



Voices Commemorate the Life of Rabbi David A. Wortman



Rabbi David Wortman, 66, Helmed
Board of Rabbis, JCRC

By Michael Elkin
(Features Editor, Jewish
Exponent: Philadelphia)

Rabbi David A. Wortman, 66, an authoritative yet gentle voice on Jewish communal issues who served as executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia as well as the Board of Rabbis/Jewish Chaplaincy Service during the 1980s and early '90s, died

Nov. 9 in Lexington, Ky.

Originally from Chicago, Wortman arrived in the Philadelphia region in 1982 from a pulpit in Madison, Conn. He quickly became a formidable and respected presence in Philadelphia, serving the Board of Rabbis for five years before becoming executive director of JCRC in 1987, staying until 1993.

After his engagement with JCRC, the Yale grad, who was ordained in 1973 at Hebrew Union College, moved to a pulpit position at Beth Shalom Congregation in Wilmington, Del., segueing to a rabbinic position in Pottstown. Wortman retired in 2009, joining his wife, Judy, a longtime Jewish communal executive, in Lexington, where she remains as director of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass. In Lexington, he served as editor of the Federation's Shalom newsletter until recently.

A dry wit and source of good humor, he served as facilitator for a number of organizations, including the Jewish Exponent in the 1990s, conducting a retreat at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote. He also wrote a number of columns for the paper and was acclaimed for authoring *The Exodus Haggadah From Tyranny to Freedom*.

Wortman served on the steering committee of the Delaware Valley Media Ministry during his time at JCRC. In 1988, he represented the United States at the U.S.-USSR Emerging Leaders Conference, held in Philadelphia.

"David was one of the brightest people I knew, a real scholar," says Burt Siegel, his longtime friend and himself a former JCRC executive director. Wortman was an eternal student, constantly searching for what it meant to be Jewish, says Siegel.

He shared that passion by teaching, with St. Joseph's University and his alma mater, Yale, serving as podiums for his teaching tools.

More than anything, says Siegel, "he really cared for the Jewish community."

And for Israel, where he traveled more than 36 times, notes his wife, the former Judy Bitman. "After his family," she says, "his greatest love was Israel." (cont. pg. 2)

CAMPAIGN NEWS

It is hard to believe that another fiscal and calendar year is almost over. JFB has accomplished a lot over this year: Camp Shalom was a huge success; PJ Library is providing books, CD's and programming to families of young children; JFS has provided wonderful programs and services to the community and much needed scholarships, support and assistance to those in need. JFB has sponsored and coordinated many successful events and ongoing programs: Yom HaShoah observance; Yom Ha'atzmaut; Tzeason of Tzedakah; Lunch and Learn with our Local Rabbis, Martin Luther King Jr Commemoration sponsorship and participation. Of course, we have our highly anticipated Winter Dinner coming up on December 14th at Temple Adath Israel – we hope to see you all there – celebrating and shmoozing with community friends!

This is also a time for reflection and caring for others as we celebrate freedom and rededication in the joy of Hanukkah. We have a responsibility as individuals for tikkun olam – repair of the world. As we are considering end of the year gifts and donations, please consider and reconsider the JFB community needs. If you have not yet given a charitable gift to JFB, please do so now. And if you have given one, please consider an additional donation. All of our dollars together have an enormous impact on our community and ripple outward to Israel and Jews in need throughout the world.

With thanks for your support and commitment to a better Jewish community and world.

Happy Hanukkah and a wonderful 2015!!

(Voices Commemorate, continued from Page 1)

Indeed, he spent part of his retirement working on education issues and concerns about the elderly in Arad, Israel.

As a family man, he and Judy met in Philadelphia, blending families and visions. "We were joined at the hip," she says, fused "in the spirit of love we had for each other and what we did for the Jewish community."

He had a clear vision of the rabbinate, expressing his view as a contributor to the book, *American Rabbis: Fact and Fiction*: "The rabbinate is a very lonely profession," he opined. "Rabbis have a hard time making friends. They can't be friends with congregants because that destroys the rabbi-congregant relationship."

"The reality is that wherever the rabbi goes, the rabbi is always the rabbi."

Funeral services and burial were held Nov. 11 in the Philadelphia area. Besides his wife, Wortman is survived by a daughter, Dr. Shoshana; a son, Noah; stepchildren, Rabbi Mira Wasserman and Ari Wasserman; a sister, Linda; and six grandchildren.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass (www.jewishlexington.org) or to the Ryan Howard Big Piece Foundation (www.ryanhowardbpf.org).

By Hanna Smith (Shalom Editorial Board, Chairperson)

The Jewish community of Central Kentucky mourns the passing of Rabbi David Wortman who died on November 9, 2014, after a long illness.

Rabbi Wortman moved to Lexington in 2009 when his wife Judy assumed the post of director of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass. Prior to coming to Lexington, Rabbi Wortman had had a distinguished career as a rabbi, teacher, scholar, and administrator.

Rabbi Wortman graduated from the University of Wisconsin (BA degree), Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion (BHL, MAHL, Ordination, DD), Yale University (MA, MPhil), La Salle University (Certification in Non-Profit Management), University of Delaware (Certified Web Master), and the Council for Relationships (candidate of certification in marriage and family therapy).

After graduating, Rabbi Wortman served as a congregational rabbi; as executive director of the Board of Rabbis/Jewish Chaplaincy Service of Greater Philadelphia; executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia; adjunct professor in the religion departments of Albertus Magnus College, Yale University, St. Charles Borromeo

Catholic Seminary, and St. Joseph's University.

