



THE REFLECTOR

Volume 62 | Issue 4

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Holocaust Remembrance Day: April 27

On Sunday, April 27, at 3 p.m., the Virginia Holocaust Museum will pause to honor all the victims of the Shoah, in tribute to the memories of those who perished, and with gratitude for the gifts enshrined in the lives of those who survived.

The commemoration of Yom Hashoah at the museum includes a reception honoring the Survivors of the Holocaust living in our community and this year's featured speaker, Dr. Wendy Lower, John K. Roth Professor of History and George R. Roberts Fellow in Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Claremont-McKenna College in Claremont, Calif.

The reception honoring the Survivors and Lower will be followed by the Yom Hashoah program in the museum's Synagogue.

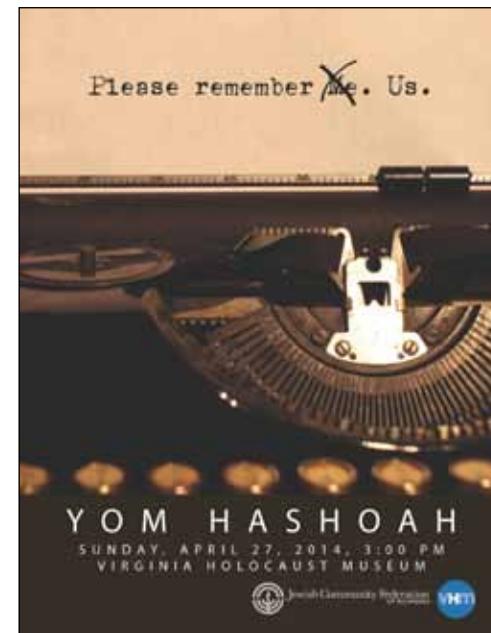
In the last year, Lower has emerged into a stature among the handful of the



Wendy Lower

most authoritative historians engaged in the most important and original research and writing in the field of Holocaust studies. This has come amid the near-universal critical acclaim and international attention animated by the appearance of her most recent book, "Hitler's Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields, 1941-1944," published in September 2013 by Houghton-Mifflin. Now widely considered a pivotal study in both

Yom Hashoah *More on page 17*



Jim Weinberg to receive RTA Chesed Award

Rudlin Torah Academy is pleased to announce that its 2014 Chesed Award will go to James L. "Jim" Weinberg, president of the Hirschler-Fleischer law firm and past president of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

The traditional Chesed Awards Dinner – this year the "Lev Nativ Gala" – will be held Sunday, June 1, at 6 p.m., at the Weinstein JCC. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Scott J. Goldberg, president of the Yeshiva University School Partnership.

Weinberg is a longtime leader in the Richmond community who also has served as president of Central Virginia Foodbank and is president-elect of the Richmond Jewish Foundation. He graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. from Brown University in Providence, R.I., and earned his law degree at the University of Virginia School of Law. He also has served on the Brown University Diversity Advisory



Jim Weinberg

Council and with the Valentine Richmond History Center.

He truly embodies the spirit of chesed, and RTA is proud to honor him.

The ABCD (Above and Beyond the Call of Duty) Award will be given to Rich and Amy Bethman, parents and longtime volunteers

Weinberg *More on page 6*

RCJE & Weinstein JCC host Purim in grand style

To celebrate the holiday of Purim, 1,000 Richmond Jewish community members gathered for the Annual Community Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 16.

This program is sponsored annually by the Richmond Council for Jewish Education and subsidized by the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

The carnival is planned and run by representatives from the Weinstein JCC, community Synagogues, and the Federation's RCJE committee.

Children, parents and community members dressed in their finest Purim costumes,



A mother and daughter enjoy themselves at the Annual Community Purim Carnival. Photo courtesy of Adrienne Winkelmann

played carnival games, ate Hamantaschen, and danced to local musicians from Klez'Or Ami'm and Ruach Chadash.

Community members also gathered to read the Megillah (book of Esther) for those who may not have had an opportunity for the holiday.

The Federation's Paternship2gether program **Purim** *More on page 6*



Susan Adolf reads "Barnyard Purim" to her grandchild, Ava Salzberg, and other children at Network JCFR Young Families Purim/PJ Library fun event March 9.

Children enjoy Network JCFR Young Families event

On Sunday, March 9, Network JCFR Young Families joined forces with Friendship Circle of Virginia to create a fantastic PJ Library Purim Fun event at the Weinstein JCC.

Kids and parents alike made delicious kosher Hamantaschen, decorated beautiful masks, and read some of our all-time favorite PJ Library Purim stories with the help of our wonderful reader, Susan Adolf.

The event would not have been as successful without the help of the amazing BBYO teens. They joined in the fun and helped make the dough, bake the kosher Hamantaschen and assisted in every part of the event.

PJ Library, which was created and is funded nationally by The Harold Grinspoon Foundation, sends free Jewish-content books and music on a monthly basis to children 6 months through 7 years old, who live in the Richmond metropolitan area.



Children decorate Purim masks with the help of their parents.

The Federation has supported and funded the PJ Library program for nearly six years and more than 480 local children have received monthly materials. In addition, PJ Library recently gave out their 5 millionth book!

The Richmond PJ Library is a project of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond in partnership with other community agencies and would not be possible without the support of community donors. Local donors spend \$40 per year per child to receive the PJ Library. Join others in making a donation to our

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

• **April 10** | 7 p.m.
Women's Night Out
Weinstein JCC

• **April 27** | 3 p.m.
Yom Hashoah Commemoration
Virginia Holocaust Museum

• **April 27** | 2 p.m.
Woodwind Quartet Concert
Parkside at Beth Sholom Lifecare Community

• **April 27** | 11 a.m.
Mitzvah Day
Congregation Beth Ahabah

• **May 4** | 5 p.m.
Hadassah Elinor Bloom Marshall Humanitarian Award Event
Jepson Center, University of Richmond

• **May 14** | 7:30 p.m.
JWI's Sofie Stahl Memorial Award
Weinstein JCC

Visit jewishrichmond.org for a complete calendar of Jewish community events.

Network JCFR set for April

Network JCFR plans the following programs in April.

Torah on Tap, Wednesday April 9, 6 p.m. 3 Monkeys Bar and Grill, 2525 W. Main St. Get your beer fix in pre-Passover and enjoy some thought-provoking dialogues at our next Torah on Tap. With Pesach right around the corner, we will discuss Passover-embracing the differences. Join the conversation and enjoy free drinks!

Potluck Shabbat Dinner, Friday April 25, 6 p.m., RSVP for address. Bring your favorite parve dish (no dairy) and enjoy tasting everyone's delicious treats. A potluck Shabbat dinner with friends is the perfect way to kick off your weekend. RSVP for the address on Facebook or to Melanie Phillips.

Looking ahead to May

Happy Hour, Tuesday, May 20, 6 p.m.

Potluck Shabbat Dinner, TBD

To RSVP or for more details, call Federation Young Leadership Director Melanie Phillips at (804) 545-8623 or email mphillips@jewishrichmond.org.

THE REFLECTOR

הנה מה טוב ומה נעים

How good & pleasant it is
שבת אחים גם יחד
for brethren to dwell in unity.

The Reflector is published monthly by the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond. Copy must be received two and a half weeks prior to the date of publication. The Reflector reserves the right to edit or refuse any copy or advertisement submitted. Views expressed by guest writers and reader's letters do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond.

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Nathan Shor, President

Samuel H. Asher, Chief Executive Officer

Matt Langsam, Assistant Executive Director

Raymond (Skip) Kozakewicz, Editor

Sara Rosenbaum, Director of Operations



BBYO teen volunteers prepare kosher Hamantaschen in Weinstein JCC kitchen.

youngest community members and pass a lifelong gift of reading on to a child. To make a gift, to the PJ Library Fund, contact Sara Rosenbaum at (805) 545-8629 or srosenbaum@jewishrichmond.org.

For details on family programming, contact Melanie Phillips at (804) 545-8623 or mphillips@jewishrichmond.org.



