

JEWISH NEWS

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Register for Camp Shalom online on March 6, 2013

We are thrilled that Camp Shalom will have online registration again this year. Camp Shalom is for children entering kindergarten through ninth grade. Registration will begin on **Wednesday, March 6, 2013**. It does **NOT** matter what time of day you register. Registration policies will be available online. We will accept registrations based on a first-come, first-served basis according to the **date** people register, starting with March 6th.

Please visit www.JewishMadison.org and follow the directions for online registration. If you have questions **before** registration begins, please contact campshalom@jewishmadison.org.

If you will not be able to register online, please contact the Jewish Federation of Madison **IN ADVANCE** to request the registration materials. Please email, call, fax or write to:

Camp Shalom
6434 Enterprise Lane
Madison, WI 53719-1117
608-278-1808 (phone)
608-278-7814 (fax)
campshalom@jewishmadison.org
www.JewishMadison.org

We encourage everyone to register online. We look forward to a great summer of 2013!

It's Not Too Late To Donate To The 2012 Annual Tzedakah Campaign

"No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another." Do your part to lighten the burden by contributing to the **2012 Tzedakah Campaign today!**

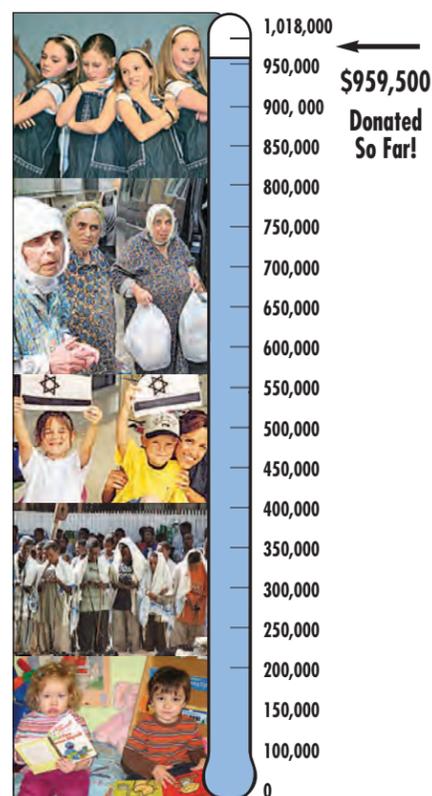
If you haven't already made your gift to the JFM Annual Tzedakah Campaign, please consider doing so today. You can contribute online at www.jewishmadison.org or by calling our offices at 608-278-1808. Gifts made by January 6th will still count towards our 2012 Campaign and our goal of \$1,018,000. Your gift will help support more than 20 essential agencies and programs here at home, as well as humanitarian efforts in 70 countries worldwide.

As we announced in September, this year our community will be called upon to meet our \$1,018,000 goal, which is necessary to fund our beneficiary agencies and programs, as well as to continue our work towards *Jewish Madison 2018*. As defined by our community's 2008 long-range plan, *Jewish Madison 2018* addresses the growing and changing needs of the Madison Jewish community and calls for increasing programming and services for youth, families, and seniors, while maintaining our collective responsibility to the global Jewish community.

We need the support of every community member! Please donate to our campaign and join us in our mission. Together we can do extraordinary things!

Jewish Federation's online donations grow

For the past several years, visitors to our website, www.jewishmadison.org, have been able to pay their Jewish Federation of Madison Annual Tzedakah Campaign pledges using convenient online payment forms. We also offer online registration for programs like Camp Shalom, Midrasha, and Gan HaYeled, as well as donations for memorial and tribute cards. Our website is powered by FED-web, the Jewish Federations of North America's cost effective solution which allows every local Federation to create a unique web presence and allows for secure online transactions. The online payment system offers a few different payment methods using both credit cards and a bill by mail option. Users may choose to pay immediately with a credit card either once or over time using recurring payments which will automatically be run each month in the amount the user specifies. When choosing the bill by mail option, the user will be billed by the office for the amount they have pledged to pay and will still have the option of paying their balance with a one-time payment or using recurring payments over time. With over six years of successful online transactions under our belt, we hope our members and website users will utilize this great payment system with confidence and help us in our efforts to be more efficient, effective, and green.



DONATE NOW to the JFM Tzedakah Campaign

www.jewishmadison.org
or call 278-1808

Jewish Federations Aid Discovery and Enhance Jewish Identity

Izzy was raised in an Orthodox household, but he didn't discover his passion for Israel until he participated in Taglit-Birthright Israel when he was 19 years old. These trips, funded in part by Jewish Federation dollars, have brought more than 300,000 young adults from all over



the world to Israel, many of them for the first time.

Izzy loved the entire trip, but found one aspect especially compelling. "By far, the most

amazing part of the trip is the soldiers with you," he said. "You're learning about Israel through their eyes." Every Birthright group spends time with young Israeli soldiers who are about their age. This encounter, or *mifgash*, is a central component of the experience.

Not long after his Birthright trip, Izzy decided to make aliyah to Israel, and his family followed him soon after. As a new citizen of Israel, he joined the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). He lists his knowledge of Jewish history as one of the reasons he has had such interest in joining the Israeli army: "I wanted to do my part to change the hardships that we've gone through as a people."

Izzy is just one among millions across

the globe whose life has been enriched by the work of the Jewish Federation.

These efforts are driven in large part through Jewish Federations' Annual Campaign, to care for Jews in need at home, in Israel and in more than 70 countries around the world. The Annual Campaign is the most trusted fundraising vehicle in the world, raising nearly \$1 billion dollars every year to provide the basic infrastructure that supports the global Jewish community.

Jewish Federations fund and support a community-wide network of organizations that care for people in need here at home, in Israel and around the world. The work of Jewish Federations nurtures and

(Continued on page 4)

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Brian Lisse, co-owner

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Who The Leaders Turn To



Photo by Fred Graber Photography

Pictured left to right: Matt Dregne, Laura Skilton Verhoff, James Egle, and Janice Bensky.

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Establishing a Legacy With Jewish Federation of Madison



Do you want to assure the continuity of our Madison Jewish Community? There are easy and tax-favored options to provide for the future needs of our local and worldwide Jewish community. You can:

- Make a charitable bequest of any amount in your will or living trust
- Name Jewish Federation of Madison as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy
- Name Jewish Federation of Madison as a beneficiary of all or a portion of your retirement plan
- Establish a named endowment fund with \$10,000 or more
- Set up a deferred or immediate charitable gift annuity with \$5,000 or more

Your gift will enrich our community's future, as well as be there to help those facing hardship here at home and around the world.

Locally, your gift will allow the Jewish Federation of Madison to continue to help support the essential services provided by the Hilde L. Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool, Camp Shalom, Jewish Social Services, the UW Hillel, Midrasha Hebrew High School, and the Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus.

Internationally, your gift will help pro-

vide rescue, relief, and development programs and services to Jewish communities in need in 70 countries, including Israel, the Former Soviet Union, Latin America, and Central and Eastern Europe. A portion of your gift will also be dedicated to providing non-sectarian aid to overseas communities in times of crisis.

And depending on what type of gift you make, you may have the option of designating your funds for a specific program or purpose.

For more information about making a planned gift, please contact Dori Falk, Financial Resource Development Director, 278-1808, dfalk@jewishmadison.org.

For complete information about charitable giving and advice specific to your situation, please consult a tax advisor or an estate planning attorney.

An estate planning attorney can also help you determine if charitable gifts beyond those explained here are appropriate for you, such as charitable trusts, gifts of life insurance, and donor advised funds.

If you plan to include Jewish Federation of Madison in your estate plan, please let us know so we can consider your gift in our long-range planning. We'd also like to thank you for your generosity, and if you permit us, to publicly

recognize your gift. If you prefer to remain anonymous, we'll of course keep your gift completely confidential.

Jewish Federation of Madison does not provide tax or legal advice and the

information herein is not intended as legal, tax, or investment advice. Please contact a tax advisor or an estate planning attorney for information specific to your situation.



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Jewish Federations Commemorate March on Washington With Freedom 25

Behind the fall of the Soviet Union is the story of the greatest and most successful human rights movement in a quarter-century – one that helped reform U.S. foreign policy and brought millions of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel and the United States, including the family of the founder of Google, five Nobel laureates, and countless others whose work re-shaped our community.

It is also one of the greatest historical examples of the collective power of Jewish Federations, who heard the call to action,

and quickly helped mobilize more than 250,000 people for a historic “Freedom Sunday” march on behalf of Soviet Jewry in Washington, D.C. on Dec. 6, 1987.

This month, on the 25th anniversary of the march, The Jewish Federations of North America will join the efforts of Freedom 25 to engage one million people in a virtual march to commemorate the occasion and heighten awareness of its significance in the Jewish community and beyond.

Freedom 25 is a coalition of national, international and grassroots organizations, es-

tablished to educate future generations about the Soviet Jewry movement and empower them to use its lessons of freedom and accomplishment. Founded by Jewish communal leadership veterans Daniel Eisenstadt and Michael Granoff, Freedom 25 aims to build awareness in a new generation and provide tools for activism and mobilization.

“Despite such a record of unprecedented achievement and its enduring effect on contemporary society, ‘Freedom Sunday’ and the movement in general are for the most part a footnote in history,” Eisenstadt said. “They are not taught in any elementary or secondary schoolbooks; they aren’t even a part of the curriculum at Jewish schools. In short, the history and lessons of the Soviet Jewry movement have slipped off the Jewish and national communal agenda.”

Granoff echoed these sentiments and added that, “now is the opportune time to tell America, and the world, about this historic movement. ‘Freedom 25’ was established to assure that the critical lessons of the Soviet Jewry movement are learned by future generations so they can again be applied to expand the reach of freedom.”

In honor of this momentous anniversary, JFNA has collaborated with Freedom 25 to release an exclusive video highlighting the Federation role in organizing the North American Jewish community for the March on Washington.

“It’s a story not only of rescue and bringing people to freedom, but also of how

we are all connected,” said Adam J. Smolyar, chief marketing officer of JFNA, who also serves on the Freedom 25 Advisory Board. “Jewish Federations were instrumental in catapulting the issue to the front pages, and to the front of people’s minds in every household of the Jewish community.”

In advance of the 25th anniversary of the March on Washington, JFNA staged a historic dialogue at the 2012 General Assembly between Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel and Chairman of the Executive at The Jewish Agency for Israel Natan Sharansky to examine how the event forever impacted the landscape of the global Jewish community, and how its reverberations continue to be felt today. Wiesel and Sharansky worked tirelessly to free the Soviet Jews and are credited with organizing the unprecedented march.

Freedom 25 will continue to stage events in coming months to educate the global Jewish community about the Soviet Jews’ struggle for freedom.

In addition to JFNA, the Freedom 25 coalition includes the American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League, Jewish Council for Public Affairs, National Conference on Soviet Jewry, Jewish National Fund, Jewish Agency for Israel, American Jewish Historical Society, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Orthodox Union, Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, National Council of Young Israel, Foundation for Jewish Camp, Yeshiva University, Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, Chai Mitzvah, Union of Councils for Jewish in the Former Soviet Union, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Council of Jewish Émigré Community Organizations.

Jewish Business and Professionals Roundtable to Hold Second Event

The Jewish Business and Professionals Roundtable, sponsored in part by Frank Productions, will hold its second meeting on January 25th at Nakoma Country Club, 4145 Country Club Road, Madison from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. with guest speaker Gregory Marcus. Gregory Marcus is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Marcus Corporation, a Milwaukee-based company that is a leader in lodging and entertainment. The Marcus Corporation has two divisions, Marcus Theatres and Marcus Hotels and Resorts. The company’s common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Greg joined the company in 1992. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 2005. He was elected President in 2008 and Chief Executive Officer in 2009. Mr. Marcus is a keen business man and respected philanthropist. Mr. Marcus currently serves as Co-Chair of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee 2012 Campaign, Director of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, Director of the Milwaukee Development Corporation, Director of the United Way of Milwaukee, Honorary Board member of the Betty Brinn Children’s Museum, Trustee of The Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, Member of The Greater Milwaukee Committee, Member of the Young Presidents Organization, Member of the Downtown Stake-

holders Finance Committee. He also served as the Director of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation from 2000-2006. Greg Marcus was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

He received a B.A. degree in accounting from Indiana University in 1986 and a J.D. degree from Boston University School of Law in 1989.

Breakfast will be served at 7:30 am, followed by networking until 8:00 a.m., and then discussion and Q & A with Mr. Marcus. We will end promptly at 9:00 a.m. RSVP to Dori Falk at dfalk@jewishmadison.org by January 15th. The cost of this event is \$25 payable in advance. You may pay by going online or by check payable to Jewish Federation of Madison, 6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI 53719.



Gregory Marcus

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Jewish Identity

Continued from page 1

sustains the Jewish community today and for future generations.

Nine months after Izzy joined the IDF, he headed into battle on the Gaza border to fight in Operation Cast Lead. A few weeks in, a rocket hit his base and exploded in the tent, severing Izzy’s dominant left arm just above the elbow. He spent the next year in physical therapy. “The rehabilitation stage was very rough, a lot of pain, a lot of phantom pain,” he says. “But I came out stronger.” The injury, he says, did not affect his outlook on life, or his attitude towards people. “The only thing that changed was my willpower.”

As soon as he was physically able, Izzy reenlisted in the Israeli army, where he had to prove that he could still fight. He returned to combat, his rifle in his right hand, and went on to become a staff

sergeant. The other injured members of his platoon also re-enlisted. “Four of us got injured, all four of us returned to the army.” Izzy is currently writing a memoir about his experiences in the army.

Coming full circle, Izzy now frequently accompanies North American Birthright Israel groups, with whom he is very popular. He’s become one of those soldiers he met on his own first trip, who made the Federations-supported Birthright experience so outstanding for him.

When asked why American students love talking to him about Israel, he does not have to think long before he answers. “They get to see true happiness from someone who’s there,” Izzy says. “They come to Israel to see what it’s like, and I give them an honest picture of being proud of what I’m doing.”

