

The Jewish Federations of North America Urges Caution and Congressional Review of Any Iran Deal

April 2, 2015

The Administration has repeatedly reaffirmed that "it is unacceptable for Iran to have a nuclear weapon." Even during the current negotiations, the White House has often said, "a bad deal is worse than no deal."

We appreciate the good faith efforts made by the Administration and the other members of the P5+1. We all hope that a diplomatic solution to stop Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon is possible.

However, the framework presented today leaves vital issues woefully unresolved. The agreement provides scant detail on how the phased sanction relief will be implemented. It contains insufficient clarity on how Iranian adherence to the agreement will be verified. And it is ambiguous on what penalties will be imposed if Iran fails to fulfill its commitments.

A weak agreement presents a clear and present danger to all nations. It is also likely to lead other countries in the region to seek their own nuclear capabilities, resulting in a proliferation of nuclear weapons in a part of the world already destabilized by Iranian proxies spreading terrorism and fomenting extremism.

And of course, a nuclear Iran, a regime which declares its intention to wipe Israel from the map, represents an existential threat to the Jewish State.

We are heartened by the President's statement that he will engage Congress as the U.S. continues the negotiation process. We urge the Administration to present any agreement to Congress for review.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Siegal, Chair of the Board
The Jewish Federations of North America

Jerry Silverman, President & CEO
The Jewish Federations of North America



View photos of the community Yom HaShoah Commemoration on pages 16-17.

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Major Gifts Brunch to be held on May 17

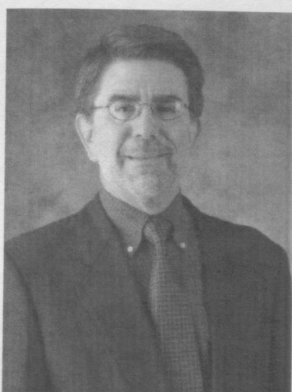
The Major Gifts Champagne Brunch will be held on Sunday, May 17 at 11:00 a.m. at the home of Linda and Leon Ravvin. The guest speakers will be Jeff Polson and Tiffany Fabing, Executive Director and Board Coordinator of the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence.

With financial assets exceeding \$100 million, the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE) is committed to improving health and fostering a vibrant Jewish Community in Metropolitan Louisville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky through its two grantmaking programs: Medical/Health Grants and Jewish Community Excellence Grants.

In order to foster a strong, vibrant Jewish community, the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence has identified four strategic funding priorities: Jewish Identity and Community, Creating Sustainability within the Jewish Community, Jewish Education, and Senior Jewish Adult Services. We are grateful for the grant our community has received for Camp Shalom. Last summer and this coming summer, the Jewish Heritage Fund has subsidized the cost of bus transportation and paid salaries for a camp nurse and Jewish program specialist. The Fund continues to welcome grant proposals from our community.

The cost of the brunch is \$18 per person.

Major donors to the Federation give a minimum of \$1000 per couple and individuals contribute a minimum of \$500 to the annual campaign. For information and registration, please call Judy Wortman at 268-0672.



President's Message

Michael Grossman

Father Ted, RIP

As I noted in my previous President's Message, there seems to be no limit or end to the shocking news of the day. News cycles being what they are, before we can even process past tragedies, today our attention

is focused on events in South Carolina, New York, California, and Ohio, where unarmed people of color have been killed by the police. It seems that when it comes to civil rights, as a society we take one step forward and two steps back. This is not what the leaders of the civil rights movement envisioned. Where are the 21st century champions of the civil rights movement? Where is Father Ted?

Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, who dedicated his life to justice and peace, died recently at the age of 97. "Longevity has its place," the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. said the day before he was murdered in Memphis in April 1968. But it also has its drawbacks. One of them is that many younger people will be unable to appreciate fully the significance of the life of a long-lived person like Father Ted.

Father Ted is known to many for his legendary tenure at the University of Notre Dame, where he served as its president for 35 years. (Full disclosure—Kathy received her MBA, and I received my JD, from Notre Dame). But his most lasting legacy may well be his contributions to civil rights and humanitarian causes. Father Ted, who marched hand-in-hand with Rabbi Theodore Heschel and Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in civil rights marches in the South, was appointed to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in the late 1950s. The Commission's task was to find out what life was like for blacks in America. It held hearings across the country and compiled more than 100 reports on such topics as access to voting places, housing, justice, education, and transportation.

In 1971, as chairman of the Civil Rights Commission, Father Ted released a report criticizing President Richard Nixon's administration for its lack of effort on civil rights. Shortly thereafter, Nixon asked for and received Father Ted's resignation.

Father Ted had a clear understanding of the relationship between peace, democracy, human rights, economics, and cultural development. He saw those as interconnected and interdependent, all dimensions of

the same reality. He had a talent for bringing people of different faiths, races, political leanings, and nationalities together and persuading them to work towards shared goals. He had a vision of working with partners everywhere to alleviate human suffering.

Father Ted devoted his long and consequential life to serving humanity, always taking courageous stands on the serious moral issues that have faced our nation and the world, including his fight for civil and human rights, his stand against nuclear proliferation and global hunger and his efforts to seek peace among people in conflict. As a dedicated member of the clergy, outstanding educator, caring humanitarian, and civil rights champion, Father Ted leaves behind a towering legacy of leadership—inspiring all of us to keep fighting for a world that honors the spark of divinity that rests in everyone.

May Father Ted's memory be for a blessing and a hope.

L'hitraot.

Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass Nominations for Officers and Board Members for 2015

Officers

President.....	Michael Grossman
Vice President.....	Evalyn Block
Secretary.....	Gayle Bourne
Treasurer.....	Dianne Bazell
At-Large Executive Committee.....	Amy Faust Mayer Seth Salomon

Board Members

For a Second Three-Year Term.....	Mickey Hernandez, Seth Salomon, Judy Worell
For a First Three-Year Term.....	Daniel Baker, Erin Gold

The Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 27 at 7 p.m. at the Federation office.



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Letter to the Community

The last issue of Shalom included an op-ed entitled How to Become a Rodef Shalom written by Gary Yarus. The Shalom editorial committee understood that the views expressed in it were controversial, and not held by the vast majority of our community. The op-ed was preceded by a statement from the editorial committee that the views expressed were not those of the committee, JFB or its constituent organizations. It was the editorial committee's hope, which in retrospect was naive, that the publication of this op-ed would encourage thoughtful members of our community to address and refute the assertions in this piece.

The editorial committee has heard from several members of our community. While unanimous in their refutation of the views expressed in this op-ed, they also question the editorial decision to print the op-ed in the first place. While our readers agree that encouraging members of our community to write articles and letters for Shalom is a laudable goal, attempting to do so by printing viewpoints which otherwise have no support in our community was unwise. In hindsight, the editorial committee agrees with this assessment and understands that this op-ed should not have been published.

Shalom is our Jewish Federation's newspaper. Our Federation supports the people of Israel through your contributions. There are articles in Shalom every month featuring the exciting events and innovations taking place in Israel, and we will continue to report on them. Each issue of Shalom highlights the numerous activities and programs benefitting the Central Kentucky Jewish community that our Federation supports. You will find some fresh faces and new prose in this edition of Shalom. The editorial committee wishes to thank you all for your continued support and understanding.

The Shalom Editorial Committee

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

10th Annual
Anita Roos Baker
Mother's Day Concert

A Very Special Evening of Music!



