

SHALOM

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Federation, Alvernia University bring renowned Holocaust educator to Berks

Dr. Rachel Korazim, a teacher at some of Israel's most distinguished educational institutions, will bring her insights on the Holocaust to Berks County Friday, April 5, and Sunday, April 7.

She is a freelance Jewish education consultant on developing curriculum that focuses on Israel and Holocaust education. Korazim teaches at Israel's Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies and Shalom Hartman Institute as well as numerous world Jewish communities. She is a guest lecturer at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem.

Her visit is made possible through a shared partnership between Alvernia University and Jewish Federation of Reading.

Seminars for educators, April 5

Korazim will offer two free seminars for educators Friday, April 5. The seminars will be offered at Alvernia's Upland Center and are coordinated by Frank J. Vecchio, Director of Field Experiences for Alvernia's Education Department. The morning session is designed for middle school and high school teachers and the afternoon session is focused on faculty and staff of colleges and universities. The sessions, entitled, "Holocaust Remembrance — Educational Considerations in Teaching about the Holocaust", explore the challenges of creating meaningful courses in Holocaust education when molding such a vast topic into an academic structure.

Oheb Sholom service, April 5

Korazim will be the featured speaker at Shabbat services April 5 at 6 p.m. at Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom in Wyomissing. Her topic will be "Echoes of the Holocaust in Israeli Literature."

In announcing the appearance, Rabbi Brian Michelson noted that Korazim addressed participants in our community's recent mission to Israel, and that she was one of the most captivating speakers the group heard.

"This will be a service not to be missed," he said.

Yom HaShoah Remembrance, April 7

In the spirit of shared tribute, Alvernia University and the Jewish Federation of Reading gather to remember the victims of the Holocaust and ghetto uprisings in a public observance Sunday, April 7 at 3 p.m. in the Bernardine Hall Lecture Hall at Alvernia..

Korazim will be the keynote speaker. Her lecture is titled "About Numbers, Pictures and Words." She will talk about humanizing the millions of victims, going beyond the numbers, and looking for the beauty destroyed in the pictures that portray atrocities. She will also discuss the importance of paying close attention to how we speak and what we say about those who perished.

The remembrance will conclude with a memorial candle-lighting service led by survivors and family members of survivors.

Yom HaShoah commemorates the Holocaust and honors the 6 million Jews who were murdered as part of the Nazis' systematic plan to exterminate the Jewish people. In Hebrew, it means "Day of the Calamity." It is also the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, which is observed this year on Monday, April 8.

About the speaker

Dr. Rachel Korazim is a graduate of Haifa University with a Ph.D. in Jewish education.



Since her first Shlichut (Outreach) to Canada, where she was the head of a JAFI delegation from 1985 to 1988, she continues to be involved with Jewish education worldwide. Her work involves creating and implementing in-service training programs for educators, writing educational materials, counseling and teaching, and she has lectured extensively in the U.S., Canada, Latin America and Europe.

She also worked as the Academic Director of Distance Learning Programs at The Jewish Agency for Israel Department of Education in Jerusalem. When not lecturing abroad, Korazim resides in Tel Aviv.



Boots on the Ground campaign gets moving

Lorri Oziri, center, Director of Development for Opportunity House and Alvin Updegrove, right, Opportunity House client accept Boscov's gift cards and a pair of boots from Paul Landry, Director of Development for the Jewish Federation. The cards were from an anonymous donor who pledged to provide footwear for an Opportunity House client for every donor who increased their gift to the 2013 Jewish Community Campaign by \$250 or made a new gift of \$250. The donations will be in the form of Boscov's gift cards, and this first donation included 20 cards.



Colorful costumes galore at Purim celebrations

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Where the Federation's endowment money is going

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Play ball at the annual meeting

Page 3

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE: The latest news from Pennsylvania's Department of Aging

Page 12



2013 totals as of March 15 Jewish Community Campaign \$251,530

*Includes transfers from Donor Advised Funds

Federation News

Endowment vital to maintaining programs

By Paul L. Landry
What happened to the money the Federation received from the sale of the JCC building?
 and
Now that you have the money from the sale of the JCC building, why do you need to run an Annual Campaign?



funds are professionally managed and an investment policy statement is in place. At the time of the sale, the board addressed any concerns that the fund may be spent down by passing a resolution requiring that any decision to invade the principal of the fund for any reason would require a two-thirds board vote.

The earnings from the monies are used at a rate recommended by the Finance Committee and supported by empirical data to ensure the principal is not invaded. Additional safeguards are being researched and considered.

Now that you have the money from the sale of the JCC building, why do you need to run an Annual Campaign?

The necessity for holding an annual Jewish Community Campaign comes from the breadth of programs and services the Federation offers each year — Lakin

Early Education Center, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Community High School of Gratz College, Friendship Circle, Jewish-themed trips, events, movies, etc., awards for Jewish summer camps and Israel study programs, PJ Library, transportation and food pantry services, and others. Unlike some Federations, we are a functional Federation — we do it all under one umbrella!

The Federation budget for the 2012-2013 fiscal year is \$1,093,600. Of that amount only \$268,000 will come from interest income and the endowment. The remainder of the funding will come from operating income (the amount we charge for some of our programs, the annual Jewish Community Campaign and some grant and program specific underwriting.) Without the income from the Campaign,

the Federation would have to drastically slash its services or consume its future by spending down its endowment.

This policy is no different than any of the other nonprofit organizations in the community and countrywide — all of which manage their endowment in the same way. They use some of the annual earnings from the endowment to support operations with the rest of the earnings re-invested to grow the endowment and provide a financial cushion in case of emergency.

I hope this explanation is helpful, and I am willing to speak with anyone who has further questions. Just call me at 610-921-0624 or email me at paul@jreading.org.

And don't forget to put the Federation in your will !!!!

These are two of the questions frequently asked by Federation and JCC members that I meet. So I thought that I would address those questions in this month's column.

