

Meaningful Ways to Celebrate the High Holidays

Reprinted from PJ Library blog posted on September 26, 2011

THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

are upon us. Whether your family attends synagogue for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur or observes the holiday in your own way, it's undoubtedly a time for sweetness, creation, waking up, and casting away.

Below are some of the ways you can honor the High Holidays together as a family.

SWEET-TASTING TRADITIONS

One of the themes of Rosh Hashanah is, of course, sweetness. (A traditional greeting is "May you have a good and sweet new year.") Apples dipped in honey symbolize that sweetness.

Before Rosh Hashanah, make a trip to a local apple orchard to collect several varieties of local apples. On the holiday, sample the apples using sweet recipes. If you are hosting a potluck holiday meal, ask your guests to bring a dish featuring apples or another traditional, symbolic food.

NATURE & THE SHOFAR

According to the Rabbis, Rosh Hashanah is the anniversary of the sixth day of creation. To celebrate the completion of our beautiful world, spend some holiday time surrounded by nature. Whether it's a hike, or a picnic at a local park, point out and enjoy the many beautiful things God created.

Take a shofar with you on a hike, and allow your children to use it. ✧



The Joys of Summer Camp

By Isabelle Booker and Rachel Kline

The best summers are summers spent at a Jewish summer camp. There is something special about camp that you just can't find anywhere else. As much as you try, you will never find the magic of a Jewish summer camp. Camp is where you can be yourself. The crazy, wild you that you would never be back home, but are proud to show at camp. The people that accept your craziness are the people that end up being your best friends for the rest of your life. You spend months away from these people, but a day doesn't go by when you aren't thinking about them, and the memories of the fun times you had together. Jewish summer camp truly is a special and magical place that we can't live without.



This summer, the Lexington community has children attending or serving as counselors at; Goldman Union Camp Institute, Henry S. Jacobs Camp, Camp Ramah Darom, Camp Livingston, Camp Young Judaea Midwest, Camp Shalom, and other area Jewish camps. ✧

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Linda and Leon Ravvin Honored by the Community

On June 2, 120 people came to the Hilton Suites at Lexington Green to honor Linda and Leon Ravvin and support the 2013 annual campaign. The guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Henry Abramson, the Ravvin's nephew. Dr. Abramson, a rabbi and scholar, discussed the nature of Jewish communal structure and the importance of maintaining community. Dr. Abramson is Dean of Academic Affairs at Touro College in Miami.

More than \$130,000 in campaign pledges was raised from the people who attended the dinner. This represented a 5% increase in contributions that these donors gave in the prior campaign. The funds raised by the community campaign support local programs such as Jewish Family Services and Camp

Shalom and human service programs in Israel and in endangered Jewish communities around the world. ✧

If you have not yet made your commitment to the annual campaign, please contact the Federation office, at 268-0672 or jfb@jewish-lexington.org.



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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.

Shalom

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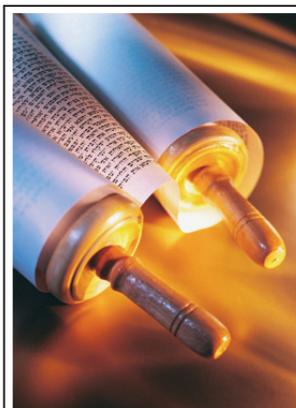
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Lunch and Learn with our
Lexington community rabbis

August 27 with Rabbi David Wortman

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 September *Shalom* is August 10.
Email articles to shalom@jewishlexington.org**

President's Message

Judy B. Wortman, JFB Director



New Babies for a New Year

This summer has been a time of growth in the local Jewish Community. In spite of the assumption that our population is aging, we have witnessed the birth and adoption of four new children since the end of May.

Bob and Barbara Grossman have adopted a beautiful two-year old girl, Jessica. After many years on the waiting list for a baby from China, the Grossmans, with big brother Ben, and Bob's parents, traveled to China to bring Jessie home. Bob is the immediate past president of our Federation. He and Barbara left for China the morning after our annual meeting when Bob turned over the presidency to Mike Grossman. Several days later Elissa and Alan Weinstein and big sister Arly welcomed a new baby girl, Emma Claire. Elissa is currently chair of Camp Shalom and had been the assistant director of our camp a number of years ago. Jessica and Emma join other Federation board babies, Elliot Mayer, son of board member Amy Faust Mayer and Mike, and Ephraim Guzman, son of board member Jenn Garlin and Marcelo Guzman, both babies were born in the last year.

Several weeks later, we welcomed new baby girl Eve Paulina McKee, daughter of Heather Ravvin McKee and Kirt McKee, sister of Myer and grand-

daughter of Linda and Leon Ravvin. Linda preceded Bob Grossman as president of the federation. Two weeks later brought another blessing, the birth of Jonah Ethan Cohen Siegel, son of Rabbi Sharon Cohen and Jeffrey Siegel. Jonah joins Ashira Smolkin in the rabbinic baby club. Ashira was born last October to Talia and Rabbi Moshe Smolkin.

All of our community's new babies are welcomed with new baby baskets provided by the Federation that contain their first PJ Library book, aleph-bet soft nesting blocks, a teething toy, and an invitation to become part of the PJ Library family. If you know of a Jewish family in the area with a new baby, please call us and let us know about the birth. Federation is committed to providing services for children and families through programs such as PJ Library and Camp Shalom.

As I write this article, David and I just heard that we have a brand new granddaughter. Her parents are Zhanna Beyl and Ari Wasserman.

I wish you and your families a wonderful New Year surrounded by family and friends. L'Shana Tova Tikatevu. ☆

Editorial

David Wortman

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

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

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

I find this to be insulting. Whether perpetrated in the editing booths of Fox News, MSNBC, or CNN, or deriv-

ing from the banal consciousness of the viewers, this non-stop focus on "high profile" incidents accomplishes exactly the opposite of what was intended. The criminals become celebrities. How many of us remember David Berkowitz, Ted Bundy, Osama bin Laden, Ted Kaczynski, and a dozen other? How many of us remember the names of their victims?

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

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

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

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 OF THE BLUEGRASS



Jewish Family Services

Save the DATE

Leisure Club

Tuesday, August 13 • Noon at JFB Conference room

Guest speaker from Bluegrass Elder Abuse Prevention Council Complimentary Lunch

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.



The Jewish Federation OF THE BLUEGRASS



JFS: At Your Service

Mimi Kaufman, JFS Director

Growing Awareness and Response to Elder Abuse

An elderly woman breaks her wrist while refusing to give her adult grandson money to buy drugs. She is an active member of her synagogue, but she fears talking to her rabbi about the situation because it is too shameful. Such stories, sadly, are becoming increasingly common according to social workers, elder care lawyers, and medical experts in the fields of aging. It is an upsetting topic that we don't like to think about. But the statistics are somewhat frightening, and they are growing in numbers probably due to our increased life expectancies and growing number of elderly people. According to the Administration on Aging, 2.1 million Americans each year fall victim to elder abuse, exploitation, or neglect. The agency believes that many more cases go unreported, and the actual number of victims could be as high as 12 million.

In general, elder abuse refers to intentional or neglectful acts by a caregiver or "trusted" individual that lead to, or may lead to, harm of a vulnerable elder. Physical abuse, neglect, emotional or psychological abuse, financial exploitation (very common), sexual abuse, and abandonment are all considered forms of elder abuse. It can occur anywhere and affects seniors across all socioeconomic groups, cultures, and races. There are lots of contributing factors. Isolation, cognitive impairment, poverty, mental illness and substance abuse contribute to higher risk. Interestingly, according to some smaller studies when dementia is involved, the rate of abuse and neglect rises whether the abuser is a family member or hired help.

