



Jewish Community Federation
OF RICHMOND

THE REFLECTOR

in this
ISSUE

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Tevet/Shevat 5772 | January 2012

Doing a World of Good

Community Responds to Calls on Super Sunday



(From left) Josh Peck, Dena Neuwirth and Zach Sisisky make calls on Super Sunday.



Bob Reinhard has worked in the Campaign for 50+ years.

On Sunday, Dec. 4 more than 50 community members came together and raised \$69,000 for the Annual Campaign from 200 donors.

"The dedicated support of everyone involved is why we are able to raise the funds necessary to help people in Richmond, Israel and around the world," said Campaign Chair Nathan Shor.

"Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who came out to make the calls, all the sponsors who supported the day and thank you to all the donors who answered the call," said Seth and Lisa Kaplan, co-chairs of Super Sunday.

They also thanked the nine businesses and organizations that provided door prizes to the

Super Sunday More on page 12

thank you

Thank you to these
businesses, which helped
support our
SUPER SUNDAY activities

Cheesecake Factory
Children's Museum of
Richmond
Richmond Dermatology &
Laser Specialists
Firehouse Theatre
Jefferson Hotel
Saxon Shoes
Science Museum of Virginia
Stony Point Fashion Park
The Richmond Funny Bone

SUPER SUNDAY
volunteers were:

Chairs: Seth and Lisa
Kaplan
Ellen Renee Adams
Susan Adolf
Michele Asher
Elliott Bender
Andrew Brownstein
Leslie Cohen
Harry Cohn
Susan Craven
Deane Dubansky
Bea Fine
Esther Fratkin
Debbie Friedman
Jill Goldfine
John Goldhamer
Carolyn Grandis
Brian Greene
Diana Guberman
Patrice Haber
Inge Horowitz
Ivan Jecklin
Jacqueline Jones
Faith Kallman
Rebecca Kalman-Winston
Gail Moskowitz
Dena Neuwirth
Josh Peck
Adam Plotkin
Catherine Plotkin
Michael Plotkin
Bob Reinhard

Tracy Retchin
Catherine Rosenbaum
Alexandra Ross
Elise Scherr
Irving Scherr
Lynn Schwartz
Mindi Seidel
Shoshanna Shaffin
Nannette Shor
Nathan Shor
Sy Sibelman
Clare Sisisky
Zach Sisisky
Richard Thalheimer
Franklin Wolf
Halina Zimm

Parkside at Beth Sholom Designed for Seniors Living Longer

The philosophy behind Parkside, the new assisted living and memory center on John Rolfe Parkway and part of the Beth Sholom Lifecare Community, is while there's no place like home, you can come close, and sometimes even better.

Designed for seniors living longer and more fully, the new 78,000 square-foot facility has spas, a fitness room, and a state-of-the-art community room equipped to accommodate dance

and musical performances, along with a first-floor memory center and sensory garden for individuals with dementia and Alzheimer's.

"We're living longer, and as a responsible community our charge is to provide our elders with the best in opportunities and a longer and fuller life," says Mark Finkel, executive vice president and CEO at Beth Sholom.



Residents from Parkside and the Gardens enjoyed a holiday cocktail party.

Parkside More on page 11

Community Members Network with Elected Officials

Many community leaders and volunteers had the opportunity to speak informally with a number of elected and appointed officials at the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond's Annual Legislative Reception on Nov. 28.

Approximately 100 individuals attended, including many state, county and city officials and school board members, including Rep. Eric Cantor.

JCFR President Ivan Jecklin welcomed everyone and thanked the elected officials for attending, and saluted their efforts to serve. "I thank you all for your participation and representation and look forward to continuing the good work we do together for our community. JCRC Chair Richard Samet spoke to the officials about the important advocacy role the Federation plays. He also recognized and introduced all the elected officials.

Samet said, "The Jewish community is composed of a diverse constituency, but the attendance tonight shows we are all united in our mutual concerns for and commitment to legislative advocacy and involvement."

Samet outlined the areas of concern



Henrico County Supervisor Frank Thornton and Sandee Levin.



JCFR President Ivan Jecklin and Northern Va. Del. Eileen Filler-Corn.

that drive the legislative focus of the Jewish Community Relations Committee. These are religious freedom and separation of church and state, a democratic, strong and peaceful Israel, the eradication of all forms of racism and anti-Semitism and the well-being and success of Jewish agencies, organizations and individuals in the Richmond community.

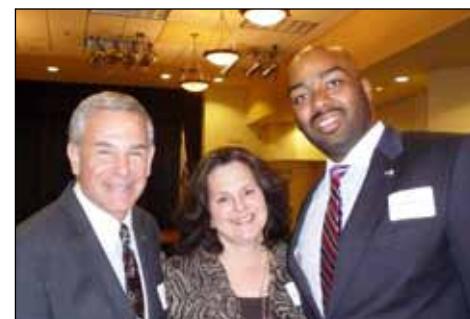
Cantor thanked the Federation for holding the annual event. "I want to salute the Federation for holding this event every year and to the officials who give of their time for the betterment of the Commonwealth."



(From left) Va. Del. Manoli Loupassi and Dan Gecker.



(From left) Cathy Plotkin and Patsy Pettus talk with Del. Jimmie Massie.



(From left) Henrico County Superintendent of Schools Patrick Russo and school board members Lisa Marshall and Lamont Bagby.

Calendar

Jan. 9 -	NetworkJCFR TribeFest Information Session, deLux, 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 15 -	Hadassah Health Program, Weinstein JCC, 10 a.m.
Jan. 15 -	Or Ami program in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Or Ami, 6 p.m.
Jan. 21-22 -	Israel Film Festival, Weinstein JCC
Jan. 25 -	JCRC/AIPAC speaker, Elliot Chodoff, Weinstein JCC, 7 p.m.
Jan. 25 -	Rudlin Torah Academy Open House, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 1 -	Advocacy Day, Date With The State, JCFR and Hadassah, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 8:15 a.m.
Feb. 4 -	Weinstein JCC Forum, Roy Firestone, Oates Theatre at Collegiate School, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 19-20 -	KBI Food Festival, Keneseth Beth Israel

*Visit jewishrichmond.org for a complete calendar of Jewish community events.
Call local agencies and organizations for details*



(From left) Adam Nelson, Brian Glass and Michael Katz interact with U.S. Rep. Eric Cantor.



Barbara Lustig and Del. John O'Bannon along with others listen to Rep. Eric Cantor.



JCRC Chair Richard Samet and his daughter, Phoebe, talk with Va. Del. Jon Cox.

Jewish Advocacy Day
Date With The State
Wednesday, Feb. 1
To participate or for
information,
Call Matt Langsam
at 545-8652

THE REFLECTOR

הנה מה טוב ומה נעים
שבת אחחים גם ייְהוָה
How good & pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell in unity.

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**Jewish Community Federation
OF RICHMOND**

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Middle East Expert to Speak on January 25

On Jan. 25, the Jewish Community Relations Council of the JCRC will welcome guest speaker Elliot Chodoff for a Middle East update. This event is sponsored by AIPAC with the assistance of the Federation's Jewish Community Relations Committee.

This event is free and open to the public and will take place at 7 p.m. at the Weinstein JCC's Sisisky Family Community Room.

Chodoff, who will offer a Middle East update, is a political and military analyst specializing in the Middle East conflict and the global war on terrorism. He has presented and published papers on the subjects of "Deterrence" and "U.S. Military Manpower Policy," "Cultural Relativism" and "Nuclear Deterrence Policy in the Middle East," "Israel's Changing Defense Posture Following the 1982 Invasion of Lebanon," "Terrorists' Use of Modern Information Technology," and "Regional Deterrence During and After the Cold War."

His paper on "Combat Motivation and Effectiveness in Infantry Units" has been on the recommended reading list at the



Elliot Chodoff

U.S. Army War College.

