

Shalom

December 2012/January 2013

Happy Hanukkah
from
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



Kentucky
UNIVERSITY OF THE BLUEGRASS

KISLEV/TEVET/SHEVAT 5773

Cuba

By Lori Bernard

Last month, I had the privilege of traveling to Cuba with my father, brother, and 29 fellow American Jews from my father's congregation, Anshe Chesed, Fairmount Temple in Cleveland, OH. My father suggested going on this trip last March when his cantor, Sarah Sager first proposed the idea. He was very interested in going and made the offer to my brothers and me that he would take any of us who wanted to go. My youngest brother and I took him up on his offer. My original intention was to spend time with my father. Little did I realize the overwhelming impact this trip would have on me as a Jew and the special added bonus of sharing this experience with my father and brother.

I arrived in Cuba on October 29th, a warm, beautiful, sunny day. Within one hour of our arrival, I was sitting in the chapel of the refurbished Sephardic Center. Myra Levy, a physician and the leader of the center was describing to our group how they were restoring their building, how they care for their community, particularly the elderly, how they teach Hebrew and even celebrate an occasional Bar or Bat Mitzvah. We presented her with our donations and tzedakah and then joined together in singing Hine Ma Tov.

The very next day, our group met



Ted, Lori and Lew Bernard, Jr. getting ready to leave Miami for Cuba with 150 lbs of donations for the Jewish communities of Cuba. Donations included pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, and personal hygiene supplies.

Adella Dworin, the retired president of the Patronato, the largest synagogue in Havana. She shared with us the unique challenges facing the Cuban Jewish community, of the young people who emigrate to Israel in search of a better life and a more promising future. It was painful to hear of so many whose children no longer live in Cuba and yet remain because, "I am needed here." We heard those exact same words from Rosa Behar, a retired physician and head of the pharmacy at the Patronato. Rosa has a connection to our community here in Lexington. Her daughter and grandchildren moved here from Israel two years ago. Rosa has visited

see Cuba, page 5

Lecture on Iran to be held on January 9

Bob Feferman, Midwest Coordinator for the advocacy group United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI) will speak to the community on Wednesday, January 9th, at 7 pm, at the Jewish Federation. Mr. Feferman will speak about UANI's advocacy devoted to the economic isolation of the Iranian regime in response to its quest for illicit nuclear weapons, hostile position toward Israel, human rights violations, and state sponsored of terrorism.

Mr. Feferman is a history teacher and serves as the chair of the Community Relation Committee of the Jewish Federation of South Bend, Indiana. He lived in Israel for 11 years and served in the Israel Defense Forces.

For information, please call Judy Wortman at 268-0672. ✧

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Campaign News: The 2012 Campaign to close

The 2012 annual campaign of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass will close on December 31. A number of our long time donors have yet to send in their gifts. If for some reason, you have not been called or received a pledge card in the mail, please call us at 268-0672 and we will accept your pledge on the phone. There are still several hundred members of our community who receive this publication and have not yet given their first donation. We hope that you will at least consider a gift of \$18 to offset the cost of printing and mailing Shalom 10 times every year.

Funds raised in our annual campaign benefit people everywhere – in our own community, in Israel, and in endangered communities around the world. Our contributions help fund programs that enhance Jewish life and programs that provide life giving ser-

vices for those who need it – to aging Holocaust survivors in eastern Europe and Russia, to Ethiopian immigrants in Israel who come with nothing but the clothes on their backs, to children in Sderot who are often schooled in underground bunkers. Gifts to Federation bring Jewish books and programs to more than 100 young children through our PJ Library program, fund community programs like Camps Shalom and Geshet, Yom Ha Shoah, Yom Ha Atzmaut, the Global Day of Jewish Learning. Your gifts help us provide services to our seniors as well as members of our community who are experiencing physical and emotional illness, job loss, and financial crisis. Please help us make a difference in the lives of so many. To those who have already given, we thank you for your continued generosity. May 2013 be a year of blessings for all. ✧

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Shalom

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The PJ Library is a national program offered locally, which mails free, high-quality and age appropriate Jewish children's literature and music to families on a monthly basis.

All families raising Jewish children ages six months to eight years are welcome to enroll. JFB is proud to offer your family, through our partnership with local donors and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, this opportunity to explore the timeless core values of Judaism through books and music.

Enroll your children or grandchildren today! Call us at 859.268.0672 or visit www.pjlibrary.com and visit our Lexington community page.

JOIN US DECEMBER 15TH 6:45 PM CHANUKAH PARTY

Join us at the Jewish Federation for a potluck and party to celebrate the 8th night of Chanukah together. We'll light the menorah, dance, shmooze, and eat together. Bring friends and enough nosh for 4 to 6 people. RSVP to tamara@jewishlexington.org or thru Facebook JOIN US!



MEN ONLY!

Save the Date!
Thurs., January 17, 2013
"For Men Only"
Cooking Class



WOMEN ONLY!

Save the Date!
Sun., January 20, 2013
"For Women Only"
Yoga Class

YBJ is a gathering of local Jewish adults, ages 21 to "40-ish" (about 45), who get together monthly for social events. Join our mailing list. Contact Tamara Ohayon at tamara@jewishlexington.org, (859) 268-0672, or find us on Facebook!



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Shalom Deadline

Deadline for articles for the February *Shalom* is January 10, 2013.
Email articles to shalom@jewishlexington.org

Director's Message

Judy B. Wortman, JFB Director



This past month we celebrated not only Thanksgiving Day, but also the Global Day of Jewish Learning. Along with the thousands of Jews in communities worldwide, we spent the day of November 18 studying and sharing the meaning of blessings and gratitude. When Thanksgiving Day was established by George Washington in 1789, the purpose was for the citizens of this new country to give thanks for the many gifts that God had bestowed upon them. It was a time out for all to stop their work and take stock of their many blessings. How did this early American holiday become transformed to a day of gluttony, football games and this year – a rush to leave the family table to go out bargain shopping for holiday gifts?

Our Jewish religious life in this country has changed as well. Fewer Jews are joining synagogues and even fewer attend Shabbat services with regularity. For most, Saturdays are a day to take care of errands or to participate in sports or other leisure activities. How often do we stop, take a breath, and behold the many gifts we enjoy? How often do we join in communal prayer and thank the Source of Life for what we have?

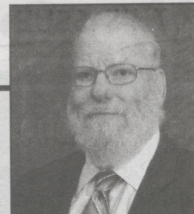
Recently, we all witnessed the devastation of Hurricane Sandy and watched as people lost their lives, their homes, and their possessions. We sympathized with those living for days or for weeks without heat, light, water, and tele-

phone service. We worried about the elderly who were unable to walk down flights of stairs in high-rise buildings to get food or water. We watched as premature babies were rescued from nurseries without the electricity needed to keep them breathing. And we talked about this terrible act of God. Why we are able to talk about God and blame God when tragedies befall us, but rarely talk about God and give thanks to God for all we have in our lives? As I watched the events unfold and talked to friends and family members who were affected, I thought about how very much I take for granted – even simple things like being able to take a shower every day, to use a computer or phone at any time, to have a car that works and gasoline to take me anywhere I choose to go.

I am grateful that so many who witnessed the tragedy of the storm were able to respond and share their own blessings with those in need – giving funds, food, clothing, sharing their homes, walking countless flights of stairs to care for strangers. For those of you who still want to help, it is not late to make a contribution to the Hurricane Sandy Emergency Fund at the Jewish Federations of North America. For those who have already contributed, thank you for your kindness. ✧

Editorial

David Wortman, Editor



Hurricanes, nor'easters, elections, and Black Friday are all, thankfully, behind us. Our hearts and prayers go out to all those affected by Hurricane Sandy and the subsequent nor'easter that devastated the East coast. Contributions to assist those still in need can be sent via JFNA, as noted elsewhere in this edition.

Black Friday destroyed the thankful nature of Thanksgiving and undermined the religious and spiritual underpinnings of Chanukah and Christmas. Material gain and acquisition overpowered our sense of the season.

And the elections ... they're over. Irrespective of one's political orientation, we must be appreciative of the end of negative advertising, endless (and somewhat meaningless) debates, even the ubiquitous lawn signs of well-meaning neighbors.

The national elections yielded a giant step in place. We still have a Democrat in the White House, a Democrat controlled Senate, and a Republican held House. This is a perfect stage for more vitriol than progress, more partisanship than partnering.

Most importantly, though, Israel is facing a new crisis. Well, not really new. It is an extension of the continuing crisis that exists in the relationship between Israel and the Palestinians. Israel, under constant threat from her neighbors in the territories, finally responded.

The region is once again at the precipice.

Peace in the region is elusive. Fear of Syrian and/or Iranian involvement in the conflict has put the world on edge. Yet, the government of Israel, left, right, or middle, must defend itself against those pledged to destroy her.

We, as the American Jewish community, must stand solidly with our brothers and sisters in Israel. We should urge President Obama and the Congress to use its influence and power to bring about a just de-escalation of hostilities. We need to support renewed efforts by the community to raise necessary resources to assist Israel in her plight.

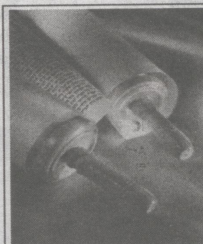
The future of all Jews, not just Israel, demands that we be responsive in whatever way we can to ensure an end to the crisis. Then, hostilities defused, comes the real work. We must work with all concerned to bring about a total, just, and enduring peace in the region. ✧



Thank you to the volunteers, facilitators, staff, and participants who helped make Global Day of Jewish Learning a wonderful program.

Special thanks to:

Jon Glixon	Toni Reiss	Jessica Foster
Beth Goldstein	Erin Salomon	Adira Jarman
Brent Haskell	Seth Salomon	Ian Bourne
Kathie Kroot	Talia Smolkin	William Bourne
Connie Loventhal	Ilona Szekely	Rabbi Marc Kline
Amy Faust Mayer	Paul Tillier	Rabbi Moshe Smolkin
Lisa Miller	Dawn Vermey	Bob Grossman
Janice Newman	Chaz Foster	and Lori Bernard



The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass

Lunch and Learn with our Lexington community rabbis
December 18 with Rabbi Uri Smith
January 29 with Rabbi Marc Kline

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

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New Coordinator Named



Shalom! My name is Lori Bernard and I am the new Coordinator of Informal Jewish Education at the Jewish Federation of the

Bluegrass. I am honored to serve our central Kentucky community in this capacity. I come to this position as a life-long student of Judaism with a background of over 20 years as a Jewish educator in several different temples and the greater Cincinnati Jewish community. My personal Jewish education began at home with my parents Lew and the late Geri Bernard and at Anshe Chesed, Fairmount Temple in Cleveland, Ohio and has continued throughout my life. My husband, Marc Kline, and I are the proud

parents/step-parents of Douglas and Danielle Hopping, Corey, Josh, Ilana, and Rachel Kline and Diogo Metz.