Unfortunately, it is a problem that is very much underreported. People feel ashamed, like they are somehow

responsible for the problem. In the Jewish culture the saying shalom bayit or keeping peace in the home sometimes comes into play. Shalom bayit is a noble goal but it was never intended to entrap a victim in an abusive situation.

The good news is that awareness is definitely also growing. There has been a response in our government with legislation and funding to help combat this problem. The Administration on Aging in the US Department of Health and Human Services has declared 2013 "The year of Elder Abuse Prevention." There have also been some great innovative local efforts to combat the problem. Jewish organizations are in the forefront of some of the efforts as well. We are starting to see shelters that provide services to our elderly population as a response to prevention. Closest to home would be the Shalom Center for Elder Abuse and Prevention at Cedar Village, which is in Mason, Ohio - a suburb of Cincinnati.

So what should you do if you suspect someone you know is being abused? First, do not assume that someone has already reported a suspicious situation. You can call your local Adult Protective Services agency. To reach the Kentucky APS Abuse Hotline, call 1-800-752-6200 or 1-877-597-2331. To report suspected abuse in a nursing home or long-term care facility, contact the local Long-term Care Ombudsman at 1-800-372-2991. The agency receiving the report will ask what you observed, who was involved, and who they can contact to learn more. You do not need to prove that abuse is occurring; it is up to the professionals to investigate the reported suspicions.✧

The Jewish Cemetery in Lexington

By Hanna B. Smith

Cemeteries reflect the history of the locations they serve. The age of a community, who lived there, and the economic status and health of its residents are some of the information that can be gleaned from the cemetery itself and from its written records.

The first and most detailed historian of the Lexington Jewish cemetery was Moses Kaufman, charter member and secretary of the Spinoza Society, the Jewish burial society. In 1887 Moses Kaufman wrote that Jews settled in Lexington in any appreciable number only around the time of the Civil War. There were about twenty families in Lexington in 1872, the year that the Spinoza Society was formed. Judging by the number of charter members and officers of the Society, each family may have been represented.

By 1872 the Jewish community in Lexington was established enough to see the need for a cemetery and to be able to acquire land for this purpose. Until then the Jewish dead had to be taken for burial to Louisville or Cincinnati, an onerous and expensive undertaking. On July 28, 1872 the Jewish community met and founded a burial society. After obtaining a charter from the State Legislature the burial society was named Spinoza Society.

According to Moses Kaufman, the society was named after Baruch Spinoza, the 17th century Jewish philosopher. He did not say why this name was chosen other than that the founders considered Spinoza to be "one of the greatest philosophers of modern times".

On August 11, 1872 the society purchased one acre of land from William



A picture of the double grave stone of the David twins from Section E-1. Their's was the first burial in the newly acquired cemetery on Tates Creek Pike, and is therefore of historic importance. The grave and stone were later transferred to the cemetery lot in the Lexington cemetery on West Main Street, after the cemetery on Tates Creek Pike was abandoned.

The text on the double stone is as follows:

INFANT SONS OF
JOSEPH & HENRIETTA DAVID
DIED MAY 24, 1873

*Their souls are bound in the bond of life
(This last sentence is the translation of the Hebrew letters underneath the date.)*

Tanner for \$175.00 for the purpose of establishing a cemetery. This land was situated 3 ½ miles out of town on Tates Creek Pike. The first burial there was of the twin infants of Joe and Henrietta David. Joe David was one of the charter members.

Locating the cemetery so far out of town proved to be a serious mistake because it made maintenance very difficult. Worse yet, the road there was impassable in winter. Intermittent attempts at change were made over the next few years, but it was 1884 before the Jewish community acquired an acre of ground from the Lexington Cemetery Company. Henry Loevenhart and Julius Marks formed the committee which negotiated with the trustees of the Lexington Cemetery Company. On December 2, 1884 the Cemetery Company set aside "40,186 square feet, not counting alleys between lots" ... "for the perpetual and exclusive use of the Jewish dead."

Moses Kaufman's relief and gratitude

see **Jewish Cemetery**, page 5

Jewish Cemetery *(from page 4)*

is palpable as he praises the Lexington cemetery trustees for their liberality, kindness, and "Kentucky chivalry."

On April 4, 1885, the bodies from the old cemetery were reburied. That ground was then sold to William Simpson for \$100.00. Thirty bodies had been removed from the old cemetery in 1885. By July 1, 1887 three more adults and infants of five families had been buried in the new cemetery.

Moses Kaufman's narrative ends here. He carefully records the names of the officers and charter members of the Spinoza Society as well as those who conducted and who supervised the reburial ceremony in 1885.

On May 15, 1941 the Spinoza Society revised its constitution and by-laws. Part of the constitution and by-laws were further amended in 1946 during the presidency of L.K. Frankel. I. Jay Miller moved in favor of accepting the amendments, and Jay D. Weil, later the Society's secretary, seconded the motion.

On Jay D. Weil's death on March 31, 1959, the Spinoza Society paid tribute to him for his devoted services with an entry into the minutes and a copy sent to the Weil family. James S. Frankel was president of the society at that time.

In 1976, during the presidency of James Frankel, Jr., the Spinoza Society acquired section E-2 of the Lexington cemetery because section E-1 was almost filled. Sections E-1 and E-2 are near each other but do not abut, because at the time of purchase no contiguous plot was available. Landscape architect D. Lyle Aten of Scruggs and Hammond, Inc. was hired to design the new lot.

In an interview in 2013, Mr. Aten said that he envisioned section E-2 to be markedly separate from its surroundings. He had a hedge planted that arced at the opening to the section and that presented a formal entry. Section E-2 feels like a garden, calming and beautiful, separate from yet also part of its surroundings.

The first burial in section E-2 occurred on January 12, 1977.

The annual kever avot service, the custom of visiting the graves of loved ones between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur and praying there, continues to be held in section E-1 because of tradition, space, and available benches.

Until 1990 the Lexington Jewish community did not have a chevra kadisha, the group of men and women who prepare the body for burial in accordance with Jewish tradition. According to Leon Cooper, bodies were transported to Myer's Funeral Home in Louisville for preparation and then returned to Lexington for burial, a costly and time consuming operation.

In 1986 Rabbi Uriel Smith, then rabbi of Ohavay Zion Synagogue, met with two synagogue members, Leon Cooper, chair of the religious committee, and Evelyn Geller, nursing instructor at the University of Kentucky, to discuss forming a chevra kadisha in Lexington. According to Mr. Cooper, he and Ms. Geller first tried to recruit medical and dental professionals because of their experience of working with cadavers. When not enough medical professionals were available, other members of the Jewish community were approached. In addition, shomrim were recruited, people who sat with the body until the funeral. This proved easier because the shomrim have no direct contact with the dead.

By 1990 the chevra kadisha was fully formed, both a men's and a women's group. Information manuals were assembled and a training session was held. In July 1990 the chevra kadisha was called upon for the first time. Since then the chevra kadisha has been available for every funeral in the Jewish community.

There is now a memorial to the right of the entrance to section E-2 for the children who perished in the Holocaust. The memorial was dedicated in 1996 by the children of Temple Adath Israel

and Ohavay Zion Synagogue and by members of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation.

