

Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



IYYAR/SIVAN 5770

MAY 2010

Benefactors event to be held on May 23 Ambassador Danny Biran to speak

The Benefactors event will be held at Portofino on Sunday, May 23 at 6:00 p.m. Guest speaker Ambassador Danny Biran of the Israeli Consulate in

New York will discuss Israel's role in Haiti.



Ambassador Danny Biran

The cost of the dinner is \$28 per person. Individuals who donate a minimum gift of \$200 or couples who donate a minimum gift of \$400 to the 2010 Campaign are invited.

Danny Biran has served as the ambassador of administrative affairs at the consulate since August of 2008. He is responsible for human resources and administration for all of Israel's embassies and consulates in the United States, Canada, and Central and South America. In this role, he was called to

Haiti after the earthquake to serve as chief administrator of Israel's rescue operation and of its field hospital assisting Haitian victims. Prior to his present appointment, he served in diplomatic posts in Washington, DC, Athens, Buenos Aires, and Lima.

Ambassador Biran's special skills brought him the privileged position as one of Israel's top delegates to participate in special operations and missions. He was the head of the rescue team after the terrorist attack at the Israel embassy in Buenos Aires and was the key administrator for the erection and operation of the Israel Defense Forces' field hospital for refugees in Kosovo.

Ambassador Biran was born in Israel, has served in a paratroopers unit in the IDF, and holds a BA in international studies. He and his wife, Eva, have three daughters.

For information or reservations, please call Judy Wortman at (859) 268-0672. ☆

Tzofim Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan to visit Lexington on June 23 at Temple Adath Israel

The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass is pleased to announce and sponsor the performance of the Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan in Lexington. Those who have had the pleasure of seeing this group say the experience was fantastic. Judy Wortman says, "They are the most incredibly talented group of singers and dancers, that radiate *ruach* (spirit)."

Temple Adath Israel has generously donated the facility for the evening, which will begin at 7:00 p.m. on June 23. Please come out and enjoy this troop's positive energy, aimed at strengthening the relationship between the U.S. and Israel and promoting tolerance and respect among people of all faiths. Their music and dancing will enthrall all ages.

Friends of Israel Scouts, Inc. has been around since 1995, continuing programs that began in the early 1900s and were revived in the 1960s as a youth movement promoting both non-

political and non-sectarian views. This group of eight Israeli scouts began as a program for the Young Judea camping system, planting seeds that have grown for more than 40 years.

We are happy to present this free night of fun for the entire community; we invite our campers and staff especially to enjoy this pre-camp experience. If you have not yet signed up for camp, there will be someone available to take your registration. You may also take the opportunity to meet our staff.

We are looking for host families willing to offer home hospitality, particularly families who have teenage children themselves. If you are interested in opening your home to two or more members of the Israel Scouts, please contact Jana at jana@jewishlexington.org or (859) 268-0672.

We hope to see you at TAI on June 23. ☆

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Super Sunday launches 2010 campaign successfully

The 2010 Jewish Federation campaign kicked off on Sunday, March 21 with our annual Super Sunday Phonathon. Thanks to the combined efforts of our chair, Carole Wilson, and a group of dedicated volunteers, we raised \$37,000 in pledges and an additional \$2,700 in proceeds from the Services Auction. Thanks to David Shakib for developing the auction, to Jana LaZur for implementing it, and to the many volunteers who offered their time and

skills. A follow-up night of phone solicitation will be held on May 6 from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. so that we can reach people who were not home on Super Sunday. Please answer your phone when a volunteer calls; help provide needed services for our brothers and sisters here in central Kentucky, in Israel, and around the world. If you would like to make a pledge now or to volunteer as a phone solicitor, please call Judy Wortman at (859) 268-0672. ☆

The deadline for the June/July issue is May 10. If you have an event in July that you would like publicized, the deadline for that material is May 10.

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Shalom

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The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

STEWART HOME SCHOOL VISITATION SCHEDULE: May 14 (Family Weekend)

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





Hadassah Closing Meeting

**Sunday, May 16, 2010
12:30 p.m.**

**Hilton Suites – Lexington Green
\$20 for sit-down luncheon**

FEATURED SPEAKER:
SCOTT TERRELL
CONDUCTOR OF THE
LEXINGTON PHILHARMONIC

**RSVP by MAY 10 to
Tamara Ohayon
lexhadassah@yahoo.com
or (859) 420-3925**

Please give Tamara your luncheon choice of
either Baked Flounder or Vegetable Risotto

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The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

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Shalom Deadline

Deadline for articles for the June/July *Shalom* is May 10.
Email articles to jfb.shalom@hughes.net

Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher announce new location, themes for 2010

Special pre-camp event to be June 23 at TAI

By Kathy Feinberg, Director, Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher

This summer, Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher will be held at the Woodman of the World campsite off Bates Creek Road, a few miles beyond the Bates Creek Road and Man O' War Boulevard intersection. This beautiful 60-acre campsite has much to offer our campers. Assistant Director Rachel Heller and I are busy planning enjoyable and challenging activities.

Theme for July 26-30 (week one): Jewish Camping Rocks with Unlimited Adventures

Campers will explore our new campsite. Activities will include swimming, hiking, canoeing on a two-acre lake, using a rock-climbing wall and high ropes (for older campers), and playing low ropes, miniature golf, basketball, volleyball, gaga, and much more. Each camper will have age-appropriate *teva*, music, Israeli dancing, games, sports, and *shiurim* activities as part of the daily schedule.

Theme for August 2-6 (week two): Horse Mania

As Lexington prepares for the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, September 25 to October 10, our campers will discover who is coming to our city for the World Games and what the games are all about. We will also learn about the horse industry in Israel. Select activities will relate to Horse Mania. Campers will also continue their usual daily activities. On the last day of camp, we will hold our all-camp Maccabiah. Campers will compete in track and field, archery, pool events, tug of war, and a new event: horse racing. Campers and staff will be divided into four teams, each with campers from every age group.

Camp Shalom is composed of three age groups. *Ofarim* campers are ages 4 and 5, *Tsofim* is for campers ages 6

to 8, and *Chalutzim* campers are ages 9 and 10. Camp Gesher is for campers 11 to 13. Each group has age-appropriate activities and is staffed with a group leader, counselors, and counselors-in-training. Each camper will have an opportunity to have activities with our *teva*, art, sports, and music/drama specialists.

Community storytellers will continue the tradition of oral tales—which campers and staff rate as a favorite activity—during both weeks. Campers ages 6 to 13 will choose one *chug* (special activity) for each week to explore a particular interest for an hour. This summer's *chugim* options include cooking, *teva*, archery, art, and dance/drama. Each Friday morning at camp we celebrate Shabbat with visits from community rabbis, singing, stories, and blessings.

Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher will be held from July 26 to August 6. Registration forms are available at www.jewishlexington.org. Just follow the link to Camp Shalom. Please note that early bird registration savings will be available until June 3.

You will get to meet our terrific staff of group leaders, specialists, counselors, and counselors-in-training in next month's issue of *Shalom* as well as on June 23, when many will appear at Temple Adath Israel. We will be hosting the Israeli Scouts for one night only as a pre-camp party and gathering opportunity. Those who have seen the scouts will tell you that they are exciting and entertaining. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to see the Tzofim Caravan (Israel Scouts) in person while meeting staff for the 2010 Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher as well as other campers.

We continue our efforts at Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher to go green: we reuse, recycle and respect our environment. ♻

Join us for the Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass

**Wednesday, May 26
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
at the Federation office
1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 302**

Participate in the election of JFB's incoming board members and join the Board in showing appreciation for those members completing their terms.

Recognition awards will also be given.

Slate of Officers and Board members 2010-2011

Officers

President	Linda Ravvin
Vice President	Bob Grossman
Secretary	Angie Ornstein
Treasurer	Bill Lucas
At Large	Bruce Broudy
At Large	Evelyn Geller

Board Members—Second Three-Year Term

Linda Ravvin
David Wekstein

Board Members—First Three-Year Term

Amy Faust Mayer
David Shraberg
Hanna Smith
Gary Yarus

Our heartfelt thanks to retiring Board members and officers; Mike Grossman (VP), Pat Shraberg (Secretary), Odette Kaplan (At Large Executive Committee member), and Mimi Kaufman.