At St. Joseph's University Rabbi Wortman taught a course entitled "Jewish and Christian Responses to the Holocaust." He also taught Bible studies at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and at Gratz College.

Rabbi Wortman delivered papers and lectures, and he is widely published in general academic and Jewish context. In 1990 he edited a book: "The Exodus Haggadah: From Tyranny to Freedom." He provided editorial comments to "Connections," a television news program of the interfaith religious community in Delaware.

After settling in Lexington, Rabbi Wortman remained active, even though he faced serious health problems. He assumed the editorship of *Shalom*, the newspaper of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, joined the Federation's community relations committee, and took his turn as a presenter at the "Lunch and Learn with the Rabbis" program. He taught various community events, such as the studies during the night of Shavuot, and at the annual Holocaust commemoration.

The Jewish community of Lexington admired the knowledge, ability to teach, and practical experience that Rabbi Wortman brought to these endeavors. At the same time, he was able to admit when he did not have an answer to a question.

People who worked with Rabbi Wortman observed that he respected the opinions that differed from his. "Rabbi Wortman had the ability to build bridges between groups of vastly differing backgrounds," said Linda Ravvin, past president of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass. Community relations committee co-chair Larry Kant marveled at Rabbi Wortman's ability to immediately analyze material presented at a conference for its practical use. "While everybody else was swept up in the excitement of the conference, Rabbi Wortman made us think," commented Mr. Kant.

He was an ethical man who did what was right, and was insightful, were two additional comments heard from community members about Rabbi Wortman.

Many people admired the courage with which Rabbi Wortman faced his illness, remaining active and involved as much as possible.

Rabbi Wortman was known for his sense of humor and for a dry wit that nailed the situation every time.

Rabbi Wortman is survived by his wife Judy, their four children, and six grandchildren. May his memory be for a blessing.

The funeral took place in Philadelphia on November 11. A memorial service is planned in Lexington, at Ohavay Zion Synagogue, on December 9, at 5:45 PM.

By Rabbi Moshe Smolkin, Ohavay Zion Synagogue

It was a great honor to know Rabbi David Wortman. He was filled with knowledge, and was glad to share his wisdom. I always appreciated his teachings and was grateful to him for sharing stories of his rabbinical experiences. His service and his dedication to the Jewish people should be remembered, and may we, as children of Torah, bring him honor by coming together to live committed Jewish lives.

By Rabbi Marc Kline, Monmouth Reform Temple, Tinton Falls, N.J. (served as Temple Adath Israel Rabbi for 11 years)

Life is a gift and a blessing, probably more for those we touch than even for ourselves. When we spend our life teaching by example, leading by example, and loving by example ... part of the world heals ... and we grow each other's toolboxes affording us the chance to do even more to complete the task. Our days on earth are limited, but our time in each other's soul is infinite. The impact we make continues to change the world, no differently than a stone changes the pond into which it is dropped.

A dear man, a friend, an incredible teacher, and an amazing mensch left his earthly life this weekend. Rabbi David Wortman passed after a series of health battles that witnessed heroic efforts to do, be, and see more over the last several years. His wit and his wisdom changed lives, and his courage was absolutely inspiring. For all who know David, hold Judy Bitman Wortman in prayer and love: she lovingly pushed him to and loves him through all of this. David, for our few years together, I am blessed, and I hope that the integrity with which I walk through this world gives you honor.



Editorial

Barbara L. Goldman

After four years at the helm of Shalom, Rabbi David Wortman retired this fall. In addition to bringing us news of world Jewry, Israel, and our own local Jewish community, he provided us with profound and moving editorials. In the wake of Rabbi Wortman's passing we at Shalom

would like to feature an editorial he wrote in August 2013. Rabbi Wortman never lessened his pledge to

champion the good in people.

Editorial: By David A. Wortman

First, Jodi Arias. Now George Zimmerman. If you watch the twenty-four hour news channels, you might think that there is nothing else going on in the world. What is it about Americans' interest that has so many glued to their TV sets, watching the same footage over and over again? Remember the Intifada? The same photos occurred repetitiously on CNN and other outlets.

I will admit that the first time I noticed this phenomenon was long before 24-hour news. It was in 1963, in the aftermath of the assassination of President Kennedy. The coverage went on for days. It still is re-broadcast today, 60 years later. In that case, a nation went into mourning. A man of great hope had been murdered. No matter what your politics were, you felt a deep loss. Inside of 100 years, four American presidents had been assassinated.

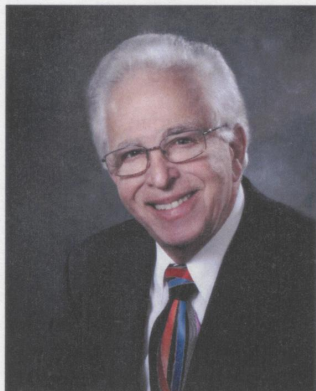
Yet, there is a world of difference between a presidential assassination, on the one hand, and a gruesome, lascivious murder or a vigilante taking the law into his own hands, on the other. 1963 was appropriate. 2013 is not.

I find this to be insulting. Whether perpetrated in the editing booths of Fox News, MSNBC, or CNN, or deriving from the banal consciousness of the viewers, this non-stop focus on "high profile" incidents accomplishes exactly the opposite of what was intended. The criminals become celebrities. How many of us remember David Berkowitz, Ted Bundy, Osama bin Laden, Ted Kaczynski, and a dozen other? How many of us remember the names of their victims?