His articles have appeared in the *Washington Times*, *National Post of Canada*, *In the National Interest*, and *Front Page Magazine*, and numerous Web journals. Chodoff is the founder and senior editor of *MidEast: On Target*, an e-journal and newsletter.

He is a major in the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) reserves and is a graduate of the Home Front Command Senior Commanders Course.

He presently serves as the Commanding Officer of the Population Behavior and Information Unit of the Northern Region in IDF Home Front Command. In that capacity, he served on active duty in the North for five weeks during the Second Lebanon War of 2006. He also served in Gush Katif during the Gaza Disengagement in the summer of 2005 and in 2004. He was a member of the rescue team in the aftermath of the bombing of the Taba Hilton. In addition, he is an expert in infantry weapons and tactics, and has taught courses in field craft and small unit tactics to infantry and paratroop officers. He received the IDF Home Front Command Outstanding Officer Award in 2006.

For more information, contact Matt Langsam at 545-8652 or mlangsam@jewishrichmond.org.

New Law on Social Entrepreneurship Outlined

On Dec. 6, Delegate Jennifer McClellan and community member Michael Pirron spoke about a new Virginia law related to social entrepreneurship at an Enterprise Circle breakfast gathering.

Pirron described how he worked with McClellan to shepherd a new kind of corporate entity law through the Virginia legislature. McClellan gave credit to Pirron for bringing the idea to her, which fosters economic growth of this type in Virginia as well as new jobs.

McClellan said there were about 15 companies interested

in coming to Virginia based on the new legislation. The new legislation became law on July 1 and was passed unanimously.



(From left) Michael Pirron, moderator Cullen Seltzer and Del. Jennifer McClellan.

The Secret to Our Success

By **Samuel Asher**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, JCRC



There is a wonderful email making the rounds, which posits that there has never been a better time to be Jewish - the one I received is titled: "Proud to be Jewish."

The email speaks of the many successes of the State of Israel in the areas of science and technology, agriculture, space exploration (lately) and other areas.

The email goes on to urge us not to despair over the current attack on Israel. After all, we overcame greater enemies in our history, the ancient Egyptians (Passover story), the Greeks, the Romans, the Spanish Inquisition, the Pogroms in Russia, and the Nazis in World War II. So, we will surely survive the present situation (the possibility of a nuclear Iran).

Mark Twain was amazed by the resilience of the Jewish people. In his "Concerning the Jews," he wrote:

"His contributions to the world's list of great names in literature, science, art, music, finance, medicine, and abstruse learning are also away out of proportion to the weakness of his numbers.

He has made a marvelous fight in this world, in all the ages; and has done it with his hands tied behind him. He could be vain of himself, and be excused for it. The Egyptian, the Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greek and the Roman followed, and made a vast noise, and they are gone; other peoples have sprung up and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out, and they sit in twilight now, or have vanished.

The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?"

I believe that the secret to our success is that Jews are responsible one for the other - Kal Yisroel Arevim Ze la Ze. We pride ourselves in taking care of our local, national and international needs.

Many members of our community saw the wonders of Israel first hand during the late October Sherry Rose 75th Anniversary Mission to Israel. We had two opportunities to see youth villages in Israel. The youth village system in Israel is copied in countries around the world - as one of the best ways to serve children at risk. Children from broken homes are placed in youth villages. Immigrants from the FSU, Ethiopia, France and elsewhere have also been saved by the youth village system. Our allocation to the Jewish Agency for Israel helps fund Youth Villages. Again, it's our responsibility for one another.

We are being tested with the campaign to delegitimize Israel. Prime Minister Netanyahu recently refused to submit an op-ed piece to the *New York Times*. He has emphasized his discomfort

**focus on
FEDERATION**

with the paper's editorial policies. Netanyahu's senior advisor, Ron Dermer, has said that *The Times* has often printed negative op-ed pieces about Israel - it is his assessment that 19 of the paper's 20 op-ed pieces on Israel since September were negative.

JCRC will continue to advocate for Israel. We will respond in writing when we see anti-Israel articles, letters and opinion pieces in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* or in other local media.

We will continue to keep the community informed. Please join us for the JCRC/AIPAC meeting on January 25 at 7 p.m. where Elliot Chodoff will be here to speak. He is a political and military analyst specializing in the Middle East conflict and the global war on terrorism.

His articles have appeared in the *Washington Times*, *National Post of Canada*, *In the National Interest*, and *Front Page Magazine*, and numerous Web journals. Elliot is the founder and senior editor of *MidEast: On Target*, an e-journal and newsletter.

Join us on February 1 for Advocacy Day - Date With the State - at the Virginia Capitol. Virginia Jewish Advocacy Day is a statewide unified effort by the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, Southern Seaboard Region of Hadassah, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, The United Jewish Community of the Virginia Peninsula, and the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater when we take the opportunity to meet with state legislators to discuss issues that are of importance to the Jewish community.

JCRC will continue to send missions to Israel. Please consider joining us on one of next Missions to Israel - a list of upcoming missions will be available soon.

Let us go from strength to strength in building our community at home and abroad.

As always, feel free to contact me at 545-8622 or sasher@jewishrichmond.org

Young Jewish Professionals Are Involved



(From left) Sam Wilson, guest speaker Valerie Khaytina and Adam Scheps.

Every day young Jewish professionals of Richmond become more acclimated and excited about their home. Regardless if someone has been here for years or recently moved here, we are finding a space for them to explore and strengthen their Jewish identity while creating a social and professional network.

From Shabbat Dinners to Tikkun Olam Tuesdays, from touring the new brewery, to Hanukkah parties, NetworkJCFR is finding something everyone can enjoy and feel comfortable doing.

We recently prepared dinner for the residents at the Ronald McDonald House. Not only were we able to offer a warm meal to the families facing a difficult time, we were able to teach a few of our guy volunteers a thing-or-two in the kitchen.

On Thursday, Dec. 8, the NetworkJCFR hosted Valerie Khaytina, a dynamic speaker from the Ukraine who immigrated to the U.S. in 1995 (as a pre-teen). She spoke about the experiences that shaped her Jewish identity and how it led her to work for the Jewish community. She now lives in New York City where she serves as the deputy North American representative and the head of the New York team for World ORT, the world's largest Jewish education and vocational training organization.

Valerie expressed the importance of giving to the Jewish world, painting a picture of the people who still are unable to be Jewish in public and the needs they each have.

The NetworkJCFR also has been promoting TribeFest registration through Facebook, twitter, and TribeFest Info sessions. What is TribeFest? TribeFest is an entertaining, interactive, and educational celebration that will draw Jewish young adults (ages 22-45) from across North America. TribeFest will be in Las Vegas on March 25-27. The programming will be top quality with presentations from leaders in politics, entertainment, music, art, food, religion and other aspects of Jewish life. The Federation is offering a subsidy to a limited number of young leaders interested in attending. This is an experience you do not want to miss. If you or someone you know is interested in taking advantage of this incredible opportunity and this generous subsidy, please

contact Danielle Aaronson soon.

In the holiday spirit, the Network JCFR hosted a Hanukkah Party at the Water Grill in Carytown and the January events can be found below:

Brainstorming Brunch

Sunday, Jan. 8, 11 a.m., Auggie's (2251 Old Brick Road in West Broad Village). An opportunity to talk about the programs we have hosted thus far and look at future programming ideas.

TribeFest Information Session

Monday, Jan. 9, 5:30 p.m., deLux (2229 W. Main Street). Last chance to learn about an opportunity to go to Las Vegas this March 25-27, 2012!

Shabbat Dinner

Friday, Jan. 13, 7:30 p.m., Waskin Residence (West End: RSVP for address). Celebrate Shabbat with a home cooked meal and friends.

Tikkun Olam Tuesday

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 5:30 p.m., Hospitality House (612 E. Marshall St.). A monthly volunteer opportunity - we will be assisting with various projects around the house.