Jewish Community Federation
OF RICHMOND

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(804) 545-8620

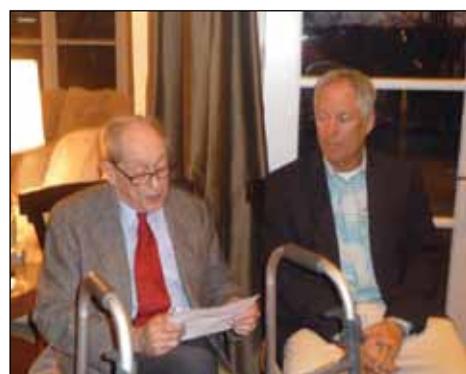
Email: reflector@jewishrichmond.org



***The Officers, Board and Staff
of the Jewish Community Federation of
Richmond
Wish You and Your Family
A Very Joyous Passover***



Gerri Stahl received the Sam E. & Virginia V. Binswanger Award and Joshua Peck received the William B. Thalhimer Sr. Award.



Russ Jennings received the Bob Reinhard Leadership Award from Bob Reinhard.

Federation celebrates at Campaign Closing

The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond celebrated the success of the 2014 Annual Campaign March 5 at the home of Stuart and Dawn Siegel.

The campaign passed its goal of \$3 million and reached \$3,053 million.

The event honored outstanding workers and Young Leadership Award winners.

JCFR President Nathan Shor saluted the Campaign chairs and the volunteers. "Tonight we celebrate the success of the 2014 Campaign with the knowledge that everyone in this room is a hero for the Jewish community. By volunteering to work on the campaign you have helped us reach this occasion. As president of the Jewish Community

Campaign *More on page 7*



Frances Goldman and Scott Belleman smile after receiving their awards at the Campaign Closing. Goldman received the Women's Division Schwarzschild Award and Belleman received the Men's Division President's Award.

'We are our brother's keeper'



By Samuel Asher
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, JCFR

To donate to help our fellow Jews in the Ukraine, please visit www.jewishrichmond.org and contribute to the Ukrainian Assistance Fund.

Nathan Shor, president of the JCFR, has often been quoted as saying, "We are our brother's keeper."

So, it is no surprise that the JCFR opened a JFNA mailbox to collect funds for the Ukrainian Assistance effort. On March 10, the JCFR Executive Committee committed \$10,000 for the Assistance Effort to respond to the needs facing the Ukrainian Jewish community.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), an agency that receives funding from The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, is taking aggressive action.

In response to food shortages, metro service suspension and a growing sense of fear among Jewish elderly, JDC activated its emergency network in the Ukraine on March 6. This effort is focused on vulnerable elderly Jews and will allow emergency mobile units to deliver food, medicine and other necessities.

JDC also is providing daily and overnight home-care services. Ukraine stands as the third largest Jewish community in Europe (300,000 Jews), and the fifth largest in the world. JDC has been working to support Ukraine's poorest Jews and revitalize Jewish life since the fall of the Soviet Union.

Mark Sisisky, JDC Executive Committee member and chair of its FSU Committee, sent the following report from JDC staff in the Crimea. This is particularly important as the Crimea voted to secede from the Ukraine in a recent election.

"Transportation is disrupted or difficult, the banking system is unstable, and the prices of necessities like food and gas have sharply increased – JDC's Hased social welfare center has continued caring for the most vulnerable among the community's 9,000 Jews."

Here are excerpts from the report:

In all the locations of Crimea the situation is rather tense. Roads remain blocked. Trains run irregularly; Ukrainian

airlines do not fly to Simferopol.

The majority of the Ukrainian military bases continue to be occupied by Russian military.

In Kherson, pro-Russian and pro-Ukrainian groups gather in various central locations of the city; on March 13 – when Kherson celebrated the anniversary of its liberation from the Nazis – anti-Semitic leaflets spread around the city.

In Donetsk, during violent fights between pro-Russian and pro-Ukrainian supporters, at least two people were killed, and more than 50 were wounded.

The former head of the Kharkov Administration M. Dobkin and Kharkov Mayor G. Kernes were called to the General Prosecutor's Office and both were placed under house arrest. They claim all accusations are a matter of settling political scores.

During a demonstration in Kharkov to support Kernes, about 10,000 people expressed their support for the mayor in the central square. The Ukrainian government stopped broadcasting the main Russian channels on Ukrainian TV and most TV-providers have already done so.

Banks and finances

The banking systems are working but with some limits. In the country, except the Crimean peninsula, there are no lines at ATM machines. In Crimea, ATM machines allow cash withdrawal of a maximum 300 UAH. Privat Bank is not allowing their customers to withdraw savings and credit accounts.

Food and medications

Ukrainian pharmacies and supermarkets are at-risk of closing in the Crimea due to the danger of losing control over their businesses. Most grocery stores and supermarkets have enough food products in stock though the choice of imported goods is worsening.

Most pharmacies have a regular stock

Ukraine *More on page 4*

TIKKUN OLAM TEEN EXCHANGE TO ISRAEL

Summer 2014 June 22-July 6

Total Cost: \$1,000 (Including Airfare)

Now open to include rising 10th-12th graders

While in Israel, teens will meet and live with other teens from Hadera, perform social action projects and visit various places and sites throughout the country.

Contact Shoshanna Schechter-Shaffin,
804-545-8626 or sshaffin@jewishrichmond.org

UPDATED



Photo courtesy of Michele Asher



• Guided Tours • Home Hospitality & Dining • Tikkun Olam Projects

Tikkun Olam Teen Exchange Trip to Israel - June 22-July 6

Through JCFR sponsorship, Richmond teens have the opportunity to visit Israel and our Partnership2Gether region – Hadera-Eiron.

While in Israel, teens will meet and live with teens from Hadera, perform social action projects and visit various places and sites throughout the country.

The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond is accepting applications for this Summer 2014 Tikkun Olam teen exchange trip to Israel that is open to rising 10th through

12th graders.

Teens will enjoy:

- Guided tours of Israel
- Tikkun Olam projects
- Home hospitality & dining
- Visit Jerusalem, Masada & the Dead Sea
- Plus much more!

Space is limited, so contact the Federation today.

For more information on how to apply, contact Shoshanna Schechter-Shaffin at (804) 545-8626 or sshaffin@jewishrichmond.org

Ukraine Continued from page 3

of Ukraine-produced medications but the prices for them are increasing steadily. The choice of imported medications is shrinking. This influences our clients' ability to choose the necessary medications.

Heseds report increases in requests for medications and hospitalization for heart issues. Costs of gas increased dramatically in Crimea by 20-30%. Fortunately, Heseds bought in advance vouchers that can be enough for another quarter if the petrol chain continues to exist and will have supplies.

Heseds and clients

In the Crimea, Heseds tend to receive more calls from the clients who are very anxious. Hesed staff members keep on providing psychological support by telephone and at regular visits to try and ease the stress that clients are now in. The uncertainty of the future of this territory and the personal results it might bring is the main reason for this stress.

The Heseds teams in Crimea are working in full capacity. All workers are highly devoted to their work regardless of being Jewish, Tatar, Ukrainian or Russian. It is very clear that the team is under a very serious stress.

Citizens of Crimea have started to arrive in Kiev and other regions of central & western Ukraine. 265 Crimean families are expected to arrive in the Rovno region in the nearest days. People have begun to create lists of volunteers ready to host people from Crimea at their apartments.

JCFR will keep you posted as more information becomes available. To donate to help our fellow Jews in the Ukraine, please visit www.jewishrichmond.org and contribute to the Ukrainian Assistance Fund.

Please remember, "We are our brother's keeper."

As always, call (804) 545-8622 – or write me, email me at sasher@jewishrichmond.org or text me and let me know if you are

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Matt Langsam at (804) 545-8652

or mlangsam@jewishrichmond.org



(From left) Gathering for a photo at “A Night in Monaco Purim Party” on March 13 are: Becky Jacobson, Derek Fowler, Mathew Richmond, Shelly Berger, Noam Hudson and Kevin Hudson.

Young adults celebrate Purim

Forty young adults from around the Richmond area gathered on Thursday, March 13, for “A Night in Monaco Purim Party” sponsored by Network JCFR and J-Town. Guests enjoyed wine, desserts and socialization as well as a mad libs reading of the Meghilla at Secco Wine Bar in Carytown.

J-Town offers dynamic activities, worship and social programming. All spouses and friends also are invited to be involved regardless of religious beliefs. Its goal is to create a positive Jewish experience for young Jews, and help to form a solid Jewish community in Richmond, where people can feel connected to other Jewish people their age.