Perhaps I am a curmudgeon, a throwback to days long ago. However, even then I would have opposed the 19th century glorification of western outlaws and Indian hunters. Further, the sanctification of the mobsters of the 20s, 30s, and 40s deserves rethinking.

Why don't we make teachers our heroes? Why not devote news time to hunger in South America, AIDS in Africa, cooperative programs among Jews, Christians, and Moslems in the Middle East?

It needs to stop. Our never-ending fascination with evil will not lead to the triumph of good. As we enter the New Year, may we turn our thoughts away from evil, pray for the redemption of humankind, and pledge ourselves to champion the good in people.



Ask a Rabbi— Rabbi Daniel A. Roberts

Q: What do Jews believe regarding Life after Death?

A: Sixty five students who were at the recent session of JELLI (Jewish Education Lexington Learning Institute) were seeking an answer to this exact same ques-

tion. I answered them as I answer you- that there is no dogma in Judaism about what happens after we die. There is nothing that you have to believe in order to be Jewish. The great scholar, George F. Moore, enumerated the many speculations of death in Jewish literature and then stated: "Any attempt to systematize the Jewish notions of the hereafter imposes upon them an order and consistency which does not exist in them."

The beliefs about life after death are somewhat dependent upon what age and in which culture a Jew lived at the time. In the Biblical time when one died, it was believed that one went to Sheol, a pit or an abyss. There was nothing connected with the concept except probably that when you died you were dead. The problem with this belief was that it did not provide for a concept of reward and punishment. Why be good if there is no reward? Why not follow the evil course if there is no punishment? When we encountered other cultures that had a belief in a division of body and soul, we adapted our belief to one in which the soul of the righteous returned to G-d while the body went into the earth. The punishment was that the soul on its journey back to G-d went through a cleansing in Gehinnom where the flames found there would render the soul fit to enter Gan Eden. It is widely believed that all Israel, except for a few arch sinners, would have a share in the world to come, and so could not be unconditionally doomed to Gehinnom (Sanh. 10a). With this thinking came the idea that the piety of a child could mitigate the punishment of a deceased parent [Kiddushin 31b (cf. II Macc. 12:42ff)]. So having someone say Kaddish for you could enhance your chance of getting into the Olam HaBa (the world to come).

As time passed and as we were exposed to the Greek culture with its individual rewards and punishments, the doctrine of resurrection of the dead came into being. This doctrine actually is considered the central doctrine of Judaism until this day. The rabbis wrestled as to whether or not this resurrection was for the

nation as a whole, or would it be for individuals who have died and deserve to be part of the messianic world? So the concept is that one day there will be physical resurrection. After death of the body, the idea projected was that the soul would be purified on it's way to Gan Eden (different from the physical garden) and there it will wait while basking in the glory of G-d and feasting on the flesh of the Leviathan, the sea monster mentioned in Isaiah, Psalms and Job. This waiting would be until the time of the Messianic age. Then the body and soul would be reunited; the body having rolled through tunnels in the earth and would be judged together with the soul on the Mount of Olives. The fate of the two aspects, body and soul, would be determined as to whether their bad deeds outweighed their good ones, resulting in the decision whether or not they would live forever in the Garden of Eden or die forever. At such time of judgment, the dual entity will be asked such questions as: Were you honest in your business dealings, did you enjoy the world in with I gave you, did you fix times for learning, did you generate a family, did you engage in wise debate?

The aforementioned, although the dominate belief, was not the final concept in Judaism. The mystics had projected that the human soul was part of the spiritual realm created before birth and had its own continued journey after death. The mystical thought is called Gilgul which means- a circle. In this case the body dies and the soul returns to G-d to be judged as to whether or not it has fulfilled its spiritual journey. If it has not, by doing good deeds, it would be returned to the earth in another body for another try. This circle could go on for up to three times based on a kabalistic reading of Job 33:29-30. However, if a soul insists on sinning then it would be condemned to Gehinnom forever. Of course, we are left with the question that if there were to be resurrection, then into which body would the soul return? But that is an answer for another column.

Of course, in today's world there are beliefs advocated by some who claim having had an out-of-body experience. They say in all seriousness that they were told by a deceased loved-one, as a bright light was shining at the end of a tunnel, that this person's time was not up and they will be sent back to earth to complete their mission.

If one Jew or many Jews believe this, does it make it a Jewish code of belief? Does the belief advocated by Dr. Brian Weiss in his book, *Many Lives, Many Masters*, that our soul migrates from body to body and from generation to generation become Jewish thought because he, as a Jew, believes it and others follow

him?

So in answering the question as to what a Jew believes about Life after Death, it probably depends on the individual and what brings the person comfort in confronting in the issue of one's mortality.

Tzeason of Tzedakah Always Time for Tzedakah

It's December. It's time for Tzeason of Tzedakah! It's time for getting together and giving. It's time for embracing those in need in Lexington. It's time for lending an extra hand to the hard-working staff and volunteers in Lexington who serve those in need – it's time to help them when they're spread a little thin during December.

Truth be told, it's always time for tzedakah. Individuals and various Jewish community organizations have exciting ongoing volunteer projects, such as involvement in God's Pantry, Faith Feeds, and God's Pantry Backpack Program. But Tzeason of Tzedakah is a moment to add an extra spark to this wonderful, important work. Now it's time to renew our dedication to our wider Lexington community, to tikkun olam (healing the world), and to renew the wonderful sense of friendship, community and fun we feel when we do this together.

Everyone is invited to participate in numerous volunteer opportunities. Some of these opportunities are even sponsored by a Jewish community organization. Each individual is welcome to join any volunteer opportunity, whether or not they are affiliated with the organization sponsoring the activity.