What happened to the money the Federation received from the sale of the JCC building?

The proceeds from the sale of the JCC building are alive and well — secure in the Federation's endowment fund. The

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Life advice from Earnest M., Resident and Welcome Committee Member



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Our sequester problems

By Alvin Katz
Chairman

The sequester is now a reality. Many in this country didn't think our leaders would let this happen, but they did. There are many opinions as to what the effect will be on the economy and individuals, but one thing is certain and that is that the reduction in discretionary income



will directly affect nonprofits and their programming. With less take-home pay many families will be readjusting their budgets and making economic decisions on how to spend what's left after fixed expenses. Nonprofit organizations such as Jewish Federation of Reading are in the same boat.

What does this mean for the Reading Jewish community? The Federation needs to reassess our programming and budgeting to the new reality. We hope we can depend on our contributors to continue to support our mission

so we can maintain the high level and standards of programming and services that we currently offer. The Reading Jewish community relies on the Federation in many ways. Adult and youth programming, the Lakin Early Education Center, the Holocaust Library & Resource Center, the senior Friendship Circle, Food Pantry, educational grants to Keshet Zion, Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom and the Chabad Center of Berks County for communitywide programming and Jewish Family Service are all recipients of funding support from

the Federation, as well as allocations to Israel.

The Reading Federation has been very fortunate in the past to be able to fund all these activities, but the future is an unknown.

The Federation staff and lay leaders have a very challenging time ahead, but we are up to the task. We need to live within our budget, and we want to maintain the high-quality services now being provided, so please help us.

"When times get tough, the tough get going". Let that be our rallying cry.

From the President's Desk

What is Cuba like? It's complicated

By Tammy K. Mitgang
President

"Life, misfortunes, isolation, abandonment, poverty, are battlefields which have their heroes; obscure heroes, sometimes greater than the illustrious heroes"
-Victor Hugo



"Hugo Chavez is a hero to us. We are praying for him." Not quite the response that our bus filled with Jewish Federation leadership expected to hear, but it was the emotion in our guide's voice that resonated most in my mind and continues to do so today, nearly a month since setting foot on the island nation. Her comments were made when fielding questions about Venezuela's president, his declining health and his hospitalization in Cuba. (note: Chavez died a few weeks after our return to the U.S.)

But we were reminded that Cuba is plagued with blackouts, rationed food and a struggling economy and Chavez came to its aid. He embraced Cuba after the Soviet withdrawal in the early 1990s, and Venezuela quickly became Cuba's closest ally, trading oil for medical

personnel. As he faced serious health challenges, the people of Cuba had not forgotten their ailing friend.

Our guide is beautiful, smart and educated. An attorney and mother, she works as a professional guide to supplement her legal work. Blessed with a sultry voice (she serenaded the group over dinner), she captivated us with her grace and resiliency. All guides are employed by the Cuban government, and guiding affords her a good living and a means to care for her child and an elderly parent who lives with them. "We are family," she stated, proud and resolute. Growing old in Cuba is bleak for those living alone on a monthly pension of \$8.

When asked about Cuba, I struggle to describe it. Its complexity makes it difficult to summarize in a few lines, and our time was spent primarily in the once cosmopolitan capital of Havana (Centro Habana and Habana Vieja with excursions to Vedado and Miramar). To me, Cuba is an island of layers. Layers of people create an ethnic mosaic blending cultures and traditions. Layers of families exist in homes passed down from generation to generation, held together by necessity. Layers of puffed, peeling paint decorate decaying buildings like frosting on a cake,

More photos from Cuba, Pages 6 and 7

disguising the neglect and hardship. And, music and color are everywhere — layers of instruments, rhythms and brilliant colors celebrate the resiliency of its people. Even its Jewish community exists in layers — young and old, Ashkenazic and Sephardic, Orthodox, returnees and those first exploring Jewish practice and prayer.

There is laughter amidst the impoverished landscape that still beats the drum of the revolution, an uncomfortable homage to a government that requires conformity. Tributes to El Presidente (Fidel Castro) pop-up in awkward places, and images of "Che" Guevara outnumber the vintage cars that populate the streets. The people are warm and welcoming. They work hard for little and were openly appreciative of the "gifts" — medicine, health-care items, clothes and toiletries brought by mission groups such as our Federation group from the U.S.

And there are the children. Perhaps most memorable are the bright faces of the children filled with excitement as we served them cake and soda and gave them small bags of gifts — toothbrushes, crayons and small bars of soap; all luxuries in a country just a short

45-minute flight from Miami.

The Jews of Cuba are experiencing a renaissance due in part to the support of Jewish communities such as Reading and its support of JDC and organizations such as Jewish Cuba Connection led by Stan Falkenstein. Cuba itself is changing, slowly. Passports are now available to Cubans but remain unaffordable for most. For Europeans and most of the world, Cuba is a tourist destination that is easily accessible from their point of departure but with the U.S. embargo firmly in place, opportunities for U.S. citizens to visit are limited and specific.

And, the world is watching to see how the recent death of Chavez will impact Cuba and Latin America's most vulnerable countries. If the chosen successor abandons the critical trade deals that are its lifeline, Cuba may face yet another fiscal cliff.

Cuba? It's complicated.

If you want to learn more about Cuba, perhaps it is best done firsthand. Many of you have approached me about a community mission to Cuba, and it is doable. Email me (tammym@JFReading.org) or call me – 610-921-0624 and I will add you to my growing list.

It's Simcha Supplement time

If you had or are having a bar/bat mitzvah or graduation (high school or higher) in your family this Jewish year, share the good news with the community. Please submit a few sentences about the person and his or her accomplishment, along with a photo. Text and photos can be sent to Marknem@aol.com or to the Federation office.

DEADLINE IS APRIL 30.

