JEWISH FEDERATION OF MADISON

Madison
JEWISH NEWS

March 2013
Nissan 5773

Inside This Issue

Jewish Federation Upcoming Events 5
Simchas & Condolences 6
Congregation News 8-9
Hamantaschen Baking in Pictures 13
Jewish Education 20-21
Scenes from the Community Purim Carnival.....22
Lechayim Lights 23-26
Business, Professional & Service Directory 28
Israel & The World 30-31



Register for Camp Shalom ONLINE on March 6th

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

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

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

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

Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim Announces New Directors

Innovative, creative, responsible and enthusiastic, four important characteristics for a camp director, four characteristics that we looked for when in our search for a new Director of Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim. We are thrilled to announce that we have found someone who not only possesses those qualities but also many more wonderful qualities. Laura Finnesey, a former Camp Shalom Noar counselor and Assistant Director will be the Director of Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim this summer.



Laura Finnesey

Laura grew up in Marinette, WI and spent the summers working for her dad at his restaurant, Mickey-Lu's. She went to college at UW-Eau Claire and graduated with an elementary education degree. She is currently a second grade teacher at West Middleton Elementary.

This summer, Laura is looking forward to new adventures as she directs Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim for the first time! She is very excited about her new position and is looking forward to meeting new people, reuniting with familiar faces and a summer full of fun! Laura comes into this position with many ideas for making this new program a fabulous experience for all of the campers and staff.

Rachel Halstead will be the Assistant Director of Programming for Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim. Rachel has been on the Camp staff for four years. Rachel started as a counselor at Camp Shalom Bogrim where she worked for three summers. In 2012 she was the Assistant Director of Programming for Camp Shalom. Rachel is originally from Milwaukee. She graduated from UW- Madison with a degree in Elementary Education and French. Rachel is currently a teacher at Gan HaYeled and at Midrasha. She is looking forward to getting to know a new group of campers this summer.

The combination of Laura and Rachel's experience and passion is going to make summer 2013 an incredible experience for all of the campers at Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim. Registration begins online on Wednesday, March 6th at www.jewishmadison.org. It does not matter what time you register. If you have any questions about either Camp Shalom or Camp Shalom Noar Bogrim please email Ellen Weismer, program@jewishmadison.org or call (608) 278-1808.



Rachel Halstead

Zany Fun at the Purim Carnival!



It was fun for all at the Community Purim Carnival at Temple Beth El, with crazy costumes, food, drinks, games and music. See page 22 for more photos!

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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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Making a tribute donation to the **Jewish Federation of Madison** is a thoughtful way to honor someone or celebrate a special occasion while helping those in need here and around the world.

Your tribute donation will help support more than 20 essential local agencies and programs that serve both the Jewish community and the community-at-large, as well as humanitarian programs in Israel and 70 other countries worldwide. With one donation you can support:

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Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus
Jewish Agency for Israel
Jewish Social Services
The Madison Jewish Community Day School
Midrasha Hebrew High School
UW Hillel & Taglit-Birthright Israel
Yonim Israeli Dance Troupe

- Celebrate a simcha/happy occasion such as a birthday, engagement, marriage, anniversary, new baby, or Bar or Bat Mitzvah
- Express *get well* or *thinking of you* wishes
- Send condolences
- Express your thanks and appreciation
- Send greetings for Rosh Hashanah, Hanukkah, and other holidays
- Ask family and friends to make tribute donations in lieu of gifts for your special occasions

We'll mail a notification card to the person you're paying tribute to or the family of the person you're remembering. When you donate online you can also send a personalized E-card to your recipient.

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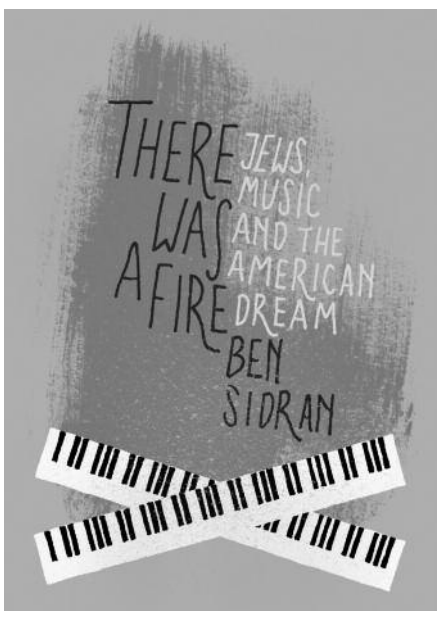
Ben Sidran Honored by National Jewish Book Council

By Jerilyn Goodman

There Was a Fire: Jews Music and the American Dream, a book by Madison's internationally renowned musician and scholar Ben Sidran, was named a 2012 National Jewish Book Award Finalist in the category of Modern Jewish Thought and Experience by the Jewish Book Council.



A seed planted during Ben's tenure as Artist-in-Residence at the UW-Madison, ***There Was a Fire*** is an eye-opening look at the dominant role Jews played in creating not just what is known as *The Great American Songbook* but the music publishing, recording and film industries as well. Who knew that a young, impoverished boy named Louis Armstrong was nurtured body and soul by a family of Lithuanian Jewish immigrants who gave him his first trumpet or that in 1925, the top five film studios in the world were all run by Jews who had grown up within a few hundred miles of Warsaw?

More than a delicious *Who's Who* of Jewish musical giants (Berlin, Gershwin, Kern, Arlen & Harburg, Rogers & Hart, Comden & Green, Leiber & Stoller, Goffin & King, Dylan, Streisand) and modern-day originals (Lenny Kravitz, Adam Yauch, Matisyahu, the Hip Hop Hoodios), Sidran offers insightful analyses of the rhymes and reasons for their stunningly disproportionate influence in American music and culture.

In the lyrics of Harry Von Tilzer's "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," Berlin's "God Bless America," Gershwin's "Swanee," and Harburg & Arlens' "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," Sidran uncovers the core Jewish narrative of exile and what he has called a deep-seated "longing for belonging." He told one audience, "Nobody can't wait to be accepted as much as somebody who knows that they have never been and will never be accepted. When it came to that 'longing for belonging,' nobody brought it home like the Jews."

Writer/scientist/musician Dan Levitin called ***There Was a Fire***, "an extraordinary tour de force weaving cultural, political, musical and economic history…a must-read for all music lovers."

The National Jewish Book Awards is the longest running awards program of its kind in the field of Jewish literature and is recognized as the most prestigious.

A PhD in American Studies, Ben Sidran has also authored **Black Talk**, **Talking Jazz**, and **Ben Sidran A Life in the Music**. His latest CD is ***Don't Cry For No Hipster***.

For more information about Ben's books and recordings visit http://www.bensidran.com.


Ben Sidran

Children's Theater of Madison Presents *And Then They Came For Me*, March 9-17

The Jewish Federation of Madison is partnering with Children's Theater of Madison for the production of ***And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank***. We encourage the Jewish community to come together for the matinee performance on Sunday, March 10th. There will be programming in the lobby of the Overture Center before the show and a discussion after the show. If you can't come to the March 10th show we hope everyone will attend at least one performance. There will be a link on the Jewish Federation of Madison's website, **www.jewishmadison.org** for purchasing tickets. If you have questions about the play or purchasing tickets please contact program@jewishmadison.org.

Due to mature content, no children under 8 will be admitted. See the full ad on page 16 for more details.

Women in the Bible: A Literary Reimagining



Young women, grades 9-12 are invited to attend a
Writing Workshop of Stories inspired by the Torah

Wednesday evenings, 6:15-7:15 p.m.
March 6 through April 24 (no workshop on 3/27)
at Temple Beth El

*We are forming a community of writers and readers with whom to share stories and ideas. Have your work included in the first-ever Jewish Arts Laboratory anthology and have the chance to participate in a public reading open to the community. *Midrasha students who participate can receive credit and use the workshop as make-up work.*

Contact: Miriam Cohen, Artist in Residence, Jewish Arts Laboratory
718-530-3831 or Cohen9@wisc.edu



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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

K'tantanim - Israeli Dance for Preschoolers

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

The Yonim Israel Dance Troupe offers a special class about once a month for 3- to 5-year-old dancers. Cost is $5 per session. Send questions or RSVP to Dana Prager via email at yonim@jewishmadison.org.



Information Fair

Monday, March 4, 9:00-10:00am
Jewish Federation of Madison,
6434 Enterprise Lane

Parents and caregivers of preschool-age children are invited to stop by and learn about activities and programs offered by various organizations within the Madison Jewish community. Learn about the Gan HaYeled Preschool, Shmooze & Tunes, Chug Ivrit, Yonim and Yonim K'tantanim, Temple Beth El, Congregation Shaarei Shamayim, Beth Israel Center, Madison Jewish Community Day School, Camp Shalom and Camp Shalom Katan. Questions? Contact Lynn via email at Lkaplan@jewishmadison.org or call 278-2808.

Camp Shalom Registration Begins

Wednesday, March 6
www.jewishmadison.org/campshalom

Online registration for Camp Shalom and Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim begins on Wednesday, March 6. The time of day you complete the registration process will not affect your registration status. For more information about Camp Shalom, including dates, fees, and a description of our new program for middle school-age campers, call 278-1808.



Women's Night Out – Jewelry Making

Saturday, March 9
7:00-9:00pm
Fine Earth Studio, Regent St.

The Family Education Committee invites women of all ages to bond over beading at Fine Earth Studio. Make necklaces, bracelets, and earrings. Enjoy a glass of wine. Admire each other's handiwork. No experience necessary. RSVP online today. See page 17 for more details.



Children's Theater of Madison Presents *And Then They Came For Me*, March 10

Anne Frank Play
Sunday, March 10
2:30pm curtain
Overture Center, 201 State St.

The March 10 performance of Children's Theater of Madison (CTM)'s upcoming production, *And Then They Came For Me*, will include pre- and post-show programming for the Jewish community. This powerful and unique production, which runs March 9-17, combines dramatic action onstage with archival images, historical footage and videotaped interviews. CTM is offering a special 25% discount to the Jewish community for select performances, including March 10. Discounted tickets are available until March 1. See page 16 for more details.



Schmooze & Tunes on Thursdays?

Shmooze & Tunes, the popular music program for 2- to 5-year-olds and their caregivers, is considering adding a Thursday afternoon class this spring. Please email Lynn Kaplan if you or someone you know would be interested in a Thursday afternoon class beginning at 4:30pm, running from April 4 through June 6. Contact Lynn via email at Lkaplan@jewishmadison.org or call 278-2808.

Adult Hebrew Classes

Yehonatan, our community shaliach, is teaching Advanced and Beginner Hebrew classes for adults on Tuesday nights. The Advanced class meets at 6:00pm, Beginners at 7:15pm at the Jewish Federation of Madison building, 6434 Enterprise Lane. New students are welcome any time. To register or ask questions, please contact Yehonatan at israel@jewishmadison.org.

Challah Baking Workshop

Sunday, April 14, 2:00-4:00pm
Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive
Fee: $5 per person

Come and join us for this FUN event. It will be an interactive, entertaining and informative session on the Do's and Dont's of Challah baking. Adults and children of all ages are welcome. Please register by April 10, 2013 by sending in the form on page 17, or online at www.JewishMadison.org. If you have any questions, please contact Ellen at 278-1808 x232 or email program@jewishmadison.org. See page 17 for more information.



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The Levy Summer Series – New For This Summer!

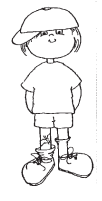
"Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: Where Have we Been, Where Are we Now, Where are we Going?"

The Levy Summer Series is a fresh and stimulating new program, consisting of six programs with distinguished speakers, an elegant lunch and an intimate, after-lunch salon, an opportunity to interact with the speaker and other attendees in comfort. It will be held on June 12 and 26, July 17 and 24 and August 7 and 21at the Nakoma Golf Club, 4145 Country Club Road. Watch for more information!

Our thanks to Jeffrey C. Levy for making this exciting new program possible, and to the committee members who have played an important role in planning the programs: Jeff Levy, Herman Goldstein, Howard Fried, Danny Pekarsky, David Sulman, Judy Karofsky, Jean Weissburg and JSS president Nan Youngerman.



UPCOMING FAMILY ED EVENTS



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

Saturday, March 9, 7 p.m.
WNO – Women's Night Out – Jewelry Making at Fine Earth Studio
$25 per person. RSVP to program@jewishmadison.org. Space is limited

Sunday, April 14 – Challah Baking Workshop. For more information contact program@jewishmadison.org

Community Tot Shabbats

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

Jewish Burial Association of Madison Announces Jewish Funeral and Burial Package

The Jewish Burial Association of Madison (JBAM), together with Cress Funeral Homes and Sunset Memory Gardens, announces that an all-inclusive Jewish funeral and burial package is now available to members of the Jewish community.

This package covers all Jewish funeral and burial needs. Each item in the package has been selected to keep the total price to a minimum and consists of:

• Burial Plot from JBAM, arranged through Sunset Memory Gardens

• Tahara by Chevra Kadisha, arranged through Cress Funeral Homes

• Funeral Services from Cress

• Vault and single monument through Sunset Memory Gardens (includes 20% discount)

• Grave opening and closing fee from Sunset Memory Gardens

The price of the package is $8735. A $440 surcharge will be added for burial on Sundays or civil holidays. The price remains in effect through the end of 2013.

The package includes a plain pine coffin, in keeping with Jewish tradition that a coffin, if used at all, should be simple and inexpensive. The vault for the grave is bottomless, conforming to Jewish practices of allowing contact between the coffin and the ground.