There are no expectations of joining a

Synagogue, paying dues or donations, or membership in any organization. It is solely an environment to explore Judaism and make connections. Helping to strengthen Richmond and offering opportunities for Jews to connect to Judaism in a way that is natural, welcoming, and fun.

Network JCFR offers opportunities for young leaders (ages 22-45) to get involved in the Richmond Jewish community and make a difference in the world at large focusing on outreach and engagement programs.

For more information on Young Adult Programs, contact Young Leadership Director Melanie Philips at (804) 545-8623 or mphilips@jewishrichmond.org



(From left) Madelaine Kramer and Rachel Schaier.

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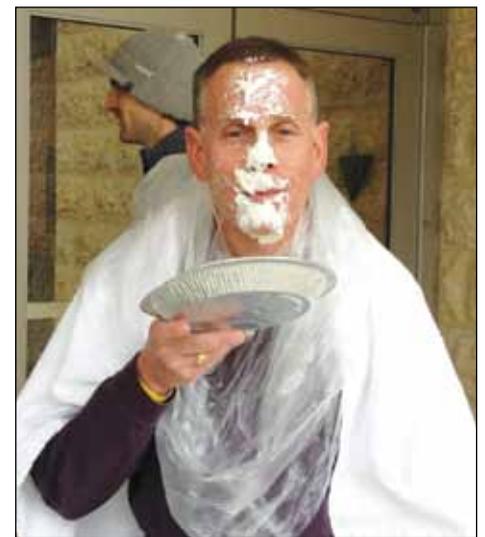
Rabbi Jesse Gallop reads a humorous version of the Meghilla at the event.



Young professionals enjoy the Meghilla reading by Rabbi Jesse Gallop.



Children and adults got into the true Purim spirit at the Annual Community Purim Carnival on March 16 as many dressed in their finest Purim costumes, danced to local musicians and just had a great time. Federation Assistant Executive Director Matt Langsam even took a few pies in the face to raise money for the Ben Yakir Youth Village and the Ben Shemen Youth Village, both in Israel, as part of Richmond's partnership community Hadera-Erion. These photos are just a few taken by Adrienne Winkelmann.



Purim

Continued from page 1

set up a pie-tossing station with all funds for pies being donated to the Ben Yakir Youth Village and the Ben Shemen Youth Village in Richmond's partnership community Hadera-Erion.

Youth villages work with at-risk youth and help them overcome social, educational and related challenges by living in a caring environment of a residential community.

Community members, Weinstein JCC CEO Jay Jacobs and JCFR Assistant Executive Director Matt Langsam volunteered to have pies tossed at them to

help raise funds for the two projects.

To close out the event, Congregation Beth Ahabah performed its annual Purim Shpiel, this year entitled "The Comic Book of Esther".

Volunteers from many local agencies, synagogues and organizations joined together to make this program a success. Check out the March 17 issue of the *Richmond Times Dispatch* for more photos and information about this year's great event.



Weinberg

Continued from page 1

at RTA. Rich Lehman is assistant coach of the school basketball team, the Iron-Blue Lions, and has helped set up and maintain the school's website as well as the student and staff computers through his company, Computer Resolutions. Amy Beth has chaired and run numerous school projects, including past Chesed dinners, and has provided her catering skills for countless school events.

Goldberg, the keynote speaker, is director of YU's Institute for University-School Partnership, which supports yeshivot and day schools in their recruitment and placement of teachers and leaders. He holds a Ph.D. in Applied Psychology from NYU, an M.S.Ed. in special education from Bank Street College, and a B.A. from the University of Chicago.

The dinner also will feature a performance of Jewish art music by pianist (and RTA parent) Assaf Shelleg, the Schusterman Assistant

Professor of Musicology & Jewish Studies in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia.

Rudlin Torah Academy is in its 48th year of providing quality full-time elementary education to Jewish children in the Richmond area. It was chartered in 1966 as the Richmond Hebrew Day School. The Academy is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools. RTA students continue to excel in national standardized testing with classes generally performing above the 90th percentile.

For more information about the event, please call (804) 784-9050. Tickets are \$125 per person.



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





(From left) Rebecca Kalman-Winston, Women's Division vice chair, and Dawn Siegel.



Andy Vorenberg, Young Adult Division co-chair; JCFR President Nathan Shor, JCFR President-Elect Richard Samet and Josh Rubinstein.

Campaign

Continued from page 3

Federation of Richmond, I thank you for all your efforts on behalf of the Jewish community in Richmond, in Israel and anywhere in the world where fellow Jews need our help."

Ellen Renee Adams, Campaign chair, announced that the community had donated \$3,053,836. "This is 2% over this year's goal and 1% over last year's campaign achievement," she noted.

She called her Campaign Leadership "extremely capable and dedicated individuals."

At the gathering, Joshua Peck received the William B. Thalheimer Sr. Award from Mike Sievers, the 2013 recipient; and Geri Stahl received the Sam E. & Virginia V. Binswanger Award from Dena Neuwirth, the 2013 recipient. Shor presented Scott

Belleman the Men's Division President's Award and Frances Goldman the Women's Division Schwarzschild Award. Russ Jennings received the Bob Reinhard Leadership Award from Bob Reinhard.

Adams said, "We are fortunate to have so many caring people volunteer their time for our campaign effort. Our community understands the impact of a gift to the Annual Campaign, which ensures that needs are met day-in and day-out, 365 days each year.

We feed the hungry, house the homeless, teach children and care for frail and vulnerable populations. Our core values permeate all that we do. I want to thank everyone for their commitment to sustaining Jewish life and Jewish lives here at home and around the world."

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You've Got A Friend With the *Reflector*

You rely on your friends to provide you with information that you can trust. *The Reflector*, which has served Richmond's Jewish Community for more than a half a century, is one of those friends.

The Reflector provides pertinent information about everything from local agency developments, meetings, synagogue news to major events in the area, in Israel and around the world.

A true friend, *The Reflector* provides a synopsis of what is happening in the region, deals with critical issues of modern Jewish life and the people who are making things happen in Jewish Richmond.

The Reflector serves as that valuable resource to stay connected with your Jewish community. Ad revenues and an annual allocation only take care of some of the expense to produce the monthly newspaper. So, we rely on our Friends for help.

Please see the enclosed remittance envelope with this issue of *The Reflector*; complete the form on the envelope and return it to us with your contribution. Thank you for being a Friend!



Silver hair, silver lining

By Robert Nomberg
PRESIDENT & CEO, RJF

I recently celebrated another birthday. While the knee aches in the morning, getting older has its rewards. For example, consider the way gift annuity rates increase with age.

A 70-year-old who donates \$10,000 to Richmond Jewish Foundation for an Ezra Charitable Gift Annuity can receive \$510 every year from the annuity for the rest of her or his life. However, if that same person were to obtain a gift annuity at age 85, the payment rates would jump to 7.8% and he or she would get \$780 each year. So, you see, aging has a silver lining.

The chart to the right shows the various gift annuity rates currently in effect for selected ages. The figures relate to a single-life gift annuity. As you might expect, rates are somewhat lower when two persons receive payments from an annuity.

Once established, the rates are “locked in” and annuitants can count on receiving the same amount every year. And payments may be received annually, semi-annually or quarterly.

Another benefit of an Ezra Gift Annuity relates to taxes. Not only does one receive an income tax charitable deduction when obtaining a gift annuity, there is also the possibility of payments that are partially tax-free.

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of an

Spring 2014 Gift Annuity Rates

AGE	Single Life RATE
90+	9.0%
85	7.8%
80	6.8%
75	6.0%
70	5.1%
65	4.7%
60	4.4%

Ezra Gift Annuity is the ability to give without endangering retirement income. In fact, just the opposite is often true: Sometimes our donors actually increase their retirement income by obtaining a gift annuity with low-yielding assets, such as certain stocks or even cash.

After the annuity payments (either after a set number of years, or after the donor’s lifetime) the remaining balance creates a named endowment fund benefitting the charity(s) of the donor’s choice.

If you would like to learn more about how an Ezra Gift Annuity can provide you or your loved ones with guaranteed income and create an endowment fund, call me at (804) 545-8656 or email Robert@rjfoundation.org.



