

Shalom

May 2013

Newspaper of
The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



IYAR/SIVAN 5773

CAMPAIGN NEWS

An evening to honor Linda and Leon Ravvin

Please join us on Sunday, June 2 at 6 pm at the Hilton Suites at Lexington Green to honor Linda and Leon Ravvin and to celebrate their accomplishments. Linda, a children's librarian and professional volunteer, has been president, campaign chair and director of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass in addition to holding volunteer portfolios with Hadassah, Temple Adath Israel and Camp Young Judea Midwest. Leon is a neurosurgeon with the Lexington Clinic and Linda's partner in service to the Jewish community. Linda and Leon are members of both Ohavay Zion Congregation and Temple Adath Israel. A tribute book is being published for the event to help raise funds for the programs and services that Federation provides locally, in Israel and in endangered Jewish communities throughout the world.

The keynote speaker for the evening will be Dr. Henry Abramson, the Ravvin's nephew, who is Dean of Academic Affairs and Student Services at Touro College South in Miami Beach. Dr. Abramson, who received his PhD from the University of Toronto, has written five books and numerous articles on Jewish history and thought. He has held appointments and post-doctoral fellowships at Cornell, Oxford, Harvard and Hebrew University.



The couvert for the dinner is \$60 per person. Guests will have the opportunity make commitments to the 2013 annual campaign. ☆

For reservations and information, please call Judy Wortman at 268-0672 or email jfb@jewishlexington.org.

Volunteers to be honored at Federation's Annual Meeting

Please join the officers and board members of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass on Wednesday, May 22 at 7 pm at the Federation to honor our award winners.

The President's Award will go to Kathy Feinberg, the wonderful director of Camp Shalom who retired this year after many years as leader of our camp. Kathy has had an impact on

hundreds of children, families, and our young staff, and has had a role in shaping their development and Jewish identities.

The Cookie Wenneneker Volunteer of the Year Award will go to Hanna Smith. Hanna is the secretary of the Federation Board and chair of the

see **Volunteers to be honored**, page 8

Computer Science Professor Goldsmith Wins Henry Mason Lutes Award for Excellence in Engineering Education



Judy Goldsmith:
2013 Henry Mason
Lutes Award
winner

By Kel Hahn, Associate Director of Communications, UK College of Engineering

Computer science professor Judy Goldsmith is the 2013 winner of the Henry Mason Lutes Award for Excellence in Engineering Education. The award, which recognizes and rewards outstanding teaching accomplishments, is annually given to its recipient at the

annual Tau Beta Pi Awards Banquet.

In over 20 years at the University of Kentucky, Goldsmith has developed a well-earned reputation for excellence in teaching. In 2013 alone, she has received a Provost's Award for Outstanding

see **Goldsmith Wins Award**, page 19

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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.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Lunch and Learn with our
Lexington community rabbis

May 28 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.

If you are not receiving Jewish Weekly email and would like to, please send your name and email address to lexadmin@jewishlexington.org



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Shalom Deadline

Deadline for articles for the June/July *Shalom* is May 10.
Email articles to shalom@jewishlexington.org

Director's Message

Judy B. Wortman, JFB Director

The recent events related to women praying at the Kotel brought me hope and then angst within a 36 hour period. On a conference call with all Federation executives on April 9, we learned about Natan Sharansky's plan to expand the Western Wall Plaza to create an egalitarian space near the Robinson's Arch equal in size to the current men's and women's section combined. This plan brought kudos from the leaders of the liberal Movements and was accepted by the group known as Women of the Wall. Yet, a day and a half later, five women were arrested for wearing tallitot at the monthly Rosh Chodesh service sponsored by Women of the Wall. In a statement from its president and CEO Jerry Silverman, The Jewish Federations of North America, our parent agency, said, "It regrets the arrests of a number of members of the Women of the Wall at the Kotel today, just when it seems as if an agreement on this issue can be reached. JFNA urges all sides to support the proposal under discussion that can lead to an overall solution that will foster freedom of Jewish religious expression at the Kotel."

I am a non-Orthodox, Jewishly committed woman, and I have celebrated the monumental developments affecting Jewish women that I have witnessed in my lifetime. As a young girl, I couldn't understand why only boys became Bar Mitzvah, while the girls in my Hebrew school class were much better students and more committed to learning and prayer. Several years af-

ter I became 13, my synagogue began to institute Bat Mitzvah, be it only on Friday night. When I talked longingly about wanting to become a rabbi, I was told, "Isn't that cute? Maybe you will become a rebbetzin." (How proud I became 40 years later when my daughter was ordained.) In 1971, I began wearing a tallit on Shabbat. Several years later, I was given my first *aliyah* by Reb Zalman Schachter on a beautiful sunny day in the Sukkah at Germantown Jewish Center in Philadelphia. In 1973, I attended the first Jewish Women's Conference at the McAlpin Hotel in New York surrounded by like-minded sisters reclaiming their rights to Jewish celebration and scholarship.

My question today is: when will our sisters in Israel be afforded the same rights as those embraced by our North American Jewish community over the past several decades? When will the liberal Movements in Israel be given the same status as the Orthodox? When will an Israeli woman say Kaddish for her parents at the Kotel without fearing arrest? I long for the day when I can proudly wrap myself in my tallit and pray with joyful voice surrounded by hundreds of men and women standing proudly together at the Kotel in Jerusalem. ☆



Editorial

David Wortman

Bombs exploding. Fires bursting. Mail threats actualizing. Bullets streaming. Rockets firing. Congress avoiding. We live in a mad, mad, mad world.

I freely confess that I do not understand human nature. When asked about global warming destroying the planet, Carl Sagan once replied something like this: We cannot destroy the planet. It has survived ice ages, meteor strikes, solar flares, etc. The Earth will survive us. It is we whom we may destroy. Life as we know it.

The events of the past months give credence to Sagan's prediction. We are well on the way toward self-destruction. When I first moved to Kentucky I was told, "If you don't like the weather, wait ten minutes." This is also true with our anger. If you want to avoid today's issue, wait until tomorrow.

This was certainly true after Sandy Hook. The most recent mass shooting, of little kids even, evoked a public outcry for stricter controls that would filter out the criminals and the mentally ill from buying guns. Now, several months later, the country has moved on to other issues and Congress cannot even pass a watered down, supposedly bi-partisan law that would achieve this goal. Shame on them. Even the majority of NRA members favor some additional background checks. Other pro-gun groups supported the compromise. But Senators are afraid of the elephant in the room. And, rather doing

what they know is the right and moral thing to do, they are more interested in being re-elected. What we need are leaders – not followers.

Bombs explode at the Boston marathon and ricin coated letters are found addressed to a Senator and the President (also a judge). 24-hour news channels of all stripes are quick to make assumptions about the perpetrator(s). It is al-Qaeda. It is domestic terrorists. It is tax protesters. To quote the King of Siam, "Et cetera, et cetera, et cetera."

In the midst of all of this, rockets were fired into the southern resort city of Eilat. Suspicion is that they came from Egypt. No one was killed. Yet this exhibits a new chutzpa. A miscalculation by a mile would have the rockets land in Jordan or in Saudi Arabia.

When will it all stop? When will we stop just reading newspapers and rise from our chairs and, with a resounding voice, say, "No! We will not be silent any more!" Edmund Burke wrote that all it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to be silent.

We can no longer afford to be the silent generation. ☆

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JFS: At Your Service

Mimi Kaufman, JFS Director

Begin with Gratitude

There have been studies that try to look at the varying benefits and healing pow-

ers of gratitude. It is a hard science to measure, but it is thought that it does have an effect on people's lives. How does this help us as parents? We can look at gratitude as a place to start, because it makes us better leaders.

Gratitude allows us to celebrate the present, to live in the moment so to speak. We all have heard the phrases, "they grow so fast" or "in the blink of an eye." There is no denying that parenting has its frustrating and tiring moments, but most parents will tell you that the joys outweigh the struggles. The key is making a conscious effort to tip the balance by applying the powers of gratitude.