Everett McCorvey
tenor

Alicia Helm McCorvey
soprano

Benjamin Karp
cello

Margaret Karp
violin

Yoonie Choi
cello

Catherine Clarke Nardofillo
soprano

Jonathan Green
baritone

Tedrin Blair Lindsay
pianist and emcee

Sunday, May 10th
7:30 p.m.

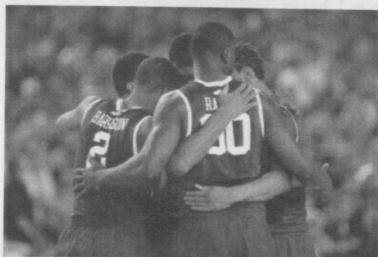
Singletary Center for the Arts Recital Hall, 405 Rose Street
Free and open to the public
Reception following in the President's Room

Presented by the Friends of the U.K. School of Music
and the Temple Adath Israel Music Fund

The Shalom Editorial Committee is seeking enthusiastic new members to join their team. The Editorial Committee convenes once per month to edit Shalom articles and have a short meeting. If you are interested in learning more or wish to volunteer, please contact Judy Wortman at (859) 268-0672 or jfb@jewishlexington.org

Big Blue Nation Sitting Shivah

By Jon Grossman, son of Kathy and Mike Grossman



My family reunited for Pesach this year, a nice ingathering of Lexington exiles from our far-flung corners of the country. As an added bonus, I'd be around for the crowning of our hometown

basketball team, a team for whom perfection seemed a realizable goal. Even better, a friend of mine invited me to play a gig that night on campus, sure to be the most memorable of the year.

Indeed it was, but not for the reasons I anticipated. Instead of presiding over a triumphant celebration, I witnessed a remarkable event, unlike any in our town's history: all of Lexington sat shivah that night.

Walking out in the ghost town that was Euclid Avenue that Monday night, I felt a powerful kinship with my fellow mourners. Though most had cleared their schedules to celebrate, neither a person nor burning couch was anywhere to be seen. (Not like last year, when a sofa with only enough upholstery to burn for one stayed alight for eight miraculous hours!) Adorned to the porches of every third or fourth house, the homemade banners, with their hand-scrawled messages of support for the team, still waved in the breeze. Despite its dominance, and its image as a behemoth steamrolling the competition, this was the heart of the Big Blue Nation. On this night of nights, one could hear it crying out.

At first glance the UK basketball program, with its prowess and dominance, has little in common with the Jewish people, so used in our history to disappointment and defeat. Yet high expectations and double standards rue us both, as though no achievement is

ever enough. This year's team was supposed to be the chosen ones, but instead the deadly quiet on campus recalled the Yiddish proverb: we make plans and G-d laughs. Perfection, meanwhile, can only occur in the messianic age, and whatever his salary, John Calipari falls far short of that title. Each generation possesses this potential, but maybe this misses the point. Perhaps our perfection is more akin to America's, where, President Obama reminds us, "Our union may not be perfect, but it is perfectible."

Despite the joy of reuniting, a certain heaviness accompanied the family Pesach after the Cats' loss. My mother, Kathy not to be confused with a die-hard sports fan, offered some insight by way of Rudyard Kipling's poem "If": "If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster/ And treat those two impostors just the same."

Every death is demoralizing, even when it's only the dream of perfection that's died. As we tear our wildcat jerseys and joyfully recall this season, so tantalizingly close to a perfect one, let us treasure its memory, and enjoy the sorrow of loss that so closely binds together the citizens of Big Blue Nation.

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:

Judy Wortman for her gift in honor of the births of Madison Mayer, Simon Goldstein-Michler, and Julia Marie Salomon, and in memory of Ken Mayer.

Show Your Support

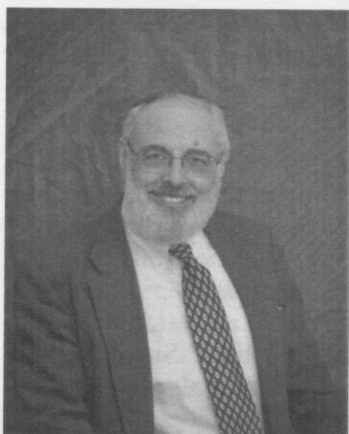
Help us keep Shalom solvent.

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 H.D. Uriel Smith

Question :

What can King David teach us today?

Response:

We often sing: "David melekh Yisrael Hai v'kayyam." "David, king of Israel, is alive and enduring." How come that we still sing

in honor of a man who lived three thousand years ago?

Early this year I braved the winter snow in Chicago to deliver a paper on King David giving some new answers to this question. Here are some older answers. The Hebrew Bible tells us that David was a great ruler and a great musician. Christian tradition remembers him as the ancestor of a man who became a god, Jesus. Muslim tradition remembers him as a prophet, a warrior who killed Goliath, a metallurgist who perfected chain mail, and a musician who wrote the Zaboor, the Book of Psalms. In my paper I argued that he also was a great peacemaker.

By scrutinizing textual studies and archaeological evidence, I showed that David set up procedures that delivered peace and harmony between two sets of communities for several centuries after he died. He arranged a continuing pact between the Philistines and the Davidic dynasty, a pact that lasted most of the First Temple period. And he ensured that the twelve tribes of Israel felt they were one nation even after they were split for two centuries into two kingdoms.

My argument has major implications today. If David found the right "buttons" to push in order to bring peace between Israel and the Philistines, we should search how to bring peace between Israel and Palestine today. And if David ensured the sense of unity between the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, we should continue searching how to help Jews throughout the world to realize that despite our major differences, we are still one religious family.

In some ways David had it easier than we do. Because we Jews have become part of the foundation myths of Christianity, Islam, and Marxism, and we disregarded or rejected their paths and followed our own destiny, we stand out as a specially marked sacred community. We continue to learn how to live with that.

- Mesopotamia and Egypt did not consider themselves to be stakeholders in the future of Israel. But Christians, Muslims, and Marxists from outside the

Holy Land, each want to force Israel and the Palestinians to follow their own mutually contradictory paths to the future.

- Ancient Israel and the Philistines spoke mutually comprehensible dialects of the same language. Israelis and Palestinians today speak respectively Hebrew and Arabic, and thus cannot understand each other, unless they learn their neighbors' language.

- Life was dangerous then. The people wanted a strong king to keep them from being massacred. Today the Jews are spread over the entire world. There is no one person that can safeguard all of them.

- King David and Achish, king of the Philistine city of Gath, remained friends. Today, if an Israeli leader is openly friendly with an Arab leader, this friendship endangers both their lives. Sadat of Egypt was assassinated after meeting with Begin. Rabin was assassinated after meeting with King Hussein.

Life is becoming especially dangerous today as a thirty-years war is spreading between the Sunnis and Shiites with all sorts of outsider nations being drawn into the maelstrom. In 1618-1648 CE a similar Thirty Years' War occurred in Germany between the Catholics and Protestants, and half the civilian population were killed. We still do not know how to navigate ourselves, so as to limit the casualties of this war.

Before David was enthroned, the Israelites and Philistines had become Doppelgänger, twinned communities. They were major antagonists. In the Song of the Sea (Exodus 15:14) the first antagonist community mentioned after Egypt is Philistia. King Saul, David's predecessor, fought with the Philistines during his whole reign. In his last battle against the Philistines, around 1000 BCE at Mount Gilboa, Saul and his three sons were killed. David had fled from Saul who tried to kill him. David eventually escaped to Gath, a Philistine city, where he stayed for a year and four months. When Saul died David went to Hebron, the chief city of Judah, where he was enthroned as king. During the next seven years, while David consolidated his kingdom, he skirmished with the Philistines. Around 993 BCE David made Jerusalem his capital, after which the skirmishes became major battles.

