

Shalom

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Around the Community p. 26
- Ask A Rabbi: Rabbi Moshe Smolkin p. 4
- Bikkur Cholim p. 9
- B'tayavon: Vivian's Zucchini Soup p. 17
- Campaign News: Champagne Brunch p. 7
- Director's Report p. 6
- Editorial p. 16
- Havurah News p. 20
- Israel21C p. 13
- JFS: At Your Service p. 7
- Letter to the Editor p. 16
- Lori Bernard to Leave Community p. 9
- Nominations for JFB Officers and Board p. 2
- Ohavay Zion Synagogue News p. 20
- Sim Shalom News p. 25
- Statement by Consul General Sideman p. 3
- Szekely Contest Winning Essays p. 10
- Talia Smolkin Appointed to JFB Staff p. 9
- Temple Adath Israel News p. 22
- Walter Solomon Appointed BBYO Chair p. 3

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

President.....Michael Grossman
Vice President.....Evalyn Block
Secretary.....Hanna Smith
Treasurer.....Gary Yarus
At Large Executive Committee Members.....Amy Faust Mayer, Seth Salomon

Nominated for a second three year term.....Jenn Garlin, Elissa Weinstein
Nominated for a first three year term.....Gayle Bourne, Linda Ravvin, Ken Slepian
Appointed for a first three-year term by TAI.....Dianne Bazell
Appointed for a second three-year term by B'nai B'rith.....Marty Solomon
Appointed for a second three year term by Hadassah.....Minna Katz-Brown

One appointment from OZS is pending.

Thank you to retiring Board members Bob Grossman, Larry Kant, Jenny Rice, and Kae Schennberg. The Nominating Committee included Jane Chaput, Bob Grossman, and Susan Cobin. Elections will take place at the Annual Meeting on May 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the Federation, 1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 112. Additional nominees will be accepted at the meeting from any member of the Federation as long as the nominee is eligible to serve, has agreed to serve if elected, and the nomination is submitted in writing and seconded by at least four members of the Federation present at the meeting.

Walter Solomon appointed BBYO chairperson



Walter Solomon was elected Chair of BBYO's International Board of Directors for a two-year term beginning July 1. He has served on the Board since 2008 and held previous roles of Vice Chair and Treasurer. As a teen, Solomon served on BBYO's International teen Board as Aleph Godol of District 5 AZA (1977-78) and attended ILTC in 1977, which he considers to be a formative leadership experience. He also served as an advisor to Cincinnati BBYO's chapter in the 1980's.

Walter is also the Ashland vice president and chief growth officer since August 2005. Solomon is responsible for the company's enterprise strategy. His team has mapped Ashland's transformation from a U.S. regional oil refiner into a global specialty chemical company and leader in sustainable chemistry. Solomon joined Ashland in 2002 as senior vice president and general manager of Ashland Consumer Markets' (Valvoline) Do-It-Yourself business unit. While in that role, his team grew profitability and premium lubricant volume each year. Prior to joining Ashland, Solomon spent 20 years growing both large and small companies. His first 10 years were in a series of brand management roles with Procter & Gamble, ultimately directing marketing in P&G's hair care and juice drink businesses. During that time, Pantene* grew from a small, boutique brand into a \$100+ million business en route to becoming one of P&G's billion-dollar global brands. He spent the next 10 years leading privately funded startup companies in the healthcare and software industries, including an *Inc. 500** company and an internet technology incubator. A native of Charleston, S.C., Solomon has served as president, chairman or vice chairman of the board of trustees of four not-for-profit organizations and as a board member for six others. He received his bachelor's degree in commerce from the University of Virginia.

Solomon released a book in March that is largely autobiographical entitled Cubicle Tales.

Statement released by the Consul General

Yaron Sideman

The Hamas deal poisons peace talks.

Longstanding conflicts can be resolved only when deeds lead to trust.

May 1, 2014 12:00 AM

A prominent Israeli philosopher once taught me that one should be able to discuss any issue, no matter how complex, in simple, though not simplistic language.

Allow me to try to explain, in simple terms, the roots of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and what makes it so difficult to resolve.

At the heart of the dispute are two diametrically opposed national movements and narratives, both claiming ownership to the same piece of land. Questions of who came first or who has stronger religious, emotional and historical ties to that land further deepen the divide and complicate the task of reconciling the two narratives. In order for reconciliation to occur and a path toward peace to be forged, both sides need to make painful compromises that include giving up parts of their narratives.

This is an excruciatingly difficult and long process. In order for it to succeed, it needs to be constantly fueled with confidence-building measures that instill in the peoples on both sides a clear sense that the other party's intentions are genuine, and that difficult measures which they are required to take today will pay off in the future.

Long before maps are unfurled and borders discussed, it is critically important that a basic pillar be firmly established on both sides: recognizing the fundamental right of the other side to exist, whatever the final borders.

That recognition must start from the top, but it has to trickle down and become embedded in the collective mindset of the people. It is the basis that will support any future agreement. Without it, no agreement can hold. This is why when one party chooses to align itself with a terrorist organization that does not recognize the right of the other to exist, and which openly calls for its destruction, it deals a death blow to attempts at reconciliation and to any prospect of peace.

That is exactly what Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, with whom Israel has been negotiating, did last week when he entered into an agreement to form a unity government with Hamas, a terrorist organization that calls for Israel's destruction and that has, regrettably, an impressive track record of raining down thousands of rockets and missiles on Israeli civilians in towns and cities, proving it means what it says. How can Israeli citizens be seriously expected to feel comfortable with Palestinian leadership and have confidence that it really wants peace, when it teams up with an organization that repeatedly calls for their death? For the past week I have been grappling with this question and searching for an answer that can be conveyed straightforwardly. Here's what I have come up with:

Confidence is measured in deeds and not words. Let President Abbas disassociate himself from Hamas, stop celebrating murderers as heroes and begin to teach his people the need for co-existence and mutual respect. He, and the world, will then see Israeli citizens ready and willing to meet him halfway.

Yaron Sideman is Consul General of Israel to the Mid-Atlantic Region of the United States, which comprises Pennsylvania, Ohio, Delaware, West Virginia, Kentucky and Southern New Jersey. He is based in Philadelphia.

Ask a Rabbi

By Rabbi Moshe Smolkin

Q: *We recently celebrated Passover, and my child was questioning why God needed to kill all the first-born in Egypt. How should I respond?*

A: According to the Torah, "In the middle of the night the Lord struck down all the first-born in the land of Egypt, from the first-born of Pharaoh who sat on the throne to the first-born of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the first-born of the cattle." (Exodus 12:29, JPS Translation)

This is a challenging topic. Why indeed did all the first-born need to die? What could the little babies who were first born possibly have done to deserve death? What had the first-born captive, perhaps not even an Egyptian, done to deserve death? And what had the cattle done?

There have been many traditional Jewish attempts to answer this question:

Some have said that the society as a whole was involved, and that when Pharaoh made his wicked decrees, not only did the population not rise up in protest, but they even participated in the oppression and murder. As such, the whole population is guilty and is deserving of punishment. But what had the babies, the captives, and the cattle done to deserve this punishment?

