JEWISH FEDERATION OF MADISON

Madison
JEWISH NEWS

November 2013
Cheshvan/Kislev 5774

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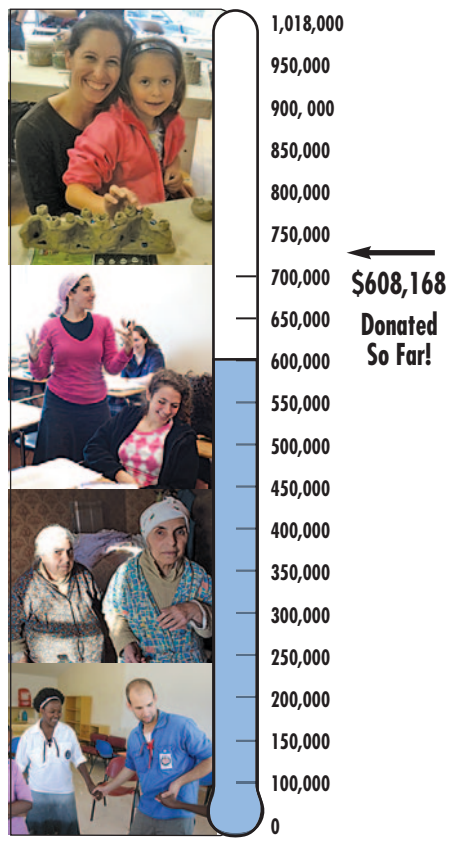
Touching Thousands of Lives Locally and All Over the World

If you have not made your gift to this year's Jewish Federation of Madison *Tzedakah* Campaign, please consider doing so soon. Your single gift will help support more than 20 essential agencies and programs here in the Madison area, as well as humanitarian programs in more than 70 countries worldwide.

Jewish Federation of Madison is part of the Jewish Federations of North America, a worldwide network that serves millions of Jews and non-Jews every day. During both ordinary and extraordinary times, our strong extensive network of agencies and volunteers is uniquely positioned to assist those facing hardship here and around the world.

Our 2013 Campaign is in full swing and we are 58% to goal. Thank you for the hard work of the campaign chairman, Marc Shovers, and all of our campaign volunteers who have taken time out their busy days to make a commitment to the future of our Jewish community! Will you help us reach our goal this year? We still have a long way to go!

If it is important to you to live in a vibrant, caring, organized Jewish community then it is up to you to make sure we can continue doing the good we are able to do with your dollars. Your commitment to our collective Jewish community shows the strength of our people and the power of community by making a significant difference in the lives of so many. Together we are doing extraordinary things! Thank you to the 30 *Tzedakah* Sunday volunteers whose calls to the community brought our campaign total up to $598,365. With your help we will reach our goal of $1,036,000. For more information about our local agencies and programs funded by the *Tzedakah* Campaign, please refer to the information in this issue of the *Madison Jewish News*.



Business and Professional Roundtable Kickoff is December 10

The Jewish Business and Professional Roundtable will hold its first event this fall on December 10th from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Nakoma Golf Club located at 4145 Country Club Road in Madison. The Honorable Yariv Becher, Israel's Consul for Economic Affairs to the Midwest, will be the speaker for the kickoff meeting. Yariv Becher is responsible for maintaining trade relationships between Israel and the 13 states that make up the Midwestern region of the United States. He heads the Government of Israel Economic Mission to the Midwest, tasked with promoting investments in Israel, encouraging Israeli exports to the Midwest, fostering joint ventures between American and Israeli companies, and advancing opportunities for cooperation in commercial research and development.


Yariv Becher

The Jewish Business and Professionals Roundtable program is dedicated to the interests of Jewish business executives and professionals within the Madison area. Lunch will be served at noon followed by networking and an interactive session with the Honorable Yariv Becher. A $25 cover will be charged. This event is open to all members of the community who have an interest in joining the Jewish Business and Professional Roundtable. RSVP to lkaplan@jewishmadison.org or 608-278-1808. You can also sign up online at www.jewishmadison.org. If you are a business interested in sponsoring a roundtable event, please contact Lynn Kaplan for more information on sponsorship opportunities.

Future Jewish Business and Professionals Roundtable Programs:

Please mark your calendar

Friday, January 24, 2014, 12-1:30 PM – Speaker: Greg Lubar

Friday, May 16, 2014, 12-1:30 PM – Speaker: Kevin Conroy

Miriam Singer Sulman Young Leadership Award Winners

On November 24, 2013, Sasha Kerlow and Dan Mitchell will receive the Miriam Singer Sulman Young Leadership Award at the Jewish Federation of Madison's 73rd Annual Meeting. The award will be presented by Jon Eckhardt and Alicia Schiff, who received the award last year.

Named in memory of Miriam Singer Sulman in 1975, a much admired and dynamic young leader of the Madison Jewish Community Council, the recipient of this award is enabled to attend the Jewish Federations of North America General Assembly through an endowment fund established by Miriam's parents, Isadore and Ida Singer z"l.


Daniel Mitchell

Sasha Kerlow is proud to continue her family's active involvement in the Madison Jewish community since returning to Madison in 2011. Sasha graduated from the Jewish Federation of


Sasha Kerlow

(Continued on page 3)

You are cordially invited to attend

The 2013 Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Madison

Sunday, November 24, 2013 – 4 to 6 p.m.

Goodman Jewish Community Campus
7762 County Highway PD, Verona

4:00-4:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and reception
4:30-6:00 p.m. Program and Annual Meeting

Couvert: $10 per person

- Congressman Mark Pocan will speak about his recent trip to Israel

Please join us as we highlight the successes of the past year and present the following awards:

- Miriam Singer Sulman Young Leadership Award -- Daniel Mitchell and Sasha Kerlow
- Ben Minkoff Volunteer Award (a surprise announcement)
- Alex Temkin Distinguished Service Award (a surprise announcement)

Other business includes the election of the Board of Directors and Officers.

Please RSVP by November 18th via email (rsvp@jewishmadison.org) or via phone (608.278.1808)

The IRS requires us to inform you that the cost of your couvert is not tax deductible.

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Who The Leaders Turn To



Photo by Fred Graber Photography

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

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Andrea Stein, Website Business Development Director,
astein@jewishmadison.org, 278-1808

$500 Available to Eligible Households Through Passport to Jewish Life

The Jewish Federation of Madison (JFM) is excited to announce the **Passport to Jewish Life Program**! Thanks to generous private donations, this exciting program is aimed at engaging community members in the wonderful programs the Madison area Jewish community has to offer. Individuals or families in the Madison area who meet the following criteria are eligible for a gift of up to $500 (one gift per household) to be used for tuition or fees at Madison-area Jewish programs (see examples below).

Your household is eligible for a Passport to Jewish Life gift if:

In the past two years, a member of your household has not participated in the major fee-based programs sponsored by the JFM (e.g. Gan HaYeled, Chug Ivrit, Camp Shalom, Midrasha, Yonim) or its beneficiaries (e.g. Madison Jewish Community Day School) and has not been a member of a Madison-area congregation.

Some guidelines for the Passport Gift funds are as follows:

The Passport Gift can be used towards programs or organizations such as, but not limited to:

- Gan HaYeled Preschool
- Chug Ivrit
- Camp Shalom
- Midrasha
- Yonim
- Madison Jewish Community Day School
- Introductory Synagogue membership fees
- Madison-area adult Jewish Education programs (e.g. offered by synagogues, UW, Hillel, Chabad, etc.)

The Passport Gift cannot be used towards:

- Overnight camp tuition
- A trip to Israel unless the trip is organized by JFM or one of its beneficiaries, after other scholarship funds have been used
- Goodman Aquatic Center memberships

Each eligible household will receive **up to** $500 to be used towards a qualified program or organization.

The gift funds will be distributed directly to the qualified program or organization by the JFM.

Approval of the program or organization will be at the discretion of the JFM.

Interested in applying for the Passport Program? Please contact Ellen Weismer, program@jewishmadison.org or 278-1808 x232 for an application. The Passport Gift funds are available as of September 2013 and will be distributed until they are gone! Individuals/families may apply for a second $500 Passport gift, if funds remain, after one year has lapsed from the initial award.

Jewish Federation OF MADISON

Like Us on Facebook!

Friends of Jewish Federation of Madison can get timely programming updates, tell us what you "like," and spread the word about the work we do with your generous support. See photos from recent events, and encourage friends to join you in supporting Jewish Federation of Madison, and more. Find us at **www.facebook.com/jewishmadison**.

Singer Sulman Awards

Continued from page 1

Madison's Future Directions Young Leadership Program in 2012. She serves on the board of the Jewish Federation of Madison and is an active member of the Local Services Panel and Family Education Committee. Sasha and her husband, Eric, have two children, Lev (10) and Talia (8), who attend Camp Shalom during the summer. Sasha's hobbies include yoga, biking, and baking.

Dan Mitchell is the Co-Vice Chair of the Financial Resource Development Committee for the Jewish Federation of Madison (JFM) and also serves on the Board of Directors. He first got involved with the JFM in 2005 when he joined the Hilde L. Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool Committee and later joined the Camp Shalom Committee. He has volunteered on the Tzedakah Campaign for as many years as he can remember, and truly enjoys contributing to the JFM and giving back to the community. Dan grew up in Milwaukee, WI and moved to Madison, WI in 1997. He and his wife Rachel have been married for 16 years and have three children: Sam (13), Lizz (11), and Kate (9). All three of Dan's children graduated from the Gan Hayeled preschool and attend Camp Shalom. Dan is employed by Avid Technology where he works as a Senior Engineering Manager. In his free time, he enjoys running, biking and competing in triathlons.

Sasha and Dan will be two of four award honorees at the Annual Meeting. The other honorees, which are a surprise, will be awarded the Ben Minkoff Volunteer Service Award and the Alex Temkin Distinguished Service Award (which is not given out annually).

To register for the annual meeting, please call 608.278.1808 or register online at www.jewishmadison.org.

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Meet a Mensch: Shanee Ellison

By Beth Glaser

Madison Jewish News Summer Intern



Tell us about your involvement with the Jewish Federation of Madison.

My introduction to the Jewish Federation of Madison began with Gan HaYeled Preschool. GHY not only welcomed my son, Morris, but our entire family. It was the warm, loving environment that I was looking for in a preschool. In 2012, my husband Neil and I participated in Future Directions, a Jewish Federation program that served as a wonderful introduction to Jewish Madison. This past year was my first year on the Financial Resource Development Committee (FRD), and I'm slowly learning the ropes.

What have you found most rewarding about your experiences?

I've met wonderful people. I find their energy and commitment to Madison's Jewish community and organizations inspiring.

Have your experiences taught you any lessons you'd like to share?

There is a vibrant Jewish community in Madison that has a lot to offer. A community that I really didn't think existed until a few years ago. There's truly something for everyone.

What further good do you hope to accomplish through your involvement?

Though my children are young, my family and I have already benefitted greatly from Federation-sponsored institutions and programming. It can be easy to take these resources for granted, and they wouldn't exist without hefty financial and volunteer support. Through my involvement, I would like to encourage others to get involved to ensure that standout institutions and programming continue to grow and thrive.

Are you involved in the Madison community in other ways?

My son has started kindergarten at Midvale Elementary, so I hope to become involved at his school.

Please tell us a little more about yourself.

I grew up in Atlanta, attended college in Upstate NY, and then moved to Chicago. After a stint in Uganda with my husband, we settled in Madison for Neil's job as a History Professor. We've been here nine years, and I've come to embrace (and at times even love!) the Midwest. I work part time as a nurse in the Transplant Clinic at UW Hospital, and am mom to Morris (5) and Orly (2).

How do you define the word "Mensch?"

A good egg.

Simchas & Condolences

Mazel Tov on the birth of:

Mushka Matusof, daughter of Rabbi Levi and Chanchie Matusof, granddaughter of Rabbi Yona and Faygie Matusof;
Miriam Schwarzbrott, daughter of Brian and Season Schwarzbrott;
Miriam Sophie Levy, daughter of Rachel and Jeff Levy; and
Betty Pines Weeks, daughter of Jenny Gassman-Pines and Benjamin Weeks, granddaughter of Lester Pines and Roberta Gassman.

Condolences to the family of:

Ruth Levey, sister of Ada Mitchell;
Tikvah Weiner, daughter of Marc and Fran (z"l) Weiner;
Fred Utevsky, father of Judith Utevsky;
Irvin Troy, grandfather of Scott (Dorothy) Paler;
Marilyn Borenstein Holman, daughter of Harold Borenstein, sister of Nicki (Ron) Milin and Phyllis Eisenberg;
Jack Kaufman, father of Roan Kaufman, Jillian Heisman and Erica Heisman;
Susan Mansfield, sister of Marsha (Steven Schooler) Mansfield;
Emily Velelli, grandmother of Jeffrey (Kaye) Becker;
Natalie Fields, mother of Leslie Fields (Jeff Lindholm), grandmother of Hannah and Danny Lindholm; and
Andrea Stein, wife of Jim Stein, mother of Hannah and Jake.

The Jewish Federation of Madison expresses its appreciation to these individuals who recently made a tribute donation to honor someone or celebrate a special occasion

In honor of Dina Weinbach becoming Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Madison
Dan and Bettine Lipman

In honor of the birth of Betty Pines Weeks
Debbie and Joel Minkoff

In memory of Annette Howards
Donald Dillenburg

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

Upcoming Jewish Federation OF MADISON EVENTS

Yonim Israeli Dance Troupe

Calling all 3-5 year olds!
K'tantanim begins November 3rd
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm
Beth Israel Center, Multi-Purpose Room (lower level)
1406 Mound Street, Madison



Once a month, come to a fun-filled Israeli dance class. Sign up for all six classes ($25) or drop in ($5 per class). Also, new K-5th graders are welcome to sign up. Weekly rehearsals on Sundays.

For more information contact Laura Toso at yonim@jewishmadison.org

Hanukkah Tzedakah Night

Saturday, November 23rd, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus
7762 County Highway PD, Verona
$5 donation per family is requested

Join the Family Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Madison for our annual Hanukkah Tzedakah fair. There will be performances by Gan HaYeled, Chug Ivrit, Yonim Israeli Dance Troupe and more followed by Tzedakah projects led by many Jewish community organizations. All money collected will go to help Emerson Elementary School provide winter clothing for their students. Please bring gently used snowpants, mittens, hats, jackets and scarves for our winter clothing drive.

Jewish Federation of Madison Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 24th
4:00-4:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and Reception
4:30-6:00 p.m. Program and Annual Meeting
Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus
7762 County Highway PD, Verona
Couvert: $10 per person

Join us as we highlight the successes of the past year and present the following awards: Miriam Singer Sulman Young Leadership Award: Daniel Mitchel and Sasha Kerlow; Ben Minkoff Volunteer Award: a surprise announcement; Alex Tempkin Distinguished Service Award: a surprise announcement.