Thank you to the Nominating Committee: Odette Kaplan, Chair; Evelyn Geller; Mike Grossman; and Pat Shraberg.



**The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS**

Our connection. Our voice. Our community.



President's Message

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

Well, finally! Leon and I have joined "the club." No, we have not joined any of the

country/golf/hunt clubs that you might automatically think of in the Bluegrass. We have joined the Grandparents Club. We are now officially known as Bubbe Linda and Zaide Leon, distinctive titles for us, indeed. We were particularly pleased to be included during the birth itself, and we were both hoarse the next day from cheering Heather (and Kirt) during the delivery. I also had the pleasure of watching my mother lovingly hold her fifth great-grandchild when she came to help us celebrate Myer Samuel McKee's first introduction to Jewish life at his bris.

This wonderful addition to our lives and the carrying forward of our family and our Jewish tradition has had me reflecting on Jewish generations and continuity. Everyone wants to see their children and grandchildren succeed and, they hope, surpass them in happiness, good health, life ambitions, and connections. By connections I mean family, friendships, and community. We, as the older generation, need to lead by example in this. If we do not teach our children how to care and how to assume responsibility for extending that caring to others, then we are failing to give our children an understanding of humanity. This is part of the basic precept of Judaism as stated in Deuteronomy following the Sh'ma: "Thou shall teach them diligently to your children and shall speak of them in your home and on your way, when you lie down and when you rise up...."

We, as a community, have a responsibility to ensure that Jewish communal life—and all that is inherent in it—grows and continues through the generations. Judaism has endured throughout the centuries because of the strength of communal bond and common belief. No matter where we travel in the world, there is a familiarity and comfort level in contacting the local Jewish community. There is a sense

of common purpose and goal: that the Jewish community is a worldwide one, based on the same principles and on caring for one another and the larger community around us.

How do we accomplish this connectivity and continuity? We teach by example. We have to show the generations following us—our children and grandchildren—that celebrating being Jewish is part of the fiber of our being and is something to celebrate every day throughout our lives. That being Jewish is not only a religious belief but a moral, caring, historical, and communal bond that is part of the value of Judaism. Show your children the value inherent in this bond; involve yourselves in Jewish communal life. Involve your children and grandchildren. Bring them to activities, volunteer and encourage them to volunteer with you. Send them to a Jewish summer camp. Studies have shown that the best way to connect the next generations to Judaism is through Jewish summer camping, Jewish day schools, and trips to Israel.

Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher are now accepting registrations for this summer's camping experience. They have so much fun, the kids do not realize how much they are learning—about Judaism, community, sharing, partnership, and leadership. The staff learns along with them. And our whole community is enhanced, not for now but for the future, when these kids and young adults will have children of their own and convey the same sense of community to them.

That is how we ensure the future Jewish generations, we show by doing ourselves and by making the decisions that will continue to connect the future with the past, in tradition and caring, for each other and the broader community. ☆

Installation of new officers to highlight TAI Sisterhood closing meeting

On Wednesday evening, May 19, the TAI Sisterhood will install those women who will lead the group for the next two years. We have a terrific slate lined up and lots of new ideas for the future. This will be a dinner meeting and will include a short business session as we approve the amendments to the bylaws. After that, it's just fun, fun, fun as we socialize, enjoy each other's

company after a busy year, and look forward to the future.

Please join us on Wednesday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Temple social hall. The cost of the dinner is \$15 per person and advance reservations are required. Please call Sandee at the Temple, (859) 269-2979, no later than Friday, May 14, to reserve your place. ☆

Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass slate of officers and board members, 2010-2011

Officers

President.....	Linda Ravvin
Vice President	Bob Grossman
Secretary	Angie Ornstein
Treasurer	Bill Lucas
At Large	Bruce Broudy
At Large	Evelyn Geller

Board Members for a second three-year term

Linda Ravvin
David Wekstein

Board Members for a first three-year term

Amy Faust Mayer
David Shraberg
Hanna Smith
Gary Yarus

Congratulations to the nominating committee—Odette Kaplan, chair; Pat Shraberg, Mike Grossman; Evelyn Geller—for their successful efforts. Our heartfelt thanks to retiring board members and officers—Mike Grossman (VP), Pat Shraberg (Secretary), Odette Kaplan (At Large Executive Committee member), and Mimi Kaufman.

The election will be held at the Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass on Wednesday, May 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the Federation offices, 1050 Cherokee Road, Suite 302. ☆

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Third Opinion

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD

Typhus, Anyone?

Right after a successful seminar on teaching the Holocaust, all of us on the organizing committee got an email from a Holocaust denier. His initials are B.S. and so was his message. He challenged us to produce the names of people who were gassed and cremated by the Nazis. Why?

For one thing, Holocaust deniers claim that all the dead Jews General Eisenhower and others saw died of typhus, not poison gas. This, I submit, would be a distinction without a difference. That is, even if it were true, the claim does nothing to exonerate the Nazi government from the charge of genocide. Purposefully causing the deaths of six million people by whatever means is genocide.

Deniers also like to point to the American round-up of Japanese as though our guilt for this shameful act could somehow excuse Germany's. But the differences between the two are too vast to allow comparison. Japanese had lived here fewer than 100 years when their native country attacked us. Jews had

lived in Germany for centuries before there was a Germany. There were sizeable Jewish communities on the Rhine 900 years before Hitler—may his name be forgotten—was born. Furthermore, Germany had not been attacked by any nation, Jewish or other, in 1933 when it began the process of discrimination against Jews that led to the Holocaust.

Another big difference between the two cases is that the number of Japanese interned was only about 120,000. This is about five percent of the number of Jews killed between 1941 and 1945. And the Japanese weren't killed. Some may have died as a result of being moved and of living under less than ideal conditions, but this was not the aim of the government policy.

There were no Jewish units fighting for Germany in World War II, but America formed the 441st Regimental Combat Team, a unit composed entirely of young Japanese kids who volunteered for duty to show their loyalty to the country that had interned their families! They fought with such bravery and skill that they were asked for by commanders all over the European theater of operations.

If it is claimed that Russian Jews were, by and large, sympathetic to the overthrow of the tsar in 1917, that attitude certainly cannot be attributed to German Jews. They were generally middle-class, conservative, and intensely patriotic. Jews not only served in the German army in World War I with distinction, but in greater numbers than their percentage of the German population. (That same dictator I mentioned above ordered a study that he expected would show that Jews routinely ducked military service. Imagine his surprise; the report was not published.)

Ironically, those Jews who did sympathize with Soviet Russia got a big surprise when that country signed a non-aggression pact with, of all countries, Germany. This treaty, inked on August 1, 1939, allowed the two signees to cut up Poland and doom most of its Jews. After the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, the number of pro-Soviet Jews worldwide dropped precipitously.

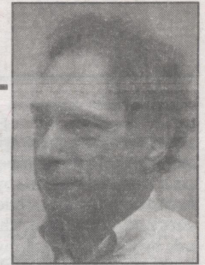
I don't know what motivates Holocaust deniers, whether it's the same obstinacy that causes some people to deny that we have landed on the moon, or anti-Semitism, or shame for their own

German (or other) heritage. Or what.

I was initially tempted to respond to B.S. with Proverbs 26:5: "Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he think himself wise." Then I remembered Proverbs 26:4: "Do not answer a fool according to his folly, lest you become like him."

The bottom line is this: you cannot reason people out of something they haven't reasoned themselves into. All we can do is continue to combat the deniers' lies with our truths. ✱

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



Jfs Jewish Family Services Upcoming Programs



Picnic at TAI
Wednesday, May 12
12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Temple Adath Israel
124 North Ashland Ave.