Still, David maintained good relations with Achish the king of Gath. While living in Gath out of Saul's reach, David had become Achish's bodyguard. Now as king of Israel, working with Achish, David arranged to have two troops, the Cherethites and Pelethites, supplied by the other Philistine cities. They became the household guard of King David, something like the modern Swiss Guard in the Vatican. David had a special plan for a separate Gittite troop from Gath. Within a year after he made Jerusalem his capital, David

(continued from page 5)

brought the Ark with its Tent of Meeting and furnishings to Jerusalem. In my paper I argued that David made the Gittites the security troop for the Ark and the Tabernacle.

Solomon, David's successor, maintained the Cherethites and Pelethites as his household troops. After the kingdom split, in 922 BCE, Rehoboam, Solomon's son, reduced the two Philistine troops to one, the Carites, adding a Judean troop of Ratzim, "Runners," to be the other household troop. The Bible (2 Kings 11:1-20) describes how a century later Jehoiada, the High Priest organized (in 837 BCE) a revolt against the murderous queen Athaliah, using these household troops together with the Temple security troops. Jehoiada set up Joash, a seven-year old boy, as king. Joash was the sole survivor of the massacre of David's dynasty line by Athaliah. Thus, the Philistine "Swiss guard" troops continued to serve a century after David died. There are stories implying that the household troops tried saving later Judean kings' lives. So, probably the Carites continued serving for another century and a half.

David had learned that the Pharaohs had used the Philistines as faithful mercenaries in the Egyptian army a few years after fighting with them. They even saved the life of Pharaoh Rameses II in the famous Battle of Kadesh in 1274 BCE. So there was a tradition of the Philistines serving a foreign king, though they had previously fought against him. David used that tradition to make an honorable peace with the Philistines.

The kingdoms of Israel and Judah were also twinned Doppelgänger. David also kept them united. The story of how he did this is more complicated.

Before David became king, Samuel had presided over an annual circuit of the Ark with its Tent. The circuit went from Bethel (during Tabernacles), to Gilgal (near the Jericho ruins, for Passover), and to Mizpah (for Pentecost, the Feast of Weeks) (1 Samuel 7:16). There also was a winter stopover in Ramah, the hometown of Samuel. All four towns belonged to the tribe of Benjamin. David enlarged the Ark circuit, traveling from Gilgal (for Passover), through Adam (where the Jordan had been dammed temporarily just before Passover [cf. Joshua 3:16], and the preparations for the next year's circuit were set up), to Shechem (for Pentecost), and to Jerusalem (for Tabernacles, and where the Ark stayed over the winter). This larger circuit involved more of the tribes. He further organized parades of the Ark leading to the festival sites, from Shittim in the Reuben territory to Gilgal (cf. Micah 6:5), from Adam in Issachar to Shechem, and from Gibeon in Benjamin to Jerusalem. He developed with the engineers of Zarethan a series of dams and sluices

at Adam, which watered the fields around the Jordan River, and closed the river just before Pesach to enable the parade across the river "from Shittim to Gilgal".

This circuit lasted till the country was split into two in 922 BCE, Jeroboam I ruling over the northern tribes of Israel, and Rehoboam ruling in Jerusalem over Judah. In my paper I argued that Jeroboam became the guardian of the Ark, building a permanent Temple in Shechem, and returning the Tabernacles pilgrimage site to Bethel. Even though Judah and Israel fought with each other, the tribes of Judah and Simeon would send their representatives to the festival pilgrimage sites. Zeev Meshel, an Israeli archaeologist, found an inscription in Kuntillet Ajrud on the border of the Sinai desert, an inscription from around the 9th century BCE beginning "I bless you by YHWH of Samaria." The prophet Amos from Judah went to Bethel on such a pilgrimage (Amos 7:12-13). Later, the kings of Israel and Judah, Ahab and Jehoshafat made a pact, marrying off Athaliah daughter of Ahab to Jehoram son of Jehoshafat, and the Ark circuit was enlarged to include Jerusalem again. Thus the twelve tribes maintained a religious unity despite the split.

After the destruction of the northern kingdom by Assyria, King Hezekiah of Judah took over the authority over the Ark, and maintained the twelve-tribe unity as best he could from Jerusalem.

My analysis shows that if we know which "buttons" to push it is possible to transform Doppelgänger ('twinned') enemies into friends. Thus, eventually it will be possible to transform the relationship of Israel and Palestine into friendship. But the path will be long and difficult, especially since the "Thirty-Year War" spreading throughout the Middle East and beyond will be so bloody.

In the mean time, I recommend that we in the Diaspora support NGO's such as B'Tselem, the New Israel Fund, the Abraham Fund, and Tag Meir, the Inter-religious Coordinating Council in Israel. These work to keep the Israeli and Palestinian governments honest. We should also support CAMERA, FLAME, and Memri, who are trying to keep the news media honest. For the more traditional, those who want to look more at the USA, should support AIPAC, ADL, and Hillel, and on the world scene, B'nai B'rith, WJC, HIAS, and Mazon. The Jewish Federations are giving a portion of their donations to the Joint Distribution Committee. Jewish tradition states that we have to support general programs to help the needy as well. HIAS is supporting the Syrian and Iraqi refugees as part of its refugee support programming. I do not know how to prioritize all these needs. But we in the USA need to look at our relations with Israel simply because these reflect back upon us. Reform and Conservative Jews should sup-

port ARZA and MERCAZ respectively (remember tovot), and all of us should support Hadassah.

The Doppelgänger nations of Israel and Palestine will have to learn each other's language and traditions, learning to work with each other and respect each other. This will take some time. More dual language schools will have to open. More adult language ulpanim will have to open. More of the Israeli Arab citizens should follow the lead of the Druze and Cherkessian Israelis, who regularly serve in the Israel Defense Force (IDF, Tsahal). Behind the scenes cooperation between the Palestinian and Israeli colleges and universities will have to continue. These processes will take some time to produce new results. Till then the pressures on both sides for harsh retaliation will increase. These pressures should be limited by the needs for cooperation on the local level in delivering food, water, electricity, and other necessities. The more sophisticated and knowledgeable among the Israelis and Palestinians will have to work hard to continue delimiting and reducing the tensions. If enough people work on it, it should become clear within ten years to most of the Arabs in Palestine and Israel that the IDF is saving their lives from the terrible civil wars swirling around Israel. Most Israelis should then realize that they need the Palestinians to interact with the moderate elements in the Middle East. At that time the Roadmap to Peace begun with the Oslo Accords can be resumed.

Have a question? Ask a rabbi.

The rabbis write columns in response to questions submitted by the readers. We encourage you—whether you are a member of the Jewish community or not—to submit your queries on theology, morality, ethics, religious observances, etc. for response by one of our rabbis. If you have an issue you would like to see addressed, please email it to shalom@jewishlexington.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.

PJ Library Israel Sababa! with Candy Mountain Music Sunday, May 3





ASK JFS

Mimi Kaufman

Fall prevention does not seem like a very lively topic, but it is important. As we get older and have physical changes, falls are more likely to happen. They are the leading cause of injury in older adults. I want to give some insight and tips to try to prevent

falls that happen at home.