I first became acquainted with JFB back in 2000 when I was the Israel Bonds representative in the region as well as working on Jewish singles programming in the tri-state region. I later joined the community two years ago when I moved from Cincinnati to Lexington.

I am looking forward to working with the JFB on the wonderful programs we currently have and possibly expanding and creating new avenues for our continued growth as Jews. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact me, lori@jewishlexington.org.☆



JFS: At Your Service

New JFS director

Let me first say how pleased and honored I am to join

the wonderful staff at our Bluegrass Jewish Federation. They are a wonderful group that is very highly dedicated to enriching our Jewish community. It is their excitement that really enticed me to come out of semi-retirement and work again as the Federation's Social Worker.

I was born and raised in Centerville, Ohio a small town outside of Dayton, Ohio. I went to University of Kentucky where I received both my Bachelors and Masters degrees in Social Work and loved Lexington so much that I decided to make it my home. I have worked in the past as a social worker/case manager at The Comprehensive Care Center and Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Hospital.

I took some time off to raise a family. I have been married to my husband, Micah, for 16 years, and we have two teenage children, Max and Lily.

Most recently, along with being a stay at home mom with my two children, I have been working part time at Temple Adath Israel Preschool as a teacher's aide. My hobbies are gardening, hiking, and scrapbooking (when I have time).

Please feel free to call the JFS office, if there is any way I can assist you.

B'Shalom,

Mimi Kaufman ☆

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Scott Terrell, Music Director & Conductor

Kicked Back Classics

A popular program for music lovers of all ages! Kicked Back Classics offers audience members an up-close musical conversation with LexPhil Music Director Scott Terrell, LexPhil musicians and guest artists.



The Essence of Tango

Thursday, January 31, 2013
7:00 pm
Downtown Arts Center

Explore behind the scenes of Piazzolla's sultry tango opera, *Maria de Buenos Aires*.



eighth blackbird

Thursday, February 28, 2013
7:00 pm
Downtown Arts Center

Members of the two-time Grammy-winning ensemble, eighth blackbird, share a first-hand look at their musical inspirations.



Orchestra Stars

Thursday, March 21, 2013
7:00 pm
Downtown Arts Center

Get up close and personal with members of LexPhil and guest conductor Chelsea Tipton. It's as we learn about the talent behind the music.

Tickets - \$15, general admission. Available through the Downtown Arts Center by calling 859-225-0370. Box Office fees apply.

www.lexphil.org

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STORY

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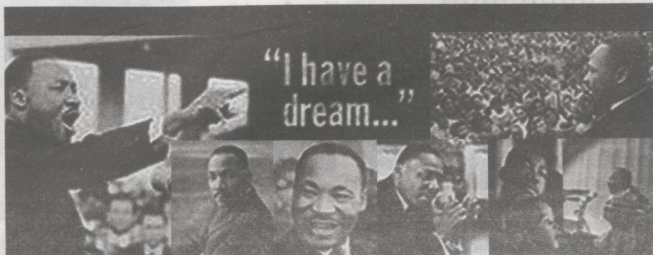
All Lexington Philharmonic programs are made possible through the generous support of LexArts. The annual fund for the Arts has raised millions of dollars to support the visual, literary and performing arts in Lexington.

DUPREE
INITIATIVE

The Dupree Initiative is an investment in the arts, which is exemplified by LexPhil.



The Kentucky Arts Council, a state agency in the Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet, provides operational support funding for the Lexington Philharmonic with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.



"I have a dream..."

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 21, 2013

Join our wider Lexington community to march with us under one Jewish community banner as part of the **Lexington March for Freedom** beginning at 10 a.m. in the Lexington Center Heritage Hall

Cuba (from page 1)

Lexington the past two summers and made many friends here. We presented our donations and tzedakah to Adella and Rosa. Of those donations, 75 pounds of medical supplies and prescription drugs came from our Lexington Jewish community!

Our next stop on our journey took us through the beautiful countryside to Santa Clara. There we met David Tascher and his wife Betty and they shared with us stories about their small community of 25 people and the work that has gone into building a synagogue. On December 10th, the second day of Chanukah, the small Jewish community of Santa Clara will be marching the Torah scrolls under a chuppah into their new synagogue and dedicate their new home. What a perfect choice of days, during the celebration of the holiday marking the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem. At David's request, we sang Shehechayanu for this accomplishment and Siman Tov for the future arrival of the Torahs.

Our next stop was the 3rd floor apartment of Rebecca Langus and her family. Her living room is the gathering place for the small Jewish community. Soft spoken and modest, her story was moving and inspiring.

During our travels, I saw courage and guts in action. I learned how the

descendants of the Jews who had been assimilated for two generations were rediscovering their Jewish roots and proudly reclaiming their heritage by living Jewish lives. In Cuba, the Jewish community will accept anyone with one Jewish ancestor or someone who married a Jew for conversion. I met a 16 year-old son of a Jewish mother and non-Jewish estranged father who has chosen to be circumcised in order to be authentically Jewish. As many as 25 Jewish marriages are performed at one time by a visiting Argentine rabbi. As many as 200 young people gather at the Patronato, for youth events. A "Cuban minyan" consists of 7 Jews, 2 Torahs and God.

As I struggle to put into words all the emotions and experiences I shared on this journey, I am awestruck by how much the Cuban Jewish community has taught me about Judaism, survival, and creating a Jewish life in spite of minimal if any resources and precious few Jews. I am humbled and haunted by the words of a young Jewish woman who shared with me, "It is an honor to be a Jew." Thanks Dad for giving me this precious gift. ☆

Gan Shalom



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ATTENTION proud grandparents, parents, and students

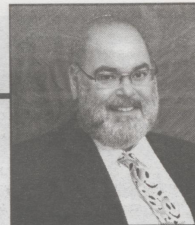
We want to publish any original writing produced by our community's elementary- and high-school-age children. If you're proud of something written by one of our kids, either fiction or non-fiction, please email it to shalom@jewishlexington.org

Jewish Federation is Still Hiring!

See the Job Listings on page 9 for details or contact Judy Wortman, Executive Director for more information at jfb@jewishlexington.org or 859-268-0672.

Ask A Rabbi

Rabbi Marc Kline



Q: I have taken to reading the Bible to find out more about God and religion. I am amazed at how much violence there is in the book. How do I recite prayers for peace and then turn to these stories for the solution to the problem? As I see it, some of these stories are the problem.

A: Wow! What a question! In fact, this is one of the most profound problems that religion confronts. I have to admit that I struggle with the many voices that have tried answering this question by arguing that God wants us to act violently. Some justify God's call for slaughter because of our bad behavior. It so upset Our "Loving Parent" that God's only recourse was to kill everyone. Other people argue that these were the stories of the "old God," but the new God sees things differently. The second answer I feel comfortable dismissing, as I do not believe that there are competing Gods, replacement Gods, or supercessionist Gods. The first answer is the truly difficult one.

People involve themselves in religion to help make sense out of the craziness in their world. The difficulties people find in organized religion stem from the presumption that some of the answers people find are worse than the confusion they faced before beginning the journey. I think that there are two ways of addressing this conundrum. First and foremost, I think people misread the Bible. There are four different creation stories in the first six chapters of the book. In fact, there are those who argue that the entirety of Torah is one big creation story. The book does not presume to be a history. If it were, we would have to face several problems in just the first pages we read. If only Adam, Eve, and Cain exist after Abel dies, with whom does Cain have children? When he argues before God that the people who are out there in his wanderings will do him harm, who are they and where did they come from? The early stories of the Bible mirror so many stories from other ancient religious/mythological/existential traditions. Therefore, the Torah is an

allegory that uses elements of history and lore to teach. The concept that Torah is not a history does not begin with Reform theology. Jonathan Sacks (the British Chief Orthodox Rabbi) wrote, "We misunderstand Torah if we think of it as a book that tells us what happened. That is a necessary but not sufficient explanation of biblical narrative. The Torah, by identifying itself as Torah, defines its own genre. It is not a history book. It is Torah, meaning 'teaching.'" We do not know that the stories and events written in the Bible actually ever happened, or at least not the way presented. There is not enough evidence given within the text to sustain the scrutiny of history.

Once we establish that the Biblical text is not history, we can then look at how it is to be used. Judaism teaches that each of us possesses the ability to reason for ourselves. Education is so important because it affords us the data and experience to know how to make meaningful decisions as we move forward in life. Torah helps us hone these skills and provides us tools for better use of the process. Yes, there is violence in the text, but there are also incredible admonitions for peace. The sages teach us that we are supposed to take the text and weigh them in the balance of justice. Deuteronomy argues "Tzedek tzedek tirdof - justice, justice you shall pursue." The prophet Micah teaches us that justice is not harsh or Draconian. "Do justice, love mercy, and be humble with God." Zechariah tells us to administer justice by loving mercy and kindness. Not to be forgotten, our tradition teaches that God prays to God's self, "May it be My will that My mercy conquer My anger, My mercy be revealed in My attributes, I treat My children with the attribute of compassion, and I go for them beyond the bounds of strict justice." (Berachot 7a)

Where we hold in one hand the precept or command for peace, and hold in the other hand the call to do something destructive, we need to remember that our hands are receptacles

on either side of our souls, the place where the balance weighing justice, ethics, and morality measures our choices and our behaviors. Violence in the text demonstrates the way in which people do behave, and the text screams off the page at the reader, demanding that one not ignore the horrific results of destruction. Reading text out of context can lead people to do unspeakable things to each other. It leads us to forget how interdependent we really are on each other. If I am only concerned with my side of the rowboat, the hole under your seat will still sink both of us.