Beer Tasting

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 5:30 p.m., Hardywood Brewery (2408 Ownby Lane). Richmond's newest brewery has invited us to taste their newest beers and tour the brewery. Light appetizers will be served. Growlers and bottles of beer available for purchase.

Book Club

Sunday, Jan. 29, 2 p.m., Aaronson residence (RSVP for address). Enjoy a cup of tea and snacks while discussing "A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled Hosseini.

Other Programs in Community

These other programs while not sponsored by the NetworkJCFR, may be of interest.

Israeli Film Festival, Sunday, Jan. 22, 1:30 p.m., Byrd Theater, W. Cary Street. Weinstein JCC Israeli Film Festival presents "Salsa in Tel Aviv." Other films are showing Saturday evening, Sunday morning and evening (\$8.50 Weinstein JCC members; \$10 non-members). See page 5 for information.

AIPAC/JCRC Speaker, Wednesday, Jan. 25,



(From left) Dan and Dena Neuwirth and Rabbi David Asher. The Neuwirths hosted a program at their house with a guest speaker.

7 p.m., Weinstein JCC (5403 Monument Ave), Israel and Middle East expert Elliot Chodoff will be speaking on Middle Eastern politics. See page 3 for more information.

More Information

Are you interested in hearing about what is going on or want to connect with other Jewish young professionals. Do you know someone who should be involved? Like us on Facebook (/NetworkJCFR) and Follow us on Twitter (@NetworkJCFR). Feel free to contact Danielle Aaronson with any questions, ideas, or contacts at daaronson@jewishrichmond.org or 545 8626..



(From left) At the Ronald McDonald House Tikkun Olam Tuesday are: Holly Moskowitz, Matthew Miller, Marc Lipschultz, Stephanie Paul, Irina Libon and Aaron Fast in the middle.

Mentoring Runs in the Family

Robin Jackson began mentoring with the Richmond Jewish Coalition of Literacy (RJCL) at Swansboro Elementary School about five years ago.

Having worked and volunteered with non-profits for many years, and with several friends who were mentors at Swansboro, this was a natural next step.

While Jackson's son, Matt, was a college student, she frequently told him stories that she had from school - funny things the kids did, problems with students and mainly how she wished there were more mentors for all of the students who wanted and needed them.

When Matt was in town for breaks he went to Swansboro a few times and enjoyed being there. He saw how much the kids loved having mentors and how much they all wanted one.

"They hang all over you when you come and don't want you to leave!" Matt said.

So when Matt graduated from the University of Virginia and moved back to Richmond he immediately decided he wanted to be a mentor at Swansboro.

"You really wish that you could be all of their mentors," Matt said after he was assigned a student and went into the classroom.

At first he wasn't sure how much time and effort mentoring would take, but the teachers are flexible and he can go to the school pretty much on his own schedule. He can go during his lunch break from work and his boss does not mind him taking a little extra time because of what he is doing.

Last year he had a first-grade student who was very shy. Matt spent time trying to get him to talk more and be more confident.



Matt and Robin Jackson along with mentees Clinton and Shelia.

By the end of the year, the teacher said he was quite a chit-chatter.

They also like to play on the playground and read together. His student, who he still mentors this year, likes the play time best, so Matt has to make sure they read or do their work first as an incentive!

Matt and Swansboro wish that more young adults would sign up to mentor. Matt says the students see him more as a big brother or a friend, rather than a parent or a teacher - and that's a good thing. He feels that they relate well to him and see him as "fun!"

Young adults or anyone who want to try out mentoring before making a year-long commitment can come and visit with another mentor or do a reading group with students for just a few weeks. The school appreciates any and all help.

"I get as much as I give being at Swansboro. It's a lot of fun," Matt adds.

Contact Diane Munsey at the JCFR at 545-8654 or dmunsey@jewishrichmond.org; or Claudia Biegler at claudia.biegler@gmail.com to get involved or for more information on how to support RJCL.

Weinstein JCC At Sara D. November Art Gallery
Artist Reception

The opening reception for artist Julie Klaper and her exhibit, "A Journey," will be held at the Sara D. November Art Gallery at the Weinstein JCC on Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m.

Klaper's series was inspired by her study of Hebrew. She is a Jewish convert and while contemplating celebrating her Bat Mitzvah at the age of 60 she wanted to make the Hebrew language more relevant

to her. She found twenty-two words, each beginning with one of the Hebrew letters, which was an attribute or goal she wanted to achieve.

Klaper is currently living in Charleston, S.C. She has a B.S. in marketing/advertising from Indiana University and a BFA from the Herron School of Art, Indianapolis. Call 285-6500.

Weinstein JCC Forum Presents Roy Firestone



Roy Firestone is one of America's most versatile talents; interviewer, journalist, commentator and stage entertainer who will be performing his multi-media review at the Weinstein JCC Forum on Saturday, Feb. 4. The performance is at the Oates Theater at Collegiate School at 7:30 p.m.

Silent Auction/Comedy Night

The Weinstein JCC's annual Silent Auction and Comedy Night will begin Sunday, Feb. 26 and ends during Comedy Night, Saturday, March 3.

The Silent Auction is the largest fundraiser at the Weinstein JCC and the proceeds help provide scholarships to families in need as well as to provide quality programming and services for children, adults and seniors. We need your help to make this year's auction the most successful yet by donating an item or a service we can include in our auction. Remember it is a great way to advertise your business.

To donate or for more information, contact Tracey Shenker at tshenker@weinsteinjcc.org or 545-8659.



The Weinstein JCC is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond

5400 Men's Club

Jan. 9 - Robert Holyer, "American Higher Education: How Good Is It Really, and What Do We Need to Do to Make It Better?" Joint meeting with Women's Room

Jan. 16 - Melanie Meadows,

Chesterfield County Drug Court.

Jan. 23 - Warren Barker: Dominion Virginia Power, "Hurricane Irene."

Jan. 30 - Warren Fiske, Media General's PolitiFactVirginia editor.

Israeli Film Festival

in our
 AGENCIES

The Weinstein JCC Israeli Film Festival was created last year in order to raise awareness of the diverse society and culture in Israel as well as to highlight Israeli film makers and the thriving Israeli film industry. The positive feedback convinced the center to increase its film selection and add another day.

Tickets for members are \$8.50 per film; all four films for \$28; non-members \$10 per film or all films for \$36. To purchase tickets visit weinsteinjcc.org or call 285-6500.

Three Mothers



Saturday, Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Hebrew with English subtitles. The Hakim triplets, Rose, Flora and Jasmine, were born in Alexandria in 1942. Their saga is one of powerful love and deadly deceit played out in three languages and across three generations.

Precious Life
 Sunday, Jan. 22 at 10 a.m.
 English & Hebrew Subtitles



A Palestinian woman must work with Israeli doctors and a Gaza reporter to save the life of her newborn son, who is suffering from an immune system disorder. For 18 months the reporter documents an extraordinary story that gives hope for the fate of this war-torn region. As Israeli and Palestinian doctors put aside their differences to protect the child, the film explores the challenges and prejudices that must be overcome. Optional discussion to follow film.

Salsa in Tel Aviv



Sunday, Jan. 22 at 1:30 p.m. at Byrd Theater - Spanish & Hebrew with English subtitles. A romantic comedy with music and salsa

dancing. Vicki is a single mom and a Mexican salsa dancer. After months of unemployment in Mexico, she goes to Israel and meets Yoni on the plane. From completely different worlds, almost everything divides them: religion, culture and social class. Despite everything, they slowly fall in love filled with misunderstandings and comical situations, until the surprise ending.

The Matchmaker

Sunday, Jan. 22 at 7 p.m.
 English & Hebrew subtitles. Set in 1968,



Haifa, a teenage boy gets a summer job with a Holocaust survivor who makes ends meet by brokering marriages and smuggling goods. Throughout the summer, the mysterious matchmaker takes the boy on a dangerous coming-of-age ride into the deepest underbelly of Haifa during the Six-Day War.