Speaker: Rabbi Marc Kline
Master of the Grill: John McDonald

Save
the date

Leisure Club Patriotic Tea
Thursday, June 17

with Bob Orbach and John Kalbfleisch

For more information about these events, to RSVP, or to arrange transportation to the event location, please

contact Paula Clancy at
(859) 269-8244 or
jfs@jewishlexington.org.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass
invites you to attend the

Benefactors Dinner

Sunday, May 23

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Portofino

249 East Main, Lexington, Kentucky

Guest Speaker

Danny Biran

"Israel's Role in the Haiti Rescue"

Couvert - \$28.00

Minimum 2010 Commitment

Individual - \$200 Family - \$400

You will have the opportunity to make your pledge to the
2010 Jewish Federation Community Campaign

To RSVP or for more information about this event, contact
Judy Wortman at jfb@jewishlexington.org or 859-268-0672

The estimated cost of this event is \$28 which is not tax-deductible.

Honor the past.
Ensure the future.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

From the Director

Judy B. Wortman

A study in contrasts

This past March I was witness to two lectures that I feel compelled to discuss. The first was one by Oscar Haber to 200 eighth grade students at Bates Creek Middle School. The second was one by Dr. Hanan Ashrawi at UK. Each of these experiences evoked emotional responses I found overwhelming.

I met Oscar the first Shabbat after I moved to Lexington a year ago. He was the Haftarah reader at OZS and I was told he was 99 years old and a survivor of the Shoah. As I listened to him chant, I was so moved that I began to weep. I introduced myself to him at the Kiddush lunch and was greeted by him as if we were *mishpocha*. We have enjoyed a friendship all year and I was thrilled to celebrate his 100th birthday at two of his parties—one at JFS Leisure Club and one at OZS.

When I was contacted about bringing a survivor to Bates Creek Middle School by Sheila DeVary, the teacher who was running the program, I called and asked Oscar if he was willing to speak. He agreed immediately. I picked him up that day and was very excited to hear his presentation because I had never heard him speak about his experiences during the war and his escape from Poland. Oscar spoke for 45 minutes without a note, then answered questions for fifteen minutes and

concluded with the story of his final rescue. The students and faculty were absolutely mesmerized by his talk.

They didn't move; there wasn't sound in the library other than his quiet, gentle voice. Before we left, almost every student came to greet Oscar, to hug him, to shake his hand, to take a photo with him. He spoke of how he loves humanity and how he loves God. He spoke of the forgiveness necessary to move beyond hatred and adversity. He spoke of the importance of education and how teaching children like those at Bates Creek could change the world and eliminate prejudice and intolerance. Again, I found myself choking back tears all morning.

Two weeks later I attended the lecture by Dr. Ashrawi, a figure I had come to know watching *Nightline* when she was the official spokesperson for the PLO. Her appearance was the second lecture of a two-part program on Peace in the Middle East that began with the October appearance by former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. When she was introduced as a follow-up speaker to Prime Minister Olmert, she made a hateful comment about not wanting to be mentioned in the same sentence as that "war criminal." I thought this was offensive, not only to the audience but to the university that had invited her.

I felt particularly bad for my friend Assistant Provost Richard Greissman, who had moved mountains to actualize both programs and who has such great hopes for Peace House to be established here at UK.

Dr. Ashrawi's rhetoric about Israel was vitriolic, and as the Palestinian students in the audience cheered each statement, I felt targeted by active anti-Semitism around me. It was the first time I have ever felt that way and I was increasingly uncomfortable and anxious to leave. I began to think for the first time that peace would never be possible if most Palestinians agreed with her point of view. I believe that Olmert's message was much more conciliatory and conveyed understanding of the Palestinians' hardships. Dr. Ashrawi gave absolutely no credit to the Israelis or Israel's government for anything.

I thought about the messages of hate that the Palestinian school children have been taught and how different those are from the lessons that I saw at Bates Creek Middle School. How wonderful it would be if all the children in our world could sign the pledge that the each Bates Creek eighth grader signed after saying it in unison as they were led by a beautiful young Muslim girl:

"I believe in the equality of human-kind and in the equal rights of each individual. I believe it is

wrong to be prejudiced or cruel, physically or emotionally, to any person or group of people. I will not intimidate, be cruel or act superior to others. I will honor and support the equal rights of everyone. I will look deep into myself to see that I uphold this promise in every way. I will work to educate others so that they will not be prejudiced or cruel. I will act to stop prejudice and cruelty every time I am aware that it is happening or about to happen. I have the courage to take this stand."

Finally, I would like to congratulate Sheila DeVary and the students and faculty of Bates Creek Middle School for their outstanding unit on the Holocaust. Every child in the eighth grade also wrote an essay for the Emilie Szekeley Memorial Essay Contest. I read many of them and was impressed by the breadth of their understanding and sensitivity. I would also like to thank Oscar Haber again for teaching us about forgiveness and love. May God grant him 120 years. ✽



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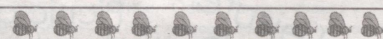
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Mitchell Barnes - Owner

Emilie Szekely Memorial Essay Contest winners

In memory of Emilie Szekely, the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, in conjunction with the Szekely family, sponsors a special annual writing contest on the Contemporary Lessons of the Holocaust. Emilie Szekely was a survivor of the Shoah who for many years dedicated herself to speaking to students in Kentucky about her experiences in Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen. The writing project is an effort to continue Emilie's life work of keeping the lessons of the Holocaust a living memory.

The project is open to students in all middle schools and high schools in the central Kentucky area. The winners read their essays at the Yom HaShoah commemoration on Sunday April 11 and each received a gift of \$100 and a certificate. Their essays have been submitted to both Shalom and the Lexington Herald Leader for publication. The winning teachers and schools will receive a library of Holocaust-related books and teaching materials. For information, please call Judy Wortman at (859) 268-0672.



Taylor Six reads her winning essay as George Szekely looks on.

Untitled

By Taylor Six, Jessie Clark Middle School (Mrs. Wiosinski, Teacher)
I'm hiding. I hear the running of my friends trying to find me. Crouched behind a bush, I am trying to remain as invisible as possible. All of a sudden, the whispers turn to yelling, the running turns to marching, and invisibility seems like the hardest thing possible. I feel myself being taken, taken back in time.

I hear screams, shouts, and cries. However, no sounds are escaping me. I soon realize I am unable to be seen, a witness of an impossible tragedy. I look around to find my friends vanished. They're replaced by men in

black uniforms, and sickly families. Momentarily, I glance upon a sign saying Warsaw Ghetto. As I had heard in class, the most packed and filthiest ghetto of them all. Being taken away on a truck were a couple of men and women with their children reaching behind them. I spot a young girl crouched over what seemed to be her father weeping. On their chest, the Star of David is conspicuous. It seems this dark place is death itself. My memory rushes back to what I read about the Holocaust. Children stealing food for their families, and severe diseases being spread. As I start to tear up, re-opening my eyes, I am no longer at the ghetto. I'm in Auschwitz.

Greeting me are the words, Arbeit Macht Frei (work makes one free). Outside are bald men, women, and children in striped uniforms. Some are marching, some are working strenuous labor, and some are lifeless on the ground. One body is being dragged away from the electric fence, dead. Quickly, I am inside. The walls only shield me from the bitter wind, not the devastating terror. In front of me, people are lying limply in bunks with others beside them. They seem so tired, they can't moan to express their neglect. I see Nazis yelling and dragging men off into rooms like they are cows, facing the slaughterhouse.

Down a corridor, I see what seem to be gas chambers. However, only men are loaded into these chambers as a systematic approach to mass elimination. Beside the chambers are belongings: clothes and valuables which will soon be stolen by the Nazis. In the next room, I see a handicapped man being photographed. Another person counted as dead.

In a flash, I am at the mass graves. Fleshed skeletons are stacked on each other like a frail deck of cards. The men, women, and children's eyes are all glassed over as if they are as mortified as I am. Some bodies stretched in

a row, seeming to go on forever. After being tortured, their bodies aren't even disposed properly, thrown out as if an unwanted animal.

Safe. I reach base in the game of hide and seek I'd been playing with my friends earlier. However, when I look back on all the people that didn't make it to base, I can't help but feel disgusted not only with myself, but with the world. For those that did survive: you are the world's strongest and nonetheless, heroes.