Madison JEWISH NEWS

Published monthly by
JEWISH FEDERATION OF MADISON
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53719
608-278-1808 | Fax: 608-278-7814
JewishMadison.org | info@JewishMadison.org

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Brenda Carlson, Advertising Design and Layout
Printing by: News Publishing Company, Inc., Black Earth

Copy deadline is at noon on the 15th of each month for the following month’s issue. If the 15th falls on a Saturday or Sunday, copy must be received by noon the preceding Friday. If the 15th is on a holiday when the Federation is closed, copy must be received by noon the preceding weekday. All copy must be submitted on a CD or by email attachment to info@jewishmadison.org in Microsoft Word. Copy embedded in an email, handwritten or typed hard copy will not be accepted. Photographs may be submitted, but the preference is they arrive as an email attachment in a high definition resolution. Jpeg format is preferred. Photographs embedded in an email will not be accepted. The name and telephone number of the individual submitting the copy must be included on all submissions. The Madison Jewish News and the Jewish Federation of Madison accept no responsibility for errors or omissions. All material is accepted on a space available basis, is subject to editing, and is governed by policy.



Upcoming



Jewish Federation
OF MADISON

EVENTS

Shmooze & Tunes Begins

Friday, January 11, 9:15 a.m. or 10:15 a.m.
Max Weinstein Jewish Community Building
6434 Enterprise Lane

Susan Valko-Szoke will be teaching Music Together classes for very young children and their caregivers on Friday mornings. Spend an hour with other Jewish families, SHMOOZING over challah and enjoying TUNES -- informal singing, chanting, moving, listening, and playing instruments. Cost is \$155 for 10 weeks (\$60 for each additional sibling). Contact Lynn by phone (278-1808) or email for more information.



Havdalah Disco Party

Saturday, January 12, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Goodman Community Center
149 Waubesa St.

Mark the end of Shabbat and begin a new week with music, snacks and fun for all ages. Sponsored by the JFM Family Education Committee. See page 14 for more details.



K'tantanim – Israeli Dance for Preschoolers

Sunday, January 13, 3:30-4:00pm
Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound St.

The Yonim Israel Dance Troupe offers a special class about once a month for 3- to 5-year-old dancers. The next opportunity for these young dancers is Sunday, January 13th. Cost is \$5 per session. Send questions or RSVP to Dana Prager via email at yonim@jewishmadison.org.

Rosh Chodesh with Yehonatan

Tuesday, January 15, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Jewish Federation of Madison, 6434 Enterprise Lane

Mark Rosh Chodesh Shevat (the beginning of the month of Shevat) by discussing the upcoming elections in Israel with Yehonatan, our community shaliach (Israel program coordinator). Explore such questions as: What is right and left in Israel? What are the Israelis voting for now? How would you vote if you were in Israel? Who are the main characters, what are the parties, and why are the Israelis voting again? Questions? Email israel@jewishmadison.org or call (608) 669-8042.

Jewish Professional and Business Roundtable

Friday, January 25, 7:30-9:00am
Nakoma Country Club

This event, the second meeting of a new group dedicated to the interests of Jewish business executives and professionals, features Greg Marcus, president and CEO of The Marcus Corporation. Breakfast and networking will precede Greg's talk. Cost: \$25. Email dfalk@jewishmadison.org to RSVP.



Hamantaschen Baking Open House

Brought to you by the Jewish Federation of Madison's Family Education Committee
Sunday, February 17th, 2-6 p.m., for all ages
Temple Beth El Kitchen and Social Hall

Join us for an afternoon of baking, filling, folding and fun. Come for the whole time or just drop by for a little to help. There will be a dough-making tutorial from 2-2:30 and the rest of the time will be spent filling, folding, baking and packaging. Help fill them fold them and bake them to be sold at the community Purim carnival on 2/24/12. Contact Ellen Weismer program@jewishmadison.org or 278-1808 x232 to register. See page 15 for more details.

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Baby Boomer Volunteers Make a Difference in Israel

By CINDY MINDELL

Jewish Ledger, Connecticut Edition

For many people, "Israel" and "volunteering" are a natural fit. But for all the opportunities available, most are designed for teens and young adults. Baby Boomers must look harder for suitable programs.

Two years ago, 50-something Madison, Wis. resident Marla Gamoran was unsuccessful in her own quest for a volunteer opportunity, and created Skilled Volunteers for Israel as a response. The program is a customized volunteer-placement service designed for adult professionals 35 years and older, specifically focused on engaging the North American Jewish community.

Skilled volunteers use their work-related knowledge and expertise in a volunteer opportunity that is tied to genuine needs within an organization, says Gamoran. The volunteer projects are specifically developed to apply the volunteer's professional skills and interests to strategic needs in an Israeli non-profit or educational organization. Volunteers integrate themselves into Israeli society, working side by side with Israeli colleagues, and experiencing Israel from the inside.

Over the summer, West Hartford residents Vickie Fuchs and Lois Koteen joined the ranks of experienced adult volunteers making a difference in Israeli society.

Koteen was looking for a way to improve her language skills after studying Hebrew for two years at Beth El Temple in West Hartford. While researching educational options, she learned about Skilled Volunteers for Israel through United Syna-

gogue of Conservative Judaism's summer programs and enrolled in the Volunteer & Study program, a collaboration between the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem and Skilled Volunteers for Israel. She was placed with the Jerusalem-based Shutaf, an organization promoting inclusive programs for children and teens with special needs. On the occasion of its fifth anniversary, Shutaf was seeking help with strategic planning and organizational development, Koteen's professional bailiwick.

For the month of July, she rented an apartment in the Rehavia neighborhood of Jerusalem, experiencing the country "in a way that I had never imagined doing at this stage of my life," she says: being on her own, navigating her way, making friends, and speaking Hebrew.

In the short time she was there, Koteen witnessed the fruits of her labor. "I could not have asked for a better placement," she says. "It takes many organizations a year or more to put together a strategic plan, and in three weeks, the small staff and I had a plan and a basic outline of how to get from the present to the future. Before I left, the two founders had applied for a grant to fund infrastructure and on my last day in Israel, they learned that they had received the grant – so they now have some funding to help them put their plan in motion."

Fuchs travels to Israel several times a year with husband Stephen Fuchs, rabbi emeritus of Congregation Beth Israel in West Hartford. "I decided to find some place where I could, as my father used to say, 'Make yourself useful,'" Fuchs wrote on the Skilled Volunteers for Israel website,

and was placed at Melabev, an organization that provides services to individuals with Alzheimer's disease.

While Fuchs had no previous experience with that particular population, she brought skills from a career as a teacher in urban schools. Over a three-week period, she worked three days a week with two groups of people with varying degrees of Alzheimer's, playing word games and leading seated exercises.

"Melabev is a wonderful place, where the ethos is kindness and respect," she wrote. "Everyone who works or volunteers there demonstrates this and there is a peaceful and happy air about the place. I feel privileged to be able to help the angels who run Melabev make the lives of their clients, who have been through so much... feel safe and happy."

Both women plan to volunteer again with the program.

If Israel can use the extra help during peacetime, the demand grows even more when the country is at risk. The recent Pillar of Defense operations in the south of Israel have led to an increased demand for civilian volunteers on Israel Defense Forces (IDF) bases, a need filled by programs like Volunteers for Israel (VFI). Wesleyan University professor and West Hartford resident Vera Schwarcz will spend two weeks with that organization in December.

Schwarcz was teaching at Hebrew University in Jerusalem last spring when she suddenly understood first-hand what it feels like to live under the constant threat of terrorism. While speaking about history and trauma in modern China, a bus was



Vickie Fuchs helps an Alzheimer's patient at Melabev in Jerusalem.

bombed in downtown Jerusalem. "It was the very bus my daughter used to take from her seminary to my apartment," she recalls. "She was not on it that day. But what if?"

Schwarcz travels to Israel frequently to lecture about Chinese and Jewish history, but now she is moved to do something different, "something more basic, more grounded, and more urgently needed at the moment," she says. For two weeks in December, Schwarcz, currently on leave from her teaching position, will join VFI, performing non-combatant civilian tasks on an IDF base.

(Continued on page 7)

Cycling Through Israel

By **SHELLY DUTCH**

In November we took the opportunity to combine travel to Israel with our passion for cycling. As this combination may not seem like an immediately obvious mix, we would like to share some observations for anyone who might have similar interests. Our adventure turned out to be a powerful and memorable trip.

Shelly's son Alex was in Tel Aviv for a six month internship with Career Israel, so the first priority was a few days of visiting Alex and exploring in Tel Aviv. Unfortunately, the missile attacks on Tel Aviv started the evening we arrived. The conflict between Hamas in the Gaza Strip and Israel was in play until a truce was brokered a week later. We sought shelter during several air raid alerts, saw firsthand a missile explode harmlessly in the Mediterranean off the Tel Aviv beach and generally learned more than we'd like about the stress and destruction that goes with a modern armed conflict. Although the conflict was unsettling for us, we were universally reassured by local Israelis that there was no need to worry excessively.

We had prearranged with an Israeli bike tour operator for a one week guided tour from north to south through the nation. We traveled with a large van and were given outstanding logistics support. We were provided with an energetic, licensed tour guide with advanced degrees in archeology who cycled with us to offer historical and cultural background in a personal format. The operator also made all route, hotel and meal arrangements. We found the roads to be totally suitable for road cycling with good pavement and substantial paved shoulders. The car traffic was generally low and in most cases we were trailed by our support van so we had a mobile safety barrier just behind our small cycling group. Our guides

arranged stops of historical and geographic interest at regular intervals along the way, providing rest breaks from the cycling as well as education and context for our travel. They had several route formats but were also flexible in adjusting to the group's interests.

The November weather was outstanding with highs in the 70's and around 80 degrees in the desert, and large doses of sunshine. The scenery was epic with colorful sweeping desert vistas in the south and fertile river bottoms in the north. There were some lengthy climbs and cruising descents along the way. The cycling format allowed us to breathe the air, feel the hills and intimately absorb the scenery.

Major points of interest on our route included Mt. Hermon and the Golan Heights area to the north, the Sea of Galilee, Jordan River valley, a full day of touring on foot in Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, Negev desert, and Eilat on the Red Sea in the far south. Some of our stops included the Roman and Byzantine Era ruins including Bet She'an, Beatitudes, Masada and Mount Gilboa. It was amazing to walk and ride in the lands of Abraham, Jesus and Mohammed where so much history and conflict has unfolded over the centuries.

For anyone with a love of cycling, we recommend this touring format for a proximity that may be hard to get from a bus or rental car. Our guides had a passion and love for Israel that fostered an intimate and unique opportunity to immerse ourselves in the true spirit of the Israeli culture! We feel so fortunate to have had this experience. We have heightened respect for the history of the region but also for the difficulties currently facing Israel. We were provided an opportunity of a life time and we hope you will consider taking a cycling trip in Israel in the future.



Shelly Dutch and Chuck Callender bike through Israel for a powerful and memorable trip.

For more information on travel or study opportunities in Israel, please con-

tact our community shaliach Yehonatan at 278-1808 or Israel@jewishmadison.org.

Madison Yiddish Choir – Come Sing With Us!

Madison Yiddish Choir, a community choir that rehearses weekly at Beth Israel Center, has just completed its 12th year by performing Jewish music at Gilda's Club, soon to be called Cancer Support Community. We were touched by the audience response, most hearing this type of music for the first time, and many wanting to know more about Jewish music and culture.

As the choir begins its 13th year we're planning to perfect old favorites and de-

velop a new repertoire including not only Yiddish but some Ladino, Hebrew and English songs. This would be a perfect time for people who love to sing to join us.

We rehearse on Sundays from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. If you're interested, come try out our spirited and welcoming group – no auditions are required. Just let us know you're coming by contacting either Robin Bechhofer (bechhof@bio-stat.wisc.edu) or Sally Schrag (sschrag@madisoncollege.edu).



Some Madison Yiddish Choir participants.

Gina Wilson Featured Speaker at 2013 Liesl M. Blockstein Annual Memorial Lecture

Temple Beth El and Jewish Social Services are pleased to announce Gina Wilson will be the honored speaker at the 2013 Liesl M. Blockstein Annual Memorial Lecture on Sunday, February 10 at 11:00 am at Temple Beth El. Since May 2007, Gina has served as Director of Agency Services and Programs for Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin. Gina has more than twenty-five years of experience in nonprofit management, community organizing and creating partnerships with private and public organizations. Throughout her career, she has focused on outreach efforts and revenue development to increase participation in programs that assist underserved, diverse populations. As a Board member of the Wisconsin Alliance of Information and Referral Systems, Gina acts as liaison to the 2-1-1 Wisconsin Board. She holds a master's degree in Social Work from West Virginia University and is an AIRS-certified information and referral specialist.

Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin is a nonprofit organization committed to ending hunger in 16 southwestern Wisconsin counties through community partnerships. By focusing on a multipronged approach that includes food distribution, increasing participation

in public and private food programs, and mobilizing the public, it serves nearly 141,000 people who struggle with hunger each year, 43% of whom are children. From July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 Second Harvest Foodbank, together with its more than 225 partner agencies and programs, provided nearly 11.5 million meals to those facing hunger. It is one of 200 members of Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity. For more information, visit SecondHarvestMadison.org.

The Liesl M. Blockstein Fund was established by her family as a memorial fund after her untimely death in 1986. The Fund supports two purposes: a scholarship for a Wisconsin woman who chooses to study at the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in the fields of rabbinical studies, cantorial studies or education, and presenting an annual lecture at Temple Beth El. The Liesl Blockstein Memorial Lecture series annually honors a Wisconsin woman involved in politics, academics, the arts and/or cultural affairs to address our community. This lecture is co-sponsored by Temple Beth El and Jewish Social Services of Madison in which Liesl was actively involved.



Simchas and Condolences

Mazel Tov on the birth of:

Rowan Elizabeth, daughter of James and Gena Semrow, granddaughter of Cantor Deborah Martin.

