

Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Kentucky
UNBROKEN SPIRIT

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February 2011

Yiddishkeit in Appalachia



By Gary Yarus

How can you be Jewish and live in Pikeville, Kentucky? A follow-up question was usually, how did you get there in the

first place?

I was asked these questions shortly after I arrived in Lexington as I started to meet members of the Jewish community.

To answer, I told them the Cliff notes version of the story.

My father was from Cleveland, Ohio and during the 1929 Depression, my father had to quit college and go to work. The problem was, he had few skills and many odd jobs. On the suggestion of relatives he went to New York City, living there with other relatives, and got a job with the Pep Boys, a prominent auto parts supplier, and began learning the auto parts business.

Upon his return to Cleveland, my father would load up his car with auto parts and drive south on U.S. highway 23 selling parts to the service stations along the route. When empty he would return to Cleveland, fill up the car again, and continue further down US 23. Business was good and soon with a larger vehicle he was able to go still further south where he eventually

crossed the Ohio River at Portsmouth into Kentucky. This trend continued until he found himself in the coalfields of Eastern Kentucky. The coal business was booming and demand for auto parts was high, so my father decided to settle with my mother in Hazard, Kentucky where he and a partner, in 1936, opened an auto parts store on Main Street. He chose to name the business "The Whizz Boys," (like the Pep Boys) after a popular candy bar of that time plus he wanted the name to be easy to remember. To the locals he became known as "Bernie Whizz."

A year later he moved to Pikeville and spent the next forty years operating Whizz Auto Parts. My father claimed Whizz Auto Parts was the largest auto parts store in Eastern Kentucky. The building was five stories high. My father would sometimes boast that his inventory was so extensive that he had, in stock, hubcaps for a Model T Ford. To earn my fifty-cent a week allowance, I delivered auto parts all over town, riding a heavy bicycle with a large basket on the front.

Our family was one of three Jewish families in Pikeville. After World War II my father's brother, my uncle Dan and his wife, Alice, joined him in business, so eventually among the three Jewish households now in Pikeville, 8 kids were schlepped each week, over three mountains on very narrow and winding two lane roads, to the nearest synagogue, 32 miles away in Williamson, West Virginia. This process

see *Yiddishkeit*, page 4

Free Jewish children's books available soon in Central Kentucky

Jewish children in Lexington and central Kentucky will soon be eligible to receive free, age-appropriate Jewish content books each month. Any Jewish child from six months to 8 years of age can be enrolled to receive the books in the mail.

"There is no catch, no hidden agenda, the books are free," says Linda Ravvin, President of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass. "These are beautiful books that will enhance the Jewish life of any young family."

It's all a part of the PJ Library, a national program run by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in Massachusetts. More than 60,000 books are mailed each month to children in more than 125 communities in the USA and Canada. "PJ" stands for pajamas. PJ li-



brary turns snugly bedtime moments into Jewish moments.

Every month a child will receive a book or a music CD in the mail. The books are beautifully illustrated and are about Jewish holidays, values and folktales. The books come with reading guides to help parents discuss and do activities with their children around the themes expressed in the books.

"The Grinspoon Foundation pays for about 60% of this amazing program," says Judy Wortman, Federation's Executive Director. "A number of

see *Free*, page 3

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Jewish Federation Community Campaign to begin on March 6

Two March events - Super Sunday and Women's Happy Hour

The 2011 Jewish Federation Community Campaign will officially begin with the Super Sunday phonathon on Sunday, March 6. Super Sunday 2011 will be chaired by Carole Wilson and co-chaired by Jennifer Miller

268-0672 or email her at jfb@jewishlexington.org to volunteer.

Super Sunday will again be held at the Federation office. There will be three shifts for phone calling: 9:30 to 11:30 am, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, and 12:30 to 2:30 pm. We will serve breakfast, lunch and snacks to all our volunteers. We will need many phone solicitors and several volunteers for administrative duties. Please call Judy Wortman at

This year we will be sponsoring a brand new special event for women only that will be chaired by Janice Newman. It will be a happy hour program on Thursday, March 31st at 5 PM that is open to all women who contribute at least \$18 to the Jewish Federation Community Campaign in their own names. The event will be held at Petra Mediterranean Grill. A light buffet dinner and wine will be served. A

see *Jewish*, page 4

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February 12th
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This event is free!

Advance reservations are mandatory.
Space is limited and will fill up quickly.

We'll help you break the ice over drinks and conversation starters, and give you just enough time to see if there could be something more. But, when the bell rings... it's time to move on to the next person.

If there's chemistry in the air, save it for a night on the town when we'll hit some of Downtown Cincinnati's most popular hot spots directly after the event. Then you can spend as much one-on-one time as you wish!

Please contact Rachel Plowden for more details or to RSVP*
(513) 373-0300 or info@jypaccess.org

* Want to stay the night? We've secured a special room rate at The Westin Cincinnati Hotel where the event will be held. Please ask Rachel Plowden for details!

This event is open to all Jewish young professionals between the ages of 21-35.

Access is an initiative of The Mayerson Foundation.

www.jypaccess.org

*This event is open to Jewish young professionals 21-35 years, limit strictly enforced.

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Shalom Deadline

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

Email articles to shalom@jewishlexington.org



President's Message

Linda Ravvin, JFB President

Sometimes, being President means that you are responsible, along with the Board, for making decisions that not only affect the organization but also individual lives. It is very unfortunate that I must announce once again, decreased donations to the Federation over the past year. This, of course, is mostly a reflection of the difficult economic times with which our whole country continues to struggle. Our budget for any given year is based on the total donations received and paid the previous year; so that our budget for 2011 is based on our total received during 2010. Although I cannot give you the full budget for the Federation at this time, it will have final approval at our January 26th Board Meeting, I can share with you, however, that it has significant impact. We have had to make the very difficult decision to eliminate a staff position: that of Community Activities Director. It is with a heavy heart that I must therefore announce the termination of Jana LaZur from her long standing employment with the Federation. Jana has been working with and committed to JFB and the community for over 9 years; she has been instrumental in the continuing success and growth of many programs including Camp Shalom, Yom Ha'atzmaut, Winter Dinner, Tzeason of Tzedekah, and Stewart Home Visits, among others. We all wish Jana well in her future endeavors and thank her for her efforts on behalf of all of us.

JFB has made every effort to tighten each aspect of its budget and operations while at the same time continuing all programs and services to the community. As a matter of fact, as highlighted on the front page of *Shalom*, we are launching a very exciting new program: PJ Library. This is a fantastic program being made available with the support of the Grinspoon Foundation and local sponsors. It is an outreach program designed to provide families with children between the ages of 6 months and 8 years a book, cd or dvd with Jewish content every month. These are very attractively

presented, high quality resources, not easily available through other sources, mailed directly to the children from the Grinspoon Foundation. We are very thankful to the local people who stepped up to support and make this program possible for our young families; they have all made commitments over and above their regular contributions to JFB. Special thanks go to Art and Simone Salomon who have spearheaded the efforts to organize this wonderful addition to the Federation community. You will be hearing more about the PJ Library Program in the next few months, including a special mailing from the Grinspoon Foundation officially introducing the program to everyone in our community. Please look at the materials and encourage all your friends and family, with young children, who are part of our community, whether identified or not, and affiliated or not, to take advantage of this special opportunity. This single program has made the largest positive connection for families everywhere across North America where it has been launched and maintained.

Along with the excitement of the PJ Library Program introduction, we are also looking forward to our continuing Federation programs. Our last Film festival showing of this series will take place at OZS on Saturday, Feb. 12th, when we will be seeing "A Matter of Size." Super Sunday will be taking place on March 6th and the JFB Women's event will be taking place on Thursday, March 31st. Each of these upcoming events provides an opportunity to participate in and show your support of our community and beyond. Please join us in making these events successful ones! I especially want to encourage all of you to consider offering your time as volunteers on behalf of JFB and all of us. It is taking crucial now then ever before to become involved and active! ☆

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Editorial

The Rabbis tell us that, "Kol hatchalot kashot," "All beginnings are difficult." And so it has been with this first issue under my tenure as editor. Fortunately, the transition was made somewhat easier by both the precedent set by Ruth Poley and Mary Rosenbaum, as well as the generous volunteering of their time in training me in this position.

As I embark on this daunting trek through the obstacle ridden editorial byways, I have committed to several goals. First and foremost, I have pledged to maintain the high standards of *Shalom* that have been built over time. The breadth and depth of this quality is well established. It is a firm foundation on which to build.

Twenty-four hour news services on TV and the Internet have had a profound impact on the efficacy of national

and international news coverage in a monthly newspaper like *Shalom*. We will not ignore them, but our emphasis will be on items of interest that may not have been heard from or read in traditional sources. To that end, I am looking forward to more Jewish book and movie reviews. I would also like to see more guest columns and, perhaps, brief literary pieces. For example, in this issue you will read of Gary Yarus' experience growing up in Eastern Kentucky. If you have an interesting story to tell, we would like to see it.

If you have anything to say in a letter to the editor or to contribute for publication, please forward it to me at shalom@jewishlexington.org

The quality of the relationship between the reader and the paper determines the success of the effort. ☆

Free (from page 1)

generous donors will pay the rest. We are seeking additional donors because we think it is important to get young Jewish families off to a great start. Additional funds will assist us in developing family programs for the participating children and their parents. You don't have to be a member of a congregation or any Jewish organization to get PJ Library books. This is for everyone - members, non-members, two Jewish parents or inter-faith couples."

Watch your mailbox in the coming months for a sample PJ Library book and information on how to sign up. If you don't have children 6 months to 8 years old, be sure to

tell a friend or neighbor who would benefit from this gift of history and heritage.

For more information, contact Simone Salomon, PJ Library Chairperson or Judy Wortman at 859-268-0672 or email judy@jfb@jewishlexington.org.

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JFNA mourns Debbie Friedman, z"l



The Jewish Federations of North America mourns together with the entire Jewish community the passing of American Jewish songwriter and artist, Debbie

Friedman. A light of Israel has died; but, as many have already acknowledged, her spirit and message will live on through her music for generations to come.

Much will be said of her 36-year career as a composer, singer and recording artist, and of the 20-plus albums she produced and countless concerts she staged worldwide. But, for all these achievements, her greatest accomplishments were to be found in the way she built meaningful, vibrant community, bringing Jews of all ages and all backgrounds closer to Judaism—and to each other—through her talent and *neshamah*.

Many are unaware that some of the tunes and settings for sacred songs they regularly sing are Debbie Friedman creations. Her *Mi Shebeirach*, *Aleph-Bet Song*, and many others are part of the canon of Jewish communal life today.