Noshin' Hamantaschen

The Weinstein JCC Preschool is selling freshly baked hamantaschen by Shalom Kosher of Baltimore.

Place your pre-order by Friday, Feb. 17 at last year's prices, \$26 a dozen (you save \$4). If you just want a few, each one is only \$2.50. Get your orders in for your favorite flavor: lemon, chocolate chip, prune, poppy, apple, cherry, apricot, or raspberry.

Place orders at the Main Lobby Desk or Preschool office. The order form is also posted at Weinsteinjcc.org or it can be emailed to preschool@weinsteinjcc.org or call 545-8615 or 545-8616.

You also may fax order forms to 545-8675.

On Thursday, March 1 between 2-4 p.m. or Friday, March 2 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., pre-orders can be picked up.

If you forgot to place your order or just need more, visit the Hamantaschen Café in the Richard A. Arenstein Lobby on Friday, March 2; Sunday, March 4 through Thursday, March 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. during the week and from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 4 at the Community-Wide Purim Carnival at the Weinstein JCC while supplies last.

Weinstein JCC Preschool Hamantaschen 2012 Pre-Order Form

4 Easy Ways to Order!

Drop off: form at the Preschool office or Main Lobby desk

Mail to:

Weinstein JCC
 Attn: PGA
 5403 Monument Ave.
 Richmond, VA 23226

Fax:

(804) 545-8675

Email:

preschool@weinsteinjcc.org

**Remember:
 Pre-orders due
 Friday, February 17, 2012**

Flavors (parve) DOZENS MAY BE MIXED	\$2.50 each	\$26 dozen
Lemon		
Chocolate		
Prune		
Poppy		
Apple		
Cherry		
Apricot		
Raspberry		

**Pick-up: Thursday, March 1 at 2:00-4:00pm
 OR Friday, March 2 at 9:00am-4:00pm**

Total \$ _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Check Enclosed (Payable to Weinstein JCC PGA)

Visa MasterCard American Express

Credit Card No: _____

Expiration Date: _____ / _____ Security code: _____

Authorized Signature: _____



Team Richmond Gears Up for Summer of 2012

The Weinstein JCC is pleased to announce its continued participation in the JCC Maccabi Games® and the JCC Maccabi ArtsFest® this summer.

Team Richmond's artists will travel to Houston for ArtsFest from Aug. 5-10. Athletes will compete in the JCC Maccabi Games® in Rockland County, N.Y., from Aug. 12-17. Each trip will cost \$1,000 for Weinstein JCC members and \$1,300 for non-members.

A non-refundable \$475 deposit is due at registration for each trip. Registration for ArtsFest is open at <http://www.weinsteinjcc.org/class/jcc-maccabi-artsfest-2012/>. Registration for the games is open at <http://www.weinsteinjcc.org/class/jcc-maccabi-games-2012/>. After receipt of the \$475 deposit, an additional \$400 will be due by April 1 and the final balance of the trip will

be due June 1.

For more details visit <http://www.erjchouston.org/maccabi/maccabi-home/> for Houston and <http://jccrockland.org/maccabi/> for Rockland County.

Tryouts for the boys' basketball team will take place on Sunday, Jan. 15 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Jan. 18 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. It is not necessary to show up at both tryout dates. There will be an informational meeting for boys' baseball at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17.

There will be an informational meeting for boys' & girls' soccer on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 1 p.m. All of these events will take place at the Weinstein JCC.

Contact Jordan Pinsky, Team Richmond's Delegation Head, at jpinsky@weinsteinjcc.org or 545-8609 for all information, including coaching.

Native American Performance

The Weinstein JCC Preschool was treated recently to a performance by members of the Lumbee tribe from North Carolina.

Brad Locklear shared interesting information about the meanings of each ceremonial dance and the clothing worn by each dancer. From the feathers and bead work, bells, drums, headdresses, to the Fancy dance, Chicken dance, Fast dance, Flattening the grass dance, Pride dance



Preschoolers and parents dance with members of the Lumbee tribe of North Carolina.

and Graceful dance there was much to see, share and learn. Special thanks to the many parents and family members that came to share in the fun.

TOSS Starts Off With a Bang

TOSS - the Tikkun Olam Super Stars - will begin 2012 with a program supporting Elder Friends on Monday, Jan. 16 at 12 p.m.

Teens should come to the Weinstein JCC with a bagged lunch (dairy or pareve), which they will eat with the Weinstein JCC's senior adults. After lunch, the teens and seniors will get together and help make cards for Elder

Friends until 2 p.m.

Teens will then have the option of going to Laser Quest for 2 games, which should last until 3:45 p.m.

The event at the Weinstein JCC will be free and the laser tag field trip will be \$15. Contact Jordan Pinsky at 545-8609 or jpinsky@weinsteinjcc.org to sign up.

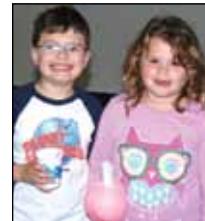
Staff Dedication

Each year, the Weinstein JCC holds a holiday luncheon that celebrates not only the camaraderie of working at the center but also the longevity of some of the fellow employees.

This year there were nine people celebrating five years of employment with

the Weinstein JCC, three celebrating 10 years, one person each celebrating 15, 20 and 25-year anniversaries and an astonishing amount of four celebrating 30 years with this wonderful community institution.

We thank them all for their years of dedication!



Max and Marley Langsam.

Camp Hilbert families had a blast recently at the Camp Hilbert reunion. There was an inflatable jumping "room" and face painting, popcorn, cotton candy and snow cones.

Campers spent time with their favorite staff, played games and talked with old friends. Families also put on their GaGa game faces during the first GaGa tournament. Parents, who never played before, made their children proud.

Right now it's cold, but soon it will be getting warm. We can't wait to see you during summer 2012!

Camp Hilbert Reunion



(From left) Stephen Reynolds, Evan Simpson, LaVenus Harried, Britt Sain, Jason O'Donnell, Marc Kaplan.

Jewish Studies Offerings

The Weinstein JCC will offer the following Spring 2012 Jewish Studies course offerings:

Modern Hebrew for Beginners

Instructor: Richard Goldberg

Have you always wanted to learn Hebrew? Now is your chance. Don't miss this amazing opportunity to learn the ancient language of the Bible that is still used in Modern Israel today.

Tuesdays 7-8:30 p.m.

Jan. 10 through Feb. 21

\$35 members/ \$40 nonmembers

Ancient Drama: Books of Prophets (Neviim)

Instructor: Shoshanna Schechter-Shaffin

Power struggles, bloody battles, passionate affairs, opulent monarchs - no, it's not the latest blockbuster movie - it's the biblical books of the Prophets. In this weekly lunchtime class we will explore the fascinating cast of characters and personalities in the books of Samuel and Kings.

Tuesdays, 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. (bring a bag

lunch)

Jan. 10 - Feb. 7

\$35 members/ \$40 non-members

Jewish Culinary Journeys: Purim

Instructor: Shoshanna Schechter-Shaffin

Come and explore the many tasty Purim culinary traditions from around the world. Samples will be prepared and enjoyed together and recipes to take home will be provided.

Thursday, Feb. 2 at 7 p.m.

\$15 members / \$20 non-members

Pirkei Avot II

Instructor: Rabbi Dovid Asher

Pirkei Avot is a section of the Mishnah (written in c.200 AD) and is the guide to Jewish ethics. In this one hour class you will learn about the insights, advice, and values from rabbinic scholars of ancient times and the applications to our modern lives.

Mondays, 7-8 p.m.

Jan. 23 - Feb. 13

\$35 members/ \$50 nonmembers

Music from King and I and Other Broadway Shows on January 10

The Lyric Opera is coming to the Weinstein JCC with "A Musical Journey to Siam and the Best of Broadway."