The meeting will also include: the election of the Board of Directors and Officers; and Congressman Mark Pocan will speak about his recent trip to Israel

Please RSVP online by November 19th. (After 11/19 please call 608-278-1808 to RSVP.) Questions? Call 608-278-1808.

Jewish Business and Professionals Roundtable

Tuesday, December 10th
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Nakoma Golf Club
4145 Country Club Road, Madison



Yariv Becher

The Honorable Yariv Becher, Israel's Consul for Economic Affairs to the Midwest, will be the speaker for the kickoff meeting. Lunch will be served at noon followed by networking and an interactive session with the Honorable Yariv Becher. A $25 cover will be charged. This event is open to all members of the community who have an interest in joining the Jewish Business and Professional Roundtable. RSVP to lkaplan@jewishmadison.org or 608-278-1808. You can also sign up online at www.jewishmadison.org. If you are a business interested in sponsoring a roundtable event, please contact Lynn Kaplan for more information on sponsorship opportunities.

Havdalah Karaoke Party

Saturday, January 25th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Goodman Community Center
149 Waubesa St., Madison

Join us at this event, sponsored by the Family Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Madison.

Ivrit Kala Registration is Still Open

Beginners - Mondays at 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Advanced - Mondays at 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Max Weinstein Jewish Community Building
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison

Racheli, our Community Shlichah, will be teaching two adult Hebrew classes. Classes take place October 7th - June. The fee is $18 per person.

Questions? Contact: Racheli at israel@jewishmadison.org

Chug Ivrit Registration is Still Open



Chug Ivrit, the afterschool Hebrew club of the Jewish Federation of Madison, meets Monday and Thursday afternoons at Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound Street, Madison. Students in kindergarten through 2nd grade may attend either one or both days. Programming for students in grades 3-5 is offered on Mondays. For more information and to register: program@jewishmadison.org

It's Not Too Late to Sign Up for Midrasha



The Midrasha Hebrew High School, founded in 1975, is jointly sponsored by Beth Israel Center, Temple Beth El, and Jewish Federation of Madison. Midrasha offers classes in Hebrew and Jewish Studies, and in elective subjects for students in grades 8 through 12, who need not be affiliated with a synagogue to enroll. For more information and to register visit www.jewishmadison.org

Cafe Ivrit is Back!

Thursdays at 7:30 pm
Michaelangelo's Coffee House
114 State Street, Madison

Cafe Ivrit is a great place to chat in Hebrew about Israel or Jewish issues. It will be run by Mickey and Racheli, our new Israeli Shlichim.

To participate or for more information contact:

Racheli at israel@jewishmadison.org or Mickey at israelfellow@uwhillel.org

"So Why Are We Here?" Tzedakah Campaign Speech

Editor's Note: The following speech was given by Marc Shovers, Chair of the 2013 Tzedakah Campaign, at the Major Gifts Event on October 8th.

By Marc Shovers

2013 Tzedakah Campaign Chairman

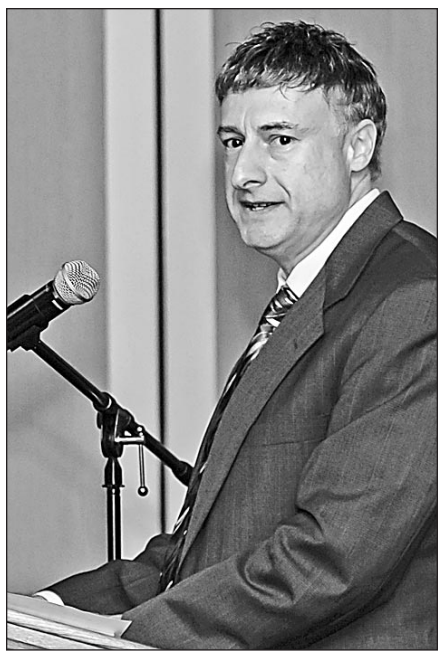
When Dina Weinbach asked me if I wanted to speak, my first thought was, delegation: I wondered how much it would cost me to get Dan Mitchell or Beth Schreiber to give this speech. Well, their price was too high, so you're stuck with me. Actually, I would like to acknowledge and offer my thanks to Beth Schreiber and Dan Mitchell, the co-vice chairpersons of the Tzedakah Campaign, for all of their hard work on the campaign. I would also like to thank Lynn Kaplan, our new FRD director, for her outstanding dedication and the excellent job she's been doing on all aspects of the campaign.

When Dina asked me to speak, my thoughts turned to my Bar Mitzvah. Specifically, my Bar Mitzvah invitation. It had a saying on it from the Midrash that has come to mind probably thousands of times since I first saw it: "All beginnings are difficult." And this speech is no different. So why are we here?

Clearly, we are here in part due to the generosity of Marv Levy. Thank you Marv, once again, for so generously supporting our community through this wonderful evening. And we are all here because we care deeply about our community and the important work that the volunteers and staff of the Federation accomplish every day. Specifically, you all are here because of the incredible generosity you've shown to the Federation and the causes it supports in Madison, Israel, and throughout the world.

So in reality, why am I here? Well, in part it's because of Andrea Stein and a phone call she placed maybe 15 years ago. She asked me to join the Gan HaYeled committee. My wife Jan thought it would be a good idea since we'd have a child in the program for at least a couple of years. And that started me down the path of volunteering with the MJCC, as the Federation was then known. I served on the Gan committee for several years until Andrea and Steve asked if I'd be willing to become the chair, and I later become a member of the Jewish Education Panel.

For Jan and me, sending our kids to Gan was a real turning point in our lives. Some of our closest friends in Madison are the parents of kids who were in Sam's or Ben's Gan classes. And some of Sam's best friends today are kids he met at Gan. Making friends is important, to be sure, but we wouldn't have sent our younger son, Ben, to Gan if we didn't think the program was worthwhile. In fact, it is more than worthwhile. It is outstanding. Through the efforts of a number of tremendous preschool directors, at least one of whom, Lynn Kaplan, is present here this evening, and because of the exceptional, caring, and talented teachers, our kids thrived at Gan. But that kind of quality does not come cheaply.



Marc Shovers

I learned through my time as Gan committee chair, and as a member and later chair of the Jewish Education Panel, that Gan receives a healthy subsidy from the Federation. A subsidy that we would not be able to extend to Gan without the generous support of the people in this room. Of course we could increase the fees but, historically, Gan has been pretty much in the middle of the road in comparison to its peer group preschools in terms of costs to parents, and in the area of teacher salaries. If the fees are increased too much, many parents would be forced to look elsewhere for their preschool needs. So how and why do we keep such a wonderful and beneficial program going if it is not able to sustain itself solely by the fees it generates?

During Federation budget meetings, we are often faced with difficult choices about which programs to support and at what level. Over time, the board has consistently reaffirmed its commitment to Gan. Yes, we realize that Gan is expensive to support. But we also recognize that Gan is a gateway program; if people enroll their kids in Gan, bond with the other parents, and their kids make friends, they are much more likely to stay involved Jewishly. Like me, they're more likely to become an active volunteer. Once they realize that the program is subsidized by the Federation, they're likely to be more receptive to donating to the campaign, and to continue their involvement in Federation activities after their kids graduate. Simply put, Gan HaYeled is an outstanding program whose lasting value extends far beyond the time that its enrollees and their parents are involved in the program, and it benefits our community in a way that exceeds the value of its subsidy. It is a source of future volunteers and future donors. And it is a sound investment in the continuing strength and development of a vibrant Jewish community in Madison. But none of this would be possible without the strong financial support of all of you.

Another program I'd like to talk to you about is Jewish Social Services, a major recipient of Federation funding. I knew sort of peripherally about the good work that JSS accomplished, through its immigrant and refugee services, its elder and family support programs, and other valuable activities. But I did not experience its greatness first hand until 4 ½ years ago when my parents decided it might be time to move back up north from Florida, where they'd spent the previous 19 years. What did I know about moving aging parents up north? Well, very little. So I called

(Continued on page 7)



Speech

Continued from page 6

Francie Saposnik. To the surprise of no one who knows Francie, she was a G-d send. She was knowledgeable, generous with her time, and an extremely valuable resource as Jan and I researched our options. A space opened up in the independent living area at Oakwood Village and my parents decided to make the move. Their transition to Madison went as well as we could have hoped, but moving to a new place, even with children and grandchildren nearby, can be daunting. How would they meet people, or get involved in the community? Of course Francie and Louise Goldstein came to the rescue. Francie wanted to meet my parents as soon as they arrived. At first, my mother was hesitant about allowing Francie to come over to their apartment; they just moved in, and my mother thought that the place was a mess. I worked hard to convince my mom to let Francie stop by. Francie knows that you just moved in, I told her. She understands things are in disarray. But she wants to meet you. With an air of some resignation, Mom agreed. Francie brought my mother a challah, as it was Shabbat; actually she split the challah in half to share with another Jewish woman who just moved into Oakwood and Francie only had one challah. Of course Francie's charms won my parents over, and she made them immediately feel welcome and a part of the Jewish community. Francie and Louise also were able to get my parents to attend the monthly Shabbat service that JSS hosts at Oakwood. My parents met several other residents at services, including the woman who got the other half of that challah, and they found their new social group. Soon after attending Shabbat services, Francie and Louise got my parents to start attending Lechayim, the senior lunch, exercise, and social gathering that meets most Mondays during the school year. My parents love this program, which is open to any member of the community. Through persistence, warmth, and caring, JSS helped my parents integrate into the Jewish and general community here in Madison.

Soon after abandoning all that was familiar in Florida, and, as winter approached, moving to a cold and forbidding environment, my parents were able to develop close friendships. They felt that they belonged. They were part of something Jewish. All because of the great work carried out by Jewish Social Services. And once again, these valuable programs, which benefit so many people in the Jewish and general community here in Madison, thrive and meet the needs of people of all ages because all of you in this room, and many other generous people who aren't here tonight, contribute to this extremely worthwhile endeavor.

I said at the beginning of my talk that all beginnings are difficult. Well, the beginning of this campaign has proven to be difficult. Due to a variety of circumstances, we are starting the campaign later than usual. Our known losses, from people who've passed away or moved away, are significantly greater than what was the case last year. This is also the situation we face with at-risk gifts. And because our needs as a community continue to grow, the Financial Resources Development Committee has increased our campaign goal from last year's goal. This year, our goal is $1,036,000. In the face of continued slow growth in the economy, and the challenges we face from known losses and at-risk gifts, our needs are even greater. This reality is another reason that we are all here tonight. We need to rise up to meet the challenges we face as a community and raise the funds we need to keep programs like Gan HaYeled, Midrasha Hebrew High School, Camp Shalom, and JSS as strong and growing programs, ready to satisfy the needs of the people in our community who benefit so greatly from the services that they provide.

And we need to think about our brethren in the former Soviet Union and in Israel who also look to us for help. There too, the needs for food, training, and resettlement assistance are growing. In addition, we need to continue to support the ability of beneficiary groups, such as the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, to address humanitarian disasters around the world, as the JDC did so heroically in Haiti.

To continue to simply meet the current needs of our beneficiaries, much less to expand services to those who need them but don't yet have them, we need your help. All the volunteers in the world, and the great professional staff we have here in Madison, will not be enough, on its own, to enable us to succeed. We need your continued generosity and support.

As I was preparing this speech and thinking about my Bar Mitzvah, I decided to review my parsha to see if there was anything in it that could help me demonstrate why we need your support, and show why giving generously to the campaign is the right thing to do. Fortunately for me, there was! My parsha was Vayikra, and in Ch. 19, verses 9 and 10, it says:

"And when you reap the harvest in your land, you shall not reap the corners of your field; neither shall you gather the gleaning of your harvest. And you shall not glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather the single grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and the stranger. "

I remember asking my rabbi why the farmer would just leave the corners of the field intact, instead of harvesting everything and then giving some of it to the poor. The reason is so as to not cause embarrassment to the recipient . . . if the fields are left unharvested, those who need food may simply help themselves, without having to ask someone for assistance, which could prove to be a humiliating experience. In fact, giving in this way – giving anonymously, to an unknown recipient – is one of the highest forms of tzedakah that there is. According to Maimonides, there are 8 levels of giving, each one higher than the next. From lowest to highest, they are as follows:

8. Giving "in sadness," out of pity, or begrudgingly.

7. Giving willingly and cheerfully, but inadequately.

6. Giving adequately after being asked.

5. Giving tzedakah before being asked.

4. Giving tzedakah publicly to an unknown recipient, where you do not know the recipient's identity, but the recipient knows yours.

3. Giving tzedakah anonymously to a known recipient, where you know the recipient's identity, but he or she does not know your identity.

OK, it's time to really pay attention to number 2 now.

2. Giving tzedakah anonymously to an unknown recipient via a person (or public fund) which is trustworthy, wise, and can perform acts of tzedakah with your money in a most impeccable fashion.

I'm really hoping that number 2 is starting to resonate with you all.

1. Giving ways that will enable them to become self-reliant.

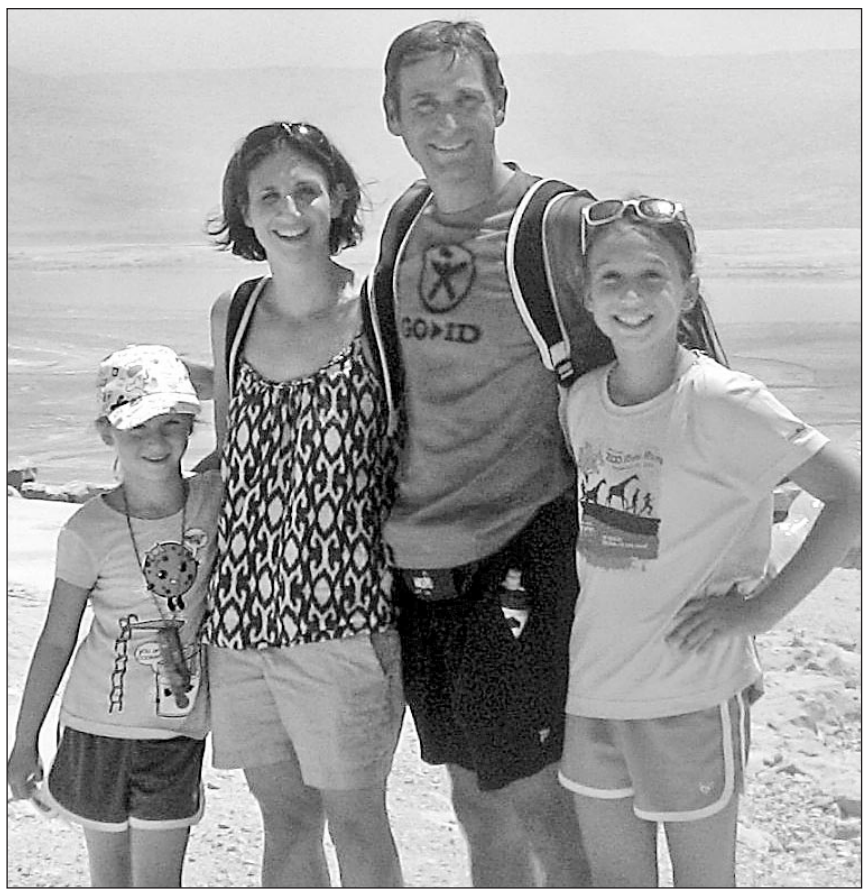
Surely some parts of your gifts to the Federation may rise to the first level of giving, according to the Rambam's levels. But many of our recipients, the elderly, the very young, the infirm, will not be able to benefit from your generosity in way that will enable them to become self-reliant.