"Today we join together to mourn the loss of Debbie, whose life was dedicated to sharing her precious gifts with all

of us. She helped us soar in times of joy and taught us that in community and in music there is healing. For many of us her music was present at every life cycle event," said Susie Stern, past chair of NYL, NWP and UJA-Federation of New York. "We also remember the International Lion of Judah Conference some years back when Debbie composed a song to all of us, music that was to celebrate the good deeds of the Lions of Judah. As Debbie sang to us so many times, *L'ch' Lach*: from the bottom of our hearts we respond to our beloved Debbie, you have been a blessing and we shall miss you forever."

Debbie's music is now performed in more synagogues around the world than any other living composer. Her music crosses all barriers—young and old, traditional and secular, Jewish and non-Jewish—as people relate to her music personally.

Especially at times like this, when we struggle with the forces around us that would have it otherwise, we turn to Debbie's music for solace, and for direction. In Debbie's memory, let us pledge to live lives filled with the music of kindness and decency. In Debbie's words from *Mi Shebeirach*:

May the source of strength, Who blessed the ones before us, Help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing.

And let us say, Amen. ☆

Yiddishkeit (from page 1)

continued until all the kids were "confirmed".

During this time, many traveling salesmen, many of whom we later learned were Jewish, would come to Pikeville selling their wares. Somehow, they seemed to know of my father and would seek him out and wind up

Jewish (from page 1)

number of women thespians from our community will be entertaining with a skit entitled "Am I Turning into My Mother?"

Many thanks go to our outstanding Campaign Committee for helping to organize these events. The committee is co-chaired by Angie Ornstein and Pat Shraberg. Its members are

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at our house for a "Jewish meal." On their first visit to Pikeville, they would often enter my father's store and were easily identified as someone who was not local. Being suspicious, my father would asked them the coded question "Are you a member of the tribe?" and if they could answer properly, an invite to our home for dinner and a little Yiddishkeit, Appalachian style was offered. ☆

Susan Caller, Bob Grossman, Nancy Hoffman, Odette Kaplan, Bill Lucas, Jennifer Miller, Linda Ravvin, Ricki Rosenberg, David Shakib and Carole Wilson.

Funds raised at both these events will help provide needed programs and services for our sisters and brothers here, in Israel, and around the world. When you are called, please give with a generous heart. ☆

Thank you to our 2010 Tzeason of Tzedakah Volunteers

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The Clancy Family for donating turkey and cookies for the Catholic Action Center's lunch, Shriner's Hospital, and M.A.S.H. Unit residents.

Krispy Kreme for supplying donuts for the Stewart Home, M.A.S.H. Unit residents, Shriner's Hospital, and Catholic Action Center

Kroger for their many donations of food and reduced prices

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah for donating entire meal for Ronald McDonald House which fed over 30 residents on Christmas Eve

The Wortman family for their donation to the Tzeason of Tzedakah

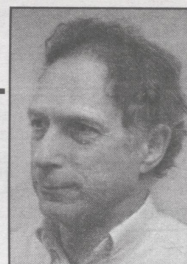
Martine's for donating Christmas cupcakes and goodies to the Ronald McDonald House



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Third Opinion

Stanley Ned Rosenbaum, PhD



Welcome to the NLFL!

By Ned Rosenbaum

No, it has nothing to do with the National Football League, however, since you asked, I can report that at least eight of the league's 32 teams are owned or managed by J's. J's? Yes, J is the President of the National Legion of Forbidden Letters (NLFL). It owes this honor to the fact that while almost all the other letters that stand for forbidden words, N and its ethnic friends, C, M, D, G, S, P, W, and K stand for nouns, J was first in the field and also stands for a verb.

To "j-," defined as to "drive a hard bargain" or engage in "sharp practice" is absent from smaller "college" dictionaries but can be found in the Oxford English Dictionary or an unabridged Webster's. Not long ago an English J sued to get the verb "j" removed from the OED. He lost.

I've never had a problem with this decision. Once a semester - when relevant - I used the j-word in the classes that I taught because I think it ulti-

mately derives from Abraham's courageous attempts to save the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah (the Q's?) by bargaining God down from an initial demand for fifty righteous souls to a more manageable ten.

(As Genesis 19 relates, it didn't help; the Deity must have had insider information. All Abraham could find was his nephew, Lot, Lot's wife and two daughters and that story didn't have a happy ending.)

In 1964 Dan Greenberg famously wrote, "You don't have to be Jewish or a mother to be a Jewish mother." That was then; try it now.

What I object to is all this political correctness nonsense that says we can't or we mustn't use such-and-such a word or phrase in our public discourse. Admittedly, a lot of them have only insult or shock value (the F-bomb) and should be used sparingly and never with the intent of embarrassing an individual.

For me, the F-bomb was effectively defused by comics such as Dennis

Miller, for whom it constituted about a third of his vocabulary. A little goes a long way. That said, the use of ethnic terms in humorous contexts may, I think, be defended as a sideways look at certain identifiable groups. Remember P-jokes? Would they be as funny if the group were identified as "your favorite Central European national group?" No, P-jokes worked because it was the Poles who charged Hitler's tanks on cavalry horses. God rest their brave souls.

George Orwell wrote that, "of course, foreigners are funny." But we're not really laughing at them, just near them often because their use of our language gives us juxtapositions and insights we don't ordinarily get.

It's just as true in countries where we are the foreigners. I remember trying to describe a girlfriend's figure to a French salesperson... and Mary explaining in her best Hebrew who the handsome young man was who showed up at our Jerusalem house the day after I went into Sha'arei Tzedek hospital with appendicitis. (After 42 years we're still fast friends.)

Avoiding certain words cuts us off from our own history. If I surmise correctly, Q got to be the euphemism it is because Q's (and J's) often lived in the twisted alleys between European streets. In German the ur-Q-word means "diagonal." The same checkerboard segregation was found in many Southern cities where Q = N, to use the algebraic equation, and maybe it still is.

I also find myself explaining the difference between "profanity" and "obscenity" to anyone I can get to stand still long enough to listen to me. (That's not funny; you may be next.) ☆

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

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Shalom 2/2011

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Our Rosie

By Bonnie Sobel

The Lexington community lost a very special person on Thanksgiving Day, and Pete and I lost a wonderful friend. We first met Rose Rita and her husband Jerry in 1992, at



Friday night services, and they were kind enough to take us under their wing. They had a "big wing" that embraced many friends and family, but they still found room to include us.

As newcomers, we put the people who befriended us high on our list of loved ones, so the Wurmser went right up to the top of the list. Shortly after we met them they invited us to their home, and what a treat that was as Jerry and Rosie were pros at making guests feel welcome and pampered. Jerry kept the fire stoked and our glasses filled while Rosie made it seem effortless to set a lovely table, prepare a gourmet meal, and at the same time, enjoy herself. And, when we were invited to celebrate Passover with them, we became part of their extended family and Lexington began to feel more like our home.

Rosie was a multitasking person. When she signed on to do a project, she could be counted on to accomplish whatever she set out to do and more. Beautiful details were important to her, and she never saved them for the last minute. She and I worked together on several Temple projects. On one occasion, we raised money for the Sisterhood by hosting a tea party at my home. When Rosie was done setting the tables, we could have impressed the Queen of England. We also worked together with Susan Goldstein in renovating the sanctuary at the Temple. This was a major project that required hours of work, inspiration, and devotion, and Rosie was a calming force. She helped us make decisions that will have an impact on the beauty and functionality of our Temple for many years to come. Susan and I can not help but sense her presence whenever we go into the sanctuary. But as task-oriented as she was, she was always more concerned about the feelings of the people she worked with.

Being a warm person and a wonderful listener came

naturally to her; she and I spent many a happy moment sipping a cup of tea and bragging about our kids and grandkids. She was a friend to many people, and when she said, "How are you?" to someone, she stuck around long enough to hear their response. Even our golden retriever Lionel could tell that she was a genuinely kind person as he would roll over on his back with his legs in the air and sob for joy whenever she came to visit us.

I admired that Rosie was as capable at being a savvy and successful businesswoman as she was comfortable at being an old-fashioned wife; Jerry was the most important person in her life. He was her number one priority, and I could tell it was her pleasure to make him happy. I never saw her leave the house without first kissing him goodbye. And anyone who knows Jerry could see that their love was mutual.

But what I especially liked about Rosie was that I could call her on the spur-of-the-moment and say, "Want to go out for lunch?" And she would say, "I'll be ready in a few minutes." But lunch was never the real destination. We loved to go antique shopping together, and then afterward we would grab a bite to eat. We went to every little antique store within an hour's drive, and really got good at spotting treasures. But, I knew then as I know now, that the most wonderful treasure that I ever came out of the antique store with was the same one that I went in with, my dear friend Rose Rita Wurmser. ☆

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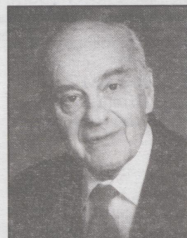
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Dr. Franklin Moosnick dies at age 93



Dr. Franklin Moosnick of Lexington was a medical pioneer in many ways.

He developed a cardio-pulmonary resuscitation program for physicians

and paramedics in Lexington.

He was an advocate for better cardiac care, emergency rooms and ambulances in the days before defibrillators and pacemakers. He promoted these improvements because, he would say, too many people were dying unnecessarily.

"He would say, 'Their hearts were too good to die,'" recalled retired cardiologist Dennis Kelly.

Dr. Moosnick held daylong sessions to train people in CPR. In addition, thousands of Lexington high school students were trained in CPR because he and the emergency service committee of the Lexington Rotary Club were instrumental in getting the Fayette

County Board of Education to approve training courses.

Dr. Moosnick was recognized for his diagnosis and treatment of polio in the 1950s and '60s, and when the Salk vaccine was developed he promoted polio immunization in Kentucky.

But here is the true measure of the man: "His patients loved him," Kelly said. "His patients absolutely trusted him."

Jan Cerel, a longtime family friend and patient, remembers how Dr. Moosnick would make house calls accompanied by his two dachshunds. The dogs would stay in the car while the doctor tended to his patient.

"He was the type of diagnostician who could listen to you and look at you and know what was wrong," Cerel said.

Contributions are suggested to the Ohavay Zion Synagogue or the American Heart Association. ☆

- By Greg Kocher of the Lexington Herald-Leader

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Camperships and Israel Scholarships are now available

Want to give your children a special and cherished Jewish experience? Concerned about the cost?

Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, through the confidentiality of Jewish Family Services, is now accepting applications for Jewish summer camperships and Israel scholarships.



Scholarships are specifically for Israel programs and are not tied to income. Camperships are for not-for-profit Jewish day or overnight camps, including Camp Shalom and Camp Gesher. Income is one of the criteria used to evaluate eligibility for camperships.

