.org.



Join us

FOR WOMEN ONLY

an evening with

Jane Weitzman

Author and Executive Vice President of Stuart Weitzman

TUESDAY | MARCH 22 | 5:30 PM

at Ohavay Zion Synagogue



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pj playgroup 

March 20, 2016

Purim at TAI!

10:15–11:30 am

Please RSVP to
pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org

Purim celebrations for all will be held from 11a-1p at TAI. Playgroup will provide a quieter celebration option for our little ones.

PJ Playgroup is best for kids under 4. We'll have time to play, eat a light snack, and perhaps sing a song, create a craft, or read a PJ Library book.

PJ Playgroup is a joint endeavor of Temple Adath Israel, Ohavay Zion Synagogue, and PJ Library. Locations rotate each month.

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For a tour of our school
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please
call 335-9922
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Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

SHALOM is published 10 times per year. SHALOM is produced by the staff of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass.

For website or email questions, please contact tamara@jewishlexington.org or (859) 268-0672.

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Shalom is partially supported by the advertisements appearing in this publication.

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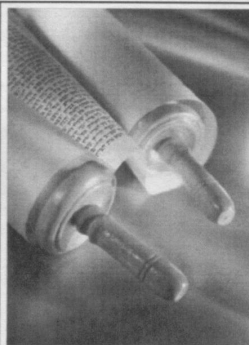
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Lunch and Learn with our
Lexington community rabbis

March 29 with Rabbi David Wirtschafter

At 12 noon on the last Tuesday of each month, in the JFB office, rabbis, on a rotating basis, will be discussing the holidays, the Torah portion of the week, and other topics of interest. A dairy lunch is offered at a nominal charge. If you are interested in attending, please call Judy Wortman at 859-268-0672 so we can order lunch for you.