In 2013 the Spinoza Society installed a genizah in section E-2, opposite the Children's Holocaust Memorial. A genizah is a receptacle for prayer books and ritual objects that are no longer usable. According to Michael Ades, this genizah is an underground container with concrete sides, a dirt floor, and a removable top.

Further plans are for a head stone for the genizah, with a community-wide dedication service led by the rabbis of Temple Adath Israel and Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

Another recent innovation is the placement of baskets with pebbles for the use for visitors to place them on the graves of loved ones. For the longest time, mourners who wanted to observe the old custom of leaving a stone as a token of their presence had to either bring their own or search the cemetery ground for loose pebbles.

During the century and a half of its existence, the Lexington Jewish community produced remarkable members whose talents and hard work contributed to the well-being of both the Jewish and general community.

The above-mentioned Moses Kaufman moved to Lexington in 1867 and opened a clothing store. According to the Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities, he soon became active in local politics. In 1879, Moses Kaufman was elected to the city council where he became a leader of the reform faction that challenged boss rule in Lexington. He and his allies succeeded in providing that the Lexington mayor be elected by popular vote. In addition to serving on the city council, for some years as its president, Moses Kaufman served



View of Section E-2 - the tall tree with a couple of stones in the foreground, a stone bench in the middle distance, everything shaded by a tall tree. The mood is one of serenity that the architect who designed this lot wanted to achieve. The architect who designed Section E-2 is D. Lyle Aten.

as city treasurer and as city auditor. In 1896, he was elected to the state legislature. In 1915, President Woodrow Wilson appointed Moses Kaufman as postmaster of Lexington.

Lexington's Julius Marks Elementary School is named after another leader of the 19th century Jewish community. Julius Marks and Henry Loevenhart negotiated with the Lexington Cemetery Company for land for a Jewish cemetery. Leo Marks, his son, a Cincinnati business man, donated money towards the building of Temple Adath Israel.

In 1903, a group of Jewish women established a local chapter of the Council of Jewish women, focusing on charity work in the larger community, according to the Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities. The chapter was active in tuberculosis control and later in drug education. Unfortunately the Encyclopedia does not list the names of the women who founded the CJW chapter.

Mary Wenneker is one of the two women mentioned in the Encyclopedia. She was instrumental in starting the Wenneker shoe business which eventually expanded to seven stores.

see **Cemetery**, page 7

Refer a Friend to PJ Library and receive a \$10 Starbuck's Card!

PJ Library is a wonderful Jewish family engagement program that mails free, high-quality Jewish children's literature and music to families across the continent monthly. The program is underwritten by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and a partnership with very generous local sponsors here in Lexington. PJ Library enables young families to explore the timeless core values of Judaism through books and music on a daily basis in their homes. All families in the central Kentucky area who are raising Jewish children from age six months up to eight years of age are welcome to sign up.

Here in Lexington, we have reached over 140 children over the past two plus years. This is well above our goals as set by PJ Library, but we refuse to rest here on our past accomplishments. Our goal is to continue to reach out and find Jewish families with young children and sign them up for PJ Library. We want every young Jewish family to receive books and music and participate in the fantastic programming we offer in Lexington.

In an effort to find more families, we are running a REFER A FRIEND campaign. From now through September 2013, if

you refer an eligible friend to PJ Library, we will give you a \$10 Starbuck's gift card. That's right, you will get a \$10 Starbuck's gift card for every eligible friend you refer to us at the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass.

For a friend to be eligible for their child(ren) to be a part of PJ Library, at least one parent must be Jewish and they must live in the central Kentucky area. In order for you to get your Starbuck's gift card, your friend will need to mention your name when they either sign-up with us at the JFB office (859-268-0672 and ask for Lori) or online at, <http://www.pjlibrary.org/>, search for the Lexington community and then click on "enroll in this community" on the right-hand side of the page). It's that easy! This campaign is open to everyone in the community. You don't have to have children enrolled in PJ Library to be eligible to receive your Starbuck's gift card.

So reach out, introduce yourself to new families at services, and ask if they get PJ Library books. Maybe you will make a new friend, introduce them to PJ Library, and get a Starbuck's gift card for your efforts. ☆



Rosh Hashanah Greetings

The Officers, Board of Directors and Members of The Lexington Havurah Wish all members of the Community
a Most Peaceful and Healthy New Year

Stan Saxe, *president*

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

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



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



The members of Ohavay Zion Synagogue Wish All Our Friends in the Bluegrass



*A Shannah Tovah u' Metukah
A Good and Sweet New Year!*



The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS



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On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, we pray that this New Year will be one of joy, happiness, and well being. May we celebrate community and family and strive to strengthen the bonds between us. May this be a year of peace for Israel and its neighbors and a year of healing for the entire world.

L'shana tova tikatevu,

Michael Grossman, *President*

Judy Wortman, *Executive Director*

Jewish Cemetery (from page 5)

Not mentioned in the Encyclopedia is Lena Skuller, Mary Wenneker's contemporary. Following the untimely death of her husband, Lena Skuller continued the couple's jewelry store which she expanded to include fine china and silver ware. According to her descendants, Ms. Skuller was a highly successful businesswoman and a philanthropist. The founders of the Lexington Jewish community and their descendants, whose bodies now rest in the Jewish cemetery, shared a sense of community obligation, and this obligation also extended to the wider community. They supported community institutions with their labor, their talents, and their money. They arrived as immigrants and helped build a viable community.

Whether we are their direct descendants, newcomers, or transient residents of today's mobile society, it behooves us to uphold the founders' memory and to continue their work of supporting this community.

Currently Michael Ades is President

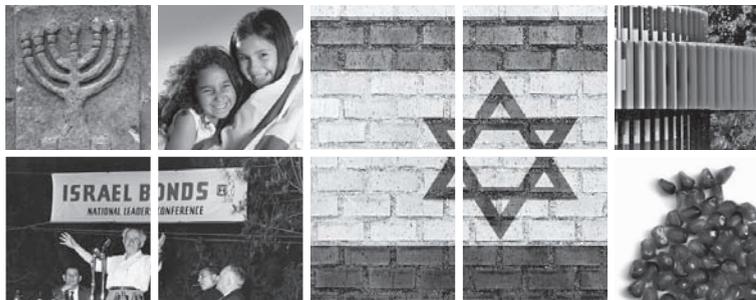
of the Spinoza Society. Trustees are Ben Baker, Joe Rosenberg, and Simone Salomon.

Visitors to the Lexington Cemetery often have difficulties locating the Jewish sections. Here is a guide: after entering the cemetery gate on West Main Street, continue along the cemetery's main avenue until Section I-1, turn left; Section E-1 will be on your left, just past Section I-1. To reach Section E-2, continue past Section E-1, past Section D-1 on your right. Section E-2 will be ahead, opposite Section 48's Garden of Remembrance.

(Sources: History, Charter, Constitution, By-laws, Rules and Regulations of the Spinoza Society of Lexington, Kentucky; Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities; Kentucky Digital Library.

With many thanks to the following: Michael Ades for making the files of the Spinoza Society available to me; D. Lyle Aten; Leon Cooper; Harry Cohen and Jan Cohen Cerel; Debbie Kiser, Julius Marks Elementary School; Sanford Levy). ☆

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Ask A Rabbi

Rabbi David Wortman



Q: What is so important about the month of Elul?