Many optional upgrades are available for the funeral or monument, and these can be discussed with the representatives from Cress and Sunset Memory Gardens if desired.

Planning for one's funeral can be a difficult task. With many choices and options available, the experience can be overwhelming anytime, particularly in a time of grief. Having arrangements made ahead of time, however, is a great gift to give to those you leave behind. It frees them to attend to the emotional needs of the family rather than arranging the details of the funeral. This package can provide your family the space to do just that.

If you are interested in the Jewish Funeral and Burial Package, see Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon, Rabbi Jonathan Biatch, Rabbi Laurie Zimmerman or Bruce Thomadsen. Do this as a gift to your loved ones.

Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon
rabbi@bethisraelcenter.org
256-7763, x11
Rabbi Jonathan Biatch
rabbi@templebethelmadison.org
238-3123
Rabbi Laurie Zimmerman
rabbi@shamayim.org
257-2944
Bruce Thomadsen
brthomad@gmail.com
263-4183

Simchas and Condolences

Mazel tov to the parents and grandparents of these new arrivals:

Raviv Jacob Weiner, son of Deborah Hirsch and Seth Weiner, grandson of Susan and Steve Hirsch and great-grandson of Fay Nager;
Samuel Harold Riley, son of Kari and Curran Riley;
Sasha Greenberg, daughter of Michele and Jared Greenberg;
Ryan Carpenter Frank, son of Justin and Jamie Frank, grandson of Lottie and Joel Frank;
Sonya Talerico, daughter of Lewis and Alice (Peidelstein) Talerico, granddaughter of Nancy and Richard Peidelstein; and
London, son of Stacey Bhaerman and Adam Shapiro.

Condolences to the families of:

Laurence Goodman, father of Jerilyn Goodman;
Millicent Meyers, mother of Russell (Leslie) Coff;
Rabbi Shaya Gansbourg, father of Henya (Rabbi Mendel) Matusof;
Norman Schwabacher, father of Debbie (Mark) Blitz;
Royal Rotter, husband of Muriel Rotter;
Esther Kaplan, aunt of Anita Krasno and Dan Hobson; and
Theodore Stephen Hamerow, husband of Diane Hamerow.

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 memory of Samuel Lipton
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In memory of Wylie Malone
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In memory of Royal Rotter
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Symposium: The Mayrent Collection of Yiddish 78s and the Future of Historic Sound Recordings

By Henry Sapoznik

To those of a particular generation, klezmer music was something they were lucky enough to grow up hearing at weddings, bar mitzvahs, or landmanshaft (fraternal organization) meetings. But for later generations, the music was part of their lives thanks in part to the diligent and forward thinking efforts in the 1970's of a young cadre of Jewish musicians (I was lucky to be in this group) who meticulously retrieved these fragile but powerful sounds from the scratchy grooves of old 78 rpm records.

In fact, of all the traditional music movements alive and well today—old time country music, blues, Balkan, Irish, etc.—only klezmer and Yiddish music were revived primarily from historic commercial records.

To celebrate the acquisition of the Mayrent Collection of Yiddish 78's by the UW–Madison Mills Library, the symposium **World Records: The Mayrent Collection of Yiddish 78 Recordings and the Future of Historic Sound Recordings** will be held on Thursday and Friday, March 14–15 on the UW Madison campus. It will focus on the important role this and other sound archives play in cultural and community continuity.

In order to place the Mayrent Collection in an historical context, there will be presentations on Mills holdings of other American vernacular music (Scandihoovian, Polish, hillbilly, tamburitza, blues and more) along with presentations about collection management and access, digital folklore, preservation, dissemination, technology, ownership and copyright. In addition to discussions of these crucial topics, the conference will also sponsor a concert of the various types of music discussed during the symposium: hillbilly, Scandihoovian, Yugoslavian tamburitza, and traditional popular Yiddish and klezmer.

Compiled by musician and teacher Sherry Mayrent, the Mayrent Collection of 78 rpm recordings contains over 9,000 cataloged and digitally re-mastered Yiddish and Hebrew recordings made between 1901 and 1956. In sum, it provides an invaluable soundtrack for the study and understanding of the Jewish world: Yiddish theater, popular and traditional music, cantorial prayers, poetry, vaudeville skits, drama and ballads.

Among the baker's dozen of nationally noteworthy conference presenters will be keynote speakers Dr. Nancy Groce, Folklife Specialist with the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, and Ken Frazier, Emeritus Director of the UW–Madison Libraries. Other featured speakers are Bill Malone, historian of American country music; folklorist, and producer and UW–Madison professor Jim Leary; collector Sherry Mayrent and Mayrent Institute founding director, Henry Sapoznik.

The conference is of critical importance to those of us who are concerned about issues of cultural continuity and literacy, and the problems of preservation and dissemination in a world awash in disposable music and culture.

Yiddish has recently been at the forefront of deep cultural reclamation by new generations, and it has had the power to reanimate traditions even its most ardent supporters had long ago given up for lost.

World Records is a program of the Mayrent Institute for Yiddish Culture of the UW–Madison, a part of the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies, and is co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures, Department of Comparative Literature & Folklore Studies, School of Music, and the UW–Madison General Library System.

The program is free and open to the public.

Featured events

Keynote lectures:

UW–Madison

Education Building (1000 Bascom Mall), Room 159

Thursday, March 14, 2:00 p.m.: Nancy Groce, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress

Friday, March 15, 4:45 p.m.: Ken Frazier, Emeritus Director, UW–Madison Libraries

Concert:

Thursday, March 14, 7:00 p.m.

UW–Madison

Mosse Humanities Building (455 N. Park St.), Morphy Hall

For a complete schedule and more information please visit our website: http://mayrentinstitute.wisc.edu/events/worldrecords/

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and Mimi and Peter Bloch

Congregation News

Temple Beth El • Congregation Shaarei Shamayim • Beth Israel Center

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim

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

Erev Shabbat Vegetarian Potluck

Friday, March 1
6:00 p.m. – Please call the office for location.

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

Meditation and Chanting Havdalah

Saturday, March 2
6:30 p.m. – Please call the office for location.

Join us for half an hour of meditation and a half hour of Hebrew chants, followed by havdalah and dessert. Please bring a dessert or preferably a healthy snack to share.

Shabbat Services

Saturday, March 9, 23; Friday, March 15, First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive

Join us for a tot service at 9:00 a.m. on March 9 followed by a 9:30 a.m. intergenerational service. We'll have bagels and coffee at 11:15 a.m. On March 15 we'll have a vegetarian potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. followed by a service at 7:15 p.m. On March 23 we'll have Torah study at 9:30 a.m., Shabbat services at 10:30 a.m., and Kiddush at 12:30 p.m.

Passover Dessert Contest, Seudah Shlishit, and Havdalah

Saturday, March 16
4:00-6:00 p.m. – Please call the office for location.

Who says Passover desserts have to taste like cardboard? Spend Shabbat sampling Passover desserts and consider entering the contest with one of your own! We'll have Shabbat singing and havdalah as part of the gathering. Please RSVP to office@shamayim.org or 257-2944 if you are interested in attending.

Creating Jewish Rituals for the Home

Sunday, March 17
9:50 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Center for Families, 2120 Fordem Avenue, Madison

Join Rabbi Laurie as we explore how to make Judaism our own by establishing unique Jewish rituals that provide a spiritual structure from which to enrich our lives at home. We'll look at Shabbat and holidays, daily prayer, family rituals, and life cycles.

Young Adult Havurah Passover Seder

Tuesday, March 26
6:00 p.m., First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive (in the Commons)

Celebrate Passover with other young Jews in their 20s and 30s at our annual second seder. We'll schmooze, eat, sing, and retell the story of the Exodus. Please bring a haggadah if you can. There is no charge for the seder, but we ask that everyone be generous with the food that they contribute. Food should be vegetarian and kosher for Passover. You do not have to be a member to attend, so bring your friends and spread the word. RSVPs required. To RSVP or for more information) contact Ezra Lyon at 358-0985 or ezralyon@gmail.com. To sign up to bring food for the seder please go to http://tinyurl.com/aypcuwd.



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Beth Israel Center

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

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

Yom Rishon

March 10

Held approximately once a month on Sunday mornings, "Yom Rishon" ("The First Day" or "Sunday") is a theme-based program for preschoolers, including art, movement, music, stories, and projects as well as further learning on the subject for parents and other adults who accompany the children. It is family education at its finest.

Classes take place at 10am downstairs at Beth Israel Center (watch for signs as to which room). Our next class will be March 10! Please tell your friends—everyone is welcome to this innovative program. For more information, please contact Beth Copelovitch at 256-7763 or education@bethisraelcenter.org.

Jews & Modernity

March 3, 10, 17

Is being Jewish in America countercultural? Or, in some ways are Jews the archetypical achievers of the American Dream? Are Jews the vanguard of modernity, or the quintessential traditionalists?

In his forthcoming book ***Modernity and the Jews in Social Theory***, UW Sociology professor Chad Goldberg examines the portrayal, symbolism and meaning of Jews in three national traditions of social thought from the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth century: French, German and American. In this three part series, we will read selections from key social thinkers on these questions, and examine why Jews played such a key role for theorists trying to understand what it meant to be French, German or American in modern times. Join us Sunday evening at 7pm on March 3, 10, and 17.

Taanit Bekhorot

March 25

Traditionally, a first born fasts on the day before Pesah in commemoration of the deliverance from Egypt. It is the custom for synagogues to make a *siyyum* (a public completion of the study of a tractate of Talmud) on the morning before Passover. Since the *siyyum* is followed by a *seudat mitzvah* (a festive meal which follows the performance of certain mitzvot) a first born who is present may eat, and having eaten need not fast that day. This year, our *siyyum* will take place at morning minyan on Monday, March 25.

Pesach Services

Services will take place at 10am on March 26 & 27 and at 9:30am on April 1 & 2. Please join us!

Utopia Unlimited: Women, Fundamentalism, and Science Fiction

April 15

Feminist science fiction writers imagine the advent of religious theocracy and its consequences for women, people of color, and other often marginalized groups. For these authors, science fiction becomes a way to explore feminist theory that is not only colorful, but reaches a broad audience. In this session, Naomi Mercer will treat us to a sampling of feminist science fiction that crosses genre boundaries, disseminates social commentary, and offers blueprints toward egalitarian utopia. Check www.bethisraelcenter. org for details in mid-March.

Army Lieutenant Colonel Naomi Mercer is an assistant professor at West Point who teaches English composition and literature, completing her doctorate in literary studies at UW Madison.

Yom Ha'atzmaut Kumzitz

April 16

Celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut at Beth Israel Center! We'll have a light dinner with an Israeli themed menu and follow it with a lot of singing. For details check www.bethisraelcenter.org in mid-March.

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Temple Beth El

Our events listed below are open to the community. 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.

Check out our Temple Beth El website at www.templebethelmadison.org for more information on our worship times and special events.

NEW! Free Tots & Tunes Classes

For all children ages Newborn to 5 years!
Meets in the Temple Beth El Lounge Sundays from 8:45-9:45am on March 10, April 28 (Note new time!)

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 Drew Bernat and sing songs, do a craft project, and enjoy challah & juice. Come and get to know other parents and kids from around the community. No RSVP needed! Questions? Call Educator Larry Kohn, 238-3123.

Breakfast Series

Meets in the TBE Lounge (except for March 3, see below) from 11:00am-12:30pm; Bagels, talk and questions.

March 3- Melanie Herzog
Milton Rogovin: Photographer
The Stream, Edgewood College's new Arts Facility, will open just for us to explore the work of this Jewish, humanist photographer.

March 17- Paul Sondel
Mobilizing the Immune System to Fight Childhood and Other Cancers

Community Passover Seder

Tuesday, March 26, 6:00pm
RSVP by Friday, March 22 at NOON
RSVP Online at www.templebethelmadison.org

Menu: Wine or Grape Juice, Matzah, Seder Plates
Dinner: Matzah ball soup; Orange-Glazed Chicken (entrée) or Vegetable farfel-stuffed Red Pepper (vegetarian entrée); Potato kugel, Roasted vegetables, Mixed greens, Passover cookie platters and coffee service

Prices: Adult (Age 14+): $25/member; $30/non-member
Youth (Age 5-13): $18/member; $20/non-member
Tiny (Age 2-4): $5/member; $8/non-member

Questions? Email Jennifer, program@templebethelmadison.org or call her at the Temple office, 238-3123.

A Weekend with Famed Jewish Musician Gerard Edery: "Treasures of World Song"

The Weekend of April 12- April 14
All Concerts are Free and Open to the Public!

About Gerard Edery: Recognized as a leading musical folklorist and a master singer and guitarist, Gerard Edery has at his command a remarkable range of ethnic folk styles and traditions from around the world. He sings in fifteen languages and speaks four fluently. Not only does he regularly uncover and preserve songs, stories and melodies from Europe, the Middle East, South America and ancient Persia, he energizes these repertoires by interpreting them for contemporary audiences and by teaming up with some of the world's most highly acclaimed virtuoso musicians. His special brand of world music fusion prizes formal authenticity and an appreciation for how disparate cultures overlap, parallel each other and often borrow from one another. He is a recipient of the Sephardic Musical Heritage Award.