1. Remove home hazards. You have probably heard this one before, but the number one cause for a fall at home is tripping over a throw rug. If you must have them, secure them with some kind of tape or slip-resistant backing. Use nonslip mats in your bathtub or shower. Remove cords that may be in your walkways.
2. Use assistive devices. If your doctor recommends using a cane or walker to keep steady, please do so. Other devices can help too. For example, install handrails for both sides of stairways, nonslip treads for bare-wood steps, a raised toilet seat or one with armrests, grab bars for the shower or tub, a sturdy plastic seat in the shower, and a hand-held shower nozzle that will allow you to sit while showering.
3. Light up your living spaces. Use night lights and keep flashlights handy.
4. Keep moving. Gentle exercise that helps to strengthen your muscles and help your balance is extremely important. Not moving because you are afraid of falling is not the right answer. You may need to work with a physical therapist or instructor to get some instruction on how to be safe with your exercise routine.
5. Wear sensible shoes. No explanation needed.
6. Talk to your doctor about your medications and conditions from time to time so you can understand if you are at risk for falling.

With summertime approaching it is time to be with friends and family enjoying the outdoors. Festive activities can sometimes be a safety risk for older adults. Remember to be careful in crowds. There can be a lot of pushing and shoving. Hang onto your friends. Also be aware of your surroundings. If you are on a nature trail or at a picnic pay attention. Walking on an uneven surface like the grass does not always provide stable footing.

One more related topic that I would like to share is that every year the UK Ag Cooperative Extension office in Fayette county has a conference called "Meeting the Challenges and Opportunities of Aging." This year's conference is on May 29th. As of this writing the registration forms are not out yet and the workshop lists are not available so I do not have the details. It is usually very affordable, \$10-\$15 dollars.

I would encourage people to check it out on the Cooperative Extension website as there will be more information by the time of this publication. See if it looks interesting to you. You can also call me at the office, and I can give you more information. I am certainly planning to go and would be happy if anyone would like to join me.

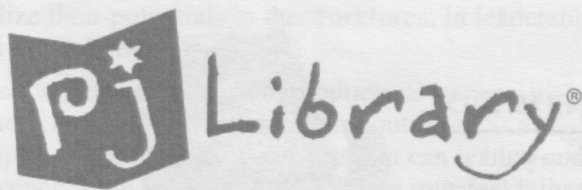
Recent JFB Programs



One Book Jewish Lexington - Discussion of *The Golem and the Jinni* by Helen Wecker, led by Professor Randall Roorda.



Arts and Adventures celebrated William Shakespeare's birthday with a discussion of *The Merchant of Venice* led by Marcia Blacker at Shakespeare and Co.



JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES and SONGS

By Talia Smolkin, JFB Coordinator of Informal Jewish Education

Spring is here, and spring brings a great deal of joy for PJ Library. In April, the flowers bloomed, and PJ Playgroup celebrated rebirth by making flower pots and reading about Passover. In May, spring celebrations continue with Yom Ha'Atzmaut, as well as all the births we've had in our community.

Candy Mountain Music has had a fabulous presence in the wider Lexington community. Led by Sarah Smitha, Candy Mountain Music creates fabulous musical programs for children around the PJ Library age range. The programs range from summertime gatherings in parks to classes at Baby Moon to private parties. Sarah Smitha created a custom program for PJ Library about Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel Independence Day. On May 3, at 3:30 p.m. at Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, Sarah led PJ Library children in a musical celebration of the birth of Israel, through song, dance, and free play. (Photos on page 7.)

While birth might be used metaphorically regarding Israel, PJ Library families have also taken joy in an incredible number of births this past year. It's an exciting time in our community, and an important moment for us to take care of those in our community having their first, second, and third children. One important way of caring for these families is to connect them. On May 31, at 1 p.m. at Baby Moon, PJ Library will host Babies & Bagels, an opportunity for these families to meet, and share in the joy, diapers, and of course, exhaustion. Donna Miles, DONA Certified Postpartum Doula has been kind enough to join us to facilitate a group discussion as part of the gathering. Baby Moon has generously given us use of their baby-friendly space. There will be babies. There will be bagels. There will be celebration and connections.

This year has been a time of birth, and this is a time for rebirth and sharing in the joys and changes for our PJ Library family.

To learn more about the PJ Library program visit <http://www.pjlibrary.org>. For additional information about our local program, signing up for books, or upcoming events contact Talia at pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org or call 268-0672.

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Passover, Pew and Paid Parental Leave

By Rabbi Mira Wasserman, Contributing Writer

Published first in the Philadelphia Jewish Exponent, Thursday, April 16, 2015

Each Passover, I remember: The work of redemption begins with the women, as midwives and mothers unite to bring forth new worlds of possibility. “The more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied!” (Exodus 1:12) Since the earliest days of our people, we have looked to our numbers to understand our strength. No wonder Jews today are so anxious about the future.

Today, our numbers are shrinking. The 2013 Pew Survey of U.S. Jews suggests that there are two major contributing factors: 1) Low birthrates mean that we are not replacing ourselves. 2) Diminishing rates of affiliation mean that a large portion of the children we do have are not being raised as Jews.

For some reason, most of the energies and resources of the organized Jewish community have focused on factor No. 2 alone.

Scarcely any serious attention has been given to our low birthrates. Sure, plenty of people bemoan the demographic realities, waxing nostalgic for the days before Jewish women pursued advanced degrees, when successful careers did not distract us from the business of baby-making. But beyond such wistful expressions, I’ve heard little thoughtful conversation about policy or programs to address the economic and existential dilemmas that Jewish women face at the beginning of our careers.

If it is a communal priority for non-Orthodox Jews to raise our birthrates, the burden cannot fall on young Jewish women alone. The entire Jewish community can together take action to make parenting a more viable and affordable choice earlier in the lives of young Jews.

Jewish women who have life-saving and world-changing contributions to make should not have to choose between having careers and raising children. Unfortunately, the realities of tight job markets and continuing workplace discrimination mean that many women cannot afford to have children at the beginning of their careers — not if they want to advance in the fields in which they have trained and labored. There are policies and programs that can effectively change this reality, however.

In France and Scandinavia, child subsidies, accessible childcare and extended paid parental leave have created new demographic realities. While birthrates plummet in other parts of Europe, these progressive policies encourage families to grow even as they expand opportunities for women’s advancement.

When paid parental leave is a norm and a right for all Americans, Jewish women will no longer need to choose

between having children and having a career. When childcare outside the home is safe, affordable, stimulating and nurturing, Jewish women will not have to choose between taking care of a family and contributing to the wider world.

Not all Jews feel called to parent, but those who do should be offered every encouragement. When we work together to bring pro-parenting policies to the top of our communal agenda, we continue the work of redemption. While multiplying our numbers is by no means an end in itself, it is a helpful, hopeful beginning. Our American Jewish future depends on it.

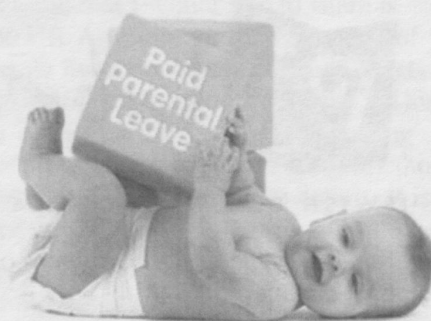
Rabbi Mira Wasserman teaches at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote, Pa.