But the vast majority of your gift to the Federation will rise to the Rambam's second highest level of giving: to give tzedakah anonymously to an unknown recipient via a person or public fund which is trustworthy, wise, and can perform acts of tzedakah with your money in a most impeccable fashion. That is what we strive to do at the Jewish Federation of Madison: perform acts of tzedakah with your money in a most impeccable fashion.

We are so grateful to all of you here today for the wonderful acts of generosity you have shown the Federation in the past. Our programs here in Madison and those we support throughout the world could not function without your donations. But as the Torah says in Deuteronomy chapter 15, verse 11: "For there shall never cease to be needy people in your land; therefore I command thee, saying: 'Thou shalt surely open thy hand unto thy poor and needy brother. . ." Our needs are great, and they are growing. We have asked a lot from all of you in the past, and we are asking for even more this year. For our campaign to be able to overcome our difficult beginning, and to meet the increased challenges we face, we sincerely hope that you will consider increasing your gift by at least 10 percent this year.

I know that we are asking a lot. But as you reflect on this request for an increased gift, I hope that you will bear in mind another verse from the Torah, again from Deuteronomy, chapter 16, verse 17: "Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the L-rd thy G-d which He hath given thee."

Together we can do extraordinary things. Thank you very much for your time and attention.



Why We Give ...

By Beth Schreiber and Russell Kahn

Tzedakah is an essential value in Judaism and it is important to us personally as well. But why give to the Federation specifically? Something that we appreciate about the Federation is that it gives to those in need in our immediate community, but it also gives to those in need around the world. So the Federation is both locally-minded and globally-minded. Furthermore, we give to Federation because it is important to us to keep this small but mighty Jewish community of Madison vibrant. As our parents did for us, we hope to help our children develop strong, positive feelings about their Jewish identity and this is best done through community, where Judaism thrives. The local programs sponsored by the Federation, such as Gan HaYeled, Camp Shalom, Midrasha and more, are the building blocks of our children's Jewish identity. One important way that we can help our children to develop a strong Jewish identity is through our support of, and participation in, these programs. As adults, it will be up to them to decide how much they will integrate Judaism into their lives. However, the more positive their memories and associations are, the more likely that they will stay connected to Judaism and the wonderful values and rich traditions of our people.



Major Donors Honored at *Tzedakah* Campaign Dinner on October 8th

In recognition and appreciation for the their extraordinary generosity, Major Donors to the Jewish Federation of Madison were honored at a dinner at Nakoma Country Club on October 8, 2013.

We had a wonderful turnout with 50 guests. These donors, along with others who were unable to attend, contributed $460,00 to the 2013 Annual Campaign.

After a fabulous meal hosted by Marv Levy of Phillips Distributing Corporation, Tzedakah Campaign Chairman Marc Shovers made a compelling presentation about the importance of giving here in Madison and around the world. Madison jazz musician Dave Stoler and the Dave Stoler Trio played a terrific set of jazz classics all composed by famous Jewish musicians.

On behalf of our entire community, we express our sincere appreciation to these donors for their inspiring leadership and generosity.

Photos by Diane Kravetz

Special thanks...

We express our heartfelt appreciation to Marvin Levy, Phillips Distributing Corporation, for once again so generously offering his support of the major gifts dinner for a sixth year in a row. We also thank Jeff Levy of Phillips Distributing Corporation for donating the premium wine for the evening's reception and dinner.

Thank you also to Judy Schreiber for once again volunteering her expert skills and experience to plan the dinner and make everything perfect, as usual.



Bottom Left: Beth Schreiber, Lee Eckhardt, Susan Roquitte, Ilene Laufman
Top Left: Jon Eckhardt, Rob Roquitte, Mark Laufman, Marv Levy



Bottom Left: Phil Levy, Jan Loeb, Marc Shovers
Top Left: Dan Mitchell, Jim Stein, Andrea Stein



Bottom Left: Judy Schreiber, Larry Landweber, Jean Landwebber
To Left: Jeff Levy, Lynn Preizler, Martin Preizler



Bottom Left: Vicki Stewart, Rona Malofsky, Phyliss Lefcowitz, Al Goldstein
Top Left: Jerry Stewart, Lynn Kaplan, Dan Kaplan, Sandra Levin, Alan Levin



Bottom Left: Hal Blotner, Harry Tobias, Marjorie Tobias, Harriet Hymann
Top Left: Joe Silverberg, Jean Silverberg, Babe Conney, Alan Hymann



Bottom Left: Cheryl Rosen Weston, Steve Morrison, Dave Weinbach
Top Left: William Haus, Claudia Haus, Debbie Minkoff, Joel Minkoff, Dina Weinbach

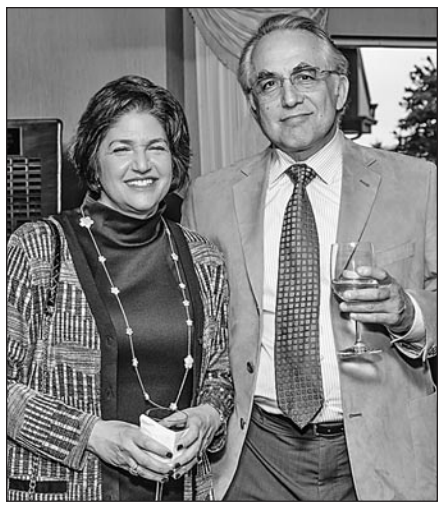






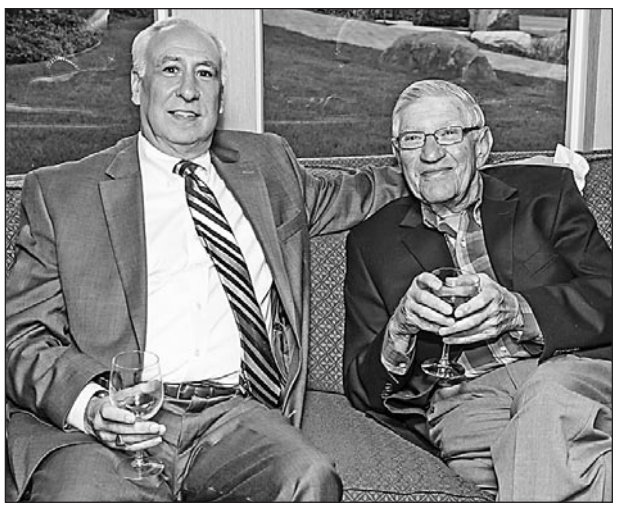















Congregation News

Temple Beth El • Congregation Shaarei Shamayim • Beth Israel Center

Temple Beth El

Our events listed below are open to the community. Check out our Temple Beth El website at www.templebethelmadison.org for more information on our worship times and special events. All events take place at Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive, Madison, unless otherwise noted. **The Temple office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28 for Thanksgiving.**

We encourage members of the Jewish community to join Temple Beth El. We welcome prospective members to participate in programs and activities before joining. Please contact Heidi Lauhon, Executive Director, at 238-3123 or executivedirector@templebethelmadison.org for membership information.

Tots & Tunes

Sundays: Nov. 3, Feb. 2, March 2, April 27
9:30am -10:30am
Temple Beth El Lounge

For all children ages Newborn to 5 years! Join other Jewish kids and parents for a fun way to learn about Shabbat and the Jewish holidays! Hang out with leaders Dana Prager and Kenny Lyons and sing songs, do a craft project, and enjoy challah & juice. Come and get to know other parents and kids from around the community. Questions? Call Educator Larry Kohn, 238-3123.

47th Annual Food-A-Rama

Tuesday, Nov. 5, 11am to 1:30pm

Food-A-Rama is an annual luncheon held on Election Day by Temple Beth El Sisterhood. The Temple is open to the community to come and enjoy kosher style foods. We have the options of dine in, carry out, and delivery. You can have your choice of our NEW vegetarian Mediterranean platter, our famous corned beef sandwiches, or a kosher-style hot dog.

Dine In at Temple Beth El: 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Carry Out: 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Order on-site, or order ahead online at www.food-a-rama.com, or by calling 238-3123, and we'll have your lunch ready for you.

Delivery: Can't make it to Temple? We'll come to you! Order our NEW Mediterranean vegetarian platter or our corned beef sandwich and have it delivered to work or home. Pre-paid orders are due Oct. 28th.

Delivery forms can be downloaded online at: www.food-a-rama.com

Bakery: 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Featuring scrumptious homemade cakes, pies, breads, and confections

Deli: 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Featuring Corned Beef by the Pound, Rye Bread, Homemade Matzo Ball Soup, Homemade Sweet and Sour Cabbage Soup, authentic Chopped Liver and Kosher-style Hot Dogs

For more information, please visit us online at www.food-a-rama.com.

Swarsensky Scholar-In-Residence Weekend

Nov. 8-10

Temple Beth El is excited and honored to have **Professor Charles Cohen**, Professor of History and Religious Studies at UW-Madison, and Director of the Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions, as our 2013 Swarsensky Scholar-in-Residence. Professor Cohen will give two talks at Temple for the Swarsensky Weekend.

Friday, Nov. 8
6pm Shabbat Dinner, Reservations Required; 7:30pm Shabbat Services, talk by Professor Cohen: *"Stairway to Heaven"*

Welcome in Shabbat with Professor Cohen at dinner & services. Please visit http://www.templebethelmadison.org/rsvp to register to join us for dinner by Friday, November 1, 2013. Chicken or vegetarian entrée options. $15 for ages 13 and over, $10 for ages 4-12, and $5 for ages 3 and under.

Sunday, Nov. 10
9:45am Brunch & Keynote: *"Jewish Identity in Interfaith America"*

While there is no charge for the brunch, we ask that if you plan on attending, that you RSVP at http://www.templebethelmadison.org/rsvp no later than Friday, Nov. 1, to assure space.

In the mid-twentieth-century United States, the term "Judeo-Christian" came to signal Jews' acceptance into mainstream American culture, though some Jews attacked for, among other things, homogenizing Judaism and Christianity. In the early twenty-first century, it seems problematic for additional reasons, including its omission of Islam as a religion with important theological and historical ties to its predecessor monotheisms. To what degree should Judaism, Christianity and Islam now be considered elements of the "Abrahamic tradition," and what might such consideration mean for understanding contemporary American religious culture?

Israeli Film Series

Tuesdays: Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21
Front Doors open at 7pm; Movie at 7:15pm; Discussion to follow.

Free and open to all. Enjoy popcorn, Bamba, coffee, hot chocolate, schmoozing, and a lively discussion following the film! Brought to you by the Temple Beth El Kesher Israel Committee.

Nov. 19 – *Forever Scared* (Documentary)

Sayed Kashua is a talented and ambitious writer with a top-rated television comedy series. Sayed is a Palestinian Israeli – "a walking, talking oxymoron". This documentary explores the situation and emotions of a man who feels himself both allied to and alienated from two separate states of being. (52 minutes)

Dec. 17 – *Inside Jerusalem: Identity and the Ancient Past* (Documentary)

"Travel back in time on this journey to visit ancient Jerusalem with world class archeologists and biblical scholars who present the facts of history. Hosted and narrated by Israeli model and actress Shani Atias...." (45 minutes)

Jan. 21 – *Sallah Shabati* (Comedy)

This sharp, often hilarious satire became the most successful film in Israeli history. *Sallah Shabati* is about new immigrants to Israel and their difficulties as settlers who have been flown from Yemen to Israel during "Operation Magic Carpet." (110 minutes)

Latkes & Leftovers: Thanksgiving Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner

Friday, Nov. 29
5pm Dinner
6pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Come celebrate the 3rd night of Hanukkah with your Temple family! Bring your Thanksgiving leftovers (no pork or shellfish, and no dairy and meat in the same dish please) to share along with your hanukkiah to light. Temple will provide the latkes, toppings, some drinks and dinnerware. $5 for an individual, $10 per couple/family. RSVP by November 22, 2013 at www.templebethelmadison.org/rsvp or contact Aleeza, Program Director at program@templebethelmadison.org.

Madison's Jews' Next Dor (20- & 30-Somethings)

Madison's Jews' Next Dor is for the Jewish 20- & 30-somethings community in and around Madison. (*Dor* means "generation" in Hebrew.) We're open to all young adults and are organized through Temple Beth El Madison (http://www.templebethelmadison.org/

Potluck Shabbat Dinner
Friday, Nov. 1, 7pm
Private Home West Side, RSVP for the address

Join Madison's Jews' Next Dor for a potluck Shabbat dinner! This event is at a private home on the west side of Madison, and its address will be released closer to the event.

The host will provide challah & wine, the cutlery and plates. Please bring a dish to share, no pork or shellfish, please avoid mixing dairy and meat in your dish. If there is a particular thing you want to share with us, please do; if you aren't sure what to bring, please follow these suggestions to help us get an even distribution of courses:

If your last name begins with A - G, please bring an APPETIZER or DRINK

If your last name begins with H - M, please bring a MAIN DISH

If your last name begins with N - R, please bring a SIDE/SALAD

If your last name begins with S - Z, please bring a DESSERT

Please RSVP for the address and let us know what you plan to bring to Aleeza at program@templebethelmadison.org

We look forward to welcoming in Shabbat with you!

Madison's Jews' Next Dor Meet & Greet Dinner – Sa-Bai Thong

Thursday, Nov. 21
7pm-9pm
Sa-Bai Thong
6802 Odana Road, Madison

Join Madison's Jews' Next Dor for the next installment of our Third Thursday Meet & Greet! Bring a friend and join with us to meet, greet, and eat our way through a tasty family-style Thai dinner. We're taking menu suggestions (no pork or shellfish), so check out the restaurant's menu at http://www.sabaithong.com and let us know what you'd like to enjoy when you RSVP to Aleeza at program@templebethelmadison.org. Dinner will be $20 or less per person; please bring cash with you (small bills are appreciated). Hungry and ready to mingle? See you there! Our Meet & Greet dinners take place on the third Thursday of each month at a different restaurant each time.