Holocaust Lessons Forever

By Andrea Laporte, E.J. Hayes Middle School (Mrs. Dulaney, Teacher)

Many people don't think that the Holocaust ever happened. But they're totally wrong. Here we have the men and women to prove it, our Holocaust Survivors. All of us here know the truth; we know that the Holocaust was a tragic period of time, which will never be forgotten. Millions of people were lost and once we learn about the Holocaust we will never forget it. It's one of those events that will be taught through history. Many lessons were learned during this time.

One lesson I learned was to never take things for granted. For our Survivors and millions of others everything was taken away without warning. At first just ways of entertainment, then their business and then it finally ended up with taking their lives. We can now look at a simple pair of jeans or an old t-shirt and just look past them. We take that for granted. We have food and water whenever we want it. We take that for granted. We don't think about maybe one day all these things might be taken away from us. Jews that went to work and concentration camps had it all taken away. Forced to wear rags and wooden shoes no matter the weather, with barely any or no food or water. Things we all take for granted, were gone in a blink of an eye.

I've learned not to prejudge, discriminate, hate or lie about people just because they are different. We are all different in one way or another, that's what makes us, us. It's not right to hate someone just because of that difference. One spark can cause a whole fire. That's what Hitler did. He started to lie and point fingers at innocent people for Germany's misfortunes. That one spark led to the Holocaust. Just because of one man, we lost over

11 million people, including mainly Jews but also blacks, homosexuals, and more. We all lie and prejudice, but sometimes it goes too far and horrible things happen.

The last lesson I learned is simply treat others how you want to be treated. Step into their shoes and see how they feel and how you, yourself would feel. One day you might be picking on someone because they're different and the next day you might be the one getting picked on. That's when you see that it hurts, and it's not right. It's hard to be mean to someone who's nice. Treat others how you want to be treated. If you respect someone they'll respect you. But be mean to someone and one day you'll feel that same pain you brought to them.

I will never forget the lessons from the Holocaust. For anyone it is eye opening. Opening people's minds to the evils out there and opening people's hearts to difference and the small things in life. No one is perfect and that's the beauty of the world. There is no certain perfect image of a human. We are all beautiful and unique in our own way. No one has the right to take away our own life just because of differences. Discrimination is wrong. But sadly is still around us everywhere. It is toward sexes, races, religions, sexuality and more. The Holocaust should always be taught. It will always be in our Survivor's memory and surely in mine. I want people to learn about this and just reading about the Holocaust could change people. Once you learn about the Holocaust, you'll never forget it.

Let's Make the World a Paradise

By Nicholas Farler, Tates Creek Middle School (Teacher Sheila DeVary)

When bad things start to happen, you should stand up for what you believe in and stop it as fast as you can. That's the lesson that was learned during the Holocaust. If it had been stopped earlier, mankind wouldn't have such a bloody event splattered all over the pages of our history. This shouldn't and won't ever happen again if we remember the past horrors of the concentration and death camps. If we had never had prejudice, we wouldn't have had the attempted extermination of a people just because of their beliefs.

see Essay, page 8

JFS: At Your Service

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

A call for volunteers

Independence is something that we often take for granted. Most folks maintain a feeling of independence by driving wherever they choose to go. But there will likely come a time for each of us when we are unable to drive. It may be age related—that it simply becomes time to stop. Or sometimes people find that they just want to cut back on driving at certain times, for example at night or during rush hour. Other times, people have medical problems that preclude driving.

ITN Bluegrass (Independent Transportation Network) is a new non-profit organization that offers safe, affordable automobile transportation for people 60-plus years of age and for visually impaired adults. Trained volunteer drivers in private cars provide door-to-door transportation 24 hours a day, seven days a week anywhere in Fayette County for any reason. Riders often describe the experience as more like being driven by a trusted friend than taking a taxi.

The road to mobility begins with a small annual membership and a pre-paid Personal Transportation Account based on estimated usage. Walkers and folding wheelchairs pose no problem

to ITN. We are interested in starting a Community Rides program with ITN for members of the Jewish Community. It is possible to bank volunteer hours, which could be used by members of the Jewish Community who need transportation to connect with Leisure Club, religious services and activities, and medical appointments.

Provide one afternoon a week or a few hours a month. You'll receive training and ITN Bluegrass will arrange your driving assignment and route around your schedule. You can even pick up your rider on your way to work and do a mitzvah before you start your day!

If you can volunteer to help bank hours needed to put this support service in place, please call Paula Clancy at (859) 269-8244. Further information about ITN is available at www.itnbluegrass.org. ☆



Essay from page 7

The sad thing is this has been happening for thousands of years. People have been discriminated against since the dawn of time. But why? Everyone is equal, no matter what. This vicious cycle of hate has got to stop. Prejudice is NOT engraved in our DNA. It is learned. If we started teaching and practicing tolerance, eventually prejudice would cease to exist. There would be no mistreatment in the world. Wouldn't that be amazing?

The United States was very prejudiced a long time ago; we have come a long way since slavery and segregation. There was a time in our society that people didn't respect every other person. There were even laws that supported prejudice. It doesn't matter what someone's appearance or beliefs are. Our founding fathers knew that. In the constitution it says, "Every man is created equal." Our constitution should be respected, and so should every single individual's rights.

As a society, we need to work to prevent something like the Holocaust from repeating itself in history. There are many ways to do this. For instance, we could gain tolerance, and lend a helping hand to those who truly need it. Work to end wars, hunger, disease, and slavery in the world. We need the love in the world to destroy the hate. If we are successful at destroying the hate, we could make this planet a paradise for everyone, because there

wouldn't be a feeling of superiority and inferiority. Everyone would be allowed to live together peacefully.

Parents need to prevent the evil seed of chauvinism from growing inside their children's minds. If parents will do this, their children will be more resistant to the malevolent prejudice. We need to extinguish the wicked flames of prejudice with the pure waters of tolerance. Then the world will be a cultural utopia.

People need to stop thinking of themselves in hard times. The bystanders of the Holocaust weren't as guilty as the Nazis, but they weren't as innocent as the victims of this terrible occurrence either. Don't just stand by and be a witness to a terrible deed. Fight against it. If you stand there and do nothing, you are giving your permission to the perpetrators to continue doing it. Doing nothing is the same as surrendering. "Don't go raising the white flag, because they'll probably just poke you with it." (Three Dog from Fallout 3)

Stay aware of the prejudice around you, or in other words be a critical thinker so you can build up opposition to prejudice, and thus becoming more tolerant. When you stay aware, you build tolerance because you are responsive to the bigotry. Spread your tolerance to others so you can make a brighter, happier future for generations to come. ☆

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Kyrgyzstan and the Jews: A status report from the JDC

Kyrgyzstan has few natural resources. About a third of its population of about 5.5 million lives under the state-recognized poverty line. The downturn in the world economy, and its attendant unemployment, therefore has severely hurt Kyrgyzstan.

The country is divided along geographic and clan lines. The majority of the population is ethnically Kyrgyz, but there is a significant native Russian-speaking minority, to which most of the local Jews belong. Note, then, that they are doubly "foreign"—perceived both as Jews and as Russians. However, the society is basically tolerant of its small minorities.



Bukharan (Central Asian) Jews

Most of the estimated 1,300 Jews are concentrated in the nation's capital, Bishkek. From the 1990s onward, the community was run by a dynamo named Rosa Fish. Like most of the other Jews there, she had roots extending back to the Second World War. Kyrgyzstan was beyond the reach of the Nazi juggernaut, and was the destination of thousands of Jews fleeing from the west USSR. Among those who remained, or who resettled there from elsewhere, was a large cadre of Jewish public health physicians.

Rosa, the founding director of the Hesed, oversaw the founding of a youth club, a Jewish book festival, a Jewish library, a program for family education, and an educational program for tolerance in the school system based on a curriculum about the Shoah. All of this, and the welfare operations, are JDC supported. There is

even a school for 70 Jewish children in Bishkek, which JDC supplied with books and various other educational aids. For many years, Rosa worked in tandem with Professor Boris Shapiro, a long-serving vice minister of health in the country.