Gratitude blocks negative emotions. We all have them. As you know, when our children are not listening to us, it is easy to succumb to feelings of anger and resentment. We forget, our children are going through so many changes and challenges of their own that it is only natural for them to get frustrated and defeated. If we match their frustration and stress with equally negative energy, we end up in power struggles and heated arguments no one can win. Even Gandhi wouldn't be able to maintain gratitude in the midst of a two-year-old's tan-

trum, but the point is to begin there. If you start from a thankful perspective, it will be so much easier to meet their "misbehavior" with an understanding that they just don't know better yet. You will find moments less frustrating.

Grateful people are more stress resistant. If you are grateful, you'll be more positive and more confident and thus, a better leader to your children. Who wants to follow a stressed-out, panicking leader?

Grateful people have a higher sense of self-worth. As parents, we want the same for our children. Start recognizing and acknowledging all you have and those who have helped you along the way. It will change your mojo from "woe-is-me" to "happy-go-lucky." By simply inviting the power of gratitude you can improve your whole family's sense of purpose and quality.

It is never too late to start. Take a moment today and consider how fortunate you are to have your children in your life. As challenging as parenting can be, reflect upon how much meaning and joy they bring to your world. If it comes from your heart, don't be shy about telling your children how thankful you are for them. When you begin with gratitude, you will be delighted to find that you will finish there as well. ☆

Source: *Parentsplace Where parents find answers and children blossom*, Tom Limbert, MA

Teenage Nature Conservancy volunteer oversees 115-acre preserve

Published: April 2, 2013

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By Mary Meehan
mmeehan1@herald-leader.com

Henry Clay High School junior Ben Swanson, the son of two college professors, loves research and debate, and he hopes to one day go into international development in sub-Saharan Africa.

But he also has discovered a love of chopping logs and hauling gravel — getting out into the world and working hard.

"It's a nice kind of balance to my regular schoolwork," said Ben, 16.

After discovering a love of the nitty-gritty work of conservation during a stint volunteering in Alaska, Ben has continued to work locally, and he recently was named a steward of Jessamine and Garrard counties' Jim Beam Nature Preserve by the Kentucky chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

"I wish we had 50 of him," said Laura Cook, a conservancy volunteer who oversees the stewards, who keep track and remedy trail conditions and generally look out for the land they are assigned.

Cook was reluctant at first to entrust such a young man with the task of overseeing 115 acres, she said. Most of the conservancy's stewards are retirement age. But Ben impressed her with his work ethic, his communications skills and his willingness to follow through, she said.

"He just seems to be very self-motivated, and that is just hands-down impressive right there," Cook said. Plus, she said, he asks lots of questions and keeps people informed about what he is doing.

Ben said his parents, Mark Swanson and Nancy Schoenberg, who are both professors at the University of Kentucky, have always involved him and

his sister, Rachel, in hiking and enjoying the outdoors. He said his love of conservation kicked in when he volunteered last summer for the National Park Service in Denali National Park in Alaska as part of the Student Conservation Association. That work was far from glamorous. The rainy drizzle was constant, and getting up at 5:30 a.m. to haul gravel for six hours was a typical work day.

But he enjoyed working closely with five other high school students and having his brain and body do something outside the norm, he said.

"What I was doing was just hard, physical labor," he said. But, "it is very directly gratifying. A month later, I can see that I have constructed a section of trail."

When he returned to Lexington, he researched which local organizations did conservation work. He started by volunteering on work days with The Nature Conservancy, as part of a group of volunteers who go out together to clear a trail, attack invasive plants or pick up litter.

"I was the youngest one there by about 20 years," he said of the first day he volunteered.

Cook said it quickly became apparent that he was a right fit for the steward position when it became available.

As a high school junior, Ben could leave in another year or so for college.

"I'd like to go out of state, and I'd like to go north," he said of his college search status.

Cook said she's grateful for whatever volunteer time the conservancy gets from Ben.

"Whoever gets him (next) in whatever capacity, they are going to be very lucky." ☆

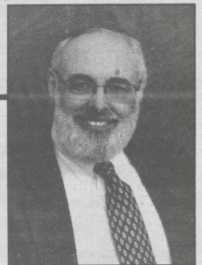
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Ask A Rabbi

Rabbi H.D. Uriel Smith



Q: We sometimes call our fellow Jews MOTs, "members of the tribe." Is Judaism tribal? What is the difference between a tribal and a universal religion? Can a tribal religion support a democratic society? (Or more plainly: Can the State of Israel be both Jewish and democratic?) Should a tribal religion support multiculturalism? (Or more plainly: Should we support blasphemy laws, as proposed in Europe? Should we support "freedom of religion" laws, such as those proposed by evangelical groups in the USA?)?

A: A tribal religion belongs just to one tribe, ethnic group, or nation. It recognizes that there are many religions in the world, each religion being true for its community. Among such religions are Hinduism, true for India, Shinto, true for Japan, the tribal religions of the American Indians, and the ancient Mesopotamian religions, with Enki the patron god of Eridu, Marduk the patron god of Babylon, and Ashur the patron god of Assyria. Based on this definition Judaism is tribal.

A universal religion claims that it applies to all nations. It aims to spread among all nations, becoming eventually the sole valid religion. According to the first half of this definition Judaism is also universal. However, there is a major argument among Jews over whether the second half applies.

We always have recognized that our religion was a minority religion in the world. Yet we not only declare that our God is the "ruler of the universe," (we state this every time we make a blessing), but from biblical times, some of us claimed that members of other religions, at least subconsciously, recognize this sovereignty, despite having a conscious disagreement with this claim. Thus, though all other religions were then polytheistic, the prophet Malachi declared (mal 1:11):

For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, and in every place incense is offered to my name, and a pure

offering; for my name is great among the nations, says the Lord of Hosts.

Malachi's statement in some ways contradicts another biblical claim (in both Ps 96:5; and 1 Chr 16:26):

For all the gods of the peoples are godlings; but the Lord made the heavens.

Despite their contradictions, both statements imply that Judaism is universal. The *aleinu* prayer, ending every Jewish communal service, goes further, concluding with the hope that all nations will accept the true god, so that (quoting Zechariah 14:9):

And the Lord will become king over all the earth;
On that day the Lord will be one and His name one.

This proclamation shows that indeed Judaism is universal in both parts of the definition.

So, first, how are these quotes reconciled? After all, when Jews are confronted with two choices, they generally choose both and harmonize them.

The original editors of the bible saw no need to reconcile these views. Talcott Parsons, a major cultural anthropologist, called the original cultural stage of the bible *Archaic*. James Fowler, in his *Stages of Faith*, identified it as stage 2, *Mythic-Literal*. In this stage, there is no conscious awareness of how statements and beliefs become unified in one system. In archaic languages there are no terms differentiating words from sentences. Each of the commandments in the decalogue ("ten words") contains more than one *logos* ("word"). When a prophet declared, *Zeh D'var YHWH* ("this is the word of God"), he produced an outflow of words. He never limited himself to just one word such as, "*Shalom*." When even word-sentence relations are only subconsciously noticed, contradictory stories with a similar perspective can be fully

acceptable.

The conscious recognition that sentences are formed as a combination of several words occurred first with written sentences. The Talmud uses the term *tévah* ("box") for a separate word, and *pasúk* ("verse") for a full sentence. Once the community became conscious of the unification of words into a sentence, the conscious interrelation of sentences also appeared. Logical procedures of argumentation were named and listed, as explained in the *Baraita D'rabbi Ishmael*. This list of argument forms is given in orthodox and conservative prayer books at the start of the *Birkot Ha-Shahar* morning prayers. Because of this list, I call this semiotic level of thought and culture the *Ishmaelian* level. At this level fictional stories were deliberately written, and fictional plays produced, each giving the audience a novel way to see things. The verses in poems were interrelated by rhyming, such as in the poetry (*piyut*) of Yosé ben Yosé, Yannai, and El'azar ben Kalir (successively flourished ca. 570 - 640 CE). (At the Ishmaelian stage only one dimension could be treated at a time. Multiple dimensions in poetry, combining meter and rhyme, and sometimes meter, anagrams, and rhyme, did not occur till the next stage, the aristotelian stage, in the poetry of the golden age of Spanish Jewry such as that of Judah Halevy [ca. 1075-1141]. The Aristotelian stage roughly corresponds to Fowler's stage 4, *Individuative-Reflective*.)