Friday, April 12, 7:30pm at Temple Beth El
"A Sephardic Shabbat"
Gerard will participate in our Sephardic Shabbat services and give a "Sermon in Song" on Sephardic music. After the service, musicians will gather and work on one or two songs that they will perform with Gerard on his Concert on Saturday night. Bring your voices and instruments! Contact Cantor Martin if you would like to have some of the music ahead of time! cantor@templebethelmadison.org or 238-3123.

Saturday, April 13, 7:30pm at Full Compass, 9770 Silicon Prairie Parkway, Madison
"Treasures of World Song" Concert
This concert traces the surprising and exotic musical synergies to be found in some of the world's great oral traditions. A diverse and fascinating program of folk and popular songs in some dozen languages from North and South America, France, Spain, England, Ireland, Greece, Turkey, Morocco and The Balkans, will tell a rich musical story and promote the cause of cross-cultural appreciation and understanding. From joyous hymns of celebration to poignant ballads of love, from flamenco-inspired pieces to holy works of praise, Gerard's instrumental virtuosity, rich baritone and masterful arrangements will create an unforgettable musical experience.

Sunday, April 14, 10:30am at Temple Beth El
"Everybody's Song… and Story"
Join with our Religious School students and Families for this concert for the entire family! This workshop/performance is a participatory exploration of songs and stories from the Sephardic Oral Tradition and beyond. In this fun and educational program we will focus on songs and stories shared by diverse cultures, giving emphasis to the universal elements permeating them all. Many humorous songs and witty stories appropriate for families and their children.

Upcoming Events: Save the Date!

Everybody's a Comedian! A Night of Jewish Improv
Saturday, April 20, 7:00pm
Join us for Havdalah, a light nosh, drinks, and test your mettle with a round of Improv! Noted Madison Improv Master and TBE Congregant Dan Jacobsohn will teach us the art of Improv, and then we'll run with it! You won't want to miss.

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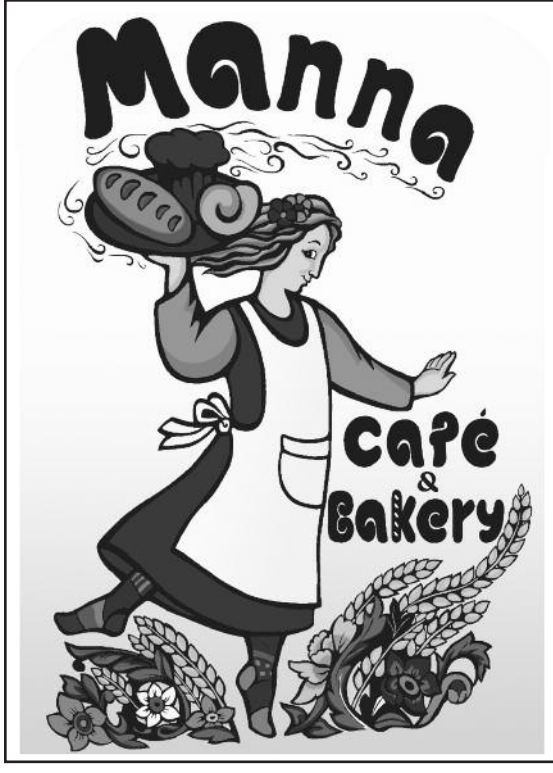

Spring is in the air ...
So What's New?
• Corn Tzitzle Rye Bread, from a 100 year old Pratzel Bakery family recipe
• Challah every Friday, Brisket and Matzo Ball Soup as well
• Matzo available during Passover, Matzo Brei Weekend Brunch Special
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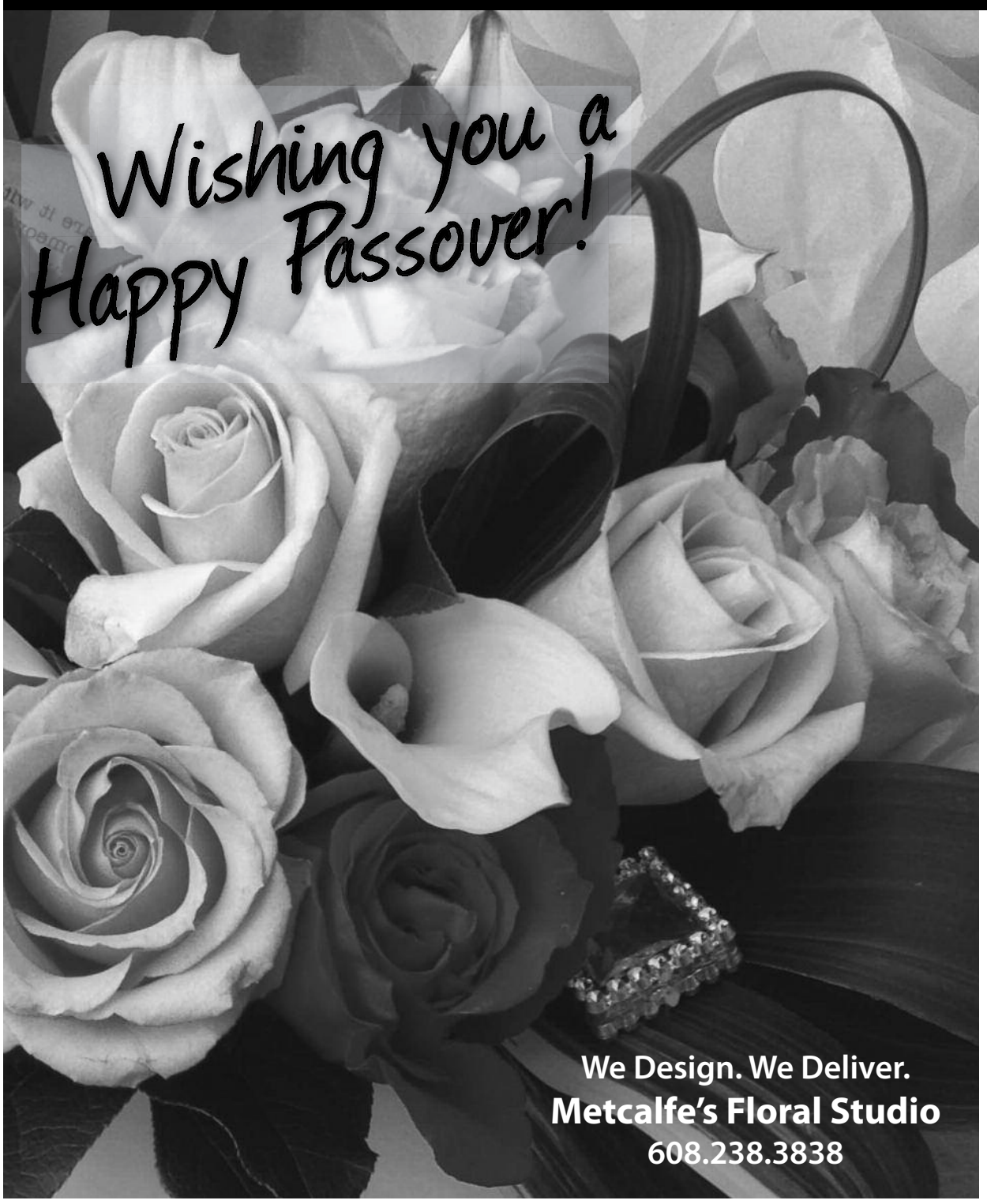

ON SALE

Valid March 1- 31, 2013.
All items subject to availability.

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Breakstone 8 oz
Temp Tee Whipped Cream Cheese
$3.49

Breakstone 8 oz
Unsalted Butter Quartered
$2.99

Mehadrin 7 oz
Yogurt
$1.99

Mother's 16 oz
Margarine
$5.49

Silver Springs 5 oz
Horseradish
$1.59

Haolam 8 oz
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Fresh Horseradish Root
Per pound (Produce)
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Ba-Tampte
Half Sour Pickles (Meat)
$3.29

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Potato Pancakes (Frozen)
$3.49

Reisman's 12 oz
Apricot or Raspberry Roll (Frozen)
$6.99

WINE

Yarden 750ml
Mount Hermon
$12.99

GROCERY

Osem 10.5 oz
High Fiber Matzah
$3.49

Yehuda 5 lb
Passover Matzo
$12.99

Manischewitz 10-16 oz
Select Matzos
2/$6.98

Streit's 12 oz
Egg Matzos
$3.99

Manischewitz 11.5-14 oz
Cake Mix
$6.99

Manischewitz 24 oz
Gefilte Fish
$8.99

Streit's 4.5 oz
Matzo Ball & Soup Mix
2/$3.98

Manischewitz 14 oz
Matzo Farfel
$3.99

Kedem 25.4 oz
Sparkling Juice
$3.99

Manischewitz 6oz
Kettle Chips
$2.99

Goodman's 10 oz
Macaroons
$5.99

Osem 8.8 oz
Cakes
$3.99

Bartenura 17 oz
Balsamic Vinegar
$7.99

Gefen 26 oz
Pasta Sauce
$3.99

Yehuda 10.5 oz
Gluten Free Matzo-Style Squares
$7.99

Manischewitz 12 oz
Gluten Free Noodle-Style Pasta
$6.99

Joyva 9oz
Chocolate Covered Marshmallows
$4.99

Paskez 10 oz
Real Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips
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Passover: New*

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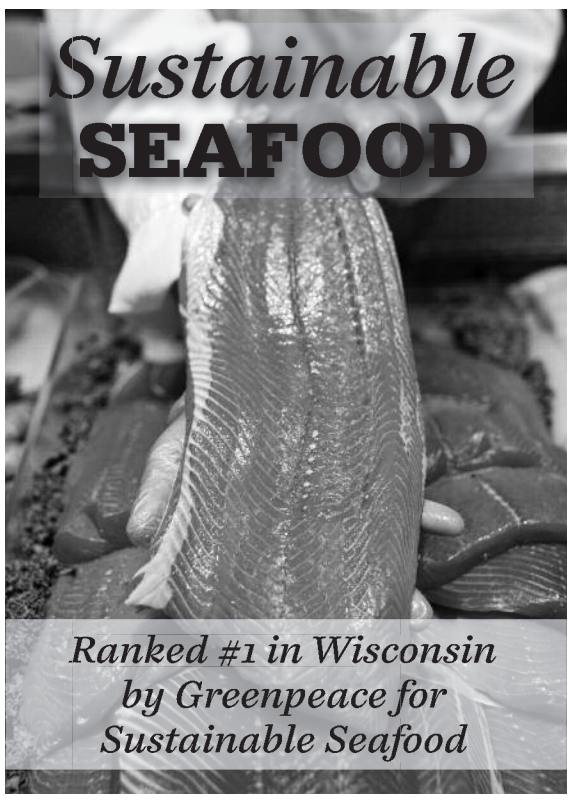
Galil Chocolate Coated Cranberries
Gefen Tomato Juice
Guiltless Gourmet Cranberry Flax Bars
Guiltless Gourmet Coconut Water
Kedem Concord Lite Grape Juice
Kvuzat Yavne Mini Eggplant
Manischewitz Biscotti
Manischewitz Hazelnut Spread
Osem Bissli 6-pack
Paskesz Soft Crunch Granola
Paskesz Crackers
Streit's Israeli Couscous



Passover: Gluten-Free*

Gefen Frosting Mix
Gefen Cake Mix
Gefen Noodles
Gefen Macaroons
Manischewitz Crackers
Manischewitz Noodles
Manischewitz Matzo
Manischewitz Cake Mixes
Streits Matzo Ball Mix
Yehuda Cake Meal
Yehuda Crackers
Yehuda Matzo Meal
Yehuda High Fiber Matzo
Yehuda Cake Meal
Yehuda Farfel
Jeff Nathan's Gluten Free Panko
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Housemade Chicken Broth
Metcalfe's Matzoh Balls
Chopped Liver
New Century Farm Organic Hard Boiled Eggs

Metcalfe's

MJCDS's Marla Becker: Teaching With Creativity and Joy

By Nancy Brower

For born-and-bred Californian Marla Becker, the task of bundling up a classroom of MJCDS K/1 students for a winter outing to Wingra Park is remarkablyeasy. It's not surprising though, given that Marla is one of those teachers who approaches her job as if it were a day in the park—with great joy and with what appears to be seamless transitioning from one activity to the next.

Marla's bustling classroom exudes the sights and sounds of happy students who love what they are learning and how they are being taught. She teaches secular studies to a combined K/1 classroom, as well as science and language arts to the school's third graders.

As she introduces a new task to the younger group, it is clear that she is able to attend to all the skill and interest levels that are part of a mixed-age setting. "Even though we have a range of abilities with our readers and writers, the small class size at MJCDS allows me to offer individual attention as it is needed," she says.

This atmosphere was definitely something she was looking for in a teaching position when her family (husband Ken and daughters Elora, Maya, and Baila) moved to Madison in 2011. Marla was a founding director and teacher in a successful Jewish preschool outside of Los Angeles, following previous teaching jobs in 5th and 6th grade in the LA public schools.

The creative and smart kids at MJCDS are a perfect match for Marla, and vice versa. Her commitment to combining secular topics with Jewish studies was evident in a recent themed project for Tu Bishvat, when the students created an enormous tree on top of one of the classroom tables. Various elements of the tree were labeled with Hebrew and English vocabulary words, and it was the centerpiece for the Tu Bishvat seder held at school.

During a unit on the continents, the children read a mystery book about Antarctica. As a way to demonstrate comprehension, they transformed the room into the continent: 98% of the floor was covered with white paper to demonstrate the region covered in ice, while penguin costumes were created and meteorites were strewn across the floor.