This year we will be volunteering at:

- **Stewart Home School** – Share Hanukkah activities with residents of Stewart Home School – Dec 11, 5:30 pm for carpooling from Jewish Federation or arrive 6:15 pm at Stewart Home.
- **Catholic Action Center Christmas Store** – Give low-income families the opportunity to shop for their children by helping to set up the store – Dec 12, 2–5 pm. Sponsored by Kentucky Hillel.
- **God's Pantry** – Sort goods at God's Pantry for those in need in Lexington – Dec 16, 6:30–8 pm.
- **Hope Center's Hope Mobile** – Make sandwiches for distribution from Hope Center's HopeMobile – Dec 21, Time and location TBA. Sponsored by Ohavay Zion Synagogue.
- **Sayre Christian Village** – Help run program for residents of Sayre – Dec 23, 2:30 pm. Sponsored by The Lexington Havurah.

- **Meals on Wheels** (3 locations available) – Deliver meals to those in need – Dec 25, Arrive 10:30–11:00 am depending on location. Sponsored by B'nai B'rith.
- **Mayfair Village** – Help run program for residents of Mayfair – Dec 25, 3 pm.
- **Moveable Feast** – Deliver meals to those in need (training required and can be arranged) – Dec 25, Arrive 4:30–5:00 pm.
- **Ronald McDonald House** – Cook and serve dinner – Dec 25, arrive 4 pm for cooking. Sponsored by Lexington Chapter of Hadassah.
- **Catholic Action Center** – Preparing and serving dinner – Dec 25, 5 pm (earlier for cooking). Sponsored by Temple Adath Israel.

And of course, in addition to volunteering, there are opportunities to donate items. This year we will be collecting items for Hope Center and Lexington Humane Society. Donors can drop off items at Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass throughout December.

- **Hope Center's Wish List:** Jackets, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, bar soap, shampoo, socks (Men's size 9–12), shower shoes, blankets.
- **Lexington Humane Society's Wish List:** Canned wet cat and dog food, dog treats (such as milkbones), flat sheets, thin blankets, gently used towels, large dog toys, gas cards, copy paper, bleach.

One of the aspects of Hanukkah (December 16 – 24) is rededication. This Hanukkah, and throughout December, we have the opportunity to rededicate ourselves to our community – and have fun with it!

To sign up to volunteer or for more information, e-mail talialia@jewishlexington.org, or call the Jewish

Federation of the Bluegrass at (859) 268-0672. For the most recent list of activities, please visit www.jewishlexington.org.

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ASK JFS

Mimi Kaufman

The Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living is a wonderful resource for residents living in the Bluegrass area.

One of the things they do is publish a yearly "Pathways" guide. The Pathways guide is a bold

resource that can serve as a valuable aide for care giving and long-term care planning for older adults and adults with disabilities. There are listings for Housing, Home Health Care, Medical Supplies, Hospice, Transportation, and Medicare and much, much more.

The guide is free. There is stack of them in the Federation office as well as at both congregations. Please stop by and pick up your Pathways Guide today.

Stewart Home Visit December 11th

Please contact JFS@jewishlexington.org or call Mimi at 269-8244 if you are interested in joining us for a trip to the Stewart Home for a Hanukkah celebration.

The Stewart Home is in Frankfort, Kentucky on a beautiful 850 acre serene rural farm area. It is a beautiful campus. It offers a one of a kind community for individuals with intellectual disabilities. There are roughly 30 Jewish residents at the school of 300 plus residents, who come from all over the United States.

Volunteers from the Federation go to the campus periodically to visit the Jewish residents who would like visitors from our organization. Hanukkah is always a special treat.

Save the Date

Winter Dinner

December 14, 2014

6:00 pm

Temple Adath Israel

We will be serving a sumptuous Italian buffet!

**Absolute deadline to RSVP
Dec 11! Call 268-0672**



UK Jewish Studies December Events

By Emily Cottingham

This December the University of Kentucky's Jewish Studies program is hosting several events. In association with the Year of the Middle East, sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, these opportunities promise to be both engaging and interesting. The public, including students, faculty, and Lexington community members, is welcome to attend these exciting events that will conclude the first half of the Year of the Middle East.

- "The Israelite Samaritan Today: Past, Present, and Looking to the Future" December 10 @7pm - UKAA Auditorium W.T. Young Library

Benyamim Tsedaka will present on the topic of today's Israelite Samaritans. His talk will explore the past, present, and future of the Israelite Samaritan people.

Tsedaka recently published "The Israelite Samaritan Version of the Torah: First English Translation Compared with the Masoretic Version" with Eerdmans Publishing. Reception immediately following.

- "Sign Languages of Israel" 7pm Location TBD
Dr. Mark Aronoff will present on the topic of sign language in Israel. Israel contains a widely practiced

Tzeason of Tzedakah is Here!



Join us as we volunteer throughout the month of December.

Volunteer. Donate. Make a Difference.

Volunteers will be placed at a specific job based on preference and availability. You can also become a TOT sponsor and help cover the cost of supplies!

Contact Talia at 859.268.0672 or e-mail
talia@jewishlexington.org to volunteer.

deaf community sign language used in schools, called Israeli Sign Language, and a number of much smaller village sign languages, each confined to a single community. Dr. Aronoff's research team was formed to study Israeli Sign Language, but has also spent the last decade documenting the sign language of the Bedouin village of Al-Sayyid, located near Be'er Sheva, the ancestral home of Abraham. In his lecture, Dr. Aronoff will compare the history and structure of these two languages and explain how the study of their emergence has provided a variety of insights into language and human nature.