A: Elul is the month before Tishre. Tishre is when the High Holy Days occur. I have often claimed that major Jewish holidays start before they begin, and end after they are over. What?

For instance, Pesach actually starts with the four special Shabbatot preceding it. A month after Pesach is Pesach Sheni, As described in Numbers 9:9-13, a Jew may bring the *Korban Pesach*, (Passiover sacrifice), on *Pesach Sheni* if s/he is ritually impure due to contact with a dead body or were on a "distant journey."

Sukkot begins with building of the Sukkah and ends with its dismantling

after Sh'mini Atzeret.

The High Holy Days begin with the beginning of *Elul*. The rabbis tell us that *Elul* is an acronym for the verse from Song of Songs: *Ani l'dodi, v'dodi li* – "I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine." The "Beloved" is God. The idea is that we remember and strengthen our relationship with the Creator, and remind Him of that relationship, in the time before approaching God for forgiveness. *Elul* is thus very important in preparation for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Near the end of *Elul*, this year on the 25th, is the ritual of *selichot*. It occurs on the Saturday night prior to Rosh Hashanah, a minimum of four days before. If, for example, Rosh Hashanah falls on a Monday, *selichot* will be two Saturdays before. This year, the Holy

Day is on a Thursday. In any case, *selichot* is a series of penitential prayers designed to begin the process that will climax on Yom Kippur, and end on *Hoshanah Rabbah*.

At the end of *Elul* is *Rosh Chodesh Tishre* – the beginning of *Tishre*. Since this marks the date of Rosh Hashanah, it is the *rosh chodesh* that does not have the usual practices for the new month. It is assumed that because of the Holy Day, one will remember that it begins a new month.

Another significance of *Elul* is that we sound the *shofar* each morning, other than Shabbat. This "awakening" is designed to initiate the call for repentance. The Judaism 101 website tells us, "According to tradition, the month of *Elul* is the time that Moses spent on Mount Sinai preparing the second set

of tablets after the incident of the golden calf (Ex. 32; 34:27-28). He ascended on *Rosh Chodesh Elul* and descended on the 10th of *Tishri*, at the end of Yom Kippur, when repentance was complete. Other sources say that *Elul* is the beginning of a period of 40 days that Moses prayed for God to forgive the people after the Golden Calf incident, after which the commandment to prepare the second set of tablets was given."

As we enter the month of *Elul*, may we start the process in introspection, and may we be forgiven for the new year. L'shanah tova – Happy New Year. ✨

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.

MAZON: A Jewish Response To Hunger Shocked And Horrified By Effort To Split Farm Bill

A Jewish Response to Hunger is shocked and horrified by the effort of Republican leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives to "split" the Farm Bill and advance a bill stripped of the nutrition title.

"This is a back room political maneuver that flies in the face of decades of bipartisan consensus and rural-urban cooperation that have produced past farm bills and balanced diverse national priorities," says Abby J. Leibman, President & CEO of MAZON. "This ideologically-driven and misguided effort, which is nothing more than a thinly-veiled attempt to decimate the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, is outra-

geous and unacceptable.

MAZON stands in strong opposition to this effort to split the Farm Bill and shred our nation's vital nutrition safety net. As an organization informed by Jewish values, MAZON takes seriously its responsibility to care for the most vulnerable among us.

In Leviticus we are commanded: 'You shall not reap all the way to the corners of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest... you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger.'

In other words, providing for those who are poor and vulnerable is a funda-

mental obligation of a just and decent society and not simply an act of charity.

"MAZON's commitment to protecting full funding for SNAP remains steadfast," affirms Leibman. "We will continue to rally our supporters and our network of synagogue leaders and guarantee partners to stand up for struggling families in America. We look forward to engaging Members of Congress to craft a comprehensive, balanced, and just Farm Bill that

provides food assistance to our nation's children, seniors, working poor, and military families in need." ✨

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Israel 21c: Jewish-Muslim troupe seeks peace through drama

The 'Take Away' message from Israeli-Palestinian Y Theater duo is that theater can be a rehearsal for a better world.

By Karin Kloosterman

Tasking themselves with the lofty idea of making peace through drama, Jerusalem's Y Theater attempts to embrace Jerusalem's beauty and conflicts to enable a public discourse that is self-critical.

Y Theater's latest production is called "Take Away." Developed by an Israeli and Palestinian over two years of workshops with Israelis, Arab and Jewish, Palestinians and foreign theater types, the play evolved into a metaphor for the city of Jerusalem, which is built on a hill.

They were influenced by Israel's *alte zachan*, men who collect old scraps and appliances to be sold at the market, and also the *zaballeen*, Cairo's Christian garbage collectors.

Sifting through Israeli garbage dumps has also been a mainstay for Palestinian kids in recent years.

"We look at the material as valuable insofar as it will help us achieve our goal. When something is no longer purposeful we discard it. This is true of people and of stuff. In this piece we explore how we can understand what is going on [in Jerusalem, Israel, the Middle East] and somehow deal with the consequences," co-director Bonna Devora Haberman tells ISRAEL21c.

In the play (co-directed by a die-hard Israeli Zionist and a passionate Palestinian nationalist) Jerusalem's holiest place to Jews and Muslims — the Temple Mount — is a trash mountain where scavengers poke around for their daily keep.

Talking trash

These "refugees" from smaller conflicts find refuge together as they eat, sleep, shower, garden and work together in their own little "dump," which to them has become a sacred hill.

This small ecosystem works well until a Big Developer comes to profit from a large wall to be built, dividing the trash mountain and the people's allegiances to one another. There is an obvious inference here to the separation barrier, which Israel has constructed to stop the flow of infiltrators from the West Bank.

Two Israeli Jews, one Palestinian and one Druze woman act out various characters in the play, in Hebrew and Arabic, to evoke questions about the Middle East reality.

Haberman and co-director Kadar Herini hope that the audience will

ask themselves self-reflective questions rather than laying blame on the other side.

Both Haberman, a philosopher and founder of Women of the Wall in Jerusalem, and Herini, who has sacrificed friendships and jobs for collaborating with an Israeli, are an example of Middle East peace in the flesh, despite the fact that they work very hard at getting along.

"Kadar believes that Islam is the ultimate development of religion, which encompasses whatever gifts and contributions that Judaism and Christianity made to humanity, and he sees no reason why we shouldn't simply convert to Islam. I'm an observant Jew and I practice religiously. We're both learning how to find shared space. Sometimes it's sheer agony," Haberman has said.



Kadar Herini, "a brave person." Photo by Shmuel Browns



Bonna Devora Haberman onstage.

Haberman was born in Canada and moved to Israel in 1986. She is 53 and the mother of five children. Herini, 37, was born in the Palestinian village of Hizma.

"I am a social entrepreneur with a strong background and commitment to theater as a rehearsal for a better world," says Haberman.

An unlikely partnership

She met Herini at a workshop in the Speaking Arts Festival, which pairs performance artists in music, movement and theater at the YMCA in Jerusalem.

"We met about five years ago and worked together for three days with other artists and performers and by the third year decided we should work together," says Haberman. "We are now committed to persevering and creating art together to initiate Israelis and Palestinians into a better civil discourse.

"I think this is, in fact, the only collaboration between a Zionist [believer in Israel as a Jewish homeland] and an ardent Palestinian nationalist. My credentials as a Zionist are strong, and in spite of that, it is really hard and challenging. We are holding on with our fingernails and lose people all the time."

Haberman calls her co-director "a brave person."