Some have said that when the non-Israelite captives saw the oppression of the Israelites, they rejoiced, and so they too were deserving of punishment. But is death an ethical punishment for ridicule?

Some have said that since the cattle were worshiped by the Egyptians, the first-born of the cattle needed to be killed so that people would realize that they were not in fact gods and could be punished. But did all the first-born cattle need to die just because misguided people were worshiping them? Was that their fault?

There have also been modern, non-traditional responses to this question:

Some say that just as the United States took drastic measures in World War II, dropping atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, so too did God take drastic measures. In both cases innocent people were killed, but sometimes a utilitarian ethic demands that moral choice. But could an all-powerful God not have been a little more discerning in the retribution in order to spare the lives of the innocent babies, captives and cattle?

Some say that due to the lack of historical evidence corroborating the death of the first-born, the narrative may not be historically accurate, and so we do not need to worry about the possible injustice since God did not in fact kill all the first-born. This solves the issue of God's justice. God is no longer responsible since God did not in fact kill all of the first born. But why then did our ancestors write the narrative, and why do we continue to share it?

Some say that the narrative is a form of protest against injustice. They hurt us, and we will at least imagine them being severely punished as a result. But what does sharing the narrative mean in this context?

Through the many Jewish responses, we can see that our people have been asking this question for a long, long time, and we as a people have wrestled with the issues involved. Through this grappling, through this questioning, we fulfill our role as Israel: "Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with beings divine and human, and have prevailed." (Genesis 32:29, JPS Translation)

Both sharing this story and questioning this story are indispensable parts of Passover and of being Jewish.

Sharing the story is fundamental. It connects us with Jews across the world, and it connects us with our Jewish ancestors and with our Jewish descendents. Without knowledge of our central narrative, how can we have a voice at the table?

Questioning, though, is perhaps the most essential part of the Seder. Our ancestors thought it was so important that our children question that they structured the Seder to prompt questioning, and they even gave us a few questions asked by a few different personalities to help us get going with our very own questions.

Questioning our world is a core part of Judaism.

Isidor Rabi, a Nobel laureate in physics, once said: "My mother made me a scientist without ever intending it. Every other Jewish mother in Brooklyn would ask her child after school: 'So? Did you learn anything today?' But not my mother. She always asked me a different question. 'Izzy,' she would say, 'did you ask a good question today?' That difference - asking good questions - made me become a scientist!" (From The New York Times)

Our questions are so very important, perhaps more important than the answers that we may give. So, please continue to encourage your child's questioning. Share with them that Jews throughout the ages, from generation to generation, have been wrestling with the very same question that your child is asking. Share with them that this questioning is essential to Judaism. Share with them our hope as Jewish parents, that through their questioning, they will become the thoughtful mensches that we dream for them to be.

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 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.

Director's Report

By Judy Wortman, JFB Executive Director

Volunteers to be honored at Federation's Annual Meeting on May 28

We have all heard the gloomy pronouncements that volunteerism is dead or at least waning. At the Federation, this is certainly not the case. We are fortunate to have a cadre of active volunteers – and contrary to popular belief, they are not all over 60. We will be honoring three remarkable volunteers who are our 2014 Award Winners and also saying goodbye to 3 outstanding Board members who are rotating off our Board after serving two 3-year terms.

The President's Award will be going to Bob Grossman, Federation's immediate past president. Bob also served for many years as our able Board treasurer and an active member of the campaign and budget committees. He is an appointee to the Board from Ohavay Zion Synagogue. It is almost impossible to imagine a Board meeting without Bob's active participation. I am sure that Bob will continue to provide outstanding leadership to our Jewish community.

The Cookie Wencker Volunteer of the Year Award will be going to Marcia Blacker. Marcia has been an active volunteer with the Federation for decades. She served as editor, writer, and member of the Shalom Editorial Committee for many years. She has been very active in the Women's Philanthropy Division and was the primary writer and director of two mini-comedies that entertained our women donors at annual events in 2011 and 2014.

The Young Leadership Award will be going to Seth Salomon, who serves on the Federation's Executive Committee and Board. Seth, the son of Simone and Arthur Salomon, has learned the lessons of communal leadership from his parents and immediately immersed himself in volunteerism in the Jewish and general communities as soon as he returned to Lexington. Seth is a knowledgeable leader who has helped the Federation Board to understand financial and endowment issues. Always ready to help, Seth has endeared himself to all. Seth's wife Erin is also a Federation volunteer; she serves on the Jewish Family Services Advisory Committee.

Leaving the Board this May are Bob Grossman, Larry Kant and Kae Schennberg. Larry has distinguished himself as the Chair of the Community Relations Committee for the past four years. Kae is a past Vice President and has served on several different committees during her tenure on the Board. All three will be greatly missed.

JFS: At Your Service

By Mimi Kaufman, JFS Director

Springtime is a reminder of renewal and growth.

We are coming out of hibernation, shedding those extra layers, and experiencing both warmth and sunshine from the longer daylight hours. For some, spring is a season to engage in the ritual of spring-cleaning or the planting of gardens. We are never too young or too old to renew ourselves. It is important to do so because it is through renewal that we explore new paths, see life from different perspectives, open ourselves to fresh ideas, and thereby change ourselves and our world.

Now that the memories of a bone-chilling winter have melted away, people are once again getting out and about. Some go for long walks and visit neighbors; others hit the road with their bike or car. The best part about spring is the heightened sense of vitality.

Rather than write about a topic or give unsolicited advice this month, I would like to ask for help. In Judaism, the concept of mitzvot reminds us of the importance of taking care of each other. All around us, there are plenty of opportunities to make a difference. Closer to home, Jewish Family Services could use your help if you are interested and willing to share your talents and time.

Specifically, I am looking for volunteers for two upcoming projects. The first is for people to share their talents in leading small groups with any and all kinds of artistic projects. This could be anything from leading art projects with small groups of people, to leading a group in the reading of a play, to teaching a group how to do a simple watercolor painting. The only caveat is that this would be occurring in the daytime. I realize that this may be a limiting factor for some great volunteers in our community. The plan is to start a program "Arts and Adventures" here at the office once a month.

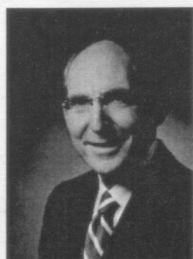
The other request is for volunteers to become friendly visitors (see the Bikkur Cholim article that is in this month's publication)

Our creative energy- whether it be in music, art, language, cooking, entertaining, or business is a gift worth sharing. When we reach out to others through acts of kindness without expecting anything in return, we definitely renew ourselves and our world.

Campaign News

Champagne Brunch for Major Donors

A champagne brunch for major donors will be held on Sunday, June 8 at 11:30 am at the home of Linda and Dr. Leon Ravvin in Lexington. The guest speaker will be Dr. Eli Capilouto, President of the University of Kentucky. Guests will have the opportunity to make a minimum gift of \$500 per person or \$1000 per couple to the 2014 Annual Campaign. The couvert for the brunch is \$18. For information or reservations, please contact Judy Wortman at 268-0672 or jfb@jewishlexington.org.