MaTTY (Grades 9-12)

For questions about MaTTY our High School Youth Group, please contact Naomi at matty@templebethelmadison.org

Bagel Schmooze
Sunday, Nov. 10
11:30am-12:15pm
Temple Beth El Youth Lounge

Come join MaTTY for delicious and free bagels and cream cheese in the MaTTY Lounge at 11:30am. All teens are welcome to attend this event. If you are a Sunday School staff teenager stop in after work to have a nice break after all of your hard work and relax with your peers.

Laser Tag & Hanukkah Party
Saturday, Nov. 16
6:30pm-9:30pm
Meet at Temple Beth El

MaTTY is celebrating Hanukkah in style with laser tag and a delicious party. The event is from 6:30pm-around 9:30pm. We will be leaving from Temple Beth El and meeting in the MaTTY lounge to do Havdallah before leaving for the Laser Tag venue.

Gift Shop Hours

Sundays, Nov. 3, 10, 17, & 24, December 1, 8, & 15: 9:30am – 11:30am

Tuesday, Nov. 5: 10:30am – 2:30pm [Food-A-Rama]

Wednesdays, Nov. 6, 13, & 20: 4:00pm – 6:00pm

Tuesdays, Nov. 26, Dec. 3: 11:00am – 1:00pm

Wednesdays, Nov. 27 [Chanukah Begins], Dec. 4: 11:00am – 1:00pm

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Congregation Shaarei Shamayim

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

What Makes a Jewish Service Jewish?

Sunday, Nov. 3
9:50-11:30 a.m., Center for Families, 2120 Fordem Ave.

Join Judith Burstyn in an exploration of Jewish prayer. We will examine the traditional structures and rhythms of daily, Shabbat and holiday prayers, and discuss the role of communal and individual prayer in our lives in a modern Reconstructionist/Renewal context. We will use resources from the book Making Prayer Real, by Rabbi Michael Comins, published by Jewish Lights. More information about this book can be found at www.makingprayerreal.com.

Weekend with Rabbi Jeff Roth, Renowned Meditation Teacher

Saturday, Nov. 9 (First Unitarian Society) and Sunday, Nov. 10 (Center for Families)
Please call the office for the Saturday evening location.

Shaarei Shamayim welcomes Rabbi Jeff Roth for for our first special event during Rabbi Laurie's sabbatical. The theme of the weekend is "Bringing centering and meditation to our Jewish practice and to our lives." Rabbi Jeff will lead us in services on Shabbat morning, November 9, at 9:30 a.m. at the First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive, followed by a potluck lunch and discussion. In the evening we will gather in a member's home for Havdalah. On Sunday morning, November 10, Rabbi Jeff will lead an adult education program beginning at 9:50 a.m. at the Center for Families, 2120 Fordem Avenue. Whether you are curious about meditation or you are an experienced practitioner, you are welcome; no prior experience is needed.

Rabbi Jeff Roth is the author of *Jewish Meditation Practices for Everyday Life: Awakening Your Heart, Connecting with God*. He is a well-known meditation practitioner, teacher, and facilitator of Jewish retreats. Rabbi Jeff is founder and director of the Awakened Heart Project for Contemplative Judaism, a co-leader of the Jewish Mindfulness Teacher Training Program, and has facilitated over 90 Jewish meditation retreats. He is a co-founder of Elat Chayyim, Center for Jewish Spirituality, where he served as Executive Director and Spiritual Director for 13 years. He is affiliated with Aleph, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal Communities, of which Shaarei Shamayim is a member community. For more information about Rabbi Jeff Roth's work see www.awakenedheartproject.org

Social Action Shabbat Potluck

Friday, Nov. 15
Location – in a private home; please call the office for location

We will gather at 6:00 p.m. and have a brief Shabbat service at 6:15 p.m. We will have a vegetarian potluck dinner at 6:45 p.m. and a discussion at 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat B'Yachad – Intergenerational Shabbat Service

Saturday, Nov. 23
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive

Join us for a musical Shabbat with our beloved song leaders, Aviv and Anna. We will celebrate Shabbat as an intergenerational community and then share kiddush lunch together. This is a great way to check out our Bet Sefer program.

Special Presentation by Phillip Ratner, Renowned Artist of Judaica: *"An Ark of Possibilities"*

Sunday, Dec. 1
1:00 p.m., Lakeside Street Coffee House, 402 West Lakeside Street

Phillip Ratner, father of CSS members Sari Ratner Judge and Jennifer Ratner Rosenhagen, will be presenting his vision for a new ark for our community.

Ratner is a distinguished artist of Judaic sculpture, painting, etched glass, tapestry and numerous other mediums. As founder of the Ratner Bible Museum in suburban Washington, D.C., he has developed over 250 works on the bible, as well as designed arks and synagogue interiors for many U.S. congregations and those abroad. In addition, Ratner has completed numerous public and private commissions, including work at the Statue of Liberty national park, the Ellis Island Museum and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Beth Israel Center

Beth Israel Center is pleased to welcome Joey Weisenberg for three Shabbatot in the coming year. Joey is the Creative Director of the recently-founded Hadar Center for Communal Jewish Music in New York City, and is the author of *Building Singing Communities, a Practical Guide to Unlocking the Power of Music in Jewish Prayer*. Joey visits synagogues and communities around the country as a "musician-in-residence" and teaches his popular 'Spontaneous Jewish Choir' workshops.

Joey's first visit to Beth Israel Center will center on Shabbat, November 8 and 9. All are welcome to participate in this special Shabbat experience.

Friday Evening, Nov. 8

Joey will lead Kabbalat Shabbat services, starting at 5:45pm. After services, we will enjoy a Persian Shabbat dinner, catered by Layla's. Reservations are required for dinner. The cost is $18 per adult, $15 for children ages 5-12, $5 for children under 5 who will have their own plate. Beth Israel members may have the charges put on their account. Payment in advance will secure reservations for non-members.

After dinner, we'll experience together an inspirational *tisch*, which literally means table in Yiddish. We will sit around our tables and share *niggunim* (songs), a d'var Torah or two, and perhaps a relaxing beverage. Donated bottles are more than welcome. Address kashrut questions to Rabbi Ben-Gideon, and please bring bottles to Beth Israel before noon on Friday.

Saturday Morning, Nov. 9

Joey will teach about his work during Shabbat morning services. He will also demonstrate what it means to unlock the power of music in Jewish prayer as he leads what promises to be an inspirational Musaf service. Come for services and stay for lunch. No reservations necessary. Services start at 9:30am.

Saturday Afternoon/Evening, Nov. 9

After the afternoon Mincha service, which starts at 4:00, the Shabbaton continues with a *seudat shlishit* (third meal) and singing until it's time to daven Ma'ariv, around 5:25, followed by Havdalah. After Havdalah, all are welcome to hold onto the joy of Shabbat just a bit longer during a song-filled *melava malka*.

There is no cost or reservation required for the *seudat shlishit* and/or *melava malka*, but if you are planning to attend, please drop us a line by Nov. 1 (at office@bethisraelcenter.org) so we can estimate crowd size.

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In addition to our special Shabbat with Joey Weisenberg, Beth Israel Center offers ongoing dynamic educational programming and ruach-filled services.

All are welcome to Beth Israel's:

- Monday night Yiddish class with Sylvia Grunes
- Tuesday night Beit Midrash, led by Lily Nagy-Deak, Rabbi Rebecca Ben-Gideon, and other scholars and rabbis from around the community
- Thursday morning Talmud class with Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon
- Thursday evening Hebrew class with Anna Heifetz
- Kabbalat Shabbat services Friday evening at 5:45
- Shabbat morning children's services for preschoolers and elementary school-aged children starting at 10:30 nearly every Saturday
- Traditional egalitarian Shabbat morning services followed by a Kiddush lunch every week.

Visit www.bethisraelcenter.org or call the office (608-256-7763) for schedule additions and updates.

Curious About Judaism? Get Yourself an Introduction!

An Introduction to Judaism Class Taught by Madison's Rabbis and Educators

Once again, Madison's synagogues – Beth Israel Center, Congregation Shaarei Shamayim and Temple Beth El – will offer a sixteen-session "Introduction to Judaism" course on Thursday nights this coming winter and spring. Coordinated by Rabbis Ben-Gideon, Biatch, and Zimmerman, and taught by local rabbis and educators, the course includes the basics of Jewish thought and practice, and provides a mix of study, discussion and practical experiences designed for three kinds of people: Jews hoping to re-acquaint themselves with their tradition, non-Jews interested in exploring Jewish life and considering conversion, and anyone interested in understanding Judaism on an adult level.

The course will begin January 16, and will run consecutive Thursday nights (except the week of Passover) through the middle of May. The course will take place at Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive, Madison.

Session topics include Shabbat and its importance, Jewish holidays, the Jewish life cycle, theology and prayer, Israel, history and contemporary Jewish issues.

A minimum of 10 students will be required for the course. Registration is due no later than January 9. Tuition for this sixteen-week class is as follows: Members of a Madison synagogue: $100 per person, $175 per couple. Non-members: $150 per person, $250 per couple. Undergrad or Graduate students: $50. This price includes the price of handouts, but not the cost of textbooks, which will be purchased independently. Scholarships are available. For more information and an application for registration, call Rabbi Jonathan Biatch at Temple Beth El, 608-238-3123.


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Celebrate THE TRADITIONS OF Hanukkah



Pass the Cranberry Latkes: When Holidays Collide

By Edmon J. Rodman

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — If the Pilgrims are lighting menorahs and the Maccabees are chasing turkeys, it must be Thanksgivukkah, as some have come to call the confluence of Thanksgiving and Hanukkah that will happen this year on Nov. 28.

It's a rare event, one that won't occur again until 2070 and then in 2165. Beyond that, because the Jewish lunisolar (lunar with solar adjustments) calendar is very slowly getting out of sync with the solar calendar, the Hanukkah-Thanksgiving confluence won't happen again by one calculation until the year 79811 — when turkeys presumably will be smart enough to read calendars and vacation in space that month.

How do we celebrate this rare holiday alignment? Do we stick candles in the turkey and stuff the horns of plenty with gelt? Put payes on the Pilgrims? What about starting by wishing each other "gobble tov" and then changing the words to a favorite Hanukkah melody:

"I cooked a little turkey,
Just like I'm Bobby Flay,
And when it's sliced and ready,
I'll fress the day away."

The holiday mash-up has its limits. We know the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade will not end with a float carrying a Maccabee. But it has created opportunities as well: Raise your hand if you plan to wait until the post-Thanksgiving Day sales for your Hanukkah shopping.

Ritually, just as we've figured out that we add candles to our menorahs from right to left and light them from left to right, a new question looms this year: Should we slice the turkey before or after?

For our household, the dreidel-wishbone overlap means that our son at college who always comes home for Thanksgiving will be home to light the family hanukkiyah, too.

"I think it's wonderful," said Dr. Ron Wolfson, whose book "Relational Judaism" (Jewish Lights Publishing) speaks to how our communal relationships — how we listen and welcome — can make our Jewish communities more meaningful. "This year is about bringing friends and family together."

Wolfson, also the author of "The Hanukkah Family Guide to Spiritual Celebration," said in a recent interview that this year's calendrical collision was a way to enhance "Thanksgiving beyond football and a big meal."

In our land of commercial plenty, the confluence certainly has served up a feast of merchandise. There are T-shirts saying "8 Days of Light, Liberty & Latkes" and a coffee mug picturing a turkey with nine burning tail feathers. And then there's the ceramic menorah in the shape of a turkey — a Menurkey, created by 9-year-old Asher Weintraub of New York.

But being more of a do-it-yourselfer, I recycled an old sukkah decoration to create my own Thankgivukkkah centerpiece — the cornukiyah.

(Continued on page 13)

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Holidays

Continued from page 12

For the holiday cook trying to blend the two holidays' flavors, there's a recipe that calls for turkeys brined in Manischewitz, and I found another for cranberry latkes. But what about a replacement for the now infamous Frankenstein of Thanksgiving cuisine, the turducken? How about a "turchitke," a latke inside of a chicken inside of a turkey?

For Wolfson, who has largely ignored the merch and wordplay, this year simply is an opportunity to change the script. At his Thanksgiving dinner, he is going combine Chanukah ritual with holiday elements found on FreedomsFeast.us, a website that uses American holidays to pass on "stories, values and behaviors."

Searching the site, I found a "Thanksgiving Service for Interfaith Gatherings" by Rabbi Jack Moline that includes a reading that also could work for Hanukkah — a holiday of religious freedom — as it celebrates many of the occupations that "we can do when we are free," including activists, writers, artists, entrepreneurs, even journalists.

For our own celebrations Wolfson, a Fingerhut professor of education at American Jewish University, wants us to consider the similarities of the stories at the heart of each holiday.

"The Pilgrims were escaping religious persecution in Europe. They did not want to be assimilated," Wolfson said, adding that "the Maccabees were fighting against Hellenization," another form of assimilation.

Counter to the usual "December dilemma" for the intermarried — whose numbers have increased to 58 percent since 2005, according to the recent Pew study — Wolfson noted the "opportunities and challenges" presented this year by Hanukkah and Christmas not coinciding.

(Continued on page 14)



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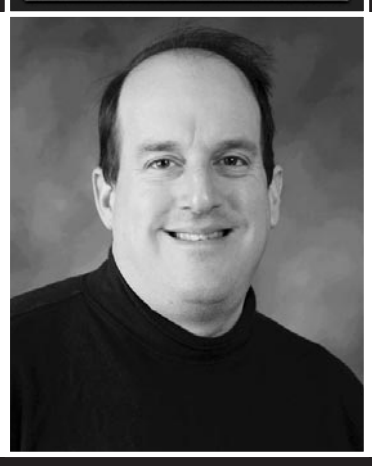
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Holidays

Continued from page 13

"We usually feel the tension between the two holidays," he said. "This year we can feel the compatibility of the two."

The early Hanukkah will help people to appreciate its "cultural integrity," said Wolfson, adding that he "would not be surprised by a spike in candle lighting this year."

But for others in the Jewish community, the pushing together of the Festival of Lights with Turkey Day has forced other changes, some unwanted.

Rabbi Steven Silver of Temple Menorah in Redondo Beach, Calif., is canceling his temple's traditional Friday night Hanukkah dinner.

"That holiday weekend will be vacation time, people will be out visiting family and friends," he said. "The rabbis won't have anyone in front of them that weekend, and that's a problem."