The connection Marla has with her students is strong and deep. She is as invested in helping a kindergartner learn to spell the word "rainbow" as she is in working with the children on psycho-social learning. "At MJCDS we can take time to address emotional issues, as we did with a recent discussion involving all of the students about the importance of telling the truth," she explains.

Marla says that her greatest satisfaction comes from hearing a student say: "I have an idea." Certainly, Marla's students know that their ideas will be taken seriously. From there, the learning possibilities are endless!

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



Marla Becker with third grade students.

Madison Jewish Learning Institute

By Hannah Bettner

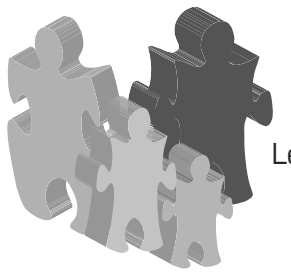
KAbbalah, kaBBAlah, kabbaLAH.....I have heard it pronounced every which way. And I think that they are all correct (depending upon whether one is speaking English, Yiddish, or Hebrew). Just like in Kabbalah, no matter how you do it, it is right. Everything is for a good purpose and part of G-d's plan for you.

I had always wanted to know more about the Kabbalah. Madonna and other celebrities popularized the Kabbalah. I myself read a number of books on the Kabbalah, but none of them were satisfactory. I realized that I would need a teacher to break it down.

Then Chabad offered this course: "The Kabbalah of You" by JLI (Jewish Learning Institute) to be presented by Rabbi Avremel Matusof, Director of YJP (Young Jewish Professionals) of Madison. This course was perfect for me: once a week for six weeks and affordable. JLI laid out the material in a format that was enjoyable and accessible: video presentations, workbook with all the material, and Rabbi Avremel Matusof explaining with humor, anecdotes, discussion and expertise. It was funny, fun, and relevant.

The most impressive concept that I learned was that G-d commands us to be happy. When we are happy, we are an inspiration to our children and to all the people in our lives. We bring hope and enthusiasm for life to the table. Happiness is the precursor to success and achievement. When we are happy, we are really fulfilling G-d's plan for us. We can then serve G-d with all our power and might. We become emissaries of righteousness.

Now that's a class with "class".



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Happy Passover!

Join us for
Women's Night Out!
Saturday, March 9 • 7-9 p.m.



Fine Earth Studio and Gallery
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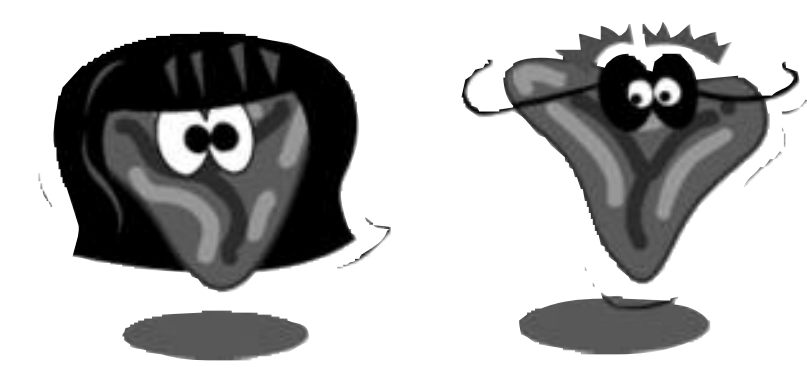
Fill, Fold, Bake ... Repeat













On Sunday, February 17th the Family Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Madison sponsored our first ever Hamantaschen Baking Open House. Susan Roquitte, who grew up helping out in her parent's bakery, was the mastermind behind this fun program. Susan prepared the dough in advance and she worked with a committee of helpers to roll the dough and cut it into circles before the event. Sara Ben-Ami, the chef from B'Tayavon Catering and Fit2Eat, made all of the fillings.

More than 30 families came to help fill, fold and bake the hamantaschen. It was a fun event for all ages. Everyone worked so hard and so efficiently that we were able to bake over 600 hamantaschen in a little over three hours.

A big thank you to Susan Roquitte for her hard work to make this event such a big success. If you weren't able to come this year, we hope to see you at next year's Hamantaschen Baking Open House. For more information about future Family Education Committee programs see the upcoming events box in this issue of the *Madison Jewish News*.











Happy Passover!

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Wishing our community a happy and healthy Passover.

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Michael Banks	Business and Real Estate Law

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UW Students Enjoy Life-Changing Journey to Israel with Birthright Israel and UW-Hillel

With great enthusiasm, energy and ruach, UW students joined thousands of their peers in the life changing journey to Israel with Birthright Israel and the University of Wisconsin Hillel, The Barbara Hochberg Center for Jewish Student Life. Jewish culture, history, religious practice and day to day life were infused together in this enriching experience. In January 2013 (in the sun and in the snow!) students were accompanied by UW Hillel Executive Director Greg Steinberger and Hillel's shlicha, Eden Hazani Zion. On our June 2012 trip, students were accompanied by Jonathan Eisen, the Director of Programs and Engagement. As this issue of *Madison Jewish News* goes to press, students are registering for the summer 2013 Birthright/UW program. Unique to this trip will be the opportunity for both UW Madison students and from students from college campuses around Wisconsin to share this experience together. For more information about future Birthright Israel programs, contact UW Hillel at 608-256-8361 or view UW Hillel's website at uwhillel.org.













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Taste it.
Certain Jewish foods have magical powers. For some, it's a piece of egg challah. For others, some flaky rugelach, a sweet noodle kugel, or a savory brisket. Magical foods might taste good, but they get their power from the memories they bring us – memories of home, community, heritage, and love. When you leave a Jewish legacy, you're setting a table for the future, ensuring that what you cherish about Jewish life continues to sustain, nurture, and delight the generations to come. To learn more about leaving a legacy gift, contact Dori Falk, Financial Resource Development Director, 608-278-1808 x236, or email dfalk@jewishmadison.org
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Dear Friends,

As part of Jewish Federation of Madison's partnership with CTM, we are pleased to offer you an exclusive 25% discount on select performances of *And Then They Came for Me* at Overture Center for the Arts. This powerful and unique production combines dramatic action onstage with archival images, historical footage and videotaped interviews. Due to mature content, no children under 8 will be admitted. This special offer is available through March 1, 2013.

Regular ticket prices:
$28/ Adult
$18/ Youth

Dates and times include:
Sun., March 10 at 2:30 p.m.
Sun., March 17 at 2:30 p.m.

Corporate discount prices:
$21/ Adult
$13.50/ Youth

For more discounted performance dates, please contact:
Kathy Ricci at kathy@ctmtheatre.org

You can order tickets directly from CTM by following these simple instructions:

1. Go to **ctmtheater.org** and click the Special Groups tab on the right side of the page

2. Click on your organization's logo and in the Password field, enter *jewishfed*

3. Select ticket quantities and submit your order

- This special offer ends Friday, March 1st; seats are limited and subject to availability.
- All sales are final. No exchanges.
- Any orders of seats over 10 may be split into two rows.
- All tickets will be held at the Overture Box Office; I.D. will be required at pick-up.
- If you have any ordering difficulties, please feel free to email Kathy at *kathy@ctmtheater.org*



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I give $_____ [or____% of my residuary estate] to the Jewish Federation of Madison, Wisconsin.

- If you already have a will, you can easily add this charitable bequest with a supplement, called a codicil.
- If you need to make major changes to your will, you can include this charitable bequest in your updated document.
- If you don't have a will, now's the time to make one to ensure your assets are distributed according to your wishes, not by strict state intestacy laws. And if you have minor children, a will is essential to ensure that they're cared for by someone you choose, not by a court appointed guardian.

For more details about how to leave a bequest, please contact Dori Falk, Financial Resource Development Director, 608-278-1808 x236 or email: dfalk@jewishmadison.org.

The Jewish Federation of Madison
Family Education Committee Presents a



CHALLAH BAKING WORKSHOP



Come and join us for this FUN event. It will be an interactive, hands-on, entertaining and informative session on the Do's and Don'ts of Challah baking. Adults and children of all ages welcome.

Sunday, April 14, 2013 • 2:00-4:00 PM
Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive
Fee: $5 per person

Please register by April 10, 2013 ONLINE at www.JewishMadison.org or by sending in the form below. If you have any questions, please contact Ellen at 278-1808 x232 or program@jewishmadison.org

Registration Form for the CHALLAH BAKING WORKSHOP

Please list the names of those in your family who will be participating:

Adult's Name: _____

Adult's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Children's Names: Age:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Keshet – A Crash Course in Being a Professional Ally to LGBTQ Youth

By Jessica Leving

My Jewish Learning

"I have friends I can be Jewish with, and friends I can be queer with, but I've never had a space to be both Jewish and queer." – Shelby, 16

"I feel really isolated at my high school… it's good to come to a place like this and finally feel like I'm part of a community." – Frankie, 18

"Being in a place where so many of us share the same labels means we can shed them at the door – Here, I don't have to be the Jewish kid, or the gay kid; I can just be myself." – Sky, 18

Sentiments such as these were common at the Jewish LGBTQ and Ally Teen Leadership Retreat in early January, a joint project of Keshet and the Isabella Freedman Center, with support from the UJA Federation – and the second ever event of its kind. The weekend was a follow-up to the first LGBTQ Teen and Ally Shabbaton in August, when about a dozen LGBTQ Jewish teens and allies met for the first time to share their stories and make new friends. This winter, those teens, along with some new additions to the group, came together not only to create new memories as a now inseparable group of friends, but also to develop their leadership skills. They also came together to begin to plan and design a future event that will attract close to 100 Jewish LGBTQ teens and allies, to create and connect a critical mass of change makers for the queer Jewish teen community.

As a BBYO professional, I was privileged to be a part of staffing both of these gatherings. As the queer Jewish teen voice gains momentum, I am excited to learn how I and my organization can continue to be a part of the larger conversation on how the Jewish communal world can be more actively inclusive of, and better advocates for, our queer Jewish youth. As Rabbi Steve Greenberg, one of the weekend's speakers, said: *It is not enough to simply put a rainbow sticker on our doors and call ourselves inclusive*. **If we as Jewish youth professionals want to honestly say we are doing everything we can to fulfill our commitment to pluralism, and to work in accordance with the seven Jewish values Keshet articulates, we must take action now to provide a welcoming, loving home for these teens within our communities.**

My experience this weekend reminded me of just how important and urgent this mission is. However, my interest in these issues did not start there.

On the first night of the retreat, we kicked things off by going around the room and sharing our personal journeys of what led us to be part of such an event. As a straight ally and adult staff member, my story was a little bit different from most. Unlike many others in the circle, I have never had to come out to my family and friends to reveal my true gender or sexual orientation. I have never been discriminated against because of who I loved or what box I wanted to check on a form. These issues have never been "my" issues but they are issues faced by a lot of people that I love, and issues that I have come to care about deeply.

Last year, when one of the teens I work with came out to me, the question of how to be the best and most supportive ally possible became a professional, in addition to personal, one. **Suddenly, I was not just an adult who happened to know and love a lot of queer adult friends. Now, in my professional role as someone who works with youth, I was being trusted with a teen's deepest secret about his identity that he had not felt he was able to tell anyone else.**

I felt honored that he was confiding in me. But I didn't feel prepared. I knew immediately that I would forever be a part of this boy's story. The words I said, even the facial expression that I made, would impact his feelings of confidence and acceptance, and his decision about whether or not to further the coming out process. I didn't want to screw up!

In the end, I trusted my intuition. The conversation went well, and I was privileged that he continued to confide in me throughout the rest of his coming out to family and friends. However, the experience made me question why there wasn't more specific training for staff who work with teens on how to handle situations like these, and why there weren't more resources out there for Jewish LGBTQ youth that I could point him to.

Coincidentally, this experience also took place just as I was beginning to look for a topic to study for my capstone project in BBYO's Professional Development Institute, a graduate program where I am working toward an MBA in nonprofit management from Indiana University and a certificate in Informal Jewish Education from Hebrew College. As I approached my final year in the program, I was charged with identifying a research topic that would culminate in a proposal to BBYO on how to enhance or improve some aspect of the organization.

It was *beshert*. Though I contemplated topics like a cost analysis of kosher food at conventions or best practices for hotel contract negotiations, I knew it was a "light bulb moment" when I realized I could explore how my organization and others like it can better serve LGBTQ youth within our programming.

Half a year later, I have immersed myself in trying to come up with some good answers to this question. It turns out that even though BBYO and many Jewish youth groups have already won half the battle by pledging our support, there is still a lot of work to be done and many questions to be answered. For instance, what is the best way to train staff in using sensitive language, or combating homophobia? What are some best practices for gendered rooming at overnight conventions? Does aGay-Straight Alliance have a place in youth groups?

Ultimately, I think taking up this challenge in our organizations comes down to one main tenet of our religion: Do not stand idly by. A first and critically important step is signing the pledge by the same name. I am proud that many of BBYO's teen leaders and staff have already pledged their names both individually and as a community. But it's really about more than that. We cannot wait for blatant bullying or harassment to occur before we decide to take action. We must not stand idly by now, as teens are slipping through our reach and succumbing to feelings of loneliness and despair, maybe knowing that we will "tolerate" them, but not knowing that we will embrace them.

As I've talked to teens and adults to seek perspectives on these issues and guidelines on how to move forward, many ideas have come to the surface. I look forward to talking to many more people about successes and challenges within their organizations and welcome readers to contact me atjleving@bbyo.org as my exploration continues.