Dr. Eli Capilouto became the 12th President of the University of Kentucky on July 1, 2011. As President, Dr. Capilouto has intently engaged with university and community stakeholders to renew our founding mission and vision as a public, Flagship, Land-Grant and Research University. This covenant with the Commonwealth calls upon the University of

Kentucky to be a guidepost for the state through a multi-faceted mission of teaching, research, service and health care.

To embolden the institution's enduring legacy, Dr. Capilouto has led a process to enrich UK's academic experience by increasing institutional investments in merit-based financial aid and expanding the University Honors Program. Because of his priorities, the University has enrolled 175 National Merit Scholars in the last two years – tripling the number of incoming Scholars.

Since Dr. Capilouto's arrival, UK has initiated more than \$620 million in ongoing and approved capital construction to rapidly enhance and expand a quality living/learning experience on the University campus.

Under his leadership, the University engaged in an innovative public/private partnership to revitalize the core of campus and create modern living/learning communities. By 2016, twelve residential facilities across campus will add more than 5,700 beds and 200 active learning spaces. Thus far, the estimated \$348 million investment – more than two-thirds of the projected \$500 million partnership – will transform the way we house, educate and mentor our students.

In addition to the investment in the residential core, the University is self-financing three capital projects essential to its academic and financial future: A \$65 million renovated and expanded Gatton College of Business and Economics supported by donors and private philanthropy; a new \$100 Academic Science Building financed, in-part, through a \$65 million partnership with UK Athletics; and a \$110 million revitalized Commonwealth Stadium funded with Athletics revenue.

Research at the University of Kentucky is a dynamic enterprise encompassing both traditional scholarship and emerging technologies. UK's research faculty, staff and students are establishing UK as one of the nation's most prolific public research universities in the nation. In 2013, UK's Markey Cancer Center was designated as a National Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute; placing UK among an elite group of 22 research universities with the triple crown of federal research awards: NCI-designation, the Clinical and Translational Sciences Award and a federally supported Alzheimer's Disease Center.

Dr. Capilouto is committed to enhancing UK's research enterprise and graduate education programs through high-quality partnerships, both domestic and international, and by recruiting and rewarding top scholars across the world.

Essential to the service mission of the University of Kentucky is the advanced patient care and outreach provided by UK HealthCare. As the flagship academic-medical center in the region, UK serves patients through a network of health care professionals around the Commonwealth while providing acute, sub-specialty medical care at UK Chandler Hospital.

A native of Montgomery, Alabama, Dr. Capilouto previously served as Provost of the University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB) and Dean of the UAB School of Public Health -- a period of remarkable growth and transformation at one of the leading academic and health sciences institutions in the South.

While in Birmingham, Dr. Capilouto was actively engaged in civic roles including service on the Birmingham Jewish Federation, the Red Cross, Mt. Brook Schools and the YMCA. He also served as President of the Downtown Kiwanis Club, the largest in the world, and Temple Emanu-El.

Dr. Capilouto holds several undergraduate and graduate degrees from schools within the University of Alabama system, and a Doctorate in Health Policy and Management from Harvard University. He and his wife, Dr. Mary Lynne Capilouto (D.M.D.) a former Dean of the UAB School of Dentistry, have one daughter.

Lori Bernard, Coordinator of Informal Jewish Education to leave the community

By Judy B. Wortman

Lori Bernard will be leaving Lexington with her husband, Rabbi Marc Kline, later this month. It has been my sincere pleasure to have had Lori on our staff team for the past year and a half and on our Board and CRC Committee prior to that. Lori's impact on our community has been profound – particularly since her tenure here was relatively short. She has brought a level of professionalism and creativity that is unparalleled. Under her supervision, our PJ Library program has grown to 130 enrollees, far beyond our expectations, and she has developed many PJ Library programs for young families. She has created brand new programs, such as *A Taste of Honey* and *One Book, One Community*. She has ably coordinated Yom HaShoah, Yom Ha Atzmaut, Global Day of Jewish Learning, and *Tzeason of Tzedakah* for the last two years. On a personal level, she is irreplaceable as a dear friend and colleague. While good-byes are terribly difficult, I wish Lori and Rabbi Kline all the best. They will be deeply missed.

Talia Smolkin Appointed as Coordinator of Informal Jewish Education

Judy Wortman announces that Talia Smolkin has been re-appointed as Coordinator of Informal Jewish Education for the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass beginning June 1, 2014. Talia had previously held that position and the position of Jewish Family Services Director before her maternity leave in 2012. Talia and her husband, Rabbi Moshe Smolkin, are the proud parents of an adorable toddler.

The Smolkins moved to Lexington from Los Angeles five years ago. Since that time, Talia received her Master's in Social Work degree (MSW) from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University. After growing up in Jewish camps and day schools, she attended the University of California Santa Cruz where she received a BA in Psychology. After graduation, Talia worked in development at Hillel in Santa Cruz and later at the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles.

While in social work school, Talia had two different field placements in Lexington. The first was with Jewish Family Services where she worked closely with former director, Paula Clancy. The second year she interned at Hospice of the Bluegrass.

Talia's responsibilities will include directing PJ Library and the coordination and development of Jewish educational programs such as Yom HaAtzmaut, Yom HaShoah, Tzeason of Tzedakah, and Global Day of Jewish Learning. Judy Wortman stated that she is thrilled that that Talia will continue to provide the excellent programs that she and Lori Bernard have developed for our Jewish community.

Bikkur Cholim

By Mimi Kaufman, JFS Director

There are a number of people in our Jewish Community who have become increasingly isolated as they age. Some are choosing not to drive; some have become a little less mobile. So what can we do as a community to help? In Judaism, "Bikkur Cholim" or "visiting the sick" is considered a mitzvah that can help people heal both physically and psychologically.

Many communities around the country have friendly visitor services. Friendly visitors are volunteers that have been trained by local professionals on the different aspects of the aging process and on how to visit with people in their homes. These volunteers go into the homes of individuals to provide companionship. They are an extension of Jewish Family Services. Volunteers act as the eyes and ears of the professional, making them aware of situations that may need more assistance than the volunteer is trained to handle.

Friendly visitor programs benefit everyone. They help Jewish Family Services by reaching more people who may benefit from services; they help the person who is isolated. An unexpected benefit is that the volunteer can enjoy the wisdom of an older new friend. We all can learn from each other. It is a win-win for everyone involved.

If you are interested in becoming part of a new group of Bikkur Cholim volunteers, please come to the first training and informational session. It will be held on Sunday, June 22nd at the Federation office. We will start at 10 a.m. and aim to finish by noon. Coming to the training session does not commit you to becoming a volunteer. Come and learn about the program.

For more information on either being a volunteer or receiving this service please call me at 269-8244 or email at jfs@jewishlexington.org.

The 12th Annual Emilie Szekely Holocaust Awareness Writing Project

Contemporary Lessons of the Holocaust

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

The *Emilie Szekely Holocaust Awareness Writing Project* welcomes the contribution of students from the Central Kentucky area.