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

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



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

jfs

2010 Tzeason of Tzedakah Made Many Great Memories

100 Volunteers on the job!

This year was one of great diversity, dedication and volunteerism. Members of the Lexington Jewish community and surrounding areas came out to help others. For nine years, this event has grown in size and strength. What was once a small group of volunteers only delivering a few routes of Meals on Wheels and working in a hospital gift shop, has evolved into around 100 volunteers driving 22 routes of food delivery to elderly and sick home-bound citizens, caring for pets, visiting mentally impaired, troubled youth and elderly at residential centers; not to mention the Shriner's hospital and making meals for homeless and those whose families are in the hospital. Besides the gift of time, donations are also dropped off throughout the entire

month of December and delivered to these sites. Thanks to all who participated in making this the best year yet. Whether it is called Mitzvah Day, Day of Giving or Tzeason of Tzedakah, the entire month of December each year has been reserved to engage in Tik-kun Olam. That has definitely been achieved as you look at the recipients going from two to over ten, and volunteers rising from about 5 to over 100. If you enjoy this endeavor, please call JFB to be on a committee to plan next year's mission.

This year, many thanks go out to Danny Shapiro for his help and assistance. We thank his high school for making him an intern at the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass for part of the year.

Danielle Heller helped out last year when she was a senior at Bates Creek High School. Their assistance certainly helped in making the program grow to the level that it is today. This year especially was one of the biggest encompassing years yet and it is nice to have 17-18 year olds helping us and planning the assistance to so many people in need.

Please note the ad on page 4 of Shalom to see all of the volunteers and sponsors of this day, and again, feel free to call the office with any ideas for future programming. It would be a great community project between congregations and the Federation if anyone

wanted to take on additional times during the year. The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass is here to help coordinate. Please call 268-0672 with any suggestions or to participate. ✨



(left to right) "Young Bluegrass Jews"—Amia Kurs, Chas Hite, and Janice Fernheimer—serving a Christmas Eve lunch at the Catholic Action Center.



(left to right) Janice Fernheimer and Becky Epstein taking a brief break from their hard work at the Catholic Action Center.

SALES TEAM NEEDED FOR SHALOM NEWSPAPER!

The Jewish Federation is in need of new sales associates to bring in advertising for *Shalom*. Set your own hours—earn your commissions.

Contact Tamara Ohayon at the JFB office if you are interested in joining our team. (859) 268-0672 or tamara@jewishlexington.org



The Jewish Federation
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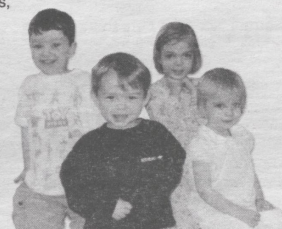
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Ask A Rabbi

Rabbi Moshe Smolkin



Q: I've been hearing a lot about Mikveh lately. What is it? And how is it used?

A: Before we are born, each of us spends months surrounded by water. We grow and develop in the watery wombs of our mothers, and it is in this water that we transform into people.

As we are born from water so too is the world: "When God began to create heaven and earth—the earth being unformed and void, with darkness over the face of the deep and a wind from God sweeping over the water—God said, "Let there be light" (JPS, Genesis 1:1-3). Whether in our birth, or the world's, water embraces us as we transition to a new stage in life.

Life is filled with these liminal moments, transitional times when we seem to float from one stage to another. Judaism invites us to sanctify these transitional moments by immersing in a *Mikveh*, a ritual bath containing *Mayim Chayim*, living water.

Mayim Chayim is natural water: water from rain and snow, rivers and streams, lakes and oceans. According to tradition, *Mayim Chayim* is water from the primordial river that watered *Eden*, which goes out to nourish our world. When we immerse in it, we connect ourselves to the beginning of life, and we emerge renewed, refreshed, and ready to enter the next stage of our life.

There are several traditional uses for *Mikveh*:

Women would go to the *Mikveh* to mark the beginning of a new cycle after menstruation, with new potential. While this use was often related to conceiving children, today many women understand it as the beginning of an influx of energy and hope for their future productivity in many areas of life: professional, social, and personal.

Men would go to *Mikveh* to renew themselves. Within the Chassidic world, men would go to *Mikveh* daily, marking the spiritual potential of each day. And outside the Chassidic world, men would go before High Holidays as a way to spiritually prepare themselves for the coming year.

Mikveh is also traditionally used as the concluding ritual of the conversion process. The Talmud says, "Once a person has immersed, they are considered to be Jewish in all respects" (Yevamot 47b). Tradition holds that before accepting the Torah, the Israelites immersed (Mishneh Torah, Isurei Biah 13:3). Thus, even from the inception of

our people, *Mikveh* was seen as an affirmation of our Jewish identity.

Finally, *Mikveh* was used to inaugurate household dishes. Sanctifying our dishes helped remind us that as we are obliged to bring holiness in our world, so too must we bring holiness into our homes.

Today, liberal movements within Judaism use *Mikveh* in new and creative ways, acknowledging its potential for renewing and refreshing us in life's transitional moments. As Sue Fishkoff wrote in the *Reform Judaism magazine*, "Reform Jews are using mikvaot today in a wide variety of alternative ways: to mark lifecycle events or a change of personal status, to celebrate joy or sanctify grief. Immersions before a bat or bar mitzvah, to mark divorce or the death of a loved one, to celebrate graduation or a trip to

Israel, as gratitude after recovery from a serious illness are increasingly common." (Fall 2008)

It is remarkable to witness the rebirth of *Mikveh* in Judaism. The ancient Jewish symbol of birth and renewal has itself been reborn in our lifetime, imbuing meaning and holiness into the transitions of our lives. ✧

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

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Tamara's big 3-0



By Tamara Ohayon

I thought that this year's birthday would be a dreaded,

horrible day. I think the anticipation of it has been worse than anything. But I decided that making it a sad occasion would be poor form and that I needed to create an opportunity to do something great not only for myself but for my friends and family, my community.

February 22, 2011 is my 30th birthday and looking back I feel I've neither accomplished nor experienced as much as I would have liked, but I have high hopes that, G-d willing, the next 30 years will be even more productive and rewarding. I find myself at a crossroads.

*Childhood was for fantasies, for nursery rhymes and toys.
The world was much too busy to understand small girls and boys.
As I grew up, I came to learn that life was not a game,
That heroes were just people that we called another name.*

Fifteen years ago, when I first got on the bus for Jewish summer camp, I had no idea how profoundly my life would change. This past December, I attended a gala fundraiser for that same camp where I spent summers for over a decade of my life, and I was asked to share something I had written. I told them about my first camp memory and how that moment and everything that followed molded me into a stronger Jewish woman. I concluded my reflections by noting that I use the skills I learned there daily, even today, and that I have camp to thank for nearly everything I have accomplished, and hope to accomplish in the future.

Then, in 2006, I finally went on a Taglit-Birthright Israel trip, and was lucky enough to go again in 2009 with family. Had I not gone on that Birthright trip in 2006 I can honestly say that I would not feel as connected to Israel and Judaism as I do today; it created an awareness and love in me for that place, its people, our people, that I hadn't felt before.

*Now I'm grown, the years have passed, I've come to understand:
There are choices to be made and my life's at my command.*

*I cannot have a future 'til I embrace the past.
I promise to pursue the challenge, time is going fast.*

As a Federation employee and donor, I understand that while Jewish summer camp shaped my life, and Birthright Israel helped bridge the connection to my heritage and faith, the Federation was there all along, helping to make it possible. As an organization the Jewish Federation plays an important part on both a national and local level, to ensure that programs like those are accessible to Jewish teens and young adults everywhere. It is part of the organization's mission to create places and opportunities for Jewish connection and growth so that our entire community can continue to be nurtured and supported, wherever they may be.

Over the years, due to a decline in general campaign giving, JFB has been unable to expand its allocations overseas and specifically to Israel. Our Board of Directors was faced with the daunting task of choosing the funds which would be sent to Israel; while they chose well in sending money directly to three wonderful programs at the Ben Yakir and Hadassah Neurim Youth Aliyah Villages, our allocation to the Taglit-Birthright Israel program suffered, and our financial involvement there, which began when the program launched over a decade ago, ended.

Today, studies show that programs like Jewish summer camp and Taglit-Birthright Israel have a lifelong effect on young Jews, especially those raised in a secular home, guiding them into more meaningful and active lives as Jewish adults. It is offered free to any Jewish person between the ages of 18 and 26; but the money has to come from somewhere. Now that the demand to go is growing, more than half of the thousands of applicants are put on waiting lists; nearly 300,000 have gone already. I went the summer they hit 100,000—only four and a half years ago! Wouldn't it be amazing to say that once again our local Jewish Federation is able to assist in providing the gift of Birthright Israel to those young Jewish adults eagerly awaiting their chance?

*Today's the day I take my stand; the future's mine to hold.
Commitments that I make today are dreams from days of old.
I have to make the way for generations*

see Tamara, page 10

JFS: At Your Service

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

B'nai Brith, JFS and ITNBluegrass Develop Community Partnership

There's no place like home! One of the first things that older persons tell me is: "I want to stay at home as long as possible and remain independent." Not being able to drive is a socially isolating turning point that can trigger many other problems which threaten that goal. Other difficulties include: missed doctor appointments, problems getting groceries, depression, and loss of community connection. For some community members there is a danger that English, as a second language, will be lost if not practiced.

JFS is deeply grateful to the Stanley Rose Lodge of B'nai Brith for a gift which will be used to help develop a unique Community Partnership with ITNBluegrass to address unmet transportation needs of at-risk Jewish community members who are 60 years and over and adults with visual impairments.

ITNBluegrass is a non-profit organization that offers safe, affordable automobile transportation for people 60+ and adults with visual impairments. Door-through-door service is provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by trained drivers in private cars in Fayette County. Volunteer drivers help older people stay connected to friends and activities that bring meaning to their lives.

Typically, participants pay an annual membership fee plus a pick-up fee and mileage for rides that cost less than a taxicab. There are many options that can be put together to make ITN fit a rider's situation. For example, friends who are ITN riders can share a ride to a common destination such as worship services or an event. Someone who volunteers to drive can bank miles for another person. Occasionally a person who has stopped driving and is tired of paying auto expenses might donate a

car to ITN to trade it for rides. Sometimes gift certificates are given for rides.

You do not have to be a person who has totally stopped driving to use ITN. The service can also be used by a person who still drives but is uncomfortable driving to certain parts of town or at night or during rush hour. It is also available to a person who medically is not feeling up to driving at times. ITN keeps people independent because there are always options that can be fitted to personal circumstance.

According to Gale Reece, Executive Director and local founder, "ITN takes the anxiety out of mobility. AAA averages suggest that the daily cost to own a car is \$22. That coupled with the rising cost of gas make using ITN an efficient and trusted solution. Drivers provide arm-through arm, door-through-door service, helping with packages and stairs. Walkers and wheelchairs are accommodated. ITN members simply call 252-8665 to arrange a ride."