Teens and staff at the second LGBTQ Teen and Ally Shabbaton.

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Prepare for Passover

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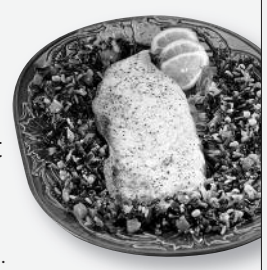

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Selected 16 Oz. Varieties



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LIMIT 4

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Paskesz Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips

10 Oz.



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64 Oz.



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Jewish Education

Diversity in Jewish Education:
Looking at our Classrooms Differently

Madison has a unique Jewish community. The combination of the diversity of the families we serve, influence of the University, and the size of our community make us a place unlike any other. We also have an amazing group of teachers in our community; university students who are here for a short time from other communities, lifelong Madisonians and transplants who have landed here from near and far. For these reasons, we feel it is very important to invest in our teachers, to help them grow and to give them a chance to take time out from their teaching to be students themselves.

This year, the 16th annual Madison Jewish Community Teacher's Conference was held at Temple Beth El in February. The conference was planned by the educational directors from Temple Beth El, Madison Jewish Community Day School, Gan HaYeled Preschool, Congregation Shaarei Shamayim and Beth Israel Center with help from the Interim Program Director at the Jewish Federation of Madison. The theme for the conference was **Diversity in Jewish Education: Looking at our classrooms differently**. We had an amazing turn-out; 42 educators from the Madison area attended the conference.

The keynote speaker for the conference was Shahanna McKinney-Baldon, the Chief Diversity Officer for the Madison Metropolitan School District. She was a dynamic speaker whose broad knowledge of the Jewish religion, Hebrew language, Torah and secular education energized participants right from the start. After the keynote, the teachers broke up into smaller discussion groups to explore two topics: Racial Diversity in Jewish Education with Shahanna McKinney –Baldon and Gender identity : Working with the reality of gender nonconforming/ gender fabulous youth and families with Liz Lusk, a social worker from the Madison Metropolitan School District.

It was amazing to see all of the educators from our community come together. They are so committed to this Jewish community, to the students and to working hard to be the best teachers they can be. Many of the teachers expressed how excited they were to bring what they learned into their classrooms and everyone was asking to learn more about these topics. Many thanks to everyone who was involved in making this conference a success!









Introducing Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim

Summer camps combine to create an exciting new summer experience for middle schoolers

The Jewish Federation of Madison is excited to announce a new program that will begin in the summer of 2013. The new program, Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim, will emphasize everything that campers have loved and enjoyed about Camp Shalom Noar and Camp Shalom Bogrim in previous summers.

Each week, the campers will be given weekly schedule options and will choose from a variety of field trips (divided by grade level) or multi-age programming at the Goodman Campus. Some of the campus based activities will include classic camp favorites like Ga-Ga, friendship bracelets, basketball and other sports, nature hikes, arts & crafts, and tie-dye. There will also be some new activities that focus on helping the campers develop new skills. These activities include yoga, the Red Cross Babysitting Course, photography, drama, various sports and more! The campers will have the opportunity to go biking, boating, swimming, and in-line skating, and to visit museums and other attractions in the Madison area. Each session will also include an overnight, Friday field trips to state parks and a few other all-camp trips off campus. There will also be special programming for the ninth graders including a four-day, three-night field trip.

If you have any questions about this program please contact Ellen Weismer, program@jewishmadison.org.

Come and Work at Camp Shalom ...
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✓ be outside in the sun at the Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus & Aquatic Center?
✓ earn money while having fun?

CAMP SHALOM!

Come and work at Camp Shalom during the summer of 2013. Applications are now being accepted for counselors and counselors in training. Both camps, Camp Shalom and Camp Shalom Noar-Bogrim, will be accepting applications.

Please apply on line at www.JewishMadison.org. For more information, or to have an application sent to you, please contact the Jewish Federation of Madison at 278-1808 or email campshalom@jewishmadison.org.

Camp Shalom, the day camp of the Jewish Federation of Madison, is for children entering Kindergarten through fifth grade. Summer employment would begin on June 17th and ends on August 16th. The daily schedule begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. Camp Shalom Noar- Bogrim is the middle school day camp of the Jewish Federation of Madison, for children entering sixth through ninth grade. Summer employment would begin on June 17th and end on August 2nd. The daily schedule begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m.

Camp Shalom Registration is ONLINE again this year* beginning on Wednesday, March 6, 2013. *Visit www.JewishMadison.org for more information, registration policies and enrollment policies. We hope to see you at Camp Shalom for the summer of 2013!



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





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Lilah Heifetz's grandmothers help her celebrate being "child of the week".

Join us for Schmooze & Tunes on Fridays

Sponsored by the Hilde L. Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool

SCHMOOZE...

Meet, socialize, and network with other parents and their children in the Jewish community. Find out about other programs in the Gan HaYeled Preschool. Meet other children who are two years of age and younger.

TUNES...

The Hilde Mosse Gan HaYeled Preschool has created a special program with our own music teacher, Susan Valko. Susan will be teaching *Music Together®* classes for families in the Jewish community on Friday mornings in the conference room of the Max Weinstein Jewish Community Building. *Music Together®* classes involve informal singing, chanting, moving, listening, and instrument playing activities that are developmentally appropriate for very young children and their care givers. Each week we'll have a little SCHMOOZING in the conference room with a challah snack and then head into the TUNES part of the program with a music class. This is a great way to meet other families and introduce your children to Jewish friendships that may last a lifetime!

Program: April 5th thru June 7th, no class on May 17th. Cost: $160.
Fridays : Class 1: 9:15am-10am (schmoozing until 10:15am)
Class 2: 10:15am-11am (schmoozing until 11:15am)

Minimum enrollment of 8 children is required. Contact Lynn at 278-1808 for more information or visit www.jewishmadison.org.



Yonim performs at the Waisman Center for the season opener.

March Madness with Yonim!

February was cold, but the Yonim dancers stayed warm showcasing their season opener at Waisman Center to a filled auditorium of families. Yonim also performed at the Jewish Community Purim carnival at Temple Beth El with gusto!

March Madness is alive with Yonim performances and retreats! At the spring retreat the Bet and Gimel dancers will bond with each other while learning some new recreational dances. Guest choreographer Cheryl will lead the group of 14 dancers for two fun packed hours. On March 10th these dancers will join the rest of the troupe to perform at Oakwood Village at 1:30 p.m. Finally, on March 17th the Yonim dancers will perform at Celebrating Youth at the Alliant Energy Center (time TBA) along many other talented groups from the Madison area.

The Yonim staff is hard at work preparing for the Sharsheret retreat in April featuring Li Chaio Ping, the UW Dance Department chair and renowned choreographer.

If your preschooler is interested in joining the fun, Ktantanim (for 3-5 year olds) will rehearse again on March 3rd and April 7th, with a final performance on May 5th. Please contact Dana Prager at yonim@jewishmadison.org for more information or check our website Yonim.org





Important Dates for Midrasha Spring 2013

This semester Midrasha meets at Temple Beth El on Wednesdays and at Beth Israel Center on Sundays.

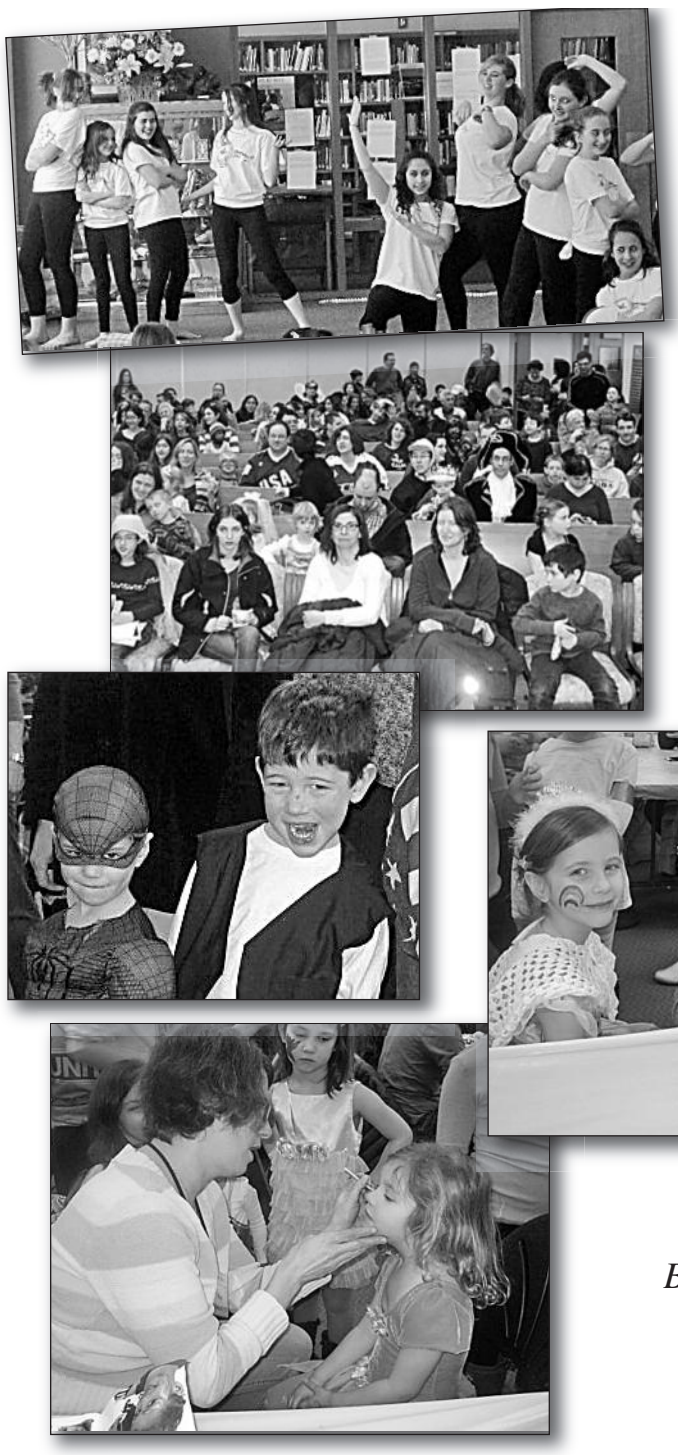
Wednesday, March 13th: **College Admissions and Jewish Life on Campus** with Zach Galin from Galin Education. Parents and students are invited to join us for this information session at 6:15 p.m. in the sanctuary at Temple Beth El.

Wednesday, March 20th: **Remembering and Relating to the Holocaust: Interfaith Youth Symposium**. During Midrasha the students will be meeting with the cast from CTM's production of *And Then They Came for Me: Remembering Anne Frank*. They will break into discussion groups with teens from other religious schools and youth groups to share and reflect on issues related to the Holocaust.

Wednesday, March 27th: No Midrasha – Spring Break

For more information about Midrasha contact Ellen Weismer, program@jewishmadison.org

Scenes from the Community Purim Carnival...



Special thanks to the sponsors of the Community Purim Carnival: Beth Israel Center, Congregation Shaarei Shamayim, Gan HaYeled Preschool, the Jewish Federation of Madison, Madison Jewish Community Day School, and Temple Beth El.

...and Middle-Eastern Inspired Fun at Vashti's Den

The evening at Vashti's Den was co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Madison, Beth Israel Center, Congregation Shaarei Shamayim, UW Hillel, and Hadassah.

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

Lechayim JSS Lights

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

March and April Lechayim Calendars

Join us for great food, congenial conversation and stimulating programs at Lechayim Lunchtime Plus, hosted by Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound Street.
Reservations are required; call Louise Goldstein at 608-278-1808, ext. 227 by the preceding Friday. The kosher meals are cooked at Beth Israel by Café O Catering. A donation of $6.15 is suggested. Menus are subject to change based on availability.

Monday, March 4
11:00-12:00 *Operation Generation Rx & MedDrop with the Wisconsin Society of Pharmacy Students*
11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00-1:00 Minestrone Soup, Penne with Marinara, Green Beans, Chocolate Cake
1:00-2:00 Prof. John Hall, *"Betrayal: The Removal of America's Indian Allies"*

Monday, March 11
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 Salad, Eggplant Parmesan, Garlic bread, Cookie, Fruit
1:00-2:00 Prof. Craig Werner, *"Hard Travelin': The Life and Legacy of Woody Guthrie"*

Monday, March 18
11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00-1:00 Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Zucchini, Peach Crisp, Cookies
1:00-2:00 Irish music with The Currach

Monday, March 25 – *Passover, Lechayim does not meet*

Monday, April 1 – *Passover, Lechayim does not meet*

Monday, April 8 – *Lechayim commemorates Yom HaShoah*
11:00-12:00 *Operation Immunization with the Wisconsin Society of Pharmacy Students*
11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00-1:00 Sweet and Sour Meatballs, Kasha Varnishkes, Carrots, Cole Slaw, Mandelbrodt
1:00-2:00 To be announced

Monday, April 15 – *Lechayim celebrates Yom Ha'Atzmaut*
11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00-1:00 Israeli Salad, Hummus & Pita, Potato/Cheese Borekas, Melon Slices
1:00-2:00 Shaliach Yehonatan Hazani Zion, *"Growing up in the Old City of Jerusalem"*

Monday, April 22
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 Chicken and Veggie Stir Fry, Mandarin Orange Salad, Chow Mein Noodles, Rice, Egg Roll, Almond Cookie
1:00-2:00 To be announced

Monday, April 29
11:30-12:00 Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00-1:00 Tuna Noodle Casserole with Peas, Carrot Coins, Apple Crisp
1:00-2:00 To be announced

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

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

Ждем Вас в Центре "Бет Израэль" по адресу: 1406 Mound Street. 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". Ожидаемая оплата: $6.15

Понедельник, 4 Марта
11:00-12:00 Операция "Поколение Rx и MedDrop " Встреча со студентами Фармацевтичесого Общества штата Висконсин
11:00-12:00 Измерение давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
12:00-1:00 Овощной суп, Макароны с соуом Маринара, зеленая фасоль и шоколадный торт
1:00-2:00 Профессор Джон Холл, Предательство: Удаление индийских союзников Америки".