"He is under threat and is jeopardizing himself in his own community, which has turned its back on him. ... He's isolated and even blacklisted by his peers," she tells ISRAEL21c.

"Our performance is an opportunity to have revealed a segment of society involved in a long-term and deep process of change," she concludes.

"Take Away" is a one hour and 10 minute play in Hebrew and Arabic. An English-speaking audience can enjoy it without translation, says Haberman, but an English synopsis can be provided for those who see the show, playing May 26 at Safta, Tel Aviv, at 8 pm; and May 29 at the Khan Theater in Jerusalem at 6 and 8:30. ☆

ABOUT KARIN KLOOSTERMAN: Karin Kloosterman lives in Jaffa, Israel. She is a journalist, writer and blogger who focuses on the environment and clean technology from Israel and the Middle East. Published in hundreds of newspapers around the world, Karin also writes for the *Huffington Post* and *Green Prophet*.



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Relocation Specialists

Creative Energy – Lorne Dechtenberg

By Hanna B. Smith

The Lexington Jewish community boasts a number of fine musicians among its members. Among them is Lorne Dechtenberg, a young composer and conductor. Lorne, who holds a doctorate in music from the University of Kentucky, is producer and creative director of Upbeat Arts, a company that publishes and produces musical works in video and audio. He also writes for television and film.



In addition, Lorne co-founded the Bluegrass Opera. This company focuses on new musical works and works that have not been shown here before. It usually produces two to three performances per year. The company's next performance, planned for August 2013, is an opera, "Lady Windermere's Fan," composed by Lorne and based upon a play by Oscar Wilde.

As if this was not enough, Lorne also conducts the choir at Temple Adath Israel, and he assisted with reworking the sound system at the Temple. Lorne conducted the combined choirs of Temple Adath Israel and Ohavay Zion Synagogue at the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass' winter dinner in December 2012. He has also provided musical entertainment for Hadassah functions.

Lorne teaches private students voice and piano. He himself is a trained operatic baritone.

To date Lorne has composed four operas, a symphony, and numerous solo, chamber, and orchestral works. Ken-

tucky Educational Television taped "The Honeymoon Symphony" in 2010 and is featuring it on its website in four parts: the symphony's creation; the rehearsal processes; and finally the performance. The viewer has the opportunity to watch the composer from the inception of his work, through the rehearsals with their changes, glitches, and "aha" moments to hearing the completed symphony. Other works are featured in part on YouTube, together with interviews with Lorne discussing his philosophy that inspires his compositions.

Lorne grew up in South Florida, in a traditional Jewish family. In high school he majored in science and was a National Merit Scholar. He still likes mathematics and is a whiz with calculus. He also took courses in television and film. Music was and continues to be his main interest, though.

As a student at the University of Houston, Lorne worked with the Houston Opera as a singer, conductor, and coach. He also performed as a cantorial soloist. After completing his master's degree in music composition, Lorne moved to Lexington where he had obtained a fellowship in music at the University of Kentucky. He completed his doctorate in 2010.



Lorne decided to stay in Lexington because of its flourishing arts community and vital Jewish community. "There is a wonderful community here, and I am glad to be here," he says. Central Kentucky is fortunate to have this multi-talented and energetic young man make his home here. ☆

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

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Are you on the Jewish Federation's email list?

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

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May the inscriptions we author in the Book of Life be only for the good... for ourselves, for our communities, and for the world! May this season of holiness bring us to be and to do our best to face challenging times that cause us to struggle and moments of celebration that lift our hearts.

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- Rhonda



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Green Team News From TAI

The garden is growing great guns. We have water on site and a new fence. We have a bee hive, thanks to Alec Stang. Janet Scheeline has done an amazing amount of weeding and pruning to make our garden beautiful.

Because Mickey Hernandez has steadily cared for the compost, all of our beds are enriched and growing fabulously.

The peach and pear trees are loaded with green fruits, as are the blackberry canes. Our first strawberry season was short but sweet. We have also harvested peas, lettuces, rhubarb and herbs. Beans, cukes, squashes, peppers and tomatoes are growing.

There Is Still Time To Get Involved In The Garden.

We have more exciting projects planned. We are adding more plants and a fruit tree and hope to create a seating area under the shade tree. We plan to lay irrigation lines to make watering even easier. Contact Jo Stone if you want to help.

The Green Team will be hosting the Oneg on August 16 that will feature many foods from the garden. Jo Stone has been harvesting produce throughout the summer.

The Green Team will also be featuring environmental displays in the social hall

over the High Holidays. Look for ways to reduce energy use and protect the environment.

We are partnering with COEJL (The Coalition on the Environment for Jewish Living) to reduce energy use in the Temple and, hopefully, in our homes.

This endeavor was an outgrowth of 50 Jewish leaders from across the country, and across the religious and political spectrum, getting together and signing the Jewish Environmental and Energy Imperative" declaration.

The goal is to significantly lower greenhouse-gas emissions, advocate for energy independence and security, and reduce the Jewish community's energy consumption by 14% by 2014.

The year 2014 was chosen because it is the next "sabbatical" or seventh year in the Jewish calendar—Shmittah—a traditional time in the agricultural cycle to refrain from impacting the earth. ✨

Anyone interested should contact Mickey Hernandez (859) 321-0121, Jherna7056@aol.com or Jo Stone (859) 226-0990, schoolgarden@windstream.net.

Hadassah Saved My Daughter: 2013 Kick-Off Luncheon



Jessa Perrin had a backpack, an iPod and an air of independence. She was 16 when she boarded a plane in Cincinnati four years ago this past July, headed for Israel with a group of other high school students. She told her parents she would see them in a month.

About a week into the trip, she became ill, with what appeared to be a stomach virus or food poisoning. What followed in the next few days was a medical drama that is any parent's worst nightmare. "Basically healthy one day...and dying the next," says Bonnie Ullner, Jessa's mother.

Bonnie, who is the President of the Cincinnati Chapter of Hadassah, will tell her remarkable story on August 25 at Hadassah's "Kick-Off Luncheon" for all members, associates and guests. Join

us for the luncheon being held at the Hilton Suites at Lexington Green at 12:30pm.

We will also honor Dr. David Wekstein as the recipient of the Irwin "Ernie" Cohen Associate of the Year Award.

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah is taking this opportunity to introduce a new, national grassroots fundraising campaign called Chaisociety. Enrollment in Chaisociety requires an annual giving commitment of \$180 or \$360 for Silver Chaisociety membership. This generous donation can be paid by credit card in affordable monthly installments of just \$15 or \$30, respectively. An added feature of enrollment is that the member or associate can select the specific Hadassah project most meaningful to them to "make an impact" with their annual donation.

You don't want to miss this special event. Please look for your invitation in the mail and see additional information available in this issue of Shalom. ✨

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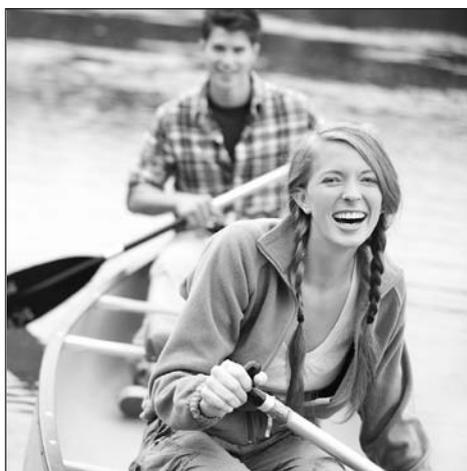
A Mini Vacay Getaway for Jewish Young Professionals

Discover, or rediscover, how much fun overnight camp can be when Jewish young professionals from across the region meet up for a “mini vacay getaway.” Access and Camp Livingston present **The Great Escape**, featuring 600 acres of fresh air and fun, including a lakefront aqua park, a giant waterslide, high ropes course, zip line, canoes, kayaks, arts & crafts, sports and more, Saturday, August 17th through Sunday, August 18th.