The gift from B'nai Brith will be used to help Jewish community members to access ITN rides. What a great way for folks to attend services and enjoy community activities! If you are struggling with transportation and you would like more information please call me at 269-8244. ✦



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Tamara (from page 9)

come and go.
I'll have to teach them what I've learned
so they will come to know.

I ask all of you reading this to grant me one wish on my birthday, not for me but for you—take a stand today and create a future in which our children and grandchildren can learn and grow with a strong, positive Jewish connection.

*And the old shall dream dreams, and the youth shall see visions,
And our hopes shall rise up to the sky.
We must live for today; we must build for tomorrow.
Give us time, give us strength, give us life.*

We used to sing that song at camp all the time, but it holds more profound meaning now than I recognized as a teen. I have a vision of a vibrant Jewish community here in Lexington, across the United States, and all over the world. Help me celebrate my first 30 years as a Jewish woman. Help me build on our successes as a community and create even more of them for the future.

It takes \$3,000 to send one person on a Birthright trip. Every gift, no matter how large or small, combined with others has a huge impact. How many lives can we change together?

Go online right now. Seize the moment; visit <http://www.crowdrise.com/Tamaras30th>.

You have until February 28 to make a donation to the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass in honor of my 30th birthday, and our community's future together. If you prefer, you may give this special donation directly to the Federation on our website www.jewishlexington.org or send in a check with a memo saying, "For Tamara's 30th Birthday".

Every dollar you give in honor of my birthday will be sent directly to Taglit-Birthright Israel by the Federation in March.

Today's the day I take my stand; the future's OURS to hold! ☆

(Excerpts taken from the song, "And the Youth Shall See Visions" by the late Debbie Friedman (z"l), Jewish singer/songwriter and visionary.)

Hadassah donor campaign update

There is still time to make a pledge to the 2010-2011 Donor Campaign. To date, approximately 50% of our membership has pledged and/or paid into Donor. Every pledge is important and we hope to hear from you, if you have not yet pledged or paid into Donor. The last date to pledge and/or pay your contribution for this campaign is April 15, 2011.

While your contribution is tax deductible, perhaps even more importantly, your donation helps Hadassah continue its good work. For example, in the aftermath of the recent forest fire near Haifa, Hadassah offered its Youth Aliyah villages as emergency shelters. The at-risk young people who live in Hadassah's youth villages were away on their Hanukkah vacation, making it possible for some 500 families to gain immediate shelter. In addition, Hadassah Medical Organization prepared to assist burn victims with

skin grafts in its burn unit. Also, Hadassah's partner, Jewish National Fund (JNF) will be working to restore the trees lost in the devastating fire.

As demonstrated by these actions after the fire, Hadassah remains ever faithful in emergencies as well as its day-to-day programs. Help support Hadassah and make a pledge today by contacting Kathie Kroot, Kvk4660@aol.com, 859-269-8034, or mail a donor contribution to Kathie at 500 Laketower Drive, Unit 69, Lexington, KY 40502. ☆

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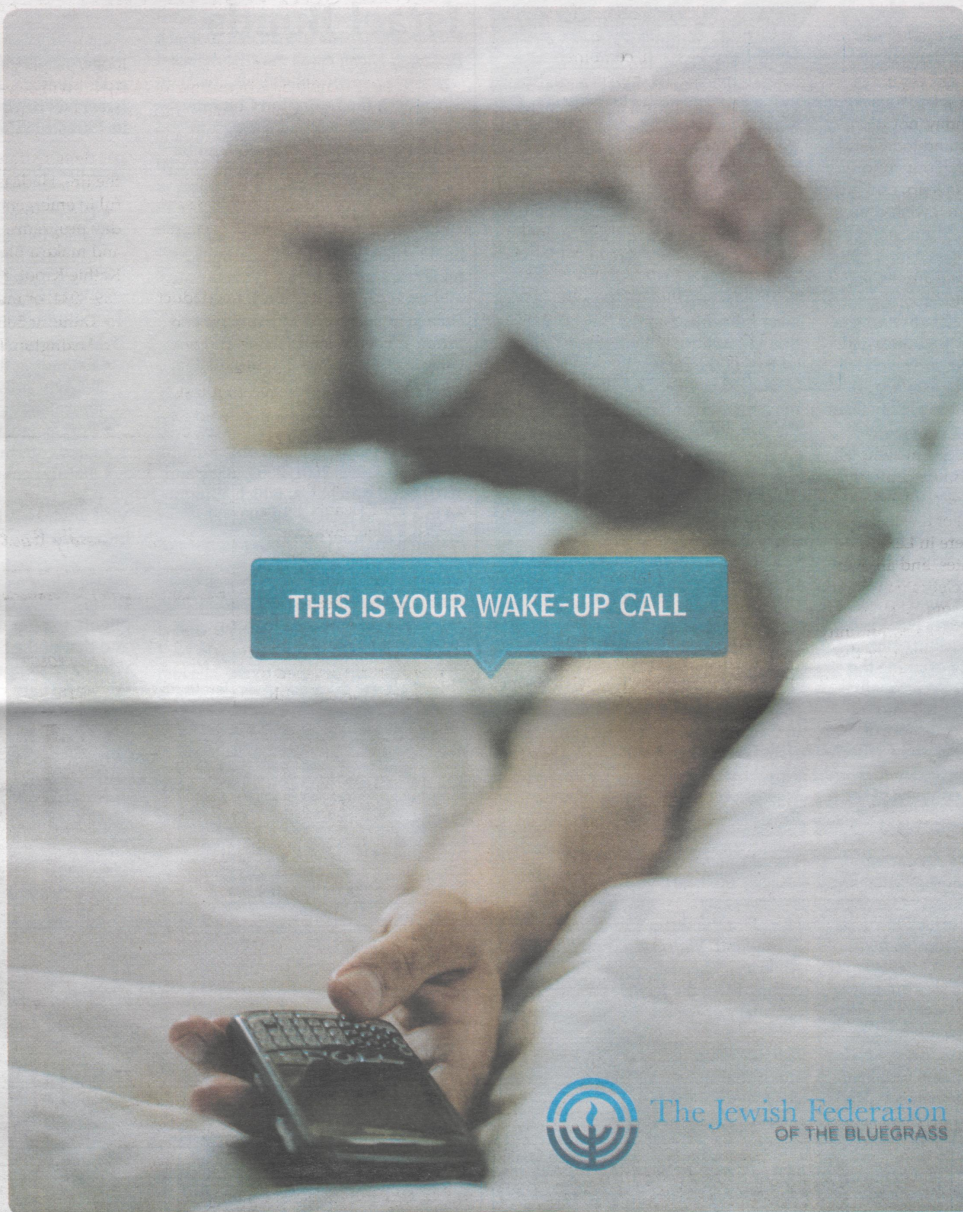


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THIS IS YOUR WAKE-UP CALL



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One phone conversation can make a difference in the lives of Jews in our community, in Israel, and around the world. One phone conversation can help strengthen social services and celebrate Jewish life. Answering the phone has never been so important: Pick it up on Super Sunday, and make a generous contribution to Federation. It's a call that's too important to miss.

Sunday, March 6, 2011

Cairo Genizah - Jewish treasure

By Hanna B. Smith

In 1896 two Englishwomen, returning from Egypt, presented an old Hebrew document to Dr. Solomon Schechter, professor of Talmudic literature at England's Cambridge University. He recognized this document as the Hebrew original of Ecclesiasticus, the "Book of Wisdom," ascribed to Ben Sira, and part of the Christian Biblical canon.

The women explained that the document originated in a storeroom, *genizah* in Hebrew, in the Ben Ezra Synagogue in Old Cairo. Solomon Schechter had heard of this *genizah* before but not of any important finds there until now. He secured funds and traveled to Cairo from where, after lengthy negotiations with local Jewish authorities, he returned to Cambridge with thousands of pages from the Ben Ezra Synagogue's *genizah*.

There is a photo of Dr. Schechter in his study, surrounded by boxes of documents, and documents piled on his worktable. Other travelers had visited the Ben Ezra Synagogue but, for many reasons, were unable to examine the contents of the *genizah*. Occasionally, pages sold in the market fell into the hands of scholars and collectors of antiquities. However, Solomon Schechter was the first scholar to examine and begin cataloguing the contents of the *Genizah*.

The *Genizah* documents span roughly eight centuries of Jewish-Egyptian life. They comprise business and marriage contracts, personal letters, children's primers, Biblical and Talmudic texts, works of poetry, and even scientific and scholarly works by Muslim authors. There are historic works relating to the Karaites, a breakaway Jewish sect, and to the Kingdom of the Khazars and their conversion to Judaism, fragments of Aquila's translation of the

Bible into Greek, and responsa from the Gaonic period, including works by Saadia Gaon. It contains many unique documents, like Ecclesiasticus described above, and over thirty works by Maimonides, the great medieval Jewish philosopher and physician. Poems by Yehuda Halevy, the 12th century poet, were found, and business letters by Kabbalist Isaac Luria and Joseph Karo, author of the Shulchan Arukh.

In August 2010, my husband and I were introduced to the *Genizah* collection at Cambridge University Library by two of the scholars working on cataloguing. Of course, we could only see a fraction of the collection within the two hours that we spent there.

Among other items we saw a Palestinian Haggadah with five questions instead of four; an Aramaic translation of the Book of Genesis; and the "Book of Praises" written by the founder of the Qumran community.

There was the letter by Daniel ben Maimon, written to his brother Moses, shortly before Daniel perished at sea. Another letter, written by a 16th century Jerusalem woman to her son in Cairo, complaining that he does not write! A ketubah spells out a Karaite wife's right to worship according to her own tradition. Finally, there was the primer full of children's doodles.

The humanity of these documents touches the heart.

Not all of the documents are housed in England. Various European and American libraries hold collections, among them the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

The Ben Ezra Synagogue is still in use, and is maintained by the Egyptian government. ☆

Invest in Israel's Future: Buy Israel Bonds

By Lowell Nigoff

Since 1993, the Lexington Community has participated in a program to purchase Israel Bonds in a unique way. Steve Caller, Leon Ravvin, Leon Cooper, and Lowell Nigoff gathered twenty investors who would each agree to borrow \$25,000 from a local bank, and, through the Federation, bought a \$500,000 Israel bond. Annually, each person donated the difference in interest paid by the bond and interest charged by the bank and was responsible to repay the loan if Israel were to default.

Through the years, 65 families (or individuals) participated in one or more of the five (1993, 2001, 2003, 2005, and 2007) bond purchases, which amounted to a grand total of \$2,500,000 invested in Israel Bonds.

Unfortunately, this program was discontinued by the State of Israel in 2008, and 2011 will mark the maturity date for the last bond.

This of course does not mean Israel no

longer needs your support. Please consider investing and reinvesting so that Israel will be able to continue building its infrastructure for the future.