During the past couple of years, the community suffered a double blow. Professor Shapiro stepped down from many of his public positions due to his advanced age (although he remains associated with the Jewish community), and Rosa made aliyah.

Bishkek has 535 Hesed clients, more than half of the city's Jews. The population is heavily weighted towards the elderly, as many able-bodied young people have emigrated. Osh, the place with the next-largest concentration of Jews—and the place where the current unrest began—has 39 Jews, of whom 28 are Hesed clients.

Other locales are not easily accessible and lack local municipal infrastructures. Therefore, the Jews there rely on large deliveries of food or medicine several times a year from the Bishkek

Hesed. Between deliveries, the Bishkek Hesed maintains contacts with these Jews. The Bishkek Hesed also services the 95 needy Jews in four locations in neighboring Tajikistan.

When rioting spread and then escalated into a full-scale revolution, we established immediate and ongoing contact with our sources in the community. There were no reported injuries among the Jewish population. Services to elderly clients were not interrupted. Programs that required traveling, for example Jewish renewal activity in the community-owned apartment, were suspended for the duration of the hostilities. The Hesed arranged for homecare workers and for meals on wheels for clients in Bishkek who are wholly dependent on the Hesed for their food. We will also follow up with the 161 children currently connected with the children-at-risk program in the country to determine whether intervention is needed. ✪

Visit the JDC website at <http://www.jdc.org>



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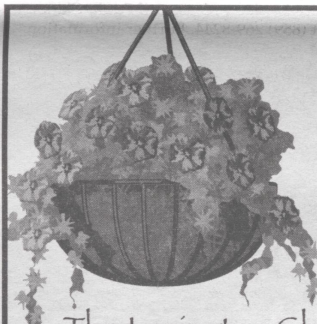
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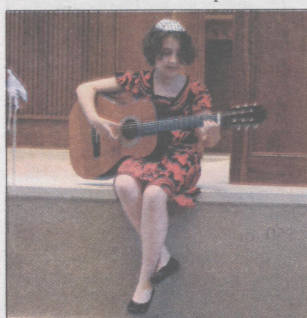
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Yom HaShoah program brings community together in remembrance

A large crowd turned out for a memorial program for Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) was held at OZS on April 11. Federation and Synagogue leaders, along with community rabbis, spoke and led prayers. Community children provided music and winners of the Emilie Szekeley Award read their essays (see p. 7-8). Survivors and others with personal

connections to the Shoah lit memorial candles. Keynote speaker Rabbi David Wortman spoke on "The Shoah and Forgiveness." The event was organized by Jeremy Popkin and Ken Slepian and sponsored by JFB, the Stanley Rose Lodge of B'nai B'rith, Lexington Haddassah, UK Hillel, Lexington Havurah, OZS, and TAI. ✧



Anya Slepian leads participants in singing "Oseh Shalom."



Ilana Kline playing "Eli Eli."



Rabbi David Wortman speaking on "The Shoah and Forgiveness."



Lighting candles in memory of the six million.

10 | May 2010 Shalom

Thank You to Super Sunday Volunteers

On Sunday, March 21 The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass raised \$37,000 in pledges and an additional \$2,700 in proceeds from the Services Auction. We send special thanks to the following volunteers:

Carole Wilson, Super Sunday Chair

Judy Baumann
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Linda Ravvin
Ricki Rosenberg
Judy Saxe
Stan Saxe
Kae Schennberg
Pat Shraberg
Hanna Smith
Terry Wilson

Thanks also to the staff: Gayle Bourne, Paula Clancy, Jana LaZur, Tamara Ohayon, Talia Smolkin, and Judy Wortman. ✧

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

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

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

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



Thank you to:

Steve and Janine Auslander in honor of the birthdays of Gene and Barbara Strauss, and wishing a refuah shlemah to Gene Strauss.

Linda and Leon Ravvin in honor of the March birthdays of Evelyn Geller and Oscar Haber.

Carole and Terry Wilson in honor of the March birthdays of Pauline Ravvin and Evelyn Geller.

Judy and Rabbi David Wortman in honor of Kirt and Heather McKee's new baby, Myer.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Community-wide Women's Seder provides food for thought

Fifty-five women of varying ages enjoyed the Women's Seder on March 18 at Temple Adath Israel. The group included several women and children from Casey County, and was co-sponsored by Hadassah, the sisterhoods of Ohavay Zion Synagogue and Temple Adath Israel, the Lexington Havurah, and the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass.

Evalyn Block thoughtfully compiled the Haggadah for the seder and led the ritual in admirable fashion. Various attendees took turns reading the Haggadah's narrative, which emphasized the contributions of women at the time of the flight from Egypt. The special symbols for this seder, notably the addition of "Miriam's cup," gave the group food for thought.

The evening concluded with spontaneous dancing, inspired by the warm atmosphere and the beautiful music provided throughout the evening by Aviva Bowling and Elizabeth Yanarella. Miriam would have been proud.

Thanks to everyone who helped make the Women's Seder such a wonderful success. Odette Kaplan not only organized the food, but also brought us a delicious Moroccan salad. The leadership provided by Judy Saxe, Evelyn Geller, Evalyn Block, Jane Chaput, Lynn Furness, and Aviva Bowling was invaluable. Kathy Feinberg, Kathie Kroot, Melanie Shapiro, Colby Cohen-Archer, Judy Baumann, Judy Wortman, Linda Ravvin, Jana LaZur, Judy Goldsmith, Hanna Smith, and Mimi Kaufman provided additional help. ☆

Women enjoying the spirit of the Seder



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Israel 21c: Israel is my country, good or bad

By Abigail Klein Leichman

"Our generation grew up very ideological, in the most positive sense," says Prof. Gavriel Salomon, former director of the Center for Research on Peace Education.

Hanging on the wall of Prof. Gavriel Salomon's office at the University of Haifa is an original poster announcing an April 1955 youth demonstration "to celebrate friendship between Jewish and Arab youth."

The event took place when Salomon, the outgoing director of the Center for Research on Peace Education at the University of Haifa, was in the 11th grade, and it turned out to be a lifetime's passion.

As a member of "quite leftist and peace-seeking" youth movements as a child, and later an idealistic kibbutz resident, Salomon has dedicated himself to building a tolerant Israel.

"Our generation grew up very ideological, in the most positive sense," he says. "We cherished high values

and we still do. When we were 18, the country was just eight years old, so everything was geared to contributing to the country—the country came before our own wellbeing."

Developing peace education

Born in Tel Aviv in 1938, Salomon recently received the Greeley Scholar for Peace Studies Award at UMass-Lowell for his work as director of CERPE, which brings together educators, psychologists, anthropologists, sociologists, political scientists, economists, and historians from across the world to develop modes of peace education.

The center's research demonstrates that intense but short-term peace-fostering projects, such as weekend workshops, have a correspondingly short-term effect on participants. Therefore, the center developed methods "to resuscitate the positive changes that take place and gradually become eroded."

It was also discovered that joint activities between populations needn't

preach coexistence because they naturally model it. "Bi-national soccer clubs for youth do not have any peace education purpose as their major goal," Salomon says. "Nevertheless, they have strong and stable effects on attitudes, beliefs and feelings. The same would be true of joint orchestras, choirs, and theater clubs."

This isn't the first time Salomon has received a prize for his work. Salomon received the Israel Prize in 2001 for his work in education research and in 2006 was elected a fellow of the International Academy of Education.

Salomon first became interested in education long before he started his bachelors degree in education and geography at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He worked as principal of an evening school for young adults who wanted to earn high school diplomas in Ma'alot, at that time "a very new, drowning-in-mud, no-electricity, immigrant town" near the Lebanese border. "I identified with the plight of the people," Salomon tells ISRAEL21c.



Prof. Gavriel Salomon has been volunteering, working, writing, researching, and educating for peace since he was a young boy.

From zoo animals to academia

Supporting himself through graduate school by working with children in after-school clubs and feeding animals at the zoo, Salomon earned his master's in education and psychology and then a doctorate in education, communication, and psychology at Stanford.