Game Day: April 6

Bring the tiles. Deal the cards. Even snap a Tidley Wink if that’s your favorite game. Richmond Hadassah presents its annual Game Day on Sunday, April 6 from 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Weinstein JCC.

Get your group together and join the fun playing Mah Jong, Bridge, Scrabble or just come and chat. A lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. and there will be snacks throughout the day. Plus, don’t miss your chance to win fabulous door prizes! For only \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, you can enjoy a fun day and support Hadassah’s good works.

Mail your check made out to Hadassah to Toby Rosenthal, 4412 Bromley Lane, Richmond, 23221. For details, contact Jenna Etters at hi2apple@comcast.net, or Marian Winer at (804) 270-7898, or Charlotte Silver at (804) 541-9200.

Lunch and Learn: April 9

Lunch & Learn will discuss “Miriam: Beyond the Song of the Sea” at noon on April 9 at the Weinstein JCC. Julie Beck-Berman will explore Miriam’s song, stories and her influence on modern Jewish women.

Bring a lunch or buy one at the Café.

If you would like to discuss a particular subject about women in the Bible or any other subject contact Julie Beck-Berman at juliefbb@aol.com.

Book Club: April 13

The book, “Have A Little Faith” by best-selling author, Mitch Albom tells



(From left) Susan Davis, Phyllis Ellenbogen and Susan Bergman (standing) enjoy themselves at Hadassah’s Chinese Bingo event.

the tale about his odyssey that highlights his reflections on his own faith while dealing with misconceptions and misgivings from his childhood. Albom masterfully handles class religious, and economic differences as well as many other issues that we all face in our everyday lives.

Join Richmond Hadassah on Sunday, April 13 at 1 p.m., at the Weinstein JCC to discuss and share experiences in faith.

For further information contact Marilyn Townsell at mtownsell@aol.com.



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Deloris Keene



(From left) Shirley Kirsch and Pat Atkinson.



Dora Winer



Cookie Rosenberg

Mardi Gras celebrated at Beth Sholom Lifecare Community

Residents at Parkside Assisted Living Facility and Beth Sholom Gardens celebrated Mardi Gras on Fat Tuesday, March 4.

There was a traditional Cajun-style lunch with purple, gold and green decorations. The residents also had a fun tasting King cake and bananas foster, two treats that are always found in New Orleans during Mardi Gras.

The day before, residents enjoyed making their own Mardi Gras masks with feathers and sequins. They wore their own masks to lunch while enjoying the delicious food and jazz music.



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



(From left) Ben Humphries and Candy Coleman.



(From left) Bea Fine and Ann Rae Gershan.



Save the Date

Beth Sholom Lifecare Community at Parkside
Annual Fundraiser
Sunday, April 27, 2014
2 p.m.

RICHMOND SYMPHONY WOODWIND
QUARTET

Concert featuring selections from the ballet
Pulcinella

For more information
Call Selma Harlow at (804) 421-5029

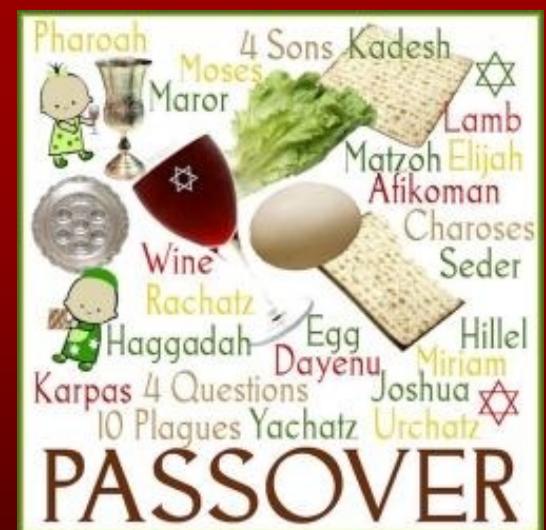
2 Things I can promise you for the Spring:

- 1) Passover is coming!
and
- 2) It's a great time to sell or buy a home with me!!

Give me a call!



Leslie Baron
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leslie.baron@Inf.com

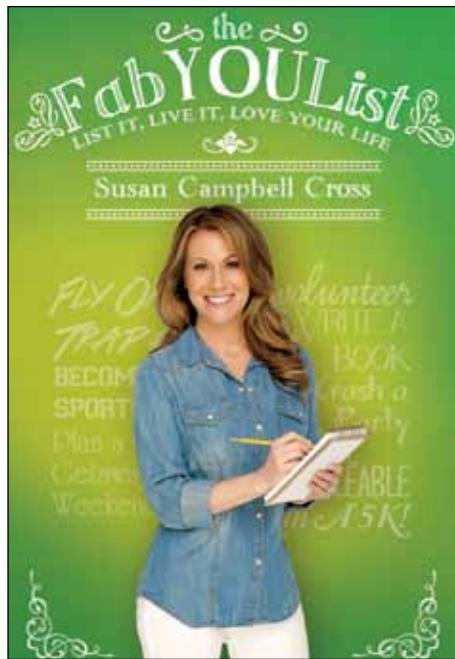


PASSOVER

Tuckahoe Office, 8804 Patterson Avenue, Henrico, VA 23229



Women's Night Out with author Susan Campbell Cross



it, Love Your Life” as she tackles that very question – and shares some pretty insightful answers.

On Thursday, April 10 at 7 p.m., join the Weinstein JCC Patrons of the Arts and the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond for Women's Night Out!

This year Women's Night Out will be a fun-filled party with giveaways and great information. Self-care is important to everyone's well-being, yet somehow women, wives, mothers and caregivers often put their needs last. But not this night.

Community members will receive information from local wellness and beauty professionals, delicious treats and giveaways. Join your mothers, daughters, and friends for a “Fab-YOU-lous” night of fun – and put yourself first for a change.

Cross is the lifestyle editor of “Shape Magazine” and contributing lifestyle editor of “Star” and “OK!” magazines. She is a contributor to “The

What happens when you've pushed yourself to the back burner for so long you don't know who you are or what you want?

Join author Susan Campbell Cross, author of “FabYOUlist: List it, Live

Women's More on page 13

Weinstein JCC HAPPENINGS



New 'selfie' art show at the Weinstein JCC opens May 21

This spring, the Weinstein JCC will host the first youth photography show with photographs by artists in grades 6-12.

This upcoming art show will have an interesting twist. Titled “The Faces of Teenage Richmond,” this show will be a “selfie” contest. A “selfie” is a type of self-portrait photograph, typically taken with a hand-held digital camera or smartphone phone and often associated with social networking.

All entries will be “selfies” that show the

attitude, personality or identity of the teen. In order to enter the show, teens must submit a framed photo no smaller than 8 inches by 10 inches. Entries must be submitted no later than May 10.

“The Faces of Teenage Richmond” show will open with a reception on Wednesday, May 21. “Selfies” will be judged by artists from the Richmond community.

For details or for an entry form, contact Alex Ross at aross@weinsteinjcc.org or (804) (804) 545-8631.

5400 Men's Club events

April 7 - Dr. Charles Sydnor, CEO and president of the Virginia Holocaust Museum, “Dramatic Changes in Holocaust Scholarship.”

April 14 - Passover. Center closed

April 21 - Passover. Center closed

April 28 - Ginger Levitt, “Edward Degas.”

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May 6 is Israel's 66th Birthday

Community Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration with 'The Shuk'

Join community members to celebrate Israel's birthday once again with a joyful celebration of music and culture.

Tuesday, May 6 marks Israel's 66th birthday and the Weinstein JCC will present the Patrons of the Arts season finale with "The Shuk" beginning at 6:30 p.m., followed by a new and renewing Patrons reception.

"The Shuk" uses music to excite and connect people of all backgrounds to Israeli and Jewish culture through its extraordinarily diverse repertoire consisting of traditional, contemporary, folk, sacred, Israeli, Jewish, Middle-Eastern and world music. The production brings people together in a most unique way in order to not only experience Jewish culture but to gain an appreciation, respect, and mutual understanding for all cultures and people around the world.