Your investment will go to:

- Development of the Negev and Galilee (housing, transportation networks, and industrial parks)
- Trans-Israel Highway and new inter-city roads
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- Extending the national rail system
- Tel Aviv subway system and Jerusalem light rail system
- Port expansion
- New communications links
- Natural gas lines

Visit www.israelbonds.com for further information

Please allow us, Leon Cooper, Leon Ravvin, Steve Caller, and Lowell Nigoff, to offer our personal thanks and that of the State of Israel to you who have stepped up to support Israel. We are all very proud. ☆

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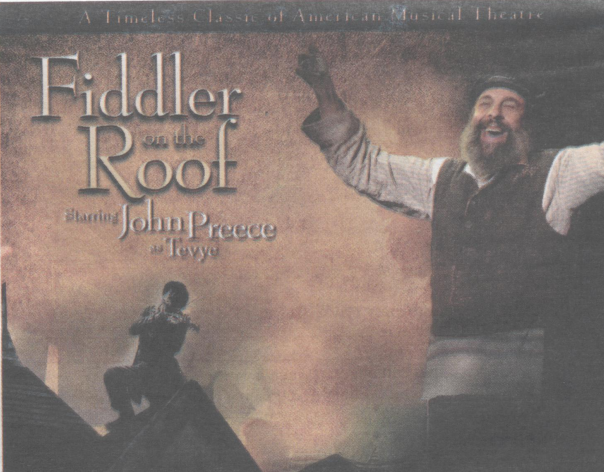
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Overweight? Call the fat-busters

By ISRAEL21c Staff

A new Israeli method to analyze fat may facilitate the breakdown of the cells that produce fat in our bodies, targeting rising rates of obesity and diabetes.

With obesity and diabetes rates rising in the western world, and most of us steadily losing the "battle of the bulge," an Israeli researcher has a new computer method for analyzing fat, which may lead to more effective weight loss programs, and also to new treatments for diabetes.

Prof. Amit Gefen of Tel Aviv University's Department of Biomedical Engineering is using a new computer model to measure the effect of mechanical load on fat cells. Mechanical load is defined as the amount of force or deformation placed on a particular area occupied by cells.

By recreating the structure of fat cells using his newly developed computer method, Gefen can determine how much mechanical load can be tolerated and at what point fat cells, which produce the fat in our bodies, will begin to disintegrate.

This might be the key to understanding how to control the amount of fat produced by fat cells, says Gefen, whose research is driven by the theory that fat cells, like bone or muscle cells, are influenced by mechanical loads.

Cells in space

The research, recently reported in the Journal of Biomechanics, has direct applications in weight loss programs, the treatment of bedsores and the management of chronic diabetes. "Any treatment that would be effective in fighting obesity would also apply immediately to diabetes," Gefen explains. According to the professor, applying mechanical loads on tissues can affect many different cells within our bodies. For example, zero gravity affects the bone density of astronauts. When astronauts return home after a prolonged space flight, he relates, they are often confined to a wheelchair for a short period of time.

The structures of their bones and muscles, which are determined by the cells that produce

these structures, are weakened due to a lack of mechanical loads. This occurs because cells are deprived of "normal" mechanical stimulation, like walking.

Gefen believes that, much like bone or muscle cells, fat cells are also affected by mechanical loads. His new computer model takes slices of laser confocal microscopy images of cells and reconstructs a whole, virtual version of an individual cell, allowing researchers to evaluate how that cell will respond to different mechanical stimuli.

"Ab vibrators" on the right track

"We use these computer models to see how cells function under mechanical loading, much like simulations in structural engineering are used to test the strength of bridges or machines," he explains.

After assembling their "virtual" fat cells, Gefen and his team found that fat cells or lipids have a point where mechanical loads can disintegrate them, as well as a point at which they are able to resist disintegration. Gefen is now trying to determine the specific load magnitudes and frequencies for fat cells, perhaps using ultrasound at a supersonic frequency to vibrate the tissue.

Those fat-busting "ab vibrators" that you can see on television infomercials are on the right track, he says, but the magnitude of mechanical loads and the frequency of their application need to be scientifically determined.

The next step for Gefen and his fellow researchers is to pin down the mathematical equations that allow for the dissolving of lipid droplets, then predict what a fat cell will do under certain levels of force. This will lead to better information on how to use mechanical loads to control the production of fat by fat cells - whether this means applying a certain frequency of ultrasonic vibration, or simply spending more time in the gym. ☆



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Four overweight friends from the Israeli city of Ramle are fed up with dieting. When Herzl loses his job as a cook and starts working as a dishwasher in a Japanese restaurant he discovers the world of Sumo where large people such as himself are honored and appreciated. Through Kitano, the restaurant owner and former Sumo coach, he falls in love with the sport. Herzl wants Kitano to be their coach but Kitano's reluctant they first have to earn their spurs. From directors Sharon Maymon and Erez Tadmor comes a comedy about a 'coming out' of a different kind - overweight people learning to accept themselves. Spoken languages: Hebrew and Japanese with English subtitles.

November 14
Live and Become
("Va, vis et deviens")
Temple Adath Israel



December 19
Nora's Will
("Cinco dias sin Nora")
Temple Adath Israel



Saviors in the Night
("Unter Bauern")
Ohavay Zion Synagogue



www.menemshafilms.com

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New agreement on conversion in Israel reached

The Jewish Federations of North America welcome the just-announced new agreement on conversion in Israel, and thank Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for his support.

All relevant parties in the Israeli government, including the Shas and Yisrael Beteinu parties, as well as representatives of the Conservative and Reform movements, have agreed to extend the moratorium on unilateral steps related to conversion for six additional months.

During this period all parties have undertaken to abstain from filing or continuing any court proceedings or to present bills in the Knesset plenum related to conversion.

It has also been agreed that during the moratorium period, Jewish Agency Chair Natan Sharansky, together with Israel's Cabinet Secretary Zvi Hauser, will co-chair a roundtable on conversion that will include representatives of the Interior Ministry, the Justice Ministry, the Reform and Conservative movements and others. This forum will deal with requests and concerns of converts from Israel and overseas who encounter bureaucratic and other difficulties associated with their conversions.

JAFI's Sharansky played, and continues to fill, an instrumental role in bringing together all of the parties and allowing the dialogue to continue.

According to Kathy Manning, chair of The Board of Trustees of JFNA: "The Federation movement has been working closely with JAFI and the religious movements on the issue of conversion in Israel for the past six months. We warmly welcome this new agreement, which will give an opportunity for greater dialogue and understanding among all parties involved. It is indeed an important step in ongoing efforts to promote Jewish unity."

JFNA's President and CEO Jerry Silverman thanked Prime Minister Netanyahu for his support of the agreement and efforts to promote a solution. Silverman additionally recognized the work of JAFI's Natan Sharansky for the pivotal role he is playing in bringing all the parties together.

"The new moratorium is a victory for the voices of reason and unity. We are convinced that, through dialogue, a formula can be found that retains the basic, positive aim of the original bill, while finding language that is acceptable to all sides."

JFNA worked with the Prime Minister, Sharansky, and others in seeking greater dialogue around the conversion bill since it surfaced last summer. JFNA recently urged the prime minister to support the moratorium extension, has met since last summer with key Israeli officials and legislators, and advocated publicly for dialogue around this important issue. ☆

Attention proud grandparents, parents, and students

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



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

"Lunch and learn with our Lexington community rabbis"

Tuesday, February 22
with Rabbi Moshe Smolkin

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

A Federation Resource, Yerusha: A Website for Older Childless Jews

Yerusha.com is a new website for Jewish women and men past normal childbearing age, who believe they may never have children, either biologically or by adoption.

Started by author and literary agent Anna Olswanger, the site is a way to bring these Jews together, both online and in the real world, to explore the meaning and experience of being childless Jewish adults. Yerusha has already been the subject of articles in Jewish newspapers in New Jersey, Massachusetts, and California.

As a childless Jew herself, Olswanger knew that some childless Jews felt ashamed because they hadn't "stepped up to the plate." She wanted Yerusha to be a resource

for these Jews, a place where they could get beyond dwelling on their childlessness and discover the inheritance ("yerusha" in Hebrew) they could leave to the Jewish people.

The website features a section on relevant Jewish teachings, a list of role models who left something to the Jewish people despite their childlessness, possible steps to take in exploring what it means to be childless, and a forum where people can share their own stories.

Olswanger hopes that visitors to the site will be encouraged to start local groups, or that an umbrella group may want to take on Yerusha as its project. ☆

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

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

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

Thank you for your support of the Jewish Federation Annual Community Campaign.

Thank you to:

Linda & Leon Ravvin in appreciation of Rabbi Marc Kline and Rabbi Moshe Smolkin, in memory of Franklin Moosnick, and in honor of Judy and Rabbi David Wortman's new grandson.

Judy & Rabbi David Wortman in memory of Franklin Moosnick, Rose Rita Wurmser, and Lynn Furness' father.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Sim Shalom News

By Jesse Weil

Apologies for the one-month break in the news. So much was going on there was no time to write! Right after the last newsletter, Sim Shalom did a big Mitzvah by holding a bake sale to raise money to provide new windows for a Hospice hospital facility renovation. They were trying to raise \$20,000. In a week we organized, baked and sold enough cookies and cakes to contribute \$1,000, which is not bad for a congregation our size. Two weeks later the Executive Director of Hospice came to Friday night services to thank us. Since then she's been coming to services, so we seem to have gained a new member as a bonus.

The Sim Shalom Youth Group has some very talented photographers among its members. A year and a half ago, they made a project of making a photographic record of the buildings in the old Jewish Quarter where the Great Synagogue is and where the Jewish ghetto was set up in 1944 when the Nazis finally started to deport Jews from Hungary to the death camps in Poland. This area had become very rundown, but is now being renovated. But often the beautiful old buildings are being demolished to make way for new ones, rather than taking the trouble to renovate them and keep at least partially intact a very important area having a UNESCO Historic District designation.



There is collusion between corrupt city officials and Israeli developers (ironically) to do this. So these photos serve an important purpose in preserving the history of Budapest Jewry. More recently, the youth group took a field trip to Northeastern Hungary and made a similar photo record of some of the remaining buildings and cemeteries of the once populous Jewish communities there.

In late November, they opened an exhibition of 25 of the best photos from the two photo shoots. The exhibition is now decorating the walls of the back part of the sanctuary of our new premises.

Finally, we had almost non-stop Hanukkah celebrations in early December. Because there were various programs, educational and devotional, on Dec. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, there were candle lightings at the start of each of them. The highlight was at Friday night services when about 20 menorahs were brought to services and lined up on a long table to light before services began. Afterwards, our usual potluck was more festive than usual with a crowd of about 50. After dinner, there was singing for a couple of hours led by our Cantor, while the Rabbi was spinning the dreidel with some of the young folks over in the corner. We finally left for home at 11 PM! It was a great night. ☆

Jewish Young Professionals Might Meet Their Match

Valentine's Day Weekend at Regional Speed Dating Event

Single? Still haven't found your special Valentine? February 14th is fast approaching, but you don't have to dread the day any longer! Instead, embrace it at the Regional Jewish Speed Dating Party where you just might meet your heart's desire. Join other Jewish young professionals, 21-35, from Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, Indianapolis, Lexington, Louisville, Toledo and Knoxville on Saturday, February 12th at downtown Cincinnati's Westin Hotel on Fountain Square, where you can "fast track all your first dates" with some of the region's most eligible Jewish men and women this Valentine's Day weekend!