Condolences to the families of:

Eleanor Onheiber, mother of Michael (Patrice) Onheiber;

Ann Rock, mother of Michael Rock (Kathi Johnson Rock);

Wanda Auerbach, mother of Richard Auerbach (Debbie Stahl);

Jules Greenberg, brother-in-law of Jane Armstrong (Barry Greenberg);

Sherye Weinbach, mother of Dave (Dina) Weinbach;

Todd Seman, brother of Marcie (David) Wynn;

Juliette Kohn, mother of Larry Kohn (Laurie Buchalter); and

Richard Katz, husband of Rhea Katz, father of Sherie (Paul) Sondel and Neal (Marci) Katz.



Introduction to Judaism Course Brings Jewish Culture to Diverse UW Students

By ALLISON BLOOM

Part of the mission of the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies at UW-Madison is to make the study and interpretation of Jewish history, religion, politics, society, and culture available to all UW students, regardless of religious background or prior studies. This semester, nearly 120 students are enrolled in Jewish Studies 211, UW-Madison's Introduction to Judaism course. Taught by Jordan Rosenblum, Belzer Professor of Classical Judaism, the course is offered every fall and cross-listed with the Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies and the Religious Studies program.

As the Center for Jewish Studies learned in a recent survey, students enrolled in Intro to Judaism reflect the diversity of the UW

student body: they range from freshmen to seniors, major in everything from Jewish Studies to animal science to pre-law, and their post-graduation plans include graduate school, traveling for service organizations, and entering careers in business, medicine, and science.

Previous knowledge of Judaism varies widely as well among the students taking the course. Some students have attended Hebrew school since childhood; others hoped to enrich what they'd learned from family members or high school. Yet even those with prior background in Jewish Studies noted that they enjoyed learning the material anew. One student noted, "What I have enjoyed most is that even though material is extremely familiar to me, I am able to step back from my previous background knowledge and learn the material afresh

from a different, academic, standpoint."

Yet Intro to Judaism—and the Center for Jewish Studies in general—also plays a key role in educating the entire UW-Madison community about Judaism. Indeed, many students in the course had no previous knowledge of Judaism whatsoever. As one respondent wrote, "I took this class because I come from a small town that has very few, if any, Jews. I felt very ignorant about the topic and wanted to learn more." Another noted, "I am Christian and thought it would be neat to learn about another religion."

Students new to the material said they were especially interested in learning about Jewish history, foundational Jewish texts, connections between Jewish and Christian cultures, and the wide variety of contemporary Jewish practices. One student said

she was surprised to find that "the uniform term of 'Jewish' has so many meanings." Even those with a fairly extensive background in the topic reported that they learned a lot.

Intro to Judaism is a course that can influence the direction of a student's education and life. Many of the students surveyed plan to take more Jewish Studies courses in the future, and several have begun considering Jewish Studies certificates or majors since taking the course. The students wrote thoughtfully about integrating what they'd learned in Intro to Judaism with their own interests, evidence that an engaging Jewish Studies course can give students ideas and information that they carry with them into the post-University world, no matter their background, major, or future plans.

Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Israel Film Festival

By CALLIE PADWAY

Fall 2012 UW Hillel Development Intern

Come together with students, friends and the community to celebrate the 10th Annual Israeli Film Festival. This special event, free and open to the public, is scheduled from February 3rd through February 7th. The Festival aims to educate and expose the UW community to Israeli topics through film and discussion. The student-run event will be held at Hillel, which offers a welcoming atmosphere and comfortable seating. Throughout the week a mix of films, all co-produced in Israel, will be featured every evening. Each night focuses on a new theme showing the diversity of Israel and ensuring a little something for everyone.

This year's topics include immigration and refugees, Holocaust survivors, Israeli and Arab women, religion, culture, and LGBT themes. Each night also features a lecture or discussion to implore students and community members to think deeply about various aspects of Israeli life. The entire event is organized by students; from the choice in themes to the movie selection. It also encompasses student organizations across campus and invites everyone to help form a connection between the film festival, Hillel, and greater UW student life. On certain evenings more than one film will be screened.

The Film Festival will kick off on Sunday afternoon, February 3rd with a community Birthday Bash in honor of its 10th annual year. There will be various activ-

ities and tons of birthday fun with popcorn, food and short Israeli children's films. On Thursday February 7th the Film Festival highlights Israeli culture with two movies. They are *The Dreamers*, a documentary about two Haredi women trying to express themselves creatively in an Ultra-Orthodox environment and *The Rabbi's Daughter and Midwife*, about Adina Bar-Shalom, daughter of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, Israel's Chief Rabbi and the subsequent establishment of the first college for Orthodox women.

Paralleling this theme guest lecturer Gil Choen Magen, an Israeli photographer, will display his series of photo essays on the Hasidic Jewish communities in Israel throughout Thursday's festivities. The Festival will conclude with a late night movie on Saturday, February 9th at the University of Wisconsin Memorial Union to celebrate another successful year in film. Many thanks to the students, the community, and the Festival's co-sponsors: the Associated Students of Madison, the Jewish Federation of Madison, the UW Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies, and the Consul General of Israel in the Midwest.

"UW Hillel is thrilled to mark a decade of Israeli film in Madison! The films serve as an opportunity to explore the unique culture, history and human experience of Israel." --Greg Steinberger, Hillel's Executive Director.

A few of the highlighted films are:

The Flat (2012): reflects a journey of personal identity after World War II.

Adam Resurrected (2008): The film follows the story of Adam Stein, a charismatic patient of a fictitious psychiatric asylum for Holocaust survivors in Israel, in 1961.

Melting Away (2012): a film about a family dealing with their son as a cross dresser in Tel Aviv.

Strangers No More (2010): short documentary film about a school in Tel Aviv, Israel where children from forty-eight different countries and diverse back-

grounds come together to learn at a unique school, Bialek Rogazim.

UW Hillel is located at 611 Langdon St. in Madison and UW Memorial Union is at 800 Langdon in Madison. For reservations and more information on dates, times and co-sponsors, please consult the UW Hillel website at uwhillel.org in January, 2013 or contact Eden Hazani Zion at ehazanization@uwillel.org, 608-256-8361. Film trailers will also be available at Hillel's website.

Volunteers Continued from page 5

Since 1982, more than 30,000 American civilians have helped by packing medical supplies, refurbishing electronic equipment, repairing machinery, and performing logistic assignments wherever they are needed.

Since Pillar of Defense operations, VFI has put out a call for volunteers in December and January.

Schwarcz learned about VFI from a friend who has participated in the program, and saw it as a way that she could "act upon a strong desire to serve, quite literally from the ground up," she says. "I think we are most needed on army bases in Israel where supplies have thinned during Pillar of Defense operations. Restacking reservists' bags does not require a PhD in Chinese history and a writer's passion; nonetheless, I hope I can add a bit extra to those I work with and expect to write about the experi-

ence as a way to encourage others."

For more information:

Skilled Volunteers for Israel: www.skilledvolunteerisrael.org

Volunteers for Israel: www.vfi-usa.org (866) 514-1948

Skilled Volunteers for Israel is a Madison-based 501-c-3 non profit organization. The organization has already served Madison resident Hilda Fine (there was an article about Hilda last spring) and Madison native Cheryl Temkin who volunteered with Women of the Wall. The organization has multiple platforms to volunteer in 2013 including Customized Placement services, Volunteer & Study through the Conservative Yeshiva and a new group program - Volunteer BaMidbar - Volunteer in the Desert. For more information visit the Skilled Volunteers for Israel website or give Marla Gamoran at call at 608 469-0458.

JOB POSTING: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Jewish Federation
OF MADISON

The Jewish Federation of Madison (JFM) is seeking an Executive Director with depth, presence, and a proven record of excellence, who will provide the vision and leadership to guide and strengthen the Madison Jewish community. The Executive Director will oversee and direct all operations of JFM, including governance, business management, hiring and supervision of personnel, fundraising, programming, community and agency relations, and Israel and overseas relations. The Executive Director will be the recognized leader and spokesperson, representing the Madison Jewish community in JFM-related matters.

The successful candidate is a collaborative leader with strong business acumen, and an effective relationship builder with a solid reputation for integrity. The Executive Director must be a strategic thinker and planner with organizational expertise to successfully implement the strategic direction of JFM and to effectively oversee the management and maintenance of a complex facility.

The successful candidate will understand and guide the JFM's mission to work toward building a strong and unified Jewish community in order to ensure the survival, well-being and continuity of the Jewish people in this area, in Israel and throughout the world.

Please send a cover letter and resumé to carin.maher@jewishfederations.org



Congregation News

Temple Beth El • Congregation Shaarei Shamayim • Beth Israel Center

Beth Israel Center

Searching for lively social events, dynamic educational programming and ruach-filled services? Looking for a warm community that is informed by tradition and actively and meaningfully engaged with the broader community and world? Try Beth Israel Center! All of our events are open to the entire community, and we sponsor and host a variety of workshops, study groups, classes and social events each month.

Please visit our website, www.bethisraelcenter.org, for details on programming and membership, or to join our email and paper mailing lists. For more information on the events below, contact Aimee Powalisz in the Beth Israel office at 608-256-7763 or office@bethisraelcenter.org.

Supper Quiz – January 19

Imagine a night of fine wine and food with your friends. Laughter, camaraderie and the Indian-themed decor will help you forget that it's winter in Wisconsin. Introduced to Madison in 2007, the Supper Quiz quickly became a Beth Israel tradition. It's a fabulous combination of witty, intellectual entertainment and scrumptious foods. Plus the proceeds sup-

port a good cause — Beth Israel Center.

To reserve your place at a table, send your name with or without the names of up to seven teammates. Individuals and groups of fewer than eight will be combined with other contestants to form teams of up to eight. The event is limited to 10 teams, so reserve soon! Call or write to Aimee in the Beth Israel Center office (256-7763, office@bethisraelcenter.org) to RSVP. Couvert is \$85.

Shabbat Dinner – January 25

Warm up with a delicious kosher meal of oregano chicken or veggie filo rolls at Beth Israel Center! Services begin at 5:45pm and the dinner takes place immediately after services in the Beth Israel Social Hall. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$12 for children 4-12 and \$5 for children under 4 who will be eating from their own plate. RSVP to office@bethisraelcenter.org by January 22.

Fiction with Friends – February 4

Read works by contemporary Jewish authors or books with Jewish themes and then trade reviews and perspectives on

what you've read with old and new friends. Discussions are facilitated by Elana Matthews, MATC writing instructor and graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and take place at Beth Israel Center. On February 4 at 7pm, we'll discuss *The Loves of Judith* by Meir Shalev.

Shabbat Morning Children's Services

Beth Israel Center is proud to provide programming for children (babies-grade 7) on Shabbat morning. Childcare is available most Shabbatot, while the children's services take place on Shabbat when Talmud Torah is in session.

• **Matchilim (Beginners):** This service meets from 10:30-11:30 in the Multipurpose room (downstairs) and is geared towards babies, toddlers and preschoolers and their adults. Make this your child's first introduction to the Shabbat morning service: with lots of singing, movement and interactive activities and always a special Torah story.

• **Shorashim (Roots):** This service, for students in kindergarten, first and second grades, meets in room 104 from 10:30-11:30 and then goes up to the Sanctuary for the end of services. Our leaders provide Shabbat and age appropriate activities, including prayers, songs,

stories, drama, games and more. We use the beautiful prayerbook "Siddur Mah Tov", which allows meaning and spirituality to readers and non-readers alike. Adults are more than welcome to stay with their children and participate.

• **Haverim (Friends)/Kehillat Noar (Junior Congregation):** This class, designed for all 3-5th graders, will meet from 10:30 to 11:30 for a spirited camp-like Shabbat service with the 6th and 7th graders in the Small Sanctuary. Full of ruach and song, this positive and energetic Shabbat setting encourages participation with intention and attention to what we are doing—building a prayer community. After class, students will be brought to the Lounge to join their parents for the end of services in the Sanctuary.

• **Shabbat Morning Program:** This 6th and 7th grade program, designed to build confident synagogue skills, is part of the Beth Israel Center Talmud Torah and follows the curriculum of that program, including an in depth study of Shacharit and the Torah service. It runs from 9:30am to 12:00pm in the small sanctuary downstairs.

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim

Shaarei Shamayim, Madison's Jewish Reconstructionist and Renewal congregation, welcomes new and prospective members, as well as visitors, to participate in our services, discussions, classes, and celebrations. For more information or to learn about events, please visit our website at www.shamayim.org, email us at office@shamayim.org, or call 608-257-2944.

Erev Shabbat Vegetarian Potluck

Friday, January 4
6:00 p.m. – Please call the office for location.

Celebrate Shabbat in community and join us for our monthly potluck in a member's home. Children are welcome to attend. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share.

Meditation and Chanting Havdalah, Dessert Potluck

Saturday, January 5
6:30 p.m. – Please call the office for location

Join Shaarei Shamayim members and friends for our new meditation and chanting havdalah. We will begin with meditation and chanting, then do havdalah, and end with dessert. All are welcome, and no prior experience is needed. Please bring a dessert or healthy snack to share.

Shabbat Services

Friday, January 18
Saturdays, January 12 and 26
First Unitarian Society,
900 University Bay Drive

On Friday, January 18 we'll have a vegetarian potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m.

followed by dervices at 7:15 p.m. On January 12 we'll have Torah study at 9:30 a.m., services at 10:30 a.m., and Kiddush at 12:30 p.m. On January 26 we will welcome to the community Talia McKittrick as a Bat Mitzvah. Services begin at 9:30 a.m.

Intergenerational Retreat: Social Justice, Social Service: Making the World a Better Place

Sunday, January 20
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Goodman Community Center (east side of Madison), 149 Waubesa Street

Just because it's cold and dreary outside doesn't mean we can't get together for a retreat! We will have a panel of people who work in social justice and social service organizations talk about their religious or spiritual connection to the work they do. There will be plenty of workshops for kids of all ages, volunteer work at Goodman Community Center's food pantry, and a discussion led by Madison's shaliach, Yehonatan. Bagels and coffee will be served at 9:00 a.m. Please bring a brown bag lunch. (This is not a potluck!) We will also have an option of purchasing a boxed lunch...For more information or to RSVP, please contact Sue at office@shamayim.org. Non-members welcome.