WE CANNOT GUARANTEE PUBLICATION OF ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE

SHALOM

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Deadline for the May issue is April 5

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Cinema through a Jewish lens

Claudia Strauss of Albright College, right, moderates "Cinema: The Jewish Lens" presented at the JCC. This series and lunch were underwritten by the Rubin Educational Fund of the Jewish Federation of Reading. More than 40 members of the Jewish community attended the four-part film series offered by JerusalemOnlineU.com.

Trivia and Deli Night delicious fun at the JCC



Louise Zeidman, proud mom of Trivia Game Night and Deli MC David Zeidman, is flanked by her daughters Joan Zeidman and Susan Zeidman Goresko along with Mariette Jacobson at the March 2 JCC event.



Bill Sedlis and Sandy Fishman. Bill, our resident space expert, led his team to a win. About 60 people took part in the big trivia contest.

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Purim a big day for parties around Reading

Anyone looking for a party had no shortage of options at Purim this year. It all started with the annual community observance held at Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom this year, followed by a special breakfast the next day at Keshet Zion. The JCC held its annual Purim Carnival that afternoon for the youngest members of the community. That was followed by an event at the Chabad Center. And the students at Gratz Jewish Community High School got into the act, too, holding a special open house and Purim party as the holiday came to a close.

JCC Purim Carnival



Rich and Noah Alweis with Rebecca Balchunas, one of the BBYO members who helped make the JCC Purim Carnival a big success. Thank you volunteers: Rachel McIntosh, Rebecca Balchunas, Aaron Ure, Tracey Wilson, Rachel Kislin, Cecily Hewins, Amit Lift, Jessica McIntosh, Megan McIntosh and Mindy McIntosh.



Making crowns in the craft room.



Big fun all around with games and activities at the JCC.



"King" Carole Robinson reads PJ Library book "The Mystery Bear: A Purim Story" by Leone Adelson to many attentive listeners at the Purim Carnival held at the JCC.



Ben and Michele Leisawitz bring Leah, one of our youngest PJ library participants, to her first Purim Carnival.

Chabad Center



Rob Oppenheimer and Meir Mazuz discuss rounding up the "Bad Guy" (Haman) prior to the reading of the Megillah at Chabad Center.



- Rabbi Yosef Lipsker joins the Goldberg 'boys' during the Purim festivities at Chabad Center.

Gratz JCHS



MISSION TO CUBA



Ernest Hemingway's beloved fishing boat *Pilar* was a nickname for his wife, Pauline and the name of the woman leader of the partisan band in "For Whom the Bell Tolls," his 1940 novel about the Spanish Civil War. He regularly fished for swordfish and marlin in the waterways of Key West, Marquesas Keys and the Gulf Stream off of Cuba and is credited with establishing sport fishing. Hemingway is reported to have obtained permission from the U.S. embassy to take *Pilar* on patrols along the north coast of Cuba, hunting U-boats shortly after America entered into World War II. Several of Hemingway's books were influenced by time spent on the boat, "The Old Man and the Sea" and "Islands in the Stream." The boat is in dry dock at Finca La Vigía, located on the outskirts of Havana. The estate is the only residence he had outside of the U.S.

A group of 34 executive directors and guests (Reading - Tammy & Jeff Mitgang) from Small Jewish Federation communities across the United States left Miami on Feb. 12 – destination Havana, Cuba. The mission met with the leaders of the three Havana synagogues and leaders from the Guantanamo and Santiago Jewish communities who traveled across the country to join us. They all welcomed the opportunity to share their community's history, challenges and opportunities. They expressed deep appreciation for the gifts that were brought to their congregations — altogether more than 3,000 pounds of vitally needed items including medicine, vitamins, clothes, school and art supplies, eyeglasses, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and first aid kits. Jewish leaders were thrilled by the quality and amount of gifts that their congregants badly need.

As is our Jewish tradition, the participants also practiced *Tikun Olam*, visiting the leaders and members of a local community center during which the mission distributed aid. The people in the group were the first foreign visitors to the center in decades.



Ernest Hemingway's villa, Finca La Vigía, is preserved in the same meticulous order it was in when Hemingway lived there. His library contains more than 9,000 books and the rooms are filled with hunting trophies from African safaris, personal possessions, his typewriter and beautiful works of art. A pet cemetery is located on the grounds (he had 50 pet cats during his lifetime).



A man walks past homes built with salvaged boards, tin and sheet metal and plastic tarps. A Volkswagen Beetle in need of repairs sits along the narrow road in what is one of Havana's poorest neighborhoods.



A family gathers to watch the motorcoach inch through the narrow streets, an unusual sight in a small town. The bus was en route to a community center where World ORT in cooperation with the Cuban government provides programs for underserved children. For Tammy Mitgang and her Federation colleagues, the visit to the center was a highlight of the mission..



Holding her new "Barbie" doll, a little girl enjoys Shabbat dinner at Centro Sefaradi following Kabbalat Shabbat Services. The Federations collectively sponsored the Shabbat dinner that included chicken. Meat is a luxury in the day-to-day lives of Cubans. She and her family are planning to make Aliyah to Israel in a few weeks.



Mission participants join with members of Centro Sefaradi for a time of sharing after services.



Shabbat in Cuba. Lighting candles, blessing the wine and bread – all shared experiences for Jews around the world to welcome Shabbat.



Daniel Chejfic, Federation exec from Dutchess County (Poughkeepsie), N.Y., views the history of the Jews of Cuba in a montage at the Patronado, the largest synagogue and community center in the heart of Havana. The Center was transformed with the support of the American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and the Jewish Federation of Miami. The facility includes a pharmacy, a gym and meeting and recreation rooms. It was visited by Fidel Castro and Pope John Paul II in 1998. Though half the size of its original structure, the Patronato is the center of Jewish life in Cuba. Chejfic also served as an interpreter for our group. Thank you, Daniel!



The poolside view of the ocean is from a table at a paladare, a small private restaurant located in Miramar.