The following are the winners, as submitted, for this year:

Nicole Griffin
8th Grade
Christ the King School
Teacher: Mr. Dombrowski
First Place Winner, Middle School

My sorrow is continually before me

My teacher, Mr. Dombrowski showed us pictures from his experience in Europe. He visited many different places where traces of the Holocaust were left, and are now seen today by thousands of tourists searching for answers about what life was really like from 1933-1945.

We looked at pictures from Poland. When Mr. Dombrowski was in Poland, he visited concentration and extermination camps. The first concentration camp we looked at was Plaszów. The Germans destroyed this concentration camp, leaving behind no remains; but now a memorial stands in its place. The memorial is a statue of five people, and a stone rests on the people's heads, giving the idea that the stone is crushing them. The people also have a gash through their hearts. To me, the heavy stone crushing the people is like the severity the Germans put on the Jews; the severity that crushed people's hopes when things kept getting worse. To me, the slashes through the people's hearts is like the Germans, taking the Jews identity away from them just like they took everything else, leaving the Jews with no hope or anything to hold onto.

Mr. Dombrowski also visited the concentration camp, Auschwitz. The first picture we saw was of the entrance to Auschwitz. This gate said, "Arbeit Macht Frei" which means "Work will set you free." The thing that stood out to me about this gate is that the Germans put this gate up; knowing that the idea it gave to people wasn't true. It was a sense of false hope. No matter how hard or how much the people worked they would never be freed. The Germans, day after day, gave the people hard work that had to be done. If the people did the work, their only reward was living another day. The Germans expected them to finish their work. Working was not a choice. It was something that was mandatory for the people. The Nazi's lied and left people hopeless.

Another picture I really liked was a picture of a grave. This grave said, "My sorrow is continually before me." The longer I thought about this quote, the truer it became. The people were left with no hope. They knew they weren't getting out of there. If they decided to live, each day ahead of them would be filled with pain, sadness, and cruelty. If they were to die, they lived the last part of their life with no happiness or hope. Day after day, their lives got worse not better. There really was nothing but sorrow before the Jews.

The picture that stood out to me above all others from the concentration camp, Majdanek, was the picture of the dome. This dome was used to hold the remains of all the burned bodies of the victims from the camp. This picture caught my eye. Besides the fact that the dome was huge and filled with so many ashes, a message was written on the dome. The dome said, "Let this be a reminder for us all." I couldn't get this out of my head. Seeing this definitely reminded me of all the evil that had been done. I could never forget how many people were victimized, especially after seeing how many remains were left.

Julia Vessels

4th Grade

SCAPA Bluegrass

Teacher: Ms. Kelly Gunn

First Place Winner, Elementary

A Connection to Number the Stars

Have you ever been taken away from your best friend? How would you feel if that happened? I'm not sure how you would feel but I would feel terrible. This is a story about a Danish girl and a Jewish girl. The Jewish girl almost is relocated into the ghettos. How scary would that be if that happened to one of your friends? Imagine that you are that Jewish child and one day your mom said you have to stay with your best friend who is the Danish girl. You didn't know where your parents were going.

That evening you had to stay with your best Danish friend and you missed your mom and dad wondering where they were. As that night came you thought about how you had to act like you and your best friend were sisters. Then you got interrupted by two Nazi soldiers and they asked you and your friend why you had black hair. And you said, "I am her sister and I was born like this with black hair." One of the Nazi soldiers said very meanly "prove it." The father walked up to the bookshelf and took out a picture book and opened it up and took out a picture of the Jewish child and showed it to the two Nazi soldiers. After that one of the Nazi soldiers snatched the picture out of the father's hand and looked at it for a moment and broke it into little pieces and threw them on the ground and they shoved everybody out of the way and walked out the door. Everybody was relieved that the soldiers were gone.

The next night you and your Danish friend and a lot of other Jewish people were at the Danish girl's house. In the middle of the living room was a casket with clothes inside. All the people gathered around the casket and pretended that it was a funeral. A few minutes later a few Nazi soldiers were outside wondering why there were so many vehicles out in the driveway.

There was a firm knock on the door and it flew open and there were three Nazi soldiers and they barged into the living room. One asked angry. "Why are there so many people here gathered tonight, tell me now." The mother said, "Someone has died and we are mourning our aunt's death."

The soldier asked firmly, "Open the casket!" The mother said, "No, I am not going to open it. Our aunt died of typhus and the germs could still be on her body. But we can if you would like to," the mother suggested. The soldier said, "Are you kidding me, I'm not stupid!" and he slapped the mother and the mother stepped back and the three Nazi soldiers stomped out of the house.

You and your family, along with the other Jewish people that were at the "funeral" are taken to the docks and hidden in a special compartment under one of the boats. You have to stay hidden and quiet until morning, when all the fisherman leave the docks and head out to sea. After many hours, you are free with your family in Sweden. You think about your friend back in Denmark. You wonder if she is okay and if you will ever see her again. You're thankful that you are safe with your family now.

Lizzy Rice

5th Grade

Athens-Chilesburg Elementary

Writing Coach: Ricki Rosenberg

Special Recognition, Elementary

Never Again

Before learning about the Holocaust, I was not usually the person to stand up if something went wrong or awry. I would watch the people who did stand up to a bully or injustice and say I want to be more like them, but it just seemed so different from my shy personality. I thought a lot about what would make me feel brave enough to try to stand up to things that I knew were wrong, and then in social studies we started learning about the Holocaust.

We learned about innocent people who lived and worked like everyone else, but had a Jewish religion. Since Adolf Hitler was the chancellor of Germany, and Germany was going through tough times, Hitler had to have someone to blame it on and he chose the Jews. It was not fair to Jewish people. They were just like everyone else and Hitler chose to blame a whole country's suffering on one group of people! The Jewish people had to wear golden stars on their clothes so that they could be identified easily. Now that they could easily be spotted in a crowd, the Jews were picked out and put into concentration camps, or death camps as they were sometimes referred to.

The concentration camps were absolutely horrible! Each person was put through days and days of labor and lack of food. It is said that the best meal a person could get for dinner would be a bowl full of water and the tops of vegetables and occasionally a piece of bread. There were Nazi guards watching their every move and if a person tripped on the two mile march to work each morning, they were shot and killed. If the guards thought that a person was unfit for work, which would include, the elderly, children under the age of 12, and people who were unhealthy, they would be put to their death in the gas chambers that looked like showers. In the concentration camps you only had about an eleven percent chance of living!