Tu B'shevat Seder

Saturday, January 26
6:30 p.m. – Please call the office for location.

Join us for this unique, adult-centered Tu B'shevat seder. We'll sing, chant, and eat lots of fruit, nuts, wines, and juices.

Getting Remarried? Living Together?

Today, people in a wide array of family configurations create legal agreements related to financial holdings, obligations in divorce or separation, children from a prior relationship, family money and credit history. Even in the best of relationships, talking about how to break up can become emotional and difficult.

We find that the collaborative process of full disclosure and open dialogue empower couples to deepen their relationship as they discuss how to best plan for a future that both parties hope never happens.

Pre-and Post-Marital Agreements / Cohabitation Agreements
Divorce and Separation Agreements
Grandparents' Rights / Paternity / Child Custody
Child Support / Maintenance / Children's Rights
Post Judgment Modifications / Domestic Abuse

Janice K. Wexler
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The Levy Family Summer Series

Jewish Social Services is pleased to announce an exciting new program un-

derwritten by a generous grant from long-time Madisonian, Jeffrey C. Levy.

The "Levy Family Summer Series" will provide a memorable summer experience for active and engaged older adults.

The series will be held at Nakoma Country Club, with six high-quality programs tied by a common theme. A unique addition will be the opportunity to spend unhurried time engaging with the speaker "salon" style, in a comfortable and relaxed setting. The programs will be followed by either an elegant lunch or "high" tea.

Jeff Levy and his family have long been involved in community activities. His late father Irving Levy served on the Methodist Hospital board and was involved in the development of Methodist Retirement Services, the original building of what is now called Capitol Lakes Retirement Community. The Levy family established a number of funds at Beth Israel Center, including the Dorothy Levy Language Lab Fund, in memory of Jeff's mother. Jeff is on the board of Olbrich Botanical Gardens and the Alliant Energy Center, is a member of the United Way Foundation and served on the boards of

Beth Israel Center and Madison Jewish Community Council.

When Irving Levy moved into Capitol Lakes in 2008, the quality of life of older adults became a concern and a passion for Jeff.

With this donation, JSS will be able to meet Jeff's objective of offering an appealing, high quality summer program and dining experience for older adults of any age.

An ad-hoc committee is generating ideas for themes and speakers. The committee includes Jeff Levy, Herman Goldstein, Howard Fried, Danny Pekarsky, Senior Adult Committee members Judy Karofsky and Jean Weissburg, JSS president Nan Youngerman and JSS staff members Terrie Goren, Stacy Goldman and Louise Goldstein. Watch for more information about the Levy Family Summer Series in the near future!



Jeff Levy

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Why Federation? Because It Is Your Smart Choice For Jewish Giving

The Jewish Federation of Madison is your smart choice for effective and meaningful Jewish giving. The Jewish Federation funds and supports a community-wide network of organizations that do 2 things: 1. Care for people in need here, in Israel, and around the world, and 2. Nurture and sustain Jewish life and learning today and into the future. With each gift, we address so many causes that are important to our community: from feeding the hungry to funding Jewish education and elder care to supporting breakthrough initiatives like Taglit-Birthright Israel. The Jewish Federation also has a long track record for carrying out big and bold initiatives and mobilizing great resources during times of crisis. We helped airlift thousands of Ethiopian Jews to safety in Israel. We helped rescue and resettle more than one million Soviet Jews and we provided life-saving humanitarian relief during the recent natural disasters in Haiti and Japan. In fact, the impact of the Jewish Federation of Madison here, in Israel, and around the world is extraordinary, but not a surprise. Together, we ensure that the programs, institutions, and values that enrich the fabric of our Jewish community remain vibrant and strong. And that's smart. Please donate to the 2012 Annual Tzedakah Campaign.

Tzedakah means "righteous giving" in Hebrew. Performing the mitzvah of tzedakah is one of the central pillars of Jewish tradition. In Judaism, tzedakah is much more than an act of generosity; it's an obligation and is part of seeking a just world.

Your contribution helps support more than 20 essential local agencies and programs, as well as rescue, relief, and development programs in Israel and 70 other countries, including the Former Soviet Union, Eastern and Central Europe, Latin America, and Africa.

For our children

- Hilde L. Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool
- Camp Shalom
- Chug Ivrit/After-School Hebrew Club
- The Madison Jewish Community Day School Midrasha
- Hebrew High School

For our college students

- Hillel at the University of Wisconsin
- Taglit-Birthright Israel
- Chabad at the University of Wisconsin

For our individuals & families

- Jewish Social Services
- Jewish Education Teacher Training
- Jewish family educational and social programs
- The Road Home

For our worldwide community

- Jewish Agency for Israel
- America Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
- World ORT

For our local community

- The Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus
- The Goodman Aquatic Center
- The Minkoff Center
- Madison Jewish News monthly newspaper
- Community Shaliach/Israel Program Specialist
- Yonim Israeli Dance Troupe
- Yom Hashoah Annual Holocaust Memorial Program
- Yom Ha'Atzmaut Israel Independence Day Annual Celebration
- Hava Nagila Annual Community Picnic
- Community Relations Committee

Donate today and share the light with those in Madison and around the world! There are four easy ways to contribute:

1. Visit jewishmadison.org
2. Offer your pledge when a volunteer calls you
3. Send in the form in the *Madison Jewish News* or the form you receive in the mail
4. Call the Federation office at 278-1808

TZEDAKAH CAMPAIGN PLEDGE FORM



Jewish Federation
OF MADISON
6434 Enterprise Lane
Madison, WI 53719

I/We pledge \$ _____ to the 2012 Tzedakah Campaign

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Will donate online at jewishmadison.org Send bill Check enclosed

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I want to contribute an additional credit card convenience fee of 2.9%

We hope you'll agree to be included in our donor appreciation listing along with almost all our donors. We list names by category, as detailed above. Your listing will serve as an inspiration to others to help build our community and those facing hardship here and around the world. If you prefer NOT to be listed, please check this box

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Oasis 14 oz
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Dr Praeger's 10 oz
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Golden 16 oz
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UW Chabad's Linking Hearts Program for Special Needs Children Begins Successfully

By **MELISSA BROMBERG (UW SENIOR)**
AND **BRITTANY FALLOW (UW JUNIOR)**

What started out as apprehension has now turned into affection. On our first day of Linking Hearts, we didn't know what to expect. We showed up at the family's home, and rang the doorbell, and that was just the beginning of this amazing experience we have had the privilege of being a part of.

Before our first day at the Pingrys' we had limited knowledge of what working with a child with disabilities was like, and our experience has far exceeded our expectations. Not only have we had the experience of working with such an amazing child like Gabrielle, but we also feel like we have become an

integral part of her life, which is exceptionally rewarding. After just a few "play-dates" with Gabrielle, her mother told us how Gabrielle was very excited to tell family and friends about her new best friends. We knew that she enjoyed her time with us each week, but didn't realize how much of an impact we really had.

While we are aware of the positive impact our donated time has on Gabrielle, we have also learned and benefitted so much from this experience. As communications and education majors, we both plan to be in fields that involve a lot of teaching and conversing. This experience has taught us much more than any classroom has. It has taught us about compassion, true friendship, and learning to be grateful for what we have. Many of us have the ability to communicate freely, live independently, and do the simplest of daily tasks and routines. This experience has taught us to be immensely grateful, for not everyone has such abilities. It has helped us take a break from our busy lives as students and pay attention to what is really important to us. It's even changed some of our plans for after graduation!

When we originally signed up for this experience with Linking Hearts, we thought it would be a great way to give back to the community and get involved in something other than our schoolwork

and Greek life activities. We are pleasantly surprised at how much we enjoy working with Gabrielle and how each week we seem to stay longer and longer at the Pingrys' house. We would recommend this program to any of our peers or even families who are looking for a little bit of a break from their parental duties or looking for another way to engage and entertain their child!

We are forever grateful for UW-Chabad and Linking Hearts who have

made this incredible experience possible.

Linking Hearts has been pairing special needs children with UW student volunteers since October of 2012. The volunteers visit and play with the children once a week, providing the family much needed respite and giving the child new special friends. For more information or to enroll your child, please contact Henya at Chabad at UW, 608-257-1757.



Gabrielle with her new friends. L to R: Brittany Fallow, Gabrielle Pingry, and Melissa Bromberg.

FREE GRAPHIC DESIGN SERVICES

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Madison Jewish News

Contact Andrea Stein at
astein@jewishmadison.org

beth israel supper quiz

Saturday, January 19, 7pm

Imagine a night of fine wine and food with your friends. Laughter, camaraderie and the Indian-themed decor will help you forget that it's winter in Wisconsin.

The Supper Quiz is a fabulous combination of witty, intellectual entertainment and scrumptious foods. Plus the proceeds support a good cause — Beth Israel Center!

To reserve your place, call or write to the Beth Israel office (256-7763, office@bethisraelcenter.org). Individuals and groups of fewer than eight will be combined with other contestants to form teams of up to eight. Couvert is \$85; deadline for RSVPs is 1/11.

HAUS, ROMAN and BANKS, LLP

Attorneys at Law

Lauri Roman

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Free Parking

— 2013 — ISRAELI FILM FESTIVAL

Presented by UW Hillel

5 nights 7 films 10 anniversary

Events begin at 7 every night



Check the Hillel website for details

SUNDAY **feb 3** | One in a Minyan - LGBT night
7:00 p.m. reception
8:00 p.m. Melting Away (2012)

2/3 Noodle (2007)
Melting Away (2012)
2/4 Strangers No More (2010)
2/5 The Flat (2011)
Adam Resurrected (2008)
2/6 Ameer Got His Gun (2011)
2/7 Haredot/The Dreamers (2011)

THURSDAY **feb 7** | Blue/White & Black Hats
7:00 p.m. Haredot/The Dreamers (2011)
8:00 p.m. lecture by Israeli Photographer Gil Cohen Magen

All events held at UW Hillel - 611 Langdon St, Madison, 53703
uwhillel.org | 608.256.8361 | info@uwhillel.org



Yonim Season Opener Set For February 10

The Yonim Israeli Dance Troupe has been performing for over 20 years, entertaining audiences in Madison, the Midwest and at festivals on the East Coast. Consisting of 41 children from five to eighteen, these dancers gain confidence, coordination, knowledge of Jewish culture and Hebrew language, as well as lifelong friendships through this incredible program. Rehearsing once a week, this engaging group of young girls and boys give eight performances a year.

This spring one high school senior will graduate from Yonim, after being involved with the dance troupe for 10 years. Carolyn Baum started dancing with Yonim when she was in first grade. Carolyn notes that her best memories from Yonim are from her time spent in the Gimel (9-12th grade) group. She reflects, "Although I've enjoyed all my years in Yonim, I've really bonded with all the dancers involved in Gimel in the past four years. It means so much to me looking back at all of our moments together – at the Boston and Washington, D.C. Israeli dance festivals, retreats, get-togethers, and everything in between. I do my best to keep in touch with everyone – it's like having a huge family to keep up with! I also love our group this year."

Carolyn has learned a lot from her time spent in Yonim. She states, "Although it's cliché, Yonim really has taught me to be myself. To be yourself, you have to feel comfortable and accepted. It's not so often that you come across such a genuine group of people who allow you to do that."

Carolyn plans to spend a gap year next year in Israel. She hopes to do some dancing while she's there! She says, "I plan on Israeli dancing for as long as I can." Carolyn has a recommendation to future Yonim dancers, "Shout out to brave boys! Boys fit in well in Israeli dance, and Yonim has a bit of a shortage."

Carolyn's final performance with Yonim will be on May 5th for Yonim's

end of the year recital at the Edgewood College Anderson Auditorium. A guest choreographer will be working with the dancers prior to this event.

Now is your chance to join Yonim! Kids 3 to 5 years old can join our K'tantanim program which meets once a month. Kindergarteners through high schoolers are welcome to become part of the troupe! From the education in Israeli dance and Jewish culture to the exciting opportunities and lasting friendships, it is an experience that your child won't want to miss!

Please come and see what the fun is all about – join Yonim for our Season Opener on Sunday, February 10th at the Waisman Center Theater. For more information about Yonim, please contact Dana Prager at yonim@jewishmadison.org



Senior Carolyn Baum performs with Yonim at the Overture Center.

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MJCDS Teacher Spotlight: Meet Clara Lazimy

By NANCY BROWER

Walk into Clara Lazimy's classroom on a typical school day at the Madison Jewish Community Day School, and you might have to be careful not to trip over students in surprising poses. As a way to teach the youngest students the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, Clara leads them in an exercise where they pose in the shapes of the letters.

It's a lesson that combines fun, multi-sensory education, creativity, and a way to develop comfort with a new language – in short, it's just one example of many MJCDS classroom projects that hit all the right notes.

Clara has been an educator in settings across the world. Born in Argentina, Clara lived in Israel for many years, where she met her husband, Rafael, and attended the Hayim Grinberg Institute for Teachers of Hebrew and Judaic Studies. She and her family have been Madison residents since 1985. In the late 1980's and early 1990's, she was director of education for MJCC and Beth Israel Center. Her most recent position before joining MJCDS was as Bilingual Resources Specialist at Hawthorne Elementary School



Clara Lazimy

where Clara combined her passion for working with young students in a multicultural setting with her native Spanish-language skills.

The environment of respect, community, and eager learning at MJCDS was a heavy draw for Clara when she started as Hebrew/Judaics teacher this fall.

"I was impressed by the creative and kind interactions between the multiple

age groups at the school," she says, which reminds her of "the best examples of happy sibling relationships." She finds constant inspiration and joy in working with the range of students in grades K-5.

Clara is committed to imparting to the students a strong Jewish identity, particularly through language. "I teach Hebrew as a modern living language, and I see that as a gateway for how children develop a deep sense of history and Jewish identity."

Clara uses the Tal AM curriculum for Hebrew fluency and literacy to accomplish these goals. She is especially aware of showing students a meaningful way to access "the connections between ancient and modern Hebrew, to see nuances, and appreciate the richness and layers of the language."

With the older children, in particular, the study of language leads seamlessly to lessons in Jewish history and in interpreting the weekly Torah portions. Students present their own questions and interpretations of the text through divrei Torah at the school-wide Kabbalat Shabbat celebration on Friday afternoons.