Then it became consciously necessary to check how Malachi 1:11 could still apply. Most biblical commentators of the middle ages came up with the excuse that people recognize that the universe is a unified system, and so recognize the sovereignty of the one God. Unfortunately, this excuse is false. Most people are not philosophers, and never declare, "the universe forms a unity." In fact, polytheists regularly have myths of the sky god quarreling with the sea god, or the children gods quarreling with their mother, chaos, or

their father, time. Rabbeinu Tam (1100-1171), a grandson of Rashi, produced more useful argument. He declared (*Tosafot* to *b. B'korot* 2b, and to *b. Sanhedrin* 63b) that, as long as non-Jews worshipped the one God, they were permitted to associate created beings with God. Jews had to stick to pure monotheism, but non-Jews were allowed *shittuf* ("association"). This ruling was added to the major legal code, the *Shulhan Arukh* (*Orah Hayyim*, #156) by Rabbi Moses Isserlis, author of the *Mappah* commentary.

This ruling would establish that most of the major religions fulfilled all seven of the Mitzvot B'ney Noah ("Noahide commandments" required from Noah and his descendants when they left the Ark [Genesis 9:1-17]). Each Noahide law applies both to Israelites and non-Israelites. But each law has extensions applicable only to Judaism.

One Noahide law demands monotheism. This is a stringent demand within Judaism. Associating God with a created being (*shittuf*) is idolatry for Israelites. Deuteronomy 4:15-24 prohibits Israelite worship of anything with a material form. But it adds that such created beings are "things allotted to all the peoples under the whole heaven" (Deut 4:19). So non-Jews are permitted *shittuf*. Accordingly, Christianity, which associates Jesus with God, is not idolatry for non-Jews. For the same reason, while the ten tribes were exiled from the Holy Land because of their idolatry (2 Kings 17:7-18), the Babylonians and Cutheans who replaced them were allowed to remain in the land even though they combined the worship of the one God with the worship of their earlier gods (2 Kings 17:24-41; cf. Malbim's commentary to 2 Kings 17:28).

see Ask A Rabbi, page 6

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



The Jewish Federation
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10:30 a.m. at the JFB office. An hour of Yiddish with Refoel 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!



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Ask A Rabbi (from page 5)

Another Noahide prohibition is against incest and adultery. Sexual orgies as part of the divine services are an abomination (Exodus 34:15-16; Numbers 25:1-16; Deuteronomy 31:16). The priestesses serving the community in these rites are considered harlots (Gen 38:15,21; Leviticus 19:29; 20:6; 21:9). However, the Canaanites were not "vomited out" until they far exceeded these practices (Genesis 15:16; Leviticus 18:24-30).

Murder is another Noahide prohibition. Biblical law goes further: one source of bloodshed defilement is capital punishment. If a person is hanged for a capital crime, his body should be taken down and buried the same day, "for a hanging is a curse of God" (Deut 21:22-23). Gibeonite law differed. And King David once followed Gibeonite law, allowing the bodies of seven sons of Saul to hang for six months for sacrificing many Gibeonites (2 Samuel 21:1-24).

The seventh Noahide law demanded each nation to set up an ethical legislation. Rabbinic law thus indicated that the range of culpability for each nation was set, not by Jewish laws, but the legislation set up by that nation.

Once we understand biblical legislation, we should recognize that Jewish law is not only compatible with democracy: it demands liberal democracy. The Bible states in various ways, "There shall be one law for the native and for the stranger who sojourns among you" (Exod 12:49; cf. Lev 22:24; Num 15:15). The biblical term *ger* ("stranger") covers both *ger tzedek* ("righteous convert") and *ger toshav* ("resident alien"). Jewish law recognizes that the religious stringent demands upon Jews do not apply to non-Jews. However, the non-religious ethical laws do apply. We need a sufficient sophistication to differentiate consciously between religious and secular laws. Thus, the demand that Israel be recognized as a Jewish state implies that the cultural stage in the state should be sophisticated enough

to be compatible with democracy. In most cultures, the pluralistic democracy demands involve the ability to display goals and procedures in the marketplace of ideas, and argue for and against them. This occurs when the culture moves beyond the Aristotelian stage of setting defined norms, and enters the Galileian stage of establishing systems of ideas. When this changeover percolates through education to the whole society, it brings a change from the feudal to the pluralistic democratic society. As long as the decision powers remain confined to the government, whether aristocratic (as in the rural areas of feudal society), or elected (as in communist countries), or CEOs of large corporations (as in "robber baron" capitalism), the cultural thought sustaining the society can move only partially to the Galileian level. The partial movement is displayed by a dialectical Aristotelean stage, a stage I call Hegelian. Both Libertarianism and Marxism are basically Hegelian.

In the modern society, as long as we are limited in our communications to short tweets and summaries we are limited to Aristotelian level norms. However, if these communications allow us to set out systems and procedures that back up these norms, especially if we are able to test practically these underlying systems, then we can enter the Galileian level of pluralistic democracy. The American constitution with its checks and balances was set forth, as argued in the Federalist Papers, to enable the American people to unite and proceed on the Galileian level.

For many generations in any discussion any three Jews could argue for at least four different opinions. The Jewish community introduced this pluralistic democracy perspective long before it entered the Galileian level. We did so because our culture, supported by our religious perspective, uniquely bypassed a stage, which I call *Conformative*. Most cultures advance

see **Ask A Rabbi**, page 7

Ask A Rabbi (from page 6)

first in the semiotic dimension from the one-to-one, word-to-idea Archaic stage to the system-to-system Conformative stage, and only then advance in the psychological dimension from the subconscious to the conscious recognition that people perceive events and situations differently. King Janaka and his priestly teacher Yajñavalkya argued for this advance in the Hindu Upanishads, and accordingly I call the advanced stage *Janakan*. James Fowler, in his *Stages of Faith*, called it Stage 3, that of Synthetic-Conventional faith. (Both the Conformative and Janakan stages are in the same semiotic level noted above, the Ishmaelian level.) Under King Josiah, the Jewish community advanced in the psychological dimension from the Archaic stage to the *Josian* stage, and only later did it advance on the semiotic dimension to the Ishmaelian, Janakan stage.

In the Archaic stage, we could accept that the firstborn children of the Egyptians were killed during the tenth plague. Josian stage thought instead demanded that, "Fathers should not be put to death for children's [sins], and children should not be put to death for fathers' [sins]; each person should die [only] for his own sin" (Deut 24:16; 2 Kings 14:6). Ezekiel proclaimed a whole chapter (chap 18) arguing for this position. This recognition of independent responsibility and independent perspectives led to the recognition that two or more independent witnesses are needed for conviction (Deut 17:6; 19:15; cf. the apocryphal Susanna, added to the Book of Daniel). Once we developed into the Janakan stage, we recognized emotionally how unethical it was for the Egyptian firstborn to have died for the sins of their parents. Then a rite developed requiring the firstborn among the Jews to fast on the day before Passover. This fast, *ta'anit b'khorot*, could be dismissed only if the firstborn joined in the festivities of another *mitzvah* such as the completion (*siyyum*) of a religious tractate.

The result of recognizing independent perspectives was that Judaism was much readier to accept flexibility in

applying rules, so that its codes of law regularly gave both majority and minority opinions. Judaism, thus, also was much readier to accept that other communities would interpret their religions in their own non-Jewish ways.