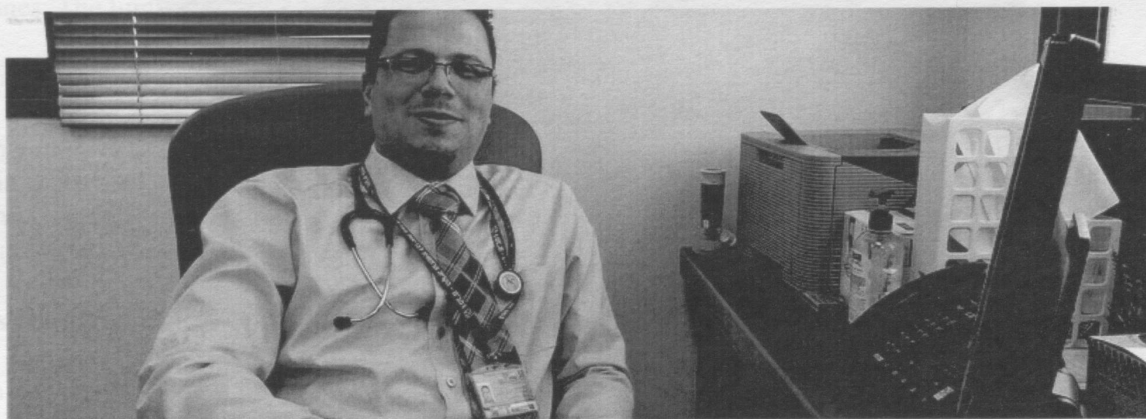
When the survivors returned home after the Holocaust it was almost impossible to get back to how things were before. Children would have constant dreams about fear from the camps and people would stuff themselves full of food, and then throw up because of how malnourished they were before. They weren't used to having rich food. Although many things were hard to get over, the current day survivors seem to be doing a great job. One example, Nesse Godin, dedicated her life to helping children like me learn about the Holocaust!

Learning about the Holocaust inspired me to stand up! I go out and try my best to put a stop to the things that I think are wrong! Because just think, if the Jewish people or any people who were in the Holocaust had someone to stand up for them, imagine how history might have been different!

Israel 21c: Catch some zzz's to control cancer

By Ruthie Blum

Possible new treatment approach suggested by Arab-Israeli pediatrician's discovery of how interrupted sleep speeds the spread of cancer.



Dr. Fahed Hakim

Dr. Fahed Hakim laughs while admitting that he is remiss at taking his own advice about getting a good night's sleep. As is the case with so many of us, his grueling work schedule, coupled with a full family life, takes its toll on his ability to get sufficient shut-eye.

But Hakim, a pediatrician and pediatric pulmonologist at the Rambam Medical Center in Haifa, as well as a private practitioner in Nazareth, spends his waking hours efficiently and wisely. Sleep research he conducted during a two-year stint at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital led to a discovery that is causing genuine excitement in the scientific community.

"We found a new pathway that could drive medication in cancer treatment," Hakim tells ISRAEL21c at his office in Rambam.

The connection between health problems and fragmented sleep is already known, says Hakim. For example, children who don't get enough sleep exhibit memory and cognition difficulties, and have a greater tendency to attention deficit disorder. Hakim wanted to know why.

His groundbreaking study on the effect of interrupted sleep on tumor growth was published in the January 2014 issue of the *Journal of Cancer Research*.

Sleep less, eat more

Hakim, 40, is a Christian Arab-Israeli who was born, raised and still lives in Nazareth. He is married to a dentist, also from Nazareth, whom he began dating when the two were students at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The couple has two sons, 11 and 7.

His father, a civil engineer, pushed him to excel in his studies. Hakim participated in several educational programs and summer camps in Israel for gifted children. He completed his degree in medicine in 2000, and has worked at Rambam ever since.

In 2010, Hakim received a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant that took him and his family to Chicago.

The first topic he examined there, under the tutelage of pediatrics chairman David Gozal, was the correlation between poor sleep and conditions such as hypertension and metabolic syndrome (obesity).



Rambam Medical Center, Haifa

"People with sleep disorders tend to eat much more," says Hakim. "This creates a vicious cycle, because they

keep gaining weight, and if they become obese, they are prone to sleep apnea.”

More waking hours mean more trips to the fridge because brain receptors for the appetite-suppressing hormone leptin cease working in people whose sleep is fragmented.

Hakim’s first year in Gozal’s lab was devoted to this issue. His second was spent researching the connection between fragmented sleep and cancer.

Sleepless mice

“We knew from epidemiological studies that people whose Circadian rhythm is disrupted – like night-shift workers – have a higher incidence of cancer,” says Hakim.

“We also knew that sleep apnea sufferers, who snore and wake up dozens of times a night, have a higher tendency to cancer. In other words, the more hypoxic a person is – the lower the levels of his oxygen – the more he is disposed to cancer. Studies on this emerged just when we began to think about our next research project. So we decided to ask how it happens and why.”

Hakim and his research team experimented on two groups of mice. The control group was allowed to sleep normally. The other group was wakened repeatedly. After a week, cancerous tumor cells were injected into all the mice.

Within four weeks, the volume of the tumors – as well as the amount of cancer cells — in the mice whose sleep had been interrupted was double that in the mice that slept soundly.

And the tumors in the sleep-disrupted mice were more invasive; they spread into the adjacent tissue, muscles and bones. The tumors in the mice that had slept better, meanwhile, were better contained.

“To understand why, we looked at the tumor micro-environment,” says Hakim.

“When you have an invader in your body, your immune system tries to attack it. The cells that eat invaders, like bacteria, are called macrophages. Tumor cells have two kinds of macrophages — M-1 and M-2. M-1 helps the immune system; M-2 helps the invader. In the sleep-fragmented mice, instead of having more M-1 cells to help the immune system fight the tumors, the M-2 cells came out to help the tumors.”

Take sleep seriously

Hakim’s team discovered that these M-2s were sitting on the edges of the tumors and calling other macrophages to the area by sending messages to the TLR4 receptor – a protein that activates the immune system.

“What we found was that the TLR4 in the sleep-deprived mice was highly activated,” Hakim says. “So we decided to knock out the TLR4. And we discovered that the tumors in the mice in which we knocked out the TLR4 did not grow as quickly.”

It is this discovery – which suggests pharmaceutical possibilities – that has the scientific community buzzing.

For the rest of us, the take-home message is that we need to take sleep seriously.

“Sleep fragmentation is widespread, even among healthy people, but it has negative long-term effects,” Hakim says. “Thomas Edison did not realize when he invented the light bulb that this would mean we would never be

in complete darkness.”

Hakim stresses the importance of preparing properly for sleep. “Sleep is not the default of being awake; you don’t just unplug yourself and go to sleep. It is something that requires taking a kind of action, such as creating the right atmosphere before getting into bed. Calming down by reading or taking a shower or whatever works for you.”

Editorial

By David Wortman

An age-old controversy in the Jewish community has reared its ugly head once more. The question is, does expressing ideas critical of Israeli government policy make one anti-Israel or anti-Semitic? In 1942, the American Council for Judaism was founded in order to oppose the establishment of a Jewish brigade from Palestine, and to oppose the creation of a Jewish state. While initially responding to changes in the orientation of Reform Judaism to become more Zionist, the ACJ allied itself with prominent members of the Roosevelt administration who also opposed the formation of Israel. They were the recipients of innumerable epithets. As difficult as their position is for most of us today, should they have had the right to sit under the vast tent of the Jewish community?