Rabbi Eric Yanoff Responds:

Are we, as historian Simon Rawidowicz termed us, the “Ever-Dying People?” That is, does each generation of Jews lament the possibility — due to persecution, assimilation, birth rate, dispersion, disease, apathy or annihilation — that they may be the last vibrant generation of Jews? And then, when a next generation thankfully arises — does that generation inherit the same worry?

Clearly, as Rabbi Mira Wasserman laments, the Pew study points to significant challenges that threaten Jewish continuity once again. Some demographers of the Jewish community lump disaffiliation and increasing assimilation with the non-replacement-level birth rate into one statistic: the “effective birthrate” — the number of (self-defining) Jews in the next generation, regardless of whether a decline is due to lack of engagement, or never having been born.

I was moved by Rabbi Wasserman’s charge to increase the effective birthrate by making it more possible to prioritize family without impact on one’s career. As a society, we owe this to women, whose contributions to our greater good were overshadowed or missed for millennia, until recent times. We can only assume that more advances, insights, care and innovation will come if men and women alike can



realize their potentials in the workforce, in leadership and in the home.

I also wonder if the very byproducts of success in America are also threatening our continuity as a people — high levels of comfort that can lead to complacency, time strain and work-home imbalance that lead to communal disengagement and apathy (because there is no time to worry about anything else). As Rabbi Wasserman states, women should be able to participate fully and at equal pay levels. Our effective birth rates are declining, and we must rely on and support those who are called to parent to do something about it. Otherwise, we may be the first generation of Jews that does not cry out in fear that we may be the last.

This, sadly, may be the worst imaginable fulfillment of Rawidowicz's characterization. We must rally to Rabbi Wasserman's call, along with others who worry about our effective Jewish birthrate. I want that desperation, scrappiness and hunger that come from Rawidowicz's "ever-dying" description — an almost frantic need to ensure our future, which we can answer with purposeful practices that support the birth and the engaged upbringing of the next generation of Jews.

Rabbi Wasserman is the daughter of Judy Wortman. Rabbi Eric Yanoff is the religious leader at Adath Israel in Merion Station, Pa.

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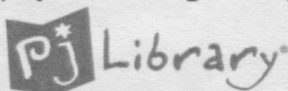
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The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



Anita Roos Baker Mother's Day Concert

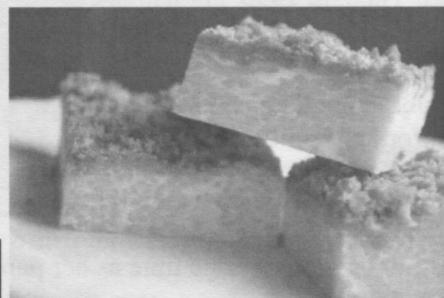
The Lexington community is invited to attend "A Very Special Evening of Music" on Mother's Day Sunday May 10, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. The annual Anita Roos Baker FREE concert is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the special show with a select lineup of goose-bump inducing performers.

Presented by the UK School of Music and the Temple Adath Israel Music Fund, this year's all-star line-up will feature some of the spotlight performers and stand out selections of the past ten years. A FREE appetizer and dessert reception is also open to the public following the show in the Presidents Room.

The FREE one night only event will be held in Single-tary Center for the Arts Recital Hall, 305 Rose Street.

B'tayavon: Judy Kaplan's Noodle Pudding

Submitted by Vivian Bitensky



- ¼ lb margarine/butter (1 stick)
- 1 cup sugar
- 5 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- ½ lb. cream cheese (8 oz)
- ½ lb fine or medium noodles cooked
- ½ pint sour cream (1 cup)
- 1 tbsp. vanilla
- Juice of ½ lemon (2 tbsps.)

(Preheat oven 450 degrees)
Cream margarine and sugar until light and fluffy.

Add eggs, cream cheese, sour cream, milk, vanilla and lemon juice.

Fold in noodles using a very large mixing bowl.

Bake in greased 9x13 baking dish that has first been sprinkled with cinnamon. Bake for 5 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 and bake for 1 hour.

Enjoy!

An Interview with Claudia Roden

By Emily Cottingham, Social Media Coordinator/Program Assistant, UK Jewish Studies

Claudia Roden, the author of *The Book of Jewish Food* and more than a dozen other cookbooks, visited the University of Kentucky this April to talk about her experiences traveling the globe in search of recipes and stories. If you missed her visit, she was happy to share the details of how she began writing about food. Additionally, her many cookbooks offer a taste of the fascinating life she's led.

Roden grew up in Cairo, Egypt and moved to Paris at the age of fifteen to attend boarding school. As French was her mother tongue, the transition wasn't difficult. However, after three years, she moved to London to study art. Then, in 1956, her parents joined her there, having left Egypt because of the Suez Crisis.

Roden took it upon herself to start cooking for her family, and then gradually the number of dinner attendees grew—many other Jewish families had left Egypt and had come to London at the same time as her parents.

This naturally resulted in a spoken exchange of recipes. As people were constantly coming in and out of each other's lives, Roden took it upon herself to collect these recipes. "We thought we would never see each other again," she said.



As it turned out, people were eager to share. "There were no cookbooks in Egypt. We passed recipes on in the family instead," Roden said. Everyone wanted his or her favorite dishes to be remembered.

Since all of the different families had left their homes and former lives behind, they took solace in the idea that they could preserve their memories by sharing

their most beloved recipes. "Our world had vanished," Roden said. Cooking was a precious artifact of the culture, and this was a way to save it.

Roden saw it as a way to do something for the people around her. She said, "I became enthralled." She continued collecting recipes, but no longer just from the people in her community. She reached out to anyone she met, from friends of friends to strangers on trains. This led to her decision to create a cookbook.

"People were horrified. Writing about food was less important than art," Roden said. At the time, food was almost a taboo subject in London. Not only that, but certain people balked at the idea of a book

of Middle Eastern food. Roden said that some people didn't know anything about Middle Eastern food, nor did they understand its integral part in a rich culture.

With that being said, when the book was published it didn't just contain recipes, but also stories and jokes and poems from contributors that put the recipes into context. Roden said that her research to collect as many recipes as she could led her to new people, countries, and worlds.

Roden went on to continue creating many more cookbooks after her first, *A Book of Middle Eastern Food*. She continues to ask everyone around her for recipes, but when asked to name her favorite, replied, "I ask everyone else that question, but I can't say when they ask me because so many of these recipes are wonderful. And then I'm on to a different book."

Additionally, if you weren't already interested in opening one of these books and discovering new worlds, all the recipes in Claudia Roden's books come personally recommended. "I try many versions of a dish, and I choose the best in the end. I only put in recipes that I really like," Roden said.

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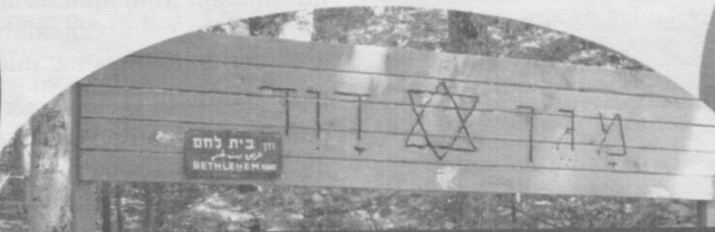
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ISRAEL 21C: Jordanian-Israeli environmentalists unite for cross-border cooperation

By Viva Sarah Press

Mare Nostrum Project brings together Israeli and Jordanian bodies to improve and conserve the Gulf of Aqaba.