The second piece of this conundrum stems from the first. Given that people offer proof text from excerpts of scripture, people justify horrific acts arguing on behalf of God; that God wanted those acts done just that way. These arguments root in what people claim scripture instructs them to believe. We have to look at the very nature of the text. The Torah is written without vowels and without sentence structure. To argue that the Bible "says something" is problematic. In the aftermath of this past election, people have claimed that those who voted certain ways have violated "God's laws." They argue that the Bible is God's word. I have taken to asking them if they can even read the language in which God "wrote" the Bible - Hebrew, Aramaic, Septuagint Greek, or even the Vulgate Latin! This attitude, that the Bible actually speaks for God is, for me, the most dangerous issue that we face. It roots in ignorance, celebrates ignorance, and creates a God that is finite and limited to only human boundaries ... and only the boundaries of the human beings claiming to define God's boundaries.

This said, I read the very same Biblical texts and do not see calls to violence, do not see God's limitations, and do not see laws and rules that are monolithic. Scripture cannot and does not take for granted that the whole world is just alike. I do, however, marvel at the sages who must have understood humanity at both its finest and its

worst. The canon celebrates our incredible abilities for reason and compassion.

The text challenges us to think through the difficult stories. We are compelled to see why they shock our conscience. We find in many of the stories affirmation of our own celebrations. Through engaging the text, we find the tools and examples that help us in the work we really believe God wants us to do - healing the world.

In truth, the answer is easy, "uv'kharta b'k'ha'yeem." In each and every case, we are not to choose violence and pain; in each case we are to choose life. I really wish those who try to bludgeon others with their pagan ideas that limit God, could figure this out. So, yes, one can read the Bible as a document of violence, but in each case where we act violently, our sense of ethics should scream that this is not what we want - not what God wants. Rather, it is a horrifying example of what we are capable of doing, and it should always remind us that better choices exist. ☆

Have a question? Ask a rabbi

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

Christian Religious Leaders ask Congress to reevaluate military aid to Israel

By Hanna B. Smith

On October 9, 2012, JTA, the global news service of the Jewish people, reported that fifteen leaders of U.S. churches and other faith-based organizations have asked Congress to reevaluate U.S. military aid to Israel. The religious leaders asked for an investigation into possible violations of the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act and the U.S. Arms Export Control Act by Israel. Any violation of these two acts would make Israel ineligible for U.S. military aid. In addition, the letter stated that Israel's actions continued to cause deterioration in the Palestinian territories and that "unconditional U.S. military assistance to Israel" was assisting in this deterioration.

According to Jewish news media, this letter was released on the eve of Shabbat, just before a long weekend of Jewish and American holidays, and while Congress was out of session. In addition, most of the signers of the letter are members of the Christian-Jewish Roundtable, an organization created in 2004 to bring Jewish and Christian leaders together in dialogue. The Christian leaders did not communicate in advance with their Jewish partners about the release of this letter to Congress.

In protest, Jewish members of the Roundtable cancelled the meeting scheduled for October 22-23. The Jewish Council for Public Affairs and other Jewish groups have sent a letter of protest to the Christian members of the Christian-Jewish Roundtable and have asked for a summit meeting. Consensus is that the letter to Congress omits the relentless attacks on Christians throughout the Middle East, the brutal oppression of Coptic Christians in Egypt, the demonizing of Jews and Israel in the Arab and Ira-

nian media, Palestinian intransigence, while tailoring facts to make Israel look responsible for all the Middle East's problems.

For detailed information, including the letter from the church leaders and the response from Jewish organizations, please check the following websites:

JTA - <http://www.jta.org/news/article/2012/10/09/3108806/religious-leaders-call-on-congress-to->

JCPA (Jewish Council for Public Affairs) - http://engage.jewishpublicaffairs.org/blog/comments.jsp?blog_entry_KEY=6589

Dexter Van Zile analyses the letter of the church leaders in the October edition of the *Algemeiner* e-paper. According to him, some of the mainline churches use Israel-bashing at their annual conventions as a means of distraction from their own internal problems. "Just as Jews have historically been the low-cost, no-cost target of defamation and abuse, so is their homeland." (see: Dexter Van Zile, the *Algemeiner* e-paper, October 22, 2012, <http://www.algemeiner.com>)

Van Zile recommends confronting local churches whose funding supports the national church leadership. Local churches need to be asked, according to Van Zile, if they really want to spend their money on attacks on Israel, the demonization of the state, one-sided and skewed accounts of the Israel-Palestinian conflict, as perpetrated by their church leaders and extremists in their denominations. ☆

To the Editor:

When asked if one can be Jewish and not believe in God (Shalom, October 2012), Rabbi Kline asks back what is meant by God. He cites Maimonides' teaching that to declare what God is, is blasphemy, and then adds that to declare what God is not "borders on blasphemy." He says there is no catechism in Judaism about what God is. He even dislikes the word "God" because of how it has been misused throughout history by people who have claimed to act on behalf of God, but in very ungodly ways.

But, in fact, the Torah has much to say about the nature of God - both what God is and is not. For instance, in the Ten Commandments, God proclaims that He exists and that He is singular, ultimate, and creative. In Exodus 34:6-7, God reveals His nature in relation to man in the passage known as The Thirteen Attributes, where He proclaims Himself to be merciful, gracious, slow to anger, and so on. In Exodus 3:14, God reveals His nature in relation to time, calling Himself "I will be what I will be." In the Sh'ma, God is One. What God is not is portrayable as a graven image.

Not only can we define God by what is revealed in the Torah, but also through personal experience. That is how faith arises, after all. Because of personal experience, one can say God is real, whether hidden or extant. One can also say God is transcendent, but with Whom one can communicate. To a believer, God is more than some nebulous "spirituality" floating in the ether,

but something one can put a name to.

Faith offers some practical advantages in living. Faith in God's power gives one reason to be humble. Faith in God's love gives one reason to love Him back - to love Him as He exists in nature and within every human being. Faith in God's justice gives one reason to be patient with the present and not fear the future. Faith in God's holiness gives one reason to be holy, to feel as if one is occupying a sacred place within space and time. Of course, it is one thing to have reason to be virtuous, and quite another to achieve it, but at least faith leads one in that general direction.

It is true one can be Jewish and not believe in God. For instance, there are Jewish ethnicists, who identify as Jews, but do not practice Judaism nor believe in God. There are Jewish religionists, who identify as Jews and practice Judaism, but assign less importance to belief than to observance. And then there are Jewish theists, who identify as Jews, who may or may not be observant, but whose prime imperative is faith in God. While not all Jews have faith in God, God has faith in the Jews. Let us not forsake Him.

David Marwil ☆



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From The Kitchen Sink Philosopher

By Hanna B. Smith

Choni the Circle Drawer is a character in Jewish folklore. Choni was a good guy; his contemporaries loved him, and so did the Almighty. To show His favor, the Almighty answered Choni's prayers for rain every time; a great power to have in a region prone to drought.

Unfortunately, all this favoritism went to Choni's head and he needed a life lesson. The occasion presented itself one day when Choni was riding on his donkey past a yard where an elderly man was planting a fig tree. "Hey, grandpa," Choni called out, so the story goes, "it takes a fig tree many years to bear fruit. Are you looking forward to eat from this tree?"

"I was born into a green and fruitful world because my ancestors planted trees," the old man replied, "and I want my grandchildren and their descendants to have the same. That is why I plant this fig tree."

The story continues with Choni falling into a deep sleep that lasts for seventy years. When he awakes he finds a world vastly changed. His donkey is gone and so are all the old landmarks. He does not know any of the people he meets and they do not know him. The land through which he wanders is green and prosperous looking, and a herd of donkeys is grazing in a field.

Eventually, Choni realizes what happened. He slept his life away while his contemporaries, both human and animal, fulfilled theirs. Choni's message to the elderly man had been to concentrate only on the immediate. As a result, Choni was stuck in the present for seventy years while the world moved on.

I was reminded of this story recently after having been roundly criticized for working on a project with both short-term and long-term benefits for Israel.

According to the critique, the majority of American Jews has abandoned Israel, as evinced in the outcome of the recent presidential election.

The reality is that the majority of American Jews cares very much for Israel. Anyone watching the Hadassah centennial conference held in Jerusalem in October and the opening of the new Hadassah Hospital tower, paid for by American Jewish money, realizes that the American Jewish community has not abandoned Israel.

The finality of the criticism concerned me because it left no opening for improvement. It implicitly excuses withdrawing from a flawed community. None of this is the Jewish way.

Throughout history our sages have stressed the need for and benefit of working for the community. The classic statement is Hillel's "don't separate yourself from the community." Rabbi Tarphon recognized that work can be overwhelming. His advice was: "It is not your duty to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it" (Ethics of the Fathers, chapter 11). Our own Merle Wekstein, of blessed memory, combined both statements when she advised people to work for their community even if they could spare only a few hours per month.

My parents, having survived the Holocaust, worked to rebuild the Jewish community where they lived. They followed in the footsteps of generations before them who rebuilt what had been destroyed. Like the old man in the story of Choni each generation needs to leave a legacy for their children, to build upon or to rebel against. It is inaction that we cannot afford. ♡



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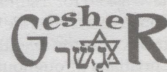
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Reading stimulates white matter in kids

By Abigail Klein Leichman

An Israeli researcher has discovered that children's brains undergo sometimes surprising changes as they learn to read.

As they gain reading skills, children's brain connections change. Image via Shutterstock.com

Complex changes in brain connections as children learn how to read have been newly revealed in a study initiated by Israeli brain science researcher, Michal Ben-Shachar.

Published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science, the study focuses on "white matter" — a network of pale, myelin-sheathed connections that allows information transfer between distant parts of the brain.

Ben-Shachar and a team from Stanford University — where Ben-Shachar, a professor at Bar Ilan University, conducted her post-doctoral research — used an MRI-based non-invasive technique called diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) to track the development of reading skills and white matter connections in 55 children ages seven to 12 over a three-year period, and how they change over time.

"The nice thing about DTI is that it is really child friendly," said Ben-Shachar, who continues to collaborate with two Stanford labs in researching the development of reading in children born prematurely. "In a 12-minute scan you can collect high-quality data from



Reading stimulates white matter in kids.

the whole brain, while the child is lying still watching a movie."

Counterintuitive findings

The National Institutes of Health-funded study was conducted between 2004 and 2007, and collected so much data that it took years to organize and analyze it.