Clara says that the students are adept at forging their own connections to text and tradition. In one recent discussion,

for instance, "the class really grappled with a difficult concept: How heroic were the Maccabees, and how our heroes can be less than perfect?"

The collaborative and cooperative working relationships among the MJCDS teaching staff enrich the learning experience for teachers and students alike. The team of educators works together to make connections between subjects across the curriculum. When students are learning about the solar system from one teacher, Clara will teach the names of the planets in Hebrew. When a fall project involved sorting leaves by shape and type, Clara focused on teaching names for colors.

"There is a constant interweaving of lessons and content, which is unique and special to this school and this group of teachers." But, when asked what made the school most special to her, Clara did not hesitate to give her heartfelt, concise answer: "The kids make it!"

For more information about Madison Jewish Community Day School, a Jewish elementary school serving all branches of Madison's Jewish community, contact info@madisonjewishdayschool.com or call 608-204-9900.



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Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, 6 – 8 p.m.

At Goodman Community Center, 148 Waubesa

Featuring:

- A Havdalah service, dancing, pizza, snacks and desserts.
- Disco music with DJ Micah Baum
- Fun on the dance floor including PRIZES

Please bring: A vegetarian dessert, fruit, or appetizer/snack to share. Put on your dancing shoes and boogie on down for some dancing fun on Saturday, January 12th

RSVP [if you can] to program@jewishmadison.org.

Walk-ins are welcome.





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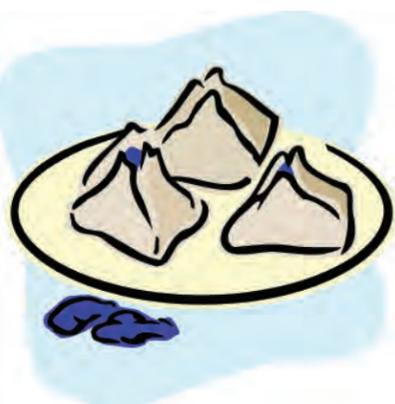
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HAMANTASCHEN BAKING OPEN HOUSE

Brought to you by the Jewish Federation of Madison's Family Education Committee

Join us for an afternoon of baking, filling, folding and fun!

When: Sunday, February 17th, 2-6 p.m.

Come for the whole time or just drop by for a little to help. There will be a dough-making tutorial from 2-2:30 p.m. and the rest of the time will be spent filling, folding, baking and packaging.

Where: Temple Beth El Kitchen and Social Hall

What: Learn to bake Hamantaschen. Help fill them, fold them, and bake them to be sold at the community Purim Carnival on February 24th

Who: All ages

Contact Ellen Weisner program@jewishmadison.org or 278-1808 x232 to register.



Jewish Education

Hanukkah + Tzedakah = Fun For Everyone!

On December 9th, the Jewish Community gathered together at the Goodman Campus in Verona for the annual Hanukkah Tzedakah Night. The event, sponsored by the Jewish Federation's Family Education Committee, started off with a song session led by Cory Meyer, a UW senior and the song leader at Beth Israel Center. Following the song session the children and staff from Gan HaYeled Preschool lit the Hanukkah candles and then there were three fabulous performances by Chug Ivrit, the Madison Jewish Community Day School and Yonim. After the performances everyone enjoyed sufganiyot (donuts) and participated in tzedakah and craft projects sponsored by various local Jewish organizations. Beth Israel Center/MOUSY put together holiday baskets for Housing and Hope; Sam Roquette collected toiletries, diapers and wipes and made bags for The Road Home; Congregation Shaarei Shamayim tied no-sew fleece blankets for Project Linus; Temple Beth El made some for The Road Home; and the Madison Jewish Community Day School tied no-sew fleece scarves and collected gently-used coats to be donated. At the Hadassah table participants created Hadassah Hospital from sugar cubes and frosting while at the Chabad table they made edible dreidels and scratch art dreidel projects. Everyone had fun doing candle crafts and tricks with our community Shaliach, Yehonatan Hazani Zion. Todah Rabah (thank you) to everyone who came to this wonderful event. For more information about upcoming Family Education events check www.jewishmadison.org.



Celebrate Hanukkah



Midrasha Second Semester

Midrasha will begin again on Wednesday, January 30th. Wednesday night classes will be held at Temple Beth El and Sunday afternoon Hebrew classes will remain at Beth Israel Center. There will be many exciting activities this semester including a field trip to the Israeli Film Festival, programming with the Children's Theater of Madison's cast of *And Then They Came for Me*, and a student dinner.

This semester the students will be taking the following classes:

Eighth Grade: *Survey of Jewish History and Jewish Ethics & Law*

Ninth Grade: *Moral Dilemmas in the Torah and Arab-Israeli Relations*

Tenth Grade: *iJew and Comparative Judaism*

The 11th and 12th graders will take elective classes on various topics related to Judaism and Israeli culture.

It's not too late to join us for Midrasha. If you would like to register email Ellen Weismer at program@jewishmadison.org

Important Dates for this semester:

Wednesday, January 30th – first Wednesday night with Hebrew and Jewish Studies

Sunday, February 3rd – first Sunday Hebrew class at Beth Israel Center

Wednesday, February 6th – field trip to the Israeli Film Festival

Sunday, February 24th – Community Purim Carnival (no Midrasha Hebrew)



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Gan HaYeled Registration Begins February 1

Gan HaYeled will begin enrolling students for the 2013-2014 school year in February. If you would like to take a tour of our school or have any questions, please contact Lynn at lkaplan@jewishmadison.org or call 278-1808. Registration information will be posted at JewishMadison.org on February 1, 2013.



Camp Shalom Middle School Programs Looking for New Director



Camp Shalom, the oldest day camp in Dane County, is looking for a new Director for our middle school programs. All interested applicants should contact Ellen Weismer at the Jewish Federation of Madison, program@jewishmadison.org, by January 15th.

UPCOMING FAMILY ED EVENTS



Organized by the Family Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Madison

- Saturday, January 12, 2013, 6 p.m.
Havdalah Disco Party at Goodman Community Center on Waubesa
- Sunday, February 17, 2013
Hamantashen Workshop with Susan Roquitte

- Other events to look forward to in the spring (more details to come):
- Mishpachah and Me - Family Night
 - Challah Workshop
 - WNO - Women's Night Out - Jewelry Making at Fine Earth Studio
 - Community Tot Shabbats

Look for more details in future editions of the Madison Jewish News or check online at www.JewishMadison.org.

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If you're not already receiving the Jewish Federation of Madison weekly event announcement email, please send us your email address so we can send you timely information about community programs, services, and special events.

To reduce our postage costs and help the environment, last year we began emailing most of our communications instead of sending printed copy mail. [Publication and mailing of our monthly newspaper, the *Madison Jewish News*, is not affected by this change; we'll con-

tinue to mail printed copy issues.]

More than 1,600 members of our community already have shared their email addresses with us. When you send us your email you can be assured that we don't share our email list with any other individuals or organizations. Likewise, we'll only send you our Monday Morning weekly email and a limited number of related emails.

Please share your email address with us in one of these three ways:

1. Email us at info@jewishmadison.org
2. Visit our website JewishMadison.org and click the Sign-up for our weekly email box on the lower left-hand side of the home page
3. Call 608-278-1808



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January and February Lechayim Calendars

Join us for great food, congenial conversation and stimulating programs at Lechayim Lunchtime Plus, hosted by Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound Street.

Reservations are required; call Louise Goldstein at 608-278-1808, ext. 227 by the preceding Friday. The kosher meals are cooked at Beth Israel by Café O Catering. A donation of \$6.15 is suggested. Menus are subject to change based on availability.

Monday, January 7

- 11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00-1:00 Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas, cole slaw, baked apples
- 1:00-2:00 Victor Borge's video, "On Stage with Audience Favorites"

Monday, January 14

- 11:00-12:00 "Operation Diabetes" with the Wisconsin Pharmacy Students Society
- 11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00-1:00 Chicken potpie, Mandarin orange salad, ginger-spice cookie
- 1:00-2:00 Neil O'Connor, Director of the Madison Veterans' Center "Coming Home from War: Adjustments & Assistance"

Monday, January 21 – JSS closed for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, Lechayim does not meet

Monday, January 28 – We commemorate MLK's birthday

- 11:00-12:00 Free blood pressure screening by Lori Edelstein, RN
- 11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00-1:00 Veggie stir-fry, rice, egg roll, peach crisp
- 1:00-2:00 Rabbi Renée Bauer, "Honoring the Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.: Pursuing Worker Justice from a Faith Perspective"

Monday, February 4

- 11:00-12:00 Operation Heart with the Wisconsin Pharmacy Students Society
- 11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00-1:00 Beef mushroom barley soup, potato kugel, salad, apple crisp
- 1:00-2:00 Joan H. Hall, Editor, "The Dictionary of American Regional English"

Monday, February 11

- 11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00-1:00 Chicken with tomatoes, roasted potatoes, broccoli, brownies
- 1:00-2:00 Ulrich Rosenhagen, "From Judaeo-Christian to Abrahamitic: Is the American Creed changing?"

Monday, February 18

- 11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00-1:00 Tomato soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, cole slaw, corn salad, mandarin oranges
- 1:00-2:00 Ronnie Hess, "French Food"

Monday, February 25 – Lechayim Celebrates Purim

- 11:00-12:00 Free blood pressure screening by Lori Edelstein, RN
- 11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00-1:00 Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, zucchini, peach crisp
- 1:00-2:00 Henry Saposnik, "Makh zikh naresh: Yiddish folk songs, theater songs & jokes"

Присоединяйтесь к нашему столу, интересной беседе и познавательным программам на встречах «Лехаим. Обеды и не только».

Ждем Вас в Центре «Бет Израэль» по адресу: 1406 Mound Street. Для заказа мест обратитесь по телефону: 278-1808 добавочный 227 к Луизе Голдстейн не позднее 10:00 утра пятницы, предшествующего очередной встрече. Кошерные обеды готовят в Центре «Бет Израэль» Шарон Лангер из "Кафе О". Рекомендуемая оплата: \$6.15

Понедельник, 7 Января

- 11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
- 12:00-1:00 Обед: Мясной рулет, картофельное пюре, зеленый горошек, капустный салат, печеные яблоки
- 1:00-2:00 будет объявлено

Понедельник, 14 Января

- 11:00-12:00 *Операция Сахарный диабет" Встреча со студентами Фармацевтического Общества штата Висконсин*
- 11:00-12:00 Измерение давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
- 11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
- 12:00-1:00 Обед: Куриный пирог в горшочке, мандариновый салат и имбирное печенье
- 1:00-2:00 *Нейл О`Коннор," Возвращение с войны: Адаптация и помощь "*

Понедельник, 21 Января

Еврейская Социальная Служба закрыта в честь день рождения штата Висконсин Мартина Лютера Кинга Лехаим состоится 28 Января

Понедельника, 28 январь

- Мы отмечаем день рождения Мартина Лютера Кинга*
- 11:00-12:00 Измерение давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
- 11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
- 12:00-1:00 Обед : Салат из тунца, яичный салат, брокколи, картофельные латкес с яблочным соусом и сметаной и пончики с желе (суфганийот)
- 1:00-2:00 *Раввин Рене Бауэр, "Признание наследия Мартина Лютера Кинга: Следование за поборником справедливости в духе доброй воли"*

Понедельник, 4 Февраля

- 11:00-12:00 *Операция "Сердце": Встреча со студентами Фармацевтического Общества штата Висконсин*
- 11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
- 12:00-1:00 Обед: Суп с говядиной, грибами и перловой крупой, картофельная зпеканка, салат и хрустящий яблочный пирог
- 1:00-2:00 Джоан Холл «Словарь Американского Регионального Английского Языка»

Понедельник, 11 Февраля

- 11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
- 12:00-1:00 Обед: Курица с помидорами, жареным картофелем, брокколи и шоколадный пирог
- 1:00-2:00 Ульрих Розенхаген "От Иудейских до Авраамических Христиан: Изменилась ли Американская Вера? "

Понедельник, 18 Февраля

- 11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
- 12:00-1:00 Обед: Томатный суп, бутерброды с печеным сыром, салат из квашеной капусты, салат из кукурузы и мандарины.
- 1:00-2:00 Ронни Гесс, "Французская кухня"

Понедельник, 25 Февраля Лехаим празднует Пурим

- 11:00-12:00 Измерение давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
- 11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
- 12:00-1:00 Обед: Салат, запеченная треска, цветная капуста, глазированная морковь и хаманташины.
- 1:00-2:00 Генри Сапожник, "Мах Зих Нареш: Еврейские народные и театральные песни"

About our Programs

How about a good, hearty laugh to get 2013 off to a great start? On **Monday, January 7** we'll welcome the late, famous and hilarious Victor Borge to perform piano shenanigans for us, via the magic of late 20-century video. The Danish Jewish performer will be shown performing "The Timid Page-Turner," with his son Ronald as the page-turner, "Croatian Folk Song" with opera singer Marilyn Mulvey, and a blistering piano duet of the "Second Rhapsody" by Flizst (not a typo), with pianist Sahar Arzruni.