Unfortunately, within the *haredi*, ultra-Orthodox community there has been a regression from the cultural sophistication required for pluralistic democracy. When the *Aleinu* prayer was originally composed by Rav in the 3rd century CE practically all religions known to Jews were polytheistic. So Rav included a line describing these godlings, "for they worship vanity and emptiness, and pray to a god that cannot save." When the Jewish prayerbooks were first printed, the Christian censors ordered this line to be deleted. Till the end of the last century most *Siddur* editions still deleted this line, for the Jewish community recognized that times had changed, and that most nations worship the same god that we do. However, many ultra-Orthodox prayerbooks have restored that derogatory line, not realizing how this falsehood shows a regression within Judaism. Those that accept this line have regressed to the Conformative stage.

With this point established we can see how to treat all religions, including atheism, equally and fairly. We should not punish people for regressing to the Conformative level, but we should not allow them to dictate the laws for a pluralistic democracy. Even though laws for monotheism and against blasphemy are two of the Noahide laws, we should recognize that, as long as they do not harm others, people who break these laws are only harming themselves. God is too great to be harmed by any person's foolishness. However, just as we are prohibited from falsely shouting "fire" in a crowded place, so we should be prohibited from creating in-your-face antireligious activities. It should be perfectly acceptable for people to argue for any religious or anti-religious position as long as that argument does not become a hate crime, stirring up passions that

can endanger people, especially if the people are defenseless, elderly or children. And, similarly, people should not be prohibited from pursuing established religious practices just because we do not like them. Bullying by so-

called liberals is just as reprehensible as bullying by conservatives.

Exactly where the lines should be drawn demand tolerance, compassion, and advanced-stage understanding. ✧

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.

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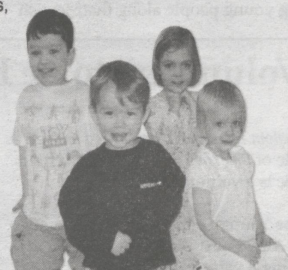
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Meet Camp Shalom's new Assistant Director



Dani Rosenkrantz is a recent arrival to Lexington hailing from South Florida and is super excited to join the Camp Shalom team this summer! She is a first year doctoral student in Counseling Psychology at UK with a passion for social justice and Jewish spiritual and cultural identity. Dani has a bachelors degree in Psychology and Jewish Studies from the University of Florida and has spent over seven months living in Israel on study abroad programs.

Most recently, Dani attended the University of Haifa, immersing herself in Israeli culture through the study of Hebrew and Jewish Thought and exploring Jerusalem and Tel Aviv every chance she had! Her time in the Holy Land allowed her the opportunity to connect to her Judaism and the Jewish people in a deeper, richer way and to really appreciate the amazing work the Israeli community has done to create the beautiful, flourishing nation she is happy to call her second home. Just as her Jewish mentors have guided her, Dani is passionate about helping young people along their Jewish

journeys and helping them find ways to allow Judaism to fit their unique lives. Dani is excited to bring her love of Israeli culture and Jewish Studies to Camp Shalom!

Additionally, Dani has experience working at Camp Fiesta in South Florida since 2006, a 9-day overnight camp with campers who are in the process of or have finished beating cancer. Her time at Fiesta has made her a lover of all things camp, and she is very excited to bring the same love of camp she experienced at Fiesta to Camp Shalom!

As a new member of the Kentucky Jewish community, Dani is looking forward to getting to know the little ones and teens in Lexington and hopes to use her love of Judaism at home and abroad to help inspire campers on their Jewish journeys this summer! ☆

Camp Shalom is a uniquely Jewish two-week, summer day camp experience, open to children entering Pre-K through 9th grade. This year Camp Shalom will be celebrating its 45th summer! Camp dates are Monday through Friday, July 29 through August 9. The 6th and 7th grade group, Gesher, also has the option of attending an overnight experience at Camp Livingstone in Bennington, Indiana from Friday, August 2 through Sunday, August 4. 9th graders interested in being Counselors-In-Training should contact our Camp Director, Tamara Ohayon, at (859) 268-0672 or by email to camp@jewishlexington.org. To register for Camp Shalom visit the Camp page at www.jewishlexington.org

Volunteers to be honored (from page 1)

Shalom Editorial Committee as well as one of Shalom's most talented writers. She is a volunteer *par excellence*.

The Young Leadership Award will go to Amy Faust Mayer. In addition to being a valued Board member, Amy serves as a member and program

resource on the Jewish Family Services Advisory Committee and has performed as a storyteller with the PJ Library program.

Mazal tov and thank you to these exceptional women. ☆

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

TAI honors its confirmands and graduating high school seniors

TAI confirmation class 2013

Jacquelyn Dan Engel (daughter of Paul Engel and Beth Engel)

Rachel Layne Kaplan (daughter of Randy Kaplan and Ann Garrison)

Zackary Tanner Lipsitz (son of Jonathan and Kathryn Lipsitz)

Benjamin Eli Meece (son of Michael and Regina Mizell)

Samantha Jill Reaguer (daughter of Deborah Reaguer and Mark Reaguer)

High School graduates 2013

Jake Ain (son of Linda Ain and Dr. Ken Ain)

Charles Flomenhoft (son of Steven and Deborah Flomenhoft)

Logan Gardner (son of John and Carol Gardner)

William Keplinger (son of Brian and Eileen Keplinger)

Ryan LaZur (son of Jana LaZur and Eric LaZur)

Zachary Myers (son of Howard and Elisabeth Myers)

Sam Miller (son of Craig and Sherry Miller)

Ryan Siegel (son of Renee Siegel)

Yes, you can hike in a wheelchair: Israel's LOTEM built a unique accessible eco-farm and hiking trail so that people with disabilities can enjoy the great outdoors

By Abigail Klein Leichman

Thirty years ago, Israeli hiker Amos Ziv observed a group of visually impaired teens out on a nature trail. They were having a rough time of it, and Ziv decided the only solution was for him to find a way for people with disabilities to experience the great outdoors safely and enjoyably.

That's the story behind LOTEM, a non-profit organization that now serves about 30,000 Israelis every year through a range of nature clubs and outdoor programs geared to children and adults with physical, communication and intellectual disorders, hearing and vision impairment. It also serves at-risk populations including women and children living in temporary shelters in refuge from domestic abuse.

The organization runs a one-of-a-kind ecological farm in Emek HaShalom (Valley of Peace) near the northern city of Yokneam, where people with disabilities participate in seasonal activities such as pressing grapes and olives, as well as drawing well water and baking pita.

Together with Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael-Jewish National Fund (KKL-JNF), LOTEM built Israel's only fully accessible circular hiking trail, situated in the picturesque Galilee region of Nahal HaShofet, in 2002.

And it's not only for Israelis. LOTEM works with special-needs groups from abroad such as Yachad, the National Jewish Council for Disabilities, an American organization that leads its own Birthright trip to Israel.

At Emek HaShalom, people with disabilities can press olives and grapes. "We're the experts in the field of accessible hikes, so it's really something we'll be working to expand," says JNF-



Making the great outdoors accessible to all.

LOTEM liaison Alisa Bodner. She also arranges free "Inclusive Israel" day trips for visiting individuals or families — able-bodied or not — to learn about LOTEM and experience a different side of Israel.

"When we make our tours accessible, it's not only physical accessibility but also pedagogic accessibility," Bodner tells ISRAEL21c. "We provide each group with guides who can give specialized instruction to fit their particular special needs and level of understanding."

Hallel Ben-David, a 12-year-old girl who visited the Emek HaShalom farm with her family, blogged afterward that LOTEM guide Paula Friedland told them about a local boy who often hiked through Nahal HaShofet with his friends.

"He would hike on a trail that led to a particular cave there, until he was in a car accident and became paralyzed. When LOTEM was planning to construct the accessible trail, they took this boy there and asked what they can do to bring back his experience of hiking. He told them that they should build

the trail in a way so that he can return to the cave. This is what they did," Hallel wrote. "This was very emotional for me."