Yet Silver also has found the confluence has presented an opportunity.

The day before Hanukkah, his congregation is planning to attend an interfaith Thanksgiving service at a Catholic church.

"There will between 800 and 900 in attendance, from Buddhists to Sikhs, and three Jewish congregations" Silver said. "We are planning to bring a 6-foot-high wooden menorah and symbolically light it."

The holidays overlapping, he said, "are giving us an opportunity to show the miracle."

Read more: http://www.jta.org/2013/10/23/jewish-holidays/pass-the-cranberry-latkes-when-holidays-collide#ixzz2iviwbLIH

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Loads of Laughs at UW Hillel

On Wednesday, November 20th at 7 p.m., Professor R. Alta Charo, Warren P. Knowles Professor of Law and Bioethics, and Professor Jordan Rosenbloom, Professor of Hebrew and Semitic Studies, will engage in a tongue-in-cheek debate regarding the relative merits of the latke and the hamantash at UW Hillel, The Barbara Hochberg Center for Jewish Student Life, 611 Langdon Street. Who will ultimately win the debate? It is up for grabs.

The Latke-Hamantash debate originated in 1946 at the University of Chicago as an opportunity for serious academics to have silly, humorous fun. The debate celebrates Jewish culture during the dark, cold winter months. UW-Madison has hosted a couple of Latke-Hamantash debates over the years. The event is co-sponsored by Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies and the Jewish Law Students Association.

Professor Alta Charo, arguing for the latke, is already preparing for this rigorous debate. In a recent interview, she stated that her strategy is to focus on the latke in popular culture. She is already trying out her arguments to see which will stick. For instance: "While hamantashen are perfectly fine Hufflepuffs, the latke is pure Gryffindor." And "Tevye didn't sing 'If I were a Hamentash.' He sang 'If I were a Latke.'"

Jordan Rosenbloom is also deep into research for his side of the debate. "I have been reading up on the arguments made in previous debates. Many participants riff off of their favored foodstuff and use them to make larger claims about the world. However, they tend to approach these dainties from their disciplinary approaches and thus only consider the food obliquely. I will analyze these foods from the lens of food history. Which one is old, venerable, and delicious, and which one, while tasty, is an oily pretender to the throne?"

After the serious debate between R. Alta Charo and Jordan Rosenbloom, participants will enjoy tasty latkes and hamantashen in a post-debate reception. Reception tickets will cost $5. May the best food win!



Fall Highlights

The fall semester at UW Hillel started on a very busy note. The second day of the semester was Rosh Hashanah! Hillel staff squeezed Welcome Week events into a short week, instead of stretching into the second week of school. Welcome Week began with the Welcome Back BBQ. Hundreds of students visited the rooftop basketball court of the Hillel building where they enjoyed delicious kosher burgers and hot dogs while checking out the organization fair. Other Welcome Week activities included a 3 on 3 basketball tournament in partnership with the Statesider dorm, Shabbat dinner, and Bagels on Bascom, where students picked up a bagel on their way to their first class thanks to a donation from Bagels Forever.

The fall continued on a busy note, with High Holiday services, meals and celebrations as well as the launch of student organizations and internships. Rabbi Rebecca Ben-Gideon and Rabbi Andrea Steinberger led beautiful Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services. Ask Big Questions, a Hillel organization that brings soulful, reflective conversation to campus, facilitated a conversation during Yom Kippur that brought in students not otherwise observing Yom Kippur.

We celebrated Sukkot with a very popular grilled cheese and tomato soup event. Staff and Faculty joined Hillel staff for a Sukkot reception. And later in the holiday, students competed in Masterchef: Hummus Edition. Our holiday season ended on a high note with a popular Simchat Torah celebration where students rolled their own sushi. We look forward to more terrific events this semester.

The History of Wisconsin's Yiddish Past is in Your Closet...

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…or maybe just a cherished memory.

Whatever it is, the Mayrent Institute would like you to share it.

The UW-Madison Mayrent Institute for Yiddish Culture—sponsor of A Biselle KlezKamp, the popular one-day Ashkenaz-immersion experience—is embarking on a multi-year search to reveal the hidden story of Wisconsin's Yiddish heritage.

"Viskonsin! Tales From Yiddish Wisconsin" looks to gather recollections, recipes, photographs, recordings, home movies, and more to create a picture of Yiddish culture in Badgerland.

A number of great projects document the history of Jewish Wisconsin: books such as *One People, Many Paths: A History of Jewish Milwaukee* by John Gurda and Lee Shai Weissbach's *Jewish Life in Small Town America*, as well as the 2008 public television documentary *Chosen Towns: The Story of Jews in Wisconsin's Small Communities*. While these histories relate Yiddish experience as a small part of a much larger and longer scope, *Viskonsin!* seeks to dig deeper to truly focus on Midwestern Yiddish culture. That Yiddish story is waiting to be found and retold. It might be buried in the columns of cracked old Yiddish newsprint now found only on archival microfilm, in yellowed letters written in tiny Yiddish handscript tucked in amongst forgotten books in the attic, or even in an oft-repeated anecdote by a beloved elder relative. These individual stories make up small parts of a large and varied mosaic of Yiddish life and lore that happened not all that long ago.

Our first step is to reach out to you—the community—and ask for your help. Did you have family members in the Workmen's Circle? Do you have pictures, publications, or recordings from then? What about amateur theatrical groups that presented Yiddish plays? Do you have photos, programs, or scripts?

Perhaps your or your parents'—or even grandparents'—wedding albums are around. Those photos can be rich in information about the time and the customs practiced in the community. If we're lucky there'll be a great picture or two of the musicians playing! Some people even saved sound recordings or home movies of their weddings or bar mitzvahs. What a treasure trove THOSE are!

Real history, rich with details, emerges when we join the results from this kind of intensive outreach and fieldwork to the dedicated scholarship of cultural historians digging through period newspapers, official records, and documentation.

Collecting stories and artifacts of Yiddish life from around Wisconsin is one facet of a larger-scale Mayrent Institute project. We're also planning a February 27-28, 2014 conference on the subject. (Some may have already experienced glimmers of *Viskonsin!* during Henry Sapoznik's class on Yiddish radio at A Biselle KlezKamp. There were at least five stations that carried Jewish programs starting in 1928. Three were in Milwaukee, and one each in Marinette and Eau Claire.)

Though the program is still in development, in addition to Henry Sapoznik, we have several scholars already set to join us, including Jonathan Pollack, on small town Wisconsin Yiddish life; Tim Crain, who is currently teaching a course on Jewish Wisconsin at UW-Madison; and Mark Louden, talking about Milwaukee's weekly Yiddish paper the *Milvoker Vochnblatt*. We're also expecting to have presentations about Midwestern Yiddish archival resources, and a local oral history component!

We're tremendously excited about this project, but it can really only happen with your help. Tell your friends and neighbors. Call relatives around the country who moved from Wisconsin and may have mementos or memories that would help us. Talk to those with whom you meet regularly at the Federation, synagogue, or coffee shop.

This project honors those who came before us and leaves a legacy for the next generation, so be in contact! Call us at 608.890.4818, find us by email at info@mayrentinstitute.wisc.edu, or drop us a line in the mail: Mayrent Institute for Yiddish Culture, 432 East Campus Mall, Madison WI 53706.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Film Screening to Explore Personal Stories of Survivors

By Allison Bloom

On Wednesday, November 13, the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies and UW Hillel will present the documentary *Refuge: Stories of the Selfhelp Home*. The award-winning film traces the lives of six residents of the Selfhelp Home in Chicago, which began as a service organization for Jewish immigrants. It is now a home for the elderly where Jewish community thrives. The film's director, Ethan Bensinger, will attend the screening and lead a discussion with the audience after the film.

The project developed out of Bensinger's interest in the stories of the residents he met while visiting the Selfhelp Home, where his grandmother was a resident and his mother was an occupational therapist. He realized that the residents had extraordinarily important stories that should be recorded: "I met residents who personally experienced Kristallnacht, the Kindertransport, the haven in Shanghai, and hiding in France. I saw that here was a history that had to be memorialized and shared." He began recording interviews with 30 of the residents who had been victims of Nazi persecution; this experience led Bensinger to develop several of the interviews, as well as interviews with three of the home's founders, into a film.

The Selfhelp Home offered Bensinger a unique environment in which to film: originally named in German, the *Selbst Hilfe* organization began in the 1930's in Chicago to provide services to Austrian and German Jewish immigrants. These services, Bensinger notes, included everything from "finding a sitter for a baby to helping its parents find work, to English lessons and housing assistance. Those early years set a pattern for later years in that these Central European Jews who had come to Chicago wanted to care for themselves; they did not seek charity, government assistance or help from the more established Jewish organizations such as the Federation. Perhaps it was their German upbringing of self-sufficiency that led to the idea of 'self-help,' or perhaps it was a mistrust in government based on their recent post-1933 experiences."

In 1951, the organization refocused its efforts to become a residential facility for elderly refugees when it purchased a building on Chicago's South Side. The first residents came to Chicago with their children, but were isolated because of language barriers and the fact that their children went out into the workforce. "It became evident to the children that a home was needed which would provide socialization and long term care as their parents aged," Bensinger says. "At Selfhelp, they were able to speak German with the staff; the food and surroundings were very much like the environment they left in Europe and provided them with a sense of *gemütlichkeit* (comfort)."

Refuge: Stories of the Selfhelp Home will be shown at UW Hillel at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13, 2013. The screening, which is jointly sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies and UW Hillel, is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact the Center for Jewish Studies at events-lectures@cjs.wisc.edu, or 608-890-3572.

Music Inspires MJCDS Students

This year, the students at Madison Jewish Community Day School are learning about the "natural" side of music. Once a week, teacher Kenny Lyons uses his guitar and wonderful singing voice to guide the students in lessons about how to find the emotions in music, and how to use your ears to learn new songs. He hopes to instill in the children an appreciation for rhythms in song and dance and, above all, the joy in singing.

This is a job that seems custom-made for Kenny, who is a voice major at UW-Madison. He acknowledges that "music was one of, and perhaps the most important aspect of my Jewish upbringing," and he now seeks to share that passion with children and young adults in Jewish schools and youth programs. A Madison native, Kenny has been a member of Temple Beth El since he was 5 years old. Now he works at Temple Beth El in multiple musical roles, was a guest soloist at high holiday services, and is a member of the choir. During the summers Kenny is busy at Camp Interlaken, serving as song leader and counselor.

Last week, MJCDS students were busy singing their names to a rhythmic beat. Kenny also taught them about the concept of dynamics: whether music is loud or soft. "It did not come as a big surprise that their favorite dynamic was 'forte' (loud!) music," he remarked.

Kenny recently introduced the song "Modeh Ani" to the group (based on a prayer of gratitude that is traditionally recited each morning). During the morning assembly that starts each school day, the students now ask to sing the version "that Kenny taught us."

The teachers recognized right away that Kenny brings something special to the classroom. "He has a great rapport with the kids," says teacher Marla Becker, "and the kids really look forward to his lessons. They warmed to him right away."

This year's music curriculum is an important piece of the larger picture of the MJCDS education, with its emphasis on teaching to the whole child, encouraging creative and participatory learning. The sounds of students singing new songs and connecting with each other through music will be filling the classrooms and hallways at MJCDS, adding another way for students to explore Jewish life and learning.

MJCDS is a K-5 Jewish day school serving all branches of Madison's Jewish community. For more information visit: www.madisonjewishdayschool.com or email: info@madisonjewishdayschool.com.



Students at MJCDS learn how to find the emotions in music.



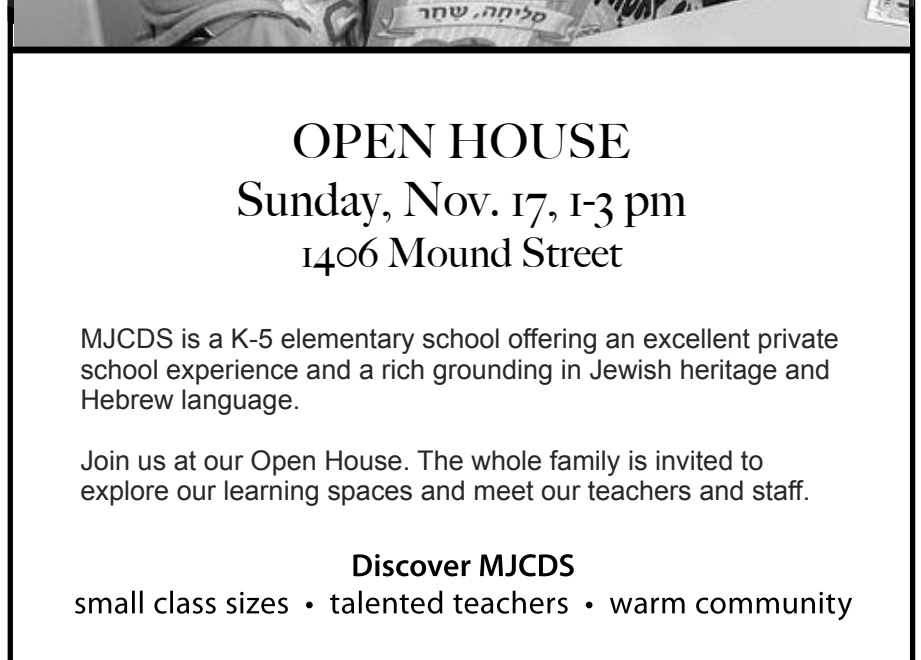
Why We Love Camp Gan Israel

By Elaine Hirschfield

I have sent my two daughters to Camp Gan Israel in Madison on three different occasions. Being raised Conservative and currently a member of a Reconstructionist shul, I wasn't sure what Chabad was all about. What I did know was that the camp sounded awesome so I wanted to give it a try. I had found the Chabad folks I'd met prior to that point to be some of the friendliest Jews around. Also, conveniently scheduled over winter break and previously also the last week of summer prior to school, the camp was a working parent's dream. When my kids returned from their first day at camp, they had their hands filled with homemade treats, crafts and candleholders and were excited about returning the following day. The schedule was action packed with field trips, Jewish crafting and baking and sledding trips. The camp staff was filled with enthusiasm and my girls actually seemed to be embracing Judaism instead of complaining about being forced to go to Hebrew school or tutoring. Camp was a way for me to help immerse my kids in Jewish culture and community in a natural and fun way! Faygie and her crew cared for my girls like they were family and even made a video from footage taken at multiple outings and set to Jewish music which nearly brought me to tears!

If your kids are between the ages of 4-10, and you are looking for a memorable experience that is both exciting and educational, consider Camp Gan Israel Winter Camp. You will be so satisfied, and your children will be forever grateful!! This year the camp will run the week of December 23-27.