Borge was known variously as the *The Clown Prince of Denmark*, *The Unmelancholy Dane* and *The Great Dane*. He was born Borge Rosenbaum in Denmark in 1909 to musician parents, began piano lessons at age two and soon proved himself to be a prodigy. He went on to tour extensively in Europe and was playing a concert in Sweden when the Nazis occupied Denmark. He escaped to Finland and from there to the US, taking the last neutral ship to leave Finland in 1940. Later during the war, he returned to Denmark disguised as a sailor to visit his dying mother. He started his radio career on Rudy Vallee's radio show and Bing Crosby's "Kraft Music Hall." In addition to a successful career that included playing with the New York and London Philharmonics, he ap-



Victor Borge

peared on Sesame Street and the Muppet Show. Here's an understatement: prepare to be amused! Then on **Monday, January 14** we will hear from Neil O'Connor, the director of the Madison Veterans' Center, who will present "Coming Home from War: Adjustments & Assistance." O'Connor provides counseling to veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan who are trying to readjust to a very different reality. He was an Oncology Social Worker in Radiotherapy at UW Hospital and recently retired from the Wisconsin National Guard after 30 years. He was deployed twice and has a unique perspective on the issues of veterans who are returning home. One issue that he focuses on is sexual trauma in the military, an issue that is still being understood and that the various branches of the US Armed Forces have each addressed differently. On **Monday, January 21** Jewish Social Services will be closed in honor of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., so Lechayim will not meet. When Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated in the spring of 1968, he was in the midst of organizing the Poor People's Campaign with the SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference). The campaign averred that true justice could not be accomplished unless there was also economic justice for everyone, meaning that everyone had what they needed to live. Rabbi Renée Bauer, Director of the Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice of South Central Wisconsin, will address this on **Monday, January 28** in her talk, "Honoring the Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.: Pursuing Worker Justice from a Faith Perspective." The Interfaith Coalition

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Renée Bauer

WSPS Wisconsin Society of Pharmacy Students

This Month's Health Assessment is Operation Diabetes

The next Wisconsin Society of Pharmacy Students Health Assessment, Operation Diabetes, will be at Lechayim on January 14, from 11:00-12:00. The student pharmacists are supervised by registered pharmacists and will be available to meet with you individually to discuss your diabetes-related questions and concerns, and can test your blood sugar on the spot.

Monthly Health Assessment Schedule:

January 14th: Operation Diabetes (blood glucose screenings & education)

February 4th: Operation Heart (blood pressure and heart health)

March 4th: Generation Rx & MedDrop (prevention of medication misuse and abuse and medication disposal information)

April 8th: Operation Immunization (screening for immunization; no immunizations will be administered)

for Worker Justice of South Central Wisconsin (ICWJ) was founded in 1999, and "...is a coalition of individuals, religious congregations, interfaith bodies, labor unions, and community organizations concerned about economic and worker justice. Their mission is to educate and mobilize the religious and labor communities of South Central Wisconsin on worker rights" (*from ICWJ website*). The connection of King's last campaign with our topic could not be more obvious. The very first right of workers

(and everyone else) was to have a day off – Shabbat. The Torah commands that we treat workers well and are sure they are paid at the end of the day, because they need the income.

Rabbi Renée Bauer is a Reconstructionist Rabbi. She has a B.A. in History and Judaic Studies from Brown University. She has studied at Leo Baeck College in London, was a visiting rabbi in Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Prague and Budapest, and currently is rabbi of Congregation Mayim Rabim in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Transportation to Lechayim

Transit Solutions will pick you up right outside your residence, drop you off at the door to Lechayim, and take you back home afterward. Contact Louise Goldstein (608-278-1808, ext. 227 or louise@jssmadison.org) to make a reservation by 9:00 a.m. the Friday before Lechayim. Wheelchair accessible vehicles are available. Rides are \$1 round trip, payable to the driver. If you need to cancel your ride, give us a call. If you're a "regular," call Louise when you're **not** coming.

Вам нужен транспорт, чтобы доехать до «Лехаим»? Мы можем вам помочь!

Общественная Служба Еврейской Общины сотрудничает с частной транспортной компанией «Транзит Сольюшнз». Автомобиль компании встретит вас прямо у вашего дома, отвезет вас на «Лехаим» и привезет обратно домой по окончании встречи.

Заказ транспорта – обязателен. Стоимость проезда - 50 центов в одну сторону, оплата – водителю. Возможен заказ транспорта специально приспособленного для кресел-каталок; сообщите об этом при заказе. Заказывайте транспорт через Луизу в Общественной Службе Еврейской Общины (телефон 278-1808, ext. 227 или по электронной почте louise@jssmadison.org) до 9:00 пятницы, предшествующей «Лехаим». Чтобы отменить заказ, позвоните до 9:00 в день встречи. Вы – «постоянный клиент»? Сообщите об этом Луизе и вам нужно будет позвонить только если вы **не поедете** на встречу.

Thank You
to Maurie's Fine
Chocolates for donating
chocolate door prizes
for Lechayim's
Hanukkah celebration.

NEED AN "ODDJOBBER" to do a few small but necessary chores for you? Jewish Social Services volunteers can be sent to take care of some of those little but important things around your house or apartment. To request an OddJobber, contact Louise Goldstein at 608-278-1808, ext 227 or louise@jssmadison.org.

If it's something we can help you with, we'll have a volunteer OddJobber contact you.



In Stacy's Words: *Sacrifice*

BY STACY GOLDMAN

JSS Senior Adult Services



It seems strange to think about the significance of trees while in the midst of winter in Wisconsin. But this month, we celebrate the holiday of Tu B'Shevat (translated as the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat). Tu B'Shevat is commonly referred to as the "New Year of Trees," and honors the beginning of the planting season in Israel. Some refer to the holiday as a "Jewish Arbor Day" of sorts.

Throughout history and across cultures, trees have been used as metaphors for the human body, spirituality, wisdom, knowledge, and life itself. In one Talmudic story, however, the concept of planting a tree is used to describe the interconnectedness that exists between generations:

Honi Hameagel was walking along one day and saw an old man planting a carob tree. Honi knew that since a carob tree took 70 years to bear fruit the old man would not live to see the fruits of his labor. He asked the man, "Why do you bother to plant a tree if you will never see its fruits?" The man replied, "I will not see this tree full grown, but my children will and their children will. I plant this tree for them." (Talmud Ta'anit 23a)

Most parents are willing to make tremendous sacrifices in order to provide a better life for their children. As a social worker, I hear such stories of sacrifice nearly every day. I speak to children of parents who worked day and night in harsh conditions in order to meet the needs of their families, or who went to bed hungry a few nights a week so that their children might eat until full. Many times, these parents, now older adults, continue to deprive themselves of well-deserved comfort in their final days, in order to "leave something behind" for their children and grandchildren.

Perhaps the best way we can honor the sacrifices made by previous generations is to ensure that we leave the world a better place for future generations. In the words of Rabbi Arthur Waksow, "You shall plan your work, choose your tools, and number your offspring so that one generation after your death, the earth is as whole, healthy, and holy as it was one generation before you were born."

May we honor previous and future generations alike this Tu B'Shevat.

*B'Shalom,
Stacy*

Jewish Social Services Brings Shabbat to Our Seniors



Our monthly Shabbat gatherings, with wine donated by Frank Liquor, candles, and challah, singing and discussion.

Attic Angel Place at 2:30 in the Garden Room 8301 Old Sauk Road

A program of JSS and Attic Angel Place. With music by Les Goldsmith and the assistance of Angel volunteers.

March 1, May 3

Capitol Lakes at 3:00 in the Grand Hall 333 West Main Street

A program of JSS and Capitol Lakes Retirement Community. Led by Rabbi Andrea Steinberger with the assistance of UW students through the UW-Hillel Foundation.

January 11, February 8

Oakwood Village University Woods at 4:00 in the Oaks' Community Room 6225 Mineral Point Road

A program of JSS and Oakwood Village University West. With the assistance of JSS volunteers and music by Lauren Mazur.

January 18, February 15

ATTENTION REHAB PATIENTS: *If you are going to be in one of these locations during your rehabilitation, please let Jewish Social Services know; we'd like to invite you and make sure you are able to attend if you'd like.*

Spotlight: Norm Dachman

BY PAMELA PHILLIPS OLSON

Norman Dachman tells the story with tears. He re-experiences it keenly, as if it were yesterday instead of 64 years past. Two little boys stand on a Chicago street corner awaiting their father's homecoming. They are two of four sons of Latvian immigrants. All they know is that a neighbor had loudly banged on their door, scaring them all. He excitedly handed their mother a letter, a letter of inquiry from the resettlement agency that was first sent to their neighbor by mistake. Had the neighbor not brought the letter to Norm's parents, they might never have received it.

Their mother started to cry and sent them to meet their father.

"Boys, why aren't you home eating supper?"

"Mama said to meet you, there is a letter from Russia!"

Norman was surprised to see his Papa, who was usually bone weary at the end of the day, running. At home Papa wasn't able to finish reading the letter; tears were flowing, so Mama took over. They learned that their uncle Boris had survived the horrors of the Holocaust against all odds. He among Norm's grandparents and six uncles to survive. This event was

emblazoned in Norm's consciousness, defining his life's path. He began learning as much as he could about the Holocaust.

After a career as Executive Director and fundraiser for the Chicago-based Zionist Federation, Norm and his wife Millicent took an impressive Heritage Tour visiting historical sites of Jewish martyrdom. Norm was determined to educate

children about the Holocaust. He designed a program with his wife, using experiential exercises to help them understand its import. Once they presented at a military charter school in Kenosha after a former Waffen SS Officer did a talk denying the existence of concentration camps. Together Norm and Millicent helped the students imagine the loss of their rights and freedoms. "We touched the lives of over 50,000 students."

When his wife became ill, the couple came to Wisconsin to live in Mt. Horeb near their son, Adam. Millicent died in 2009, after which Norm dedicated every program to her, calling her a "woman of valor." Norm honors the memory of all the Holocaust victims. He continues studying. "I just finished a book on the Nazis and the church."

He has enjoyed attending Lechayim for years. Passing by his table, you frequently hear a lively discussion about history.



Transitions

Happy January Birthday

Abe Landsman	Ike Lewis
Betsy Haimson	Jeff Levy
Bette Johnson	Judy Nelson-Stern
Bezalel Haimson	Lois Stern
Bobbie Kunin	Lorraine Newman
Clara Sweet	Milt Leidner
Evelyn Cantor	Rob Greenberg
Fran Culbertson	Rosalind Levin
Ginny Graff	Sally Jamison
Hilary Blue	Violetta Bartashchuk

Best wishes for your wellness

Helen Vukelich
Lillian Zwilling
Jean Esch-Theobald
Victoria Junco Meyer
Juliette Kohn

Bon Voyage, Welcome Back

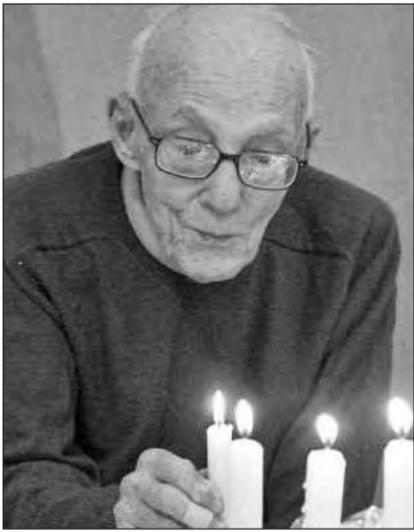
Rob Greenberg, Peru

Condolences

To the family of Irvin Youngerman,
father of Denise Youngerman
Susan Eichorn, on the death of her mother
The family of Juliette Kohn, mother of
Larry (Laurie Buchalter) Kohn

Scenes From Lechayim and Hanukkah Celebrations

Photos by Milt Leidner, Louise Goldstein, and Stacy Goldman



Abe Landsman lit the Shamash.



Sandy Bierman lit the first candle.



Harold Farkas lit the second candle.



Hilary Blue lit the third candle.



The fourth candle was lit by Nena Dyhr and Annette Howards.



Evie Medow lit the fifth candle.



Milt Leidner lit the sixth candle.



Betty Shovers lit the seventh candle.



The Shabbat Attic Angels: Jeanne Silverberg, Janet Lesgold, Jane Peizer, Judy Ries, Karen Roth, Lottie Frank, Shannon Davidson and Maddy Smilovitz.



Barb Jacobson lit the eighth and final candle.



Les Goldsmith and Stacy Goldman share Hanukkah memories at Attic Angel.

Around the buffet table at the Hanukkah party for Russian seniors.



Lechayim Snow Day Policy

Lechayim is cancelled when the Madison Metropolitan School District closes schools due to inclement weather. Listen to WIBA, WTSM, WZEE, WMLI, WMAD, WOLX, WMMM or Charlie FM to hear if Madison schools are closed. Otherwise, we will cancel Lechayim if we think conditions warrant it. In that case, the decision will be made by 9:00 a.m. and someone will call you.



Shelya Bodnikevich at the Hanukkah party for Russian seniors.



Genya Kleymann, Ninel Babinskaya, Ilya Fiksel and Kira Govorukha enjoyed the Hanukkah party at the West Madison Senior Center.



Add Something Special to your Life: Volunteer for Jewish Social Services!



Learn more at <http://jssmadison.org/becoming-volunteer>

Our dedication to service will improve the quality of life and maintain the dignity of our clients in a compassionate and caring atmosphere. Volunteers will enhance the ability of the agency to achieve its overall mission.

Friendly Visitors develop on-going, one-to-one relationships with someone in a nursing home, assisted living facility or living in his or her own home. They uniformly say that this is a very rewarding activity that brings meaning and a wealth of feeling to their lives.

Commitment is about an hour a week for a minimum of six months.

Bikur Holim means visiting those who are sick. The Talmud says that such a visit removes 1/60th of the person's illness, but really the good that is done through a simple visit is immeasurable. **We currently have Bikur Holim opportunities.**

A la Carte Volunteering

Choose "single servings" of volunteer opportunities if that's what best fits your life.

The Driver Connection volunteers provide rides to appointments and community events. You'll only be called when we need you, and you only drive when you're able.

OddJobbers: The really easy way to be really helpful! Can you change light bulbs and hang a few pictures? Show someone around Windows 7? Currently some people are waiting for help with these tasks. To be an OddJobber, you don't need to be able to do everything; you just have to like being helpful.

Youth Volunteering and B'nai Mitzvah Projects

Learn more at <http://jssmadison.org/youth-volunteering>

Come talk with us about doing a Bar or Bat Mitzvah project with Jewish Social Services. There are also opportunities for older youth to volunteer that are great ways to contribute to the community, develop new skills and have fun. Contact Louise Goldstein at 278-1808, ext 227 for a brochure or to discuss doing a mitzvah project with Jewish Social Services.

Double your Volunteering Mitzvah

Does your company match employees' community volunteer hours with a monetary donation to the agency for which the employee volunteers? Check with your human resources department to see if such a matching program exists and ask for guidelines. This is a great way to enhance the beneficial effects of your volunteer work!