Prior to the concert, the Richmond Council for Jewish Education will sponsor

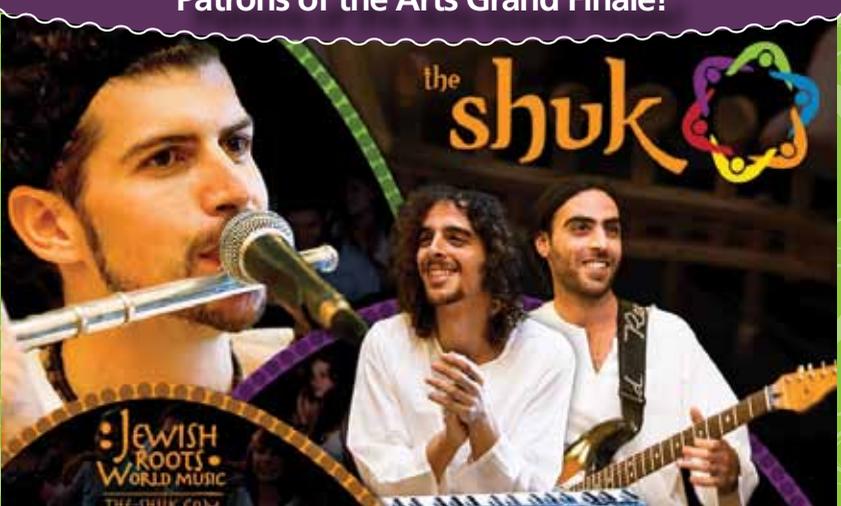


a community celebration from 5-6:30 p.m. with delicious Israeli foods provided by Yossi Goel, games and family activities and maybe even a few surprises. This celebration is free and open to all. Community members can purchase a variety of Israeli foods at this event.

The cost for the concert for members is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children (\$25 maximum per family). For non-members, the cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children (\$30 maximum per family).

Contact Lisa Looney at (804) 545-8608 or llooney@weinsteinjcc.org to purchase tickets to "The Shuk" concert or you can purchase online at www.weinsteinjcc.org.

Patrons of the Arts Grand Finale!



Join us as we celebrate Israel's birthday once again with a joyful celebration of music and culture!

The Shuk • Tuesday, May 6 at 6:30PM
Jewish Roots, World Music, A Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration
The Israel November Auditorium at the Weinstein JCC
M/\$5 children/\$8 adults/\$25 maximum per family
NM/\$7 children/\$10 adults/\$30 maximum per family
Patrons reception to follow
Visit weinsteinjcc.org or call 545.8608 for tickets!



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'Lebensraum' to be presented by JFT

Join the Weinstein JCC Jewish Family Theatre for "Lebensraum" written by Israel Horowitz, the third and final show of the 2013-2014 Patrons of the Arts Season.

Opening Wednesday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m., the show will run through Sunday, May 11 at 2 p.m. with a special additional show on Saturday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Using a cast of three to play 40 sharply drawn characters, this bold work of penetrating intelligence is based on the fanciful, explosive idea that a German chancellor might, as an act of redemption, invite six million Jews to Germany and promise them citizenship and jobs.

A resulting scenario unfolds that explores the effects of the policy on Jews and Gentiles with widely varying outlooks.

The actors make quicksilver changes from one character to the next, occasionally using masks or character cutouts to enhance the transformations. The logical progression of this artfully drawn script raises the terrifying possibility that history may repeat.

The Jewish Family Theatre is thrilled to welcome this year's guest director – Carol Piersol. She has been instrumental in the growth of Richmond's thriving theatre community over the past two decades. Her vision and commitment to great theatre will surely result in a production that is not to be missed.

Visit www.weinsteinjcc.org, or contact Lisa Looney for tickets and information at (804) 545-8608 or email llooney@weinsteinjcc.org.

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Book discussion with Elizabeth Shanks Alexander on April 27

Please join Weinstein JCC members and guests for a fascinating book discussion with Elizabeth Shanks Alexander, Ph.D., author and University of Virginia professor of Religious Studies.

Alexander teaches and writes about rabbinic literature in both ancient and contemporary contexts.

Her recent book, "Gender and Timebound Commandments in Judaism," (Cambridge UP, 2013) was named a finalist for the 2013 National Jewish Book Award, and will be the topic of her discussion on Sunday, April 27 at the Center at 11:30 a.m.

She is interested in understanding the literature in its ancient contexts and in exploring its utility in the construction of contemporary forms of living – Jewish and otherwise. She has taught at the university since 2000. Her earlier published book is "Transmitting Mishnah" (Cambridge UP, 2006).

The rule that exempts women from rituals that need to be performed at specific times (so-called timebound, positive

commandments) has served for centuries to stabilize Jewish gender. It has provided a rationale for women's centrality at home and their absence from the synagogue.

Departing from dominant popular and scholarly views, Alexander argues that the rule was not conceived to structure women's religious lives, but rather became a tool for social engineering only after it underwent shifts in meaning during its transmission. Alexander narrates the rule's complicated history, establishing the purposes for which it was initially formulated and the shifts in interpretation that led to its being perceived as a key marker of Jewish gender.

At the end of her study, Alexander points to women's exemption from particular rituals (Shema, tefillin, and Torah study), which, she argues, are better places to look for insight into rabbinic gender.

Refreshments will be served. Contact Erin Mahone with questions or to register for this event at (804) 545-8644 or email emahone@weinsteinjcc.org.



(From left) The tournament's winning foursome last year: David Fratkin, Ken Fetzer, Todd Defrancesca and Melvin Fratkin.

Mark your calendar for fun on the course and court

On Monday, June 2 at Jefferson Lakeside Country Club, the Weinstein JCC will once again partner with Beth Shalom Lifecare Community for a fun-filled day on the golf course.

And new this year, Jewish Family Services will team up with these two worthy organizations as a co-host of the 17th Annual Jewish Community Golf Classic. Along with the addition of JFS, a tennis component will be added.

So, whether you prefer to swing a club or swing a racquet, all are invited to join many others this year. Be sure to save the

date - June 2. Each of these three community organizations will benefit.

For many years, the funds raised have supported strengthening Jewish identity and continuity by enriching personal, cultural, social and physical development by fostering leadership and promoting the welfare of the Jewish community as a whole as well as providing long term care for the Jewish elderly.

Look for more details about player registration coming soon. Sponsorship opportunities are available by contacting Jay Jacobs at (804) 545-8643 or jjacobs@weinsteinjcc.org.

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(From left) Steve Biegler, Danny Jackson, Ronnie Adolf, committee chair; and Jay Schwartz at a previous golf classic get ready to tee off.



JFS to host LGBT adoption workshop on April 3

On Thursday, April 3, JFS will host a workshop for members of the LGBT community considering adoption from 5:30-7 p.m.

This seminar is funded by a grant from the Richmond Gay Community Foundation, and features Colleen M. Quinn, Esq., of The Adoption & Surrogacy Law Center at Locke and Quinn, and JFS Adoption staff.

It is not easy for members of the LGBT community to adopt a child in Virginia. Although the commonwealth currently allows married couples and single individuals to adopt, former Gov. Robert McDonnell in 2012 signed the “conscience clause” into law.

This clause allows faith-based agencies to choose not to work with prospective adoptive parents based on their sexual orientation, age, gender, political beliefs, religion, disability, or family status (single parent, person in unmarried couple, divorced person). As a result, many adoption

agencies in Richmond do not work with LGBT individuals and couples.

“By contrast,” said JFS’ Adoption Coordinator Teresa Birchett, “JFS firmly believes great parents come from all walks of life, and all children deserve a permanent, loving home.” JFS offers adoption services to all prospective parents, and to date has facilitated dozens of adoptions to LGBT parents.

The workshop will cover LGBT adoption opportunities, home studies, various ways to adopt, legal questions, and post-placement services.

For information about any JFS adoption service, call Teresa Birchett at (804) 282-5644, ext. 223 or email adoption@jfsrichmond.org.



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

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Oy! What a Night of Chance

Congratulations to Michael Barck, grand prize winner of the Weinstein JCC’s Night of Chance, Comedy and Caring raffle that took place on March 8.

The grand prize was just one of 21 fabulous prize packages that were awarded to lucky ticket holders at the event. In addition to the raffle, guests were treated to live music by the Bob Bragg Trio featuring Erin Mahone,

bourbon and spirit tasting compliments of Beam, Inc., delicious food courtesy of AB & R Catering, Anything Goes Catering, Pick-Ups Plus @Defazio’s, Keneseth Beth Israel, Sophisticated Soirees, Yossi at Café 1602, and the hilarious comedy of Amy Borkowsky and her “Messages from Mom.”