For more information, please visit the website at Chabadofmadison.com/camp



OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, Nov. 17, 1-3 pm
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MJCDS is a K-5 elementary school offering an excellent private school experience and a rich grounding in Jewish heritage and Hebrew language.

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Jewish Education



Get Involved at Midrasha

The semester is off to a great start at Midrasha. This year there are 77 students enrolled in Midrasha and 23 of them are enrolled in the Hebrew for credit program (they receive ½ credit in their high school for taking Hebrew at Midrasha).

On the first night of Midrasha we had an all-school assembly. The students came together for some icebreakers, to meet the staff and to go over the policies and procedures of Midrasha. It's great to have so many new and enthusiastic eighth graders joining us at Midrasha this year and we have a fabulous staff of new and returning teachers.

This year, Steven Olson, a retired West High School teacher, joins the Midrasha staff to teach an 11th/12th grade elective, *Fabulous Fictions: Exploring Jewish Short Stories*. Elana Orbuch also joins the staff for the first time. She is a student at UW and last year she was the assistant teacher at Chug Ivrit. Elana is teaching *Holocaust Studies* and an 11th/12th grade elective called *Let the Text Pop!* (a class that combines text study and pop culture). Our own community Shaliach, Mickey Komar-Aziz adds the flavor of Israel to our staff and will share it with our students when he teaches Hebrew, *History of Israel* and an 11th/12th grade elective called *Whose State is it Anyway?*

Midrasha is thrilled to welcome back Rabbi Jonathan Biatch and Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon who are each teaching a semester of *iJew: Judaism and Our Decisions*, Paul Davidson who is teaching *Comparative Religion*; Rachel Halstead who is teaching *Judaism and the World Today*; Elana Rabishaw will be teaching Hebrew; Laurel Hefty is teaching an 11th/12th grade elective called *Create Your Own Holocaust Curriculum* and *Jewish Image in Film, Culture and Literature*; Talia Shapiro is teaching Hebrew, *Comparative Religions and Holocaust Studies*; and Rebecca Schwab is teaching Hebrew, *History of Israel* and Jewish Image in *Film Culture and Literature*.

It is a short semester but will be filled to the brim with opportunities for socializing, learning and creating long-lasting relationships for the Midrasha students. There will be a Midrasha student dinner on November 13th, a field trip to Hillel and some opportunities to get involved in the community. The Midrasha Student Advisory Panel will work together to find ways to make it a memorable year for Midrasha in 2013!

Midrasha Student Dinner

Wednesday, November 13 • 6:30PM

Please NOTE: Hebrew classes will be held in the social hall so that Hebrew students who register for the dinner can eat during class.

The Menu: Falafel + the fixings, couscous, dessert & drinks: $9/person

SIGN ME UP FOR DINNER!

I would like to attend the dinner on: Wednesday, Nov. 13th, 2013 at 6:30PM at Beth Israel Center.

Name: _____

Phone # _____

Email address: _____

Payment Included: _____ Will bring a check to Midrasha: _____

You can register online, RSVP to Ellen at program@jewishmadison.org or send in this form by **Friday, November 8th**. Please make checks payable to Midrasha and mail to The Jewish Federation of Madison, 6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI 53719.

Yonim School Tour, MMoCA Holiday Fair at Overture Center, K'tantanim and More!

The Yonim Israeli dancers are very busy preparing for their upcoming annual School Tour. On Nov 11th, they will be performing at Randall and Elvehjem Elementary Schools for a total of three shows. The School Tour is a great chance for the dancers to share Israeli folk dance culture with huge audiences of other kids.

Yonim is excited to participate in the community Hanukkah Havdalah Tzedakah Night on Saturday, Nov 23rd. The next day, Yonim will be performing at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art Holiday Fair. At 2 pm on Sun, Nov 24th, be sure to look for the Yonim dancers performing near the entrance of the front doors of the Overture Center!

K'tantanim Starts Nov 3rd!

What: K'tantanim – Yonim's program for young dancers

Who: 3-5 year olds and their families

Where: Beth Israel Center

When: Sundays, 3:30-4pm – 11/03/13, 12/08/13, 1/19/14, 2/16/14, 3/09/14, & 4/06/14

Cost: $5 per session, $25 for all 6 sessions

Contact: Laura at yonim@jewishmadison.org

*Registration for K-5th graders remains open through November! For more information, contact Laura at yonim@jewishmadison.org or visit www.yonim.org.





The Bet and Gimel dancers at the Yonim Fall Retreat, Camp Beber & Perlman Retreat Center in Mukwonago, WI (Oct 4-6, 2013)







Look What's Happening at Hilde L. Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool!



Opal loves playing in the sandbox.



Daniel and Jacob from the Bet Class making their own little challot.



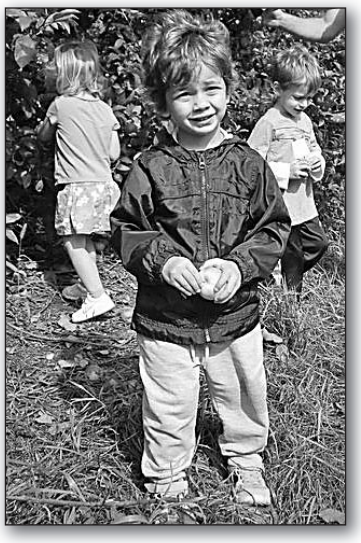
The Gimel Class on their field trip to Eplegaarden orchard.



Julian and Elijah, along with Elijah's dad, Levi on the Dalet Class field trip to Appleberry Farm.



Lexi from the Gimel Class, shows the apple she picked.



Elijah likes picking apples.



Piper and Maor, from the Dalet Class, are eating the apples they picked.



Racheli, our Shlichah, colors pictures of Israel with Lexi, Sheleigh and Nevaeh.

For more information, please contact Missy Sosman at 278-1808 or gan@jewishmadison.org

Fun at Schmooze & Tunes



UPCOMING Family Education Events

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

Save the Date!

Hanukkah Tzedakah Night – Saturday, Nov. 23, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus. Join the Family Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Madison for our annual Hanukkah Tzedakah fair. There will be performances by Gan HaYeled, Chug Ivrit, Yonim Israeli Dance Troupe and more followed by Tzedakah projects led by many Jewish community organizations.

Other events to look forward to:

- ✓ Havdalah Karaoke Party, Saturday, Jan. 25 at the Goodman Community Center on Waubesa, 6-8 p.m.
- ✓ Hamantashen Workshop
- ✓ Mishpachah and Me (Family Night)
- ✓ Challah Baking Workshop
- ✓ Passover Craft Activity Program
- ✓ Community Tot Shabbats

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

We hope to see you at all the Family Ed events!

Scenes from Tzedakah Sunday, October 20th



















Thank You to All of Our Amazing Tzedakah Sunday Volunteers!

Thank you to all of our amazing *Tzedakah* Sunday Volunteers!!!

Romy Arenson
Lynne Ballesta
Shanee Ellison
Gary Friedman
Jamie Gepner
Paul Grossberg
Marsha and Jim Harnett
Ruchamma Hayouka
Ann Imig
Laura Kassel
Sasha Kerlow
Jan Loeb
Amy Krauthamer Maloney
Lainie and Michael Minkoff
Dan Mitchel, Campaign co-vice chair
Orly Ni
Rob Roquitte
Susan Roquitte
Alicia Schiff
Anne Schlimovitz
Alice Schneiderman
Beth Schreiber, Campaign co-vice chair
Ben Shovers
Missy Sossman
Jake Stein

AND….A special THANK YOU to *Sam Roquitte* for organizing the MINECRAFT ISRAEL tournament!



Todah Rabah



to our wonderful friends at Bagels Forever, Rocky Rococo's and The Nitty Gritty for providing a delicious lunch to everyone who participated in *Tzedakah* Sunday.

Plan your next event at UW-Hillel

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

Current Volunteer Opportunities

Time to Sign Up to Deliver Hanukkah Menorahs!

Celebrate the Festival of Lights by bringing some light to seniors in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Volunteers deliver and set up electric menorahs, return once or twice to "light" the candles and pick up the menorah at the end of the holiday. Have a little visit and share the holiday! Great for friends and families of all kinds! The first candle is November 27. To sign up, contact Louise Goldstein at 278-1808, ext. 227 by November 18, or submit a volunteer application at http://www.jssmadison.org/volunteer-application, listing the names and ages of all participants.

Deliver Meals

An elderly man in assisted living gets monthly packages of traditional Jewish meals, which are one of the highlights of his days. We are looking for someone to make monthly runs first to pick up the meals at fit2eat (corner of Mineral Point Road, Glenway and Speedway in Madison) and then deliver the meals to our client in the Mt. Horeb area.

Computer Assistance

To help someone with what is probably a first generation iPad, setting up personal email account, accessing Madison Public Library LinkCat and a few other tasks. Near East Side.

Friendly Visitors develop on-going, one-to-one relationships with a senior or person with disabilities in a nursing home, assisted living facility or living in his or her own home. Volunteers uniformly say that this is a very rewarding activity that brings meaning and a wealth of feeling to their lives. *Commitment is about an hour a week for a minimum of six months.*

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

A la Carte Volunteering

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

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

OddJobbers: The really easy way to be really helpful! Can you change light bulbs and hang a few pictures? Program a remote control? Reach something high? OddJobbers do these and similar tasks for seniors and people with disabilities. To be an OddJobber, you don't need to be able to do everything; you just have to like being helpful.

Youth Volunteering, Youth Group Projects and B'nai Mitzvah Projects

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

Come talk with us about doing a Bar or Bat Mitzvah project with Jewish Social Services. There are also opportunities for older youth and youth groups to volunteer and contribute to the community, develop new skills and have fun. Contact Louise Goldstein at 608-278-1808, ext. 227 for a brochure or to discuss doing a mitzvah project with Jewish Social Services.

Double Your Volunteering Mitzvah

Check with your human resources department to see whether your company has a policy of matching employees' community volunteer hours with a monetary donation to the agency for whom the employee volunteers. What a great way to enhance the benefits of your volunteer work!

Deducting Expenses Incurred While Volunteering

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

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

www.jssmadison.org

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

Need an "Oddjobber"?

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

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





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Join us for

Hanukkah Tzedakah Night



Saturday, Nov. 23 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus, Verona

Organized by the Jewish Federation of Madison Family Education Committee

ALL AGES WELCOME!

A $5 donation per family is requested. All money collected will go to help Emerson Elementary School provide winter clothing for their students.

Please bring gently used snowpants, mittens, hats, jackets, and scarves for our winter clothing drive.

- Participate in Havdalah and some Hanukkah songs.
- Watch performances by the Hilde L. Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool; Chug Ivrit, the after school Hebrew club for K-2 students; the Madison Jewish Community Day School; and Yonim, Madison's Israeli Dance Troupe.
- Enjoy delicious Kosher donuts from Greenbush Bakery.
- Participate in many different Tzedakah projects organized by Jewish organizations in Madison.

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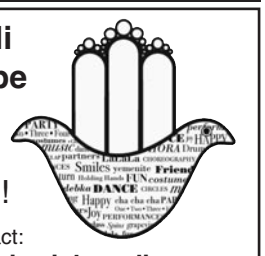
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For more info contact:
Laura at yonim.jewishmadison.org

JewishMadison.org

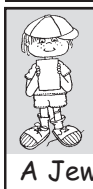


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Harry J. and Belle Goodman, parents of Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman

Lechayim Lights

JSS

A Beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of Madison — A Senior Adult Program of Jewish Social Services

November Lechayim Calendar

Join us for great food, congenial conversation and stimulating programs at Lechayim Lunchtime Plus at Temple Beth, 2702 Arbor Drive. Contact Louise Goldstein at 608-278-1808, ext. 227 or louise@jssmadison.org **by 10:00 on the preceding business day, usually a Friday morning**. The kosher meals are catered by Café O Catering and a **vegetarian option is available with a reservation**. The cost of the meal is $7.50, with a minimum donation of $4.00 suggested for those over 60.

Monday, November 4 – *Lechayim does not meet*

Monday, November 11 – *Lechayim commemorates Kristallnacht*
11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00-1:00 Mushroom-barley soup (V), cheese blintzes with fruit sauce and sour cream, beets, fruit salad.
1:00-2:00 Hilde Adler, *"Kristall Nacht 1938 and the Jews in Nazi Germany"*

Monday, November 18
11:00-12:00 Free blood pressure screening by Lori Edelstein, RN
11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00-1:00 Minestrone soup (V), spaghetti & meatballs with marinara sauce, coleslaw, garlic bread, cookie
1:00-2:00 Prof. Tim Craine, *"Jewish-Christian Relations"*

Monday, November 25 – *Lechayim celebrates Thanksgiving*
11:30-12:00 Feldenkreis Technique with Hagit Vardi
12:00-1:00 Turkey with stuffing, cranberry relish, mashed potatoes, lemon green beans, pareve pumpkin pie
1:00-2:00 Piano music by Dan Barker

December Dates
December 2
December 9
December 16
Lechayim will not meet on December 23 and 30.

Присоединяйтесь к нашему столу, увлекательной беседе и интересным программам на встречах «Лехаим. Больше чем обед»

Ждем Вас в Храме Бет-Эль (the Temple Beth), по адресу: 2702 Arbor Drive. Заказать место вы можете у Луизы Голдстейн по тел. 278-1808, ext. 227 или по электронному адресу: louise@jssmadison.org до 10:00 утра пятницы предшествующей очередной встрече. Наши кошерные обеды готовят Шарон Лангер и Али Стриклер из "Café O Catering" Вегетарианское меню по предарительному заказу.
Ожидаемая оплата: $7.50

Понедельник, 4 ноября - *Лехаим не состоится*

Понедельник, 11 ноября *Лехаим вспоминает Кристальную Ночь.*

11:30-12:00 Йога со стула с Бетси Хаймсон
12:00-1:00 Запеканка из тунца, лапши и зеленого горошка, салат, морковные "монеты" и хрустящий яблочный пирог.
1:00-2:00 Хильда Адлер, *"Кристальная Ночь 1938 и другие сведения о евреях нацисткой Германии"*

Понедельник, 18 ноября

11:00-12:00 Измерение давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
12:00-1:00 Суп Минестроне (вегетарианский), спагетти и фрикадельки с соусом Маринара, салат из капусты, чесночный хлеб, печенье.
1:00-2:00 Проф.Тим Крейн, *"Иудейско-христианские отношения"*

Понедельник, 25 ноября - *Лехаим празднует День Благодарения*

11:30-12:00 Техника Фелденкрейс с Хагит Варди
12:00-1:00 Индейка с хлебной начинкой, клюквенным соусом, картофельным пюре, зеленой фасолью с лимоном и тыквенный пирог.
1:00-2:00 Фортепианная музыка, Дэн Баркер

Даты декабря
2 декабря
9 декабря
16 декабря
Лехаим не состоится 23 и 30 декабря

Correction

We regret that in the October issue of "Lechayim Lights" Karen Shevet Dinah's name was misspelled.