Coexistence and inclusive activities

Bodner says about 12 percent of the Israeli population has some form of disability, whether as a result of a medical condition, accident or violence. LOTEM co-founder Sorin Hershko ended up a paraplegic due to injuries he received in his military unit's daring rescue of Israeli hostages from Entebbe, Uganda, in 1976.

An acronym for the Hebrew phrase "integrated nature studies," LOTEM works with the Israeli ministries of education, agriculture, health and welfare, the National Insurance Institute, and also with private foundations and donors in Israel and abroad. For the past seven years, LOTEM has been a JNF partner organization.

"JNF is a great friend of ours. I always say that they provide for the land and people of Israel, and we work with

them to bring the land of Israel to all the people of Israel," says Bodner.

LOTEM charges a minimal fee for its activities so that participants do not feel they are receiving charity, Bodner explains. If members of a participating group are unable to pay the full amount, the organization raises funds to cover the remaining expenses.

In addition to accessible hikes and agricultural activities at Emek HaShalom, LOTEM runs "Integra-Teva," which uses nature and outdoor activities to foster coexistence among Jewish and Arab youth with special needs.

"Touching the Western Wall" provides an opportunity for children and adults with special needs to visit historical and religious sites in Jerusalem's cobble-stoned Old City, not normally easily accessible for people with disabilities.

Two LOTEM programs focus on facilitating friendships between children from special-needs and mainstream classrooms: "From Black to Green,"

see *Hike in a Wheelchair*, page 14

Never Give Up On Your Dreams

By Abe Nelson, Age 9

This is a story about a confident lady who never gave up on her dreams. This is also a story that shows you can always help people even when you face challenges yourself.

Helma Victor is a ninety year old woman who lives in a nursing home in Florida. Over the last ten years, she has knitted almost 40 sweater and hat sets for children at Ashland Elementary school in Lexington. Her daughter, Susan Cantor, lives in Lexington. Susan and her husband, Austin Cantor, attend Temple Adath Israel and work with the temple's social action committee to help students at Ashland Elementary, which is across the street from the temple.

Helma Victor started knitting at age 18 when her grandmother died. She had been living with her grandmother starting at an early age because her mother passed away and her father had difficulty raising her and her brother. Ms. Victor's grandmother

always knitted but did not teach her how to knit. "She always said I had two left hands," explained Ms. Victor. "If she's looking down, I want to tell her she was very wrong."

Everybody was still sitting shiva for her grandmother when Ms. Victor went to the neighborhood knitting store and told them that she wanted to knit. The first thing she knitted was a green scarf. "I remember it like it was yesterday. As soon as I held it in my hands, I knew it was for me. It was right up my alley. I knew I was a knitter and I've been knitting ever since," said Ms. Victor. "I knit every day even in the hospital. I love it." Ms. Victor thinks that anybody can knit if they have the desire to do it. Right now she has a torn ligament in her thumb and arthritis but she is still knitting. Ms. Victor loves a lot of things, not just knitting. She reads four hours every day and especially loves history. She is reading *The Patriarch* and *The Ambassador's Daughter*. She plays bingo every single day. She is also a life-long member of Hadassah and a member of

Temple Beit HaYam.

These are rewards that Ms. Victor has had from her knitting. She won fourth place in the Kentucky state fair in 2009 for a sweater, hat, and mittens. "The ribbon is hanging right on my wall. My son-in-law framed it. It has my name on it so you know it was really for me." She also gets thank you cards from Ashland elementary students. "I get beautiful mail. It really pleases me. They love (the hats and sweaters) up there in Kentucky." Ms. Victor also believes that charity is good for the soul. "It's very important not to live for yourself. Be good to others. The man upstairs is good to you."

There are important lessons for Jewish people to learn from Ms. Victor's story. Rabbi Marc Kline explained, "There is a text in Deuteronomy (16:20) that reads, 'Tzedek Tzedek Tirdoff - Righteousness, Righteousness, You must pursue it.' Every time I see people 'going the extra mile' to help others, I think of this verse from Torah. Susan's mother has every reason to be able to say that she cannot do this anymore,



Helma Victor works on a blue and white ski hat. (GO BIG BLUE!!)

and yet, she knows that people need these (sweaters), and so, despite her pain, she keeps knitting. As with every good thing that we do, this act also helps her. It may hurt, but she keeps her mind and her skills sharp by being able to focus on the task. Truly when we do this kind of work, it creates a "Win-Win" situation."

Ms. Victor is very thankful to God that she can knit: "Thank you to the Man upstairs because there are always people who are worse off than you are; and thank you for doing what I'm doing and allowing me to continue." ☆

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.....	Robert Grossman, Seth Salomon
Nominated for a second three-year term.....	Gary Yarus, Hanna Smith, Amy Faust Mayer
Nominated for a first three-year term.....	Angie Ornstein, Pat Shraberg
Appointed for a first three-year term by OZS.....	David Feinberg
Appointed for a second three year term by TAI.....	Evalyn Block
Appointed for a second three-year term by the Havurah.....	Gail Cohen

In February, Jenny Rice and Judy Worell were appointed for a three year term to replace members leaving the board in mid-term. Thank you to retiring Board members Evelyn Geller, Linda Ravvin and David Wekstein. The Nominating Committee included Linda Ravvin, Chair, Amy Faust Mayer, Mickey Hernandez, and Robert Grossman, Ex-officio. Elections will take place at the JFB Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 22 at 7 pm at the Federation, 1050 Chinoe Rd., Suite 112. Additional nominees will be accepted at the Annual 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 other members of the Federation present at the meeting.



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The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

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THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

JewishLexington.org

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Celebrating Yom HaShoah: Sunday April 14



This year the Lexington Jewish community gathered together to observe Yom HaShoah on Sunday, April 14, 2013 at Temple Adath Israel. The gathering of about 150 people joined together to remember the horrors of the past and empower the leaders of our future as symbolized during the lighting of memorial candles by both survivors, children of the survivors, liberators of the Shoah, and high school seniors.

This year's winners of the Emilie Szekeley Essay contests, first place winner Daniel Baesler and second place winner Jinju Santalucia, shared their winning essays. Inspirational music was performed by a joint choir of Ohavay Zion Synagogue and Temple Adath Israel under the direction of Dr. Lorne Dechtenberg.

Following the memorial service, the film, *Why We Remember*, was viewed by the gathering followed by roundtable discussions lead by community Rabbis and members of the Yom HaShoah committee. Both congregations' religious school students joined together as well to study various age-appropriate lessons of the Shoah. ☆



Emilie Szekeley Essay Contest winners with their teacher, Kelly Gunn.



Dr Lorne Dechtenberg.

Photo By Paul Tillier



Survivors, liberators, and the next generation.

Photo By Paul Tillier



Combined OZS and TAI Choir under the direction of Dr Lorne Dechtenberg.

Yom HaShoah Cont'd

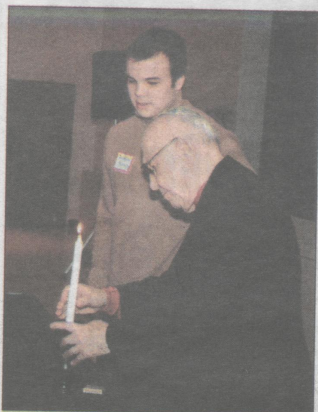


Photo By Paul Tillier
Dr Oscar Haber and Jonathan Feinberg.



Photo By Paul Tillier
Hanna Smith and Nate Schattner.



Photo By Paul Tillier
Marilyn and Dr Arthur Lieber, Rachel Belin.



Teens in discussion with Lori Bernard.



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The Jewish Federation

Mark Klein: He Talks, You Laugh

Mark Klein is a self-described "conservative Republican Jewish comedian from Kentucky," and he's pretty sure that he's the only one; no one else in the world can make this claim. When they met (30+ years ago), his non-Jewish fiancé introduced him to her parents as a Jewish comedian from Kentucky. His prospective mother-in-law said, "Oh no, not a comedian!" Mark is a thoroughbred racehorse owner, and claims he would rather have a bad horse than no horse.