"54 Years of Struggle and Victory", the headlines on one of Havana's many billboards celebrating the revolution. The woman pictured getting into the car is hitchhiking, a common practice amongst Cubans due to lack of fuel and public transportation. It is considered safe and a goodwill gesture to offer a lift.



A mezuzah graces a magnificent doorway into Hotel Raquel a Jewish-themed hotel in the heart of Vieja.

MISSION TO CUBA



During the 1960s and '70s, John Lennon and the Beatles were banned from Cuba. Today visitors such as Tammy Mitgang can share a bench with "John" (statue by sculptor, José Villa Soverion) in John Lennon Park. The statue was unveiled by Fidel Castro in 2000 on the 20th anniversary of Lennon's murder. On a marble tile at the foot of the bench is an inscription from the lyrics of his song "Imagine,: "You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one."



Havana's Columbus Cemetery is one of the largest in the world (135 acres) and is where nearly 2 million people have been buried. Everywhere you look, monuments and sculpture are being renovated by the government. In this picture, a pietà is being restored by a team of workers. The cemetery is a major tourist destination for the island.



The fine art of cigar rolling is demonstrated in a hotel lobby.



Located in the Plaza de la Catedral, Catedral de San Cristobal, is a national monument. The Baroque church is considered to be the most beautiful in the Americas.



A parade passes through the Plaza de Armas in La Habana Vieja.



Music fills the air, day and night, in Cuba and is an important means of income.

Dance at Early Education Center takes kids 'Over the Rainbow'



"Really, the house just fell on the Wicked Witch of the West!" Lakin Early Education School students discuss the fate of Oz' most infamous characters prior to the start of "Over the Rainbow," the annual winter preschool dinner & dance held Feb. 20.



Lori B. Donofrio-Galley and her favorite, courageous Lion join in the 'Over the Rainbow' celebration.

Community News

Albert Boscov, Lenin Agudio to receive award from HIAS

HIAS Pennsylvania, Philadelphia will honor Albert Boscov, Chairman of Boscov's Department Stores, LLC and Lenin Agudo, Reading's Director of Community Development, immigrants from two different eras and backgrounds, for their work in contributing to the economic vitality of the region. The award will be presented April 23 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Westin, 99 S. 17th St. in Philadelphia. The Annual Golden Door Awards celebrate HIAS Pennsylvania achievements and honor those who share its vision. The theme of this year's event is "For the Children."

In keeping with the teaching to "welcome the stranger," HIAS Pennsylvania, formerly known as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, is a humanitarian life-line for refugees and immigrants of all backgrounds. During this time of volatile immigration

policy and turmoil in the world, the organization's efforts are of growing importance. This past year, HIAS Pennsylvania resettled 155 refugees, provided legal assistance to over 2,000 individuals and saw a 30 percent rise in requests for assistance with citizenship applications. For more information contact Marisa Falcon at mfalcon@hiaspa.org or 215-832-0940.

Recently, Boscov was the First Inductee of the PA Retailers' Hall of Fame, a statewide honor. The event was co-chaired in March by Gov. Tom Corbett, Gov. Ed Rendell and Gov. Tom Ridge and was attended by 620 people at the Crowne Plaza, Wyomissing.

A portion of the net proceeds benefited Our City Reading. Founded by Boscov, the nonprofit development group has refurbished more than 500 rundown city homes for first-time home buyers.

Journalist offers insights on Israel

Gil Hoffman, chief political correspondent and analyst for *The Jerusalem Post*, spoke to 75 students and community members on the Penn State Berks campus March 12. The free public event was made possible by Penn State Berks, Jewish Federation of Reading and World Affairs Council of Greater Reading.

With Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expected to form his government in a matter of days, Hoffman's insights into its formation, reflections on the recent elections and in anticipation of President Barack Obama's upcoming visit to Israel and the Middle East, there was much to talk about. With a style worthy of a spot on "The Colbert Report", Hoffman was current, informative and highly entertaining.

Thanks to Penn State Berks for hosting this special world affairs event.

Well-connected to Israeli and Palestinian leaders, Hoffman has interviewed every major figure across the Israeli political spectrum, has been interviewed by top media on six continents and is a regular analyst on



CNN, Al-Jazeera and other news outlets.

Called "The most optimistic man in Israel" by Israel Television, Hoffman's writing and TV appearances provide a behind the scenes look at the intrigue and humor in the Israeli political arena.

Hoffman was raised in Chicago and is a graduate of Northwestern University's School for Journalism. He wrote for the *Miami Herald* and *Arizona Republic* before moving to Israel. A reserve soldier in the IDF's Spokesman's Unit, he has lectured in six countries and 46 US states. He lives in Jerusalem.

Holocaust film coming to Berks

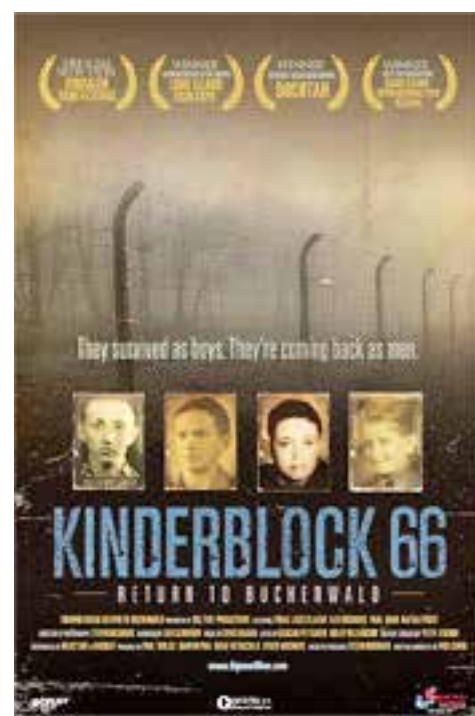
"Kinderblock 66: Return to Buchenwald" will be shown April 12 to April 18 at the DigiPlex Fairgrounds Theater in Muhlenberg Township as part of its DigiNext Film series. It is scheduled to run nightly at 7 p.m.