Two Workshops to Enrich Your Life

"Living Well with Chronic Conditions" workshops are designed for adults of all ages living with conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, chronic pain and anxiety. Participants learn practical ways to deal with pain and fatigue, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, understand new treatment choices and learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family about their health. They set personal goals and make a step-by-step plan to improve their health and their lives.

The two and a half-hour workshops are held weekly for six weeks, led by trained volunteer leaders with their own health conditions. The workshops are sponsored by Safe Communities and the Area Agency on Aging of Dane County. For information, call 608-836-9810.

Safe Communities of Madison-Dane County suggests several actions to take to prevent a fall: begin a regular exercise program, review the medications and supplements you take with a healthcare provider such as a pharmacist, have your vision checked and make your home safer inside and out. They also sponsor an evidence-based, seven-week workshop called "Stepping On" for $35. For more information contact 608-442-3060 or www.safercommunity.net.

Shalom *from Jewish Social Services!*

Do you know a senior who is new to Madison, or are you yourself a newcomer? JSS volunteers will visit and bring you a gift bag with information about programs for seniors and JSS' services, treats and a few surprises. Just contact us at 608-278-1808, ext. 227.
Our thanks to Maurie's Fine Chocolates and Bagels Forever for their donations to this program.

Transportation to Lechayim

Transit Solutions provides door-to-door service for $1 round trip, payable to the driver. Contact Louise Goldstein (608-608-278-1808, ext. 227 or louise@jssmadison.org) by 10:00 a.m. the Friday before Lechayim to make a reservation. Wheelchair accessible vehicles are available upon request. Please contact us if you need to cancel a ride.

For changes, updates or new information about any Jewish Social Services program, check our website at www.jssmadison.org
On the home page, click on the date of the program in question

About our Programs

Lechayim will not meet on **Monday, November 4**, as Temple Beth El will be set up for their annual election-day lunch, Food-a-Rama. We will meet again on **Monday, November 11** to commemorate Kristall Nacht, which for many is the effective beginning of the Holocaust. We are so fortunate that we'll be hearing then from Hilde Adler, a very active member of the Madison Jewish community. Hilde will speak on "Kristall Nacht 1938 and the Jews in Nazi Germany." She will also talk a little about her book, *"The Way it Was: A German Jewish Childhood."* She was born in Nuremberg, Germany in 1928 and was a young girl of about ten years old in November 1938 when her life literally crashed down around her during Kristall Nacht. She and her immediate family escaped from Germany in March 1939, and arrived in America in February 1940. She finished growing up in New York City, went to Hunter College and became a physical education teacher. She moved to Madison in 1963, when she married Julius, a professor (now emeritus) in the departments of Biochemistry and Genetics. Hilde volunteered at Lechayim for 18 years and is looking forward to having this conversation with her old friends there.

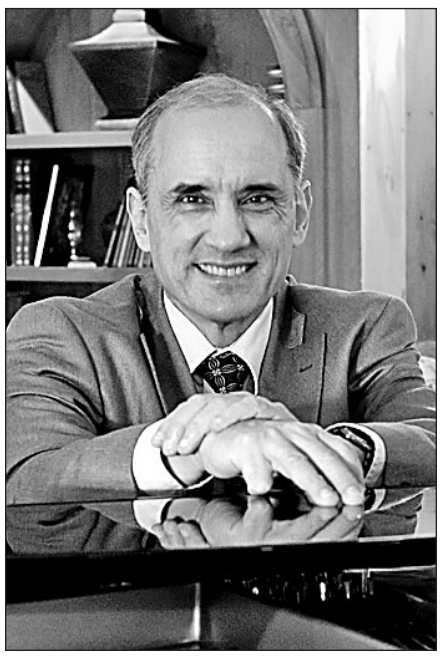


Hilde's passport.

On **Monday, November 18** Tim Craine will speak on "Jewish-Christian Relations." Craine is a Senior Lecturer at UW-M, where he teaches Modern Jewish History, the Holocaust and Comparative Religious History (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam), among other courses. He received his B.A. from Marquette University in 1988, Masters from the same institution in 1990, and his Ph.D. at Arizona State University in 1998. His research interests include Modern Jewish history, Modern anti-Semitism, British and Irish History and Conflict Studies. He is currently teaching a course at the UW-Madison on the History of Jews in Wisconsin.

At Lechayim we know Dan Barker as the piano player who has accompanied Abigail Cantor for many Thanksgivings. This year when we celebrate Thanksgiving on **Monday, November 25**, Dan will take center stage in a solo appearance and treat us to his piano stylings. Dan is a gifted performer of many kinds of music (he plays at the Nakoma piano bar on a weekly basis) as well as being a composer and producer, and will probably sneak a few sing-along songs into the playlist.

Dan spent many years as an active and sought-after evangelist, beginning at age 15, and composed, performed and recorded music for Christian plays and musicals (from which he still gets royalties). Today he is co-president of the Madison-based Freedom From Religion Foundation, with his wife, Annie Laurie Gaylor.


Dan Barker

Pharmacy Students Provide Monthly Health Assessments

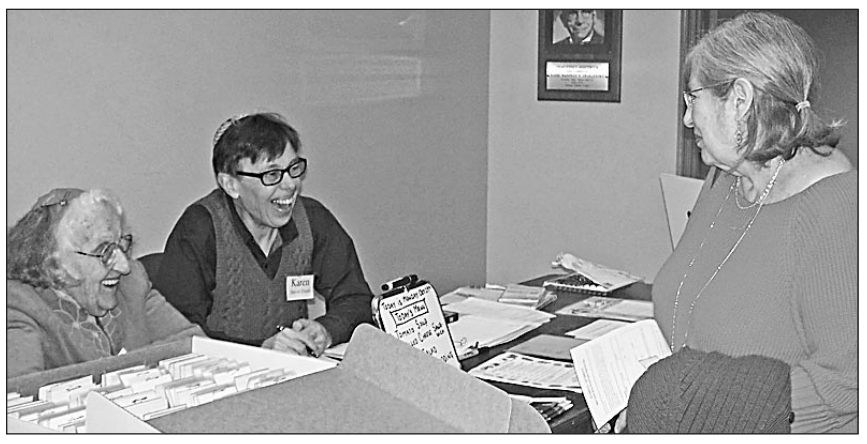
The next Wisconsin Society of Pharmacy Students Health Assessment, Operation Diabetes will be at Lechayim on November 18, from 11:00-12:00. The student pharmacists are supervised by registered pharmacists and will be available to meet with you individually to discuss your diabetes-related questions and concerns.

Fun at Lechayim

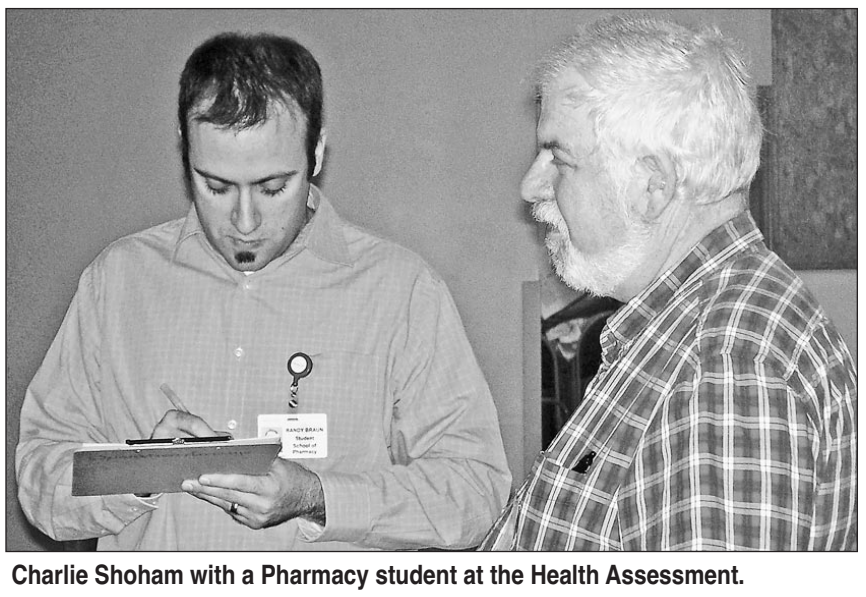
Photos by Louise Goldstein


Betsy Haimson and Merilyn Kupferberg fold a tablecloth.


Ginny Graff talks with a Pharmacy student.


Greeters Clara Sweet and Karen Shevet Dinah with Barb Jacobson.


Charlie Shoham, Fran Weinstein, Anita Parks and Francie Smith Saposnik.


Charlie Shoham with a Pharmacy student at the Health Assessment.

Spotlight: Robert Schlesinger

By Pamela Phillips Olson

When six-year-old Robert Schlesinger discovered Webster's dictionary, his love of words was born. He spent hours poring over the words. To this day he peppers his conversation with word play, including puns and rebuses.

Moving into a new home in the historic town of Hastings-on-Hudson as a child, Robert's lifelong interest in weather was ignited. There on the sun porch was a thermometer with a bright red stripe. He was curious about temperature changes and storms. His third avid interest was math. When he looked around him, the geometrical aspects of the landscape captivated his interest. For instance, the water towers atop buildings were some of his favorite structures. They had conical tops, cylindrical tanks and often as many as eight legs!



Robert Schlesinger

(Photo by Pamela Phillips Olson)

Pointing to his checked shirt he explained: "I often wear plaids or checks because they could be an arrangement of data in a two dimensional grid!"

Robert's father, R. Walter Schlesinger, was born in Hamburg, Germany. He came to America and became a world-renowned microbiologist who studied virology for decades. He wrote many articles about his research. He was chair of the Microbiology Department at Washington University in St. Louis, then moved on to Rutgers University's Medical School. Robert's mother, who was active in the League for Women Voters, stayed home with him and his sister, who became a graphic designer.

Robert followed his dad's footsteps and attended Washington University as an undergraduate. He earned a Master's degree in Math at Rutgers and another one in Meteorology at the UW-Madison in 1968; a Ph.D. followed in 1972. Dr. Robert Schlesinger became an Academic researcher here at UW-Madison.

Robert takes photographs of derechos, which are powerful windstorms, writes about them and creates computer generated thunderstorm models. Robert's careful observation comes through in this description of the I-94 derecho of July 19 1983:

As the strong derecho winds came ashore, several piers were destroyed. On the University of Wisconsin campus several buildings were damaged and windows were blown out of the second and third stories of the Memorial Library. Tiles from the library roof were blown off and landed several blocks to the southeast. The strong winds produced waves roughly four feet high on Lake Mendota; even well after the strong winds had diminished, unusually large "whitecaps" continued on the agitated lake.

Robert states with enthusiasm, "I remember, there was also a spectacular shelf cloud."

Transitions

Happy November Birthday

Carol Ottenstein
Diane Nestle
Evelyn Miller
Jules Newman
Lorna Kniaz
Nikolay Bodnikevich
Rita Arm
Rita Kozmits
Sandy Bierman
Trish Drumheller

Mazel Tov

To Louise (Bruce Thomadsen) Goldstein, on the marriage of her daughter Sara Maier to Andrew Kushner, son of Erica Serlin and Ken Kushner, in Madison.

To Naomi Kraus, on the birth of her granddaughter Miriam Sophie Levy, daughter of Jeff and Rachel Levy, in Madison.

Best Wishes for your wellness

Milt Leidner

Condolences to the family of

Natalie Fields, mother of Leslie (Jeff Lindholm) Fields, grandmother of Hannah and Daniel.

Jewish Social Services Brings Shabbat to Our Seniors



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

Attic Angel Place at 2:30 in the Garden Room
8301 Old Sauk Road
A program of Jewish Social Services and Attic Angel Place. Music by Les Goldsmith and the assistance of Angel Volunteers.

December 6 (with Hanukkah celebration)

Capitol Lakes at 3:00 in the Grand Hall
333 West Main Street
A program of Jewish Social Services and Capitol Lakes Retirement Community. Led by Rabbi Andrea Steinberger with assistance from UW students through the UW-Hillel Foundation.

November 1, December 3 (Hanukkah party)

Oakwood West at 4:00 in the Oaks Community Room
6225 Mineral Point Road
A program of Jewish Social Services and Oakwood Village University Woods. With the assistance of JSS volunteers and music by Lauren Mazur.

November 15, December 13, January 10

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

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This article is about Janusz Korczak – the great Jewish humanist and teacher

Генрих Бабич

Януш Корчак – величайший гуманист и педагог

Генрик Гольдшмит (литературный псевдоним Януш Корчак) родился в 1878 году в Варшаве в еврейской семье. Мальчику не исполнилось двенадцати лет, когда умер его отец, юрист. Генрик, продолжая учиться в гимназии, зарабатывал на жизнь репетиторством, помогая матери и сестре. Он хорошо знал немецкий и французский, в совершенстве владел польским, еврейским и русским языками. В 1898 году Генрик оканчивает русскую гимназию и становится студентом медицинского факультета Варшавского университета.

Варшава в то время входила в состав Российской империи. С первого курса он начинает активную журналистскую деятельность под псевдонимом Януш Корчак. Как многократно подчеркивал сам Корчак, его литературные пристрастия формировала великая русская литература XIX века, особенно творчество Чехова. В 1904 году, по окончании университета, Корчак начинает работать врачом-педиатром в одной из детских больниц Варшавы. Много лет спустя он напишет: “Больница показала мне, как достойно, зрело и мудро умеет умирать ребенок”. В том же 1904 году он участвует в русско-японской войне в качестве врача полевого госпиталя и, часто рискуя собственной жизнью, спасает множество раненых. По возвращении Корчак снова работает в детской клинике.

В 1905 году выходит повесть Корчака "Дитя Гостиной", принесшая ему первый успех и известность. Писательский труд становится неотъемлемой частью его жизни. На протяжении семи лет, Корчак без устали врачует не только тела, но и души детей. Больных детей он воспринимает, как самый “обездоленный и распятый класс”. Корчак работает воспитателем в детских летних колониях, где основной контингент составляют сироты и дети из малоимущих еврейских семей. Именно тогда формируется его выбор главной профессии. Корчак фактически отказывается от карьеры врача и становится директором реорганизованного “Дома Сирот”, которым руководит более тридцати лет, до конца жизни, с перерывами в годы Первой мировой войны и революции в России.