Deducting Expenses Incurred while Volunteering

Some expenses incurred during volunteer work are deductible. Volunteers should keep records and save receipts for these expenses. Check with your tax advisor about these deductions.

A Heartfelt "Thank You!" To All Who Delivered Menorahs

Jewish Social Services thanks the 38 volunteers who delivered menorahs to seniors in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Twenty-six seniors received electric menorahs along with visits from the volunteers. As they volunteered with their parents, children learned how doing something nice for someone else makes them feel good inside. What better way is there to spend time with people you care about and do a mitzvah! Thank you to you all!



Do you know a senior who is new to Madison, or are you yourself a newcomer? JSS volunteers will visit and bring you a gift bag with information about programs for seniors and JSS' services, treats and a few surprises. Just contact us at 608-278-1808, ext. 227.

Our thanks to Maurie's Fine Chocolates and Bagels Forever for their donations to this program.

For changes, updates or new information about any Jewish Social Services program, check our website at

www.jssmadison.org

On the home page, click on the date of the program in question

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This article is about the struggle of American and Soviet Jews regarding the emigration from the USSR (part 1).

Генрих Бабич О борьбе за право советских евреев на эмиграцию

Проблема эмиграции евреев из России имеет давнюю историю. Она началась еще до революции 1917 года, когда в США из-за антисемитизма и погромов устремились миллионы евреев. Как это ни странно сегодня звучит, евреи царской России могли уехать из страны, практически беспрепятственно. Проблема была главным образом экономическая – где взять деньги на дорогу. В советские времена еврей, также как любой другой гражданин СССР, не имел свободного права на эмиграцию. Несуразность этого положения для евреев обострилась после создания в 1948 году государства Израиль. И только после распада Советского Союза в 1991 году настало время, когда каждый гражданин Российской Федерации получил право временно или на постоянно выехать из страны.

Положение с эмиграцией советских евреев, как многое другое в еврейской истории, было “не как у других”. Особенность состояла в том, что борьбу за право на эмиграцию еврей вели одновременно как в США, так и в Советском Союзе. В этой борьбе главным противником была советская идеология, а инструментом ее реализации – система КГБ. Наверное, еще не настало время систематизированного исторического исследования этой проблемы, но недавно в США была опубликована книга, которая в публицистическом жанре описывает отдельные факты этой истории. Я имею в виду книгу, которой ее автор Гал Бекерман дал броское название: “Когда они придут за нами, нас уже здесь не будет. Эпохальная борьба за сохранение советского еврейства” (*Gal Beckerman. When They Come for Us, We'll be Gone. The Epic Struggle to Save Soviet Jewry. 2010*). Настоящая статья, в значительной мере, навеяна этой книгой.

Борьба за эмиграцию советских евреев непосредственно связана с формированием у них чувства национального самосознания. Вплоть до Второй мировой войны генеральная линия советской национальной идеологии по отношению к евреям состояла в том, что они должны ассимилироваться в среде советской культуры. При этом именно для евреев, в отличие от остальных народов Советского Союза, практически не оставалось места для развития их национальной культуры. Относительно кратковременный всплеск национальных чувств произошел в результате образования в 1948 году государства Израиль. Затем последовали новые сталинские притеснения, в среде которых любое проявление интереса к национальным проблемам являло собой угрозу безопасности

для каждого еврея. Хрущевская оттепель принесла лишь кратковременное облегчение.

После этого рубежным событием стала Шестидневная война Израиля в июне 1967 года. В этой войне Израиль нанес поражение не только арабам, но и советскому вооружению, которым они были оснащены. Шестидневная война имела далеко идущие последствия в мире. Но все началось еще в 1963 году, когда ряд общественных религиозных организаций США, главным образом еврейских, но не только, начал движение по оказанию помощи советским евреям в защите их политических, социальных и религиозных прав. Программа действий, к которой, в частности, присоединился известный негритянский общественный деятель Мартин Лютер Кинг, состояла из следующих требований.

1. Разрешить в Советском Союзе еврейское образование во всех его формах.

2. Разрешить деятельность еврейских культурных организаций и еврейскую национальную активность в области искусства.

3. Отменить все препятствия в отправлении еврейской религиозной жизни.

4. Разрешить евреям Советского Союза осуществление религиозных и культурных связей с еврейскими общинами всего мира.

5. Разрешить воссоединение еврейских семей, члены которых живут в разных странах.

6. Исключить антисемитский характер официальных кампаний в сфере экономических преступлений.

7. Развернуть активную просветительскую деятельность против антисемитизма.

(Когда сегодня читаешь эти требования, создается впечатление, что евреи США знали лучше, чем советские евреи, что тем нужно для улучшения их положения.)

Вскоре после того как были приняты эти требования, в Кливленде была создана организация по оказанию помощи советским евреям – Кливлендский Комитет Борьбы с Советским Антисемитизмом. В ноябре 1963 года Комитет принял заявление под названием “Советский террор против евреев: как Кливленд начал межконфессиональную кампанию протеста”. Заявление было разослано в различные конфессии по всей Америке. Вскоре движение поддержала такая влиятельная организация как Конференция Президентов Главных Американских Еврейских Организаций, куда входят президенты Американского Еврейского Конгресса, Американского Еврейского Комитета и Антидефамационной Лиги.

По мере того, как понимание проблем советских евреев проникало в американское общество, оно привлекло внимание властных структур страны и было поддержано рядом влиятельных сенаторов и конгрессменов. В результате, была организована встреча

сенаторов с послом СССР в США Добрыниным, которая закончилась ничем, так как посол категорически отвергал обвинение в государственном антисемитизме в Советском Союзе. Время серьезного политического и дипломатического разговора о правах советских евреев еще не пришло.

Движение за права советских евреев в последующем было инициировано, как в Соединенных Штатах, так и в Советском Союзе, лидерами, действия которых побуждались определенным пониманием проблемы. Подчеркнем роль одного из них – Якова Бирнбаума.

Бирнбауму было тридцать семь лет, когда в начале 1964 года он приехал в Нью Йорк. Он вырос в Лондоне, в семье профессора филологии, который в 1933 году бежал из Германии в Англию, спасаясь от преследований нацизма. Детские годы, когда в Германии Якову пришлось испытать унижения от фашиствующего окружения, оставили в нем отпечаток на всю жизнь. Бирнбаум-старший работал в Англии в государственном бюро и по долгу службы имел дело с огромным числом прошений евреев Европы, которые обращались к английским властям в поисках защиты от фашистского насилия.

По окончании войны, когда еврейские беженцы стали прибывать в Лондон, Яков активно участвовал в работе по оказанию им всяческой помощи. Он даже отправился в Марокко для организации выезда евреев в недавно созданное государство Израиль. Одновременно с этим в нем созрело чувство протеста, когда он видел, что евреи диаспоры более склонны к ассимиляции, чем к сохранению своей национальной сущности. В это время он посетил Францию и многие районы Соединенных Штатов. Чем больше он путешествовал, тем сильнее созревало в нем понимание необходимости действий по объединению евреев вокруг их национальной идеи. При этом он всегда испытывал тяготение к молодым людям. Даже становясь старше, он разделял устремления молодых больше, чем людей своего возраста. Бирнбаум был в этом не оригинален и, приехав в Нью Йорк, он нашел группу американских студентов, которые в Университете Иешивы учились стать раввинами. Как естественный результат его многолетних исканий, в нем созрело понимание необходимости оказания помощи трем миллионам советских евреев в деле укрепления в них национального самосознания. Он увидел также, что вокруг этой идеи можно будет объединить и воодушевить миллионы американских евреев. Как показало развитие событий, во всем этом Бирнбаум не ошибся.

В середине апреля 1964 года Бирнбаум созвал организационное собрание группы, которая получила название Комитета Борьбы Студентов в Поддержку Советских Евреев. Комитет принял

заявление, в котором, в частности, говорилось: “Пришло время активных действий. Мы полагаем, что хорошо спланированная кампания, которая включит в себя решительные меры, может создать общественное мнение и моральную обстановку, которые будут являться силой, способной переломить ситуацию”.

Заявление было распространено среди студентов ряда нью-йоркских университетов. Когда на 1 мая 1964 года у здания представительства СССР при ООН был объявлен митинг протеста против притеснений советских евреев, на него, вопреки ожиданиям организаторов, пришли более тысячи студентов и их родителей. Митинг длился четыре часа и широко освещался ведущими газетами и основными телевизионными кампаниями. Успех окрылил Бирнбаума и его единомышленников.

Непосредственно после митинга президенты 24-х еврейских организаций нанесли визит в Бетом Доме Государственному Секретарю Дину Раску. Они вручили ему список предложений, принятых на митинге, в которых содержались требования по восстановлению еврейской культурной жизни в Советском Союзе. Важнейшим пунктом среди этих требований было “предоставление евреям, которые являются членами семей, разделенных в результате Холокоста, объединиться со своими родственниками, живущими за рубежом”. Отдельно президенты заявили Дину Раску, что “наши действия ни в коей мере не должны рассматриваться как обострение конфликта между Востоком и Западом”. Вслед за этим Президент Джонсон изъявил готовность встретиться с группой представителей еврейских организаций. (Отметим, что Джонсон стал Президентом только полгода тому назад после убийства Кеннеди и у него было немало других неотложных дел.) В результате встречи Джонсон изъявил желание принять посла Добрынина и изложить ему суть еврейских требований. Так, инициатива малоизвестного Бирнбаума, в то время даже не гражданина США, привела к результату на самом высоком государственном уровне страны. Бирнбауму оставалось теперь надеяться, что его начинания встретят понимание непосредственно в среде советских евреев.

(продолжение следует)

Israel and the World

A Big Todah: The Power of Collective Giving

By MISHA GALPERIN

Jewish Philanthropy

If you are like me, you are anxious about the situation in Israel. You realize how vulnerable we are right now. A cease-fire may be no more than a chance to re-fuel, re-load and re-energize the forces at work against us. We are unsure what the days and weeks ahead will bring or what it will require of the global Jewish community in support. But anxiety has a cost; it can get in the way of gratitude.

During this fragile break in fighting, it is time to acknowledge the power of the collective and to say thank you to the North American Jewish community for coming to Israel's aid with record speed and unified compassion. When Israel's local municipalities and the National Emergency Authority Third-Sector Roundtable (RACHEL) asked for your help, you responded. The Jewish Federations of North America provided necessary and almost instant relief. Federations across the U.S. and Canada were quick to respond. And The Jewish Agency, serving as the vital bridge between Jewish communities and Israel, connected Jewry's support to beneficiaries on the ground. Here is what our togetherness did during Operation Pillar of Defense:

You created a Day of Respite for 30,000 kids who live in the southern part of Israel and under the daily threat of rocket attacks to central Israel for a day of fun and normalcy at amusement parks, museums, shopping malls, and zoos. Respite were slated for a day for each child and took place Sunday through Thursday as soon as Home Front Command allowed buses to travel from the south. The Victims of Terror Fund provided immediate cash assistance to dozens of families who suffered bodily injury or destruction to their homes through rocket fire.

Amigour, The Jewish Agency's housing subsidiary, renovated fifty bomb shelters and fortified homes in the south. It was contracted to repair the apartment building in Rishon Letziyon that was hit by rocket fire aimed at Tel Aviv. Staff members went shelter to shelter to absorption centers in the south to make sure immigrants from Ethiopia and elsewhere who arrived to Israel within days or weeks of this military operation were calm and prepared. Imagine moving to Israel and fulfilling a dream, only to get there and have thousands of reservists

called up to military service while rockets are being stopped by an Iron Dome. Volunteers set up activities for the kids and musical performances for adults and seniors.

Masa Israel Journey connects 11,000 young adults to study, internship, and volunteer opportunities in Israel each year. When the rocket attacks escalated, we relocated our program participants in southern Israel to The Jewish Agency's new International New Media Center in Jerusalem. Working 12-hour shifts, lots of twenty-somethings flooded social media channels with thousands of blog-posts, comments, tweets and Facebook updates to promote Israel and correct myths and falsehoods about the situation that were traveling via social media.

Speaking of social media, Partnership 2Gether, The Jewish Agency's Peoplehood platform which partners 550 global Jewish communities directly with Israeli communities, created solidarity through technology. Jewish school kids from all over the globe – Ukraine to Mexico, San Francisco to Peru skyped, wrote letters and emails and communicated to sister city schools throughout Israel, as an ex-

pression of solidarity and friendship during tough times.

Some of you took this personal commitment to our Jewish homeland a step further. You went on solidarity missions to Israel with groups or on your own. You comforted people under fire. You went to Sderot. Some of you paid shiva calls to the families who lost children in Kiryat Malachi. Some of you lay on the ground during sirens, jumping out of cars and leaving offices within 15 seconds, just like every citizen of Israel who was in harm's way.

To all of you we say Todah Rabbah, thank you very much. We know that we may have much more to do in the days ahead to show our support, but let's not forget to say thank you for all that you have done already for our Israeli brothers and sisters. In Hebrew, we have an expression: "Gam ze ya-avor" – this, too, we will overcome. We will overcome the challenges ahead because we are committed to each other and a shared destiny. Thank you for caring, supporting and strengthening our global Jewish family.

Misha Galperin is President and CEO of International Development for The Jewish Agency for Israel.

From the Mid-east to the Mid-west: A Shaliach's Exploration in America's Dairyland

By YEHONATAN HAZANI ZION

The first snow was in town! It was sure beautiful – the quiet, the white. For me it was a new experience that everything continued as usual despite the weather. A lot of people ask me about the weather in Israel and I will answer now – in Israel the weather is very much like Los Angeles or so they say – sunny and warm most of the year. We only have two seasons during the year: summer for 10 months and a short winter in December and January, some years a bit longer. The temperature is about 30 degrees at the coldest. In my hometown of Jerusalem there is one day of snow in the winter, snow that usually does not stay on the ground. The snow of course is only in the mountains that are above 2800 feet high – Jerusalem, the west bank, Golan Heights and upper Galil. If the snow does stay on the ground it is like a national holiday – no schools are in session and people from all over the country come to the mountains. So that is why it was so beautiful and exciting for me. I am looking forward for the next one but as local Wisconsin people have told me, after the third one it will be boring!!