On April 11, 1945, Buchenwald was liberated. Nearly 1,000 boys survived. To mark the 65th anniversary of the liberation in 2010, several of the surviving boys from block 66 returned to Weimer and to Buchenwald. "Kinderblock 66: Return to Buchenwald" is their story.

For more information go to www.digiplexdest.com or call 610-921-8112. The theater is located at 3050 N. Fifth St. in the rear of the Fairgrounds Square Mall.

The Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany was a Nazi slave labor camp where thousands of Jews were killed. A large number of teenage European Jewish boys were being transferred to Buchenwald. The German underground leaders strived until the last days of the war to keep the boys from danger.

The film tells the story of Naftali-Duro



Furst, Pavel Kohn and Alex Moskovic from Czechoslovakia and Israel-Laszio Lazar of Romania. Four boys desperate to live...they survived as boys and came back as men to tell their story.

All Around the Town

Congratulations to **Singer Equipment Company, Inc.**, Caernarvon Township, named Foodservice Equipment & Supplies magazine's 2013 Dealer of the Year. Founded in 1918, the company is headed by president and CEO, Fred Singer, grandson of the company founder. Singer is the fourth-largest food-service equipment and supplies distributor in the country and services six states in the Northeast.

Mazel tov to **Dr. Wendy Babitt and Todd Staub** on the birth of their daughter

Jessica on Feb. 28.

Congratulations to **Rabbi Yosef Lipsker** on his inclusion in a Jewish Telegraphic Agency story about Sober Seders — Passover celebrations without alcohol. The article on the global Jewish news service discussed Rabbi Lipsker's wide-ranging work with people in recovery from addiction.

Until next time: Shalom!

Please e-mail all your simcha news to joan@friedman.net.

Obituaries

Howard S. Goodman, 56, of Reading. Howard worked at the Reading Liederkrantz as a handyman. He is survived by his mother, Evelyn (Stein) Goodman of Reading and his sister Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz

of Reading.

Esther M. (Ziskind) Hellman, of Reading. Esther was originally from Pittsburgh and spent the last 18 years living in Reading.

She is survived by her daughters Sarah and Rachel Hellman.

DeFrains honored for support of Israel

Congratulations to Pastors Liz & and Steve DeFrain of Morning Star Fellowship in Bechtelsville. They were honored March 17 for their dedication and tireless work on behalf of the state of Israel by the Bucks County Jewish Community. The event was held at Congregation Beth El in Yardley.

The DeFrains became the Pennsylvania state directors for Christians United for Israel (CUFI) in 2007, when the organization was formed.

Pastor Steve DeFrain has served as the Lead Pastor at Morning Star since 1981. Pastor Liz DeFrain has served as the administrator since 1994. Both Steve and Liz are ordained ministers with the Assemblies of God. Steve and Liz have been married 35 years. They

have two sons, Steve, their older son, who is married to Leah, and Ryan, their younger son, who is married to Tiffany. Steve and Leah have 2 little boys, Carter and Lincoln. Ryan and Tiffany have one daughter, Leighton.

Among the speakers at the event were Yaron Sideman, Consul General of Israel to the Mid-Atlantic Region; and Bill Sutter, the former executive director of The Friends of Israel.

Jewish Federation of Reading has partnered with the DeFrains and CUFI over the past six years on numerous activities including "Night to Honor Israel" events at Morning Star Church in Bechtelsville and most recently Glad Tidings Church in West Lawn. A third event is being planned in the fall.

Make a great decision May 7

The Great Decisions 2013 series will host Dr. Asaf Romirowsky at its session May 7 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the JCC.



Romirowsky will facilitate a discussion about Egypt. The popular revolution that ousted President Hosni Mubarak in 2011 ushered in the promise of radical change. Two years later, what is the state of Egyptian democracy? How will the military and the civilian government balance power?

A widely published author of national newspaper editorials and magazine

features, Romirowsky is an analyst and adjunct scholar at the Middle East Forum. He addressed a Jewish Federation of Reading Leadership Gifts event in 2010.

He is a former Israel Defense Force liaison officer in the West Bank and serves as an IDF reserve liaison officer to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. He holds a BA in Middle East Affairs from Hebrew University of Jerusalem and an M.A. in International Relations and Middle East Affairs from Villanova University as well as a M.A. in Holocaust and Genocide Studies from West Chester University and a doctorate from Kings College, London.

Get ready for 'Hava Nagila (The Movie)'

"Hava Nagila (The Movie) will be shown April 21 at 4 p.m. at Fox Berkshire, 800 Berkshire Boulevard, Wyomissing. Here are excerpts from a feature on the film in *Jewish Woman* magazine.

"Hava Nagila" is instantly recognizable. But as audiences of the new film "Hava Nagila (The Movie)" are discovering, the song's story is much more: It is a portal into 150 years of Jewish history. Viewers accompany director Roberta Grossman on a quest to trace the song through a century and a half of Jewish life, from the Pale of Jewish Settlement in Eastern Europe, to Palestine, to modern-day Israel, to American suburbia. Grossman also consulted scholars, music historians and musicians, excavating, with humor and heart, the layers of cultural complexity around the familiar song. "What I wanted to prove," says Grossman, "is that 'Hava' isn't a hollow cliché, but a meaningful



piece of Jewish culture." The melody, she discovered, originated among the Sadigura Hasidim in Ukraine. In 1918 the father of Jewish musicology, Abraham Idelsohn, was asked to put on a celebratory concert in Jerusalem, and he pulled out this song and put words to it. Over the years its popularity spread and its joyful refrain became a reaffirmation of the survival of the Jewish people after the Holocaust.

Check out the ad in the Centerpiece to learn more about the free local showing.