Dr. Aronoff is a professor at Stony Brook University in New York. His research touches on almost all aspects of morphology and its relations to phonology, syntax, semantics, and psycholinguistics.

B'tayavon

By Vivian Bitensky

POTATO NIX

A different take on the usual potato latkes from the NEW YORK TIMES November 27, 2013

Past Perfect Memories

Ingredients:

About 2 pounds baking potatoes (Idaho or russet) peeled

1 medium onion peeled

2 eggs

Salt & pepper to taste

2 tablespoons plain bread crumbs or matzo meal

Oil

Directions:

1. Grate potatoes and onion by hand or with grating disc of food processor. Drain in colander. Combine potatoes and onions with eggs, salt, pepper and matzo meal.

2. Put about 1/8 in. oil in large skillet. Heat oil until it shimmers. Put all the batter in pan, and smooth the top. Cook, shaking pan occasionally; adjust heat so mixture sizzles but does not burn. Continue until bottom is nicely browned, at least 15 minutes.

3. To turn, slide cake onto a large plate, cover with another plate and invert. Add a little more oil to pan and slide pancake back in, cooked side up. Cook 15 min. or so longer until nicely browned.

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Private Line: 859-269-8244 or email jfs@jewishlexington.org

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

Holocaust Survivor, Jacques Wolgelenter, to speak December 11



Born to Jewish immigrant parents in Brussels, Belgium in 1934, Jacques Wolgelenter became one of the Holocaust's "Hidden Children" at the age of seven. On the advice of gentile friends, his family went into hiding and he was sent to

a boarding school, alone. He survived the Holocaust thanks to an underground network of Belgian nuns, Catholic school administrators and compassionate residents who risked their own lives to save his.

As part of a documentary film project, Jacques will be in Lexington to tell his story and answer questions about his life and experiences. In sharing his story, we hope to share a piece of history that should always be remembered.

Please join us.

WHEN: Thursday, December 11, 2014
7:00-8:00p.m.

WHERE: Temple Adath Israel
124 North Ashland Avenue

An RSVP to belgianholocaust@gmail.com is required due to limited space. We appreciate your reply.

Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 19, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Join our wider Lexington community and march with us under one Jewish community banner as part of the Lexington March for Freedom.

Line-up for the march begins at 9:00 a.m. outside the Lexington Center Heritage Hall

11:00 a.m.

A Commemorative Program will begin at 11:00 a.m. with featured guest, Ms. Susan Taylor, former editor-in-chief of *Essence* Magazine, and current executive director of the National CARES Mentoring Movement.

Contact JFB for more information at 859-268-0672 or tamara@jewishlexington.org.



Chabad of Kentucky Public Candle Lighting

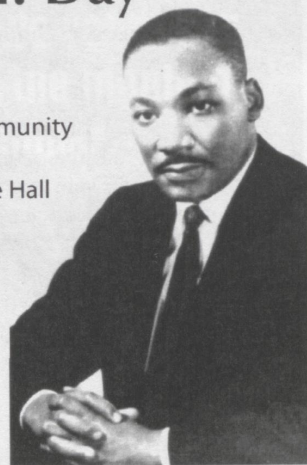
Chabad candle lighting to take place on Monday December 22 at 7:15 p.m. at Joseph-Beth Booksellers. Candles will be lit by Mayor Jim Gray.

One World Films – Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration 2015

One World Films, as part of Lexington's celebration of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, Monday, January 19, 2015, will show the George Lucas film, *RED TAILS*, at the Kentucky Theater at 2:30 p.m. The film showing is free and open to the public. *RED TAILS* is the story of a squadron of black pilots known as the Tuskegee Airmen. The men have fought racism at home, and although highly skilled as pilots, fight racism in their World War II.

Assignments in addition to fighting the Nazis.

Ron Spriggs, a local historian and aficionado of Tuskegee Airmen history, will introduce the film.



Israel 21c: Hospital of Hope Launched against Ebola

By Abigail Klein Leichman

Israel's Foreign Ministry unveils its latest tactic to help neighboring African continent fight the deadly viral epidemic.



Gil Haskel, Head of MASHAV, speaking at the Nov. 11 launch of Operation Hospitals of Hope. Photo by Yossi Zamir

MASHAV, Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation, launched Operation Hospitals of Hope this week as its newest weapon to help Africa fight the severe Ebola epidemic.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is earmarking NIS 1.2 million to the project, which is part of its ongoing contributions to the global fight against the deadly virus.

Israel will send two containers of medical equipment to each of three countries hard-hit by the virus – Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea. The equipment includes mobile clinics with a capacity of 20 beds each, in addition to protective equipment for healthcare workers, a treatment cart and everything needed to set up the clinics quickly and start treating patients immediately.

“The Ministry of Foreign Affairs asked us to help in the international fight against the Ebola virus, and we

immediately agreed,” said Avi Buskila, CEO of Sarel Supplies and Services for Medicine. “We helped the ministry with supplies and professional guidance in order to provide, in the shortest possible time, the best and most professional answer to the patients and the medical staff treating them.”

The containers are slated to leave Ashdod port on November 14 through the Globus shipping company, and should reach their destinations within 30 to 40 days. After the containers arrive, teams will be sent to instruct local residents in setting up the clinics, after which the locals will assume responsibility for running the facilities.

In addition, various NGOs will recruit Israeli doctors to assist the local operators of the clinics.

At the launch event in Ashdod, MASHAV Director Gil Haskel said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is also sending medical teams to Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire to advise the local residents in dealing with emergency situations and preventing epidemic outbreaks.