Paragliders in the Gulf of Aqaba with Jordan in the background.
Photo by NatiShohat/FLASH90

A meeting between Jordanian and Israeli environmentalists in Aqaba recently has the green sector in both countries cautiously optimistic. It was the first time in 10 years that Israeli and Jordanian groups working to improve and conserve the coastal and marine environment in the Gulf of Aqaba came to the table.

"Participants were excited and enthusiastic about the meeting and about the possibility to further meet in the future," says Mare Nostrum Project initiator and coordinator Prof. Rachel Alterman of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology.

The Mare Nostrum Project is an EU-funded cross-border initiative that explores ways of protecting the Mediterranean coastline. Raanan Boral, academic program manager of the Mare Nostrum Project and a veteran environmentalist, tells ISRAEL21c that the Gulf of Aqaba is included in Mare Nostrum because **"our project deals with the coast even though the shared coastline between Jordan and Israel is not on the Mediterranean."**

Partners in the global initiative include universities, research institutes, municipalities, environmental NGOs and port operators from Malta, Greece, Israel, Jordan and Spain.

The project's main goal is to bridge the policy-implementation gap between the ideals of the Barcelona Convention's Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and its effects on the ground in

conservation and management in the Mediterranean Basin.

Boral says what needs to be done by each of the participating local authorities is outlined and known.

"In the local stages of participation we know what the issues are. In Haifa, for example, we're talking about general public accessibility to the coast. There are roads, train tracks, etc. I know what they're doing, where they're going," he says.

But while the global initiative also promotes cross-border cooperation on issues of common concern, these programs are not cut and dry.

"Cross-border issues are very difficult; the most important thing is having people meet, [and] eventually something will come out," says Boral.

"Environmental issues on one side of the border immediately affect the other," says Eilat-Eilat region environmental department head Asaf Admon, referring to the Evrona oil spill in December 2014. Admon says the latest meeting signals a renewal in joint work on issues of importance to both sides.

Borderless borders

The Jordanian and Israeli participants brought a gamut of potential projects on which to collaborate to their latest meeting. Topics on the table included sharing information from monitoring programs, beach cleanup, ornithology, environmental crisis contingency plans, and support for existing initiatives.

Rina Kedem of the Arava& Dead Sea Science Center presented a community-level cooperation process, and discussed the Southern Israel-Jordan Environmental Forum's mission to create a networking platform for cross-border environmental initiatives.

Jordanian participants from government bodies and non-government organizations in Aqaba, together with the Amman Center for Peace and Development, highlighted environmental aspects of the city's master plan. They also referred to monitoring programs and **challenges related to the coast and sea – including conflicts between private ownership and maintenance of beach areas, versus desires for wider and freer public access to the beach.**

"Coastal activities are concentrated in a small area, which puts stress on corals, environment and biodiversity," the Jordanians said in a statement.

Participants also suggested a joint meeting of organizations from Eilat and Aqaba with Turkish and Greek representatives, to learn from similar efforts elsewhere.

But the project brought up during the meeting with the highest chance of immediate cooperation had to do

with birds.

Israeli representatives of the Eilat Bird Center and the Eilat region environmental monitoring program discussed the need for cross-border cooperation.

Bird-watching is big business for Israel and Jordan, as both countries welcome millions of birds during migration season to the delight of ornithologists and birdwatchers.

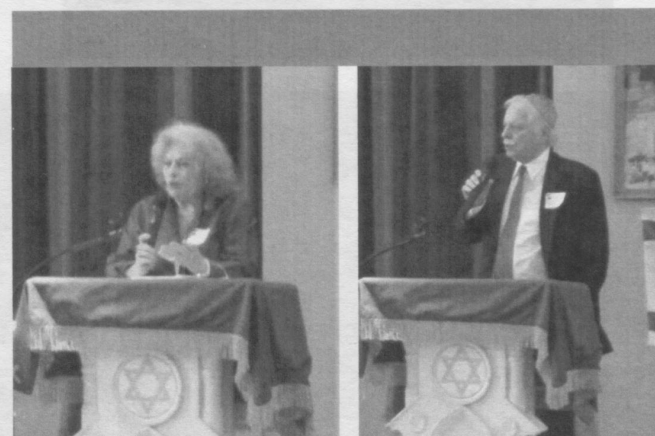
"A lot of tourists come from Europe to see the birds. The two sides will cooperate on bird sanctions," Boral tells ISRAEL21c. "Migrating birds go through the Jordan Valley and they land on two sides of the border. For the birds, it doesn't matter to them if they're in Jordan or Israel. The idea is to erase the line. The birds are the main attraction, and the border should not create a hurdle for people to move from one side to the other."

Enhancing tourism for birdwatchers may seem totally disconnected from the Mare Nostrum initiative that calls to protect the coastline. But Boral says starting someplace is hopeful.

"Bird watching has nothing to do with the Gulf of Aqaba/Gulf of Eilat or with the Mediterranean coast, but we hope if the Jordanians and Israelis work together on something they will start working on even more difficult issues like the Gulf of Aqaba/Gulf of Eilat, which has a very short coastline," says Boral.

"I can't tell you what will come out of this. The fundamental issue was having the locals meet. The question now is what's next. We want more of these meetings."

Community Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration Sunday, April 26 at OZS



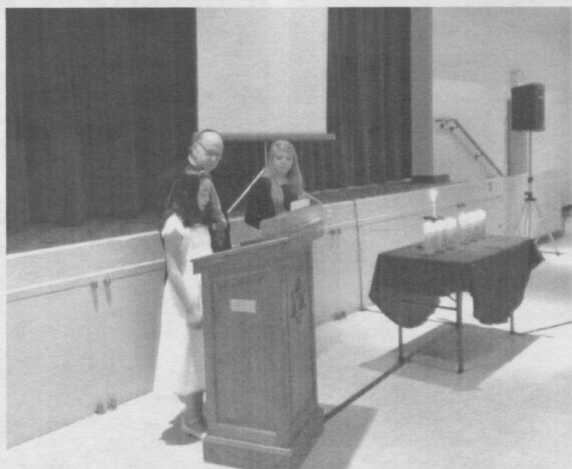


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Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration

Sunday, April 19 at Temple Adath Israel



Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration

Sunday, April 19 at Temple Adath Israel



AFMDA Names Cari Margulis Immerman New Midwest Regional Director

Immerman to continue working out of Cleveland office as she seeks out new MDA supporters in 16-state region



New York (February 10, 2015) — American Friends of Magen David Adom has promoted Cari Margulis Immerman to Midwest regional director, where she will continue expanding AFMDA's presence in the 16-state region by connecting with supporters and educating

communities about MDA's lifesaving work. Immerman will remain based out of Cleveland.

MDA is a pillar of Israeli society whose mission is to save lives. As the country's "911," it serves as Israel's national emergency medical response, ambulance, and disaster relief agency. MDA also operates Israel's national blood supply, providing 97 percent of civilian blood and 100 percent of the blood for the Israel Defense Forces. While government-mandated to provide these essential services, MDA is not government-funded, relying heavily on American donors to support its operations.

A University of Michigan grad and alumna of both the National Wexner Heritage and Mandel Leadership programs in Cleveland, Immerman had been serving as AFMDA's interim Midwest regional director after leading the agency's development efforts in its Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, and Western Pennsylvania region. Before coming to AFMDA, she worked in the private sector as a marketing executive in Chicago and Cleveland, building brand and business development strategies for Fortune 500 companies such as Ford Motor Company, McDonald's, and Citicorp. The Louisville, Ky. native will use her hybrid private sector/development background to educate supporters about MDA's daily lifesaving work, as well as its role on the front lines with the Israel Defense Forces during times of war and crisis.