Congregational News

Jewish tradition and cemeteries

By Rabbi Minna Bromberg
Keshar Zion Synagogue

In this second of my once-in-a-while columns on Jewish practices around death and mourning, I'd like to share with you some of our tradition's customs regarding cemeteries.



As with all attendance to the needs of the dead, procuring the land for a cemetery is of utmost importance in the founding of any Jewish community. As Marc Lee Raphael writes in *The Synagogue in America*, "Almost everywhere the Jews settled in the 19th

century...they set about buying land for a cemetery and incorporating as a synagogue, in that order." And here's an interesting tidbit he brings from our very own neck of the woods (almost): "In Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Jews purchased a cemetery in 1747, more than a century before they formed the first congregation, in 1855."

You may have noticed that all of our Jewish cemeteries here in the Reading area are relatively far from our synagogues. This is very different from churches that often have "churchyards" or cemeteries on the same property as the church itself. This is a purposeful choice on the part of our tradition. As Jews we go to bury the dead in a place

that is markedly outside of our normal everyday environs. Like so many of our other mourning rituals, this one too acknowledges death as a disjuncture from the rest of life. Coming back from the cemetery is thus marked as a way of taking the first steps back into living our lives.

Cemeteries have many folk customs associated with them, some with deep and meaningful roots in tradition that are worthy of digging for and others that — to my mind at least — seem more like superstitions we can let go. For example, a number of people have asked me about the idea that a pregnant woman should not go to a cemetery. Of course, if this practice has meaning for you and yours,

by all means hold on to it. Personally, I think it's a superstition held on to past its time.

One more note: The most common term for "cemetery" in Hebrew is *beit k'varim* (house of graves). However, it is not uncommon in rabbinic tradition to call something the opposite of what it is, as a way of trying to take away some of the negative connotation. For example in Talmud, rabbis who are blind are commonly referred to as "full of light." So too, with cemeteries which can also be called *beit chayyim* (places of life)!

So may we all feel empowered to embrace even the most difficult aspects of life and experience in them some sense of life itself living on.

RCOS to honor Rosenzweig

Barbara Rosenzweig will receive the 2013 Ruth & Irvin Balis Volunteer Appreciation Award from Reform Congregation



Oheb Sholom at a dinner Saturday, April 27, at 6:30 p.m. The evening is open to all members of the Jewish community and will feature gourmet foods from around the world, cocktails and entertainment as well as the award presentation.

Barbara has been a member of the congregation for 25 years. She spends countless hours volunteering for the Food Festival, co-chairing the grocery card program and supervising the Temple's participation at the Kennedy House soup kitchen. For years she supervised the entire baking division at the food festival,

and she volunteers the entire festival day from setup through cleanup and beyond.

As soup kitchen coordinator, she makes out the schedules, works in the church and substitutes for the soup kitchen supervisor. She will be the first to substitute if a participant is unable to keep her commitment. In addition, Barbara delivers coupons to the many homes that use them to benefit the Temple.

"Barb is one of the most giving, caring people I know," Oheb Sholom member Anne Seltzer wrote in nominating her for the award. "She will never not lend a helping hand, or what is needed to help another person, even if she doesn't know them. She will put her own needs aside to do for others, even when it is not convenient for her. Barb is one of the best people I have ever had the privilege to know."

See the ad on Page 10 for details on the dinner and how to make your reservation.



Teens aid cancer patients

Members of Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom's Reading Area Federation Temple Youth, or RAFTY, participated in the Cozies4Chemo program. It strives to provide cancer patients going through chemotherapy with handmade blankets.

The RAFTY teens spent more than three hours cutting and tying fabric to assemble blankets. RAFTY will be donating a total of 26 blankets to Cozies4Chemo. RAFTY would like

to thank the Jewish Federation of Reading and Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom for sponsoring the event.

RAFTY includes young members of Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom along with other Jewish teens in the area. It is just one group of many that make up the NFTY-PAR, North American Federation of Temple Youth Pennsylvania Area Region. The local teens got the idea for the blanket program from one of NFTY-PAR's Regional Events.

THE 9TH ANNUAL

RICHARD J. YASHEK HOLOCAUST LECTURE

Representing the Irreparable: The Shoah in the Art of Samuel Bak

Dr. Danna Nolan Fewell, Drew University

Tuesday, April 30, 7:30 pm
Chapel, Albright College

Born in Vilna in 1933, Samuel Bak had the first exhibition of his drawings at the age of 9 in the Vilna ghetto. Having survived its destruction he emigrated in 1948 to Israel. He studied at the Bezalel Institute of Arts & Design in Jerusalem and at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Subsequently he lived and worked in Rome, Tel Aviv, New York and Lausanne. In an artistic career of more than 50 years he has had numerous exhibitions in major museums, galleries, and universities throughout Europe, Israel, and the United States. Since 1993 he has resided with his wife, Josée, in the Boston area. Mr. Bak has been the subject of numerous articles, scholarly works, and 15 books, most notably a monograph entitled *Between Worlds*. In 2001 he published his touching memoir, "Painted in Words," which has been translated into several languages.

Elegy III depicts a melancholic angel seated, pensive, and writing. On the ruins of a wall, nearly unseen, is the image of a young boy, his arms raised, a Jewish star sewn to his coat—the iconic image from a photograph of the final survivors of the Warsaw ghetto.

Dr. Danna Nolan Fewell is Professor of Hebrew Bible at Drew University, where she has taught since 2000. She is the author of eight books, including two on the art of Samuel Bak, and many scholarly articles. She received her M.T.S. and Ph.D. from Emory University.

Don't miss this fascinating look into the Holocaust art of Samuel Bak.

LOCAL CONGREGATIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

CHABAD CENTER OF BERKS COUNTY
Saturday mornings: 9:30 a.m.; Friday evenings: 6:30 p.m.