This is in addition to large donations of equipment and medications already sent to Sierra Leone, protective kits to the African Union, and other forms of aid from MASHAV and Israeli NGOs including IsraAid.

“As head of MASHAV, I am proud to stand once again at the forefront of international aid efforts,” said Haskel.

“We are working together with African countries at their request and in accordance with the situation on the ground. Israel has unique expertise in the medical realm, and we willingly share our knowledge with all nations.”

Israel has already contributed millions of shekels' worth of equipment and expertise to the fight against the Ebola epidemic, including sending aid, and experts, creating apps to help caregivers control Ebola and even developing a sterile tent that can be used to help combat the deadly disease.

To listen to ISRAEL21c's TLV1 radio show about Israel's role in finding a cure or vaccine, click [here](#).

This Hanukkah
GIVE THE GIFT OF ISRAEL BONDS



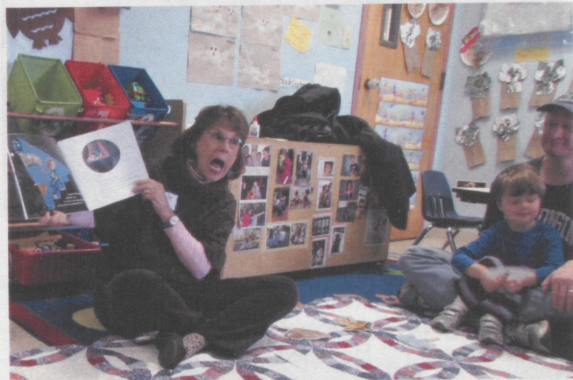
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GLOBAL DAY OF JEWISH LEARNING - SUNDAY., NOVEMBER 16, 2014

Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, Hosted by Ohavay Zion Synagogue



HADASSAH

Dear Hadassah Friends,

Since this is the last President's Column of 2014, I want to remind you all of what wondrous things our chapter has accomplished this year.

We started in January with a fundraiser for HMO (Hadassah Medical Organization) and the installation of our 2014-2015 Board members. Not long after, we observed the first Hadassah Shabbat Zachor (the Sabbath just prior to Purim) where we worshipped together at both TAI and OZS, demonstrating again what a great cross-community influence Hadassah has become.

In March, we had our first "Every Beat Counts" program in collaboration with UK Healthcare, raising awareness and educating our community about the serious epidemic of heart disease in women around the world, and how it can be prevented. We celebrated the work done at the Linda Joy Pollin Cardiovascular Wellness Institute at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, which has impacted the lives of hundreds of Arab and Israeli women and their families.

Pesach brought our wonderful multi-generational Women's Seder, passing on the beauty of wisdom and Jewish stories and tradition from the old to the young, and everyone in between! We spent a "Night at the Bistro" in June, eating and drinking and singing along to raise money for our chapter. In August, on the 3rd wettest day in Lexington history, many of us gathered with the men in our lives to learn more about diseases that are common to the guys, like prostate and lung cancer. We didn't let a little rain keep us from sharing a meal with our friends that day and raising money for Hadassah's Men's Health Initiative.

October, our fourth Progressive Dinner "Night of Friendship and Fundraising" was the best yet and the year will finish with our annual Hanukkah party and Mitzvah Project for Kentucky Children's Hospital on December 18. Contact Evalyn Block at eblock3375@gmail.com for more information about this fun event.

Our Book Club has read avidly, enhancing the experience by watching documentaries and "Skyping" with a wonderful young Jewish author. Peggy Leep can tell you more about the group's plans for 2015 (mgleep@gmail.com). We have welcomed new members and sent over \$50,000 to Hadassah to support our projects here in the US and in Israel. Sadly, we have lost dear friends during this past year, which we will miss, but will always be inspired by their love of and devotion to Hadassah.

I want to leave you with yet another story of "Hadassah Heroism." Have you heard about Roey Fatal, 32,

an Israeli injured by an avalanche in Nepal in October who was airlifted back to HMO? An Israeli businessman provided the plane for Prof. Avi Rivkind, Head of HMO's Trauma Unit, to fly to Nepal and bring Roey home for treatment. In the same airlift, Dr. Julius Goller, a Hadassah pediatric cardiologist, was able to bring the two weeks old baby of an Israeli couple back to Israel for surgery. Flying to Katmandu wasn't easy. The two doctors flew first to Jordan in an unmarked plane and then over countries "not friendly to Israel." But, with an emergency Israeli passport secured for the baby and permission from the Indian military, the mission of mercy returned with the two Israelis safely to our Hadassah Hospital.

Remember in this season of darkness that Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) stands as a beacon throughout the world, a beacon of coexistence and healing and hope. If you are thinking of a gift for the person who has everything, I ask you to consider a gift to Hadassah in their name. Jane Chaput (chaput1@windstream.net) can help you with every purse size and every person. From now until the end of the year, you have the extraordinary opportunity to have your gift to the Sarah David Wetsman Hospital Tower Fund matched dollar for dollar up to \$1 million. We, the Hebrew Women's Zionist Organization of America (HWZOA) built that beautiful and much needed structure, and now it must be furnished and equipped.

As we celebrate the ancient miracles of Hanukkah, please remember that in our time, Hadassah is a great miracle, too. I wish you and your loved ones a happy Hanukkah. May your doughnuts be yummy and your latkes just the way you love them. May you enjoy the season of darkness with the lights of your life.