The cast from Lyric Opera Virginia's upcoming production of "The King and I" will be performing the best of Broadway at the Weinstein JCC on Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m.

Kevin Gray, Shelly Milam, Diane Phelan and Nate Hackmann will present a preview of "The King and I" and other great Broadway favorites. General Director and Associate Artistic Director Joseph Walsh will accompany and introduce the program.



Joseph Walsh

The evening is free and open to the public but reservations are recommended by calling 285-6500. Patrons of the Arts subscribers will be given preferred seating for this event.



A Hanukkah Fable

Once upon a time, in a land quite nearby, there lived a young man named Thomas (not his real name) whose family was unable to care for him. Thomas was blind, could not speak, and had some other developmental problems. So Thomas went to live in a facility, where he spent many years and was happy.

One day, the king decided to move all people with many problems out of large, impersonal facilities into group homes. Thomas moved to a home, where he lived happily for four years. Then one day, a very bad man went to work at Thomas' home. He was mean to Thomas and teased him and scared him.

Thomas was afraid. He couldn't gain weight and had trouble sleeping. Thomas was very sad.

And do you know what happened next?

His JFS guardian quickly came to his aid. The bad man was taken away so he could not harm anyone any more. She helped him and found him a new group home, where only nice people worked. Thomas moved in right before Hanukkah. In two weeks, he'd gained 12 pounds and started sleeping through the night. When his JFS guardian comes to visit him, Thomas takes her by the hand and leads her around his new home.

Thomas is happy again.

This Hanukkah story, like many stories at JFS, has a happy ending. In our own small way, we work miracles daily. Like the



Jewish Family Services is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

Hanukkah Outreach



The generations mingled at the JFS Hanukkah Outreach held Dec. 13 at Marywood Senior Apartments with RTA third and fourth graders participating in the holiday festivities. Photo courtesy of Adrienne Winkelmann.



RTA's Annual Run-A-Latke is Big Success



The runners are off as the starting "gun" kicks off the Run-A-Latke 5K and Children's Miler.



The Greene and Seltzer families relax together after a successful fun'n'fitness event.

RTA had a successful 3rd Annual Run-A-Latke on Sunday, Dec. 11. The weather was sunny for all the runners and families who took part.

The event featured latkes, donuts, coffee, hot chocolate and random race swag. A Children's Miler took place prior to the longer race. There were both serious



Rudlin Torah Academy is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

focus on FOUNDATION



What Your Will Reveals About You



By Robert Nomberg

PRESIDENT & CEO, RJF

your belief in the mission of RJF, which is to serve as the endowment and planned giving branch of our community.

Finally, when you include RJF in your will, you tell us at RJF that you want us to continue to fulfill the mission of RJF in this world through your instructions by creating a fund that carries out your philanthropic intent. You reveal your vision for our future! You encourage us to be good stewards of the new resources you place in our hands.

Your will says other things as well about your interests and values and commitments. And because it says so much, you are wise to think it through carefully.

If having a will says so many good things about you, what does the absence of a will reveal?

We at RJF want you to experience the good feelings of having a well-considered and well-crafted will (or other comprehensive estate planning document). We encourage you to take care of this very important matter. And to help you, we offer a secure online interactive "wills guide" which can be accessed at:

<http://rjfoundation.giftlegacy.com/?wills>

We are also available if you want to talk with us about finding an advisor or about how to leave a bequest to RJF to support the causes you care most about.

I can be reached at Robert@rjfoundation.net or please call 545-8656.

Youth, Teen & Young Adults Scholarships Available for Study in Israel

Richmond Jewish Foundation announces that applications are being accepted by the Mooney*, Rose* & Mosey* Greenberg Fund Grants Committee. Partial need-based scholarships are available for travel to Israel for greater Richmond, Va., area students between 15–22 years old at the time of departure. To request an application or further information, contact Joice Burnette, Foundation Administrator, at 804.545.8628.

The application deadline is 4:00 p.m. on February 29, 2012.



*Of Blessed Memory

Beth-El Religious School Has Month Full of Hanukkah



December has been a month full of Hanukkah fun and education at the Temple Beth-El Religious School.

Leading up to two days of parties and celebration, students spent class time studying the story of Hanukkah and learning about our brave ancestors.

We are excited to welcome Alison Linas to the school, who is leading the new music program. She will work with students from pre-K through grade 7 twice a month. The music program will emphasize the Shabbat prayers and holiday music.

The second grade had a field trip to Beth Shalom Gardens where the students spent a Sunday morning visiting with residents. Both the students and residents had a great time playing Bingo. In January, the third grade will be visiting the Gardens.

Ruach Youth Group is still going strong. The December activity was "Skating and Sufganiyot," which was a big hit. It is hard to say which the children enjoyed more, the ice skating or the jelly doughnuts.

Our semester ended with the tell-tale signs of Hanukkah. Latkes were frying, dreidels were spinning, songs were sung, and sufganiyot was eaten. The Men's Club sponsored its annual latkes party on Dec. 11. During the morning, the Men's Club



(From left) Vivian Cohen, Sophia Futterman, Molly Stein and Lexi Pasternak.

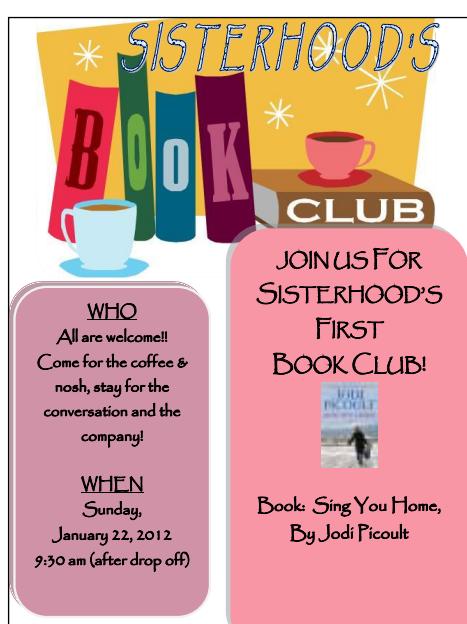
organized a blood drive for Virginia Blood Services and many congregants made much needed donations. Thanks to the Men's Club for all its service.

The primary grades celebrated Hanukkah with a morning of craft activities and stories. The students made dreidels, Maccabee hammers and even edible menorahs.

On Dec. 14, grades 3-7 had their Hanukkah workshop. It was a busy afternoon for the students, who made latkes from scratch, as well as enjoy homemade sufganiyot. In between eating these holiday treats, the students played dreidel and created beautiful Hanukkah crafts.

These fun and educational days were a huge success thanks to our incredible teachers and devoted parents.

Upcoming Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Events



Mark your calendars and plan to join the Temple Beth-El Sisterhood for two upcoming events.

On Sunday, Jan. 22 at 9:30 am, the sisterhood will hold its first book club at a member's home. All are welcome. Come for the coffee and nosh, but stay for the company and conversation as the group discusses "Sing You Home," by Jodi Picoult.

On Sunday Feb. 26, from 12-2 p.m., the sisterhood will bake challah with the children. All generations are welcome. Join everyone for lunch to learn how to bake and braid the challah, and even take home a freshly baked one.

This event will take place at the Religious School on Parham Road.

For more information on either event, email ascss4@gmail.com.

The Food Festival is Coming!

in our
SYNAGOGUES

chicken schnitzel. You may also feast on (or try for the first time) Yossi's famous Israeli lamb/turkey grilled schwarma in a pita, and a full assortment of kugels--carrot, noodle, and sweet, as well as a tantalizing assortment of baked goods, including Joannie Griff's famous rugelach, Diane Goldberg's almond horns, crisp mondel bred, and hamantashchen. Just like Bubbie used to make!