Понедельник, 11 Марта

11:00-12:00 Измерение давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
12:00-1:00 Салат, баклажаны пармезан, чесночный хлеб, печенье и фрукты
1:00-2:00 Профессор Крейг Вернер, "Суровое Путешествие": Наследие Вуди Гатри

Понедельник, 18 Марта

11:00-12:00 Измерение давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
12:00-1:00 Мясной рулет, картофельное пюре, цукини, хрустящий пирог с персиками и печенье
1:00-2:00 Ирландская музыка с Currach

Понедельник, 25 Марта - Пасха, Лехаим не состоится

Понедельник, 1 Апреля Пасха, Лехаим не состоится

Понедельник, 8 Апреля Лехаим чтит память Йом ха-Шоа

11:00-12:00 Операция "Иммунизация " Встреча со студентами Фармацевтичесого Общества штата Висконсин
11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
12:00-1:00 Фрикадельки под сладко-кислым соусом, Каша гречневая, морковь, салат капустный. Миндальный хлеб
1:00-2:00

Понедельник, 15 Апреля Лехаим празднует Йом а-Ацмаут

11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
12:00-1:00 Израильский салат. Хумус и пита. Слоеные пирожки с картофелем и сыром . Дыня
1:00-2:00 Шалиах Йехонатан Хазани Зион, "Выращен в Старом городе Иерусалима"

Понедельник, 22 Апреля

11:00-12:00 Измерение давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
12:00-1:00 Курица жареная с овощами, салат с мандаринами и апельсинами и рисовая лапша. Яичные рулетики. Миндальное печенье 1:00-2:00

Понедельник, 29 Апреля

11:30-12:00 Йога на стуле с Бетси Хаимсон
12:00-1:00 Запеканка из тунца лапши и горошка. Морковь тушеная. Хрустящий яблочный пирог
1:00-2:00

About our Programs

Though not planned as such, our first two programs this month share a theme of injustice. The first such program is on **Monday, March 4**, when Professor John Hall presents "Betrayal: The Removal of America's Indian Allies." Hall is the Ambrose-Hesseltine Assistant Professor of U.S. Military History, currently working on the history of the removal of Native Americans from the southeast, from a military perspective. According to Hall's website, he is "…primarily interested in the ethnohistorical examination of military conflict and cooperation between the Native peoples of North America and European colonial powers…Native American and early American history with particular emphasis on the Revolutionary Era and the Early Republic." His research interest is in what he calls "small wars involving irregular forces: colonial conflicts, insurgencies, and proxy wars."


Prof. John Hall

Hall received his BA from the U.S. Military Academy, and MA and PhD from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He returned to West Point from 2003-06 to teach, and received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the history department. An active-duty career U.S. Army officer holding the rank of major, Hall is a Wisconsin native who, at the time of his appointment to his UW-Madison position, worked in the Future Warfare Division of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command in Virginia. His publications include *Uncommon Defense: Indian Allies in the Black Hawk War* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009) and 'A Reckless Waste of Blood and Treasure': The Last Campaign of the Second Seminole War," in *Between War and Peace: How America Ends Its Wars*, ed. Matthew Moten (New York: Free Press, 2011).

Many of us are familiar with the songs and story of Woody Guthrie, and we have a sense of his role in American cultural history, especially during the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl. However, Guthrie's influence extends far beyond those days, as we'll learn on **Monday, March 11** when Professor Craig Werner presents "Hard Travelin': The Legacy of Woody Guthrie." Starting out with the "lost verses" of "This Land Is Your Land," Werner will conduct a brief survey of Woody Guthrie's career and impact on three generations of younger singers, including Bob Dylan and Bruce Springsteen. You might wonder what you have in common with these singers of the '60's, '70's and beyond, but Guthrie's themes are timeless and the reasons for his impatience with injustice are with us even today. Werner makes the connection among the themes of those singers who followed Guthrie and who are the cultural heirs, bringing his timeless message to us today.


Prof. Craig Werner

Craig Werner teaches in the Deparment of Afro-American Studies and the Integrated Liberal Studies program at UW-Madison. He is a Senior Fellow at the Institute for the Humanities and a member of the Nominating Committee of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. A winner of teaching awards at the department, campus and national levels, he has published eight books including "A Change Is Gonna Come: Music, Race & the Soul of America," "Up Around the Bend: An Oral History of Creedence Clearwater Revival," and "Higher Ground: Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder, Curtis Mayfield and the Rise and Fall of Soul." He is finishing work on a book about music in the experience of Vietnam veterans.

Lechayim is a warm, welcoming and inclusive program. Many non-Jews join their Jewish friends at Lechayim and attend regularly. We like to honor the backgrounds of all our participants, so on **Monday, March 18** we'll tip our hats to all who have an Irish background, and mark St. Patrick's Day with the wild and charming Irish music of the Currach ("the Boat"). Members of the band include Sheila Shigley and Daithi Wolfe on fiddle (he's also the fiddler for Yid Vicious) and Darl Ridgley on the bohran (Irish drum). You may have heard Sheila on Wisconsin Public Radio's "Simply Folk" show from time to time, sharing her favorite songs and extensive knowledge. All sing beautifully and play with passion and wit, so come join in the fun!


Daithi, Darl, and Sheila of the Currach.
(Photo by Milt Leidner)

Transportation to Lechayim

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

Lechayim Snow Day Policy

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

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.

Transitions

Happy March Birthday

Anna Heifetz
Arie Carmi
Cleo Loftsgordon
Elsa Johnson
Hagit Vardi
Harold Farkas
Ida Wyman
Ilya Fiksel
Lillian Zwilling
Robert Schlesinger
Ruth Levey
Terrie Goren
Vlad Konovalov

Best Wishes for your Wellness

Betty Arnes
Lillian Zwilling

Bon Voyage, Welcome Back

Fay Nager, Florida
Rob Greenberg, Mexico
Merilyn Kupferberg, Florida

Welcome to your New Home

Armand Richman (Legacy Gardens)

Condolences

To the family of Ann Schlesinger Youmans, sister of Robert Schlesinger
To the family of Royal Rotter, husband of Muriel Rotter.

In Stacy's Words: *Freedom*



By Stacy Goldman

JSS Senior Adult Services

This month, we celebrate the holiday of Passover, commemorating the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt. Passover is a celebration of freedom, and it is at this time of year that we are encouraged to think and behave as if we ourselves—not just our ancestors—were freed from bondage.

I recently read a fabulous book by Rachel Naomi Remen, entitled *My Grandfather's Blessings*. It contains heartwarming stories surrounding Remen's childhood relationship with her beloved grandfather. At the end of the very last chapter of her book, the author describes one of the invaluable lessons she received from her grandfather about the Passover story. She recalls a conversation with him about how the Jews were reluctant to leave Egypt even when Moses told them that they were now free. She asks her grandfather, "But they were suffering, Grandpa. Why didn't they want to go?" Her grandfather responds sadly, "They knew how to suffer…they had done it for a long time and they were used to it. They did not know how to be free." He summarizes by saying, "The choice is never between slavery and freedom; we must always choose between slavery and the unknown."

We all have had moments in our lives when we have been 'slaves' to our fear. The opportunity to form a new relationship comes along and we recoil in anticipation of rejection. We learn of an exciting job opportunity, yet we choose not to apply, assuming that someone else must be more qualified. We would rather avoid trying new things than risk failure. We reject happiness because it might not last. The unknown can be frightening. But being frozen in fear can leave us empty and rob us of the opportunity to experience joy.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do." It takes enormous courage to take risks and embrace change. Things might not go our way every time. But perhaps we can begin to find a way out of our frozen state by asking ourselves, "What will ultimately give me the most satisfaction—remaining 'safe' yet afraid, or taking a chance and failing, but knowing that I gave it my best?" Sometimes the choice is unclear. But having the courage to reach out for a helping hand can give us the strength to take that first step toward freedom.

Let us reach out to others for strength and support, and let us offer our support to those who reach out.

Wishing everyone a Happy Passover!

B'Shalom,
Stacy

Goldman's Groaners

Got a good joke? Got a not-so-good joke? Got a HORRIBLE joke? Send them to sgoldman@jssmadison.org to be shared at Lechayim. Here's one to get you started:

A young Jewish man is waiting in line to be knighted by the Queen. He is to kneel in front of her and recite a sentence in Latin when she taps him on the shoulders with her sword. However, when his turn comes, he panics in the excitement of the moment and forgets the Latin. Then, thinking fast, he recites the only other sentence he knows in a foreign language, which he remembers from the Passover seder:

"Ma nishtana ha lyla ha zeh mi kol ha laylot."

Puzzled, Her Majesty turns to her advisor and whispers, "Why is this knight different from all other knights?"

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.

Jewish Social Services Brings Shabbat to Our Seniors



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

Attic Angel Place at 2:30 in the Garden Room
8301 Old Sauk Road
A program of JSS and Attic Angel Place. Music by Les Goldsmith and the assistance of Angel volunteers.
March 1, May 3

Capitol Lakes at 3:00 in the Grand Hall
333 West Main Street
A program of JSS and Capitol Lakes Retirement Community. Led by Rabbi Andrea Steinberger with the assistance of UW students through the UW-Hillel Foundation.
April 12, May 10

Oakwood Village University Woods at 4:00 in the Oaks' Community Room
6225 Mineral Point Road
A program of JSS and Oakwood Village University West. With the assistance of JSS volunteers and music by Lauren Mazur.
April 19

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

Spotlight: Saretta Burke

By Pamela Phillips Olson

In school, Saretta was always the tiniest, and when you are also the brightest, you need to be brave. Courage, warmth and humor became the defining elements of her personality.



Saretta Burke.
(Photo by Pamela Phillips Olson)

Saretta skipped a grade and then was absent for a full term due to whooping cough; she spent this "forced vacation" doing crafts and reading. Saretta never quite fit in with her classmates and her teachers became incredibly important to her.

Her favorites were the women who taught and ran the libraries as well. One day, Saretta got a ride home from her high school librarian. Saretta learned that although her wonderful teacher was not married, she had her own car, house, and career. "Don't depend on a man to take care of you," was her message.

Since Saretta's mother had already warned her that it would be hard for her to find a husband, she found her teacher's words to be encouraging. It occurred to Saretta that she could become a librarian!

She was about to apply to Northwestern, when her cousin, the "golden boy," of the family, jokingly suggested she apply to the University of Chicago. Saretta took it as a dare and bravely applied. She was accepted and her career choice was sealed!

She made a wide assortment of new friends in Chicago, but also kept in touch with her hometown friends in Oklahoma. Her best friend wrote about a boy coming to Chicago for training with the Navy. "Fix Bob up with some nice girls," she said. "He doesn't know anyone there."

Saretta tried to help him, but he didn' t want to meet anyone. He only had eyes for her! A marriage followed with four sons and a full, wonderful life. Bob passed away in 2006. During her 60 years of marriage, Saretta remained adventurous, travelling to Paris with a friend and to Peru with one of her sons.

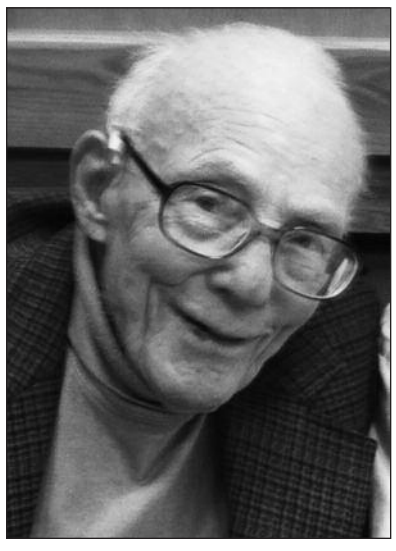
Now Saretta's home is full of original artwork done by friends, her sons, and herself. In addition, one hundred giraffes stand guard in the living room. Sophie the dachshund lounges on a scarlet throw on a plum-colored sectional couch. Saretta dresses in bold colors, wears artistic jewelry, and sports a matching cane. She is walking testimony to a creative life well lived! She plans to move soon to an apartment at the Gardens. She'll probably be the shortest resident, but before long, she will surely be surrounded by friends, love and laughter.

Some Scenes From Lechayim

Photos by Milt Leidner and Louise Goldstein



Stacy Goldman and Clara Sweet.



Abe Landsman celebrated his 99th birthday.



Presenter Joan Hall enjoyed lunch conversation with Ruth Calden.



Happy Birthday to volunteer Ike Lewis.



Sally Jamison shares funny postcards with Stacy Goldman.



Clara Sweet and Betsy Haimson celebrated their combined 170 years (see "Celebrate with Lechayim!" below).