“Whether you went to camp as a kid, or have never stepped foot in a cabin, much less a canoe, this event is for anyone looking for a fun new way to enjoy an ‘old school’ weekend in the great outdoors!” explains Briana Landesberg, Access’ Event Coordinator. “Thanks to the generosity of Camp Livingston, the entire facility will be ours from Saturday through Sunday,” she adds.

“Our Jewish community is lucky to have such a great overnight camp with so many amazing amenities,” explains Ben Davis, Camp Livingston Director. “We are happy we can open it up for the exclusive use of Access so their constituents from across the region can take advantage of all we have to offer!”

The event will kick off at noon on Saturday with a camp-style lunch with a grown-up twist, followed by more than 24 hours of nonstop fun, consisting of lakefront activities, including a water trampoline and other aquatic apparatus such as a 100’ ft water slide, as well as a chance to boat, swim and sun on the sandy beach. Participants will also be able to team up for softball, Ultimate Frisbee and other sports at the athletic field, as well as shoot hoops, play the camper favorite, Gaga, and test their daring on the high- and low-ropes courses, rock climbing wall and zip lines. Of course there will be plenty of time for all the tried-and-true camp



activities such as nature hikes, tie-dying, lanyards and other arts and crafts in the open-air Art Pagoda.

At dusk there will be a campfire cook-out with a guitar-accompanied song session and Havdalah ceremony under the stars. The evening will culminate with a midnight pool party with music and more. After a waffle-bar breakfast on Sunday, all camp amenities will once again open up for guests to enjoy for the rest of the day until departure at 4pm. Lunch on Sunday is also included.

Camp Livingston is located in Bennington, Indiana, and is a little over two hours away from Lexington. There is plenty of parking. The cost of this weekend getaway is \$110 dollars per person, **but thanks to The Mayerson Foundation, the first 200 to RSVP before August 10th, will only have to pay \$35/ person**, which includes all the above-mentioned activities, meals, shuttle bus and accommodations. Areas for groups or couples who would prefer to pitch their own tents will be made available. All others will be housed in traditional cabins. ☆

Access is an initiative of The Mayerson Foundation, a private family foundation in Cincinnati, and offers 4-6 programs a month designed to help Jewish young professionals get connected to one another and to the Jewish community. To learn more about Access or any upcoming events, please visit www.jypaccess.org or contact Briana Landesberg at info@jypaccess.org or 513-373-0300.

B'tayavon (Hearty Appetite)

By Vivian Bitensky

[Ed. note: After a long and delectable tenure as the writer of B'tayavon, Ruth Poley has, unfortunately, moved from the community to the Southeast. We, at Shalom, wish her well. We are in the process of working with new contributors. In the meantime, please enjoy Vivian Bitensky's wonderful lemon bars below.]

Lemon Bars

The first time I tasted lemon bars was at my sister-in-law's home in New York and a love affair began. After trying Paula's recipe, I discovered many different recipes. The following is my favorite:

- 2 cups flour, plus 1/4 cup
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar, plus 1 tablespoon
- 1 cup butter (margarine), melted
- 4 eggs
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder

1. Preheat oven 350
2. Mix two cups flour, 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar and melted butter. Spread into a greased 9-by-13 inch pan and bake for 25 min. (The crust will be pale)
3. Mix eggs, granulated sugar, lemon juice, baking powder and remaining flour and pour over HOT baked shell. Bake for an additional 25 minutes, or until set.

Refrigerate. Dust with remaining confectioners' sugar before serving. Cut into 15 equal squares.

ENJOY!

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.

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Celebrate Tashlich this Rosh Hashanah with the Family

Reprinted from PJ Library blog posted on September 11, 2012

SPEND TIME WITH THE FAMILY this year by preparing for Rosh Hashanah with *tashlich*, the ceremony of casting off ones sins before the coming New Year.

Tashlich, which literally translates to “casting off,” is a ceremony performed on the afternoon of the first day of Rosh Hashanah. During this ceremony, Jews symbolically cast off the sins of the previous year by tossing pebbles or breadcrumbs into (typically fish-filled) flowing water. During this ritual, we think of all the things we’ve done wrong in the past year and then “throw them away,” promising for improvement in the coming year.

As Amy Deutch discusses in her *Kveller.com* article “*Tashlich*,” the symbolism of *tashlich* is something children can understand and learn from as well:

We think about all of the things we’ve done wrong in the past year, and then we throw them away ... It works for the preschool set. They’re constantly trying harder to tie their shoes, reach the shelf, ride a bicycle. Trying harder to be better people is something that they can work on, too.

Not only does *tashlich* present an opportunity to teach children about the feelings and behaviors associated with making amends, it also presents a chance for families to spend quality time together. ☆

Rosh Hashanah Begins Sept. 4: So Order Your Greeting Baskets Now Proceeds Benefit TAI Preschool

TAI Preschool is selling Rosh Hashanah baskets once again. They will contain apples, local honey, a round challah and other goodies. The Rosh Hashanah baskets operate much like the Uniongram program; each recipient will receive one basket with a card listing all of the names of those who are sending their greetings. This is a wonderful way to share New Years’ wishes with family and friends in the Lexington area, to show appreciation to others who have been helpful to you, and to help build community spirit while supporting TAI Preschool. The baskets will be delivered to homes in the immediate Lexington area in time for Rosh Hashanah.

The cost is \$20 for each basket on which you want your name included (for example, if you want to send greet-

ings to five families, the cost to you will be \$100.00). The quantity discount is 10 baskets for \$175. In addition to, or instead of, sending baskets, we will print your name on all of the cards as a sponsor of this fundraiser for \$60. Additionally, many congregation members wish to send greetings to Temple and Preschool staff (Rabbi Kline, John McDonald, Sandee Wildes, Rachel Estep, Katherine Henry, Alice Logsdon, Mimi Kaufman, Laura Creamer and the new religious school director). Adding your name to their cards costs \$5 per staff member. To assure that we have enough materials for all of the baskets, please send in your order no later than Wednesday, Aug. 28. We cannot guarantee that orders postmarked after that date will be filled. ☆

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**Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 21 to
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Sim Shalom: Congregation News

By Jesse Weil

Sim Shalom finally celebrated the 20th anniversary of its official founding in 1992. It was a bit belated because so much of our energy for the past two years has gone into fighting against the loss of our present recognition by the Hungarian government. But, we finally did it, with a serious look back at the early days of the community. In the early years of the congregation, many young British Reform Jews helped the Hungarians enormously in learning how to practice Judaism by coming to Budapest for Jewish holidays, for long weekends, and for teaching by example how to celebrate the holiday or Shabat. One of the other products of these many trips was not a few romances, and even several marriages. Some years after the founding, one of these young married couples made several video interviews with both the British and Hungarian participants to produce a record of what they had all been so active in creating.