"I feel so fortunate to be able to share with people, throughout the Midwest, opportunities to dramatically impact the lives of millions of Israelis through Magen David Adom," Immerman says. "MDA is there to save lives every day, as well as to support the IDF during times of crisis."

Through the years, communities across the Midwest have quickly come to understand the vital services

MDA provides. AFMDA's Midwest region raised a record \$5.6 million in 2014, including \$1 million for MDA's new national blood center, 20 new ambulances (a record), and a variety of critically needed medical supplies and training that MDA needs to deliver its world-class emergency medical services.

"This is a great time to get involved in the Midwest because support for MDA is growing quickly," says AFMDA CEO Arnold Gerson. "Cari has proven to be an innovative director and we're excited for her to oversee the region. We're very confident that MDA's lifesaving mission will gain even more traction throughout the Midwest."

Meantime, Immerman says that, just like communities throughout the Midwest, support for MDA will come in all shapes and sizes.

"I get as much joy from having a group of second graders raise \$200 as I do from having someone sponsor an ambulance," she says. "It really does take all of us to save lives in Israel."

Among Immerman's first moves was to hire Cindy Iglitzen-Socianu, AFMDA's new Upper Midwest/Greater Chicagoland area director. With staff in place, Immerman looks forward to forging new partnerships with supporters who want to join a growing regional and national organization. AFMDA closed 2014 with more than \$42 million in funds raised, up from \$36 million in 2013, and \$23 million in 2012.

"Having been involved with MDA in Chicago since the 1970s, I'm very familiar with the rich history and shared values between the Midwest and this great Israeli institution," says AFMDA Midwest

Regional Board Chair and National Board Member Paula Blaine Cohen. "With Cari and Cindy now leading the charge and bringing in fresh ideas, this is a great opportunity to get involved and strengthen that partnership."

Cari Margulis Immerman can be contacted at cimmerman@afmda.org or 877.405.3913.

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ABOUT: Magen David Adom is Israel's national ambulance, blood-services, and disaster-relief organization, serving as emergency medical first responders for the state's more than 8 million people. MDA is the only organization mandated by the Israeli government to serve in this role, but it's not a government agency, so it relies on funding from donors around the world. AFMDA is MDA's U.S.-based fundraising affiliate, raising more than 80 percent of the charitable dollars MDA receives annually. www.afmda.org.

THE LEXINGTON CHAPTER OF HADASSAH

Melanie Shapiro, President

Hadassah and Jewish Mothers

Dear Hadassah Friends,

Mothers...everybody had one. Many of us are mothers and some of us are even grandmothers. Jewish Mother jokes used to abound in American comedy, skewering Jewish mothers on everything from overabundant cooking to overbearing childrearing. But the month of May would not be Jewish-American Heritage Month without our Jewish mothers.

The "Jewish mother" of Hadassah was Henrietta Szold, a woman who had no biological children, but who gave life to hundreds of thousands of children by establishing Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. We know that, if only through Youth Aliyah, she indeed had many children! Here's a story about her that you may not know. In the early 1920's, the economy in Jerusalem was so desperate, that many girls went to school with no breakfast and little hope of food when they got home. Then, Rabbi Maurice Harris, visiting from New York, offered money from Yeshiva children to provide school lunches to poor Jerusalem pupils. The project grew, was adopted by Hadassah, and eventually led to teaching food preparation, nutrition education and even a Nutrition Department in the newly-opened Straus Health Center in Jerusalem. (This was before our Mt. Scopus Hospital was built). In 1923, when the program began, some children were not accustomed to sitting on a chair or at a table, or using cutlery when they ate. Within 25 years, the simple motherly act of feeding hungry school girls grew into child guidance and child development courses being taught in Jerusalem.

It may be argued that along with inheriting a Jewish heart may also come heart disease, the Number One Killer of women. However, heart research and heart drug therapy often do not consider if it's a woman's or a man's heart. Until 1994, the U.S. National Institutes of Health (one of the world's biggest funders of biomedical research) excluded women from early studies of most drugs. Though mainly for safety reasons, this prohibition meant there was little information about the effects of diagnoses, as well as drugs and other therapies, on women. This has resulted in missed opportunities for prevention, incorrect diagnoses, misinformed treatments, sickness and even death. In addition, preventive health care specifically for women is often ignored. Hadassah advocates for Gender Equity in Medical Research (GEM). Through its advocacy efforts, Hadassah urges Congress to pass laws that will



improve the health of American women and their families. If you would like to receive timely information, go to Hadassah.org. Take Action and join Advocacy Alerts.

Hadassah is the home of Women Who Do. And now National Hadassah has a new one. Our national offices have moved to 40 Wall St., New York, NY 10005. With a new brand and a new home, Hadassah is moving onwards and upwards in its second century.

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah wishes you a glorious May full of sunshine and flowers. One way to enjoy the rites of Spring is to take a walk! Join us on May 17th and the 3rd Sunday of every month through September at the UK Arboretum for our monthly "Buddy Walk". These walks are planned to support Hadassah's "Every Step Counts" walking program to educate and raise awareness about the positive effects of physical activity on our hearts and overall health. Meet at the UK water tower at 4pm to enjoy a stroll with your friends, or make new ones! And to end the month on May 31, we will be raising money for Young Judaea, a part of Hadassah that has been important to mothers and their Jewish children, young and adult, for decades. Young Judaea sponsors camps, leadership training and trips to Israel for our young people that nourish and strengthen their Jewish identities and support of Israel for a lifetime. Look for more information coming your way soon.

B'Shalom,

Melanie

Hadassah and Young Judaea: Partners in the Future

Lexington Fundraiser May 31

Young Judaea is the oldest Zionist youth movement in the United States. For over 100 years, Young Judaea has brought together thousands of Jewish youth from across the country and around the world – of every religious, cultural, and political persuasion, through a shared commitment to Jewish values, Jewish pride, and love of Israel.

With summer and year-round programs in both the US and Israel, from 3rd grade to college and beyond, Young Judaea is truly unique in its ability to offer a fun, safe, social environment that also includes a distinct focus on education, leadership, and social action.

The result: generation after generation of strong Jewish leaders who are empowered to truly make a difference in their communities, and in the world – while meeting other Jewish youth to build friendships that

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

The Lexington Havurah is about many things: we enjoy each other's friendship. We worship together. We celebrate together. We stretch ourselves to do things we may not have done before. We study together. We learn together. In this month of May, the members of the Havurah will have our annual opportunity to study with a scholar who will be joining us from Jerusalem, via Pittsburgh.

Over the years, we have studied many topics from Jewish-themed and Israeli movies, to competing narratives between Israelis and Palestinians and so many interesting topics in between. It has always been an exciting time for our membership.

This year's topic, Jerusalem's Geopolitical Questions, will be led by Dr. Noam Shoval, Professor of Geography at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Professor Shoval's main research interests are urban geography and planning, urban tourism, and the implementation of advanced tracking technologies in various areas of spatial research such as tourism, urban studies, and medicine. He has published two

books and over one hundred other scientific publications. His third book is on the topic of our retreat. Beginning with a review of the urban development of the city of Jerusalem (1917-2017), he will guide us through his current research, based on advanced tracking technology, on the city's urban and social geography, which is far more complex, nuanced, and interconnected than commonly supposed.