You may enjoy your lunch or dinner at KBI and then stop at our take-home table for some food for the freezer or the next day. Or come both days.

The festival will run from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Keneseth Beth Israel, 6300 Patterson Avenue. Admission is free. Credit cards accepted.

Or Atid: A Place for L'Dor V'dor



CONGREGATION OR ATID
Connecting community with spirituality

Congregation Or Atid is a place where L'dor V'dor takes on a whole new meaning. Every Sunday at the Sam and Helen Kornblau Religious School, children of all ages eagerly gather to learn about Jewish life, heritage, and worship in a variety of educational settings.

Empty nesters, parents, and grandparents share their talents of Israeli dancing and Jewish cooking with the students. Two long standing members of the congregation, Gayle and Bruce Nordin, have volunteered in many ways. Since joining the congregation in 1996, Gayle Nordin has been involved in the religious school and Bruce Nordin has been the architect of the shul's sukkah. This year has been no exception. His newest design went up one Sunday morning in September, helped by many members, and promptly decorated by the creative artists in the religious school.

The structure captured the spirit of Or Atid. In December, religious school parents and Bruce and Gayle made a large batch of the finest latkes in town. Although the couple claim there are no secret ingredients, more than one child (and parent) was heard to exclaim, "These are the best latkes I've ever had!"

When asked why they share their time, energy, and joy with the students even though their own children have long since graduated, Gayle said, "We both come from families that were active in their synagogues. One of our favorite things is watching the children of the congregation grow to fine young men and women." Gayle has promised a class on making her famous

honey cakes, served every year for breakfast, after the first of the year.

The energy on Sunday mornings has been so contagious that parents started asking about a preschool program to engage the youngest members of the congregation. Shalom Yeladim now meets once a month to introduce Jewish holidays and Torah stories to the preschoolers through storytelling, song, and art.

Parents are free to drop children off for the morning. More information can be obtained through the synagogue office. Parents looking for another opportunity to engage preschool and elementary children in Jewish spiritual life should consider attending either a monthly family Shabbat dinner and services led by our religious school students or a Tot Shabbat service focused on kids.

Michal Coffey described Tot Shabbat as "a lively Friday night program that included lots of singing, storytelling, and smiles." Another parent, Melissa Chase, enthused, "I loved Tot Shabbat. My three-year old was loving the clapping and singing. And being an interfaith couple, it was a very relaxed setting where we both felt comfortable."

Congregation Or Atid's chapter of Kadima, the middle school youth group for United Synagogue, is growing. A handful of students took advantage of the fall Kallah in Maryland. They met new friends from other parts of the eastern seaboard and experienced Shabbat away from home.

Prospective members can contact the synagogue office for further information (740-4747).

Beth-El Adopts Plan to Engage Director of Congregational Learning and Music

Transitions are bitter sweet. A cherished past gives way to a future that is full of renewed energy and vision.

Temple Beth-El has a tradition of worship led by classically trained cantors who appear to be larger than life. Cantor Morris Okun, Cantor Errol Helfman and Cantor Edward Cohen successively have served as our Shaliach Tzibor, giving our prayer both beauty and meaning.

We continue to honor these men and wonder at the ways they inspired and enlightened us. Over the past several decades, however, Conservative Judaism as well as our congregation has continued to evolve and many of our congregants want to become greater participants in their Jewish lives. Our members seek ways to be more active in prayer, learning, and music. Our present organization has worked well to engage congregants to become more Jewishly involved, but many questionnaires and surveys have indicated that our membership wants more. In our quest for renewed spiritual life, we require the integration of tefilot, music, and learning.

To further these goals, Beth-El has created a new position - director of congregational learning and music (DCLM). This new clergy position, which is being adopted by many congregations across the U. S, and is endorsed by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, will combine both the musical and educational aspects of the Temple Beth-El community.

The DCLM will lead our religious school and work to develop and implement a continuum of learning that will encourage

both formal and informal Jewish education for our children. Musical instruction will link learning and prayer, joining the classroom and the sanctuary. Our school, from Pre-Kindergarten to Confirmation, has grown this year, and we look forward to expanding the Jewish experience of our children through formal classroom work, youth groups, and synagogue involvement led by a well-trained Jewish professional.

A major component of the position will be to enhance our community's spiritual life through music and learning in formal and informal programming. She/he will collaborate with individuals and groups to implement and coordinate both formal and informal programs geared to singles, families, adults, and interfaith couples.

In addition to having the advanced educational credentials and experience to meet our educational needs, the DCLM will be an ordained Rabbi or Cantor who has the skill and ability to act as Shaliach Tzibor, the musical prayer leader, for the congregation in conjunction with our Rabbi. In this position, she/he will help enhance our tefilot and lives with Jewish music. Our successful Ba'alei K'riyah Society, that teaches members to chant Torah and Haftorah will continue under the DCLM's supervision.

The Executive Committee and Board have begun to search for the right person to become the first DCLM. Temple Beth-El expects the new DCLM to start by July 2012. We look forward to welcoming a new member of the clergy and a new era to our community.



Or Ami Happenings and Craig Taubman Concert Rescheduled

Congregation Or Ami will present an event in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on Sunday, Jan. 15. "Reel Theology:" Crown Heights, a film about conflict between the Orthodox Jewish and African American communities in a Brooklyn neighborhood will be screened at 6 p.m.

The discussion will be led by Rabbi Ben Romer. This event is free. Please bring refreshments to share.

For information call 272-0017, email Office@Or-Ami.com or visit www.Or-Ami.com.

Or Ami was so excited to host Craig Taubman in concert but unfortunately,

fate conspired against the planners. Who knew that there would be so many Jewish events all happening on the same weekend. The Macabeats!, a Hadassah brunch and the L'dor V'dor event. So rather than have people say that they wished they could have gone to see Craig 'n Co, Or Ami asked him to postpone the show. Consequently, Or Ami will host Craig Taubman in Concert in the spring.

As soon as there is a confirmed date, there will be a big announcement so stay tuned. If you are interested in advertising in our program or sponsorships, please contact the Temple office soon at 272-0017.

Or Ami also has CD's for sale.



HADASSAH
news

Hadassah's Upcoming Events

Hadassah Book Club Programs

"Till the End of the Land" by David Grossman is the January book of the month at both the afternoon and evening Hadassah Book Groups.

Beautifully written by an Israeli author, it is the story of a desperate mother who sets out on a long, protective hike along the Israel Trail to keep her beloved son alive. As long as she keeps walking and talking about her son, no one will be able to bring her any tragic news. It's complicated.

Traveling with her is her son's biological father who at the same time is also her estranged husband's closest friend who is suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder from torture and battle in the Yom Kippur War. The book is a deeply searching and exquisitely nuanced telling of relationships: friends, lovers and rivals.

The afternoon book group will meet at the Weinstein JCC on Jan. 22 from 3 to 4 p.m. (note time change). The Feb. 12 meeting is also from 3 to 4 pm due to scheduling conflicts. The evening book group will meet Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. also at the Weinstein JCC.

There is an alternate book "Rashi's Daughter: Joheved" by Maggie Anton. The author is coming to Richmond this spring and will meet with Hadassah. Anton is an exciting, well-regarded author. "Joheved" is the first book about Rashi and his three daughters. He was a student of the Talmud at the Yeshiva. Rashi taught his daughters Talmud, which was highly unusual.

February's book is the delightful "I Only Say This Because I Love You" by Deborah Tannen.

The evening book group will not meet in February.

For information about the afternoon book group contact Julie Beck-Berman at juliebb@aol.com or 862-6581. For evening information, contact Hannah Cohen at ahcohen29@comcast.net or 784-5682.

Health Education Program

Hadassah's Health Education Program will present a bone health program on Sunday morning, Jan. 15, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Weinstein JCC. A light calcium enriched breakfast will be served followed by the program.