There were videos of one British Rabbi and one Hungarian rabbi-to-be, as well as of several of the important lay leaders of the period. So, our anniversary was celebrated by watching a half dozen of those videos, and then much reminiscing by those who had been present to help the newer members more fully understand what it had been like then, when at every visit something new was learned, or some new tradition was started. For me, who came to Sim Shalom well after this time, it helped a lot to learn the origins of much of what we now do on a regular basis.

Then, a week later, we celebrated a much newer tradition, participation in the Budapest Gay Pride celebration. For the second year in a row, the Budapest Reform community held a special Shacharit service to recognize and join in the Gay Pride movement. The three congregations of Sim Shalom, Bet Orim and Moses House held a joint service in the JCC, known as Balint House.

One of the main organizers was Armin Langer, a Sim Shalom member who had his adult Bar Mitzvah a year ago, and who will start the Rabbinical training program at the Abraham Geiger College in Berlin this fall. Armin led the service, which was attended by about 150 people. There weren't enough siddurim to go around. A Sim Shalom member, Anita Cantor, read the Torah, and our

own Rabbi Katalin Kelemen delivered the sermon, connecting the week's Haftarah portion to the rapid progress that is taking place all around the world in the expansion of the acceptance and legalization of gay rights and practices. Many Sim Shalom members took part in the Gay Pride March through the center of the city that afternoon. ☆



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September 20, 2013

Revolution!

SHOSTAKOVICH, Festive Overture
TCHAIKOVSKY, Violin Concerto
Caroline Goulding, violin
ADAM SCHOENBERG,
American Symphony
(Composer-in-Residence)
TCHAIKOVSKY, 1812 Overture

November 15, 2013

Fantasy

HUMPERDINCK,
Suite from Hansel and Gretel
SAINT-SAËNS Carnival of the Animals
Sonya and Elizabeth Schumann,
piano duet
STRAVINSKY, Petrushka

December 7, 2013

Messiah

7:30 pm, The Cathedral of Christ the King
HANDEL, Messiah
Lexington Chamber Chorale and soloists

February 14, 2014

Love

ARGENTO, Valentino Dances
RODRIGO, Concierto de Aranjuez
Pablo Sáinz Villegas, guitar

MENDELSSOHN,

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Women's choirs from Asbury University
and the University of Kentucky, with
guest soloists and narrator

March 14, 2014

Gold Rush

CHAPLIN, The Gold Rush

April 11, 2014

World Premiere

MOZART, Symphony No. 35
ADAM SCHOENBERG, World Premiere
(Composer-in-Residence)
DVOŘÁK, Cello Concert
Narek Hakhnazaryan, cello

May 16, 2014

Beethoven 9

GOLIJOV, Three Songs for Soprano
and Orchestra
Jennifer Zetlan, Soprano
BEETHOVEN, Symphony No. 9
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The Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, provides operating support to the Lexington Philharmonic with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

Jane Chaput, President

Hadassah is more than just the sum of our parts. We are a dynamic group of women and male associates focused on our commitment to the Jewish people.

How do we do this? By raising the funds needed to support all of our programs. Without your help and commitment, it couldn't be done. The Lexington Chapter is especially blessed with committed volunteers. Yes, there may be specific programs you are drawn to.

- My mother had Parkinson's disease so I am very committed to stem cell research.
- You may have a soft spot for Youth Aliyah, Hadassah College, or Camp Young Judaea Midwest.
- You may be moved by Hadassah's medical outreach to other countries around the world: Hurricane relief in Haiti, or helping HIV positive children in Africa.

We support all these and many more.

Nationally we are more than 300,000 strong. Locally we have more than 300 members and associates. If we all donated to Hadassah, we could raise much

more to support our projects – I think we could rock the world.

We will be kicking off the new ChaiSociety this summer. It is a program started by Hadassah National that allows a donor to contribute either \$15 or \$30 monthly for an annual gift of either \$180 or \$360. A gift of \$360 per year is considered the Silver ChaiSociety. Please take the time to read the literature when you receive it, or better yet, attend the Kick-Off luncheon on August 25 where you will see how Hadassah hospital saved the life of a young American girl. (You will receive an invitation in the mail.)

Dr. David Wekstein will be honored as the Irwin "Ernie" Cohen Associate Volunteer of the Year. Associates are crucial to the functioning of our organization, and Dr. Wekstein personifies the contributions of all associates.

Meanwhile, as we approach the High Holy Days, we enter a time of introspection. We ask if we have done our part for tikkun olam – saving the world. By donating to Hadassah, you truly can help save the world. ☆

The Lexington Chapter of Hadassah

wishes everyone in the Jewish community in Central Kentucky a very healthy and happy new year.

L'Shanah Tovah.



Our ad sizes have changed. Please review the new dimensions!

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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.

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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



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 August 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 are at 7 PM.

FAMILY SHABBAT

Our lively Family Shabbat takes place on the second Friday of each month at 7 PM. We sing songs and enjoy great stories geared to our families and their young children, but with valuable messages for all. This year we will have a Potluck dinner at 6 PM immediately preceding services beginning in October. Join us!

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 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 AUGUST

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 August 2, 2013 following Shabbat services. There is no charge 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.

CHAVURAT CHOCHMA PROGRAM

(A Friendly Gathering of Wisdom)
Chavurat Chochma will meet on August 30, 2013 at 11:30 AM for a luncheon and program. Please RSVP to Sandee at 269-2979 by August 24 so we can be sure to have enough seating for all.

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 on August 10 and 24.

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. Join us on August 3, 17, & 31.

PARSHA

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 AM in the library as we take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Rabbi will lead some discussions, and everyone will take turns on August 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31. We will have Parsha with worship on August 17.

HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

September 4

Erev Rosh HaShanah
7 PM—Child Care*
Oneg to follow
(No late service. See notice in opposite column)

September 5

Rosh HaShanah
8:30 AM—No Child Care
10:45—Child Care*
Tashlich, Youth Service & Picnic 5-7 PM
Jacobson Park Shelter #1

September 6

2nd Day Rosh HaShanah
Torah Study 10:30 AM

Shabbat Shuvah Service 7 PM

September 8

Cemetery Memorial Service 1 PM
Lexington Cemetery

September 13

Kol Nidre
7 PM—Child Care*
9 PM No Child Care

September 14

Yom Kippur
8:30 AM—Early Service—No Child Care
10:45 AM—Late Service—Child Care*
1:30 PM—Children's Service—No Child Care
1:30 PM Afternoon Study—No Child Care
3 PM—Afternoon Service—Child Care*
4:30 PM—Yizkor Service—Child Care*
5:15 PM—Concluding Service—Child Care*
Break-the-fast will follow services.

**Childcare will be offered only if reservations are made for the service you will be attending. Forms available in the Temple office, on the Temple website at <http://www.lectai.org/>, or call Sandee at 269-2979.*

IMPORTANT: CHANGE IN EREV ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE SCHEDULE

Based on previous attendance data, the late service on Erev Rosh Hashanah (Wednesday, September 4th) will not be offered. There will only be one service which will start at 7:00 p.m. Childcare will be available. There will also be an Oneg after the service.



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Ohavay Zion Synagogue

2048 Edgewater Court • President, Shirley Bryan • (859) 266-8050

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!

SHANAH TOVAH!

Please join us at OZS for Rosh HaShanah! All are welcome!