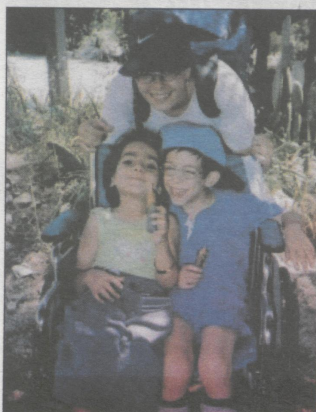
Mark Klein is a native of Louisville, Kentucky. He is a Colgate University graduate (with a degree in English), is married and has a son. Mark was both a college wrestling star and a comedian. After college he started his career in the import/export business. Mark has entertained on cruise ships and at corporate events from Tampa to Tahiti. His performance calendar now comprises shows in venues ranging

from special events to dinner theaters to comedy clubs. He will perform at Lexington's Comedy off Broadway April 3 - 6. Mark is able to customize his show to accommodate his clients' needs for both content and context.

His dad, who is 88, travels with Mark to many of his "gigs," and will be in Lexington for the show. His father's family is from Cincinnati, and his mother's is from Toronto via Russia and Poland. Mark comes from a long line of Hadassah members including both of his grandmothers and his mother. He is a supporter of Hadassah and many other non-profits in Kentucky. ☆

Tickets are \$40 in advance or \$45 at the door. In addition, you can save \$6 by buying a value pack for \$54 which includes a \$20 raffle ticket. Mail checks to: Gail Bourne, 500 Laketower Drive, Unit 38, Lexington, KY 40502.

Hike in a Wheelchair (from page 9)



Hiking with a LOTEM volunteer.

which takes the kids through the Carmel Forest to learn together about fire prevention and the importance of preserving the natural beauty of Israel; and the four-week "Natural Integration," funded by the Ruderman Foundation, providing educational activities in nature.

For children, adults and senior citizens confined to residential facilities, rehab centers and hospitals, getting outdoors isn't always possible. But that doesn't mean they cannot enjoy nature in the company of friends. LOTEM's "Green Time" nature clubs, run by volunteer guides, engage these populations in educational social activities about ecology. ☆

Eat
Drink
Be Merry



Comedy Night

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah
presents professional comedian

Mark Klein

Sunday, May 19, 2013

at 5:30 pm

Temple Adath Israel

124 N. Ashland Avenue



Make your reservation now!

Dinner, Beer & Wine

Raffle Drawings

Door Prizes

\$40 in advance, \$45 at the door

Value Pack

Dinner, Drinks, Show & 1 Raffle Ticket

\$54

(This is a \$6 savings)

For more information contact Betty Nigoff at
bnigoff@yahoo.com or 859-278-5220

Hadassah Offers Win-Win Opportunity

In our hectic and complicated world, there is a perfect opportunity to catch a break, and it's a win-win opportunity. For those special gifts – weddings, birthdays, graduations – simply purchase a Macy's gift card (in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100). The cards may be used at any Macy's store, and there is no expiration date.

You get to use the total face value of the cards, and the Lexington Chapter gets 10% of the value of every gift card. Shopping couldn't be easier. The funds raised are used to support Hadassah's programs both here in the US and in Israel.

So you win with easy shopping, and Hadassah wins by earning funds to support its programs. What could be better?

Thank you for your ongoing support of Hadassah and its programs.

Please contact Odette Kaplan at 859-271-8332 or omkaplan@aol.com to purchase your Macy's gift cards.

Are you faced with questions about Medical Ethics? Faith and Values? Organ Donation?

Join us on May 9, 2013

at 7:00 pm

to listen, learn, and ask!

Jewish Family Life Education co-sponsored by Jewish Family Services and the Lexington Chapter of Hadassah will present:

Donate Life Give Thanks, Give Life
in the lobby at 1050 Chinoe Road, Lexington

GUEST SPEAKERS: KODA's Charlotte Wong and Rabbi Sharon Cohen, as well as a panel of community members who have personal experience with organ donation including Kathie Kroot and Linda Angelo, and Dr. Roberto Gedaly.



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



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
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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

*** B'nai Mitzvah to Our Youth ***



Eliana Shapere

Alfred Shapere and Beth Ellen Rosenbaum invite you to share their great happiness as their daughter Eliana becomes a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 11, 2013 at 10:30 AM at Temple Adath Israel.

Eliana is a seventh-grader at Bryan Station Middle School in the Spanish Immersion Program. She has won many academic awards, and is a member of the Duke TIP program. In November 2012, her story, "The Chosen One," was published in the national magazine, *New Moon Girls*. An avid violinist, she is a member of the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestras and two orchestras at her school. She loves to sing and has performed in the UK Opera Theatre productions of *La Boheme* and *Brundibar*. She recently earned her blue belt in Shaolin Karate, and she also is an ice skater and roller blader. Her favorite hobby is drawing, and she is interested in digital art. For her Bat Mitzvah project, Eliana has been working for Seedleaf, a nonprofit organization that aims to increase food availability for the hungry in Central Kentucky. Eliana is working at one of Seedleaf's gardens in the fall and spring, helping to harvest produce and be a "personal shopper" for people in the neighborhood. In the winter, she is

helping cook meals for children at the East 7th Street Kids' Café.

Eliana's maternal grandfather, Kurt Rosenbaum, was a survivor of Auschwitz. He died in 1981.



Julia Mychal Creamer

Julia will become Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, June 1 at Temple Adath Israel. Julia is in the 7th grade at Bryan Station Middle School in the Spanish Immersion Program. She is fluent in Spanish and her other interests include dance and music. She is on the Production Team at Lexington Dance Factory. For her service project, Julia was an assistant at Bluegrass Youth Ballet. Julia began her dance career at BYB and still has ties there. They provide scholarships to those children who want to dance, but do not have the funds. She has also contributed to their scholarship fund. Julia is the sister of Maya and Jonah, and the daughter of Laura and Trevor. Her grandparents are Barbara and Stephen Schultz of Pennsylvania and Heather Creamer and Tom Creamer of Perth, Western Australia.

Daryn Smith

Please join Di Sobel and Greg Smith at Ohavay Zion Synagogue on Saturday, May 25th, as their daughter, Daryn Smith, becomes a Bat Mitzvah. A Kiddush lunch will be served after the

service. For her Bat Mitzvah project, Daryn is volunteering at the One Parent Scholar House, which provides support for single mothers of young children. She is collecting children's books for the families at the House (ages 2-6); donations can be given at Ohavay Zion Synagogue. ☆

Please join us for

The Anita Roos Baker Mother's Day Concert



Sunday, May 12th
7:30 p.m.

Tedrin Blair Lindsay, Pianist and Emcee
Catherine Clarke Nardolillo, Soprano
Thomas Gunther, Baritone
Yoonie Choi, Cello

Singletary Center for the Arts Recital Hall, 405 Rose Street

Reception following in the President's Room

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

**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.

B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Ruth Poley

A weekend breakfast treat

I tend to forget about breakfast when thinking about writing these columns, but a nice, leisurely breakfast on a weekend morning is a wonderful thing. Now that spring has finally decided to stay, the following dish would make a great meal all by itself with a cup of good coffee. If you want something more elaborate, try adding some chicken sausage and a fresh fruit salad. Then invite a couple of people to join you and take it all outside if you've got a nice deck or screened porch. What a great way to start the day!

Breakfast Bread Pudding

5 extra-large whole eggs (or 7 large)
2 extra-large egg yolks (if all you have is large, that's fine)
2 ½ cups half-and-half
1/3 cup honey
1 ½ teaspoons pure vanilla extract
2 teaspoons orange zest (2 oranges)
½ teaspoon kosher salt
1 day-old challah
½ cup golden raisins
Maple syrup, to serve

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the whole eggs, egg yolks, half-and-half, honey, vanilla, orange zest, and salt. Set aside.

Slice the challah into 6 (1-inch) thick pieces. Lay half the slices flat in a flat baking dish. Spread the raisins on top of the brioche slices, and place the remaining slices on top. Make sure that the raisins are between the layers of challah, or they will burn while baking. Pour the egg mixture over the bread and soak for 15 minutes, pressing down gently.