Dr. Shoval completed his Ph.D. at The Hebrew University (2000) and conducted post-doctoral research at the Department of Geography, King's College, University of London (2000-2001). He was an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow at the Department of Geography of the University of Heidelberg (2007-2008). This academic year, he is a Visiting AICE (The American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise) Professor at the Center for Urban and Social Research at the University of Pittsburgh. Suggested preparatory readings will be provided.

Attendance is limited. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact me for more information (272-1459.)

Hadassah Young Judaea (cont. from pg 19)

last a lifetime.

Dozens of children and youth from the Lexington area have attended Camp Young Judaea Midwest, Tel Yehudah leadership training, year course and summer tours in Israel for decades. On May 31, a "Dining for Hadassah: Young Judaea" fundraiser will be held at the home of Dr. Bob and Judy Baumann (685 Shasta Circle) at 5:30 pm. As in past events, everyone is invited to bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner and an \$18 donation (the cost of a meal). These donations will be earmarked for scholarships to Camp Young Judaea Midwest. The program will include a video from the YJ trip that several Lexington teens took to Israel last summer and remarks from local campers and youth who have benefitted from YJ programs. Young Judaea is important to all of us in the Jewish community regardless of whether we personally have children or grandchildren who participate. It shapes the future of generations of Jewish leaders and sustains the values that are important to everyone. For more information, please contact Jane (chaputl@windstream.net) or Evalyn Block (eblock3375@gmail.com).

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OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE NEWS

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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 community. We celebrate our diversity and welcome newcomers. Please join us!

SHAVUOT CELEBRATION OF TORAH

Please join us on **Saturday May, 23rd at 8 p.m.** as we celebrate the giving of the Torah. We will have stories, songs, and Torah teachings from wonderful members of our Lexington Jewish community. There will of course be yummy dairy desserts to help us with our learning. All are welcome!

On **Sunday, May 24th at 9 a.m.**, we will have a festival service. We will celebrate with Hallel, enjoy the book of Ruth, and be blessed to hear the Decalogue. Then, following the Israeli calendar, we will honor our loved ones who have passed away with Yizkor.

PJ PLAYGROUP

May 10 at OZS from 10:15-11:30 a.m. Families with kids under 4: Come play! We come together as a community on the second Sunday of each month (mostly) during the school year for a playgroup for our littlest kids and parents/guardians. Please RSVP to pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org so we have enough snacks.

KIDS SHABBAT

Please join us for Kids Shabbat, **Friday, May 15 at 5:30 p.m.** as we light candles, drink grape juice, have something to eat, sit together on beautiful carpets, sing songs, and read amazing stories from the PJ Library. Newcomers and friends are always welcome! RSVP to the office if you can join us.

COMMUNITY SHABBAT

Please join our whole OZS community as we celebrate Shabbat together with our friends from Stewart Home on **Friday, May 22 at 6:00 p.m.** After dinner and schmoozing, we will have a brief but spirited service. For more information or to RSVP please call the OZS office at 266-8050 or email at Office@ozs.org. All are welcome!

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

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!

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.

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!

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.

FAMILY SHABBAT

Our lively Family Shabbat takes place on the second Friday of each month at 7 p.m. We sing songs and enjoy great stories geared to our families and their young children, but with valuable messages for all. TAI has a potluck dinner preceding the service at 6 p.m. on Family Shabbat night. **Our next Family Shabbat will be on May 8th.**

KIDS' SHABBAT

Our Kids' Shabbat Friday night service is held on the last Friday of each month (during the school year) and is geared towards children 7 years old and younger and their families. **Our next Kids' Shabbat will be May 29th.**

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 May 2nd, 16th & 30th.**

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 May 9th & 23rd.**

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 May 2nd, 9th, 16th, & 23rd (Bar Mitzvah on May 30th).**

SISTERHOOD NEWS

A friend is one of the nicest things you can have, and one of the best things you can be.

~Douglas Pagels

As our programming year comes to a close, I want to thank my Sisterhood sisters/friends for all they do for Sisterhood. It has been a fun year and we could not have done it without these wonderful women. Please join us on Wednesday, May 6th at El Toro at 6:30 PM for "Margaritas In May." This will be our final program of the year. Your invitation will be coming soon.

We have many ideas for next year (including Wine and Canvas, Breakout Games, and more delicious dinners). We look forward to sharing them with you.

Mazel Tov to Temple Adath Israel and Rabbi David Wirtschafter - the future looks bright!

I'Shalom,

Laura Creamer

Sisterhood President

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 be having a few events:

May 1st: Monthly Friday night dinner with Israeli-themed food

May 17th: Walk at the Arboretum - Time TBD

May 30th: Havdalah and game night - Location and time TBD

Please contact Reva Schottenstein at rschott86@hotmail.com or call her at 859-221-9473 to reserve your seat.

--- 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!

Mazal Tov to:

- Bruce and Rachel Belin on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Sarah.
- Constantine and Olga Vulakh on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, David.
- Steven and Deborah Flomenhoft on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Eli.
- Amy Faust Mayer, Ken Mayer, big brother Elliot, and grandmother Annette Mayer, on the birth of Madison Brooke. Amy is on the Executive Committee and Board of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass.
- Erin and Seth Salomon on the birth of their daughter Julia Marie. Seth is a member of Federation's Executive Committee and Board; Erin is a member of the Jewish Family Services Advisory Committee. Mazal tov also to grandparents Simone and Arty Salomon.

Condolences to:

- Annette Mayer, Mike Mayer, Amy Faust Mayer, Elliot and Madison, and Michelle Mayer on the death of their beloved husband, father, and grandfather Ken Mayer

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

We would like to invite the Jewish
Community to share in our joy as our son
Eli

(Elisha yehoshua)

Is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah
Saturday May 30th, 2015
At 10:30 a.m.

Temple Adath Israel Sanctuary
124 North Ashland Ave
Lexington, KY 40502

Steven and Deborah Flomenhoft

Temple Adath Israel Seeking Fun Loving Religious School Teachers



9:15- 12:00 weekly Sunday commitment
\$40-\$50 weekly

We have a few positions open for 2015-2016
New Curriculum is fun to teach and fun to learn!
No Prior Experience Necessary

If you are interested or know someone who is,
please contact Susie Magill: Susie@lentai.org

Shalom

Newspaper of

The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

The editorial staff has the right to edit, accept or reject all articles submitted for publication in Shalom. Articles should not exceed 500 words. The appearance of any advertising

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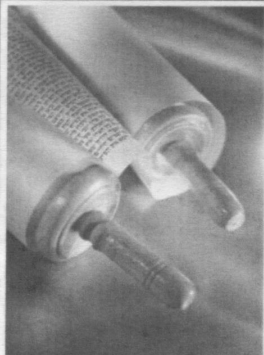
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To join the Federation email list contact tamara@jewishlexington.org or visit jewishlexington.org.



Lunch and Learn with our
Lexington community rabbis

May 26 with Rabbi Uri Smith

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.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

First and third Sundays of the month
Yiddish Drop-in!

10:30 a.m. at the JFB office. An hour of Yiddish with Refoyl Finkel (Rafi Finkel). Beginners welcome, fluent speakers welcome, and those who remember "a por verter fun der heym" also welcome. We'll adjust waht we do to the levels of those who come. No long-term commitment necessary. No charge. Worth every cent, at least!