Israel is now relaxing from the last operation in Gaza, and so far it is quiet down south. Now all the focus is back to the upcoming elections. Of course a lot of people said that the operation was all about the election, and Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime

Minister of Israel, made this operation for his own good. Personally I can say that there is evidence to support this claim, but from the other side I have to say that since the 90's, every time that there was an operation, the current government lost the elections. Last of all, I don't like conspiracy.

I would like to invite you to my next Rosh Chodesh program on January 15th at 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Federation office. This Rosh Chodesh is a week before the elections in Israel so we will dedicate it to this subject. If you want to know more about the process, what is right and left, what is the system in the Israel (it is very different from the US) and what are the big parties that take roles in Israel, please contact me.

It was a very busy Hanukkah for me – first there was the *Tzedakah* event where the children I teach at Chug Ivrit sang and danced both in Hebrew and in English. After that we had a candle lighting at Ken and Laura Felz's house with a program about Jewish heroes. We went to Attic Angel to light an electric menorah for the elderly Jewish people there. On Thursday I led games for children at the Beth Israel Center Hanukkah party, created menorahs with Chug Ivrit students, and finally we hosted a candle lighting at our apartment for the Café Ivrit participants. It was lovely! On the last night of Hanukkah we led an educational evening for the MJCDS parents – discussing how we are responding to stories about heroes with our children.

At the Federation we also had some Hanukkah activities with the highlight being a Hanukkah party at noon on Wednesday where I fried latkes for everyone. It was very nice and very tasty! It sure was a busy and fun Hanukkah.

I am reminding everyone again that I am re-opening the Hebrew classes for beginners. If you want to learn the Hebrew Aleph Bet and want to learn basic conversational Hebrew please join us for the first class – January 8th at the Federation building, 7:15 p.m.

Please contact me with any questions about Israel or Hebrew. Several people have done that and I hope that I managed to help them!

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Café at our house



Chug Ivrit

When It Comes To Eating Local, Kosher Consumers Are Split

By CHAVIE LIEBER

NEW YORK (JTA) -- The sun was shining over the Union Square farmers market on a recent chilly morning as Chris Mitchell, a 34-year-old chef at the fashionable kosher eatery Jezebel, loomed over a table of Jerusalem artichokes. The six-foot-something Georgia native carefully inspected the exterior of the root vegetable before buying a handful to serve as dried chips.

Mitchell comes to the Manhattan market every morning to buy Jezebel's produce as part of the restaurant's commitment to purchase locally produced food.

"If you care about what you're eating, and who you are feeding your food to, you'll want to know where it comes from," said Mitchell. "That's the beauty of buying locally."

The locavore movement has become one of the hottest food trends in recent years, propelled by advocates who see it as a conscientious and environmentally friendly alternative to industrial food trucked in over long distances. Produce from local sources often keeps longer and helps keep dollars in the local economy.

But for many kosher consumers, both individuals and restaurants, limiting themselves to local food makes neither practical nor financial sense.

"It seems to me like another layer of worry I have to tack onto my food shopping," said Erin Reichner, a Brooklyn mother of seven. "The price of keeping kosher means I want to pay less for my produce. I buy plenty of fruit for my children, and I don't care where it comes from."

Such declarations aside, interest in local food has exploded in recent years.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the number of farmers markets in the country has more than quadrupled since 1994 and grew by nearly 10 percent in 2012 alone. That's in addition to the growth of Community Supported Agriculture programs, or CSAs, in which consumers purchase a farm share for a fixed price in the spring and receive a weekly box of produce during the season. Practically none of these existed in the United States in the early 1980s; today there are estimated to be more than 6,000.

"The best way to cook is to have the farm dictate what your menu should be by buying local produce that's in season," said Gabriel Garcia, the chef at Tierra Sur, a renowned kosher restaurant at the Herzog Winery in California that purchases all its produce and meat from local sources.

Garcia said his restaurant's New Year's

resolution is to procure all its food from suppliers within 200 miles.

"Food tastes better if it's naturally available," he said. "Why would you eat berries in the winter from a grocery

store when they are not in season if the winter veggies are hearty, delicious and available?"

In the Jewish world, the trend is manifest in the growth of Jewish CSAs over the past eight years, 58 of which now exist across the country, diverting \$7 million in Jewish purchasing power from grocery stores to local farmers, according to the Jewish environmental group Hazon.

"Our traditional laws can inspire us to think how we want to approach agriculture," Hazon's Daniel Infeld said. "The root of kosher means 'fit to eat,' and eating locally should coincide with kashrut."

Most kosher restaurants, however, are not on board with the move toward local suppliers. A Chicago restaurateur said he was struggling enough to cover rent, kosher certification and the premium necessary to buy organic produce that adding the additional limitation of local just wasn't in the cards.

"I've been told that local produce lasts longer, but I can get a much better price if I'm buying in bulk from other countries," said the owner, who asked that his name not be used. "Plus, I'm in that category of local businesses and I need to take care of myself. I'm not in the position to spend that extra money right now."

Others say the issue is the hassle. With all the additional requirements of running a kosher eatery, local food is seen as an unnecessary headache. Moreover, kosher meat from local sources isn't readily available in many places.

"It's just not a realistic ideal," said Moshe Wendel, the chef at the celebrated

kosher restaurant Pardes in Brooklyn. "It's not a feasible thing to do, and I would never recommend it to anyone who keeps kosher because it's a hassle when you have so many other things to worry about."

For many locavores, the impulse to shun national brands goes beyond mere environmental considerations. Consumers are increasingly conscious of their food's provenance and knowing the grower is often the most straightforward way to ensure that what they put in their mouths comes from a trusted source.

"If you are already keeping kosher, then you know strict discipline for dietary customs," said Jezebel's Mitchell. "So why not aim for the best quality? If you care about kosher and organic, you should care about local."

But that kind of approach is also limiting. For caterers, who are called upon often to provide customers with an array of options, refusing to provide tomatoes in January could have a detrimental impact on business.

"Buying from areas other than where you live will supply you with a wider range of food," said Alison Barnett of Celebrations Kosher Catering in New Jersey. "As a caterer, I need to have the freshest produce, but I also need a secure and stable supply coming to the kitchen."

At Shopper's Haven, a kosher market serving the largely Orthodox community of Monsey, N.Y., Darren Klapper held up a package of kosher meat selling for \$25.99 that ultimately would become part of his Thanksgiving meal.

"I can't keep up with kosher prices, and then you want me to eat organic because the world is scared of a little pesticide spray, and in addition to that pay for peppers from a neighboring farm that are double the price?" Klapper said. "It's a bit much."



Spotlight on Israel

A monthly feature about the State of Israel

Taglit Birthright Israel, which is a beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of Madison, compiled a list of facts about Israel (plus a few more for good luck) that highlight Israel's astonishing contributions and accomplishments across a broad spectrum of fields in its relatively short existence. From business to transportation, the list below is but a small portion of what Israel has done since the establishment of the State in 1948. *Madison Jewish News* has been featuring these facts in the last few editions of the newspaper. This month we focus on technology and transportation.

Technology:

- Israel leads the world in the numbers of scientists and technicians in the workforce, with 145 per 10,000.
- An Israeli system to help dyslexic readers is being used throughout the US and Europe.
- Voice over internet protocol (VoIP) technology was pioneered in Israel.
- Israeli laser technology is powering hair removal devices in the American market.
- Bill Gates called Israel a major player in the high-tech world.
- Research by three scientists from the Haifa Technion made possible the transmission of video pictures from Mars by the NASA explorer "Spirit."
- With more than 3,000 high-tech

companies and start-ups, Israel has the highest concentration of hi-tech companies in the world outside of Silicon Valley.

- In response to serious water shortages, Israeli engineers and agriculturalists developed a revolutionary drip irrigation system to minimize the amount of water used to grow crops.
- The first PC anti-virus software was developed in Israel in 1979.
- An Israeli company has developed a nano-lubricant that one day could mean the end of changing your car oil.
- The U.S. Marines in Iraq are using an Israel-developed hand-held computer for communication purposes.
- Israel engineers are behind the development of the largest communications router in the world, launched by Cisco.

Transportation:

- According to industry officials, Israel designed the airline industry's most impenetrable flight security. U.S. officials now look to Israel for advice on how to handle airborne security threats.
- A team of Israeli airport security experts is advising the Los Angeles International Airport on ways to improve passenger safety.
- Israel has designed the first flight system to protect passenger and freighter aircraft against missile attack.

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At a Glance ... World ORT

What is it?

World ORT is the largest Jewish education and training non-governmental organization in the world, providing the skills and knowledge that empowers students to become contributing members of society. ORT is the acronym for the organization's original Russian name *Obshestvo Reneslennogo zemledcheskogo Truda* (The Society for Trades and Agricultural Labor). ORT was founded in St. Petersburg, Russia in 1880. ORT's past and present activities span more than 100 countries in 5 continents and include more than 300,000 students and beneficiaries every year worldwide.



What are some current projects?

In Israel, World ORT works in full cooperation with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry for the Development of the

In the Former Soviet Union (FSU), more than 27,000 students are educated by World ORT each year with operations in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Georgia, Armenia, and Kyrgyzstan. Here, ORT provides training for those preparing to emigrate to

Israel and for those wishing to stay in the FSU, including unaffiliated Jews who would otherwise have no involvement in the community. One such project is ORT KeshetNet which offers ICT training for women in 17 fully equipped, advanced communications technology centers in Russia,

Ukraine, Belarus, and Georgia enabling them to benefit from wider employment opportunities.

In Latin America, World ORT is strengthening Jewish communities and paving the way to excellence in education. A major \$9 million campaign supports

people in Africa, Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Latin America, and Asia since 1960. ORT International Cooperation (IC) projects, which are financed multilateral development institutions,



bilateral donor agencies, private companies and foundations, have benefited more than 2 million people in 98 countries.

What does this have to do with Jewish Federation of Madison?

World ORT is one of 3 overseas agencies to which we allocate funds each year. A portion of the funds from the 2012 Annual *Tzedakah* Campaign will be allocated to 2013 local and overseas pro-

grams/agencies. ORT's mission is to Innovate, Educate, and Impact by working for the advancement of Jewish people through training and education – helping to foster economic self-sufficiency, mobility and a sense of identity through the use of state-of-the-art technology. As a community, this is something we also value.

For more information about World ORT, visit their website at www.ort.org.



Negev and Galilee, the Ministry of Public Diplomacy and Diaspora Affairs, the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor, the Ministry of Welfare and Social Services, other government and public figures and local municipalities. Projects are created to benefit not only the students but also teachers, school principals, and the local communities. One current major initiative is World ORT- Kav-Or which supports schools sited within 27 public hospitals. It provides hospitalized children from age 6-21 with enhanced learning environments, distance learning technology and training programs for teachers.

education and vocational training in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay. For example, ORT Mexico includes the CIM-ORT School, Mexico City's largest Jewish day school that serves 650 students – an increase of 200 since the school joined the ORT network in 2010. Moreover, ORT Brazil's Institute of Technology has been officially ranked among the top 50 high schools in the country.

But that is not all.....

ORT has been providing non-sectarian humanitarian support to disadvantaged



Go to the Source – Websites about Israel

General

<http://chicago.mfa.gov.il>

The Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest
Sign up for Israel Update and Cultural Events Newsletter

www.goisrael.com

Israeli tourism

www.israelemb.org

The Embassy of Israel to the United States in Washington DC

www.mfa.gov.il

Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs

<http://www.aboutisrael.co.il/eng/>

Virtual, interactive information center about Israel

www.jafi.org

Jewish Agency for Israel

News

www.ynetnews.com

Ynet is part of Yedioth Group, Israel's largest media company

www.jpost.com

Jerusalem Post, a daily Israeli newspaper

www.haaretz.com

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Jewish Federation
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Hilde L. Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool educates more than 100 children year-round and provides scholarships for low-income families



Camp Shalom serves more than 1,000 children each summer of various religions, including those with special needs, and provides scholarships to the 20% of children from low-income families



Midrasha Hebrew High School educates more than 100 students annually and provides \$2,000 Federation incentive scholarships to graduating seniors for continuing Jewish studies



UW Hillel offers activities to the UW's 5,000 Jewish students



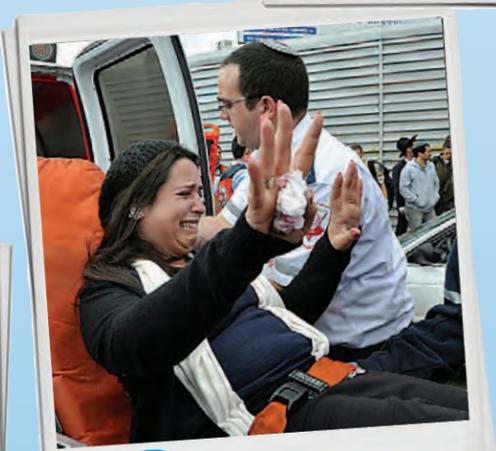
Taglit-Birthright Israel provides free, first-time peer educational trips to Israel for Jewish young adults



Madison Jewish Community Day School provides a challenging and innovative curriculum of general and Jewish studies and serves families from all parts of Madison's Jewish community



Jewish Social Services provides services to nearly 1,000 individuals and agencies annually in both the Jewish community and the community-at-large through senior, individual, and immigration programs



Jewish Agency for Israel provides social welfare and refugee rescue and resettlement programs in Israel, including lifesaving humanitarian aid to the residents of Israel's border towns who have endured years of war and terror



American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Non-Sectarian Programs provides humanitarian aid to non-Jewish communities in times of crisis, including providing emergency humanitarian aid to flood victims affected by massive flooding that devastated multiple areas of Pakistan, affecting nearly 20 million people leaving them without access to the most basic necessities.

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee provides relief, rescue, and renewal programs to Jewish communities in Israel and 70 other countries, including the 250,000 elderly Jews who are struggling to survive in the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