The results were somewhat surprising. Children who became good readers initially had lower levels of white matter in the areas of the brain associated with reading, but these levels grew rapidly during the three-year test period.

However, children who became below-average readers started out with more white matter in the areas associated with reading, and these levels declined over time — suggesting that these children were not creating and strengthening the neural pathways key to reading ability.

"When we looked at the first year of collected data, in an article published last year in the Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, it really struck us as so surprising to see a reverse correlation between white matter and reading ability," Ben-Shachar tells ISRAEL21c. "This [new] paper helps us make sense of it, because we see the weaker readers start with stronger connections that decline over time."

She speculates that this may be because during the first three years of life, children grow many brain connections and then start "pruning" ones they don't use in order to strengthen the more relevant connections. "Perhaps there is not enough pruning in the brains of kids who become poor readers," she suggests.

Sets the tone for future studies

Most developmental imaging studies compare brain measurements in groups of children and adults, while this one was unique in that it followed the same group of children over a long period of time.

"By doing so, we discovered that the changes in brain connections are more informative about reading skill than the measurement at a specific point in time," says Ben-Shachar.

"This is really important if we are ever going to use MRI as a diagnostic tool in education, in addition to standard behavioral tools. It means we will have to assess the child more than once in order to look at dynamic developmental changes, because change is more important than absolute measures at a particular time point."

At her Bar-Ilan lab, Ben-Shachar is working with Ethiopian immigrants for whom Hebrew is their first written language, in the hope of identifying how the adult brain changes as literacy is acquired.

Along with Ofer Amir and Ruth Ezrati from Tel Aviv University, Ben-Shachar recently won a prestigious grant from the Israel Science Foundation to study white matter pathways in the brains of adults who stutter.

Meanwhile, she goes to California each summer to participate in the ongoing child imaging studies at Stanford. ☆

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Synagogue Moreshet Israel- A historic landmark of Conservative Judaism in Jerusalem

By Anat Rubinstein

After spending two wonderful years in Lexington, upon our return to Israel, it was very clear to us that besides taking care of housing, schools, work and the rest of the hassle involved in relocation, we definitely needed to be looking for a new spiritual home. While in Lexington, we were members of Ohavay Zion Synagogue and also very much involved in the Jewish community life in general. Now we're back in Jerusalem. Our search for a congregation here in the holy city, a congregation that would fit our demands for tradition and egalitarianism, the practices we have learned in Lexington, was not easy at all.

In our search for such a place in downtown Jerusalem we discovered some very interesting, some even unusual (for us, at least) congregations. I was hoping to introduce those places to you, the Lexington and the Bluegrass community, with hope, that whenever

you come to Israel, you will know that there are places worth visiting, where you can find a spiritual home, a familiar religious practice, (or sometimes different, depends what you're looking for) often in an English-speaking environment.

First, I turned to the Masorati ("traditional") Movement's various congregations in Jerusalem. The one that immediately caught my attention was the Conservative synagogue *Moreshet Israel* ("Israel's Heritage") in downtown Jerusalem, one of the most modestly beautiful synagogues in the city. It is located in a perfect spot at 4 Agron Street in the center of the busy hotel district of downtown Jerusalem (Google Map it...), within a few minutes walk from Jaffa Gate and the Old City and other downtown must-see attractions. It is led by Rabbi Adam Frank, originally from Atlanta, GA, who made Aliyah in the early 2000's after the second Intifada broke out in Israel. "My decision to come to Israel in 2001 was out

of solidarity with the Jewish State that was under siege" says the Rabbi. "As I found each day of life here pregnant with meaning and purpose, the decision to formalize my citizenship (in Israel. A.R.) was natural...I've not had one day of regret".

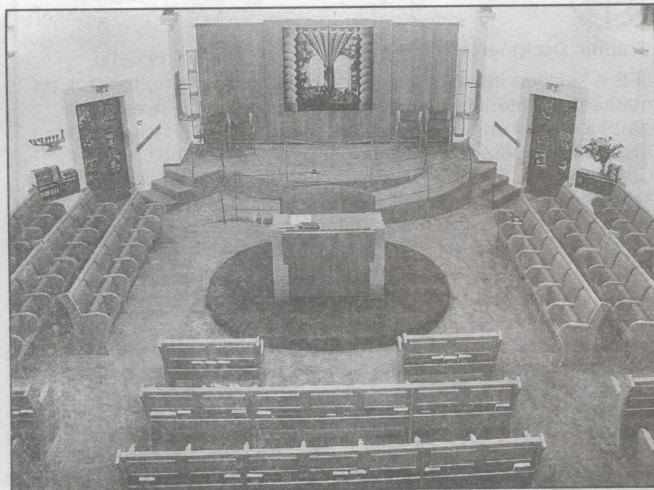
Rabbi Frank has been serving as a Rabbi in *Moreshet Israel* since 2005. Interestingly, Rabbi Frank had a short acquaintance with Ohavay Zion Synagogue: "During rabbinical school I never considered a position of congregational rabbi as an attractive option for a career. As ordination drew closer, I decided to leave my options open and to investigate the pulpit positions available at the conclusion of my formal studies. Of the over 100 congregations searching for rabbis at the time, Congregation Ohavay Zion was the only one that held appeal to me. I visited the community for an interview, Shabbat and found the lovely charm, sincerity of character, and quality of substance of the synagogue and congregation to be just as I had imagined. Ultimately, I decided not to pursue the position because at the time I was single and felt the limitations on social opportunities to be too great."

Today Rabbi Frank is leading a community of about 90 local members, 120 overseas friends, and about 200 names on donor list, a community with reach and interesting history. *Moreshet Yisrael* started as a Conservative congregation in 1972. This year (2012) it's celebrating its 40th anniversary. It's early members were Olim Chadashim (new immigrants) from North America and other English speaking countries, mostly retirees fulfilling the dream to live in Eretz Yisrael. Primarily, the population was retired rabbis and spouses as well as retired academicians and lay leaders of Conservative background. Since its founding in 1972, Congregation *Moreshet Yisrael* has been serving as a home for Jerusalem's English speakers community and travelers from all corners of the world. Divrei Torah

(Drash/ sermons) are delivered mostly in English. The Siddurim and Chumashim are also in both languages and the services are fully egalitarian.

The story of the building itself is very unique in the Jerusalem scene: in the late 1800's early 1900's, land in Jerusalem was being given to various countries, eg. The Russian Compound, The German Colony (Emek Refa'yim St. today) and to Church Associations, eg. Terra Sancta in Keren Hayesod St. belonging to the Vatican. No. 2 and 4 Agron St. were given to a Protestant Church, who's home base was in St. Louis, Missouri. Agron 2 was built in 1910 and Agron 4 was built as a church in 1930. Years later No. 4, (the building of *Moreshet Yisrael*) was declared as a historical building for preservation. In 1972 The Church was asked to leave Israel and thus had to sell their property when it was discovered that they were proselytizing, which was against the regulations of the government of Israel. At this time a Conservative member heard about the property being up for sale and bought both properties of No. 2 & 4, and donated them to the Conservative Movement. Today, the whole compound from No 2 to No 8 serves as a whole campus of the Conservative Movement. No 8 is The Fuchsberg Center of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, where Conservative Jews from all over the world visit for study, guidance, fellowship and hospitality. No. 6 is the Agron Guest House, where guests of the synagogue and Fuchsberg Center often stay.

Here are some fascinating facts about the interior design of the place: since No 4 building- the Synagogue - was first built as a church, it has a church structure. It does not face East but points South. The present storage area, below the Ark, was the Baptismal font. The acoustic quality of the sanctuary is astonishing, as well as the beautiful



Inside Synagogue Moreshet Israel

Israel (from page 10)

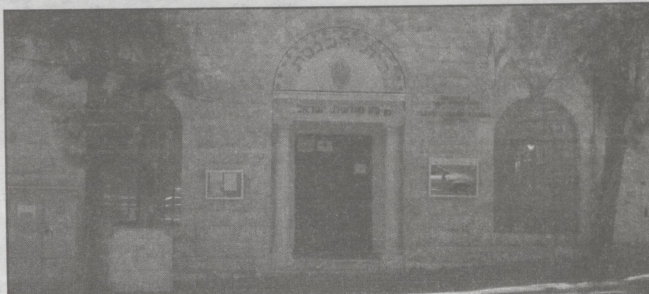
decorative huge stained glass windows that replaced the Church's windows, designed by the Jewish glass artist George Goldstein. The artistic concept of the interior design is the duality of struggle and prayer for Israel, for Jerusalem, and for peace among nations. The theme of the six stained glass windows and the *Parochet* on the Ark is the seven gates of the Old City of Jerusalem: six gates are open and one - the Gate of Mercy (which is actually a double gate) - is closed. The *Parochet* on the Ark represents the Gate of Mercy, which has to be opened with prayer. The other six windows correspond to the other six gates. Each window has its own significance and story. The Zion Gate, for example, as a strategic landmark in the War of Independence in 1948 has a tragic history represented on the window: The *Palmach* brigades fail at this gate on their attempt to free the Old City. On the Zion Gate window there are symbols of bullet holes and a commemoration text dedicated to the fallen soldiers cited from King David's lamentation of the death of Saul and Jonathan: "How are the mighty fallen" (Samuel II 1:19). The other windows have much happier topics based on texts from the Prophets, and I warmly recommend taking a tour to see the small details. Under the sparkling, beautiful colors reflected from the windows on sunny days, services are being held on a regular basis: daily morning *minyan*, Shabbat and holiday services throughout the year, monthly *Rosh Hodesh Shacharit* services followed by *Rosh Hodesh* breakfasts, programs, lectures, activities some in conjunction with the Fuchsberg Centre, holiday parties, Tzedakah programs,

and many more.

"Our shul is unique as we are the address for Conservative Jewish worship in Jerusalem. We are the home for Zionists who visit Israel, feel most comfortable in an English-speaking environment, and whose appreciation for Jewish tradition inspires shul attendance," says the Rabbi, and as he summarizes his vision of the Synagogue he points out: "We are passionate about gender equality, halakhic rigor, Zionism, and seeing all Jews as one family. Jews from all backgrounds enter our synagogue and Jews from all backgrounds feel welcomed, at home, and appreciated. The Torah and tefilah experience is definitively traditional, spiritual and inclusive."