For the first 30 years of Israel’s existence, the Labor Party dominated Israel’s political leadership. In 1949, the Haganah (the Jewish defensive forces) was split by the Irgun – a more reactive, anti-Arab gangs, violent group. One of its leaders was Menachem Begin. He was labeled a terrorist by the majority Jews and, ultimately, Israelis (though he was in the K’nesset from 1948 onward) almost up until his election as Prime Minister in 1977. Should he have been allowed in the tent?

Chaim Rabin was labeled as anti-Israel and was depicted in a Nazi uniform by his opponents on the far right. Should either side have been eliminated from the tent?

This week, the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations voted whether or not to allow J Street “under the tent” with membership. J Street defines itself as “Supporting Israel and its desire for security as the Jewish homeland, as well as the right of the Palestinians to a sovereign state of their own.” Their membership was strongly opposed by those of the opposite persuasion. Do they not also have a right to sit amongst others?

The political partisanship and obstructive behavior that crushes the American government from all sides and at all levels is not in the best interest of those of us living outside the Beltway. All the more so, it has no place within the Jewish community. We are a small enough community as it is, without fracturing ourselves internally. Intra-Jewish contention is not new. We find it already in the earliest biblical stories. Yet, Joseph made peace with his brothers, and the community cohered. Even when the tribes formed separate “states,” under David, they came together. The northern tribes and their southern counterparts ultimately fused to create a vibrant society.

When we have disagreements, we cannot push somebody out of the tent. We, in the Jewish community, must fight with words and ideas, not swords. As Hegel suggested, only with thesis and antithesis does one achieve synthesis.

Change the vote. Let J Street in. Let the discussions begin.

Letter to the Editor

By Marty Solomon

Is Israel a Jewish State?

Israel was formed to permit Jews to live in a land where they would not be persecuted. In that regard, Israel is a Jewish state. But about 20% of the citizens of Israel are non-Jews---mostly Arabs, so in another sense, Israel is not a totally Jewish state.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insists that the Arabs call Israel a Jewish state but they refuse. Why is that? Is it because, in their eyes, it is also a partially Arab state? The Arabs have already said that they accept Israel's right to exist and that they want a nation of their own, living in peace, alongside Israel. So, although a very small fraction of Arabs deny it, there should no longer be any question about Israel's right to exist. That horse has left the stable. So why has Netanyahu ruled out any deal with the Palestinians unless they recognize Israel as a Jewish state. As long as Israel's right to exist is understood, should anyone care whether the Arabs call Israel Disneyland or Voodoo land?

In the United States, 76% of the population is Christian. So is the United States a Christian nation, just because the vast majority is Christian? Wouldn't doing so diminish the rights of the other 24% of the people to second-class citizenship and imply that their beliefs are not important?

When the Arabs reject calling Israel a Jewish state, is it that they hate the Jews? Is it that they are anti-Semitic? It is not that they do not want the state of Israel to exist. It is because the Arabs want the non-Jewish citizens of Israel to retain their citizenship rights.

As Jews, wouldn't we go meshuge if our President insisted that the rest of the world call the United States a Christian nation? Oy vey! Of course we would.

Isn't it an insult to the Arab world to insist on calling Israel a Jewish state? Wouldn't that imply that Arab citizens of Israel are not full-fledged citizens? But they are. They have all of the same civil rights and responsibilities as Jewish citizens. They vote, pay taxes, perform their military duty and are required to abide by the same laws.

What if the roles were reversed? What if, over time, 80% of Israel's citizens of Israel were Palestinians and 20% were Jews? Would Jews object to calling Israel a Palestinian state? Of course. Then why should Netanyahu continue to insist that the Arab countries call Israel a Jewish state? Doesn't he realize that it is offensive and degrading to them? Shouldn't Jews object to calling Israel a Jewish state because such a demand seems only an impediment to any possible path to peace? Isn't it more important that the Palestinians have already agreed that Israel has the right to exist and the objective should be to find a path to peace?

B'tayavon

By Vivian Bitensky

ZUCCHINI SOUP

As the weather gets warmer, it is great to have cold soup. This soup is special because the curry gives it a distinct taste. Try it when you have lots of zucchini.

5-6 medium zucchini
1 large onion peeled and sliced

1. Quarter zucchini and put in soup pot
2. Add onions and coat with the curry
3. Add soup and bring to a boil.
4. Simmer for 45 minutes

1 tsp. curry powder
3 cups vegetarian broth
1 cup cream
½ cup milk (I don't use the cream and substitute milk instead)
Salt- pepper to taste

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

Send us your special contributions with a note specifying its intent. Also, let us know if you would like your contribution published in this box in *Shalom*. You may also make your special contribution online at www.jewishlexington.org.

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Linda and Dr. Leon Ravvin for their gifts in memory of Joshua Houston Todd, Oscar Haber and Judy Levine; in honor of Jane Chaput's 70th birthday; and in honor of the 50th wedding anniversaries of Hanna & Rabbi Uri Smith and Sheila and Bob Orbach.

Judy and Rabbi David Wortman for their gifts in memory of Judy Levine, Oscar Haber, Donna Weitzman, and Rabbi Aaron Landes; in honor of Jane Chaput's 70th birthday and Hanna & Rabbi Uri Smith's 50th wedding anniversary.

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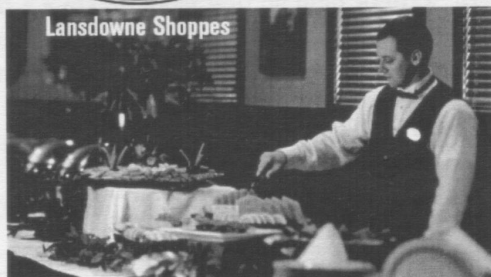
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For more information about this program visit www.itnbluegrass.org or call 859-252-8665.

Havurah News

HAVURAH EDUCATION DAY

Sunday, May 11, 2014

Our guest scholar is author and historian, Joan Friedman, Associate Professor of History and Religious Studies at The College of Wooster, OH, where she also serves as Campus Rabbi. She was ordained a rabbi at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion New York. Dr. Friedman is the author of Guidance, Not Governance: Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof and Reform Responsa (2013) and several articles and book chapters. Her presentation is entitled "Israel and Palestine: Dueling Histories." More information, including suggested preparatory readings, is forthcoming. We will begin at 9:30 a.m. with continental breakfast. First Session, 10:00 a.m.-12 noon. Catered lunch, 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Afternoon session, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

FOR HAVURAH MEMBERS ONLY

Cost: \$20.00 per person, R.S.P.V. (VERY IMPORTANT!) by Tuesday, May 6 to Larry Kant (dbl2@qx.net) or Dianne Bazell (dbazell@qx.net) AND mail a check, made out to "The Lexington Havurah," to Larry or Dianne at 131 Jesselin Drive, Lexington, KY 40503. WE MUST HAVE YOUR RESERVATION BY MAY 6 IN ORDER TO GIVE A COUNT TO THE CATERER.

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.

Ohavay Zion Synagogue News

WELCOME

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming congregation in Lexington, Kentucky. Through the framework of Conservative Judaism, we explore our Jewish identities and form community. We celebrate our diversity and welcome newcomers. Please join us.