B'Shalom,

Melanie

SPARE PARTS & EQUIPMENT

60 Years of Service

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(859) 266-2188
Fax (859) 268-1877

Mitchell Barnes - Owner

pj playgroup

When: 2nd Sunday of each month

Where: Locations will alternate between Ohavay Zion Synagogue, Temple Adath Israel and other fun locations!

november playgroup

Sunday, November 9th from 10:15 to 11:30 am

Ohavay Zion Synagogue 2048 Edgewater Ct.

please RSVP to
pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org

PJ Playgroups, best for families with kids under 4, will take place in Lexington, 10:15–11:30 am.

2014 calendar

Date	Location
October 12	Temple Adath Israel (124 N. Ashland Avenue)
November 9	Ohavay Zion Synagogue (2048 Edgewater Court)
December 14	To be announced
January 11	Temple Adath Israel
February 8	Ohavay Zion Synagogue
March 15	Centered (309 N. Ashland Avenue, Suite 180)
April 12	Temple Adath Israel
May 10	Ohavay Zion Synagogue
June 14	To be announced

We'll have time to informally play, eat a light snack, and perhaps sing a song, create a craft, or read a PJ Library book.

Please e-mail pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org to get on the PJ Library list to ensure you receive all updates.

Also:
Please remember that all children must be accompanied by an adult. And we like to share, but if your child is sick, please get well at home & join next month!

OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE NEWS

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!

CHILDREN'S HANUKKAH PARTY

Please join our friends from Kids' Shabbat and our OZS religious school as we join together for the first night of Hanukkah. This will be a fun celebration with activities and yummy treats. So, please, join in for the fun on Tuesday, December 16 at 5:30pm. All are welcome!

ADULT HANUKKAH PARTY

Please join our whole OZS community as we celebrate Hanukkah together on Saturday, December 19 at 7:00pm. We will have drinks, desserts, and entertainment! All are welcome!

YOUNG OZS-ERS

Young OZS-ers come together each month for singing, learning and socializing. Please contact Amia Kurs for more information or join our Facebook group.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

Please join us any Saturday morning of the year, as Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates Shabbat. We begin at 9:30am, 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 5:45pm to 6:15pm. 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. Our next backpacking date will be in November at OZS check weekly announcements and Facebook for date and 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 7:30am, 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 our membership chair Kathy Grossman at 268-2596 or email Rabbi Smolkin at Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

HAVURAH

Our Kabbalat Shabbat Service, held on November 7, was made even more meaningful by the presence of the children of David Wekstein. David was a founder of the Havurah and a driving force within it. A lovely music filled service was led by Mike and Kathy Grossman.

As we head toward winter, we enjoy the warmth of meeting with family and friends. That is a part of what the Lexington Havurah is about. Our next gathering will be our Hanukkah Party and latke fest, which will take place on December 17. For more information, including location, please call Gail Cohen, 272-1459.

The following members are serving on the board of the Lexington Havurah:

President – Gail Cohen

V.P/Bulletin Editor – Judy Baumann

Secretary – Minna Katz-Brown

Treasurer – Michael Rie

Religious Committee – Jeremy Popkin, Steve Shedlofsky

Education Committee – Diane Bazell, Larry Kant

Social Committee – Judy Saxe

JFB Representative – TBA

TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL

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 PM. 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 at 6 PM preceding the service. Our next Family Shabbat will be on December 12th.

KIDS' SHABBAT

Our Kids' Shabbat Friday night service is held on the last Friday of each month (during the school year). It is geared towards children ages newborn to seven years old and their parents. Our next Kids' Shabbat will be on December 26th.

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 our Librarian Leona Stern loves to share in reading time with many families or even just one. These books provide our young children with wonderful introductions to the magic of Jewish storytelling.

KOLLEL STUDY GROUP

Kollel meets at 9 AM 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 December 13 & 27.

TALMUD STUDY

We are studying the Pirke Avot, a section of the Talmud on alternate Saturdays at 9 AM in the library. The discussion is always lively and informative and

you can join the group anytime. We will meet on December 6, 13, 20, & 27.

PARSHA

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 AM 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 December 6, 13, 20 & 27.

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. We welcome you to join us for the monthly Generation TAI Dinner on Friday, December 5th and Friday, January 2nd. For more information, Please contact Reva Schottenstein at rschott86@hotmail.com or call her at (859) 221-9473.

ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT

Consider making a difference in the life of a child at Ashland Elementary School this year! You could help a student improve reading and/or math skills. You could also provide support and encouragement as a mentor. Perhaps you would enjoy assisting a teacher in the classroom. These experiences will enrich your life as you interact with children at our "adopted" school. Even a half hour a week can make a difference. Schedules are always flexible for your commitments and travel.

If you are interested in volunteering at Ashland or want more information, contact Maureen Wrobel at mowrobel42@gmail.com or call at 859-272-4491. All volunteers must complete a quick and easy online background check form for the Fayette County Schools. Instructions are on the Temple website or contact Maureen for assistance.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Sisterhood has some fun and interesting programs/events upcoming. On Wednesday, December 17, Rabbi Roberts leads us in our yearly Lunch and Learn.

We will discuss women in the Torah while we enjoy a great lunch. In March we will have Vashti's Banquet, where we will belly dance and enjoy a nice Mediterranean meal. Lots of fun was had by all last year!

Friday, April 24 will be Sisterhood Shabbat. Sisterhood will lead the Shabbat Service. Be on the lookout

for your invitations to these events and others that are in the planning stages.

We had our latest monthly dinner out with the Sisterhood ladies at Brasabana. The food was delicious, and as always, we had fun catching up with one another. Come join us when the next invitation comes out. It is lots of fun to sit and kibbitz with the women of TAI Sisterhood!