In what way can American Jews help preserve *Moreshet Israel Synagogue* and its heritage? "We are 90 local members sustaining the single most important non-Orthodox house of worship in the Land of Israel. Come daven with us during your visit to Israel; be inspired to make our synagogue not just your spiritual home but your physical home through overseas membership; help to ensure the 8th grade school trips, Birthright groups, synagogue missions, yeshiva students and random wayfarers have a place to feel at home in Judaism's most essential city. We consider it a privilege to host overseas bar/bat mitzvah celebrations - our task is to imbue meaning and fun in this significant moment-in-time of a child and family. Such a simcha in Israel is a gift to the family that pays dividends for years and years to come."

I recommend visiting the place on a Shabbat morning during services



Outside Synagogue Moreshet Israel

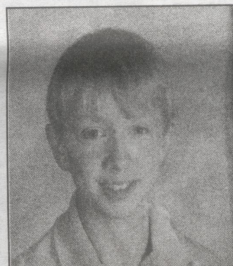
(I read the Haftarah there once in a while) or on Friday night to enjoy the beautiful cantorial cantillation of Ahuva Batz, who leads the services on Erev Shabbat often. You can also call ahead or just walk in during the week. The front desk will provide you with information brochures about the stained glass windows for a self-guided tour. It is a very interesting site to visit, both

for encountering the unique history of the building's architecture history and design and for a spiritual experience. Visit *Moreshet Israel* website on www.moreshetisrael.com for more information about the Synagogue, its staff and overseas membership. ☆

*** B'nai Mitzvah ***

JD Chasen

JD Chasen, son of Craig Chasen will become Bar Mitzvah on January 19, 2013, at OZS.



Parents... Please send a photo and information about your bar/bat mitzvah to Shalom for publication.

Questions and submissions may be sent to shalom@jewishlexington.org.

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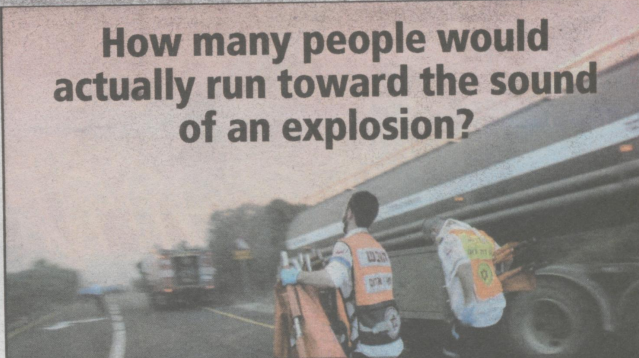
Deadline for applications is April 1, 2013.

They can be requested from JFS or downloaded from the Jewish Family Services page at www.jewishlexington.org. For more information, contact Mimi Kaufman, Director of Jewish Family Services, at (859) 269-8244 or via email at jfs@jewishlexington.org.



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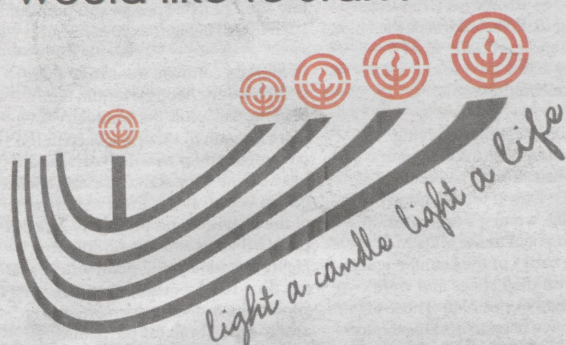
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The Jewish Federation

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Tzeason
of
Tzedakah

December 2012

Each volunteer will be placed at a specific location for a particular job based on preference and availability.

This year's volunteer opportunities

- Stewart Home School - Mon., Dec. 10 at 5:15 p.m.
- Sayre Christian Village (multiple dates starting Dec. 11)
- Catholic Action Center Christmas Store (multiple dates)
- God's Pantry - confirm date thru JFB
- Mayfair Village - Tues., Dec. 25 at 2:00 p.m.
- Catholic Action Center - Sun., Dec. 25 at 5:30 p.m.
- Meals on Wheels - Tues., Dec. 25 (multiple routes)
- Moveable Feast - Tues., Dec. 25 at 4:30 p.m.
(requires 1 training route for new volunteers)
- Ronald McDonald House - Mon., Dec. 26 at 5:00 p.m.

We will also be putting out collection bins at TAI, OZS, and JFB for donations of food, new/gently used toys, pet supplies and warm clothes. For a detailed list of information about all of these opportunities, please visit the Tzeason of Tzedakah page at www.jewishlexington.org.

Contact Lori at 859.268.0672
or lori@jewishlexington.org to volunteer.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

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B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Ruth Poley

Raising the ordinary to extraordinary

Perhaps you're looking at the subject of this month's recipe and thinking how mundane it is. Do I really think you're going to get excited about cabbage? Well, yes, you will after you've made this recipe. I recently had occasion to entertain a crowd for a casual dinner and decided to make corned beef (that's a whole other discussion) and cabbage. The corned beef is not your usual boiled variety, and I wanted the cabbage to be special, as well. I made the following recipe and, while I expected people to like it well enough, I was not prepared for the response I got. My guests liked all of the meal, but they waxed poetic about the cabbage, and quite a few of them wanted the recipe. So here it is—it's an adaptation of a Michael Symon recipe.

Braised Cabbage (makes 4-6 servings)

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup diced kosher turkey kielbasa
- 1 yellow onion, thinly sliced
- Kosher salt
- 12 ounces India Pale Ale-style beer
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1 large or 2 small heads cabbage, quartered, cored and thinly sliced
- 3 tablespoons brown mustard (I used Dijon)
- ¼ cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

Heat the oil in a large Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Add the kielbasa and cook about 5 minutes. Add the onions along with a pinch of salt and cook until the onions are translucent, 3 to 5 minutes. Add the beer, vinegar, and another large pinch of salt. Cover and cook until the cabbage is wilted but is still slightly crisp. Stir in the mustard and taste for seasoning. You might want to add some additional salt, mustard and/or vinegar at this time. Continue to cook until the cabbage is pretty much all wilted. You can make the recipe to this point and then refrigerate and reheat it later. Add the parsley just before serving. ☆

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



Sim Shalom news

By Jesse Weil, from Budapest, Hungary

This is a month of several short reports, since there were no big events in the past month. The Rabbi and I were on holiday in Turkey for two weeks recovering from the efforts of the High Holidays, and especially from the seven very active days of the Sukkot in the Park celebration.

Today, Rabbi Kelemen is giving the main address at a commemorative demonstration in recognition of Anti-Fascist Day. It is sponsored by a Hungarian women's organization, and is being held at the Shoe Memorial on the banks of the Danube where Jews took off their shoes and were shot into the river in 1944. Those of you who have been to Budapest may remember it, next to the Parliament building. Rabbi Kelemen will speak about how the tenets and practices of Reform Judaism are inherently leading to opposition to all such ideologies as were present in the Fascist movements. This demonstration is especially important in Hungary because of the continuing rise and fall here of small groups and parties with strong Fascist tendencies and practices. The current strongest such group, called the Hungarian Garda, goes around in black shirts and jackboots, waving the flag, and intimidating the people of the Roma (Gypsy) minority who are effectively the niggers of Central Europe. And they sometimes have a go at a bit of anti-Semitism, cursing at

Jews and sometimes roughing them up when they get the opportunity. Unfortunately, the government of the right wing Fidesz Party does not enforce the strong constitutional sanctions against any form of hate speech, and permits such illegal behaviour to continue.

In marked contrast, tomorrow there will be a very happy event in Sim Shalom, the adult Bat Mitzvah of Dora Rozgonyi. Dora has been in the congregation for about 4 years, and has become very active, serving a term on the Board, and is involved in many of the activities and programs. For the past two years, she's been studying Hebrew, and is to the point where she can do a Torah portion. It will be very good to have another person who is able to read Torah for the Saturday services.

Two weeks ago, Peter Weidhorn, a recent Past President of the URJ, passed through Budapest on a Danube riverboat cruise. He wanted to attend services on Shabbat, and Sim Shalom joined with B'et Orim, a congregation which split off from us about 6 years ago, to put on a joint service in Balint Haz, the Jewish Community Center, where there is enough space for the larger crowd. Weidhorn added to the crowd by bringing along three other couples from the cruise. It was a very festive occasion, with lots of good music from the many talented people in the two congregations. ☆

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The Lexington Havurah

Stan Saxe, 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 sabastanley@insightbb.com.

By Stanley Saxe

Recently, close to Halloween time, the Havurah had an event which our Education chair, Judy Goldsmith, titled "Zombies and Golems and Dybbuks, Oh My!". There was a group reading of an adaption by Tony Kushner of the 1910 play *The Dybbuk* by S. Ansky. Each of a dozen Havurah members chose a role to read. Set in a shtetle in late 19th century Eastern Europe *The Dybbuk* is the story of a young woman possessed by a malicious spirit, the soul of a dead person.

Stories of malevolent possessing spirits first appeared in 16th century Jewish writings but ignored by mainstream Jewish scholars until Ansky's *The Dybbuk* appeared in 1910.

This play reading was of particular interest because for me it brought together 1) how mental illness may have been viewed (the *Dybbuk* thesis) in Jewish communities for many centuries, 2) spirit possession which appears in cultures and religions around the world (witness the writings and movies about exorcism and the Church), and 3) an association with a book I was reading, *Sybil Exposed* by Debbie Nathan, detailing how the 1973 non-fiction book *Sybil* "invented a biography that never existed." The 1973 book has a Lexington connection which enabled me to meet one of the principals.

Mental illness as shown in the 1910 play shows what had been considered a plausible cause of aberrant behavior and speech in an otherwise normal and healthy person: possession by an evil spirit, an alter personality, the *Dybbuk* concept. Howard Schwartz, a professor at the University of Missouri, in his book *Tree of Souls: The Mythology of Judaism* (Oxford Univ. Press, 2004) quotes a Hebrew anthology of *Dybbuk* tales by the Israeli author Nigal

Gedalyah.

The tales almost always follow the same pattern: 1) someone becomes possessed by a dybbuk. 2) a rabbi confronts the spirit and demands that it reveal its name and history. 3) the dybbuk tells its tale. 4) the dybbuk is then exorcised, and the one who was possessed recovers. Schwartz suggests the pattern established in earlier tales was repeated in succeeding generations and became in effect a socially recognized form of madness.