SHABBAT DINNER

Please join our whole OZS community as we celebrate Shabbat together on **Friday, May 9 at 5:30 p.m.** The food will be Pot Luck, so please bring a vegetarian, fish, and/or dairy dish. After dinner and schmoozing, we will have a brief but spirited service. If you have any questions, please call the OZS office at 266-8050 or email at office@ozs.org. All are welcome.

KIDS' SHABBAT

This month's Kids Shabbat will be held **Friday, May 16 at 5:30 p.m.** at OZS. Kids' Shabbat is our monthly Shabbat Service for younger 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.

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

BACKPACKING FOR GOD'S PANTRY

Join us each month as backpacks are filled with food that children take home on weekends from Mary Todd Elementary School. All of the food is child-friendly, nonperishable, easily consumed, and vitamin fortified. Our next backpacking date is **May 11 at 11:00 AM at OZS.**

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

Please join us any Saturday morning of the year, as Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates Shabbat. We begin at 9:30 a.m., though please feel free to join at any time during the service. Our worship is filled with joyous song and fascinating Torah discussions. The service concludes around noon, and all are invited to schmooze over lunch after the service. This is a wonderful way to celebrate Shabbat and to meet some nice Jewish folks here in Lexington. Newcomers and friends are always welcome.

TUESDAY MINYAN

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

STUDYING THE PROPHETS

Please join us Wednesdays at noon as we explore the book of Isaiah through the teachings of our Jewish tradition. We will learn about Isaiah's focus on righteousness and justice, and we will hear Isaiah's deep concern for the orphan, the widow, and the underprivileged of society. We have a wonderfully diverse group of learners and terrific conversations. All are welcome.

TALMUD STUDY

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

INTERESTED IN OZS?

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming Jewish community. If you are interested, or if you know someone who may be interested in learning more about Ohavay Zion Synagogue, please call our membership chair Kathy Grossman at 268-2596 or email Rabbi Smolkin at Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.

Gan Shalom

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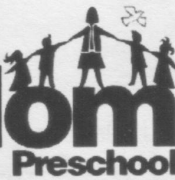
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To learn more about Ohavay Zion Synagogue visit their website at www.ozs.org.

Temple Adath Israel News

WHO WE ARE!

Temple Adath Israel is a Reform Jewish congregation - We celebrate Torah, Justice, Tradition, and Faith! Our mission is to inspire Jews to ensure a vibrant Jewish present and future by nurturing a multi-generational love for our tradition. Our "Community Center" approach to Judaism gives families a host of unique ways in which to love living relevant, soulful and experiential Jewish lives. Please call the Temple Administrator for more information if you are interested in affiliating with the Temple. The phone number is 269-2979.

FAMILY SHABBAT

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

TOT SHABBAT

Our **Tot Shabbat** Friday night service is held on the last Friday of each month (during the school year).

TEMPLE TOTS

The **Temple Tots** program is designed to give 2 1/2 and 3-year-old children and their parents a positive and nurturing beginning to their Jewish educational experience. We meet about once a month (during the school year.)

PJ LIBRARY READING TIME

TAI has dedicated space in our Youth Library and our Anita Mersack Outdoor Reading Garden for families to share in our growing collection of PJ Library Books, before, during and after religious school. The collection is in our Youth Library and our Librarian Leona Stern loves to share in reading time with many families or even just one. These books provide our young children with wonderful introductions to the magic of Jewish storytelling.

KOLLEL STUDY GROUP

Kollel meets at 9 a.m. 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. May, 17, & 31.

TALMUD STUDY

Richard Clewett conducts the study of *Pirke Avot*, a section of the Talmud, on alternate Saturdays, at 9 a.m. in the library. The discussion is always lively and informative and you can join the group anytime. May 10 & 24.

PARSHA

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 a.m. in the library as we take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Various Temple members will lead some discussions and everyone will take turns. We will meet on May 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31. We will have Parsha with worship on May 17th, and we will join the congregation on May 19th for Ruth Nelson's Bat Mitzvah and on May 31st for Max Bograd's Bar Mitzvah.

CHAVURAT CHOCHMA PROGRAM

(A Friendly Gathering of Wisdom)

We will meet on May 23, 2014 at 11:30 a.m. in the social hall for a delicious lunch and to greet Heather Clary from the Better Business Bureau. Ms. Clary will address scams and identity theft, especially targeted at seniors. She will give tips on how to avoid falling prey to them and will gladly respond to participants' questions. Cost is \$6 per person. While this program is designed for those sixty years old and over, all are welcome. We plan the amount of food by the number of reservations we receive. Please be sure to RSVP if you plan to attend. If for some reason, you must cancel, please call Sandee by May 20th at 269-2979 to let her know you cannot come.

GENERATION TAI DINNER FOR MAY

Generation TAI is our Chavurah group for young adults. Programming runs the spectrum from worship to social action and from Shabbat to holiday meals. Please join us for the monthly Generation TAI Dinner on May

2, 2014 following Shabbat services. The cost is free for those who bring a potluck dish. If you don't cook, bring \$7 to enjoy all the food. Please contact Reva Schottenstein at rschott86@hotmail.com or call her at 859-221-9473 to reserve your seat.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Rebecca Young, President

It is with a little bit of sadness that I write my last Sisterhood article. I have truly been honored to have been your Sisterhood President for the past four years. Sisterhood is an amazing organization, made up of incredible women. It is because of these women that our Sisterhood is so vibrant. Our board consists of women whose passion and commitment to Sisterhood is unending. I want to thank Laura, Mimi, Elissa, Debbie, Deb, Judy, Marilyn, Jana, Mindy, Judi, Leona, Mary, Lori, Beth, Angie, Pat and Deb. N. for their dedication and service to Sisterhood. Their friendship and support has helped sustain me throughout these four years.

It is because of our strong board and the support of our members that we are able to provide the services we do for our congregation and our community, both locally and the greater Jewish community around the world. We are stronger together.

Being a part of our local Sisterhood and Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) has given me the opportunities to learn how to better myself as a Jew, a team player, a leader, a friend, and in countless other ways. I am grateful to have had these experiences, and I hope that I have helped Sisterhood move forward with our commitment to the ideals of Reform Judaism.

I am excited to pass the gavel to Laura Creamer. I look forward to supporting her in her new role as Sisterhood President. Our 2014-2016 Sisterhood Board will be installed on May 31. I hope all of our Sisterhood members will join with me then as we say thank you to our current board members and welcome our new board members.

Sisterhood Board 2014-2016 Havdalah Installation

May 31, 2014 at Temple. Join us and our special guest, Sandy Adland WRJ Central District President 2014-2016, for dinner, song session and service. Members look for your invitation with details.