В 1914 году начинается Первая мировая война и Корчак на четыре года становится ординатором полевого госпиталя русской армии. В кровавые годы мировой бойни Корчак снова и снова спасает человеческие жизни. Четыре года он проведет в скитаниях по дорогам войны – от Восточной Пруссии до Тернополя. Весной 1917 года Корчак откомандирован для работы врачом в польских и украинских детских приютах.

После войны он организует варшавский детский приют. Именно в военные годы зарождается одна из главных педагогических книг Корчака – “Как любить ребенка”, которая стала жизненным кредо автора. Всей своей жизнью фантастического педагога-творца Корчак неустанно вершил свободное и гармоничное развитие способностей каждого из своих питомцев. Упорно, но чрезвычайно осторожно подводил он каждого мальчишку и девчонку к “добру, красоте и свободе”, с неимоверной изобретательностью помогал детским душам обретать внутреннюю самостоятельность и чувство собственного достоинства. Корчак не только неустанно заявлял о несправедливости общества к детям. Он ярко и талантливо подтверждал свои мысли и требования ежедневными делами, интереснейшими книгами, неординарными статьями, самобытными передачами на польском радио.

В 1918 году Корчак становится мозговым центром и душой двух приютов – “Наш дом” и “Дом Сирот”, где создает своеобразную детскую республику, крошечную ячейку равенства и справедливости. Любовь к детям, безмерный талант, феноменальная работоспособность и удивительная воля помогают Корчаку сотворить прибежище добра и света для самых обездоленных и нищих детей Варшавы. Творя каждодневный негромкий подвиг, Корчак конкретными делами подтверждает одно из последних своих высказываний: “Я существую не для того, чтобы меня любили и мной восхищались, а чтобы самому действовать и любить. Не долг окружающих мне помогать, а я сам обязан заботиться о мире и человеке”. Выступая на польском радио под псевдонимом “Старый Доктор”, он становится не просто любимцем, а главным советчиком для десятков тысяч слушателей. Несмотря на усиление антисемитских настроений воинствующих националистов в предвоенной Польше, на предложение уехать в Палестину интернационалист Корчак, гордившийся своим еврейским происхождением, отвечает твердым отказом.

Настоящим событием в литературе становятся новые книги Корчака – "Банкротство юного Джека" (1924), "Когда я снова стану маленьким" (1925), "Кайтусь-волшебник" (1935), "Упрямый мальчик. Жизнь Л.Пастера" (1938). Особое место среди книг Корчака занимает дилогия "Король Матиуш I" и "Король Матиуш на безлюдном острове" (1923). Этот шедевр принес Корчаку мировую славу и занял достойнейшее место среди лучших философских сказок.

Корчак не уставал повторять: “Детство – фундамент жизни. Без безмятежного, наполненного детства, последующая жизнь будет ущербной: ребенок – это ученый в лаборатории, напрягающий свою волю и ум для решения труднейшихзадач”. Впервые за всю историю педагогики Корчак создает в “Доме Сирот” выборный детский сейм, товарищеский суд и судебный совет. Главными задачами детского сейма и товарищеского суда стало не принуждение, а воспитание самосознания. Превыше всего ценилась способность размышлять, умение относиться к себе критически.

У Януша Корчака не было семьи. Всего себя он отдал чужим, далеко не благополучным детям. Когда Гитлер вторгся в Польшу, и Варшава была оккупирована, директор “Дома Сирот” остался со своими подопечными.

В 1940 году немцы арестовали Корчака. Несколько месяцев он просидел в тюрьме, откуда его выкупили бывшие воспитанники. У всемирно известного писателя появляется возможность уехать из оккупированной Польши. Но Корчак возвращается в “Дом Сирот”. Положение детей в “Доме Сирот”, который оказался в Варшавском гетто, с каждым днем ухудшалось. Не хватало одежды и белья, самых элементарных лекарств, мыла. Все сложнее становилось добывать еду. Иногда Корчаку приходилось тратить целый день, чтобы раздобыть полмешка гнилой картошки или прелой моркови. И если это удавалось, он был счастлив. Но по-прежнему работали детский сейм и товарищеский суд. Издавалась детская газета. До последнего дня в классах шли уроки. Репетировалась пьеса-сказка Рабиндраната Тагора “Почта”.

Власти, несмотря на еврейское происхождение Корчака, разрешили писателю уходить из гетто и возвращаться в добровольно выбранную тюрьму, но Корчак отказывался оставлять детей даже на несколько часов. И пользовался изредка этим правом только для того, чтобы добывать хоть какую-нибудь пищу, которой в гетто фактически не осталось. Но трагическая развязка приближалась.

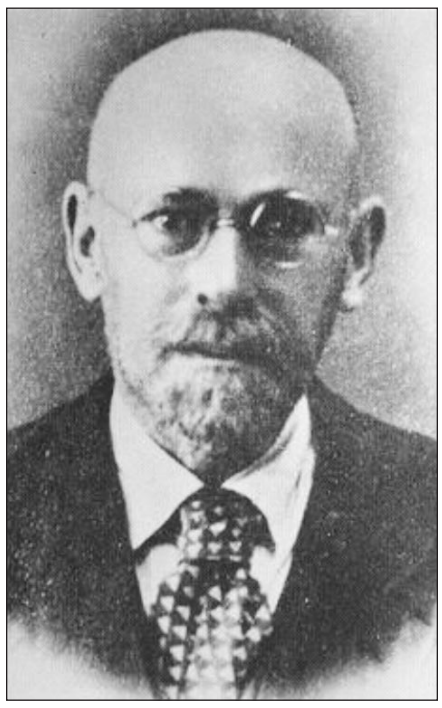
5 августа 1942 года датирована последняя запись знаменитого “Дневника” Корчака, чудом спасенного его учениками. Последний марш детей “Дома Сирот” по платформе к вагонам, увозившим их на смерть, превратился в грандиозное трагическое шествие, бросавшее вызов фашизму. Дети шли по четыре в ряд. Впереди – Корчак. Даже польская полиция стала смирно и отдала честь. Немцы, глядя на Корчака, спрашивали: “Кто этот человек?”. “Корчак с детьми” – был ответ. Когда дети были уже в вагонах, немецкий комендант сказал Корчаку: “Я читал Вашу книжку в детстве. Хорошая книжка. Вы можете остаться, Доктор”. “А дети?” “Невозможно, дети поедут”. “Вы ошибаетесь, крикнул Корчак, вы ошибаетесь, дети – прежде всего!”. И захлопнул за собой дверь вагона. Через несколько дней, в концлагере Треблинка, Корчак вместе с детьми вошел в газовую камеру. По дороге к смерти он держал на руках двух самых маленьких деток и рассказывал сказку, ничего не подозревавшим малышам.

В Треблинке, на месте смерти Корчака, стоит большой камень. На нем короткая надпись: “Януш Корчак и дети”.

Застенчивый невысокий человек, “Старый Доктор”, с детскими голубыми глазами, имел титаническую волю. Потряся мир своими последними деяниями, он обрел безоговорочное право называться величайшим педагогом за всю историю человечества.

Многие тысячи и миллионы людей по-разному отдали свои жизни в борьбе с фашизмом. Януш Корчак принадлежит к тем единицам, которые добровольно присоединили себя к числу невинных жертв этой борьбы, совершив тем самым подвиг совести.

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Януш Корчак (1878-1942)



Корчак с детьми из “Дома Сирот”



Камень на месте смерти Корчака в Треблинке с надписью “Януш Корчак и дети”

Israel and the World

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

By Mickey & Racheli Aziz-Komar

The weather is getting colder but our hearts are getting warmer. We are thoroughly enjoying the many opportunities here in Madison.

At the beginning of October Racheli went back to Israel for her sister's wedding. She will probably have to go again this summer for another occasion because her family tries to have a family occasion at least once every year. In the past five years, Racheli's family has had 4 weddings, 2 B'nai Mitzvot and 3 births. What else can you expect in a family with 9 children aged 15-31? And, they all live in Israel. Who wants to join us? There's always room for more!

The *Chagim* (fall Jewish holidays) are over and the real work has begun.

This past month we've met a lot a people, learned about the community and have experienced many of the different programs. We've had a chance to get a small taste, think about how we can be more involved in the current programs and think about new programs we can bring to the community.

Currently we are involved in many programs, here's a list of a numbers of them: **Midrasha**: Mickey is teaching the Advanced Hebrew class, 9th grade History of Israel and 'Who's State is it Anyway?' where we learn about and discuss different conflicts in Israel.

Ivrit Kala: We have three levels of Hebrew classes: Basic Hebrew, Beginners and Advanced. If you want to learn Hebrew **this is your chance**. Monday evenings at the Jewish Federation of Madison.

Café Ivrit: for our first meeting we had a group of 10 people and we learned the song "Rak Mila Tova" (just a good word) by Israeli singer Yehudit Ravitz. We analyzed the song and discussed how it affects our life. If you speak Hebrew your place is with us! Join us on Thursday nights. Stay updated with time and places at our Facebook and the JFM website.

Kesher: We went to a movie night at Temple Beth El that the Kesher committee hosts. We watched the movie 'Bottle in Gaza'. It was a moving story about a true friendship between a French Jewish girl who lives in Jerusalem and a boy who lives in Gaza. For Racheli this was very emotional to watch the movie, as Racheli was living in Jerusalem at the time the movie took place and personally witnessed the setting were the movie took place during the Israel- Gaza 'Cast Lead' (Oferet Yetzka) operation.

We are looking forward to coming to Temple Beth El Sunday School, working with the members of Shaarei Shamayim and programming with MOUSY and BBYO.

If you would like us to take part in more of your programs just email us!!

Some headlines from Israel are always important.

We are so proud of the two American Israelis and US Jew sharing Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Prof. Arieh Warshel, who was born in Israel and now lives in California, **Prof. Michael Levitt**, a South African native who made aliya and now splits his time between the US and Israel, are sharing the prize with **Prof. Martin Karplus**, an Austrian native who fled to the US before the Holocaust. The three men were cited for their "Development of Multiscale Models for Complex Chemical Systems." Warshel and Levitt are Israel's 11th and 12th Nobel Prize laureates.

Rabbi Ovadia Yosef z"l: Rabbi Ovadia Yosef became a fiery figure in Israeli politics as the spiritual leader of the ultra-Orthodox 'Shas' Party, championing the interests of Jews of Middle Eastern and North African origin, died this Monday at 93. By police estimates, 800,000 people — almost one-tenth of the population of Israel — swept into the streets and onto rooftops along the route of the funeral. "The Jewish people have lost one of the wisest men of this generation," says Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "Rabbi Ovadia was a giant in Torah and Jewish law and a teacher for tens of thousands." President Shimon Peres said he had been at the rabbi's bedside hours before his death. "When I pressed his hand, I felt I was touching history," Mr. Peres said, "and when I kissed his head, it was as though I kissed the very greatness of Israel."

May we continue to live among great minds like these,
Wishing you a beautiful and warm fall,
Racheli and Mickey Komar Aziz, Madison's community Shlichim.
Israel@jewishmadison.org • israelfellow@uwhillel.org



Have you always dreamed of going to Israel?

Do you want to re-visit Israel? Do you want to travel in Israel? Are you interested in Summer Programs? Gap Year? Internship? Volunteering? There are so many possibilities! For more information, email our community shlichah at Israel@jewishmadison.org

New Warsaw Center Aiming to Unite Divided Jewish Community

WARSAW, Poland (JTA) – The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is dedicating a new cultural center that it hopes will help unite Polish Jewry.

"I hope it will be a place where everybody feels safe and gives everyone the opportunity to practice their kind of Judaism and answer the needs of some very different people," Karina Sokolowska, the JDC's country director for Poland, told JTA on Sunday about the 3,000-square-foot space that her organization plans to dedicate on Oct. 27.

Representatives from several groups that are part of a protracted legal fight for state recognition and resources are expected to attend the opening ceremony. They include the Union of Jewish Religious Communities in Poland, the Progressive Judaism movement Beit Polska and the competing Progressive community Ec Chaim.

The Union of Jewish Religious Communities, an umbrella group that includes Ec Chaim as well as Orthodox groups, has petitioned a Polish court to revoke state recognition of Beit Polska as a religious association. The case, which yielded a number of appeals and recriminations, has been ongoing since 2009.

"The idea is to recreate the neutral space that we see happening during Limmud," Sokolowska said in reference to the annual, pluralistic Jewish learning conference.

The center, which will be the first modern facility of its kind in Warsaw, will operate from a rented, free-standing building paid for by JDC, the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life and Culture, the Koret Foundation and other donors, JDC said in a statement.

The new center will offer cooking classes, child care, training programs, theater classes and a book club to the 900 preregistered members, JDC said. The center, formerly a cafe, will not have a synagogue.

Poland is home to an estimated 25,000 Jews. The country's first Jewish community center opened in Krakow in 2009.

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Every dollar does a world of good.

Your donation to the Jewish Federation of Madison reaches into every corner of the global Jewish community in more than 70 countries around the world, inspiring lifelong Jewish connections, breaking the cycle of poverty, and responding to emergencies.

You can make a world of difference.

This is your opportunity to be part of a caring community that gives back. And it's an opportunity to foster and celebrate Jewish life for future generations. Donate. Volunteer. Make a difference. We're all in this together.

To learn how you can help make the world a better place, please contact Lynn Kaplan at Lkaplan@jewishmadison.org or 608.278.1808.

Jewish Federation OF MADISON

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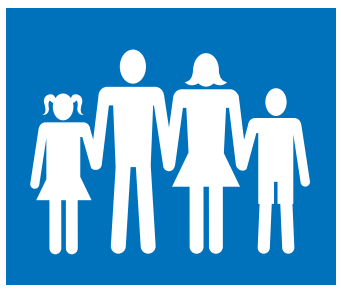
$24

Round-trip fare to a doctor's office for a senior



$30

A month of medication for an individual without health insurance



$75

One counseling session for a family in crisis



$199

A food card to enable an elderly welfare client in Russia to purchase extra groceries



$233

A year of social and wellness programming for one senior in Madison



$400

Basic supplies – crib, high chair, and stroller – for one baby in Latin America



$442

Heating fuel, warm blankets, and winter relief for 10 elderly people in Ukraine



$689

One three-week summer camp session for one child



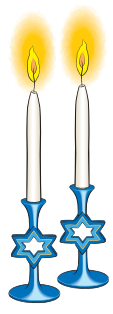
$756

A week-long summer or winter camp program for one youth in the former Soviet Union



$1140

Two months of tuition for one child at the Hilde L. Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool



$1,000

Free Shabbat dinner for 150 college students



$2,275

Scholarship to enable one student to spend a semester studying in Israel



$5,000

Transition program for one new Israeli immigrant living in an absorption center



$10,000

An emergency immigration grant for a family living in a country at risk



$40,000

A small business loan to help build Israel's priority areas