Bake for 55 to 60 minutes or until the pudding puffs up and the custard is set. Remove from the oven and cool slightly before serving.

This recipe is easily doubled. ☆

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



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



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Ohavay Zion Synagogue

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

WELCOME TO OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE

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

SHAVUOT CELEBRATION

Dairy Delights

On Tuesday, May 14th, please join our Family-Friendly Torah Celebration at 6 pm with plenty of pizza and yummy dairy desserts. (Please RSVP to OZS at office@ozs.org for the Pizza Dinner.)

Family-Friendly Torah Celebration

In addition to teachings from our high school seniors, we will have wonderful teachings from synagogue members and rabbis, with additional learning available throughout the night.

Shavuot Morning Services with *Yizkor*

On Wednesday, May 15, we will celebrate Shavuot with Yom Tov services beginning at 9:30 am. During the Torah reading, we will hear the Decalogue, and at the end of the Torah service we will be honoring our loved ones who have passed away with Yiz-

kor (approximately 11:30 am).
Chag Sameach to Everyone!

KIDS' SHABBAT AND PJ LIBRARY

Please join us for this month's Kids' Shabbat service on Friday, May 17th at 5:30 pm.

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.

YOUNG OZS-ERS' SHABBAT

Please join us for this month's Young OZS-ers' Shabbat Service on Friday, May 3rd at 6:00 pm.

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!

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

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 6:15 pm. All are welcome!

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM CLASS

On April 7th at 3:00pm, we will begin a 7-session class exploring fundamentals of Judaism. This class is open for anyone seeking a greater connection to Judaism, and it is essential for all considering conversion to Judaism through OZS. The class will meet April 7, May 5, June 2, June 23, July 14, August 4, and August 25 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Please email Rabbi Smolkin (Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com) for more information, or if you know someone who might be interested.

OHAVAY ZION SYNAGOGUE SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

Please join us any Saturday morning of the year, as Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates Shabbat. We begin at 9:30 am, 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!

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!

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 7:30 am, followed by a light breakfast, and then a fascinating study of the Talmud. 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 chair Ricki Rosenberg at 221-2121 or email Rabbi Smolkin at Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

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The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Jane Chaput, President

Shavuot, the Festival of Weeks, is an odd holiday with an odd name. "Weeks" suggests a waiting mode – a period between points in time. Furthermore, *Shavuot* has no calendar date. The Torah merely states, "Count off fifty days up to the day after the 7th Shabbat (of Pesach) and then present an offering of new grain to God."

From its inception, *Shavuot* depended on Pesach. On Pesach, God granted us freedom from slavery, but it was Jewish responsibility and action that made *Shavuot* possible. It was only after we secured our land and planted and harvested the first grains that we could truly consider ourselves an independent nation. Even the later celebration of giving of Torah on *Shavuot* demanded positive acceptance and action by the people of Israel. In commemoration of our acceptance of Torah, we spend the night studying Torah. Pesach has always meant the promise of freedom, but *Shavuot* is its realization.

For centuries, Jewish independence was suspended. The waiting period between Pesach and *Shavuot* became an era of multiple tragedies and mourning (24,000 of Rabbi Akiva's students died in a mass epidemic; the Crusaders massacred Jews in hundreds of communities; the Khmelnitzky pogroms killed tens of thousands of Jews; blood libels were always initiated after Pesach). Festivities, weddings,

and jubilant celebrations were banned in commemoration of these historical events.

The establishment of the State of Israel introduced new and joyous holidays between Pesach and *Shavuot*: *Yom Ha'Atzmaut* (Independence Day) and *Yom Yerushalayim* (Jerusalem Reunification Day). It also introduced a memorial day *Yom Ha'Zikaron*, which reminds us of the great sacrifices made by the youth of our people to keep Israel alive and free. These holy days were sanctified by the sweat, work, and determination of a people who wanted to fulfill the liberation promises of Pesach with the independence of *Shavuot*.

In 2002, the national board of Hadassah voted to build a new hospital on our Ein Kerem campus. This past fall, 2000 convention delegates saw the fulfillment of the promise of the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower alive and running. Like the traditional waiting period between Pesach and *Shavuot*, Hadassah's waiting period was fraught with great stress and angst. The U.S. and the world underwent a major recession and building costs spiraled. Yet Hadassah understood that the Jewish concept of "weeks" means that Pesach and liberation can only be accomplished and realized when we fulfill the work that makes *Shavuot* a reality. Hag *Shavuot* Sameach. ☆

SALES TEAM NEEDED FOR SHALOM NEWSPAPER!

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

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



The Jewish Federation
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Goldsmith Wins Award (from page 1)

Teaching in the tenured faculty category, the Outstanding Teaching Award from the Department of Computer Science and, now, the UK College of Engineering Henry Mason Lutes Award for Excellence in Engineering Education.

Goldsmith inspires students and often engages them in research projects. Many students have taken her courses and subsequently joined her research group. Several have pursued a Ph.D. with her as their advisor. Of particular interest to Goldsmith is that students improve their communication skills. To help students gain confidence and grow as effective public speakers, she runs a weekly research seminar where she works with students on their lecturing style and slide presentation.

Always innovating in the classroom, Goldsmith often allows students to choose from a variety of options for class projects, including demos, movie or book reviews and discussions of

games. Recently, Goldsmith offered a class titled "Ethics in Science Fiction," which quickly filled to capacity.

Goldsmith's hard work and dedication to excellence as a mentor earned her the 1998 American Association for the Advancement of Science Mentoring Award. She takes her role as a mentor seriously, often making extra time for students who are members of under-represented groups in computer science. In addition, she actively promotes the careers and work of her former students and colleagues.

Congratulations to Judy Goldsmith on her award and 20 years of dedication to the craft and profession of teaching! ☆

[ed. note: Judy is a member of the Lexington Jewish community, past president of the Lexington Havurah and currently serves as Social Committee chair.]

Our 2013 *Shalom* Contributors

Thank you for your generous donations to keep *Shalom* solvent.

TWO TIMES CHAI

Marci Blacker*
Flora-Lu Guter**
Katherine and John Kane

HABONEH

C.B. Stidham

*In honor of Barbara & Marty Barr

**In honor of Evelyn Geller

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.

Drunk Tank Pink: And Other Unexpected Forces That Shape Our Thoughts, Feelings and Behaviors is a new book published this spring. The author is Adam Alter, a young Australian social psychologist, who is an assistant professor of marketing at NYU's Stern School of Business.

In this book, Alter explains how subtle cues, such as the sound of someone's name or the color of a room, can influence behavior and thoughts.

In the late 1970's, a researcher in Washington State discovered that pink makes men weak. Men who stared at a pink piece of cardboard for a minute scored lower on strength tests than when they stared at blue cardboard. In Seattle, the commanders of the U.S. Naval Corrections Center painted their drunk tank pink and aggressive behavior was sharply reduced. Many local jails across the country followed and painted their drunk tank walls.

Alter explores in his book how environment shapes what we think, how we feel, and the ways in which we behave.

People like letters if the letters appear in their own names. Alter cites that K names gave more to Hurricane Katrina relief than they had in previous storms. A picture of a light bulb caused people who were test subjects to have more creative solutions to problems than those who were not shown that photo, apparently because of the meaning a light bulb has in our culture.

People asked to grade papers found more errors when they used a red pen than when they used a blue or black pen.

In another test related to color, subjects rated women on beauty. Researchers used the same photos and changed only blouse colors. Those women wearing red blouses rated higher.

In promoting his new book, Alter came to Seattle in early April of this year prompting a Seattle Times columnist, Jerry Large, to devote a column to the book.

Reading Large's column, I was struck how I and other members of the Lexington Havurah are also subjected to environmental influence. The symbols, rituals, and visual cues in celebrating and commemorating holidays affect us: wrapping oneself in a talit, the reverence paid in taking the Torah from the ark, the repetitiveness of prayers, the alliteration, and alphabetical acrostics in prayers.