Please join us for the
ANITA ROOS BAKER MOTHER'S DAY CONCERT

Sunday, May 11, 2014 at 7:30 PM
Tedin Blair Lindsay, piano and host
Yoonie Choi, cello
Mary Catherine Wright, Soprano
William Clay Thompson, Bass

*Singletary Center for the Arts Recital Hall
Reception following the concert*

*Presented by the Friends of the UK School of Music
and the Temple Adath Israel Music Fund
Free and open to the public*

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP WEEKEND EVENT

Rebecca Young

Smiling faces means happy kids! The weekend of March 28, was the annual JYG weekend event held at Goldman Union Camp Institute (GUCI), sponsored by our Ohio Valley Regional Board of NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth). NFTY is our high school youth group organization. Every March, NFTY/OV (Ohio Valley), hosts a weekend for 7th and 8th graders, so that they can get a taste of what NFTY events are all about. The hope is that the 7th and 8th graders will have a great time and will become active members in their high school youth group and attend NFTY events.

Our 7th graders: Ruth Nelson, Bel Miller, Asher Diamond, and Max Young had an awesome time! Jacob Young attended as an RA. He had a great time too!

Our kids immediately bonded with other Jewish kids from Indiana and Ohio. They participated in creative social and educational programs; all planned and run by the NFTY Regional Board members. Friday night service was interactive with texting. How cool is that?

The best part of the weekend was that our kids had a great time being Jewish, doing Jewish things with Jewish friends. They are looking forward to going back next year and bringing our 7th graders and other 8th graders with them. Questions? Want more information about JYG? Please contact me at rsmyoung@gmail.com or 271-5597.



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To learn more about Temple Adath Israel visit their website at www.lextai.org.

Sim Shalom News

By Jesse Weil

After a quiet February, we had a very active, eventful, and joyous March. Maybe the most enjoyable was our Purim celebration, which featured not one but THREE short Purim Spiels interspersed throughout the reading of the Megillah. The first was inspired by the very male chauvinist attitude at the start of the story when the men all agreed to banish Vashti for setting a bad example to their wives by refusing to appear before the King. So we showed a short video of various male/political chauvinist/leaders behaving in similar ridiculous ways. Then there was a parade of some of our members in the role of vibrant female feminists, Vashti, Angela Merkel, George Sand and Liza Minelli, leading the way to a more egalitarian future. Johanna Bojtor, one of our Board members was Merkel to a T, cane and all! And Rabbi Kelemen was very seductive as Vashti.

The second spiel was a puppet show written by the Talmud Torah (Sunday school) classes. It was more traditional in illustrating the Esther/Ahasuerus story, but very cute due to the uninhibited ideas of the little kids. But the last act was the most original and uplifting. Instead of ending the reading with the hanging of Haman and the bloody slaughter of his family, the gallows was converted into a tree of life with willow branches. Then, everyone was invited to write their hopes for Sim Shalom on a paper leaf and to hang it on the tree branches.

In the middle of the month, a large group of German Reform Rabbis, led by Rabbi Walter Homolka, came to Budapest to show support for the beleaguered Reform community here, and to protest against the anti-Semitic plans of the Hungarian government for a 70th anniversary commemoration of the Holocaust. For instance, the government planned to erect a statue in a main square in central Pest that implied that all of the persecution of the Jews in WWII was due to the Germans, and that Hungarians had no part in it, which is far from the truth. The same sort of whitewash was in the planning for the new Hungarian history textbooks for the schools. Rabbi Kelemen met with the group, and took an active part in the meeting with a high government minister to make their protest. Both projects have been put on hold, so perhaps protesting is having an effect.

The month ended with another happy event, twenty seven Netzer youth group leaders (madrichim) came from London for a Shabbat weekend. They came for services and, after a nourishing supper of pizza and palacsinta we traded favorite songs for a couple of hours. All that energy made it a very inspiring evening.

Any U.S. reader who wishes to make a donation to Sim Shalom Congregation can do so by going to the web site of our support organization, Friends of Sim Shalom; <http://www.friendsofsimshalom.org/>. Your support will be much appreciated at this difficult time. And, for more information about the congregation visit the website <http://www.sim-shalom.org>

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Around the Community

***Please note:** Information for Around the Community comes to us from a variety of individuals and Jewish institutions. It's a pretty haphazard arrangement; except for b'nai 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:

Jeffrey Newman, son of Janice and Larry Newman, who has opened the Blue Door Smokehouse Restaurant at 226 Walton Ave.

Angie and Jonathan Smith, who are new owners of KPC Architectural Products, Inc. They are full service commercial interiors company. Angie is the daughter of Janice and Larry Newman

Cody Lonsbury, son of Ilyse Lonsbury, who will be graduating summa cum laude from UK with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, as well receiving his Master's Degree in the UK Scholar's Program

Judy and Rabbi David Wortman, on their daughter, Rabbi Mira Wasserman, receiving a PhD in Talmud at UC Berkley

Deborah and Peter Nelson on the occasion of their daughter, Ruth Nelson, becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Marion Rust and Lou Bograd their son, Max Bograd, becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Condolences to:

Brent Haskell on the death of his mother of Marianne Madeleine Haskell (Val Nicholson)

The Haber family on the death of Oscar Haber

The Levine family on the death of Judy Levine

ATTENTION PROUD GRAND-PARENTS, PARENTS, & STUDENTS

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

Obituary: Judy Levine

By Marcia Blacker

I first met Judy Levine at a Hadassah meeting. No, it was a meeting of the National Council of Jewish women. No, it was a meeting to discuss what we as a community could do to help settle Russian Jews moving to Lexington. No, it was – well, you get the picture. And while it is true that I was at these meetings as well, I was an onlooker, an amateur, taking the beginner's course in 'How to Get a Roomful of People to Listen to You and Agree with You.' I recognized immediately how good Judy was at this, and I recognized how articulate and intelligent she was. I admired her ability to speak clearly, as well as forcefully, in presenting her ideas.

I thought this woman was someone I wanted to get to know better, and as time passed, Judy and I became friends. We had young children close to the same age and we carpooled frequently to Hebrew School at Ohavay

Zion Synagogue. I organized a book club which Judy joined, and we continued to be active in the Jewish community and attended many meetings together. Judy's willingness to defend her ideas with a certain fearless passion gave me the courage to speak out and defend my ideas, which often ran counter to hers. In spite of our lack of agreement on all topics, we found we agreed more often than we disagreed. We enjoyed a pleasant friendship that continued to grow, and in the early 1970s, we found ourselves in the classrooms of the University of Kentucky's Department of English.

We had a great time, sharing an office and discussing the classes we had together, teaching freshman comp, and whining to teach other about the failure of college freshmen to write a decent sentence.

Judy was a "just so" person. Her home was impeccably just so; the tables she set were just so, and when you were invited to the Levine home, you were instantly aware that her attention to detail was a part of her that was evident in all areas of her life.

Judy was a strong, intelligent woman who had a passion for perfection and applied that passion to her teaching, her work for the organizations she belonged to, even to her relaxing hobbies, knitting and needlepoint!

And Judy, 'just so you know,' you will be missed.

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until lunch Sunday.

This weekend is for families with
a majority of Camp Shalom aged
children (grades Pre-K thru 8th).

To learn more about Camp
Livingston visit their site at
www.camlivingston.com.

For more information about our
Camp Shalom Family Camp
weekend or to register, visit
<http://www.jewishlexington.org>

Additional questions?
Contact Tamara
directly at
(859) 420-3925