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE
Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.; Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. (Healing Service April 9)
Something for Everyone Shabbat, Saturday, April 27
Friday Evening Service – Please call 610-374-1763 for information
Babysitting available upon request with one week's notice

REFORM CONGREGATION OHEB SHOLOM
Friday, April 5: Shabbat service, 6 p.m. with guest speaker (see Page 1)
Saturday, April 6: Jeremy Kramer Bar Mitzvah, 10 a.m.
Saturday, April 13: Tot Shabbat, 10 a.m.; Leah Egolf Bat Mitzvah, 5 p.m.
Fridays, April 12, 19 and 26, 7:45 p.m. Tot Shabbat, Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m.

CONGREGATION SHOMREI HABRITH

Adult Education with Rabbi Minna Bromberg

"Walking with God" series on Wednesdays, 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the KZ Library

April 10: God in Hassidut; April 24: God in Modern Jewish Thought

Jewish Meditation & Mysticism with Rabbi Bromberg
Tuesdays, April 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 6 p.m. in the KZ Main Sanctuary Lobby

Gratz students travel to Jewish history museum

Students at the Reading Branch of Gratz Jewish Community High School traveled March 10 to the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia for a special experience: "From Lynching to Boycotts: Anti-Semitism in America Past, Present and future."

This program was developed in collaboration by the educators of Gratz, the Anti-Defamation League and the National Museum of American Jewish History. This experience was created in honor of ADL's 100th Anniversary, with the theme "Imagine A World Without Hate."

The Reading Branch had the largest proportion of participation of all the branches of JCHS participating, sending 17 students in a bus provided by the Federation through The Rubin Educational Fund of the Jewish Federation of Reading, with thanks to Jayne Kleinman for chaperoning the bus and Tammy Mitgang for ensuring the program would succeed. Branch Director Rabbi Barry Dov Lerner met the bus at the museum.

Each student was provided with a copy of the booklet "Confronting Anti-Semitism: Myths and Facts" made possible by ADL and the HRH Family Foundation. Class time was provided the week after the trip to discuss the lessons learned.

The National Museum of American Jewish History tells a comprehensive story about the American Jewish experience in the United States from the mid-1600s to modern day.

The special topics selected for this ADL experience related to anti-Semitism from Colonial times to the present day.

The museum is hosting a special exhibit, "Beyond Swastika and Jim Crow: Jewish Refugee Scholars at Black Colleges." It explores how some Jewish refugees from Germany found positions in historically black colleges in the American South. There, as recent escapees from Nazi



Rabbi Barry Dov Lerner with Gratz seniors Aaron Ure, left, and Amit Lift.

persecution, they came face to face with the absurdities of a rigidly segregated Jim Crow society. In their new positions, they met, taught, and interacted with students who had grown up in this racist environment. The exhibit explores the unlikely coming together of these two groups and examines the ongoing encounter between them as they navigated the challenges of life in the segregated South.

The March 10 schedule called for visits to selected exhibits, followed by a working lunch during which students discussed what they had learned from the exhibits. Rabbi Lerner noted to his students that most of them had experienced a minimum of anti-Semitism while they have seen and hear anti-Zionist comments and articles.

"We need to provide the skills and information with which our students can discern anti-Semitism, learn to distinguish it from constructive criticism and anti-Semitic canards about Israel — the nation, the people and Judaism the



Reading's Gratz JCHS crew at the National Museum of American Jewish History: Rebecca Balchunas, Evan Cardinal, Alexa Chronister, Brett Driben, Mark Goldberg, Scott Goldberg, Cory Jeffers, Rachel Jeffers, Amit Lift, Megan McIntosh, Rachel McIntosh, Gabriella Michelson, Marissa Missan, Ari Spillerman, Aaron Ure, Jo Jo Ure and Bryce Weizer

religion. This is especially critical now as we prepare our students for campus discussions and the groups with whom we hope they will associate."

He added, "Topics in our group ranged from limited citizenship in early New York City, my own experiences with anti-Semitism in his early in Arizona, Jewish camping and its importance in creating

positive Jewish self-images, to my having met the sons of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg and the trial and execution of their parents for treason, the role of Jews in the Civil Rights Movement, the transition from exclusion to inclusion of openly Jewish people in all areas of American life until now there are virtually no Jewish barriers facing our current students for their future."

Camp awards a family affair

Bryce Weizer, a 9th grader at Blue Mountain High School will be joined by siblings, Chase, a seventh-grade student at Blue Mountain Middle School and Easton Weizer, a student attending fifth grade at Blue Mountain Elementary School at Camp Harlam in Kunkletown, Pa., this summer. The campers are the children of proud parents, Drs. Ilene & Jeffrey Weizer, Orwigsburg.



Bryce Weizer



Chase Weizer



Easton Weizer

Student Camp and Education Awards

provide local Jewish students monetary awards to help support their participation in programs that nurture Jewish identity.

For more information, visit our website – www.ReadingJewishCommunity.org or contact Tammy Mitgang at the Federation office – 610-921-0624.

RCOS Supper Club presents A Taste Of The World



Please join us for an evening of gourmet foods from around the world, cocktails, and entertainment as we present the

Second Annual Ruth & Irvin Balis
Volunteer Appreciation Award

to

Barbara Rosenzweig

Saturday, April 27, 2013

Cocktails begin at 6:30pm at

Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom

Adults: \$25 Teens: \$15

Checks and seating preference can be mailed to:

Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom

555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610

Please respond to RCOS Office by April 12th

This event is open to all members of the Jewish community.

If you need assistance with the ticket fee, please contact

Rabbi Brian Michelson at rabbib@ohebsholom.org

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-Ruth



"Don't wait! There are new friends (and so much fun) waiting for you, too!"

-Hilde

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Worrying



Kvetching



Praying



Kvelling



Dieting



Cooking brisket

Oymoticons

Furry family

By Anne Seltzer

Our furry family members are a very important part of our family. They wend their way into our hearts. Furry family gives lots of unconditional love and brings smiles on a dreary day, asking nothing in return. They don't talk back. Don't need clothes, cars, college payments or much of anything. Little more than food, exercise, and play are required in their lives. They snuggle up to us when no one else really wants to be around us for whatever reason. Sometimes it appears they can look into your soul and know what you are thinking. Most of our furry family members possess great goodness and are loyal companions.