There are also forces that I do not think are exceptional but which may shape the way we think and behave. I think of the example of the last Shabbat in April at a Havurah pot-luck dinner followed by a Havdalah observance. The flame of the intertwined Havdalah candle, the sound of the flame being extinguished in a cup of wine, the singing as people stand and sway in a circle.

Another example of the environment shaping our thoughts, feelings, and behavior as related to the Havurah is not a surprising one. For many years, the Havurah has met in large rooms—we still, on occasion, at major holiday times utilize space in apartment complex clubhouses. Recently, we have transitioned to meeting in homes because of the good feelings engendered and preferences expressed by Havurah members.

Perhaps the name of the Havurah gathering place is a factor. The word is "home." Does the name make a difference? I don't know. As Adam Alter has written about Usain Bolt, the fastest man in the world at 100 meter and 200 meter distances: "Would Usain Bolt run more slowly with the name Usain Plod?"

Same people, same scheduled programs, same services, same social activities but the surrounding environment has changed and has affected our

thoughts, feelings, and behavior for the better.

You are welcome to join us. ☆

Here is my contribution to help keep *Shalom* solvent

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Katherine and John Kane

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*In honor of Barbara & Marty Barr
**In honor of Evelyn Geller



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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 - 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. Our Shabbat services for May 3, 10, 17, & 24 are at 7 PM. Please note the Shabbat service on May 31 will be at 6:30 PM.

FAMILY SHABBAT

Our lively Family Shabbat takes place on the second Friday of each month at 7 PM. Our Children's Choir (Kol Atid) sings, and our young Religious School classes participate in leading services. This year we will have a Potluck dinner at 6 PM immediately preceding services. Join us! May 10

TOT SHABBAT

Our Tot Shabbat Friday night service is held on the last Friday of each month. Our youngest children and parents welcome Shabbat together singing songs, creating Jewish craft projects, and eating pizza. Rabbi shares a PJ Library book each month. Dressing for the theme of the featured holiday is always a plus! It is a wonderful way for families with young children to celebrate Shabbat.

We begin at 5:45 PM. The upcoming dates are:

May 31 - Followed by the Bat Mitzvah of Julia Creamer at 6:30 PM (note the earlier time for Shabbat).

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 and Rabbi Marc love 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.

GENERATION TAI DINNER FOR MAY

Generatration TAI is our Chavurah group for young adults. Programming runs the spectrum from worship to social action, and from Shabbat and holiday meals. Please join us for the monthly Generation TAI Dinner on May 3, 2013 following Shabbat services. The cost is \$7 or free if you bring a potluck dish. Please contact Reva Schottenstein at rschott86@hotmail.com or call her at 859-221-9473 to reserve your seat.

2013 CONFIRMATION SERVICE

The annual Shavuot/Confirmation

Service will be held this year on May 17, 2013 at 7 PM. There are six members in this class. The entire Temple community celebrates with them on this special day in their lives. See list on p. 8.

2013 B'NAI MITZVAH CLASS

Please join the congregation to celebrate the Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class service on May 3, 2013 at 7 PM. These adults have studied with Rabbi Kline for a year and look to celebrate their growth in Torah. The class members are:

Michael Marx
Ken Slepian
Mixon Ware

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. May 4 & 18

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. We are currently studying the Book of Nehemiah. May 11 & 25

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 May 4, 11, 18, & 25. Join us on May 11 at 10:30 AM when we will celebrate the Bat Mitzvah of Eliana Shapere. We will have Parsha with worship on May 18. See you in the library!

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Rebecca Young, President

"If you do not aspire to great things, you will not achieve even little ones." Imre Binah, The Proverbs of Solomon.

Together, we have achieved a great many things for our congregation, our local community and the greater Jewish community, around the world. As a thank you for your support, the Sisterhood Board invites all Sisterhood members to brunch on Sunday, May 19 at 10:30 am in the temple library. We will celebrate our accomplishments, view the WRJ Centennial video, and start the process of designing our own logo! Most importantly, we will celebrate being together. Members, please look for your invitation to arrive by mail and/or the Evite and RSVP accordingly.

May Centennial Collection is for the Lexington Hearing and Speech Center. Items needed are office supplies and new wooden puzzles. A collection will be in the temple hallway. Thank you!



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Mitchell Barnes - Owner

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:

Seth Westerman on his acceptance to Medical School.

Jeff Westerman on his graduation from the University of Kentucky and his commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the US Army.

Condolences to:

Toni Reiss and **Marc Plavin**, **Alison** and **Rachel Plavin** on the death of

Barbara Reiss, Toni's mother, **Alison's** and **Rachel's** grandmother.

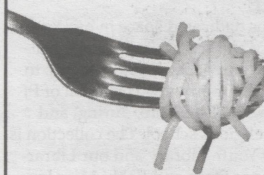
Saul Miller and **Andrea Sell** on the death of **William Miller**, his father.

Elissa & Alan Weinstein, on the death of **Elissa's** great-aunt, **Lucille Paskowitz**.

Lisa Sheftel on the death of her husband **Pavel Sheftel**, grandfather of **Alexander & Zoya Orlov**.



Upcoming Programs



Leisure Club

will join the Lunch and Learn with our local rabbis

Tuesday, May 28 • 12 noon
at the Jewish Federation office

Lunch for Leisure Club guests will be provided.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

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

Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass cordially
invites you to attend a

Gala Tribute Dinner

honoring **Linda & Dr. Leon Ravvin**
for their extraordinary leadership and volunteerism

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Henry Abramson

Sunday, June 2, 2013 • 6:00pm

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Couvert \$60



You will have the opportunity to make your pledge to the 2013 Community Campaign at this time.

*Estimated value of this event is \$60 which is not tax deductible.

Share your support for Linda & Leon and the work of the Federation by joining us at this Gala Dinner and contributing to the Tribute Journal.

DINNER

Name(s): _____

- ☐ I/We look forward to attending.
_____ guests at \$60.00 per person
_____ guests requesting fish meal option
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- ☐ I/We cannot attend but would like to support JFB's efforts.
Enclosed is my/our gift in the amount of \$ _____

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☐ Quarter Page (4.5 in. x 4.75 in.) \$50.00
☐ Name Listing \$18.00

Please include your tribute text on a separate piece of paper.
You may also send an email to tamara@jewishlexington.org or visit www.jewishlexington.org to respond. For additional Tribute Journal details please contact Tamara Ohayon at 859-268-0672.

Please respond no later than Monday, May 13, 2013.



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859.223-9682 or

hannab.smith@qx.net

for additional information.



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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 Fridays 7:00 p.m.; Worship Service Saturday 11:00 a.m.

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

• Jane Chaput, President • chaput1@windstream.net

• **HAV - The Lexington Havurah - www.lexhavurah.uscjhost.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
Jserve Intl Day of Jewish Youth Service		JFB Lunch and Learn with our Local Rabbis		Hadassah's own Barbara Goldstein guest speaking	TAI B'nai Mitzvah	
Hadassah Book Club						
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
JFB Yiddish Class				JFS/JFB and Hadassah Program on Organ Donation	TAI Bar Mitzvah	TAI Bar Mitzvah
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits	JFB Office Closed Shavuot	JFB Office Closed Shavuot	TAI Confirmation Service	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
B'nai B'rith Brunch			JFB Annual Meeting		OZS Bat Mitzvah	OZS Bat Mitzvah
JFB Yiddish Class						
Hadassah Comedy Night						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	JFB Office Closed Memorial Day	JFB/Leisure Club Combined Lunch & Learn			TAI Bat Mitzvah	TAI Bat Mitzvah
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
JFB Yiddish Class Hadassah Book Club		JFS Advisory Committee Meeting (Members only)			TAI Bar Mitzvah	TAI Bar Mitzvah
JFB Gala Honoring Linda & Leon Ravvin	2	3	4	5	6	7
						8