Back at Hebrew University in 1969 as a lecturer, his main interest was the interaction of media, cognition, and

see Israel 21c, page 13

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B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Ruth Poley

Something sweet (and healthy?)

It's been quite a while since I've published a dessert recipe. As I just tried a new one this week and the guinea pigs said it was good, I've decided to pass it on.

The nice part about this cake is that you don't even have to haul out the beaters—just mix it all up in one bowl. The unexpected ingredient in this cake is oatmeal; no one who tried it could guess what it was. When they found out, someone said, "Oh, then it's healthy." Well, if you want to ignore the two kinds of sugar and the stick of butter, and if you really want to consider milk chocolate a health food, then I guess you could call it healthy. Whatever gets you through the night! Anyway, it's good and easy to make. It does taste better a day after it's made.

Chocolate Oatmeal Cake

1 ¾ cups boiling water
1 cup rolled oats
1 cup packed brown sugar
1 cup granulated white sugar
½ cup (1 stick) butter or margarine at room temperature
2 eggs at room temperature
1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. salt
2 tbsp. cocoa powder
2 cups (12 oz.) milk chocolate chips
¾ cup shelled walnuts, chopped

Pour the boiling water over the oats in a large bowl. Let stand for 10 minutes. Cut the butter into about 16 pieces and add it, along with the two kinds of sugar to the bowl and stir until the butter melts. Add the eggs and mix well. Add the flour, baking soda, salt, and cocoa and mix well. Stir in 1 cup of the chocolate chips. Pour into a greased and floured 9 x 13-inch cake pan. Sprinkle with the nuts and the remaining chocolate chips. Bake at 350 for 35 to 40 minutes or until the cake tests done. Refrigerate to store, but bring to room temperature before serving. Serves 16 to 24. ☆

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



Israel 21c from page 12

learning—which later became the title of the first of his four books. He served in the 1973 Yom Kippur War as a front-line psychologist and stayed on another year as the army's first division staff officer for psychology. Eventually he returned to academia, this time at the University of Haifa.

"In 1987, we went to the States for a year and it stretched to five," recounts Salomon, who taught during this period at the University of Arizona at Tucson, and describes it succinctly as "desert and cowboys." Afterward, he was appointed dean of Haifa's faculty of education and earned a reputation as a critic of the way technology is used in education.

"But being a critic is not a career," Salomon confesses. So in 1999, he combined ideology with expertise to establish CERPE. One of his main accomplishments at the center, he believes, was making scholarly research "a legitimate accompaniment" to numerous non-governmental organizations "activities regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Now, over a decade later, Salomon is retiring from the center. "It is time to put me on ice," he jokes. He believes his successor should develop new and closer ties and partnerships with NGOs that do the work in the field.

Can peace education make a difference?

Despite a lifetime of work towards peace, Salomon is not necessarily sanguine about the prospects for peaceful coexistence in the embattled Middle East.

"Can peace education make a measurable difference? Not right now," he declares, relating that

the former minister of education had appointed him and an Arab colleague to formulate a policy for compulsory partnership education for grades one through twelve, but the present minister of education "buried the whole thing."

Yet he is not ready to give up on the country he loves. "Altogether I lived for twelve years in the United States, but I never considered living permanently in a country where... nobody gives a damn about what's going on," he says. "Here, I'm angry, frustrated, excited—I'm alive. Israel is my country, good or bad."

Besides, he has his family's future to consider. He and his wife, Esti Neeman, a psychotherapist whom he married eighteen years ago, have five children and eleven grandchildren between them. "I care very much what kind of country we leave behind," he says.

Aside from a one-semester residency on campus at UMass-Lowell—a prize of the recent award—the avid reader of historical biographies is also planning extensive world travels for his retirement, and wants to write another book. "It will be the ruminations of an old man about education. Finally I can say whatever I want to say without trying to be academic," he promises. ☆



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The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass will be holding a **Super Sunday follow-up night** on **May 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.** If you would like to assist with phone calls please contact Judy Wortman at 859-268-0672 or jfb@jewishlexington.org



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Ask A Rabbi

Rabbi Moshe Smolkin



Q: I don't remember hearing about reincarnation in religious school. How does it appear within the Jewish tradition? And what meaning can it hold for us today?

A: Reincarnation first splashes onto the Jewish scene in a Kabbalistic text called the *Bahir*. This text is traditionally attributed to Rabbi Nehunia ben haKana, who lived around the 1st century CE. However, it was first published in Provence, France towards the end of the 12th century.

How the concept of reincarnation entered medieval France remains a mystery. What we do know is that, even within Jewish mysticism, it is only after the publication of the *Bahir* that belief in reincarnation becomes a permissible possibility within Judaism.

Since the *Bahir* is the source for concepts of reincarnation within Judaism, let's explore a few of its writings:

Come again?

Said Rabbi Pinchas: "A generation goes and a generation comes." [Eccles. 1:4]

And said Rabbi Akiva: "A generation comes, that already came."

Here we find one of the first references to the idea of reincarnation. Rabbi Akiva, in classic rabbinic exegesis, plays on the double meaning found within the quote from Ecclesiastes. The phrase, translated correctly within its context as "a generation comes" (*dor ba*), could also be translated as "a generation came." Thus, reveals Rabbi Akiva, this coming generation could have already been here once before. (At this point, I usually like to imagine Rabbi Akiva giving a knowing wink to Rabbi Pinchas.)

Being taken to the cleaners

To what may this be compared? To a king who had servants, and clad them in garments of silk and embroidery, in accordance with his wealth. They went astray, so he cast them out and pushed them away, and removed his garments, and they went forth. He took the garments and washed them well, until no stain was left on them, and he kept them ready. He then acquired other servants and clad them in those garments, and did not know whether these servants were good or not. So they partook of garments that had already come into the world, and that others had worn before them.... And that is the meaning of "And the dust returneth to the earth as it was, and the spirit returneth unto God who gave it." [Eccles. 12:7]

An intriguing metaphor: The soul is likened to a garment that enters this world, entrusted into our hands. Our good behavior enables the garment to stay clean, but if we misbehave, the garment becomes marred by the dirtiness of our actions. If the garment does become blemished, God must take it to the cleaners and begin the process anew.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again

This is like a person who has planted a vineyard in his garden, and he hoped that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes [after Isa. 5:2]. He saw that he was not succeeding—so he replanted it, placed a fence around it, repaired the

breaches, pruned [the vines of] the wild grapes, and planted it a second time. He saw that he was not succeeding—he again fenced it off, and again replanted it after pruning it. How often? He said to them: Until a thousand generation, as is written: "He commanded a word to a thousand generations." [Ps. 105:8]

This remarkable teaching depicts God tending to humanity as though cultivating a vineyard. God does what She can to encourage proper growth. Indeed, God hopes for a beautiful crop, but until now, Her dreams have yet to be realized. So, what does God do? She tries again.

From our perspective, each generation is another opportunity for us to become the best examples of humanity. Even if we have not achieved this goal as yet, it remains our objective. And we must try and try again, even a thousand times.

It reminds me of writing papers in grammar school: An English teacher might insist the students rewrite their papers as many times as it takes until they get them right.

Yeah, but once we get there, we'll really have gotten there
When Israel is good, I will bring your seed from this place and bring new seed into being for you; but when Israel is bad, I will take of the seed that is already in the world....⁴

In His hand is the treasure-house of all the souls. When Israel is good, the souls are fit to leave there in order to enter this world, but if they are not good, they do not leave.

And this is what is meant by the [Talmudic] statement "The son of David will not come until all the souls in the body are exhausted" [63b]—that is, all

the souls in the body of man. Then the new souls will be permitted to leave, and the son of David will be allowed to be born. How so? Because his soul will go out as a new one among the others.

According to the *Bahir*, the messiah will not suddenly swoop in and make everything all right. Rather, we must do that. In order for the messianic era to arrive, we must first make things right ourselves. Until then, we just keep circling around, being reincarnated. But when we are good, we exit the cycle, and make room for others (including the messiah).