Why does one become mad and how may madness be cured? One famous tale is the following: A woman of Safed was possessed. She sought help from the disciple of a famous rabbi. The disciple confronted the dybbuk who told because of a grievous sin he had committed his soul was condemned to wander. He fled to Safed and entered the body of this woman. How was he able to enter the body of the woman? The dybbuk explained she had little faith, since she did not believe that the waters of the Red Sea had truly parted. Following the utterance three times by the woman of her belief in the miracle, and the recitation by the rabbi of the correct formula, the dybbuk departed and the woman was freed from the agony of possession. The next day when the rabbi ordered the mezuzah on her door to be checked it was found to be empty, and that is why it did not protect against that evil spirit.

Spirit possession did not begin with Jewish mystics in the 16th century. The oldest records go back to the Sumerians of the 3rd and 4th millennium who believed all illnesses of mind or body were caused by "sickness demons." In Christianity the belief has been that possession is by the Devil or one of his demons. There are many notations in the New Testament of Jesus driving out demons from people.

Perhaps the best-known contemporary spirit possession story is *The Exorcist*, a 1973 horror film from a novel of the same name based on a 1949 exorcism case. A young boy was considered possessed and underwent exorcism rituals over 30 times by Catholic priests. It was reported a success.

Sybil, a book published in 1973 by Flora Shreiber is about a woman, given the pseudonym Sybil, with 16 personalities. The author collaborated with the treating psychiatrist, Dr. Cornelia Wilbur, who practiced in New York City but later came to Lexington to join the UK Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Wilbur put Sybil into drug-induced and hypnotic trances, and upon suggestion by Dr. Wilbur, Sybil gives a childhood history of grotesque abuse by her mother. The psychiatrist elicits and records 16 different alter personalities who emerge unpredicted to control Sybil's behavior and speech.

The book becomes a sensation. A television adaptation was broadcast. Both versions of the story helped create a psychiatric diagnosis: multiple personality disorder.

In the recent book *Sybil Exposed*, author Nathan used archived material and interviews to show the book *Sybil* a fabrication, a product of psychiatric suggestion and invention by the three women, patient, psychiatrist and writer. It was Dr. Wilbur whom I had met and spoken with

during her tenure here as a University of Kentucky faculty person.

Thus an entertaining evening of Havurah play reading, timed to a secular holiday celebration, related not only to a history of Jewish religious literacy and to Jewish mysticism, but to how a near-universal phenomenon has been viewed by various groups over time.✱

For information about the next social/educational/playful event, contact me (goldsmi@cs.uky.edu). I'm open to suggestions. For information about services, contact Stan Saxe.



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The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Jane Chaput, President

Hadassah Celebrates Centennial By Lynn Furness

Buoyed with anticipation, eleven members and associates of the Lexington Chapter of Hadassah flew to Israel to celebrate 100 years of Hadassah at its convention in Jerusalem from October 16-18, 2012. The attendees were Betty and Lowell Nigoff, Lynn and Jim Furness, Odette and Marty Kaplan, Dianne Bazell and Larry Kant, Judy and Stanley Saxe and Gail Cohen.

Imagine the thrill of seeing the enormous signs welcoming Hadassah to Israel as soon as we entered Ben Gurion Airport and the sense of pride they evoked. This feeling continued as we arrived in Jerusalem to see banners flying all over the city proclaiming the 100th anniversary of Hadassah.

The official activities commenced with a brief visit to the Hadassah Hospital in Ein Kerem, an area at the far reaches of Jerusalem. The visit was arranged for donors to see plaques commemorating their Founders' gifts or their names on the Keepers of the Gate columns. The Keepers' columns display the names of Keepers who have donated through the Keepers' program for at least five years. They are situated in a lovely terrace area and we all enjoyed looking for our Keepers' names after the bus ride through the city to arrive at the hospital.

Over the course of the next three days, all delegates were taken to the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower at the hospital in Ein Kerem, Hadassah Neurim, a Youth Aliyah village north of Netanya on the Mediterranean, and a specialized tour in Jerusalem, previously selected by each delegate.

The Tower visit included presentations by Hadassah doctors and nurses who showed great pride for working at Hadassah. The facility itself is not only up-to-date, but also welcoming to patients and visitors.

At Hadassah Neurim we met and

talked with residents who are high school aged children. The children live there for a variety of reasons, mainly that their families cannot provide a nurturing environment for them. They are enthusiastic about their experience at Neurim and seem to be thriving in the structured environment provided for them. There were also presentations at Neurim for Hadassah College Jerusalem, Young Judea and JNF.

After the trip to Neurim, we attended sessions at the Convention Center in Jerusalem where we heard from Israeli media personnel, religious leaders and others regarding issues of importance to Israel and Hadassah. All the speakers were very forthright about the state of affairs in Israel and what they expect in the near or long term future.

That night our delegation feasted on a fabulous dinner at Dolphin Yam, a restaurant recommended by our personal restaurant expert, Judy Saxe's brother, Haim, a long time Jerusalemite. Also joining us for dinner were Haim's wife, Francine, and Anat and Chen Rubinstein! It was great to see Anat and Chen again. Anat and Chen look great but mentioned missing Lexington as they adjust to being back in Israel.

The specialized tours included visits to the Menachem Begin Heritage Center, the City of David, Rachel's Tomb, and the hospital on Mt. Scopus among many others. The Begin Center is especially well done and very moving. At Mt. Scopus we were greeted by the Director, Dr. Osnat Levzion-Korach, who spoke in Lexington several years ago and remembers Lexington affectionately. It was a treat to see Osnat and to be given an enlightening tour of the hospital by Ron Krumer, Director, External Relations Division of Hadassah Medical Organization.

The official dedication of the new Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower, held on October 16, coincided with the 78th anniversary of the call from Israel by Henrietta Szold to the US Hadassah convention announcing Hadassah's

plans to build a hospital on Mt. Scopus in Jerusalem. During the Tower dedication, Israel's President, Shimon Peres, addressed the delegates. He inspired everyone with his remarks about the efforts and generosity of Hadassah since before the establishment of the State of Israel and continuing today. The event concluded on a festive note with fireworks and entertainment by a clown from the hospital at Ein Kerem.

The convention concluded two nights later with the presentation of the Henrietta Szold Award, Hadassah's highest accolade, to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The Prime Minister expressed his deep thanks for the honor of this award and further inspired the delegates with his remarks.

The entire Lexington delegation found the convention to be informative and invigorating. To walk on the streets where our forefathers and foremothers walked, to be connected spiritually with family members and friends who cared about Hadassah, and to meet and learn from other delegates was an experience beyond compare.

This article discusses highlights of convention. For additional information and more photos, please talk with one of the attendees or visit the Hadassah website, www.hadassah.org. You too will be inspired by the history and excited for the future of Hadassah. ☆

Hadassah the Women's Zionist Organization of America

Resolutions: October 2012 Business Meeting in Jerusalem, Israel

This year's Hadassah National Convention was held in Jerusalem to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Hadassah by Henrietta Szold. The bylaws of HWZOA require that a business meeting be held during the convention. At this year's business meeting, the delegates voted unanimously in favor of the following resolutions:

1. Hadassah reaffirms its commitment to and support of the freedom of worship for all women at the Western Wall.
2. Hadassah resolves in favor of relocation of the United States Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.
3. Hadassah supports Jerusalem as the undivided capital of the State of Israel.

The first resolution occurred as Anat Hoffman, the leader of Women of the Wall, was arrested at the Western Wall when she spoke the Shema there during the time of the convention. Currently, women are not permitted to chant out loud at the Wall. Yet Ms. Hoffman took a stand so all women can pray aloud at the Wall and Hadassah supports this effort.

The second and third resolutions relate to the cooperative and supportive teamwork that began in 1912 and continues to exist between Hadassah and Israel regarding preserving Jewish heritage and strengthening the State of Israel.

Ms. Szold would be proud of her successors as they stand shoulder to shoulder with women for equal rights and with their Israeli compatriots. Echoing through the years, Ms. Szold's famous words still inspire: "Let my eyes look to the future." With their resolutions, the Hadassah delegates formalized her credo. ☆

Ohavay Zion Synagogue

2048 Edgewater Court • President, Jonathan Glixon • (859) 266-8050

Kids' Shabbat and PJ Library

Please join us for this month's Kids' Shabbat service on Friday, December 14th at 5:30pm. This service will be a combined Kids' and Youth Shabbat Hanukkah celebration.

Kids Shabbat is our monthly Shabbat Service for children. We light candles, drink grape juice, eat pizza, sit together on beautiful carpets, sing songs, and read amazing stories from the PJ Library. Newcomers and friends are always welcome.

This year's Kids' Shabbat services will be held Fridays at 5:30pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue on the following dates.

December 14 (Religious School Hanukkah Party)
January 4
March 15
April 26
May 17

For more information or to RSVP, email Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com.

Youth Shabbat and Stewart Home

Youth Shabbat is geared for ages 8 through 18. We begin by welcoming in our friends from Stewart Home with a pizza dinner. Then we all celebrate Shabbat with our students helping to lead services. This is a wonderful Shabbat Program filled with music and joy.

Please join us for another exciting year of Youth Shabbat and Stewart Home Services, Fridays at 5:30pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue!

December 14 (Religious School Hanukkah Party)
January 11
February 1
March 8
April 12
May 10

For more information or to RSVP, email Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com.

Young OZS-ers' Shabbat

Join in as Jews in their 20s and 30s celebrate Shabbat with Fabulous Friday Nights Filled with Food, Fun and Festivities. This is a great way to meet other young Jews and celebrate Shabbat. Newcomers and friends are always welcome!

Please join us for another exciting year of Young OZS-ers, Fridays at 6:00pm at Ohavay Zion Synagogue!

December 21
January 25
February 15
March 22
April 5
May 3

For more information or to RSVP, email Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com.

Ohavay Zion Synagogue Shabbat Morning Services

Please join us any Saturday morning of the year, as Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates Shabbat. Our worship is filled with joyous song and fascinating Torah discussions. All are invited to schmooze over lunch after the service. This is a wonderful way to celebrate Shabbat and to meet some nice Jewish folks here in Lexington. Newcomers and friends are always welcome!