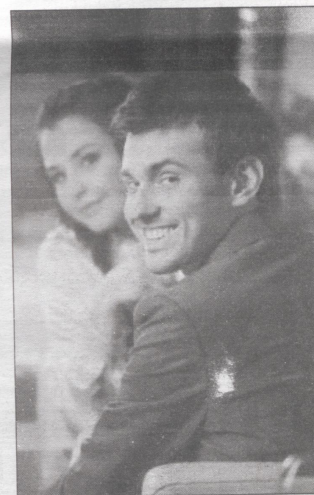
The event is FREE with advance reservations and is being sponsored by Access, Cincinnati's popular program for Jewish young adults, which is an initiative of The Mayerson Foundation. The evening will take place in the Westin's famous Fountain Room, overlooking Fountain Square, where guests will break the ice over cocktails, appetizers and conversation starters while they go on dozens of "mini dates" all in the same evening. Then, if there's chemistry in the air, there'll be plenty of opportunities for more one-on-one time when the group hits some of downtown Cincinnati's hottest bars for a special Saturday Night HeBREW Happy Hour Hop!

"This is Access' third Speed Dating event, and the second to be open to the entire region," explains Program Coordinator, Rachel Plowden. "Last year, nearly 100 people participated in the event, with a large percentage coming from other cities in the area. Many matches were made, some of which are still going strong! For those who feel they already know all the eligible Jewish men and women in their own community, this is a perfect opportunity to

meet a whole new group of people, all who live within a reasonable driving distance of each other!" she adds.

For anyone coming from out of town, Access has secured a special rate for event participants at the Westin Hotel of just \$99 per night. There is no cost to participate in this event, however, hotel accommodations, meals and drinks at the HeBREW Happy Hour Hop go on each individual's own tab. This event is strictly limited to Jewish men and women between the ages of 21-35. Advance reservations are mandatory. Space is limited and will be allotted on a first come first served basis.

For more information about hotel reservations and other general inquiries, or to RSVP for this event, please contact Rachel Plowden at 513-373-0300 or rachelp@mayersonfoundation.org. For more information about Access visit www.jypaccess.org. ☆



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Jewish Federations laud congressional support for Holocaust survivors

The Jewish Federations of North America applauded the unanimous passage of a Congressional resolution to support programs that meet the distinct needs of aging Holocaust survivors. Spurred by information gathered by The Jewish Federations of North America and Jewish Family Service agencies, Reps. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) and Frank Wolf (R-VA) introduced the resolution (H. Con. Res. 323), which gained 105 bipartisan cosponsors, calling attention to the tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors who need support to age in place. "Holocaust survivors embraced the American dream and have greatly enriched our country," said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz. "As this special community ages, we have a moral obligation to ensure their dignity by empowering them to live out their lives in peace and safety. I am pleased that my colleagues in the House of Representatives overwhelmingly expressed their support today for this important goal." Of the approximately 127,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States today,

three-quarters are over the age of 75 and about two-thirds live alone. Many of these survivors struggle to afford basic needs, such as adequate food and healthcare; more than half of them fall below 200 percent of the federal poverty line, meaning they earn less than \$21,660 annually. As they age, these victims of Nazi terror and torture risk being placed in institutionalized care. For many seniors institutional care is an excellent option, but for these survivors, institutional care could raise painful memories. "This resolution recognizes the unique needs of Holocaust survivors in communities across the United States," said William Daroff, Vice President for Public Policy and Director of the Washington Office of The Jewish Federations of North America. "Enabling Holocaust survivors to age in place is beneficial to their health, comfort and security and brings dignity to this vulnerable population." The resolution urges the Administration and Department of Health and Human Services to provide survivors with much-needed social services through existing programs.

It also highlights the ongoing work of agencies and nonprofits that work in conjunction with Jewish Federations to honor and assist Holocaust survivors.

According to Cheryl Fishbein, chair of The Jewish Federations of North

America Domestic Affairs Cabinet, "the resolution is an important step forward in ensuring that Holocaust survivors are able to age in place in comfortable and familiar surroundings that promote their dignity, value, and quality of life." ☆

STAFF WANTED FOR CAMP 2011

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



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

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



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

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



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

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



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

Special thanks to



for their generous donation of 15 dozen glazed doughnuts which were taken to the Catholic Action Center, Stewart Home, MASH Unit Home, and Shriner's Hospital during the Tzeason of Tzedakah!

Beta Israel - The Jews of Ethiopia

By David Wortman

One of the most difficult aliyahs (immigrations) to Israel in modern times has been the acculturation of the Beta Israel (also known as Falasha, Amharic for "exiles" or "landless ones") into Israeli society. Though their origins are clouded in a veil of controversy, the Beta Israel was recognized as "legitimate" Jews as early as the beginning 17th century.

The first major aliyah of the Beta Israel occurred during Operation Moses in 1984. Operation Moses brought 8,000 Ethiopian Jews from Gondar province, through the Sudan, to Israel. The second major aliyah took place in 1990 and was called Operation Solomon. An additional 14,000 Jews were moved from Gondar to Addis Ababa (the Ethiopian capital), thence to Israel.

The Jews from Gondar province were an impoverished and largely uneducated community living in remote villages. They had had no exposure to contemporary conveniences or technology. Even indoor plumbing was foreign to them.

On the other hand, they were devout adherents of a strict biblical form of Judaism. While not familiar with the Talmud or subsequent Jewish codes that constantly reinterpreted biblical Law, they lived a pious life based on a translation of the Torah into Ge'ez (an ancient South Semitic language of northern Ethiopia).

Thus, when arriving in Israel they were confronted by a Judaism that had developed over 2,000 years of flourishing rab-

binic debate. They encountered a modern society of industry, education, and technology. They found a lifestyle that was totally foreign to them whose language, though distantly related to Ge'ez, was unintelligible.

On the other side of the fence, Israelis were at best cool, if not downright hostile to the Ethiopian aliyah. The town of Carmiel, for instance, primarily settled by South African Jews, initially rejected the new Israelis from Gondar based on having left South Africa to escape the black population. Slowly, the Beta Israel was able to assimilate, especially as the young Ethiopians were drafted into the army – the great equalizer in Israel.

Yet, problems remain two decades later. According to the Annual Bank of Israel Report 2006 in its chapter on the labor market, "The socioeconomic situation of Ethiopian immigrants and their descendants in Israel is difficult, and is manifested in low employment rates, low wages and a very high incidence of poverty." Further, "about 40% of the immigrants of working age in 2005 had an elementary school education or less." Despite these apparently distressing realities, they represent significant advances over the Ethiopian situation upon first arrival.

Today, there are many programs, both governmental and private, that are designed to bring further and speedier integration of the Beta Israel into mainstream Israeli existence. Among them is the Ethiopian National Project (ENP). This is an amalgam of global Jewish organizations with



the Israeli government and the Ethiopian community to "take targeted action in a bottom-up approach."

Tegest, a teenager involved in an ENP project, wrote, "It is impossible to describe just how successful this program has been in encouraging the participants to aspire to reach the heights of success."

Israel now faces a new issue. There are thousand of Ethiopians who claim Jewish ancestry but whose forebears converted to Christianity in order to advance in society. They, however, maintained a sense of their Jewish heritage. Approximately 5,000 of these modern Marranos (known as the Falash Mura) have already made aliyah. 7,800 remain. Prime minister Netanyahu,

and his cabinet recently, announced that these 7,800 would be brought to Israel over the next three years (see sidebar). This will complete, more or less, the aliyah of Jews from Ethiopia.

Jewish Federations from all over North America, as well as similar organization around the globe, are being asked to help defray the costs of this final Ethiopian aliyah. As with other aliyot, we will rise to the occasion to close a chapter in Israel's development as a haven for all Jews. In North America alone, the goal has been set to raise \$5.5 million. The next chapter will be to continue the much-needed efforts of the Ethiopian National Project and other entities to enhance the assimilation of the Ethiopian immigrants. ☆

Israeli Cabinet Announcement

The Cabinet, on 14 November 2010, decided to bring the last of the Falashmura to Israel, on religious and humanitarian grounds and in such a way as to prevent the creation of additional refugee camps in Ethiopia.

According to the Registry of those waiting in Gondar, 7,846 Falashmura are candidates for entry into Israel. According to the Cabinet decision, the Interior Ministry will evaluate their candidacy according to three situations: Falashmura who are of Jewish descent in the maternal line and who wish to return to their Jewish faith in Israel; those registered in the aforesaid Registry since 2007 (as was updated in 2010); and those with relatives in Israel who have submitted a request or will do so within three months. The Ministry will reply to applicants by 1 August 2011.

According to the decision, 600 eligible Falashmura will arrive in Israel within the next few months. Upon their arrival, the Jewish Agency will assume responsibility from the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry for managing the compound in Gondar. Later, approximately 200 eligible Falashmura will be brought to Israel per month for 12 months. The arrival of the remainder of those eligible will be carried out within four years. It was also decided that upon the conclusion of the arrival of eligible Falashmura, there will be no further organized arrivals. Entry to Israel thereafter will be under the Law of Return or by order of the Interior Minister.

After the decision was made, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with various elements who have

worked toward this goal and who both commended the decision and said that it brings to an end their activity on the issue. Chairman of the Public Committee on Behalf of the Remnant of Ethiopian Jewry, former Supreme Court President Meir Shamgar; Jewish Agency Chairman Natan Sharansky, State Comptroller Micha Lindensstrauss, Finance Minister Yuval Steinitz, Immigrant Absorption Minister Sofa Landver, Interior Minister Eli Yishai, North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry Chairman Joseph Feith, Members of Knesset and Ethiopian Jewish community representatives attended the meeting.

Prime Minister Netanyahu said: "The Government of Israel seeks to resolve this problem because there is indeed a complex humanitarian crisis there, but

we also want to avoid the creation of additional refugee camps in Ethiopia. I must say that from my perspective, this closes a cycle because, during my first term as Prime Minister, I brought approximately 5,000 Falashmura to Israel. Today we are discussing an agreed-upon arrangement with all of the relevant bodies, and there are many, so that we might finally resolve this painful and complicated problem. We have a moral commitment as Jews, as the People of Israel, to find a solution."