Thank you to those who supported this event through prize donations, raffle ticket purchases and attendance. With



(From left) Event committee chair Esther Fratkin, Weinstein JCC staff members Leslie McGuigan and Lisa Looney, grand prize winner Michael Barck and Weinstein JCC CEO Jay Jacobs.

your support, the Weinstein JCC raised more than \$40,000 to fund scholarships for children and adults to benefit from the Center’s programs and services.

Special thanks to the event sponsor, Dominion Payroll Services, the evening’s emcee Susan Greenbaum and to the entire event committee led by Esther Fratkin.

See you next year!

Women’s

Continued from page 10

Daily Muse,” “Huff Post Women,” and “Forbes Woman.” She lives outside Los Angeles with her husband and their three children.

The cost for the program is \$15 for members and \$18 for others.

For reservations and details, contact Lisa Looney at (804) 545-8608 or email llooney@weinsteinjcc.org.



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

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Happenings at Congregation Brith Achim

On March 28 at 6:30 p.m., Congregation Brith Achim celebrated its monthly Fourth Friday Night Food, Fun and Prayer. At that time, members and guests also celebrated all simchas (birthdays, anniversaries, etc.) falling in March.

Passover morning services will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 15 and the annual Community Second Night Seder will be held that evening at 6:30 p.m.

Yizkor Memorial Services will be held on Tuesday, April 22 at 10 a.m. All are welcome. For reservations or more information, call the Synagogue at (804) 732-3968.

On Friday, May 30, the congregation will recognize Dr. Martin “Lucky” Sheintoch in appreciation of his many years of dedication to the Synagogue. As past president of both the synagogue and cemetery corporation, Sheintoch has given many years of heartfelt service and dedication to Brith Achim. Join all for this Friday night service, when a special gift will be presented in his honor.

For details, directions or a ride, contact Sid Sperberg at (804) 747-9485 or sidsperberg05@gmail.com.

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Get your children ready for action and the Seder at KBI

Are you wondering how you will clean with your children home, and what are you going to do with them all week. The Pesach Program at KBI is the answer.

The program will be running two sessions. The first is April 11-14 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Your children will prepare for the Seder through interactive learning and play. They will also explore science, play sports, and get ready to use their good manner skills at the Seder.

Session 2 will be April 17-18, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Participants will take part in hiking, playing and learning Ultimate Disk!

The program is open to all boys and girls



These children take part in a recent KBI Pesach Program.

ages, 3-10.
 Visit pesachprogram.webstarts.com or email pesachprogram2014@gmail.com to register!



(From left) Saluting the flag are: Shachar Cahana, Pete Chumbris, Carlos Baez III, Carlos Baez II, Noam Cahana, David Fletcher and Moshe Fletcher.



(From left) Celebrating in song with Cubmaster Yisrael Fletcher are: Jeremy Levin, Dovid Aronowitz, Skyler Legano, Jack Chumbris and Shaanan Shamberg.

Cub Scout Pack 613 happenings

Cub Scout Pack 613 had a blast on Feb. 18 celebrating its annual Blue and Gold Banquet.

Set in magical Venice, Italy, Scouts, families, and friends enjoyed Italian-themed dishes and celebrated their boys’ accomplishments.

Earning the Tiger Cub badge were Dovid Aronowitz, Jack Chumbris, Skyler Legano, Jeremy Levin and Shaanan Shamberg. Earning the Bear badge were Aharon Bart, Carlos Baez II, Carlos Baez III, Noam Cahana, Shachar Cahana, Pete Chumbris, David Fletcher and Moshe Fletcher.

Senior District Executive George Smith was also on hand to present the entire Pack with the prestigious Gold Journey to Excellence award for 2013. Way to go, boys!

Pack 613 is the only distinctively Jewish Cub Scout Pack in central Virginia. It strives to promote Jewish values in Cub Scouting among Richmond’s Jewish youth, regardless of affiliation, ability, or disability.

For information and to view photos, visit <http://www.kbirichmond.com/boyscoutsgirlscouts.htm>. To learn more about the exciting opportunities Cub Scouting offers boys ages 7-10 and/or grades 1-5, contact Cubmaster Yisrael Fletcher at wfletcher7@gmail.com.

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Beth Ahabah confirmands on June 11, 1902, included young women as well as young men. (Front row/from left are: Florence Sternheimer, Ruth Stern, (Rabbi) Dr. E. N. Calisch, Lee Reinsberg, Clarice Gunst; (Middle row) Rae Rosenbloom, Gus Ezekiel, Albert Edel, Raymond Straus, William B. Thalhimier, Sr and (Back row) Julia Velson, Helen Blocj, Sadie Engleberg, Lilly Eichel and, Florence Marks. Photo courtesy Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives

Community invited to Beth Ahabah confirmation class reunion service on May 2

Congregation Beth Ahabah invites the community to a special Confirmation Class Reunion service on Friday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m.

The service will honor all confirmands, from the most recent to those in their 90s. It will incorporate prayers and music from different generations, and selected representatives will share their remembrances of religious school.

Current religious school classes will be contributing items for a time capsule, which will be presented at the service and then displayed at Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives. A retrospective prayer book exhibition also is planned.

The Confirmation Class Reunion

is one of a series of ongoing events in 2014 marking the founding of Beth Ahabah's predecessor congregation, K.K. Beth Shalome, in 1789 as the sixth and westernmost Jewish congregation in the United States.

The congregation is still working to contact confirmands. If you are a confirmand or know of one, contact Deborah Greenberg, deborahkate@verizon.net; Dana Isaacoff, disaacoff@yahoo.com or Bill Thalhimier, wbt3rd@mac.com. Other contacts are Katy Yoffy, kyoffy@gmail.com; for confirmands age 60 plus; Jo Murphy, jojasmurph@comcast.net, 40s and 50s; and Erin Kasoff, emkasoff@gmail.com, 20s and 30s.

Or Ami will host a Passover Seder on April 15

Congregation Or Ami will host its traditional Community Second Passover Seder, on Tuesday, April 15, at 5:30 p.m. at Or Ami, 9400 Huguenot Road.

The community is invited to attend this family friendly event. The cost is Temple member adults, \$18; non-member adults, \$22; and children, 12 and under \$6.

The menu will include Matzah Ball soup (or if you prefer, Matzo Ball, Knaydel, or Kneidel), brisket, and of course, all the Passover traditional delights: wine, grape juice, matzah, charoset, bitter herbs and, of course, the afikomen!

For details and reservations contact the Synagogue office at (804) 272-0017.



CONGREGATION OR ATID
Connecting community with spirituality

Or Atid happenings

Studying the Torah is a challenge with great rewards. It is not always easy to connect our modern sensibilities with ancient rites, to understand the complexities of biblical Hebrew, or to comprehend the hidden, mystical aspects of Torah. Jewish tradition teaches, however, that within the words and verses of the Torah one can find the key to unlocking the secrets of the Universe.

It is for this reason that Or Atid is inviting the entire community to join its new parashah (Torah portion) study group, which meets every Saturday morning at 10:45 a.m.

Together, people delve into the story of our people's encounter with the divine in search of religious meaning to enrich and transform our lives. The text is read together in English and people ask questions and debate in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Rabbi Royi Shaffin guides the conversation and offers insights from Jewish tradition, but without imposing his views on others. All opinions are taken seriously and considered by others.

Sometimes, the conversation is so interesting and inspiring that it spills over into

Shabbat lunch that follows.

Come to Or Atid on Shabbat morning and flip through the pages of a 3,500-year old document. The rewards are limitless.

For details, call the Temple at (804) 740-4747.

"Not Your Zayde's Seder"

Join members and guests for the Congregation Or Atid Second Seder on Tuesday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m.



This family-friendly Seder and catered meal is open to the entire Jewish community.

For reservations made by Monday, April 7, the cost is \$33 for adults and \$16 for children, ages 4-12. The cost increases for reservations made after April 8 to \$36/\$17. After April 11, reservations will be taken on a space available basis.

Call (804) 740-4747 for details and to make reservations.

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www.jewishrichmond.org

Reel Theology set for April 20 with the 'Inequality for All' at Or Ami

Congregation Or Ami's Adult Learning Committee will show "Inequality for All" as its Reel Theology movie for April.

"Inequality for All" is a 2013 documentary film directed by Jacob Kornbluth. The film examines widening income inequality in the United States. The film is presented by Professor Robert Reich, an American economist and author. The film premiered at the

2013 Sundance Film Festival in the Documentary Competition section, and won a U.S. Documentary Special Jury Award for Achievement in Filmmaking.

The screening on Sunday, April 20 at 6 p.m., is free and open to the public. There will be an informal potluck before the movie and a group discussion afterward led by Rabbi Ben Romer.

Ori Ami is located at 9400 Huguenot Road. For details, call (804) 272-0017.

Temple Beth-El plans Passover service and Seder on April 15

Temple Beth-El will host a Passover service and Seder on Tuesday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. The Seder meal will include Gefilte fish, Matzah ball soup, salad, brisket, mashed potatoes, carrot tzimmes, mixed vegetables, matzah and dessert.

The cost is \$25 for members, \$30 for

nonmembers and \$15 for students and children under 12.

RSVP with payment to the Temple Office at (804) 355-3564 by April 8.



Precious Freedom

April has arrived, and Temple Beth-El Religious School is preparing for its Passover Seder Scavenger Hunt.

Many times in the Torah we are told to treat strangers well, for we were once strangers in the land of Egypt. May this be a season for all of us to remember, as we learn about Passover in school and as we gather around the Seder table with family and friends, that we must learn to recognize and honor the humanity in every individual we encounter.

Do you have children - infants to ages 7? Then we hope to see you at Temple Beth El's next Tot Shabbat service on Friday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Grove Avenue building.

Come and enjoy as all greet Shabbat with singing and dancing!

The Temple is already looking toward the coming school year, and Beth-El is pleased to announce that for 2014-2015, the monthly Pre-K program **will be free for the first 6 students who register.**

Take advantage of this great opportunity to help your child develop an early love of Jewish holidays and culture.

For more information about Pre-K or any other Temple Beth-El education programs, contact Hazzan Marian Turk at hazzan.turk@bethelrichmond.org or (804) 740-0820.

Wow, come to KBI for first night of Passover Seder

Looking for a warm, caring group of people to share the first night Seder? Either with your friends and family or by yourself, KBI is the place in Richmond to come April 14.

If you want to make up a table, that can be done. If you want to meet new people, we'd be glad to introduce you. For most folks, it's Matzah, Wine, and Maxwell House Haggadahs. For KBI, it's all of these and more.

Passover is an incredibly intricate holiday, but at its core it's designed for the young and the young at heart. A Passover Seder is supposed to be filled with

questions and learning, songs and games, fun, and experience.

As we have done in the past, KBI will have an instructional Seder open to everyone in the Jewish community on the first night of Passover, April 14. There will be lots of fun surprises for children, and the Seder is perfect for all Jewish backgrounds and levels of observance.

Please join Rabbi Dovid Asher and Beth Israel as we embark on a community family Seder not to be missed!

Visit www.kbirichmond.com for details, or contact Rivka Bart in the KBI office at (804) 288-7953.



Seven of the many volunteers last year are (from left) Renate Forsman-Falck, Katie Roeper, Larry Salzman, Jason and Ashley Ryder and Mary and Chuck Greenberg.

Beth Ahabah's Annual Mitzvah Day is set for April 27

You can put tikkun olam into practice on Sunday, April 27, by volunteering for a few hours during Congregation Beth Ahabah's annual Mitzvah Day. Hundreds of volunteers are expected to come out and support projects that benefit the hungry, the infirm, the homeless, shut-ins, the environment, troops overseas, and much more.

If you can clean, cook, bake, paint, decorate, fill bags, or give blood, to name just a few opportunities, you can help.

In one project, Beth Ahabah volunteers hope to make more than 10,000 packages of food for Stop Hunger Now, an international program, which assembles and distributes dehydrated, high-protein meals that are used in crisis situations and in school feeding programs for schools and orphanages in developing countries around the world.

Other projects will include beautifying Beth Ahabah or Binford Middle School, planting a vegetable garden at William Byrd Community House and the annual clean-up

of Hebrew Cemetery.

Another initiative involves painting inspirational stones with single words or signs of peace and love for use at the cemetery. These will be placed in buckets for visitors to leave at the gravesite of a loved one as an act of remembrance. There also will be a blood drive; the Pink Ribbon project, which assembles education cards promoting breast health awareness; collections of cellphones, eye glasses, and toiletries for the troops; and a hairstylist to cut and style donors' hair for Locks of Love.

The organizers are seeking volunteers of all ages from youngsters to seniors. Most projects will begin at 11 a.m., but those involved with cooking, baking or the blood drive will begin at 9.

To register, call the Temple at (804) 358-6757 or visit www.bethabah.org. Register in advance so that the Temple can plan accordingly.



At last year's Mitzvah Day, (from left) Evan Leibowitz, Ana Mullian, Kim Leibowitz and Monica Rosenthal bake chocolate chip cookies.

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Help Richmond Hadassah honor Dr. Bill Moskowitz

The definition of a humanitarian is “someone committed to improving the lives of other people.” A humanitarian is caring, charitable, generous and compassionate. Dr. William Moskowitz – Bill to his friends and family – is all of those things and more, which is why he is being honored with Hadassah’s Elinor Bloom Marshall Humanitarian award.

Moskowitz, is a dedicated pediatric cardiologist at MCV Hospitals, a devoted doctor for the World Pediatric Project, a past president of the Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, a founder of Mended Little Hearts, Virginia Chapter, a support group for families of children with congenital heart disease. In addition, he has been recognized as a Top Doc by *Richmond Magazine* and *America’s Top Doctors*.

He was recently selected to membership in the American Pediatric Society, the most prestigious academic honor from the American Academy of Pediatrics. In his “spare” time he is a Klezmer musician, an associate Hadassah member and patriarch of a devoted family. He is married to Gail, a past Richmond Hadassah president

and incoming president of the Southern Seaboard Region.

The Elinor Bloom Marshall Humanitarian Award will be presented on Sunday May 4 from 5-7 p. m., at the Jepson Alumni Center at University of Richmond. Children’s Hospital of Richmond at VCU is the presenting sponsor for the evening.

The event was named for Elinor Bloom Marshall, a Hadassah legend, who was a true philanthropist with her time and resources.

The evening will begin with cocktails and heavy hors d’oeuvres featuring music by Klezm’Or’or’Less, Richmond’s own (smaller) Klezmer band that Moskowitz plays in. Following will be musical tributes (Swansboro Elementary School Chorus will perform), accolades by colleagues and friends, a presentation by Elinor Bloom Marshall’s family and a talk by Joyce Rabin, Hadassah Medical Organization chair. Rabin from New York City also is a member of the national and international boards of Hadassah and serves on its executive committee.

Tickets to the EBM Humanitarian



Dr. William Moskowitz runs a test on a young patient in St. Vincent as family members observe. Photo courtesy of World Pediatric Project.

Award event start at \$90 each and sponsorships start at \$500. Donations and sponsorship are also welcome and encouraged as Richmond Hadassah hopes to raise \$40,000 to purchase a piece of life-saving pediatric cardiac equipment for Hadassah Hospital in Israel in his honor.

For further information or tickets, visit www.hadassah.org/Richmond or contact Robin Jackson at (804)740-6677 or email rocknrobn@comcast.net, or Rebecca Young at (804) 379-1815 or email Rebecca.a.young@gmail.com.

Yom Hashoah

Continued from page 1

women’s studies and Holocaust history, “Hitler’s Furies” documents for the first time the astonishing complicity of a generation of younger German women who were enthusiastic Nazis and became willing and even energetic participants in genocide—as enablers and accessories organizing and supporting mass murder, and as direct participants in the widespread massacres of Jews in German-occupied eastern Europe between 1941 and 1944.

In the 70 years since the end of the Second World War, historical consensus upon the role of women in the Third Reich had focused upon the Nazi propaganda images of German women as mothers and homemakers supporting the war by holding together the households or the home front.

Until the appearance of “Hitler’s Furies,” the sole exception to this consensus in the historical literature had been the handful of studies devoted to the several thousand women who served as SS guard auxiliaries in the Gestapo’s concentration camps, and as SS female guards in the

women’s concentration camp at Ravensbrück. Lower has now decisively and definitively changed all that.

In a compelling, elegantly written narrative Lower takes the reader through the decade of research she conducted in regional and provincial archives in Belarus, and Ukraine, combing through the mounds of German records left behind in cities like Minsk and Kiev, and in smaller towns and regional administrative centers as the Wehrmacht fled from the advancing Red Army in 1944.

What emerges from the German records and out of the author’s exhaustive research is a fascinating story of the crucial but hitherto little known role women played in the imposition of destructive Nazi policies in the conquered Russian territories.

About 500,000 young German women volunteered for service in “the East” between 1939 and 1944. They included experienced administrative assistants, secretaries, stenographers, telephone operators, drivers and others from offices of the Security Police and the SD (which included the Gestapo), nurses from hospitals and medical offices, and women office employees from the German Army and Air Force, and from various government ministries and Nazi Party agencies all over Germany. Lured by

propaganda and promises of exciting work in “the wild East,” these young women flocked to recruiting offices and, in most cases, naturally and without difficulty or scruple adapted to working conditions in the East that involved them directly in brutalizing the civilian population and murdering Jews.

Drawing on the extensive case records of eleven women – from a Red Cross nurse, a veteran Gestapo secretary, the wife of an SS officer and district administrator, to the spouse of an SS plantation owner – Lower describes responsibilities involving hunting down and killing Jews.

These ranged from typing the orders and assigning vehicles and rations, guns and ammunition to an SS killing commando for an “Action,” to organizing refreshments and even picnics for the SS murderers at the sites of pit shootings while killings were in progress, to taking turns shooting Jews at sites themselves to impress their male counterparts, and personally shooting a group of six Jewish children found alone in the open by the wife of an SS official.

The deeper into the narrative the reader proceeds the more obvious it becomes that Lower has marked the path to a new field of inquiry leading into an uncharted region of study in the history of the Holocaust and

a complete re-evaluation of the role of women in the history of Nazi Germany.

Lower’s lecture during the commemoration, “Hitler’s Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields” will be drawn from her book of the same title. The program is free and open to the public and the community is cordially invited.

The Yom Hashoah Service of Remembrance will conclude with Richmond Survivors and their children and grandchildren lighting six candles to honor the memories of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis. Winners of this year’s student art contest also will be announced.

This program is sponsored jointly by the museum and the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond. The museum is located at 2000 E. Cary St., which offers free, ample off-street, lighted parking.

For details, on this program and other museum events, call (804) 257-5400. Also visit www.va-holocaust.com.





(From left) Kai Kornblith, Nick Kornblith, David Branson, Rabbi Zvi Zwiebel, Josh Klein, Nate Weiner, Jason Schwartz and Sam Rippe.

Shabbat 200: showing the strength of VT Jewish community

By Ben Pafe
Class of 2015, Virginia Tech

On Feb. 21, 200 Jewish students at Virginia Tech gathered at the German Club Manor for a legendary event held by Chabad at Virginia Tech.

The Jewish Community at Virginia Tech isn't known to be particularly large, but that didn't stop Chabad at Virginia Tech from hosting an event that hasn't yet happened at the school.

Shabbat 200 brought 200 Jewish students together for a meet and greet, Shabbat dinner, and dessert reception. It occurred with great success and showed that the Virginia Tech Jewish community is actually quite sizeable.

Students, both undergrad and graduate, gathered at the club at 5:30 p.m. to socialize and meet other Jewish students. Most seized the opportunity to make new friends and expand their network within the Jewish community. Shabbat candles were lit as well and the Shabbat dinner started at 6 p.m., prepared by Chabad.

For the students who hadn't attended a Chabad event before, they quickly became familiar with the welcoming atmosphere, great company and delicious food.

During dinner Rabbi Zvi Zwiebel talked about the event, the Jewish community, the planning of the event, and thanked all of the attendees. After his remarks, guests sang Shabbat songs and finished their meals. Next, there was a dessert reception where guests continued to hang out, socialize, and enjoy Shabbat together.

Not only was it comforting and heartwarming to see 200 Jewish students come together for an event, but it was truly enjoyable to meet so many new people that



(From left) Alyse Feldman, Erin Hecht (Richmond), Hannah Winston (Richmond), Jordan Winston (Richmond), and Adi Fine.

I now know are part of my community. I genuinely believe that many of the new faces from Shabbat 200 will continue to attend Jewish events because of the fun, great food, and welcoming atmosphere. Every guest seemed to have a great time with friends, old and new. Shabbat 200 was a great display of the strength of the Jewish Community at Virginia Tech and how meaningful and enjoyable it is to come together for a Shabbat celebration.

Having such great success, it is destined to become a tradition. There is nothing stopping Chabad at Virginia Tech from hosting 300 students, or even more in the future. It served as an example of the size and strength of the Jewish community at Virginia Tech, but also the progress and growth it has experienced in the past few years. Chabad at Virginia Tech has definitely played a major role in this process, always providing students with a great Jewish experience and community.

Now, the bar has been set very high for events for the Jewish community in the future at Virginia Tech.

Syral Specter is Sofie Stahl Memorial Award recipient

Gila Chapter of Jewish Women International is proud to announce the 45th recipient of the 2014 Sofie Stahl Memorial Award is Syral Specter.

Specter will be honored at a dessert reception on Wednesday, May 14, at 7:30 p.m., at the Weinstein JCC. The public is invited to join JWI, previous Sofie Stahl recipients as well as family and friends for the presentation of this well-deserved award.



Syral Specter

Originally created by The Day chapter of JWI (then B'nai B'rith Women) and the Stahl Family, the annual award, voted by previous years' recipients, honors a Jewish woman whose volunteerism demonstrates a life-long commitment to helping those in the Richmond area.

So successful is she as a volunteer that according to her nomination, her "...ability to fearlessly recruit volunteers to any of the organizations she is active in has brought in a small army of loyal and capable people who otherwise would never have considered approaching these organizations. Syral has a gift of friendly persuasion."

Recognized for much that she has done, Specter's extensive endeavors have been very effective in the Richmond Jewish community. She started her volunteer road in the 1970s as treasurer for B'nai Shalom, which then merged with Temple Beth-El. Continuing at Beth-El, she helped run the gift shop.

Every time the Maccabee games have been held in Richmond, there was Specter, assisting in food service and administrative support.

So much a part of Jewish Family Services over the years, she has planned and implemented Outreach Programs for its Jewish holiday events for Jewish residents residing in assisted living and independent living facilities. Not getting tired or bored, she spent several years managing JFS volunteer programs and

Care Management's Statistical Reporting. Subsequently, along with paid staff members she created its Bill Pay program, even becoming the program's first auditor.

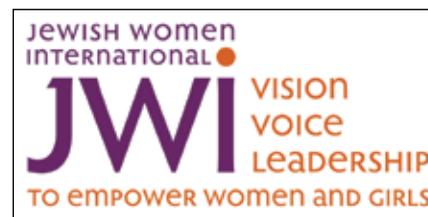
Not stopping there, Specter has served as an interviewer for the Annual Volunteer Program and Client Survey, giving personal attention to JFS clients in her visits to assess their

satisfaction with the program. Effective volunteers want their programs to outlast them. She has been an exceptional recruiter for the 5400 Men's Club at the Weinstein JCC.

Per-person covert for the evening is \$36. Pledge levels are Gold \$50 and Platinum \$100. To RSVP, checks payable to JWI should be mailed by May 6 to JWI, c/o Arlene Slutzah, 4907 Daffodil Circle, Glen Allen, VA 23060. For details, contact Slutzah at (804) 747-0765 or arlene4907@gmail.com.

Founded in 1897, JWI is the leading Jewish organization empowering women and girls through economic literacy; community training; healthy relationship education; and the proliferation of women's leadership. Jewish Women International's innovative programs, advocacy, and philanthropic initiatives protect the fundamental rights of all girls and women to live in safe homes, thrive in healthy relationships, and realize the full potential of their personal strength.

As in past years, proceeds from the Sofie Stahl event support JWI's National Library Initiative.



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