The first speaker will be Dr. Robert Downs, a faculty member at the VCU Health System and an expert on osteoporosis. He will discuss diagnosing, treating and preventing osteoporosis. He will be followed by Dr. Tracy Adler, a Richmond physical therapist and founder of Orthopedic Physical Therapy, Inc., who will discuss prevention and exercises to maintain bone health. Dr. Adler is a member of Hadassah.

The program is free to the community. Contact

Phyllis Ellenbogen at phy1123123@comcast.net, Julie Goodman at isagoodwoman@aol.com or Janet Meyers at janetsmeyers@gmail.com.

Do Trees Have Birthdays?

Do trees have birthdays? Come find out as the Richmond Chapter of Hadassah celebrates Tu B'Shevat at a model Seder on Sunday, Feb. 5 at noon at the Weinstein JCC.

Led by Julie Beck-Berman with a haggadah developed for Hadassah by Beck-Berman and her husband, Rabbi Dennis Beck-Berman, the Seder will include a light lunch, songs, poetry and readings, tree born fruits and nuts and treats. The couvert is \$12. Come celebrate and learn more about this delightful holiday.

For reservations, contact Evelyn Windmueller at ekjsw@yahoo.com or 740-3704; for information contact, Julie Beck-Berman at juliebb@aol.com or 862-6581.

Small Bites: Cooking Demo Planned

When the cold winter comes, we all want to eat nice warm food and to not have to go out on rainy, snowy nights. So save the date and join Hadassah for "SMALL BITES," a cooking demo and tasting, Feb. 26, at 10 a.m. The event will take place at KDW HOME (Kitchen Design Works,) 7157 Staples Mill Road at Dumbarton Square, Glenside. The cost is \$20 per person. The program is limited to 50 guests, so please respond early.

Send your check payable to Hadassah by Feb. 15 to Evelyn Windmueller, 8708 Holly Hill Road, 23229. Your check is your reservation.

For information, contact Lynn Schwartz at lbs76@aol.com, 784-3585 or Melissa Brownstein at mabrownstein@comcast.net, 422-6577.

Jewish Advocacy Day - A Date With The State

Hadassah members are reminded to join us on February 1 for Advocacy Day - Date With the State - at the Virginia Capitol. Hadassah is one of the sponsors, along with the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond and Federations from Northern Virginia and Tidewater.

Come and take the opportunity to meet with state legislators to discuss issues that are of importance to the Jewish community.

See information on back page for details on registration and other information. The day begins at 8:15 a.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.



Richmond will host a major exhibit on Jewish songwriters beginning Jan. 11.

"A Fine Romance: Jewish Songwriters, American Songs" is a traveling exhibit about the contributions of iconic Jewish songwriters such as Jerome Kern, Irving Berlin, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein to the great "American Songbook" during the period 1910-1965.

It opens at the James Branch Cabell Library at Virginia Commonwealth University on Jan. 19 and is free and open to the public.

The opening lecture will be presented by Dr. Jack D. Spiro: "One Singular Sensation: The American Jew and the Musical Theater," at 7:30 p.m. at the Commonwealth Ballrooms, VCU Student Commons, 907 Floyd Avenue.

Using images from Broadway musicals, classic films, and personal collections, "A Fine Romance" exhibit tells the story of

Jan. 11 - Feb. 24

Exhibition on Jewish Songwriters, 1910-1965

Jewish artists who created songs of wit, sophistication and optimism through America's ups and downs during the 20th century.

The best songwriters combined a genius for melody, a talent for pairing it with the perfect words, and an ability to connect with a wide audience. A high percentage of them were Jewish, from families that had immigrated to America in the 1800s or fled pogroms and persecution in Europe at the turn of the century.

Their witty and romantic songs - "Body and Soul," "Over the Rainbow," "Thou Swell," "That Old Black Magic," "It Had to Be You" - became beloved classics that remain enduring elements of American popular culture.

"A Fine Romance: Jewish Songwriters, American Songs, 1910-1965" was developed by Nextbook, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Jewish literature, culture, and ideas, and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. The national tour of the exhibit has been made possible by the Charles H. Revson Foundation, the Righteous Persons

Foundation, the David Berg Foundation, an anonymous donor, and Tablet: A New Read on Jewish Life. "A Fine Romance" is also a book by David Lehman, published by Nextbook/Schocken.

The exhibit and events are sponsored by the VCU James Branch Cabell Library. All events are free and open to the public, but registration is requested at www.support.vcu.edu/event/jewishmusicians.

For more information visit: www.library.vcu.edu/events/fine-romance/

VCU Libraries and various co-sponsors are offering these companion programs in connection with the exhibit.

Other Exhibit Events

Performance by Klezm'Or'Ami'm: "America's Music: Funny, You Don't Sound Jewish" Feb. 4 at 2 p.m. at the Richmond Public Library, 101 East Franklin Street

Beth Ahabah Museum and Archives exhibit: Jewish Women in the Arts 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday through Thursday; 1109 West Franklin Street. Call the museum at 358-3451 for more information.

Order Mah Jongg Cards for 2012

I t's time to order the new 2012 Mah Jongg cards. As usual, the cards come in two sizes: small print cards are \$7, large print costs \$8.

Checks made payable to Hadassah should be mailed to Edie Merriam, 6516 Park Avenue, 23226. Closing date for receipt of checks is Jan. 25.

A portion of each check is contributed to Hadassah which enhances the organization's life-saving endeavors.

Women's Room Programs

Jan. 2 - No program.

Jan. 9 - Robert Halyer, Higher Education (Joint meeting with Men's Club).

Jan. 16 - TOSS : Tikkun Olam Super Stars, Middle School Children Intergenerational Program.

Jan. 23 - Nannette Shor & Lisa Fratkin, Federation's Sherry Rose Israel Mission.

Jan. 30 - Rabbi Dovid Asher of KBI, Women's Program.

Sofie Stahl Award 2012 Nominations Being Sought for an Outstanding Volunteer



Each year in May, Gila Chapter of Jewish Women International and the Stahl family proudly honor a Jewish woman who has demonstrated a life long commitment to helping her community by awarding the Sofie Stahl Memorial Award. The award is presented during a dessert reception.

Jewish Women International, founded in 1897 is an organization of 75,000 members and supporters, committed to the pursuit of tikkun olam - repairing the world - locally, nationally and internationally. Its mission is summed up through the tag line of "safe homes, healthy relationships, strong women."

Nominations are now being accepted for an exceptional Jewish woman who possesses outstanding qualities demonstrated through her history of volunteerism. This award is being sought from all of the Richmond

area Jewish organizations and synagogues.

In addition, any individual in the community may nominate someone. Please send a nominating letter that includes the following: nominee's volunteer/community organizations (Jewish and secular) and years of service, outstanding achievements in business or professional associations, and a short description of how the nominee's leadership participation has made significant contributions to the Jewish community. An electronic nomination form may be requested by emailing mamameryl@verizon.net.

Letters will be accepted via U.S. mail or by email and should be sent to: Jewish Women International, Gila Chapter, c/o Meryl Bernstein, 2806 Burrard Street, Henrico, 23233 or mamameryl@verizon.net. For questions, please call 360-3131 or email Meryl.

The deadline for these nominations is Jan. 31, 2012.

Classified

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Group, Couples & Individual Therapy for Adults. Supportive & Challenging Therapist. Relationships; Vocation; Gay/Lesbian & Cultural Issues; Addictive Behaviors; Mood Disorders. Jonathan Lebolt, PhD, LCSW, (804) 683-4536, Doctor-Jon@comcast.net, <http://Doctor-Jon.home.comcast.net>.

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Taking a Stand Against Bullying



The Virginia Holocaust Museum's mission is Tolerance Through Education.

The museum continually seeks to promote a keener and deeper understanding of the Holocaust's tragic events and their enduring impact on the Jewish and non-Jewish world. Moreover, we find echoes of the pressing lessons of the Holocaust in other genocides around the globe, many of which persist at this very moment.