Alice Loew chats with Joan Hall, after Joan's informative and lively discussion of the Dictionary of American Regional English.

Celebrate with Lechayim!

Our new CELEBRATION PROGRAM offers a fun way to show your support for JSS. Honor a special person or acknowledge a special day and share your celebration and commitment to the work of JSS.

PARTY PACKAGE: What better way to celebrate a special occasion than with your friends? Celebrate a birthday, anniversary, special occasion, or just enjoy some cake! $200

- Recognition in the Lechayim calendar, Lechayim Lights, and E-Connect
- "Party" includes balloon and token gift for honoree and special cake for all attendees
- Recognition during Lechayim program
- Recognition at our registration table

HOLIDAY OR COMMEMORATIVE PACKAGE: Acknowledge a favorite holiday or commemoration day to show your support for JSS. $150

- Recognition in the Lechayim calendar, Lechayim Lights, and E-Connect as a sponsor of a specified holiday or commemoration day
- Recognition during Lechayim program



SPONSOR A WEEK: Be a sponsor just because you believe in the important role Lechayim plays in the community. Sponsor in honor of volunteers, a loved one, or even yourself. $100

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Passover Seders

Oakwood Village University Woods
PASSOVER SEDER
with Jewish Social Services,
led by Sara Karon

THURSDAY, MARCH 28
11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Seating begins at 10:30, the Seder begins at 11:00 a.m.

In the Nakoma/Westmoreland Room
6205 Mineral Point Road

$16 per person. Family members are welcome!

RSVP to Jewish Social Services, 6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI 53719 by March 15 with your check to "Oakwood Village" and write "Seder" in the memo. Space is limited – don't wait to make your reservation!

Non-Oakwood residents and family are welcome to attend. Ask JSS about scholarships at 608-278-1808 or louise@jssmadison.org

Menu: Matzoh Ball Soup, Brisket, Potato Kugel, Asparagus, Lemon Sponge Cake.
Please indicate if you have any food allergies, or are either a vegan or vegetarian.

Please note: This meal is not included in the Oakwood meal plan.

Capitol Lakes
PASSOVER SEDER
with Jewish Social Services,
led by Les Goldsmith

FRIDAY, MARCH 29
11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Seating begins at 11:00, the Seder begins at 11:30 a.m.

In the Seasons Dining Room
333 West Main Street

$16 per person. Family members are welcome!

RSVP to Jewish Social Services, 6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI 53719 by March 15 with your check to "Capitol Lakes" and write "Seder" in the memo. Space is limited – don't wait to make your reservation!

Non-residents and family are welcome to attend. Ask JSS about scholarships at 608-278-1808 or louise@jssmadison.org

Menu: Matzoh Ball Soup, Brisket, Potato Kugel, Asparagus, Chocolate Cake with Berries.
Please indicate if you have any food allergies, or are either a vegan or vegetarian.

Please note: This meal is not included in the Capitol Lakes meal plan.

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

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

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.

Volunteer at Passover Seders

Jewish Social Services is holding two Passover Seders at retirement communities, for which there are volunteer opportunities. On March 28 we will be at Oakwood West, beginning set-up at 9:30 a.m. On March 29 we will be at Capitol Lakes, starting at 10:30 a.m. Volunteers will help set-up, escort and seat guests, pour wine, water and grape juice, participate in the Seder, assist dining room staff with serving and clearing, and other duties as they come up. Ten volunteers are needed at Capitol Lakes, where volunteers will receive a complementary meal, and five at Oakwood (information about a meal for volunteers is pending). This would be a suitable project for mature Bar Mitzvah-aged youth, but the work involved is fast-paced and not a suitable volunteer activity for children. Families are always welcome to attend as guests; the invitation and registration information can be found in "Lechayim Lights" in this issue.

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.*

Currently we are seeking Friendly Visitors for three elderly gentlemen, all living on the west or southwest side, and an elderly woman living on the near east side and another woman living in a downtown nursing home.

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.

The Driver Connection volunteers provide rides to appointments and community events. You'll only be called when we need you, and you only drive when you're 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 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 608-608-278-1808, 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!

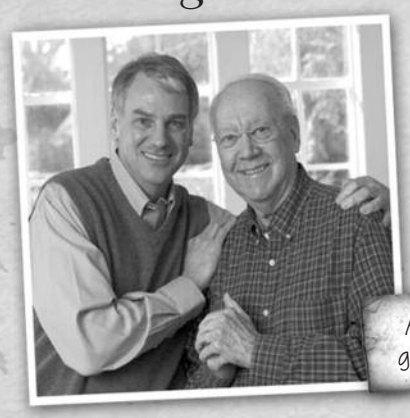
Deducting Expenses Incurred while Volunteering

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.

Fast Fact:

The Jewish Agency's new Project TEN ("ten" is the Hebrew word for "give") brings together Jewish young adults from Israel and around the world to spend three months working and learning together in vulnerable communities throughout the globe. While performing meaningful service projects that promote sustainable development, the volunteers participate in a unique, immersive service-learning framework that highlights Jewish values. You can volunteer in Hyderabad, India, Gondar, Ethiopia, Kiryat Shmona, Israel, and Oaxaca Mexico.
To learn more, visit tenprogram.org

It feels good to feel this well cared for.



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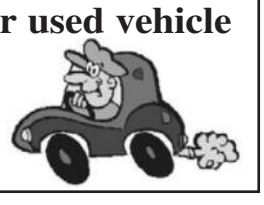

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This article is about the struggle of American and Soviet Jews regarding the emigration from the USSR (part 3).

Генрих Бабич

О борьбе за право советских евреев на эмиграцию

(продолжение)

В августе 1975 года произошло важное событие. В "Правде" было опубликовано сообщение о том, что Советский Союз присоединился к Декларации о правах человека, принятой ООН в 1948 году, которую СССР до тех пор не ратифицировал. В опубликованном "Правдой" документе, который был подписан в Хельсинки тридцатью тремя европейскими странами, а также США и Канадой, содержалось требование свободного перемещения информации и людей через границы государств. Документ устанавливал за человеком право на свободу мыслей, культуры, религии и убеждений. Более того, государства, подписавшие новую Декларацию, соглашались на регулярный контроль за осуществлением этих прав. Хельсинкские соглашения состояли из трех взаимосвязанных, как тогда говорили, "корзин": о разоружении, торговле и правах человека. Новый документ находился в русле политики "разрядки", которая началась в 1973 году. Декларация была принята СССР через шесть месяцев после того, как Советский Союз отказался принять ежегодную квоту на выезд 60 тысяч евреев в обмен на экономическую помощь Запада.

Обещания, данные в Хельсинки, не дошли до советских евреев. Ни один из известных "отказников" не получил разрешения на эмиграцию. За весь 1975 год было выдано только 12 тысяч выездных виз, втрое меньше, чем в 1973 году.

Щаранский становится одним из инициаторов создания Московской группы по контролю за соблюдением Хельсинкских соглашений в области прав человека (так называемой Хельсинкской группы), помощником академика Андрея Сахарова. Щаранский активно участвовал в еврейском движении и в демонстрациях протеста. Он был автором ряда писем и обращений еврейских активистов к советским властям и международной общественности. К 1976 году, встречаясь с аккредитованными в Москве иностранными журналистами, Щаранский начал передавать им информацию о преследованиях, которым подвергались активисты-правозащитники, о необоснованных отказах на выезд из СССР, о многочисленных случаях нарушений прав человека.

15 марта 1977 года полдюжины оперативников КГБ схватили Щаранского на улице и затолкали в стоявший тут же тюремный автомобиль. Началось следствие по обвинению в измене родине и антисоветской агитации. Обвинение утверждало, что Щаранский собирал и передавал на Запад списки лиц, которым было отказано в выезде из СССР. Эти списки содержали материалы о 1300 лицах, якобы располагавших военными и иными секретами, информацию о дислокации, ведомственной принадлежности и режиме секретности двухсот предприятий в разных городах Советского Союза, о руководящих работниках этих предприятий. Щаранский, как утверждало обвинение, делал все это по заданию иностранных разведывательных служб. Помимо этого, Щаранскому якобы была передана полученная по дипломатической почте анкета с перечнем вопросов разведывательного характера и Щаранский будто бы помогал ЦРУ устанавливать конспиративные контакты с учеными и специалистами, причастными к секретной информации. Кроме измены родине в форме шпионажа Щаранского обвиняли в "оказании иностранному государству помощи в проведении враждебной деятельности против СССР", в том, что он "передавал за рубеж материалы, намеренно искажающие действительную картину жизни в СССР" и "призывал правительства ряда стран, чтобы они, под предлогом заботы о правах человека, оказывали давление на Советский Союз, побуждая его изменить внутреннюю и внешнюю политику". Эти действия были также названы антисоветской агитацией. За подобные преступления уголовное законодательство предусматривало наказание вплоть до смертной казни. Такое развитие событий не имело прецедентов после смерти Сталина.

Американское правительство резко отреагировало на дело Щаранского. Президент Картер собрал специальную пресс-конференцию, на которой сказал, что он послал специальный запрос в Государственный Департамент и в ЦРУ о том, был ли Щаранский завербован правительственными организациями США. На этот запрос Президент получил отрицательный ответ. Картер заявил: "Я провел тщательную проверку, поскольку сомневался перед тем как сделать публичное заявление. Теперь я твердо убежден, что вопреки опубликованным в советской печати обвинениям, Щаранский никогда не был связан с ЦРУ".

Дело Щаранского поставило Президента Картера в трудное положение. Отношения с Советским Союзом строились им на основе двух приоритетных проблем – контроль за вооружениями и права человека. Американская сторона готовила существенные уступки по проблеме стратегических вооружений, а дело Щаранского вносило в переговорный процесс существенную напряженность. К этому добавлялось то, что в инаугурационной речи Картера содержались обещания по проблеме прав человека.

В Белом Доме состоялась встреча Картера и Громыко. Картер заявил, что перед тем как он пришел в Белый Дом Конгресс "связал развитие торговли с Советским Союзом с проблемой эмиграции евреев из СССР". На это Громыко ответил в стиле типичной советской демагогии: "Если мы предоставим список нарушений прав человека в США и в других странах, этот список будет огромным. Мы не делаем этого потому, что не хотим вмешиваться во внутренние дела других государств". Ответ Картера был такой: "Мы не думаем, что дело Щаранского не достойно внимания. Я его не раздуваю, но оно затрагивает широкие сегменты американского общества". Щекотливость положения состояла в том, что дело Щаранского являло собой грубое нарушение прав человека, но при этом нельзя было допустить, чтобы создавшаяся проблема нарушила отношения США с другой великой державой.

После ареста Щаранский был подвергнут более 300 допросам. Согласно советскому закону, арестованному должны были быть предъявлены обвинения не позднее, чем после девяти месяцев со дня ареста. В декабре 1977 года Щаранскому были представлены материалы дела в объеме 51 тома по 300 печатных страниц в каждом томе. Этот огромный объем материалов был предназначен для того, чтобы доказать обвинение в шпионаже. Были зарегистрированы все его телефонные переговоры с Западом. В деле содержались вырезки из западных газет, где была напечатана информация о нем. Тщательно были собраны прослушки его разговоров с друзьями. Сотни страниц содержали материалы Конгресса, где упоминалось его имя. Наконец, в 15 томах содержались показания сотни "отказников" из различных городов страны. Словом, дело напоминало пресловутые процессы середины 1930-х годов. Впрочем, другого ожидать было трудно, ведь дело вела одна и та же организация – КГБ.

На чтение материалов дела у Щаранского ушла вся весна 1978 года. Им было написано 3000 страниц замечаний. Он отказался от услуг адвоката защиты. Когда судья это разрешил, Щаранский понял, что смертная казнь ему не грозит. На суде в июле 1978 года Щаранский оспаривал все обвинения. Коллегией по уголовным делам Верховного суда РСФСР он был осуждён на 13 лет лишения свободы с отбытием первых трех лет в тюрьме, а последующих – в колонии строгого режима. Его не раз заключали в карцер за протесты против незаконных действий тюремного начальства. Щаранский неоднократно объявлял голодовки протеста, подвергался принудительному кормлению.

Приговор Щаранскому вызвал волну протестов по всему миру. В Конгрессе США и во множестве университетов были созданы комитеты в его защиту. Ассоциация Разработчиков Вычислительных Машин, которая насчитывала 35 тыс. членов, порвала всякие связи с Советским Союзом. К концу 1978 года 2400 американских ученых, включая 13 Нобелевских лауреатов, а также большое число исследователей, представляющих ведущие научные организации, заявили о том, что они не будут поддерживать никакие отношения с Советским Союзом до тех пор, пока Щаранский не будет освобожден.