TUESDAY MINYAN

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

Friday Morning Talmud Study

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

Interested in Ohavay Zion Synagogue?

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming Jewish community. If you are interested, or if you know someone who may be interested in learning more about Ohavay Zion Synagogue, please call our membership chairs Ricki Rosenberg at 221-2121 or Harriet Cooper at 269-1136, or email Rabbi Smolkin at Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you! ☆



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Temple Adath Israel

124 N. Ashland Avenue | President, Judy Engelberg • (859) 269-2979

Who we are!

Temple Adath Israel is a Reform Jewish congregation. Our mission is to inspire our congregants' Jewish engagement and to ensure a vibrant Jewish present and future by nurturing the many generations of our community. We are the community center through which our families can celebrate faith, justice, and the blessings of family lives past, present, and future. Please call the Temple administrator for more information if you are interested in becoming a member.

Our Shabbat services for December 7, 14, 21, & 28 and January 4, 11, 18, & 25 are at 7 PM.

Our lively Family Shabbat takes place on the second Friday of each month at 7 PM. Our youth choir (Kol Adit) sings, our religious school classes participate in services, we sing songs, and enjoy great stories. This year we will have a potluck dinner at 6 PM immediately preceding services. Join us.
December 14 (Hanukkah potluck and service around the table)
January 11 Chinese Dinner Night
February 8
March 8
April 12

Our Tot Shabbat Friday night service is held on the last Friday of each month. It is a wonderful way for families with young children to celebrate Shabbat with song, stories, dancing, and pizza. The service begins at 5:45 PM followed by our Shabbat service at 7 PM. The upcoming dates are:
December 28
January 25
February 22
March 29
April 26

GENERATION TAI DECEMBER SHABBAT DINNER

Generation TAI is a group formed with the mission of bringing together the Temple's younger adults ages 20-40ish. Please join Generation TAI for a Shabbat dinner in the library on Friday, December 7th, following services. This month we are having Jewish breakfast for dinner. Please bring your favorite breakfast dish, such as bagels and cream cheese, bialys, cheese blintzes, breakfast kugel...the list goes on. If you can't bring a dish, you can make a \$7 donation.

Please email Reva Schottenstein, rschott86@hotmail.com, or call Reva at (859) 221-9473 or you can post on the Generation TAI Facebook page to let us know if you are planning to attend and if you are bringing a dish. Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 5th.

MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Membership and Outreach Committee has been busy planning several events for Spring 2013 for both our new and prospective members and the congregation at large. Last winter, we hosted the Temple's first ever Cholent Cook-off, which turned out to be a big hit. This year, mark your calendars for a Kugel Cook-off, scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2013 at 6:15 p.m. We hope to have many kugel entries, both sweet and savory.

In April we will be hosting our annual New Member's Brunch to welcome new members that have joined the Temple within the last year. For the month of May we have planned a Mystery Wine Tasting, with dinner out to follow. Look for more details about these events in the months to come.

Happy Chanukah to all of our Temple families. We wish you joy and happiness during this season of beauty and light.

VODKA & LATKES PARTY

Start the Festival of Lights with a little fun and join our community in celebrating the first night of Chanukah with a Vodka & Latkes Party on Saturday, December 8th at 7:00 PM in the Temple's social hall. Come and enjoy a signature cocktail and indulge in delicious latkes made by the Temple's Brotherhood. Drinks, salad and dessert will also be provided. We encourage you to enter the latke contest by making and serving latkes from your own special recipe. Votes will be cast by quarters for the favorite latkes, so please bring your spare change! A prize will be awarded to the entry that garners the most quarters. You can also enter a \$1 Raffle to win a basket that includes the ingredients to make the signature cocktail. Bring your family menorah to share with your table.

The cost is \$12 per person by Dec. 5th and \$15 at the door. Please RSVP to Sandee at 859-269-2979. If you wish to enter the contest, please send the entry form that

was attached to the invitation to Sandee by Wednesday, December 5th, in order to guarantee sufficient supplies and adequate space to set up. For additional information or if you have questions, please contact Starr Gantz at singantz@yahoo.com.

CHAVURAT CHOCHMA PROGRAM

We will meet again on December 7, 2012 at 11:30 AM in the social hall for an interesting program following lunch. Cost is \$6 per person. While this program was designed for those sixty and over, anyone may attend. RSVP to Sandee by December 5, 2012 at 269-2979.

KOLLEL STUDY GROUP

Kollel meets at 9 AM every two weeks in the TAI Library. The group explores cultural, ethical, and historical aspects of our 4000-year tradition. Its emphasis is on dialogue and exploration. Please join us any time. December 1, 15, & 29 and January 12 & 26.

TORAH STUDY

Rabbi Kline conducts the study of the Tanakh (Bible) using the Jewish Study Bible on alternate Saturdays at 9 a.m. in the Library. The discussion is always lively and informative, and you can join the group anytime. December 8, & 22 and January 5 & 19.

PARSHA

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 AM to take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Rabbi will lead some discussions and everyone will take turns on December 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 and January 5, 12, 19 & 26. We will have Parsha with worship on December 15 and January 19. See you in the library!

Announcing the Annual Temple Adath Israel Chanukkah Carnival

When: Sunday, December 9TH, 11:30-1 PM
Where: Temple Adath Israel Social Hall
What: Chanukah-themed games, prizes, latkes, pizza, and baked goods!
Why: To have fun and to support the Social Action Committee and the TAI Religious School. This year's proceeds of the carnival will go toward our Habitat for Humanity Interfaith build.

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HELP TAI and share the joy when your favorite team wins by pledging to donate to

the Temple for every victory. You may use any team, at any level, in any sport, and you decide how much to donate per victory. Get creative and include bonuses you designate for post-season wins and championships. You could PLEDGE PER WIN - For example, last season's UK basketball team won 38 games and the national championship. If you had pledged \$2 per win, you would have owed TAI \$76. OR

If you had pledged \$1 for regular-season wins, \$2 for postseason wins, a \$5 bonus for the SEC championship and a \$10 bonus for the national title, you would have owed TAI \$61.

You could PLEDGE FOR PLAYERS - for individual performance, in any manner you prescribe. Some examples: home runs for a baseball player, touchdowns for a football player, points and/or rebounds for a basketball player, event victory and/or top 10 finishes for a golfer or race-car driver, goals scored by your kid in his or her soccer games.

KNITTERS & CROCHETERS!

Join the Caring Connections Committee in making "comfort shawls". These shawls - made with love - will be given to fellow congregants in need of solace. Any type of shawl welcome! Work at any speed. Yarn will be provided, if you like. Interested? Please contact: Deb Kratzer, Co-chair of the Caring Connections Committee at dlkratzer@gmail.com or 223-8601.

ASHLAND ELEMENTARY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS, CLOTHING AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

To volunteer, contact Maureen Wrobel at 272-4491. All information is on the bulletin board in the main hallway.

Also, all types of clothing are needed especially for larger children and older children. School supplies are needed and box tops for the school to purchase needed items.

Information for all of the above is located on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Temple. Copies are available in the magazine rack for you to pick up. ☆

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Judy & Lou Hersh***
 Annette & Ken Mayer
 Sheila & Robert Orbach
 Rob Seibert

*In memory of Ned Rosenbaum—
 for the enjoyment he
 provided in his *Shalom* articles.

**In honor of her father, Ernest
 Guter.

***In memory of Isabel Rusoffo.

Our ad sizes have changed please review the new dimensions!

Advertise Your Business

The *Shalom* Newspaper is published ten times per year.
 It is mailed to over 1,200 local businesses and households.
Shalom is distributed free of charge and is the most effective,
 cost-efficient way to reach Central Kentucky's Jewish community.

Month-To-Month Rates

Full Page 10.167" x 9.95" \$220 BW \$300 Color	1/2 Page Vertical 5" x 9.95" \$132 BW \$215 Color	1/2 Page Horizontal 10.167" x 4.9" \$132 BW \$215 Color
1/4 Page 5" x 4.9" \$88 BW \$132 Color	1/8 Page 5" x 2.38" \$60 BW \$105 Color	Business Card 3.277" x 2.15" \$40 BW \$82 Color

Center Spread 21"x11.42" \$440 BW • \$600 Color

*All other ads are billed at \$12 per column inch.

*Ad production is available at \$15 per hour.

Rates for contracted terms (per issue)**

Size	5x	10x	w/Color
Full	210	198	+75
1/2 Vert.	125	121	+75
1/2 Horiz.	125	121	+75
1/4	82	77	+40
1/8	55	50	+40
Bus. Card	38	28	+40
Dbl. Truck	420	396	+160

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
 1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 112
 Lexington, KY 40502
 (859) 268-0672

December 2012/January 2013 *Shalom* | 23



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"

Joe Miller

By Dianne M. Bazell

Once again, we commemorate the life and legacy of a Temple member. Joseph Herman Miller died a year ago May 22 and left the Temple a generous bequest earmarked for the Dr. Sherman E. and Fannie H. Miller Memorial Fund, which provides means for participation in Jewish and Jewish-related activities by Temple members, especially Temple youth.

Joe was a native Lexingtonian. After graduating from what was then known as University High, he enrolled at Vanderbilt University, where he majored in history and met his future wife, Suzanne. After graduation, he brought his bride back to Lexington, where they both attended graduate school at the University of Kentucky. Joe completed law school with high distinction, first in his class, and a member of the Order of the Coif and the Kentucky Law Journal. He then served three years in the army, attaining the rank of captain. Returning again to Lexington,

he joined the law firm of Gess Mattingly & Atchison in 1972, where he worked until his death.

Joe expressed his commitment to the Jewish values of learning and justice in his professional life and his considerable volunteer work within the Jewish community and throughout Lexington. He served as president of Temple Adath Israel, overseeing the major renovation of the Temple building in the mid-1980's. Suzanne recalls, "He was very proud of the work he did, first as building chairman, and then as president. Every Saturday, he and the kids made a tour of the work in progress. He loved to point out to them where the Sunday School rooms, the youth group room, and so forth, would be." She added, "Joe taught a Sunday School course on cults for many years that was one of the most popular classes of all time." And, indeed, it remains in the curriculum to this day.