First Evening: Wednesday, September 4th at 8:00pm

First Day: Thursday, September 5th at 9:15am (Includes Family Services at 10:00am)

Second Evening: Thursday, September 5th at 8:00pm

Second Day: Friday, September 6th at 9:15am

KIDS' SHABBAT AND PJ LIBRARY

Please join us for this month's Kids' Shabbat service on Friday, August 16th at 5:30pm.

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!

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

- August 16
- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 20
- January 17
- February 21
- March 21
- April 18
- May 16

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

YOUTH SHABBAT AND STEWART HOME

Please join us for this month's Youth Shabbat service on Friday, August 23th at 5:30pm.

Youth Shabbat offers our students the opportunity to help lead services, and it allows our community to celebrate Shabbat with our friends from Stewart Home School (www.stewarthome.com).

We begin by welcoming our friends from Stewart Home with a dinner. Then we join together in song as we celebrate Kabbalat Shabbat, with our students helping to lead the service. This is a wonderful service filled with music and joy. All are welcome!

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

- August 23
- September 20
- October 25
- November 22
- December 13
- January 24
- February 28
- March 14
- April 11
- May 9

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

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!

TUESDAY MINYAN

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

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

OZS is offering a 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 3:00pm to 6:00pm. Please email Rabbi Smolkin (Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com) for more information or if you know someone who might be interested.

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 7:30am, followed by a light breakfast, and then fascinating study of the Talmud. Newcomers are always welcome!

INTERESTED IN OZS?

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming Jewish community. If you are interested, or if you know someone who may be interested in learning more about Ohavay Zion Synagogue, please call our membership chair 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 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.

“Old Age is a Privilege to be Savored....”

On the day I turned 80 last year, I went around proclaiming I was Lexington’s youngest octogenarian. It lasted about a day. On day two I was surpassed both in Lexington and across the country by many, many thousands who became 80 years of age that day.

For the past year and a half I have been the oldest member, save for two, of The Lexington Havurah. When I walk into most rooms where people have gathered, I am usually the oldest.

A recent New York Times piece by Oliver Sacks, professor of neurology at NYU School of Medicine and author of a dozen books including *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat and Awakenings*, was headed “The Joy of Old Age. (No Kidding).” Dr. Sacks was about to turn 80 in mid-July. “Eighty!” he wrote, “I can hardly believe it. I often feel that life is about to begin, only to realize it is almost over.”

“At 80, the specter of dementia or stroke looms. A third of one’s contemporaries are dead. ... One’s reactions are a little slower, names more frequently elude one, and one’s energies must be husbanded, but even so, one may often feel full of energy and life and not at all ‘old.’”

“I do think of old age as an ever grimmer time that one must somehow endure and make the best of, but as a time of leisure and freedom, freed from the fractious urgencies of earlier days, free... to bind the thoughts and feelings of a lifetime together.” He concludes, “I am looking forward to being 80.”

A Connecticut reader responded in the Letters to the Editor quoting Dr. Sacks’ “freed from the fractious urgencies of earlier days” to write “many are not –

far from it – and the urgent question his essay and others raise is what portion of our national treasury our society should devote to caring for the elderly who cannot care for themselves.” A question that is ensnared in the national politics of today.

Daniel Klein, a philosopher and also a writer for comedians and TV shows, considered his choices when he was about to turn 73, contemplating the attempts by many in the society to strive for displaying the signs of younger adults in a culture which encourages people to be “forever young.” As a philosopher, he wondered how best to be old and authored a book, *Travels With Epicurus: A Journey to a Greek Island in Search of a Fulfilled Life*.

Klein notes old age is a distinct stage of life that has been lost in this “new old age” business. In how to construct a meaningful old age Klein suggests from a review of many philosophers the following:

- 1) Play. All life is a play. Treasure life while ultimately taking none of it too seriously.
- 2) Reminisce and Reflect. Recent studies reported nostalgia is good.
- 3) Do not worry about “leaving your mark.”
- 4) Enjoy your loved ones.
- 5) Unplug the clock. Quit the decidedly American fear of running out of time. Let go of the anxiety of not doing enough.

Klein believes “Old age is a privilege to be savored rather than a disease to be cured or a condition to be denied.”

* * * *

It began with “Havdalah Under the Stars” a few years ago when a Havurah service and potluck supper in the month of June could take advantage of summer’s beginnings. Continued as a tradition with hosts Judy and Abe Levine

when they were permanent Lexington residents. This year the June potluck became Kabbalat Shabbat on-the-Deck, which roofed-over and screened-in protects one from the Lexington drizzle and rain, but one is still outside. The Levines had just come into Lexington and were present. Rafi Finkel, celebrating a birthday, led the Kabbalat melodies with much energy to welcome the Sabbath bride. Rafi is still one of the youngest people I know.

The Annual Meeting of The Lexington Havurah will have already occurred in July as we read this in the August edition of *Shalom*. It was part of the Havdalah-in-the-Country potluck in

Woodford county hosted by Lynn and Jim Furness. In the next issue of *Shalom* we will be able to report on the Annual Meeting (held too late for this issue’s deadline) and this year’s elected officers.

“The Holidays either come early or late,” it seems like not too often in the middle of that time which is summer’s official end and fall’s beginning. This year, the first day of Rosh Hashanah is Thursday, September 5. Early. Not to worry, next year there will be no crowding of Labor Day. In 2014 the first day of Rosh Hashanah is also on a Thursday, but three weeks later on September 25. ✧

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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:

Alexis Roth on her marriage to **Tom Ruff**, June 23, Agoura Hills, CA.

To **Elissa & Alan Weinstein**, on the birth of their daughter, **Emma Claire**.

Bob and Barbara Grossman have adopted a beautiful two-year old girl, **Jessica**.

Heather Ravvin McKee and Kirt McKee on the birth of their daughter **Eve Paulina**. Eve is the sister of **Myer** and granddaughter of **Linda and Leon Ravvin**.

Rabbi Sharon Cohen and Jeffrey Siegel on the birth of their son **Jonah Ethan Cohen Siegel**.

To **Judy and Rabbi David Wortman** on the birth of their granddaughter, soon to be named. The proud parents are **Zhanna Beyl and Ari Wasserman**.

Condolences to:

Odette & Marty Kaplan on the death of **Israel Abittan**.

Elizabeth Scher and family on the death of her husband **Robert Scher**.

Linda Dechtenberg and family on the death of her brother in Florida.

Miriam Getchel and family on the death of her husband **Thomas**.



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Community Calendar

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

• 1050 Chinoe Road, Suite 112 • 268-0672 • Michael 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
Hadassah Book Club 28	Camp Shalom 29	Camp Shalom JFB Lunch and Learn with our Local Rabbis Israeli Scouts Concert 30	Camp Shalom 31	Camp Shalom August 1	Camp Shalom 2	3
JFB Yiddish Class 4	Camp Shalom 5	Camp Shalom JFS Advisory Committee Meeting (Members only) 6	Camp Shalom 7	Camp Shalom 8	Camp Shalom 9	10
JFB Yiddish Class 11	12	Chabad-Rabbi Litvin visits 13	14	15	16	17
JFB Yiddish Class 18	19	TAI/OZS God's Pantry Night 20	TAI Sisterhood Dinner 21	22	23	24
Hadassah Kick-Off Event 25	26	JFB Lunch and Learn with our Local Rabbis Hadassah Book Club 27	JFB Board Mtgs 28	29	30	31
JFB Yiddish Class 1	2	JFS Advisory Committee Meeting (Members only) 3	JFB office closes at noon 4	JFB Office Closed 5	JFB Office Closed 6	7