OK, so what's this got to do with me?
For some, reincarnation is simply a captivating concept, and it is reassuring to know that Judaism is sufficiently broad to contain it.

For others, reincarnation may truly be a viable belief, setting our current life within a wider context, giving us deeper meaning for our lives, providing us with an answer for what happens when we die.

But, whether reincarnation is literally true or not, life often does seem to be

cyclical. We do get into certain ruts, repeating negative patterns in our lives, and if we do not break out of these negative cycles, we may be doomed to relive them again and again.

So we must stay alert, watching for opportunities to break these cycles and to create fresh pathways in our lives. By doing so, we may open ourselves up for our own messianic era.

Still, who knows, it may all be literally true. So, the next time you feel a bit of *deja vu*, just think, you might have literally been here before. ☆

¹ *Bahir* 121, As translated by Moshe Smolkin
² *Bahir* 122, As translated in *On the Mystical Shape of the Godhead* by Gershom Scholem, p. 203

³ *Bahir* 195, As translated in *On the Mystical Shape of the Godhead* by Gershom Scholem, p. 201

⁴ *Bahir* 155, As translated in *On the Mystical Shape of the Godhead* by Gershom Scholem, p. 204

⁵ *Bahir* 184, As translated in *On the Mystical Shape of the Godhead* by Gershom Scholem, p. 205

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The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Lynn Furness, President

As I near the halfway point of my two-year term as president of the Lexington Chapter of Hadassah, I marvel at what a fantastic experience it has been. I've learned a great deal about the mission of Hadassah and the many good works it supports. I had the privilege of being an ambassador for Hadassah to several groups. I've met people in the community and throughout the Hadassah world I otherwise might not have met and have made new friends. As I reflected on my feelings about being president, I became curious as to what past presidents would say about their tenures, so I asked them. Not surprisingly, the comments sent to me present some themes.

The first theme is that we all look to the incredible women who preceded us as wonderful examples of leadership and dedication to Hadassah. We strive to fill their shoes and lead the organization in a way to make them proud.

A second theme is how well our chapter's members work together to accomplish great things. These women are all bright, capable, committed, and independent. They accept responsibility and follow through.

A third theme touts the inclusiveness of our chapter, which values each member for her unique attributes and whatever level of participation she can give.

A fourth theme acknowledges our chapter's welcoming ways. May we remain dedicated to reaching out to newcomers, young mothers, Young Judea alumni, and others who are drawn to Hadassah for any number of reasons.

We also know our chapter fosters friendships and allows women to build confidence in themselves and their heritage as it demonstrates support of Israel. As president one more fully grasps the importance of providing leadership opportunities for our young people and of undertaking efforts to make peace so all may live long and happy lives.

With the presidency of a Hadassah chapter comes a huge sense of responsibility that can, at times, feel overwhelming. However, the benefits far exceed any other factor. I look forward eagerly to the second year of my term and to having another special woman succeed me. With our history and our dedication, I am confident our chapter will go from strength to strength throughout the years. ✨

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Have a question? Ask a rabbi

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

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

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Cool Facts About Israel

ISRAEL'S 2010 YOUNG SCIENTIST
OF THE YEAR, April 2010



Competing against 59 of Israel's top teenage scientists who presented 40 projects at Jerusalem's Bloomfield Science Museum, Leo Baeck High School student Adi Friedman was awarded First Prize in the annual Intel-Israel

Young Scientists Competition for her technique for replacing eroded spinal discs by injecting a hydro gel polymer. Adi's inspiration to develop a non-surgical technique was triggered by her father's severe pain from an eroded spinal disc.

A panel of judges headed by Hebrew University Prof. Hanoch Gutfreund declared Adi the 2010 winner and her prize of a full university scholarship was awarded to her by President Shimon Peres at Beit Hanassi in Jerusalem.

When interviewed about her achievement and the success of her findings, the modest 18 year old spoke of how much she owed to the Technion's Tammy Porat and 2004 Nobel Laureate for Chemistry, Professor Ciechanover for their guidance and support and to Leo Baeck Education Center headmaster Dani Fesler, a leader in gender-equality in education and an inspiration to all his students to reach for the sky.

Adi will now be representing Israel in the 2010 Intel International Young Scientists Competition.

The Lexington Havurah

Judy Goldsmith, President

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

When I first started teaching college students, I was a teaching assistant for calculus—a subject I had avoided in college. Not my kind of math. I winged it. I was nervous. I made mistakes. None of us had much fun.

That was 28 years ago. These days, I am a lot more comfortable with teaching. I usually look forward to class, to the synthesis of knowledge that happens both in my own head and between myself and the class. I like my students.

So why do I look forward so much to the end of the semester?

One of the fastest ways to annoy professors is to refer to their having summers off. We work in the summer, even if we don't teach classes. We prepare

the fall's classes, read the technical papers we were supposed to have read during the semesters, do research and work with students, write papers, go to conferences. But it's usually on our own schedules. We can take a break to go weed the tomatoes or go for a walk. I look forward to the summer, to warmth and flowers, to fresh produce, and to the Havurah's Havdalahs under the stars (June and August). The summer services and programs always seem more relaxed.

My columns this year have focused on the holidays, because that's how I mark the passage of the Jewish year. But today, the sun is shining on a flowering tree and all I can think about is my garden, and the approach of summer.

Time passes. I don't teach calculus any more. Once in a while, I get to teach a brand new course. I wing it. Sometimes I'm nervous. Sometimes I make mistakes. The big difference is, we have fun.

Kind of like being the president of the Havurah.

Our next service will be on May 19, Wednesday, the second night of Shavuot. We'll have a dairy potluck, and Maariv plus Yizkor, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. For more details, call me at (859) 338-5725. ☆

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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.

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

Deadline

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

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



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Reception following in the President's Room
Featuring
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Nicholas Provenzale, baritone
Jessica Miskelly, violin
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Presented by the Friends of the UK School of Music
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Mini U faculty member wanted

The Adult Jewish Growth Committee seeks congregants interested in teaching courses for the Mini University's 2010-2011 academic year. The Mini U offers courses on Jewish experiences in all walks of life including culture, business, history, science, arts and crafts, cooking, film, health and medicine, current events, travel, issues in everyday living, or other subjects related to a Jewish theme. Each course will run from one to six weeks (one class per week, usually on a weekday evening). The ideal class format would emphasize discussion or hands-on activity, with short readings to be done in class. No prior teaching experience needed—just a willingness to facilitate conversation and learning about a subject that interests you.

If you are interested in becoming a

TAI Mini University faculty member, or have questions about the program, please contact Peter Schogol at peter.schogol@gmail.com or (859) 699-9195.

God's Pantry Night

Please join representatives from the entire Jewish community at God's Pantry on the **third Tuesday of each month**, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. We will sort food to be distributed to the homeless and assist God's Pantry in fulfilling the needs of the hungry in Kentucky. For more information and directions, please contact Karen Petrone at (859) 226-9145 or Petrone@uky.edu. Join us on **May 18, 2010**.

Kollel Study Group

Joe Engelberg leads this study of fundamental ideas of Jewish life and thought. Among these are spirituality, the nature of God, biblical and traditional injunctions and laws, Jewish history, principles of the Reform movement, and the relation of Judaism to Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism. Drop in the library on alternate Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. and join the provocative and friendly discussion. **May 1, 15, & 29**

Torah Study

Rabbi Kline conducts the study of the Tanakh (the Bible) from the Book of Joshua and beyond using the new Jewish Study Bible on alternate Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. in the library. **May 8 & 22**

Study on the Weekly Torah Portion

Join us each Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m. to take a look at the Torah portion for each week. The rabbi will lead some, everyone will take turns on

others. We plan to reintroduce classical texts and write the new midrash that will become classical over the next hundred years. The format will be different from either Torah study or Kollel. Bring your lunch.

Chavurat-Chochma (A Friendly Gathering of Wisdom)

We will meet on May 28 to schmooze and enjoy an informative program. The cost is \$6 per person. Please RSVP by May 26.

Sisterhood News

Mimi Kaufman, President: I want to thank all of you who donated items to the Mitzvah Crib. The baby items went to the Nest to help Lexington families in need.