Joe's commitment to literacy, learning, freedom of the mind, and social justice, as well as the leadership he exerted in

advancing these causes, extended to the wider community. He was a founding member of The Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning, where he served on its board beginning in 1990, chairing it from 1993-2003. He served on the board of Central Kentucky Legal Services, Inc., which he chaired from 1985-89, and in 1991 he received the prestigious Henry T. Duncan Award from the Fayette County Bar Association in recognition of his outstanding character and service to the community.

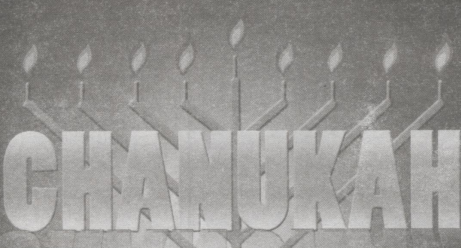
From 1978-2009, Joe was a member of the board of the Lexington Public Library and served at various times as its chair, vice-chair, and treasurer. There he was recognized, according to resolutions in his honor and memory, as "a stalwart advocate of customer service and patron rights," as well as "often a dissenting but reasoned voice on the Board, sharing opinions that might be unpopular with his peers but were in the best interest of Library patrons." In 2010, the Library established the Joseph H. Miller Customer Service

Award in his honor "to annually recognize a staff member who provides exemplary customer service, advocacy for customers, fortitude in the face of adversity, and courage."

Commitment to Judaism, Jewish values, and the Jewish community—past, present, and future—was central to Joe's life and multi-generational in the Miller family. His grandparents, Sam and Ethel Herman, of Winchester, Kentucky, helped found Ohavay Zion Synagogue, where Joe's cousin, Larry, remains a member. Joe's parents, Dr. Sherman and Fannie Herman Miller, helped build the Temple's Religious School, where Fannie taught for 62 years. Joe's and Suzanne's three children, Stephen, Rebecca, and Deborah Miller Froh, all attended Sunday School and became bar/bat mitzvah in the Temple—Stephen was the first bar mitzvah in the new building. Joe and his sisters, Freda, Samye Miller Stith, and Faith Miller Cole, grew up in the Temple, as well, and Samye also

see Joe Miller, page 25

Celebrating 27 years of Chabad Activities in Lexington



CHANUKAH

Joseph-Beth Booksellers

GRAND MENORAH
table lit by
Library of Kentucky
at the Old Capitol

REFRESHMENTS
Seder
Hot drinks
and more

Tuesday December 11th
7:00pm

161 Lexington Green Circle
Lexington, KY 40503

Another Jewish Awareness Program sponsored by Chabad of Kentucky
For more information please call 502.235.5770 or email rabbi@chabadky.com or visit us online at chabadky.com



TOYOTA | LEXUS | SCION

111 Mechanic Street, Lexington, KY 40507

(859) 233-1173

Website: www.lowells.us

Email: lowells@lowells.us



SPARE PARTS & EQUIPMENT

60 Years of Service

346 Richmond Avenue

Lexington, KY 40502-1458

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

Mitchell Barnes - Owner

Joe Miller (from page 24)

served as Temple president. Joe's daughter, Deborah, confirmed that three generations of Millers have held the Torah scroll on Yom Kippur, and that this meant a great deal to both her and her Dad.

Their ancestors from Vilna, Lithuania were lost in the Holocaust, and Joe made it part of his life's work to trace them—through considerable research including census records and a trip to Israel—so that they would be remembered. For its part, Joe's memory, too, will be kept alive, and not only by our records: his fourth grandchild, Ari Joseph Miller, born this past summer, is named after his *zaydeh*.

I will add a personal note of grati-

tude, not only for Joe's gifts to the Temple, but for his courtesy to me. When I began attending budget meetings, and then Endowment Committee meetings, in order better to understand the workings and challenges of the Temple, Joe always made me feel welcome and in place. He and Pete Sobel encouraged my questions and insisted that I be included when drafts of the minutes were circulated, so that I could review and comment on them. He helped me find my place in the Temple and in the community.

Next time you're at the Temple, take a look at the plaques next to the Sisterhood bookstore and at the entrance to the Religious

School. They are small but significant reminders of the generations of love, care, and generosity that have created and sustained our community and brought it to this season. ✪

Hadassah

Announces Changes

JNF Chair for Tree and Water Certificates -
Elise Mandel

Cards and Certificates Chair -
Susan Cobin

Book Club co-chair -
Peggy Leep

Keepers of the Gate co-chair -
Lynn Furness

VP for Fund Raising -
Betty Nigoff

Co-programming VP -
Lori Bernard

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

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

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

Thank you for your support.

Thank you to:

Linda & Leon Ravvin for their gift in memory of Ted Friedman.

Tamara Ohayon for her donation to the Camp Shalom Fund in honor of Lily Kaufman's bat mitzvah.

Hanna Smith for her donation to PJ Library in honor of the birth of Talia & Rabbi Moshe Smolkin's daughter.

JFB Board members for their combined gift to PJ Library in appreciation of former staff members Talia Smolkin and Gayle Bourne.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

December 2012/January 2013 *Shalom* | 25

Around the Community

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

Mazal Tov to:

EmmaMarie Reynolds, a senior at Woodford County High School, was honored by the Woodford County Board of Education as a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist on October 23rd.

Talia and Rabbi Moshe Smolkin on the birth of their daughter **Ashira**.

Janet Tamaren & Jeff Davidson, on the birth of their grandson, **Oliver Max Snyder**. The proud parents are **Nina Davidson Snyder and Aron Snyder**.

Lynn & Jim Furness, on the birth of their granddaughter, **Miriam Newburge**. The proud parents are **Scott & Susan Newburge** of Rochester, NY. Siblings are **Sam and Layah**.

Sidney & Shawn Blumenthal of Carmel, IN on the birth of twins, **Dane Jay & Ava Scher**. **Bob & Libby Scher** are the grandparents, **Phyllis & Stanley Scher** are the great-grandparents.

Jenny and Travis Sims, on the birth of their twin sons **Samuel Cole & Marion**

Brock, Janet & Ken Taff are the grandparents.

Nina Davidson Snyder & Aron Snyder, on the birth of their son, **Oliver Max. Janet Tamaren and Jeff Davidson** are the grandparents.

Morris Rozen, on the marriage of his daughter, **Alycia Rozen to Jeffrey Kasting**.

Steve and Judy Craft on the engagement of their daughter, **Leah Michal**, to **Matt Braffman**, son of **Jerry and Elaine Braffman**.

Judy Worell on the graduation of her grandson, **Alexander Pryse**, from the University of Toronto with High Distinction. Alex completed a dual major in Political Science and Spanish, and will be continuing on to graduate school.

Condolences to:

The **Bear** family on the death of **Hanna Bear**.

Cindy Ellsworth on the death of her father **Harold Brenner**.

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

Help Federation save money. Inform us of your plans and prevent the U.S. Postal Service from charging us for returned mail and address change notices.

Before you go, contact the office and let us know if you would like your mail held or sent to a different address temporarily.

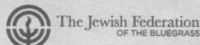
Contact Tamara at (859) 268-0672 or tamara@jewishlexington.org

Are you on the Jewish Federation's email list?

We send announcements and special event details 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

Thank you to
Shaindy Alexander
and
RINGLEY Natural Teething Toys

for donating
the wonderful
teethers to
PJ Library
and Jewish
Federation
of the
Bluegrass
for our
"Shalom Baby"
gift bags.

RiNGLEY™
Natural Teething Toys

RiNGLEY is the original natural teether that combines two effective teething tools: untreated Maple wood and 100% Organic terrycloth. Available in 7 different styles. To find a store near you go to www.ringley.ca



show
your
support

Our advertisers support
this paper.

Please support our advertisers.

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

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



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS





December Community Calendar

- **JFB - Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass** - www.jewishlexington.org
1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 112 • 268-0672 • Robert Grossman, President
- **OZS - Ohavay Zion Synagogue** - www.ozs.org
2048 Edgewater Court • 266-8050 • Jonathan Glixon, President
Minyan Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:45 p.m. Tuesdays are D'vine Minyan: wine at 5:00 p.m., service follows. Friday evening rotating Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 p.m., Kids' Shabbat 5:15 p.m., Shabbat dinners 6:00 p.m., Young OZS-ers' Shabbat dinners 6:00 p.m. Check OZS Google calendar for monthly schedules. Shabbat Services Saturdays 9:30 a.m.
- **TAI - Temple Adath Israel** - www.lextai.org
124 N. Ashland Avenue • 269-2979 • Judy Engelberg, 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
Jane Chaput, President • chaput1@windstream.net
- **HAV - The Lexington Havurah** - www.lexhavurah.uscjhst.net
338-5725 • Stanley Saxe, President • sabastanley@insightbb.com • Shabbat Services monthly, call for schedule.
- **BB - B'nai B'rith Mid-America Region, Stanley Rose Lodge #0289**
1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 112 • Leon Cooper, President • leon@gedisit.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Hadassah Book Club		Lunch and Learn with our local rabbis	JFB Board Mtgs			
25	26	27	28	29	30	December 1
B'nai B'rith Brunch		JFS Advisory Committee Meeting (Members only)		JFS/JFB Leisure Club		
JFB Yiddish Class						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
JFB Winter Dinner	JFB TOT/Community Visit to Stewart Home HAV Chanukah Party	Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits Chabad Chanukah at Joseph Beth	TAI Sisterhood Lunch and Learn Family Chanukah Party at Joseph Beth	Hadassah Chanukah Party		YBJ Chanukah Party
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
JFB Yiddish Class Hadassah Book Club		Lunch and Learn with our local rabbis	JFB Board Mtgs			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5



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• 1050 Chinese Road, Suite 112 • Leon Cooper, President • leon@gedisit.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		January 1				
JFB Yiddish Class		Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits JFS Advisory Committee Meeting (Members only)	JFB Lecture by Rep. from UANI			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				YBJ Men Only Cooking Class	OZS Bar Mitzvah	OZS Bar Mitzvah
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
JFB Yiddish Class YBJ Women Only Yoga Class	Federation Office Closed Lexington March for Freedom		JFB Board Mtgs			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
TAI on Rye Hadassah Book Club		JFB Lunch and Learn with our local rabbis				
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
JFB Yiddish Class		JFS Advisory Committee Meeting (Members only)			OZS Bar Mitzvah	OZS Bar Mitzvah
3	4	5	6	7	8	9