Chairman of the Public Committee on Behalf of the Remnant of Ethiopian Jewry, former Supreme Court President Shamgar, praised the government decision as, "a Zionist act of the highest order." ☆

B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Ruth Poley



Looking back, I see that I haven't given fish its due in this column in quite some time. At this point, we all know the health benefits of fish. In addition, many fish recipes are easy and quick to prepare. The following recipe is very tasty and can be made up at the last minute, with a little advance planning. Since this is a Mexican recipe, there's a little heat in it. While Anaheim chiles are not very hot, you can leave it out if you don't like any spiciness to your food. Although I haven't done it, it seems that this recipe could be made with boneless chicken as well, although you would have to bake it for more than five minutes if you did that. I'm also pretty sure that any mild white fillet other than tilapia would work as well.

Veracruz-Style Tilapia (serves 4)

Ingredients

3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
4 (6-ounce) tilapia fillets or other white fish fillets
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 small onion, chopped
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 ½ cups canned crushed tomatoes with juice
1 Anaheim chile, stemmed, seeded and cut into thin strips
1 bay leaf
1 teaspoon dried oregano
½ cup pitted and halved green olives
¼ cup capers, drained

Directions

Preheat oven to 350° F.

In a medium sauté pan, heat 1 tablespoon of the olive oil over medium-high heat. Season the fish fillets on both sides with salt and black pepper, to taste. Sauté the fillets until they are opaque and just cooked through, about 2 minutes per side. Transfer the fish to a glass baking dish where they fit snugly.

In the same sauté pan, heat the remaining 2 tablespoons of olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the onion and garlic and cook until the onion is translucent, about 5 minutes. Add the tomatoes, Anaheim chile, bay leaf and oregano and bring the pan to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium, cover, and let the sauce simmer until the chiles soften, about 6 minutes. Uncover the pan, add the olives and capers, and cook until the flavors combine, about 4 minutes. Season the sauce with salt and pepper, to taste.

Pour the sauce over the fish in the baking dish. Bake until the fish is heated through, about 5 minutes. Remove the dish from the oven, discard the bay leaf, and serve. ☆

NOTE: If you have an appropriate food story you'd like to share, or a recipe you think others in the Jewish community might enjoy, please email me at rgp@insightbb.com

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The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Lynn Furness, President

Bundled in a blanket, I'm writing this column on a sunny day in the beginning of the secular New Year, 2011. The weather is a tease because I know more gray winter weather lies ahead. However, you'll be reading this in early February when thoughts are turning to spring, even if winter isn't nearly over yet.

Plan to get ready for spring by attending a presentation, "Native Plants for Your Kentucky Garden", by expert Beate Popkin on February 20 from 2 to 4 at the home of David Wekstein, 2059 Norborne Drive, Lexington, KY. Members, Associates and friends are all welcome.

Keep thinking about spring, as Flower Power Certificates are available for purchase from Hadassah Board members. Use the certificates at Proper Plants on Military Pike and enhance your garden or landscape while benefiting Hadassah. The certificates are sold in \$5.00 increments and do not expire. Prepare for spring and support Hadassah at the same time by purchasing Flower Power Certificates.

Spring also reminds us that summer is approaching and it will soon be time

for all the special activities of summer, including camp. If sleep away camp is an option for your family, consider Camp Young Judaea Midwest (CYJM) in Waupaca, WI for your children or grandchildren. The values instilled and friendships made at CYJM last a lifetime and are carried on from generation to generation. Our chapter has several members who sent their children and are now sending their grandchildren to CYJM.

In all seasons, Young Judaea offers programs in Israel and America. Young Judaea is about partnerships with Israel, leadership, social action and building a better world. It's about connecting to friends and community, to the Jewish people, to the past and to the future. Help make the connection to ensure the next generation of devoted Zionists by supporting Young Judaea.

For information about Young Judaea and Camp Young Judaea Midwest, contact Lisa Satin at ljf@insightbb.com or 338-3740.

Stay warm and remember spring with its rhythm of renewal and summer with its own rhythm will be here soon. ☆

Do you have the winter blahs?
Do you wish spring was here?

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You will find a beautiful selection of hanging baskets, patio plants, flowers, herbs, and vegetables.

START PLANNING NOW!

Look for more information in the March issue of Shalom and in Hadassah mailings

The Lexington Havurah

Jeremy Popkin, President

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

By Judy Goldsmith

Recently, I saw an old friend whom I don't see very often. I asked how he was, and he said, "Better than I deserve to be."

Naturally, I questioned why he felt he did not deserve his health. He said that he had gotten fatter and lazier, and by all rights....

There is so much belief, expectation, and hope packed into our conversation. He hopes that the universe is causal. If he does right, good things should happen. If he does wrong, he should be punished. He believes that gaining weight is wrong. I don't think that he perceives a divine agency at work, merely what I will ventriloquently call "laws of science".

Like many of my acquaintances, this friend is struggling to support himself during the recession. He works hard to do good work. Shouldn't he be rewarded? He is good to his partner, does good deeds.

It's part of the human condition to wonder. Why me? Why was I so lucky / unlucky? Why was I chosen for better or for worse? We construct elaborate rationales; act superstitiously to influence outcomes. But there are no guarantees.

My view, influenced by my work on computers reasoning under uncertain-

ty, is that all we have is an unknown probability distribution over possible outcomes. What we do can only shift the probabilities. Rarely, if ever, can we make a desired outcome a sure thing. That doesn't grant me a license to act in ways that are harmful. We might never achieve tikkun olam, but I think it's incumbent on us to push the world in the direction of harmony.

Here we are in February, the doldrums between Tu B'Shvat and Purim, waiting for the first crocuses. Some years, this month feels out of harmony, too turned inward to create wholeness. Other years, the darkness (still!) rings a deep note. I hear it in my bones, and it's the bass and base of the year's harmony.

My friend felt that he had been bad because he had neglected his own wellbeing. For those of us intent on restoring the rest of the world, it is worth remembering that we, including our bodies, are part of that world. We can't guarantee our health, but we can make G-d's job easier by taking care of ourselves.

Be well. And remember: We all deserve good health, happiness, and good fortune.

The next Havurah event will be a Purim celebration. For more information, contact Jeremy Popkin at popkin@email.uky.edu.

Spring/Summer 2011 registration opens February 14th!

Taglit-Birthright Israel provides the gift of first time, peer group, educational trips to Israel for Jewish young adults ages 18 to 26. Birthright is a unique partnership between the Israeli government, leading Jewish philanthropists, and local Jewish communities and Federations. Contact Tamara Ohayon at the Federation office with general questions or for suggestions on trip organizers at (859) 268-0672 or tamara@jewishlexington.org

Visit their website for more information!



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Bus. Card	38	28	+40
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Terms

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

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

Deadline

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

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



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Temple Adath Israel

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

Sisterhood News

On Sunday, February 13, Temple Adath Israel Sisterhood, along with The Junior League of Lexington, will host its 15th annual Valentine's Day dinner for the residents and staff of the Florence Crittenton Home.

The Florence Crittenton Home is a private non-profit, residential treatment facility that provides medical, nutritional, educational, and counseling services in a home-like environment for Kentucky's young women facing single pregnancy and parenting, abuse and neglect.

An Evening With The Bluegrass Opera
Saturday, March 19, 2011
7:00 PM

Temple Social Hall
Be among the first to hear excerpts from six brand new American operas by composers from across the country. Audience members will help decide which of these works will receive their professional premiere in Lexington this summer. Lorne Dechtenberg, the artistic director of The Bluegrass Opera, will be our host for the evening.

TEMPLE FANTASY BASEBALL

We are forming a fantasy baseball league for Temple members. This will be a new league, so we will have a chance to set it up however we want, though it would probably be wise to stick close to the standard practices.

If you would like to play, please call Bruce Engel at 252-3734 or 338-7321 or email him at kyengles@windstream.net.

SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

The Social Action committee will make and serve dinner at the Women's Hope Center on Sunday February 13, 2011. The dinner will serve about 130 people. Again we need volunteers to prepare and serve that day.

To volunteer or for more info contact Pat Lawrence at 859-269-0607 or patlartist@gmail.com;

GOD'S PANTRY NIGHT ON TUESDAY

Please join representatives from the entire Jewish community at God's Pantry on the third Tuesday of each month, from 6:30 to 8 PM. We will sort food to be distributed to the homeless and assist God's Pantry in fulfilling the needs of the hungry in Kentucky. For more information and directions, please contact Karen Petrone at 226-9145 or email HYPERLINK "mailto:petrone@uky.edu" Petrone@uky.edu. Join us on February 15.

KOLLEL STUDY GROUP

Joe Engelberg leads this study of fundamental ideas of Jewish life and thought. Drop in the library on alternate Saturdays at 9 AM and join in the provocative and friendly discussion. February 12 & 26.

TORAH STUDY

Rabbi Kline conducts the study of the Tanakh (the Bible) from the Book of Joshua and beyond using the new Jewish Study Bible on alternate Saturdays at 9 AM in the Library. February 5 & 19.

PARSHA

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 AM to take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Rabbi Kline will lead some; everyone will take turns. Each third Saturday (February 19) will be a worship service with a large study component. See you in the library!

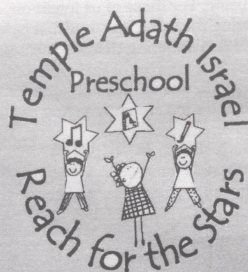
PRESCHOOL

BEAT THE WINTER BLAHS ON
FEBRUARY 27, 2011
12 PM
TAI PRESCHOOL
FUND RAISER

Come join us on Sunday, February 27, 2011 for a good time.
Nosh on some delicious TAI on Rye deli sandwiches.

Peruse our wonderful auction items for sale, and leave with something Fun for yourself or someone you love. Special kids meals and crafts will be available.
Auction proceeds to benefit the TAI Preschool.

Temple Adath Israel Preschool registration and enrollment for the 2011-2012 school year is now underway. We have a wonderful staff and we can't wait for another fun and exciting year at TAI. We offer our preschool programs for children ages 2, 3, and 4. Our hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 - 12:00. We do offer an extended day program on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for our three and four-year-olds. The hours are 12:00 - 2:30. If you need more information about our preschool, if you want to schedule a visit, or are ready to enroll your child for the coming year, please call Katherine Henry at 269-1915.



**Temple Adath Israel
Preschool and
Pre-Kindergarten**

**OPEN
ENROLLMENT**

- Half-day program (8:30 a.m.-noon)
- Classes for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds
- Jewish, music and art enrichment programs for all ages
- Excellent student-teacher ratio
- Nurturing, family environment

**CALL: Katherine Henry, director
269-2979**

124 North Ashland Avenue

"25 Years of Excellence"

Planning on leaving town for a few months? Going on a long vacation? Moving any time soon?

You can help save the Jewish Federation money by informing us of your plans and preventing the U.S. Postal Service from charging us for returned mail and address change notices.