Marilyn Lieber, Judi Gewirtzman, Elissa Weinstein and Laura Creamer represented Sisterhood at the WRJ Central District Convention in Columbus, Ohio. We had a wonderful weekend meeting with the women from our district, learning more about WRJ, and having the privilege of seeing Sandy Adland being installed as WRJ Central District President. Oh, and we laughed a lot too! lsdflomenhoft@gmail.com.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Hanukkah Carnival Sunday, December 14, noon.

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

Our 2014 Contributors

Thank you for your generous donations to keep Shalom solvent.

CHAI

George Levine
Elaine & Steven Silver
1 anonymous

GIBOR

Jacquelyn Johnson
1 anonymous*

*In honor of Shalom staff past, present, and future.

DOUBLE CHAI

Kevin & Kimberly
Leah Maines

"Jews in Magic" Comes to Lexington Spring 2015



Temple Adath Israel is pleased to announce plans to bring an evening of magical entertainment to share with the entire Lexington community. The show honors those Jewish magicians, both past and present, who have made legendary contributions to the art of magic.

Well-known Cleveland magician, Manny Sperling, took his avocation

and turned it into a full time profession. For the past 29 years, he has utilized his theatrical and teaching experience, as well as his communications career, to etch a name for himself in the field of magic. Manny has been seen on various television shows, has written and produced magic specials for cable television, and has appeared in TV commercials.

"Manny Sperling is incredible!" says Elaine Rembrandt, former Cultural Arts Director of the Jewish Community Center in Cleveland. "No matter how many times I see him perform, I am always dazzled, fooled, entertained and left wanting more! He just knows how to delight an audience!"

The show, appropriate for the whole family, will take place on Saturday, April 18, 2015 at the UK Healthcare Albert B. Chandler Hospital in the beautiful Pavilion A auditorium. So mark your calendar now and look for ticket information coming soon. For more information call the Temple office at 859-269-2979.



PJ Playgroup officially began in October, starting a monthly playgroup for our families with kids under four. More than a dozen kids and their families played together at Temple Adath Israel this month. We sang, read Sadie's Sukkah Breakfast, by Jamie Korngold, decorated drawings of gourds for the Sukkah (or played with glue and crayons), and went to see the sukkah and a lulav and etrog.

The next playgroup will be Sunday, December 14, 10:15 – 11:30 am, at Ohavay Zion Synagogue. Contact pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org for more info and come play!

CELEBRATE HANUKKAH WITH A HANUKKAH STORY TIME

Families of all backgrounds welcome!



FREE RAFFLE

STORY TELLING

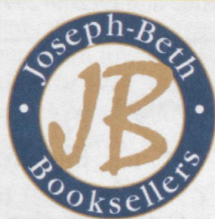
COLORING PLACEMAT

DREIDEL DECORATING

DREIDEL SPIN CONTEST

MEET DANNY THE DREIDEL

HANUKKAH CANDLE LIGHTING



Monday, December 22 @ 5:30 PM

Joseph-Beth Booksellers

161 Lexington Green Circle Lexington, KY 40503

For more information, please contact Talia at

pjlibrary@jewishlexington.org or call (859) 268-0672


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Hands on Hanukkah

 **The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS**
THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

 **PJ Library**
JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES AND SONGS

--- 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:

- Lynn Furness, newly installed President of the Central States Region of Hadassah.

Condolences to:

- The family of Rabbi David Wortman, husband of Judy Wortman.

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:

- Alison Knab in memory of Stephen Kesten.
- Judy B. Wortman in memory of Harriet Cooper.
- Daniel Chejfec in memory of Harriet Cooper and Rabbi David Wortman.
- Lou and Kathie Kroot, Alyson Axelrod, David Schwager, Brett Weinberg, Eric Weinberg, Rhonda Falk, David Gutin, Patricia and David Shraberg, Talia and Rabbi Moshe Smolkin, Jacquelyn Johnson, Mary Rosenbaum, Ian Rushau, Carol Clapp, Gary Charlestein, Susan Thomas, Jill Rappoport and Michael Genovese, Connie and John Loventhal, Ricki and Howard Wasserman, Toni Young, Vivian Bitensky, Minna Katz-Brown, Vinnie Dubilier, Aimee and Andrew Block, Paul Minkoff, Kathy and David Feinberg, Barbara Nussbaum, Terri and Walter Solomon, Linda and Martin Millison, Shana Sippy and Rabbi David Wirschafter in memory of Rabbi David A. Wortman.

***Want to give your child a cherished Jewish camp experience?
Looking for your next adventure in Israel?
Worried about the cost?***

JFB's Jewish Family Services (JFS) is now accepting confidential applications for camperships to not-for-profit Jewish summer camps in the region (including our local Camp Shalom) and scholarships toward not-for-profit Israel educational programs. Income is a criteria used to evaluate eligibility for camperships.

Deadline for applications is April 1, 2015.

Applications can be requested from JFS.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

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



Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

does not represent either a kashruth or any other endorsement on the part of the Federation of any other agency or organizations.

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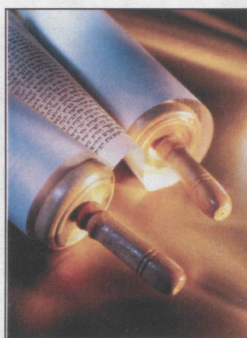
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The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Lunch and Learn with our
Lexington community rabbis

January 27 with Rabbi Sharon Cohen
(There is no program in December.)

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.

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!