I also want to thank Leona Stern and Mary Engel for all of their hard work getting the Temple's seder organized. I know they had a lot of helpers; thanks to all who helped make this such a special time. Speaking of special times, we have a closing dinner and installation of next year's officers coming up

on May 19 at 6:30 p.m. We will also be voting on a few bylaw changes, as they have not been updated in a very long time. It would be wonderful to have all of the Sisterhood there; hope you can make it. As this year comes to end I would like to remind anyone who might want to get more involved in Sisterhood that the Sisterhood board meets one evening a month. Please feel free to call me anytime with questions: (859) 245-5645

G.U.C. I. Reunion

A group of former OVFTY (Ohio Valley Federation of Temple Youth) region residents who attended Union Camp Institute between 1963 and 1969 are having a reunion at Lake Geneva from September 30 to October 3, 2010. We are trying to reach as many campers from this era as possible.

For more info about the reunion contact Dan Cook, 9016 Anchor Bay Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46236; (317) 823-3456; dancook@babyboomersound.com; or go to www.ovftyreunion2010.myevent.com. ☆



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

Are you on the Jewish Federation's email list?

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

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

tamara@jewishlexington.org



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Ohavay Zion Synagogue

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

OZS will celebrate the Senior Shabbat Service for graduating high school seniors on May 8 and the bar mitzvah of Isaac Satin on May 22.

Shavuot

Come one, come all for an awesome Torah Celebration on Tuesday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. (Minyan at 6:45 p.m.)

Shavuot Services (Including Yizkor): Wednesday, May 19 at 9:30 a.m.

Adult Education

The Writings of the Bible: Wednesdays, 12:00 noon

The Writings of Jewish Mysticism: Thursdays, right after minyan (5:45 p.m.)

Friday Morning Talmud Study

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

Weekday Minyan

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

D'Vine Minyan on Tuesdays

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

Kids' Shabbat

A monthly Friday evening Shabbat for children ages 4 to 9, with pizza, song, and schmoozing—5:15 p.m. on May 14.

Tish Gathering with Rabbi Smolkin

Tish, n. (Yiddish, fr. German *Tisch*, table) a gathering around the rabbi's table, usually on Shabbat, often with singing, story telling, or discussion. Each event will have a different topic, to be announced in advance. The May Tish is scheduled for May 7 at 8:00 p.m.

Night at the Movies at OZS

We will explore Jewish topics, history, and contemporary film from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., with free popcorn provided. This month's movie is scheduled for May 12.

Membership Committee

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

2010 Community Campaign

Benefactors Event—Sunday, May 23

Equine Division Event—t.b.a.

Thank You Event—t.b.a.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

18 | May 2010 Shalom

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Jewish Family Services (JFS), as part of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, helps individuals and families in need through professional and confidential information and referral services, limited financial assistance, service coordination, and Family Life Education programs.

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The Jewish Federation
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Our connection. Our voice. Our community.

Around the Community

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

Mazel Tov to...

Ruthie Stegman, daughter of **Wendy Stegman** and the late **Louis Stegman**, on her engagement to **Tony Kellogg**. They will be married on June 12, 2010 in Frankfort, Kentucky.

TAI 2010 Confirmation Class

Elizabeth Engel, daughter of **Beth Engel** and **Paul Engel**

Jessica Geddes, daughter of **Jann** and **Jim Geddes**

Caroline Kaplan, daughter of **Carol** and **Paul Kaplan**

Jacob Kaplan, son of **Ann Garrison** and **Randy Kaplan**

Noah Kratzer, son of **Debra** and **Charles Kratzer**

Victoria Meece, daughter of **Regina** and **Mike Mizell**

Emily Miller, daughter of **Lisa** and **Jonathan Miller**

Brody Price, son of **LisaMarie Coleman**

Haley Stein, daughter of **Linda Dwoskin**

Corinna Svarlien, daughter of **Diane Arnson Svarlien** and **John Svarlien**

Blaise Tremblay, son of **Robin Tremblay**

OZS B'nai Mitzvah going to Midrasha

Isaac Satin, son of **Lisa** and **Jonathan Satin**

Merev Eres, daughter of **Ronit** and **Avi Eres**

Matthew Feinberg, son of **David** and **Kathy Feinberg**

Zack Schneider, son of **Mark** and **Dianne Schneider**

Peter Schogol and **Johnas Newsome** on their renewal of vows at TAI on April 3, 2010.

Leon and **Linda Ravvin** on the birth of their grandson, **Myer Samuel McKee**, on March 17, 2010. The proud parents are **Heather** and **Kirt McKee**.

Jeremy Crystal and **Angie Stewart** on their marriage on March 22, 2010. Jeremy is the son of **Ralph** and **Elayne Crystal** and Angie is the daughter of **Janice** and **James Stewart**.

Beth and **Jason Pitman** on the birth of their son, **Warren Wyatt Pitman**, on March 23, 2010. **Carol Rosenthal** is the proud grandmother, **Warren** and **Betty Rosenthal** are the great-grandparents, and **Jennifer Veal** is the aunt.

Bar Mitzvah

Isaac Satin, son of **Lisa** and **Jonathan Satin**, will begin his journey toward adult Judaism when he is called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on May 22, 2010 at Ohavay Zion Synagogue. His younger brother, **Felix**, will also join in this celebration.

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 jfb.shalom@hughes.net

Isaac is a seventh grade student at Morton Middle School. When asked about his favorite subject, he replied, "I guess I like history because it is fun to learn about what happened in the past." Isaac plays trumpet in the school band and, when it is active, is a member of the academic team.

Outside of school, Isaac plays on the Bullets, a soccer team.

For his Mitzvah Project, Isaac opted to give a presentation at the Bluegrass Pride Convention about the necessity of recycling. Appropriately, he will give his speech on Arbor Day.

Condolences to...

Linda and **Barry Gerall** on the death of Linda's mother, **Nettie Rosen**, on April 1, 2010.

Lisa and **Dan Taulbee** on the death of Lisa father, **Leonard Granville Doran**, on April 5, 2010.

Jeff and **Mark Wenneker** on the death of their father, **William Wenneker**, on April 21, 2010, in Florida. Bill was also the brother of **Jim** and cousin of **Renee Hymson**.

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TREASURES FROM THE VAULT



HENRI DE TOULOUSE-LAUTREC: Diver Japonais (detail), color lithograph, gift of Mrs. Robert B. Meyer

May 2 – July 25, 2010



The Art Museum
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Rose Street and Euclid Avenue, Lexington, KY
859.257.5716 / www.uky.edu/ArtMuseum

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Community Calendar

• **JFB - www.jewishlexington.org**

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

• **OZS - Ohavay Zion Synagogue - www.ozs.org**

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

• **TAI - Temple Adath Israel - www.lectai.org**

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

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

• Lynn Furness, President • mamanews@yahoo.com

• **HAV - The Lexington Havurah - www.lexhavurah.uscjhost.net**

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

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

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 JFB Israel essay contest deadline Havurah Lag B'Omer celebration Hadassah Casino Night/ Auction/Raffle Anita Roos Baker Mother's Day Concert	26 Shalom newspaper deadline	27 Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits Hadassah Board Meeting	28 JFB Leisure Club JFB Committee (members) OZS night at the movies	29 Super Sunday followup	30 JFB Stewart Home visit Rosh Chodesh Sivan TAI highschool grads honored	May 1
2 Hadassah Closing Mtg. Yiddish Class at JFB	3 God's Pantry Night OZS Shavuot service	4 Shavuot JFB office closed TAI Sisterhood Closing Program Havurah Shavuot service	5 Shavuot JFB office closed	6 Shavuot JFB office closed	7 OZS Bar Mitzvah Isaac Satin TAI confirmation service	8 OZS Bar Mitzvah Isaac Satin
9 JFB Benefactors Event	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Memorial Day JFB office closed	25	26	27	28 Chavurat Chochrna at TAI TAI Bat Mitzvah Martine Nelson	29 TAI Bat Mitzvah Martine Nelson
30	31	June 1	2	3	4	5