Казалось бы, что это все только эмоции. Но последующая действительность показала, что суд над Щаранским и реакция на него в мире привели к важным результатам на уровне властных решений. Оказалось, что поправка Джексона-Вэника, которая устанавливала зависимость торговли с Советским Союзом от соблюдения прав человека и, в особенности, от эмиграции евреев из СССР, работает и преподносит советским властям определенные уроки. В конце 1978 года, когда мировое общественное мнение было взволновано судом над Щаранским и репрессивными мерами против диссидентов, количество виз, выданных евреям, начало увеличиваться. Советские власти никогда не сообщали данных о количестве виз. Об этом становилось известно де факто по количеству эмигрантов, прибывающих в Вену, которая играла роль эмигрантских ворот Советского Союза. Чувствовалось, что происходят определенные изменения. В марте 1979 года через Вену прошло беспрецедентное число 4.418 евреев, а всего в 1979 году эта цифра достигла 51 тыс. человек. Как потом оказалось, радость была преждевременной, так как в 1980 году эмиграция уменьшилась до 21.471человек, в 1981 году она составила 9.447 человек, а в 1982 году упала до 2.688 человек. Тем не менее, люди в СССР хлынули в ОВИР, а в Израиле резко возросло количество запросов на воссоединение с родственниками, живущими в СССР. Одновременно с этим проявилась другая тенденция – среди эмигрантов возросла доля тех, которые прибыв в Вену, изъявляли желание ехать не в Израиль, а в США. В правительстве Израиля даже раздавались требования о запрете евреям, прибывшим в Вену, направляться не в Израиль. В поддержку эмигрантов в свободе выбора страны нового места жительства выступил канцлер Австрии Крайский, который заявил: "Хотя русские выдают евреям визы в Израиль, у нас создается впечатление, что они заинтересованы в том, чтобы люди ехали не в Израиль. Это уменьшает их противоречия с арабами".

Эпопея Щаранского завершилась только в 1986 году, в горбачевскую перестройку. В результате специального соглашения между СССР и США его обменяли на мосту на границе Западного и Восточного Берлина на арестованных в США разведчиков СССР и других стран социалистического лагеря. В Израиле Щаранский был с почетом встречен премьер-министром Шимоном Пересом. Он активно включился в политическую деятельность, даже был министром правительства.

Авиталь Щаранская вела упорную борьбу за освобождение мужа. Они расстались молодыми, а после освобождения Натана в аэропорту его ждала женщина средних лет. В настоящее время у них две замужние дочери.

(окончание следует)



Натан Щаранский, 1999 год

Israel and the World

Jewish Federations Rally to Complete Ethiopian-Jewish *Aliyah*

In the final chapter of both a Jewish Federation effort and a personal journey for so many, a group of Ethiopian Jews gathered at the transit center in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A half-hour before sundown, the group formed two lines in the center's small courtyard, carrying nothing but small bags and backpacks. They exited through the center's gate, one by one, and walked silently through dirty alleys strewn with stinking trash and rotting animal bones, to the bus that would serve as the last leg of their Ethiopian journey, before boarding a plane to Israel.

"No one spoke; no one made a sound… except the soft sound of their feet taking them home," said Gary Aidekman, the immediate past president of the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ, who accompanied the group. "Then Asher Seyum, an emissary for The Jewish Agency for Israel, began to sing. *'Am Yisrael Chai, Am Yisrael Chai. The people of Israel live.'* At that moment, it was clear that the people of Israel live, truly one people united, caring and responsible for each other, and will be strong together."

Aidekman was part of a small cadre of Federation leaders that traveled to Ethiopia and Israel last month on The Jewish Federations of North America's "Completing the Journey" mission to bring the remaining Ethiopian Jews (Falas Mura) home to Israel. The mission kicked off the final year of Jewish Federation efforts that have spanned more than three decades of *aliyah*, which have successfully brought around 80,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel. At the start of 2013, just 2,000 Falas Mura remained in Ethiopia awaiting *aliyah* to Israel, according to the Israeli government.

Jewish Federation OF MADISON

Many Ethiopians, like Seyum, experienced a much more arduous journey, filled with violence and difficulty. As a teen, Seyum and his family walked 500 miles from Gondar, Ethiopia to Sudan, only to be thrown into detention camps, where many of the the Ethiopians were beaten or became ill. Fortunately, the government of Israel, with the help of North American Jewry, has intervened to ensure that these Ethiopian Jews, who can orally trace their lineage through seven generations, can now live freely in Israel.

This latest Federation mission raised $200,000 to help meet the goal of $6 million necessary for "Completing the Journey." Jewish Federation efforts have so far raised $4.2 million.

The mission began in Gondar, where the group witnessed the trying conditions of Ethiopian life, and observed the unique commitment of the Falas Mura to live Jewishly, through prayer and community life. They visited schools, clinics and community centers run by Jewish Federation partner agencies, The Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), and met with experts like JDC Medical Director Dr. Rick Hodes and volunteers from the Jewish Service Corps, who framed many of the issues surrounding Ethiopian-Israeli aliyah.

In Addis Ababa, mission participants accompanied the Ethiopian Jews on their last steps in Ethiopia, then traveled by plane together with the Falas Mura to Israel.

Michelle Barrack of Philadelphia, a National Young Leadership Cabinet member who participated in the mission, described the emotional experience: "A little girl came up to me, and I walked her the entire way from the transit house to the Israeli Embassy in Addis Ababa. She didn't want to hold her mother's hand...only mine. Then we had to say goodbye, and she didn't want to let go. When we told her that we'd see her again later that night at the airport, she let go and smiled. I cannot express how moving this was."

Finally, the group shared in the *Olims*' (new immigrants') first steps in Israel, and learned about the absorption process and resources available to aid Ethiopian-Jewish immigrants as they integrate into Israeli society. The mission concluded with a dinner with representatives from Almaya, Coor'at and the Atzmaut project, organizations and initiatives that provide resources and services to help these immigrants thrive in their new home.

"The story of the *Olim* is a ray of hope. We helped them prepare to leave the only life that they have ever known," said Barrack. "These people we ushered out of Ethiopia completed a journey from the Third World to the First World and renewed their hope for a future in which they may be self-authors and participants."

European Producers Eager to Ride Exploding Tel Aviv Bicycle Scene

By Cnaan Liphshiz

AMSTERDAM (JTA) -- A short ride on a luxury wooden bicycle can take much longer than expected in south Tel Aviv.

The roads are fine, Maxime van Gelder says, "but people keep asking you to stop and take their picture with the bike."

Van Gelder, the 22-year-old marketing director for the 2-year-old boutique Dutch bicycle maker Bough Bikes, was in Tel Aviv this month to help establish the city as the company's fourth international market, after New York, London and Berlin. Bough, based in the city of Alkmaar, manufactures the distinctive bikes entirely from sustainably grown French oak and sells them for about $1,600 a pop.

Van Gelder ended up leaving three bikes with Caspar Veldkamp, the Dutch ambassador to Israel, whose staff was to try them out before they were formally unveiled at the embassy's annual Holland Day event on Jan. 28.

"I know bikes and I know Tel Aviv and the advances the city has made, so I know it has the potential of being an ideal arena for us," van Gelder told JTA.

Bough isn't the only European bike maker to notice the growing demand for high-quality, luxury bicycles in Tel Aviv, whose residents are relying increasingly on bike-friendly developments that have reshaped the flat, congested metropolis into a world-class bicycle city.

Dozens of miles of bike lanes now wind along the iconic Rothschild and Arlozorov boulevards in central Tel Aviv; along the city's broad beach promenade; and most recently along Sheinkin Street, the epicenter of the city's vibrant cafe culture. In 2011, Tel Aviv joined some 100 other cities in launching a municipal bike-sharing service.

"We in Israel have always turned for inspiration to Europe's bicycle culture, and to Holland and Denmark in particular, so it's very exciting and perfectly logical that they are now looking back," said Oded Gilad, a spokesman for the nonprofit Israel for Bikes. "There is a real bicycle renaissance in Israel, and especially in Tel Aviv.'"

Among the pioneers in Israel's European-inspired bicycle market is Ari Rozenweig of Copenhagen, who seven years ago opened Israel's first boutique bicycle factory.

"In comparison to Europeans, Israelis really love bling bling," said Rozenzweig, 41, a former professional dancer who immigrated to Israel shortly before opening his shop.

While Danish and Dutch cyclists prefer the reliability and low profile of a good kibbutz bicycle over a snazzy mountain bike, Rozenzweig says, "Israelis will buy anything special or flashy. It's good for business and I like their openness to novelty, but sometimes they buy crap they don't need."

In 2010, Israel's adoption of European

(Continued on page 31)


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An Israeli soldier riding her bicycle past a graffiti-painted wall in Tel Aviv, 2012. (Photo Serge Attal/FLASH90)

Bicycling

Continued from page 30

standards for electric bicycles attracted other foreign bike makers: Kalkhoff, a high-quality German brand, is now available through the Israeli bicycle supply company Moto Ofan. The Dutch Gazelle brand and the German A2B electric bicycle also are now available in Israel.

A 2012 survey by the Heker Rating Marketing Surveys reported that in two years, the number of cyclists in Tel Aviv has increased by 50 percent, from 12,000 who cycled to work every day in 2010 to 18,000 last year. Meanwhile, the number of drivers has dropped in the same time period by 5 percent.

Even as Israeli bike enthusiasm flourishes, the local infrastructure still leaves much to be desired, the recent advances notwithstanding. In the past five years, an average of 15 cyclists were killed on the road annually and another 100 or so sustained moderate to serious injuries in a nation of 7 million people and 1 million bicycles, according to data compiled by the Or Yarok road safety association.

The figures are high compared to the 22 cyclists killed in 2012 in Denmark, a nation of 5.5 million people and 4.4 million bicycles, according to a study by the University of Technology in Sydney.

"Drivers are generally unaware of cyclers and bicycle paths, which are not always well defined, and this makes cycling comparatively dangerous in Israel," Rozenzweig said.

Rosenzweig says it will take another 20 to 30 years until Israel matches the bicycle friendliness of countries like Holland and Denmark.

"Like everything here, it's going to take a lot of lobbying," he said. "But we'll get there."



Maxime van Gelder of the Bough Bike company in the Netherlands with one of the bike maker's luxury models, January 2013. (Photo by Cnaan Liphshiz)

Passover Greetings from

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From the Mid-east to the Mid-west:

A Shaliach's Exploration in America's Dairyland

By Yehonatan Hazani Zion

Shalom Madison! Happy days are coming when Purim has just gone and Pesach is just around the corner. I hope you all came and enjoyed all that had to offer: the Federations's Hamantashen baking at Temple Beth El, my Rosh Chodesh program about Israeli humor and of course I hope you all came to the Purim carnival, and watched the wonderful Purim Shpiel that was written and performed by the educators of the community. I hope you weren't embarrassed too much…

I also hope you all enjoyed the Israeli film Festival that took place at Hillel. We screened wonderful movies about Israeli current events and social and historical issues such as the Holocaust, Arabs in Israel and the LGBT scene in Israel.

I had the great opportunity to be part of some of Madison's Jewish community events and programs last month. I was happy to meet the 5th graders of Congregation Shaarei Shamayim's Sunday school. I taught them about the differences between Israel and the US. We touched a bit on the history of Israel, and of course some current events. I was also privileged to meet the 3rd graders of Beth Israel Center. They were having a session about Israel so I came and talked about my home town – Jerusalem with its mix of sadness and happiness and for another class I talked about the Golan Heights. The students were curious and now they surely have some knowledge about Israel! Next month I am going to be with the 3rd graders of Temple Beth El and I am looking forward to it. I met with the mission group from TBE that plans to go to Israel in 2014. They had a planning and information meeting and I hope that I helped some answer their questions.

Eden and I had the opportunity to speak before a McFarland middle school. They are having a series about the Middle East and we came to show our perspective about the Holy Land, what it was like to grow up there, what the differences are between here and there. I hope those students will use this knowledge and continue exploring other nations and cultures!

We can't speak about Israel without talking about the elections. So, as you probably heard, the results surprised us all for sure. I thought that Likud, the big right wing party would win by a landslide again and the only question will be who will sit in the opposition and what will be the size of it. But the "Yesh Atid" party, led by Yair Lapid, a central party who wants to promote issues such as equality in army service to all of Israeli society won 19 mandates (seats) in the parliament, way more than it was predicted. This means that the government probably will be less right wing and extreme. And most important, in my point of view, there is a chance that the coalition will be without Ultra-Orthodox! This means more religious "rights" and freedom in Israel. Like always I pray for Shalom(peace) and that the new government will do everything to achieve agreement with the Palestinians.

Midrasha is back in session and along with my Hebrew classes I am also teaching a class called "Growing Up Israeli"– how it was for me to grow up as an Israeli – from kindergarten to the army and university. I also teach a class about the history of the Israeli-Arab conflict and how it is affects Israel today.

I am inviting everyone again to join our beginners' Hebrew class, meeting Tuesdays, 7:15, at the Federation building.

The next Rosh Chodesh program will be about "Edot" in Israel. In other words – where do Israelis come from? Is there a different between a Jew from Yemen and a Jew from Germany? What are the differences regarding those places and how do they affect the Israeli society today? The program will be on March 10th and the place will be advertised later on. Please come!

Please feel free to contact me regarding Israel or Hebrew –
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The beginning of Adar with Gan HaYeled kids.



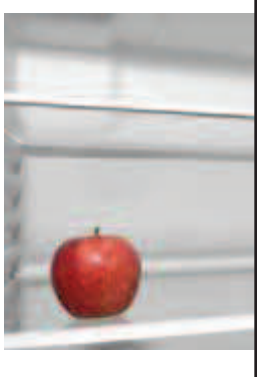
Chug Ivrit kids learning about Israel.



IF TOO MUCH MATZAH IS ALL YOU HAVE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THIS PASSOVER, THEN YOU'RE ONE OF THE LUCKY ONES.

You know the feeling. It's mid-Passover and it seems like there's nothing to eat but matzah. Take a moment to think about the countless people at home, in Israel and around the world who will go hungry this Passover. You can help—with your donation, we can care for the most vulnerable in our community, and reach out to Jews in more than 70 countries with food aid and lifesaving assistance.



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