Before you go, call the Federation office or send us an email and let us know if you would like the mail sent temporarily to a different address, at no charge to you, or halted for a certain number of months. Give us a chance to get it right or you on the first mailing.

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

Are you on the Jewish Federation's email list?

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

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

tamara@jewishlexington.org



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Ohavay Zion Synagogue

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

The OZS Men's Club will observe the World Wide Tefillin Wrap on February 6th starting at 9:45 AM.

Kids' Shabbat

A monthly Friday evening Shabbat for children ages 4-9, with pizza, song, stories, and schmoozing - 5:15 pm on February 11th.

Shabbat Dinner

Come for Shabbat dinner and socializing and enjoy some singing and learning as well. Please R.S.V.P. to the OZS office to make your reservation for this fun event. (266-8050 or ozslex@insightbb.com) The next Shabbat Dinner is scheduled for 6:00 pm on February 18th.

Young Professionals' Shabbat

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

Community Shabbat

Join us as our religious school shifts this day from Sunday to Shabbat. Students will join in leading services. Parents will have a chance to learn with the rabbi. And the whole community will celebrate Shabbat together. Community Shabbat this month is on February 26th.

Bible Study

Wednesdays at noon: This month we will continue our exploration of the Book of Judges.

Friday Morning Talmud Study

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

Weekday Minyan

A Minyan is held each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at

5:45pm in the Sanctuary. Please come and help make a minyan!

D'Vine Minyan on Tuesdays

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

February Shabbat Schedule

Celebrate Shabbat! The Friday night schedule for February is:

February 4th - Kabalat Shabbat at 5:45 PM
February 11th - Kids' Shabbat at 5:15PM
February 18th - Shabbat Dinner at 6:00PM
February 25th - Young

Professionals' Shabbat at 6:00PM

We hope you will also join us for our spirited Shabbat Morning Service each Saturday morning at 9:30am with Kiddush Lunch following in the Social Hall.

Membership Committee

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



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James Brown 859.253.1950
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Around the Community

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

SUPER SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2011

Mazel tov to...

Ron Hustedde, Director of the Kentucky Entrepreneurial Coaches Institute, who has been named the winner of the 2010 Excellence in Entrepreneurship Award in the not-for-profit entity as one of the region's top entrepreneurs in Southern and Eastern Kentucky.

Judy and Rabbi David Wortman, on the birth of their grandson, **Shmuel Matan Wasserman** (December 16, 2010). The proud parents are **Ari Wasserman** and **Zhanna Beyl**.

Rachel Heller who graduated magna cum laude from the University of Kentucky in December. Rachel is the daughter of **Mindy Heller** and the granddaughter of **Dave and Janis Doctrow**.

Warren Rosenthal, for being among the first nine inductees into the Kentucky Entrepreneur Hall of Fame.

Dr. Bruce Broudy, who has been elected President-Elect of the Lexington Medical Society. He is also a member of the JFB Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

Dr. Bruce Belin, who has been elected President of the St. Joseph Hospital Medical Association.

Ruth Belin and Mark Salzinger on the birth of **Jacob William Salzinger** (September 30, 2010) in Carmel, Indiana. Also to **Jo and Bob Belin** (grandparents), **Rachel and Bruce Belin** (aunt and uncle), and **Sara and Ben** (cousins).

Condolences to:

Judy and Jo Engelberg, on the death of Judy's sister, **Anna Schwartz**

Kevin and Ryan LaZur, on the death of their uncle, **Greg LaZur**

David Levine, on the death of his mother, **Beverly Levine**

Elisabeth and Eric Watkins, on the death of Elisabeth's grandmother, **Frances Garey Williams**

Marilyn Moosnick, Jeffrey Moosnick, Ross Moosnick, Gregory Moosnick and Karen Bacdayan, Madeline and Jonathan Brownstein on the death of their husband and father, **Franklin Moosnick**

Marsha Rose on the death of her mother, **Rose Markovitz**

The **Shapiro family** on the death of **Sol Shapiro**

Kay Frankel on the death of her husband, **Harold Frankel**

Attention proud grandparents, parents, and students

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

Here is my contribution to help keep *Shalom* solvent

- ☐ \$18 Chai ☐ \$36 Double Chai
☐ \$54 Three Times Chai ☐ \$72 Habono (Builder)
☐ \$90+ Gibor (Hero)

Name _____

You ☐ may ☐ may not publish my name

Mail to:

JFB, 1050 Chinoe Rd., Suite 302, Lexington, KY 40502
Make checks payable to JFB and write "Shalom"
on the memo line.

Our 2010 *Shalom* Contributors

Thank you for your generous contributions to help keep *Shalom* solvent.

Chai

Eleanor Benblatt
 Jane & Leo Chaput
 Janet & Gilbert Friedell
 Lois & Ken Germain
 Nina & Izzy Goldis
 Joseph Hernandez
 Renee Hymson
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 George Levine
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 Roorda
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 Evelyn Dantzie Geller
 Cathy Grinstead
 Katherine & John Kane

Three Times Chai

Marcia Blacker *
 Judy & Rabbi David
 Wortman**

Gibor (hero)

Jacquelyn Johnson
 Robert & Sheila Orbach
 Ruth & Neil Poley
 Becky & Scott Savage
 Gene Sittenfeld &
 Sally Mulholland
 Jerry Wurmser***
 3 anonymous

* In honor of Jane Chaput, Ruth Poley, and Mary Rosenbaum.
 ** In memory of Ruth Poley's mother.
 *** In memory of wife, Rose Rika.

Jfs Jewish Family Services

Upcoming Programs

Leisure Club

Save the date!

Thursday, February 17, 2011
12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Lunch will be provided.

Check the mail for your usual invitations or call Paula for more details.

For more information about these events, to RSVP, or to arrange transportation to the event location, please contact Paula Clancy at (859) 269-8244 or jfs@jewishlexington.org.



The Jewish Federation
 OF THE BLUEGRASS



Community Calendar

• **JFB - Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass - www.jewishlexington.org**

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

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

• 2048 Edgewater Court • 266-8050 • Moshe Smolkin, Rabbi; Beth Goldstein, President

• Daily Minyan Mon.-Thurs. at 5:45 p.m.; Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Friday evenings at 5:45 p.m.; on the last Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. with Oneg & program following • Shabbat Services Saturday at 9:45 a.m.

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

• 124 N. Ashland Avenue • 269-2979 • Marc Kline, Rabbi; Ken Slepian, President

• Shabbat Services first & second Friday at 6:30 p.m., remaining Fridays 7:30 p.m.; Worship Service Saturday 10:30 a.m.

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

• Lynn Furness, President • mamanewbs@yahoo.com

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

• Jeremy Popkin, President • popkin@email.uky.edu

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

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		TAI Board OZS Board				
30	31	February 1	2	3	4	5
World Wide Tefillin Wrap		Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits	JFS Committee	Shalom newspaper deadline	kids Shabbat at OZS	Federation Film: A Matter of Size 8 p.m. Speed dating in Cincinnati
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
TAI Sisterhood Crittenton Home Valentine's Dinner TAI Special Action Series Committee dinner at Hope Center Hadassah Program on Native Plants		God's Pantry		Leisure Club	OZS Shabbat Dinner	OZS Community Shabbat
13	14	15	16	17	28	19
	President's Day	Lunch and Learn with our local rabbis				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
TAI on Rye TAI Preschool Fundraiser						
27	28	March 1	2	3	4	5
JFB Super Sunday		Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits		OZS Bar/Bat Mitzvah	OZS Bar/Bat Mitzvah	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

IT'S WHAT **BEING JEWISH** FEELS LIKE

Building community and helping to make the world a better place is what we do every day. For us, it's what being Jewish feels like.

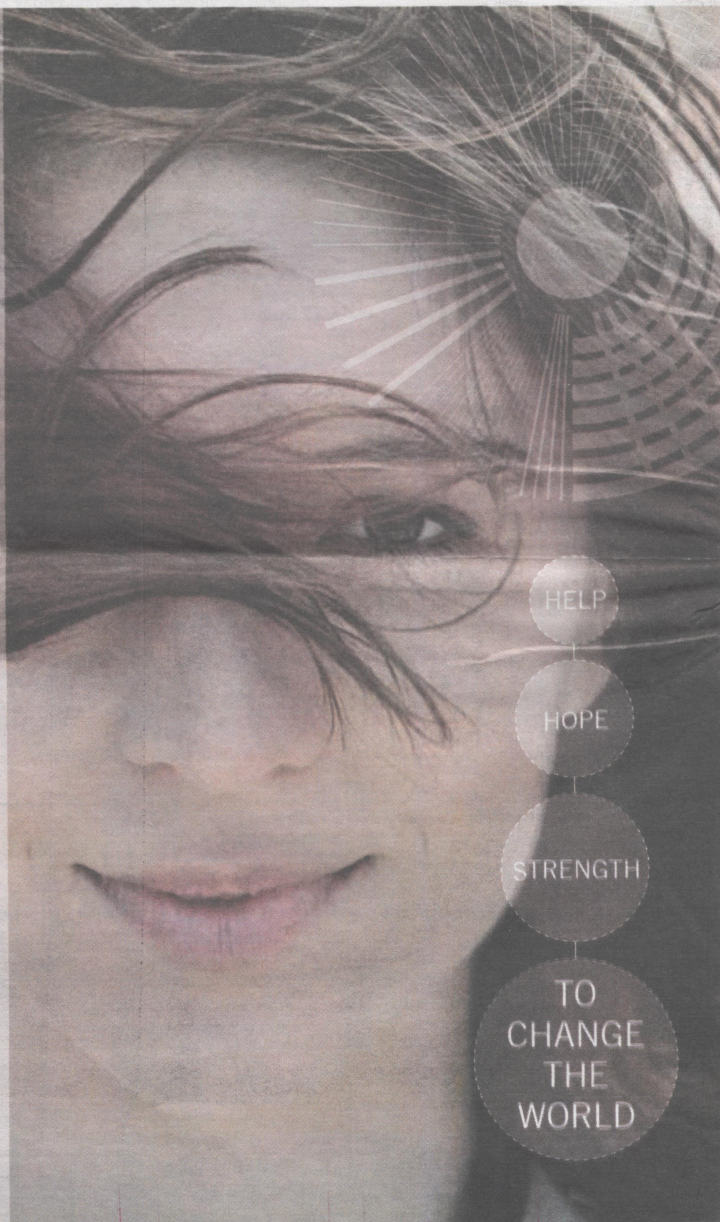
It's a promise that social services and community organizations will remain strong and active for all of us. And for you.

It's an opportunity to be part of a caring community that gives back. And it's a opportunity to foster and celebrate Jewish identity for future generations.

GET INVOLVED. DONATE. VOLUNTEER.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



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

Photographs by Jonathan Levine, Jeffrey Lament Brown and John Adkins

JEWISH FEDERATION 2011 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN