JFM Award Recipients for 2018

The strength of our community rests on the commitment and dedication of individuals who work to improve the lives of others. The Jewish Federation of Madison proudly recognizes outstanding individuals who, by their achievements, exemplify the qualities we hold dear. The Miriam Singer Sulman Young Leadership award, the Andrea J. Stein Jewish Community Professional award, and the Ben Minkoff Volunteer Service award will be presented to this year’s deserving winners at the JFM Annual Meeting on November 18, 2018.

The Jewish Federation of Madison has a long-standing tradition of recognizing future leadership. In 1975, the Miriam Singer Sulman Young Leadership Award was established by her parents Isadore and Ida Singer (z”l) in memory of their much admired and dynamic young JFM leader. This award not only recognizes the achievements and future potential for leadership but enables the recipient to attend the Jewish Federation of North America General Assembly through an endowment fund established by her parents. We are fortunate that Jeremy Tunis is this year’s young leadership award recipient. He will attend the JFNA General Assembly in Tel Aviv between October 22-24.

Jeremy has been involved in many aspects of the Federation since he arrived in Madison with his wife, Dr. Michelle Polik-Tunis and their two children Jaime and Lola. Jeremy is on the Board of Directors of JFM, and has been particularly involved in fundraising for Gan HaYeled, and is the co-chair of this year’s Tzedakah Campaign. Jeremy is an attorney who manages a Madison-based public-affairs, crisis communications, grassroots and legislative advocacy and fundraising consultant business. The award will be presented by last year’s recipient, Dr. Jesse Sondek.

The 2018 Ben Minkoff Volunteer Service Award will be presented posthumously to Cheryl Rosen Weston for her years of devoted service to the Madison Jewish community. The late Cheryl Rosen Weston was chosen for this honor because of her many years of devoted involvement in the Jewish community. Cheryl served on the Board of Directors of the Federation and served as president of the Board of Jewish Social Services and UW-Hillel. Cheryl was an attorney and co-founder of Callen, Weston, Pines and Bach, full-time faculty member of the UW-School of Law and was CEO of the Douglas Stewart Company. Cheryl was particularly committed to protecting the human rights and dignity of all individuals.

Cheryl left large legacy gifts to the Jewish community which will sustain her involvement and influence for many years to come. The Ben Minkoff Volunteer Service Award to Cheryl will be accepted by Cheryl’s daughter Samantha Weston.

The 2018 Andrea J. Stein Jewish Community Professional Award was created to recognize a Jewish community professional that promotes Jewish community outreach, engagement and action that best serves Klal Yisrael. Terrie was chosen not only for her work at Temple Beth El but also for her work as the Executive Director of Jewish Social Services and the volunteer leadership of the Jewish Burial Association of Madison. Terrie has also served locally as the director of the Madison Public Library Foundation.

Terrie is married to Len and is also the mother of Adam and Jamie. Terrie is a Certified Fundraising Executive and has been an active member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Save the Date
Jewish Federation of Madison Annual Meeting
We will present awards, celebrate our accomplishments, and welcome new board members
Sunday, November 18, 5pm - 8pm
Full Compass Systems
Watch for details in the November MJN or at our website, www.JewishMadison.org
Student Leaders on the Rise at Hillel: Meet the Interns!

By Elise Goldstein and Alex Fishkind, edited by Aaron Seligman

With fall semester in full swing, Hillel at UW-Madison is introducing 15 new student interns. Each student intern, who comes from a variety of geographic backgrounds and other campus involvement, has a different focus area under a broader theme of student engagement. The three categories are: programming, outreaching, and communicating/marketing. Within these areas, interns are planning and promoting events to invite and welcome other students to campus. For example, senior Sofia Biros wants to learn about development opportunities for others to connect with Jewish life on campus. When asked what she is working on student outreach and marketing, Senior Sofia Biros says that she is looking forward to “capturing the excitement that Hillel provides and spreading it to other students in fun and engaging formats.”

Ultimately, the fall 2018 interns at UW Hillel are extremely eager and enthusiastic about their positions and are eagerly anticipating all the wonderful students that join the community. Follow their work through Hillel’s social media and other communications, stop by anytime to visit, and recommend any student leaders you know for future internships!

Interns in a group setting of 2020)
Celebrating the New Bernie D. and Sandra K. Goldstein Lounge

By Chad S.A. Gibbs
Center for Jewish Studies

At the end of August, the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies had the pleasure of celebrating our plans for the new Bernie D. and Sandra K. Goldstein Lounge with students, staff, faculty, and many members of the Goldstein family.

Bernie Goldstein is a 1949 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a true Badger fan, and an avid supporter of CJS. His sizeable gift has enabled us to create a lounge and resource facility for students and faculty that will greatly benefit our community of students and scholars. The Goldstein Lounge will feature a projection and collaboration space, a laptop bar work area and relaxation space with flat screen television.

The resource center built into this space will eventually hold a copy of all books assigned in CJS courses as well as works of note for our common fields of study. This collection will also contain a section concentrated in the study of the Holocaust. Bernie specifically asked that the donation in support of these volumes be titled in honor of his wife, Lenora.

In an act of true generosity—in keeping with his deep belief in tzedakah—an endowment has also been created to continually refresh the holdings and update the lounge as needed.

Celebrating with us at this event were also Stewart M. Goldstein, ’62 and Joshua B. Goldstein, ’15. The Goldstein family, currently, represents a three-generation commitment to the UW-Madison and, more recently, our educational mission here at CJS.

Speakers at this event included Tony Michels, Director of CJS; and Professor Jordan Rosenblum. Both spoke to the ways in which this new facility and its community-building presence will enhance the education of our students while giving them a place to meet and collaborate with peers.

Of the Goldstein Family, Bernie himself spoke, as did his grandson, Joshua. Bernie stressed his appreciation for the work of CJS and the pleasure he has taken from attending almost all nineteen annual offerings of the Greenfield Summer Institute. A program he has also committed to support.

We offer our thanks to Bernie and his entire wonderful family and look forward to the completion of this new resource early in the semester.

Thank You and congratulations to Judith Sone from the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies

By Chad S.A. Gibbs
Center for Jewish Studies

Everyone at the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies would like to wish Judith Sone all of our best as she transitions from her work as our Associate Director to lecturing in the Hebrew language here at the UW-Madison. Though Judith’s excitement at the prospect of returning to the classroom is clear, her amazing talents and wonderful personality will be deeply missed in the administration of the Center.

Since starting as Associate Director in 2014, Judith has trained employees, facilitated countless events, dutifully kept the books, and toiled with the utmost devotion toward the advancement of our educational goals.

Above all else demanded by her position as Associate Director, it has been Judith’s primary responsibility to act as the academic advisor to all CJS students. Jewish Studies senior, Hilary Miller, has had the advantage of Judith’s guidance in this capacity and in other activities during her time at the university.

Hilary states that “after each advising session with Judith, I left feeling more excited about my courses, professors, and schedules for the coming semesters. She has an incredible sense of calm about her that makes all students feel more confident and less overwhelmed.”

During Hilary’s work as editor of Avukah, the UW-Madison’s new undergraduate journal of Jewish Studies, Judith always had the benefit of Judith’s full and unwavering support. “When I approached her with the idea of creating a student journal for the department a year ago she was not only open to the concept but also devoted so much time from her already busy schedule to make it a reality. She was extremely encouraging, and I always appreciated her accessibility and responsiveness.”

Chad Gibbs praised Judith for being a kind and helpful mentor during his time as a graduate student employee at CJS. “I learned a great deal from her about the mission of the Center and how the university works that will greatly benefit our community. She’s an extraordinary teacher and we’re fortunate to have her.”

Judith taught upper division Hebrew language and literature courses while working as Associate Director. In her new position she will continue providing these offerings and take over lower level classes from the recently retired Haya Yuchtman.

“Her contributions and hard work are very much appreciated. Rabbi Winnig appreciates the opportunity she has had to serve the Madison Jewish Community, and she values the many relationships she has formed in the process. She looks forward to her future endeavors in Madison and as a member of the Jewish community.”

The Jewish Federation of Madison (JFM) and Rabbi Paula Winnig extend to everyone our best wishes for a happy, healthy, and fulfilling new year.

Sincerely, The Jewish Federation of Madison and Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig

To the Madison Jewish Community

We wish to inform the community that Rabbi Paula Winnig has decided to step down from her position as the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Madison, effective September 14, to pursue other professional paths.

JFM thanks Rabbi Winnig for her efforts, and for the numerous successes she has brought to the organization during her tenure. Her contributions and hard work are very much appreciated.

Rabbi Winnig appreciates the opportunity she has had to serve the Madison Jewish Community, and she values the many relationships she has formed in the process. She looks forward to her future endeavors in Madison and as a member of the Jewish community.

The Jewish Federation of Madison (JFM) and Rabbi Paula Winnig extend to everyone our best wishes for a happy, healthy, and fulfilling new year.

Sincerely, The Jewish Federation of Madison and Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig

The Goldstein family and CJS faculty gather to celebrate the dedication of the new lounge

Professor Judith Sone

Madison Jewish News/3
Your Federation Dollars at Work: iREP

People want to understand what their Federation funds support in Israel. One contentious issue is the religious pluralism within the State of Israel. To respond to this concern, we joined with 18 other federations to become a supporter of the Israel Religious Expression Platform, iREP. Through our partnership as an iREP Federation, we have the good fortune to support significant programming that will grant more opportunity for pluralistic Jewish expression within Israel.

This year iREP awarded over $440,000 in grants to ten programs that promote public awareness and engagement in this issue. iREP’s goal is to create widespread active civic support for expansion of recognized forms of marriage in Israel. The New York Times recently reported on this rising opposition to only having the option of Orthodox controlled religious marriage in Israel. You can read more at: https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/19/world/middleeast/israeli-weddings-orthodox-alternatives.html.

Your Federation dollars are going to work to help change this situation through our iREP partnership. Here are the latest grant recipients and descriptions of their programs.

• Yisrael Hofsheet (Be Free Israel), IMPJ (Reform) Movement, and the Masorti (Conservative) Movement will run a joint media and grass-roots campaign encouraging secular and traditional Israeli couples to choose alternative marriage options.
• Hiddush will raise consciousness and advocate for marriage freedom through public opinion polls on different aspects of the marriage issue.
• Ne’eman Torah Va’Avodah will raise awareness among the religious Zionist sector about the problems with current marriage laws, how people from the FSU are affected by the current policies, and promote civil marriage as a solution for those unable to marry through the Rabbinate.
• The Rackman Center for the Advancement of the Status of Women at Bar Ilan University will build on the research mapping the field of alternative marriage ceremonies and their legal and halachic implications.
• Mavo Satum will provide orthodox marriage ceremonies for couples outside the chief Rabbinate, and publicize this service through media work and conferences. This service will create choice in marriage for more traditional and Orthodox couples.
• Hashgacha Pratit will provide marriage ceremonies according to Halacha outside the Rabbinate and create a national campaign reaching hundreds of thousands of Israelis via the news media, social networks, advertisements, and demonstrations convincing them that they have a choice in the type of ceremony even if they want an Orthodox marriage.
• Tmura Israel and Atid Bamidbar will raise awareness of the Russian speaking group on the options for Jewish marriage outside the Rabbinate and the legal status of these marriages, through lectures, conference and media work in Russian.
• Project Kesher Israel will raise awareness of the Russian speaking group on the options for Jewish marriage outside the Rabbinate and the legal status of these marriages through leadership seminars for Russian speaking women in the periphery, training of Russian language journalists on these issues, and engaging young Russian speaking Jews on Masa program.
• BINA: The Jewish Movement for Social Change will build a curriculum and teach hundreds of non-Orthodox (hiloni and masorati) young Israelis on the issue of marriage freedom and the options for getting married outside the Rabbinate. The curriculum will be shared with many other organizations providing Jewish education to young adults in pre-army seminars (Mechinot).
• Tikun will facilitate consolidation of a Masorti (“traditional”) perspective on marriage through a roundtable discussion of the 120 Tikun members, all Masorti and Mizrahi leaders. The materials will be publicized in order to encourage the inclusion of Masorti viewpoint on the marriage issue in the public debate around it.
• Your continued support of the Federation Tzedakah Campaign makes this important work possible locally, in Israel and in 70 nations worldwide.
Madison Hadassah

Madison Hadassah is bringing community together and encouraging physical fitness through walking and healthy cooking adventures.

UW Arboretum Walking Adventure at Wingra Woods with Shelly Stillman
Sunday, October 7, 12:00 pm
Join us for a woodland walk to enjoy peak fall colors and explore a corner of the arboretum that many people miss. Wingra Woods includes a beautiful old oak savannah, a meandering creek, skunk cabbage bridge, Indian mounds, and more.
Wear comfortable walking shoes. Path to the Indian mounds is uneven.
Everyone welcome.
Please RSVP so we know to expect you.
Email: madisonhadassah@gmail.com Call: (608) 770-6521
And check Facebook for updates: www.facebook.com/HadassahMadison
Meet at Wingra Springs Parking Lot
Directions: Wingra Woods is most easily reached from the east entrance to the arboretum. Enter the arboretum from the east side near St. Mary’s Hospital. The east entrance is at Haywood Drive and North Wingra Drive/South Mills Street. Follow Arboretum Drive past the residential area. Park at Wingra Springs parking lot. The lot is one half mile northeast of the Visitor Center.

Madison Hadassah invites you to:
A Small Group Discussion on Zionism Today
A follow-up talk by Paula Winnig on Contemporary Zionism - Is this what Theodore Herzl and Henrietta Szold Envisioned?
Thursday, October 11, 7:00 pm
Refreshments served. Call or email for reservation and location. Limited to 12.
Email: madisonhadassah@gmail.com Call: (608) 770-6521
Or visit Collectors Corner at 6633 University Ave., Middleton. For more information please visit: www.facebook.com/HadassahMadison

Why Donate to, Shop, and Volunteer at Collectors Corner – Resale Shop

Support Refugees
Hadassah is working with Jewish Social Services to provide free clothing and household items to refugees. Your donations (not consignments) are free for refugees.

Help A Bridge to Peace
All proceeds from Collectors Corner’s sales support advanced medical research, education, and healthcare in Israel and around the world. Hadassah Hospitals bring Jewish, Arab, and Christian doctors and nurses to treat patients. Patients are treated without regard to ethnicity and ability to pay.

Donate
Donations are accepted anytime.
Consignments accepted: 10:30 am - 3:30 pm, M-F, Saturday by appointment.
Remember us when cleaning out your jewelry box. Jewelry is our best seller.

Volunteer
Do you have a morning or afternoon available once a week? Join a wonderful team of volunteers.

Collectors Corner
Hadassah’s Resale Store
6633 University Ave., Middleton
(608) 831-2474

Simchas & Condolences

Mazel Tov on the birth of
Harrison James Semrow, son of James and Gena Semrow, sister to Rowan, and grandson of Debbie Martin

Mazel Tov on the marriage of
Samantha Geneman (Katch), daughter of Harry and Carol Katch, to Jason Geneman, son of Dawn and Carl Geneman

Condolences to the families of
Amme Anderson, granddaughter of Mark (Tanya) Anderson, great-grandmother of Lily and Samuel Anderson
Norma White, mother of Bill (Linda) White, grandmother of Natalie, Erika, and Holly White
Dorothy Whitcomb, mother of Patricia Green-Sotos (Bart Green (z”l), Peter Sotos), wife of Bill Whitcomb (z”l), grandmother of Alisha (Jay) Johnson, Jeremiah Green, and Rachel Green (z”l)
Lillian M. Ihnchak, mother-in-law of Elayne Ihnchak, grandmother of Tiz Ihnchak, and great-grandmother of Micah, Eliana, and Nathan Goff
Ruth Stocker, cousin of Judith (Marc) Herstand, and Micah and Ari Fay Forester, mother of Scott (Rabbi Betsy) Forester and Robin (Marc) Joseph, wife of Ben Forester (z”l), grandmother of Rena, Benjy and Shira Forester and Brad (Lauren), Michael and Josh Joseph
Bobbie Krinsky, mother to Amy Hansen (nee Fishman), grandmother to Erik Hansen, and stepmother/grandmother to the Imig Family (Ann, Ben, Elliott, Max), The Kayros Family (Dan, Anat, Yael, Yehonatan, Masz, Amos), and the Krinsky/Titus Family (Raechel, Scott, Kenna, Gwen)
Anita Daich Parks, wife of Dr. HK Parks (z”l), mother to Dr. Barbara Parks (Mike Baste), Dr. Richard Parks (Dr. Miriam), and Dr. Roberto Parks; aunt to Claudia (Willie) Haas; grandmother to Tamar, Hadas, Moriah, Taliah, Avraham Eliyahu, Ben and Molly, and more than 25 great-grandchildren
October Events

01 Erev Simchat Torah Celebration (BIC)  Monday, October 1, 6:00 pm  We’ll unroll and explore the inside of a Sefer Torah, from end to end, then dance with our Torah scrolls. All are welcome! Dinner (for those who RSVP’d in advance) begins at 5:30 pm.

01 Simchat Torah Celebrations (CSS)  Monday, October 1, 5:30 pm  Free Pizza dinner followed by a service at 6:15 pm, with dancing, singing, rolling the Torah, and a dessert potluck. Contact the office to RSVP for pizza.

02 Simchat Torah Services & Children’s Program (BIC)  Tuesday, October 2, 9:30 am  Traditional services and dancing at 9:30, children’s programs at 10:30.

05 Shabbalala (TBE)  Friday, October 5, 5:45 pm  Gathering at 5:45 pm for a 6:00 pm service. An all-generation, musical Shabbat experience.

05 Shabbat Retreat at Goose Lake (CSS)  Friday and Saturday, October 5, 6  Sleep under the stars or join us on Saturday only for hiking, good discussions, and great community. Just an hour away at the summer house of Jeff and Sheryl Spitzer-Resnick.

06 Parsha Study (BIC)  Saturday, October 6, 12:45 pm  NEW: About once a month, join Rabbi Forester after kiddush lunch for discussion of the week’s parsha.

07 Kesher: Connecting Little Ones to Jewish Community (CSS)  Sunday, October 7, 10:30 am - 11:30 am  Our eight-session program for two to four-year-olds and their parents begins. Located at RISE, 2120 Fordem Ave.

07 Kadima Goes Mini-Golfing (BIC)  Sunday, October 7, 1:15 pm - 3:30 pm  Middle schoolers go mini-golfing, and top off the afternoon with a scoop of frozen custard. Email Deborah Hoffman at hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org for more information.

09 Rosh Hodesh Heshvan (BIC)  Tuesday and Wednesday, October 9, 10, 7:00 am  Celebrate the new month at morning minyan, followed by a light breakfast.

12 Shabbat Dinner (BIC)  Friday, October 12, 5:45 pm  Enjoy a catered Shabbat dinner with old and new friends at BIC. RSVP to office@bethisraelcenter.org for more information.

14 Yom Rishon (BIC)  Sunday, October 14, 10:00 am - 11:15 am  Preschoolers and their grownups come learn through play, crafts, stories, and songs with Education Director Beth Copelovitch.

16 Havurah on Aging (CSS)  Tuesday, October 16, 2:00 pm  Please contact the office for more information.

17 Kesher Film Series (TBE)  Wednesday, October 17, 7:00 pm  “Junction 48” – Winner Tribeca Film Festival – Set in an Arab ghetto of the Israeli town of Lyd, Junction 48 portrays the life of a Palestinian rapper bent on portraying the difficult conditions of his life through his music. Faced with the obstacles of a family tragedy, violently pro-Israeli singers, parental restrictions of both his and his girlfriends’ families and drug dealers, Kareem surfaces, bit by bit as a strong, responsible and hopeful human being. Writer/producer: Udi Aloni. Produced: 2015 Run Time: 1 hour, 37 minutes Rating: Kesher Israel Committee rates this film for those age 18 and over.

19 Singles Creating Community Coffee Klatch (TBE)  Friday, October 19, 9:00 am  The Egg and I, 2501 Beltline Hwy

19 Shabbat Dinner Get Together (TBE)  Friday, October 19, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm  Taste of India, 2623 Monroe St. #150

19 MOUSY Shabbat Schmooze (BIC)  Friday, October 19, 5:45 pm - 6:45 pm  Services, 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm  Dinner  Jewish high-schoolers are invited to daven and dine together with Rabbi Forester. All prayers, edibles, and hospitality provided.

20 Refugee Shabbat (BIC)  Saturday, October 20, 9:30 am  BIC is pleased to welcome organizers and beneficiaries of local refugee resettlement efforts to share their experiences with Shabbat School students and the congregation during and after Shabbat morning services. Kiddush will be sponsored by the BIC Social Action Committee to welcome our guests.

20 Shabbat Z’mirot (BIC)  Saturday, October 20, 12:45 pm  Sing a little after Shabbat kiddush lunch.

21 Hebrew on One Foot (BIC)  Sunday, October 21, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm  Learn to decode Hebrew so you can follow along in a prayer book and begin to develop familiarity with the language. This class will serve as an important foundation for Hebrew beginners interested in studying Talmud with Rabbi Forester. Cost: $36 for BIC members, $54 for non-members.

21 Get to Know Us Brunch (CSS)  Sunday, October 21, 9:50 am - 11:30 am  Interested in learning more about Shaarei Shamiyim? Join us for bagels and coffee. Members will discuss their experiences and our membership committee will be available to answer questions. Located at RISE, 2120 Fordem Ave. RSVPs requested.

21 PJ Library Tots & Tunes (TBE)  Sunday, October 21, 10:30 am  For young children (ages 0-5) and their families. Enjoy playful, musical, educational moments, including a PJ Library story and meaningful craft project.

24 Singles Creating Community Dinner (TBE)  Wednesday, October 24, 6:30 pm  Free House Pub, 1902 Parmenter St., Middleton

25 Talmud Class Begins (BIC)  Thursday, October 25, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  The first of several six-week sessions of Talmud study with Rabbi Forester.

26 Shabbat Worship Service “The Refugee Crisis” (TBE)  Friday, September 28, 7:30 pm  At this special Shabbat service, we will deepen our understanding of the global refugee crisis, connect with the Jewish movement to aid refugees, and celebrate our community’s work with refugees alongside Jewish Social Services, HIAS, Open Doors for Refugees, and other partners.

27 Author Visit (BIC)  Saturday, October 27, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  BIC welcomes Caryn Mirrnan-Goldberg, who will present a program based on her new book, Miriam’s Well: A Modern Day Exodus.

27 Susan Weinberg Book Talk (TBE)  Saturday, October 27, 10:15 am - 11:30 am  Susan Weinberg, an author and artist from Minneapolis, will speak about her book We Spoke Jewish: A Legacy in Stories, based on oral history interviews.
Regular Shabbat Service Schedules

Beth Israel Center (BIC)

On Fridays we begin gathering at 5:00 pm to schmooze and toast the week that was. Lively, song-filled services begin at 5:45 pm. Saturdays start at 9:15 am with a pre-service singing warmup. Our Shabbat morning worship begins at 9:30 am with Birchot HaShachar and continues through P’sukei d’zimra, Shacharit, Torah service, and Musaf. We enjoy a communal kiddush lunch every week. Our regular weekday minyan schedule is Sunday mornings at 8:15 am, Monday and Thursday mornings at 7:00 am, Sunday through Thursday evenings at 5:30 pm. Please contact the office to ensure a minyan, and check our website for additions to the regular schedule, as well as notices of when a minyan is especially needed so someone in mourning or observing a yahrzeit can say kaddish. Visitors of all ages are always welcome to all services.

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim (CSS)

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim celebrates Shabbat each week with Torah study every Saturday at 9:30 am and services twice a month on Saturdays at 10:30 am followed by a 12:30 kiddush (October 13 and 27). Once a month we also have Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat service at 6:00 pm followed by a vegetarian potluck (October 19). Please join us.

Temple Beth El (TBE)

At Temple Beth El, we celebrate Shabbat as a community on Friday evenings. Services are at 7:30 pm followed by an oneg Shabbat, except the first Friday of the month when we gather at 5:45 for a 6:00 pm service. Every Saturday morning, we have Shabbat Torah Study 9:00 am-10:00 am in our Adult Lounge. When we are celebrating a bar or bat mitzvah, there is also a 10:30 am Shabbat morning service.

For more information about congregational Shabbat services, please visit their websites or call their offices.

Legend

Beth Israel Center (BIC)
1406 Mound Street, Madison, WI 53711
Office phone number: (608) 256-7763
Email: office@bethisraelcenter.org

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim (CSS)
First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive, Atrium Building, Madison, WI, 53705
Office phone number: (608) 257-2944
Email: office@shamayim.org

Temple Beth El (TBE)
2702 Arbor Drive, Madison, WI 53711
Office phone number: (608) 238-3123
Email: info@tbemadison.org

Unless otherwise noted, events take place in the congregations’ buildings. Call or email for more information for any specific event.
Who We Were: The Rise and Fall of the House of Lenz

BY JONATHAN Z. S. POLLACK

Many Madisonians know that the building in James Madison Park that is now known as Gates of Heaven was Madison’s first synagogue building. Shaarey Shomayim. The congregation built their temple in 1863 on West Washington Avenue, between Fairchild and Henry Streets. However, reasons for the congregation’s decline during the 1870s, to the point that it ceased to exist in 1879, are little known.

In a small congregation like Shaarey Shomayim in the 19th century, the fortunes of one person could make or break its ability to hold services. The one such person was Jacob Lenz (1818-1899).

Lenz was born in Kerpen, in what was then the Kingdom of Prussia. He came to Wisconsin in the 1850s with his wife Henrietta, settling in Milwaukee and Manitowoc before coming to Madison in 1858. He joined the fledgling community of Jews who held services in members’ homes and he assisted in their efforts to build a temple. Although Lenz, like other German Jews, socialized with non-Jewish Germans, his daughters married Jewish men while in Madison. His eldest daughter Lena married Madison merchant Emanuel Cook. His next-eldest daughter Caroline married his brother Max.

Lenz built business partnerships with Madison’s Jews beyond his family ties. In 1859, shortly after arriving in Madison, he entered a partnership with clothing merchant Benedict Israel, who declared bankruptcy and fled to San Francisco a year later.

In the early 1860s, Lenz bought land around rural Dane County. He opened a general store in Black Earth and a brewery in what was the Pleasant Branch settlement, near what is now the corner of Branch Street and Century Avenue in Middleton. He also opened a brewery and distillery in Chicago. In addition, he was a silent partner in at least five other Jewish merchants’ stores in Madison and rural Dane County.

By the early 1870s, though, Lenz was overextended. Credit reports from 1870 called him “somewhat cramped for money.” By 1872, that became, “Owes everybody and everybody owes him.” The negative reports were balanced by appraisals that called him “a sharp bright hardworking man” and “smart as a trap.” Finally, on May 1, 1873, the Dun and Company report on Lenz read as follows:

He was broken in health and spirits and driven to distraction by small suits. Some think he has killed himself, we fancy he has gone to Europe, he maybe has gone to NY to see his creditors, but we fear and believe he has turned scamp and absconded, and that his estate is worthless to general creditors. He shipped everything he could get hold of and took off with money.

The final Dun and Company report on Lenz, from July 4, 1874, concluded that Lenz took $100,000 from associates in Madison (equivalent to roughly $2 million today) and claimed that he was “repeating the same procedure now at Puget Sound, British America.” The reporter was correct: Lenz had packed up all of his stock that could be transported, and he and his family fled to Victoria, British Columbia.

Because Lenz had chosen his fellow Jews as business partners, Madison’s Jewish community was devastated. Lenz’s former partners left Milwaukee, Chicago, and elsewhere to move in with relatives and attempt a fresh start. Meanwhile, Lenz, working with his son, Moses, and nephews/sons-in-law Simon, Gustav, and Max Leiser, built a department store empire in Victoria, British Columbia that branched out into general stores in the gold-rush boontowns of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory. In Victoria, Lenz and his family were active members of Temple Emmanu-El, and Henrietta Lenz and her daughters served on the executive board of the Hebrew Ladies of Victoria.

Lenz’s daughter Caroline joined the rest of the family in 1888, when she and her husband Emanuel Cook moved from Madison to Victoria, and when her husband died a few years later, members of the Thuringer family made the trek out there to participate in his funeral.

Perhaps, the Lenz family reconciled with their former neighbors and associates from Madison.
New Year, New Addition!

By Marla Becker
Director of Gan HaYeled

“Children need the freedom to appreciate the infinite resources of their hands, their eyes and their ears, the resources of forms, materials, sounds and colours.” - Loris Malaguzzi

We have an “art studio” at Gan HaYeled! What a wonderful opportunity for the children to freely explore an array of media and materials to make their own creations. With everything arranged by colors, the children can easily navigate and take care of the space. They each have their own sketch journal, as well as their own cubby space to store their works in progress.

Our goal of offering open-ended art experiences is to emphasize the process of creation, rather than the goal of creating a finished product. Introducing various media through open-ended full exploration helps the children to fully understand a medium. They figure out how it behaves, how they can use it, how it feels when they touch it and what tools they need to use it.

Making our own sculptures/creations takes lots of planning and concentration.

Our all school Shabbat is such a special way to culminate the week!

Our youngest ones enjoy outdoor play and can’t wait for our new nature area.

Just relaxing on the bench outside...how is your day?

Wassily has circles in his paintings and we are exploring circles and cycles!

Mailing Rosh Hashanah cards to our families was so fun.

Get your challah, freshly made!
Camp Corner

And That’s a Wrap!
Camp Noar - Bogrim Bids Another Summer Goodbye

By Lisa Friend-Kalupa
Director of Camp Noar-Bogrim

The end of another camp season is always bittersweet. There is the satisfaction of having completed another successful summer, but there are also the goodbyes: the staff who will not return as they move into year-round jobs, experiences abroad, required internships; and the campers who have completed their final year with us and who—we hope—will return next summer as CITs, but will no longer be part of our immediate NOBO family. The tears falling during the last hour on the last day are genuine, and in their own way, also a reflection of a successful summer.

Summer 2018 was a great one for us! We once again had full enrollment, and our fabulous counselor team kept our campers busy searching out Bucky statues, visiting state parks, and paddling and log rolling on Lake Wingra. Farms were visited where campers got to, literally, try their hand at milking cows. Trails were biked into Verona, into Mt. Horeb, and across the new Capitol Springs boardwalk area.

Back at camp, there were creative activities throughout the summer. DIY opportunities included upcycling clothes (a la “Project Runway”), making spa products, constructing miniature golf obstacles, and experimenting with new art forms. We cooked...and tasted. We played Bubble Soccer, basketball, water polo, ultimate and zombie apocalypse. We learned to decorate cupcakes…and counselors. On Friday mornings we danced, and on Friday afternoons, we sang. We defied the rain by playing in it when we could, and we defied the heat with a little shade and a LOT of water!

One of the highlights of second session is always Maccabiah, but there were other highlights as well. Tal and Shlomit, our Israeli shlichim, put together and led a wonderful Yom Yisrael for us. Not only did campers get the opportunity to cook Israeli favorites like shakshuka and pita, but they engaged in a variety of activities and even got to find out why people the world over prize mud from the Dead Sea for facials! We are so appreciative to Castle Bath for their donation of Tres'Yours Dead Sea Mud. Our campers really enjoyed trying it out (and our counselors probably enjoyed it even more!). We were also able to offer a drumming yitzeerah (skill development program) led by Dr. Yorel Lashey. It was a great experience for our campers and we hope to offer a repeat opportunity next year!

Of course, one of the highlights of the NOBO summer is also the overnight experience. Camp Interlaken hosted our first session ninth graders, and Camp Chi during our second session. The campers were able to enjoy experiences on site at the camps, and engage in activities in and around those camps. Our sixth through eighth graders were happy to be able to camp off-site at Crazy Horse Campground this year after being rained out on both overnight dates last summer. We did not completely escape the rain, though; we had to move our campers from their tents around midnight when a lightning storm popped up on the radar during our second session overnight!

But the beauty of camp is that everything is an adventure; you are with some of your favorite people in the world, so even the tough times are more “good” than “bad”. It was no surprise to any of us on staff that our kids took everything in stride with good humor. Big kudos to our fabulous staff for shepherding 80-plus kids to safety in the dark, and then getting them resettled into their tents a couple of hours later. I am sure campers and staff will be telling the story for years to come!

And that’s a wrap! While the 2018 season may be over, we are already thinking ahead to 2019. The waiting list springs up quickly, so mark your calendars for registration on that first Tuesday in March; we can’t wait to welcome back our returning campers, and to welcome in our next NOBO generation!

Eighth grade teamwork
Basketball competition at Maccabiah
Together at Devil’s Lake State Park
NOBO - it's all about the friendships

Important Dates to Remember
Camp Shalom Winter Camp:
December 26-28 (registration will begin online on November 1)

Camp Shalom Spring Break Camp:
March 26-28

Camp Shalom Registration for Returning Families and Alumni:
March 6

Camp Shalom Registration for Everyone:
March 7
On Fridays we make our own Challah

We love time at Wingra!

Trying out Dead Sea Mud from Castle Bath

Red Team Maccabiah victory!

Tracking down Bucky Badgers was a summer highlight

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Major Gifts Dinner

By Alicia Schiff
President of Jewish Federation of Madison

On Thursday, September 6, we held our Major Gifts Dinner at Quivey’s Grove. It was a lovely evening attended by almost 30 people. Guests enjoyed appetizers, conversation and mingling, which was followed by a delicious dinner enjoyed by all. Following dinner, our speakers from Jewish Social Services (JSS) provided information on the topic of refugees. JSS Executive Director Dawn Berney provided a thorough background and history of the refugee situation. Becca Schwartz, Resettlement Coordinator, and Rihab Talu, Resettlement Case Manager/Arabic Translator, were joined by a refugee who shared his story about resettling in Madison, Wisconsin. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us, it was a lovely and educational way to begin our Tzedakah Campaign.

Susan Roquitte, Roberta Gassman, Jean Landweber, and Jan Loeb

Tzedakah Campaign Kick Off!

By Debbie Minkoff
Interim Executive Director of Jewish Federation of Madison

Thank you to Jonathan and Susan Lipp for hosting our annual Tzedakah Campaign Kick Off at Full Compass.

A good time was had by all at our first ever kosher tailgate featuring a MEGA screen viewing of the Packers vs. Viking football game, chili cook-off and beer pull. It was a family friendly event with activities and games for all ages. We also unveiled our inspiring I love Jewish Madison video.

This begins the annual Tzedakah Campaign which raises essential funds for all Jewish Federation of Madison programs and events, and allows us to fulfill our mission and support the Madison Jewish community.

We look forward to connecting with you in the next few months to join us in this effort.
Temple Beth El’s 52nd Annual Food-A-Rama Luncheon Offers a Welcome Break from Partisan Strife on Election Day

Our nation’s political climate is contentious these days, yet we can all agree to enjoy good food!

After you vote on Tuesday, November 6, head over to Temple Beth El Sisterhood’s annual Food-A-Rama luncheon, now in its 52nd year, for delicious deli-style food and baked goods.

The entire community is invited to Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive, to enjoy Food-A-Rama’s tasty corned beef sandwiches, kosher-style hot dogs, Mediterranean vegetarian platters, scrumptious baked goods, and more. Dine in, carry out, or place an order for delivery to your home or workplace.

Dine-in hours are 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. Bakery and deli sales are 10:00 am to 1:30 pm. Bakery sales feature homemade pies, cakes, tortes, bars, and Jewish delicacies including rugelach and mandelbrot. Popular items sell out quickly, so come early!

Deli items include corned beef, frozen matzah ball soup and cabbage soup, fresh chopped liver, and challah. Potato knishes, a favorite historic recipe welcomed back for the 50th anniversary in 2016, will be available again. Pick some up for a tasty dinner or to freeze for later!

This year, carry-out and delivery orders can both be placed online at food-a-rama.com. Delivery orders must be received by November 1 (five lunch minimum; Madison area only). Carry-out orders can be placed in advance at food-a-rama.com until noon on Monday, November 5, or by phone at (608) 467-3196 on Election Day.

Food-A-Rama started in 1966, inspired by a similar fundraiser held each spring by the similarly named Temple Beth-El in Rockford, Illinois. The Madison organizers chose Election Day because the temple building was a polling place then.

Voting no longer takes place on site, yet Food-A-Rama chair Leslie Kemp explains that the event continues as a “celebration of democracy,” noting, “we can have this delicious food and come together, whether we are Democrat or Republican or independent.”

This tasty event helps to support many causes in the Madison area, including Camp Shalom scholarships, Temple Beth El, and other community organizations.

Camp Shalom serves campers from all over the Madison area, from different schools and neighborhoods. Everyone brings their own experiences with them and we do our best to create programming and activities that appeal to every camper. In 2018 we received more than 115 scholarship requests from families with an average yearly income of $30,000. We also received many requests for lunch/meal support from families who typically get lunch and breakfast during the school year. We are incredibly grateful to Food-A-Rama and Temple Beth El Sisterhood for the continued support to our Camp Shalom Scholarship Fund and helping us to ensure that we can make every day a great day for every camper.- Ellen Weismer, Director of Camp Shalom

Everyone is welcome to attend Food-A-Rama or place an order! For more information, contact Leslie Kemp at (608) 798-4212, email sisterhoodfoodarama@gmail.com, or visit food-a-rama.com.
Lechayim Lights
A Senior Adult Program of Jewish Social Services
A Beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of Madison

About our Programs

Monday, October 8
Come meet Jewish Social Services Finance and Administrative Director! Chris Shanahan is a woman of many talents. Our favorite is her generous offering of professional made-to-order birthday cakes and pies. In her spare time and other life, Chris provides desserts and flowers for special events and weddings. Her business is named, The Florettes. Today at Lechayim, Chris will introduce us to, and give us an opportunity to try our hands at floral design. She will talk to us about basic ideas and rules of design using fresh pumpkins and a variety of flowers in developing ideas and examples of colorful seasonal arrangements. Chris has a master’s certificate in Floral Design from Madison College.

The Mad City Jug Band
Monday, October 15
The Mad City Jug Band portrays Americana and roots music at its greatest. It is a unique seven-member-performance band dedicated to preserving and celebrating the classic jug band music from the 1920s and 30s as well as the jug band revival hits from the 1960s that were made popular by musicians like the Grateful Dead and Jim Kweskin and the Jug Band. The band features instruments such as guitar, banjo, ukulele, fiddle, harmonica, upright bass, accordion, kazoo, washboard, mandolin, other percussion instruments, and of course, a jug. (Everything but the kitchen sink!) The band was a finalist at the Madison Area Music Awards, audience favorite and award-winner at the Southern Wisconsin Bluegrass Music Association, and Isthmus Critic’s Choice. Please join us for a unique musical experience!

Dan Barker
Monday, October 22
Dan Barker is a talented pianist and composer who never fails to impress us with his musical stylings as well as the breadth of his knowledge about popular American composers. Dan Barker graduated from Azusa Pacific University with a degree in religion and was ordained as an evangelist minister at the age of fifteen. He became a “freethinker” in 1983 and is now the co-president of the Freedom from Religion Foundation with his wife, Annie Laurie Gaylor. Dan is the author of several books and the composer of a great deal of music.

Monday, October 29
Bob Skloot’s presentation is entitled, “Wandering with Firm Purpose: Raphael Lemkin’s Crusade Against Genocide.” Raphael Lemkin (1900-59), a Polish Jew, was the central historical figure in the creation and ratification of the United Nations Treaty against Genocide, a word which he coined in 1944. He is largely forgotten today. Bob Skloot’s talk will discuss Lemkin’s life and work and how he used both as the subject for his 2006 play, If the Whole Body Dies. Bob Skloot retired from the University of Wisconsin in 2008 after 40 years of teaching, researching and administrating. He is the author of many books and articles about the theatre of the Holocaust and genocide. His play about Lemkin has been seen throughout the U.S. and internationally.

Jewish Social Services Brings Shabbat to Our Seniors
Our monthly Shabbat gatherings includes candle lighting, challah, singing, and discussion.

Capitol Lakes in the Grand Hall
333 West Main St.
3:00 pm
A program of Jewish Social Services and Capitol Lakes Retirement Community. Led by Rabbi Andrea Steinberger with assistance from UW students through the Hillel Foundation.
October 5
November 2

Oakwood Village West, Oak’s Community Room
6225 Mineral Point Rd.
3:30 pm
A program of Jewish Social Services and Oakwood Village University Woods. Led by Rabbi Renee Bauer with the assistance from JSS volunteers. Music by Paul Grossberg
October 19
November 16

ATTENTION REHAB PATIENTS: If you are going to be in one of these locations during your rehabilitation, you are welcome to attend.
Find changes, updates, and new information about JSS programs on our website, www.jssmadison.org.

Welcome back to the start of the new season! Join us for great food, friends, fun, and interesting programs at the Harry J. and Belle Goodman Lechayim Lunchtime Plus Program.

We meet at Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound Street, located on the corner of Mound Street and Randall Avenue.

Contact Jewish Social Services at (608) 442-4081 or email paul@jssmadison.org no later than 2:00 pm the preceding Wednesday.

A vegetarian option is available with a reservation. If you are 60 years or older, a minimum donation of $4.00 is suggested, but please only pay what is comfortable for you. The cost of the meal is $9.73 for those younger than 60 years old.

If you cannot attend the meal, please join us for the free program at 1:00 pm.

MANY THANKS TO UW HILLEL’S ADAMAH CATERING FOR PROVIDING OUR DELICIOUS KOSHER MEALS!

**October Lechayim Calendar**

**Monday, October 8**
- 11:30 am-12:00 pm: Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00 pm-1:00 pm: Complimentary blood pressure check with nurse, Lori Edelstein
- 1:00 pm-2:00 pm: Fettuccini Alfredo, Caesar salad, market vegetable, fruit, brownie

**Monday, October 15**
- 11:30 am-12:00 pm: Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00 pm-1:00 pm: Roasted chicken with clementine and fennel, rice, roasted carrots and parsnips, rugelach, fruit (Vegetarian option: seitan with clementine and fennel)
- 1:00 pm-2:00 pm: Mad City Jug Band: unique and eclectic Americana music

**Monday, October 22**
- 11:30 am-12:00 pm: Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00 pm-1:00 pm: Eggplant Parmesan, Greek salad, rolls, minestrone soup, dessert
- 1:00 pm-2:00 pm: Dan Barker: Great composer series on piano

**Monday, October 29**
- 11:30 am-12:00 pm: Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
- 12:00 pm-1:00 pm: Hickory smoked BBQ chicken, tzimmes, couscous, fruit, rugelach (Vegetarian option: Hickory smoked BBQ seitan)
- 1:00 pm-2:00 pm: Bob Skloot presentation, “Wandering with Firm Purpose: Raphael Lemkin’s Crusade Against Genocide”

**Next Month’s Dates**: November 5, 12, 19, 26

If you would like further information about the meal, programs, transportation, or to check on any cancellations, contact Paul Borowsky at (608) 442-4083, paul@jssmadison.org.

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**Annual Meeting**

October 22, 2018 • 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Max Weinstein Jewish Community Center
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI
Contact Jim Mackman at jim@jssmadison.org

At the annual meeting, we will be dedicating the Mindy Wiseman-Jewish Social Services Memorial Garden which was lovingly designed and built by our own Jim Mackman.

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**Making Lechayim reservations**

- When you check-in at Lechayim, sign up for the following week.

- Call Jewish Social Services at (608) 442-4801 or email office@jssmadison.org **before 2:00 pm on the preceding Wednesday**.

- If you did not make a reservation but would like to come, contact Paul (608) 442-4803, paul@jssmadison.org to see if there have been cancellations.

- We regret that we are unable to guarantee a meal for last minute reservations or walk-ins.

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**Happy October Birthdays**

- Barbara Jacobson
- Bill Lewis
- Caren Minkoff
- Cheryl DiVittorio
- George Wolnak
- Linda Montello
- Lois Frank
- Lyudmila Radovanskaya
- Martin Kades
- Michael Pressman
- Nan Youngerman
- Sandra Weitzman
- Sue Schroeder
- Davera Steurer
As October begins we wind down the intense Jewish holiday season and welcome in the new Jewish month of Cheshvan (which begins at sundown on October 9). The classical rabbis refer to this month as mar Cheshvan, the bitter month because it is the only month on the Jewish calendar that has no holidays. Ever since my first child was born on the first day of Cheshvan, I have said that Cheshvan is not a bitter month for me. I suspect that for many of us, the idea of a month without holidays is not a bitter time. The High Holiday season is a wonderful time that we often spend with community, family and friends, eating favorite foods and revisiting beloved rituals that ground us in our past. But by the end of the holidays we can feel tired and ‘holidayed’ out. We crave the ordinary time that lies before us in Cheshvan.

For those of us who are mourning a loss or suffering from a debilitating illness, reactions to this cycle of sacred and ordinary time can be especially poignant. The holidays themselves can bring a particular sting as we feel the absence of a loved one or as we long for the community that we had been part of before we were incapacitated by illness or before we relocated to age near our children. Cheshvan can bring relief from the intensity of loss and longing felt during the holidays. On the other hand the holidays with their gathering of community and family and the rituals set aside for remembering can be comforting. Cheshvan can feel like a time of returning to loneliness and private grief. When we lose a loved one we often miss them most at mundane moments in our daily lives. Tears come when we sit down with our morning coffee and the chair across the table where our spouse always sat is empty, when we go to dial the phone but our sister is not on the other end, or when we walk into a restaurant where we always ate with a dear friend.

The loss of physical abilities can trigger a sense of despair as well. When the flowers bloom in the spring and we are no longer able to go for a walk or plant our gardens our hearts tighten. We learn from this pain that holiness is not found just in the sacred times delineated by tradition but in everyday life through the connections we make, the love we share and the wonder we witness. We often do not recognize these moments of blessings until we lose them. May we each transform Cheshvan 5779 from a bitter month to a holy month by celebrating the sacred moments in our everyday lives.

If you would like to talk with Jewish Social Services’ Community Chaplain, she can be reached at (608) 442-4088 or rabbi@jssmadison.org.

Friends and Food at the JSS BBQ

The Jewish Museum Milwaukee’s Exhibit: Stitching Histories From the Holocaust
JText: A New, Fun Way for Teens to Learn Jewish History

By Rabbi Avremel Matsos
YJP Madison

With teens being on their phones approximately 1,440 minutes a day, JText is a great way to meet them where they are. As Jordan, a JText player, put it, “Madison teens can put their time on phones to good use by learning important Jewish facts with JText.”

Every Monday and Thursday at 7:00 pm, a Jewish trivia question gets texted out. The seventh person to respond with the correct answer wins a $10 amazon gift card. Signing up is simple: Just text the words @proudjew to 81010. The goal is to be the “seventh person at 7:00 pm.” to answer the trivia question correctly.

JText is a fun way to test your knowledge of Jewish history. JText has featured a range of questions from “Which country had the earliest settlement of Jews?” to “Who were the first set of twins in the Torah?” to “Which location celebrates the longest Shabbat?”

Following the question, the text includes four multiple choice answers. Teens receiving the text can respond 1, 2, 3 or 4. Once they submit an answer, the teens receive a response telling them if they are correct or not.

“Jtext is a simple concept, rich with engagement, value and Jewish thought. It’s a real win-win-win,” says Ms. Menacha Matsos program director of CTeen Madison.

“We were looking for a program that could attract the spectrum of teens that we engage with and this one fit the bill perfectly,” she says.

CTeen and Jtext are Chabad of Madison programs.
This yearly countdown can teach us a lot about the popular trends in Israel and how they have changed over the years. This year, the number one song was by Omer Adam—probably the youngest and most successful musician in Israel. The second song was the song that represented Israel and won in the Eurovision Song Contest this past May, “Toy” by Netz Barzilai. Netta herself won the title “Breakthrough of the Year” and also “Person of the Year”, along with Omer Adam and Eden Ben Zaken. All three artists have one thing in common: they were all “discovered” in different singing reality TV shows.

Another interesting thing to look at is the musical genre of the top songs. In Jewish society in Israel, most people can only go back a few generations for family born in Israel. Israel is an immigrant country, to where Jews from all over the world had once it was established. Everyone has a different background. And so, one of the very common questions we ask each other is where our families (grandparents, for my generation) are originally from. Across the country there are many different answers, but most will fall under one of two categories: Ashkenazi (Jews from European countries, usually) or Mizrahi (Jews from Arab countries, usually). When Israel was just established, the vision of its leaders was for it to be a melting pot: many believed that this is the only way to create a united Jewish state with all the different backgrounds. The issue, as we can say in retrospect, was that the desired outcome of that melting pot was aimed to be Ashkenazi. Mizrahi culture and customs were often viewed as inferior to the Ashkenazi, western, “real” culture—by the Ashkenazi hegemony at the time.

Over the seventy years of Israel’s existence, there has been much change in that perception. Some claim that there are still forms of discrimination against Mizrahi Jews today; there is so much to be researched and discussed on this important topic, and I cannot address it all today. One thing that can be said for sure is that many people from all different origins did keep their traditions and cultures, and three generations later, the separation is not as clear as it was when people first came to this country. If you are following our articles regularly, you know that my family is half Ashkenazi (mother’s side) and half Mizrahi (father’s side). In my generation it is already very common, and the traditions are not necessarily forgotten like in the melting pot metaphor. The way I see it is synergy and the creation of something new, Israeli.

Does this all connect to the yearly top hits countdown? Very much so! When we examine the top forty songs, we see that the majority of artists come from a Mizrahi background. In some way, nowadays, I do not think this should be a category we think of as much. But it does bring up two points that I think are important. One, this is not something that would happen in the first decades of Israel: today, the genre of Mizrahi music is mainstream in Israel. Second, and maybe to question my last statement, this is not exactly old fashion, original Mizrahi music. The hit songs today in Israel have Mizrahi (Arabic) musical influences and are written and performed by Mizrahi musicians, but it is actually a new genre, here often referred to as “Israeli pop”. Something new and very successful was created over the past couple of decades and became mainstream. It is not a melting pot deleting cultures, but a modern Israeli culture that consists of adaptations of several different ones.

Jewish traditions brought to Israel from Ashkenazi and Mizrahi Jews is the topic of one of my Midrasha classes this semester. I am looking forward to discussing this topic and many more with the students.

If you are interested in music and want to learn more about Israel through its music, don’t forget to follow us on Facebook to see the #IsraeliPlayListOfTheWeek posted every weekend. If there is any specific topic or style of Israeli music that you would particularly like to listen to, you can always reach out and ask for it to be on our next playlist.

Ingredients:
• 3 tbsp oil
• 1 cup Ptitim - (Israeli couscous)
• 1 cup boiling water
• 3/4 tsp salt
• 1/2 tsp black pepper

Preparation:
1. Heat a deep skillet on medium for about a minute.
2. Add the oil, and when it is hot add chopped onion. Saute for a few minutes until golden.
3. Add the ptitim and begin stirring.
4. Turn to low heat and add a glass of boiling water. Continue stirring.
5. Cook with the lid on for 15 minutes while stirring every few minutes.
6. After 15 minutes, taste the ptitim. It should be soft and there should not be fluids.
7. Enjoy!
The School Year Has Begun!

BY TAL SHEFFER
ISRAELI FELLOW AT UW MADISON

After a long summer break from school, the UW school year finally began on September 5, and UW Hillel had some amazing events to celebrate it. The first event was Hillel’s Shabbat tailgate. It was the second year in a row that Hillel has had a Shabbat tailgate, rather than a traditional Shabbat dinner, since the first Badgers football game was on Friday night. The tailgate was an opportunity for students to celebrate the kick off of another football season, meet fellow students, enjoy the great atmosphere, rock to a great DJ, eat delicious food (thanks Adamah!) and welcome Shabbat in a unique, fun way.

Hillel’s second event of the year was the annual Welcome Week BBQ. During the event, students had a chance to meet all the student-led groups that have a home at Hillel and learn about their different activities and programs while enjoying Adamah’s delicious food. What made the barbeque even more enjoyable was the fact that Bucky himself showed up at the event, letting everyone take pictures with him.

The barbeque was also an opportunity for me to present all of the different Israel related programs and student groups that I work with at Hillel. Hopefully the students were excited about the groups and will join them. Here is a short description of the programs and groups I will be working with this year:

Israel interest group (IG): IG is a student-led group for students who are interested in Israel and Israeli culture. The group’s goal is to bring various aspects of Israel to campus, such as Israeli speakers, films, artists, food, and more. The students in IG will also help plan the Annual Israeli Film Festival by selecting the movies and venues for the festival. The festival dates are TBD.

Israel American Council (IAC) Mishelanu: IAC Mishelanu is a national student-led group which provides a home for Israeli-American students to help them strengthen and maintain their Jewish and Israeli identity through travel in Israel, we are here and will love to be helpful.

Thank You for Travelling With Us

In every issue of MJN this past year we wrote about a different part of The Israel National Trail. We wanted to show you the diversity of the different parts of the trail, and expose you to the fact that even though Israel is a small country, it offers many beautiful places to visit and hike. We hope you enjoyed our writing, and that it made you want to visit those places. Thank you all for travelling with us for the past year, and as always, if you have any question or need a recommendation on where and when to travel in Israel, we are here and will love to be helpful.

August Talks - Recent Events in Israel

We wanted to thank everyone who attended one of the two dates for discussion about recent events in Israel (specifically the current situation in Gaza). We believe that learning together, asking questions and trying to understand current realities in Israel are a very important for the connection between our communities. On that note, please feel free to reach out about any Israel-related topic that interests you, or if you would like to host a discussion evening in your home led by us.
GIVE TO THE 2018 ANNUAL TZEDAKAH CAMPAIGN AND SUPPORT WHAT YOU LOVE!

Your single gift helps meet critical community needs by supporting more than 20 essential local agencies and programs, as well as, rescue, relief, and development programs and services in North America, Israel, and 70 other countries around the world. https://jewishmadison.org/donate