But, for many students, the Holocaust and on-going genocides can appear as abstractions, distant events removed in time and space from their daily life, especially when some of those students deal with another insidious form of intolerance: bullying.

If nothing else, the Holocaust teaches the necessity to take a stand against hatred and prejudice.

Students and adults have the obligation to become "upstanders," - someone who will take a stand against bigotry and unfairness of any sort - in an effort to encourage students to understand that being a bully is unacceptable owing to the effect on both the bullied and the bullies themselves. To

that end, the museum has organized two anti-bullying poster campaigns for students.

Now in its second year, 'Bullies Are Bad They Make Us Sad' focuses on elementary school children. The campaign, named by a Robious Road Middle School student, will generate posters that will form an exhibit to be displayed at the Children's Museum of Richmond from Jan. 28 to March 2

A special recognition day is scheduled for Jan. 28. A similar exhibit has been organized this year for middle school students. Entitled "Negate the Hate," these posters will be exhibited at the Virginia Holocaust Museum during February and early-March. Though the deadline for submissions for the elementary school exhibit has passed, contributions from students in grades 6, 7, and 8 are welcomed up to the deadline of Jan. 29.

Visit www.va-holocaust.com. to make a submission and find out details about the two exhibits.



Parkside

Continued from page 1



BETH SHOLOM
A LIFECARE COMMUNITY



The memory center at Parkside.

Despite a downturn in the economy, the building was constructed from financing under The Department of Housing and Urban Development's Lean program, as well as contributions from local foundations, companies and individuals.

Its design is based on the experience of the Beth Sholom staff and its architecture and interior design partners. For instance, Parkside's memory center design includes:

-A sensory garden with colorful flowers and aromatic herbs and paths wide enough for those wheelchair-bound and with walkers. Nearby, gardening carts are set high enough so those in wheelchairs can work with the plants.

-A soothing color palette in the memory center's lobby that is restful for the eyes. An additional feature are jars full of small items like soft puzzle pieces that serve as

"takeaways" for residents with dementia and Alzheimer's who like to hold and carry items back to their apartments.

-Bathrooms equipped with European showers for easy entry and drainage, along with safety grab bars and a moveable shower chair.

Throughout Parkside, private bathrooms are equipped with safety-minded features such as grab bars, and handheld showerheads. There is free access to wi-fi, tea kitchens equipped with microwaves and refrigerators for snacking, and large ceilings and windows for natural light and ventilation. Three distinct levels of care accommodate all of the residents' daily activities and individual capabilities.

"Historically, Beth Sholom has a long and rich history within the senior community and we think the new building reflects years of experience and understanding," says Selma Harlow, director of Development and Marketing.

A nonprofit group that was founded in 1945, the Beth Sholom Lifecare Community is comprised of Woods Independent Living, The Gardens Assisted Living, the Health Care Center, an Outpatient Rehabilitation Clinic with a therapeutic pool, an Adult Day Program

and Parkside Assisted Living.

For more information about Parkside, call Selma Harlow at 421-5142.



Beth Sholom Home is supported, in part, by a generous contribution from the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

Save the Date!

Beth Sholom Lifecare Community's Annual Fundraiser

Cabaret Night, Expect the Unexpected!

Westin Hotel

March 17, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Youth, Teen & Young Adults Scholarships Available for Study in Israel

Richmond Jewish Foundation announces that applications are being accepted by the Mooney*, Rose* & Mosey* Greenberg Fund Grants Committee. Partial need-based scholarships are available for travel to Israel for greater Richmond, Va., area students between 15–22 years old at the time of departure. To request an application or further information, contact Joice Burnette, Foundation Administrator, at 804.545.8628.

The application deadline is 4:00 p.m. on February 29, 2012.



*Of Blessed Memory

Let Your Voice Be Heard on Jewish Advocacy Day: February 1

Jewish Advocacy Day - Date With The State - is Wednesday, Feb. 1.

Activities will begin with registration and a continental breakfast at 8:15 a.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 815 E. Grace Street.

During the day, Gov. Robert McDonnell, Lt. Gov. William Bolling and Attorney Gen. Kenneth Cuccinelli have been invited to address participants. In addition, high-level cabinet members are expected to participate. Plan to meet with your State Senators and local Delegates.

After the morning session, participants will visit on Capitol Hill until 11:45 a.m., when they will return to St. Paul's Episcopal Church for lunch, additional speakers and the concluding session.

Early bird registration is \$22 and must be received by Jan. 13. After Jan. 13, the cost is \$25 per person due by Jan. 27. This covers both meals. Dietary laws will be observed. Online registration is available at www.jewishrichmond.org.

This event is sponsored by the Jewish Community Federation



Gov. Robert McDonnell talks with Bea Fine at last year's Jewish Advocacy Day.

of Richmond and the Richmond Chapter of Hadassah. In addition, a number of people from the Federations in Northern Virginia and Tidewater also will be taking part in the event.

Virginia Jewish Advocacy Day is a statewide unified effort by the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, Southern Seaboard Region of Hadassah, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, The United Jewish Community of the Virginia Peninsula, and the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater.

To participate in Jewish Advocacy Day or for information regarding specific legislation, call Matt Langsam at 545-8652.

COMMUNITY news

Save the Date!



The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond and Richmond Chapter of Hadassah



Jewish Advocacy Day – Date with the State

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
815 E. Grace Street
Wednesday, February 1, 2012
8:15 a.m.– 1:30 p.m.

Jewish Advocacy Day is your annual opportunity to meet with state legislators to discuss issues that are of importance to the Jewish community.

Online registration is available at: www.jewishrichmond.org

For more information contact Matt Langsam at 545-8652 or mlangsam@jewishrichmond.org

Virginia Jewish Advocacy Day is a statewide unified effort by the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, Southern Seaboard Region of Hadassah, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, The United Jewish Community of the Virginia Peninsula, and the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater.

Super Sunday

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Campaign Chair Nathan Shor thanks Halina Zimm for volunteering.

volunteers during the three-hour event.

Longtime volunteer Bob Reinhard, said, "I not only give back with my money but with my time, which is also vital to help Jews make year-end gifts. Donations mailed by Dec. 31, 2011, are eligible for a tax deduction this calendar year. For this reason, we

here and around the world."

Rudlin Torah Academy won the Spirit Award grant of \$1,000 for the second year in a row. The award given by the Federation goes to the local agency that has the highest percentage of its board and staff working as volunteers on Super Sunday. To be eligible, the agency must have 100 percent of its board making a pledge to the 2012 Annual Campaign.

It's not too late to support the 2012 JCFR Annual Campaign. Federation ensures the Jewish future, connecting people to Jewish identity. Remember us when you

strongly encourage you to make your year-end gift right now. Of course, there is another reason to mail your gift as soon as you are able. That is the growing need for our services.

The difficult economic times we now face have placed an unprecedented strain on resources. Many families and seniors are hurting. Although you may not see the need each day, it is real and urgent. By making your most generous year-end gift now, you will help to ensure that the JCFR has the critical funding needed as 2012 begins.

Funding to feed, clothe, comfort and rescue people in need; to inspire, educate and connect people to their Jewish identity; to

support families with special needs; and to ensure that the Jewish Federation will always be ready to rescue Jews in danger and respond to the crises around the world.

Think about the good you want to do, both here at home and around the world. Think about those who are suffering, and our duty to ease their load. Then, make the largest tax-deductible gift you can - and be sure to mail your gift before December 31, 2011.

Thank you, as always, for your commitment to our work, and for your caring heart.

To make a pledge or a payment contact Sara Rosenbaum at srosenbaum@jewishrichmond.org or at 545-8629 or visit JewishRichmond.org.



Super Sunday Chairs Seth and Lisa Kaplan review several gifts.