And they are with us much too short a period of time. There is an email that has gone around the Internet for years about a little girl who recently lost her dog saying that the reason they can die so young is because they have learned what it takes humans so much longer (if ever) to learn. I believe there is great merit in that statement. In the past month Buttons has lost three of her furry friends. First Ellie, then Thursday Molly, and yesterday Pokie.

Ellie was part of the Thorne family who came to them from their daughter Kelly, who was not able to have Ellie for a period of time in her life. She stayed permanently because she became part of their household. When we met Ellie after getting Buttons, about five years ago, she was already having kidney issues. Thanks to much love and terrific care from Karen and Bill, Ellie lived virtually pain- and symptom-free for many more years. We laughed about her "straw" food, but it kept

her alive for a long time. Yes, they had all their furniture either covered with blankets or barred with laundry baskets, but no one cared because Ellie was more important. Her sister Winnie (Buttons' good friend), and her parents miss her so much.

Molly was part of the Gunter family. She came to them courtesy of Aunt Lamar. She was a good friend of Buttons and they shared many afternoons/evenings while we watched games or had dinner together. If Rich and Ellice dared to come here without her, Buttons spent a while looking for her. Molly loved her people food and was taught by Jake how to sit properly in a chair at the table. Ellice did not appreciate this, but I dare say she wishes Molly was sitting at the table this morning. We all miss Molly and it will not be the same eating spinach dip without her.

Pokie was part of the Benusa family. She came to them when Matt starting bugging them for a dog after we got Buttons. She was 8 or 9 years old when they got her. There were very few days in the past six years that we did not see either Lynn or Tom walk Pokie past our house at least once a day. Buttons will miss barking at Pokie and trying to get him to chase her a lot. They miss him terribly.

In honor of our furry family, I found this canine cookie to bake.

Banana Oat Cookies

- 1 banana peeled ½ c. dried parsley
- 1 c. oat flour 3 T. peanut butter
- 2/3 c. rolled oats 1 egg, beaten

Mash banana thoroughly in bowl. Add rest of ingredients, stir well, let sit 5 minutes. Roll mixture into 24 balls and place on parchment-lined baking sheet, flatten with hand. Bake at 300° for about 40-45 min. until firm and deep golden on bottom. Cool completely before serving your furry family member. Enjoy their enjoyment!

Celebrating Israel's 65th

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Solution on Page 14

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Across

1. Jai _____
5. _____ DAVID, EMBLEM ON ISRAEL'S FLAG AND SEAL
10. A SYMPATHIZER OF ISRAEL MIGHT BE CALLED _____ OF THE JEWISH STATE
14. AMERICAN MAIZE IS GROWN IN ISRAEL AS _____
15. I love, in Latin (synonym with amo)
16. Marsh bird, the most common rail of North America
17. Handle of a joiner's plane.
18. "Is that credit card _____?"
19. Good, in Yiddish
20. YOM HA'ATSMAUT
23. S'char dira, in English
24. Used to propel a rowboat
25. ORDER, AS IN PASSOVER, OR PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNESSET
28. Northeast U.S. time
31. Inventor/maker of a blender
35. Human being, Heb., variant English transliteration
37. A bit like rap
39. Be in debt
40. ISRAEL GATHERED A LARGE NUMBER OF BULLDOZERS, TRUCKS, AND BRAVE MEN _____ TO BREAK JORDAN'S SEIGE OF JERUSALEM (4 words)
44. Johan Maier von _____, German 16th c. scholastic theologian
45. Pale
46. Stanley's wife in "Streetcar"
47. Common form in poetry
50. Lao _____
52. Major Dutch city, abbr.
53. Soprano high note
55. Recent U.S. act providing forbearance, reduced interest on loans, and other benefits to servicemembers, acronym
57. WHAT THIS DAY IS, IN OVERALL TIME
65. River of Berne, Switzerland
66. Parched with thirst, Heb.
67. Animal's nostril
68. Lab growing medium
69. Some seals are this
70. Poet Lazarus
71. Jersey _____
72. Regretters
73. "Hey, it's a _____!"

Down

1. In Hamlet, _____, a ghost appears
2. Beautiful and mournful-calling northern water bird
3. CITY OF ISRAEL, SW OF DEAD SEA
4. WE HAVE A PROFOUND _____ IN AND LOVE FOR ISRAEL
5. OH, HE'S A _____ OF SONGS BY ALBERSHTEIN AND NOA
6. _____ work well known to the world is The Inferno
7. JERUSALEM OF _____ IS A NAOMI SHERMER SONG WRITTEN BEFORE AND CONCLUDED AFTER THE SIX DAY WAR
8. A Great Lake
9. "If you don't agree, _____."
10. Fall flowers
11. Ochel, in English
12. Operatic song
13. THE KHEIL HAYAM IS ISRAEL'S _____
21. A bird will _____ on a bough.
22. Quicklime's chemical abbreviation is _____
25. THE JEWISH PEOPLE, FOR GOOD REASON, IS OFTEN CALLED "AM HA-_____"
26. Noah's great-grandfather
27. "Oh, that guy is freaky, really _____."
29. "Shocking news. _____ us all."
30. _____ and feather
32. Hammers, saws
33. David M. _____, author, Of Dice and Men
34. Set a weir in a stream, again
36. Saw a tree or shape a stone
38. Afternoons, abbr.
41. Fruit or Free-Tailed
42. DIADEM or CROWN, AS JERUSALEM HAS ITSELF BEEN CALLED
43. AFTER LOSING KASTEL IN APRIL, 1948, THE PALMACH RETOOK AND _____ THE TOWN
48. These are a bit longer than yards
49. Joe _____, western singer-songwriter
51. SHE WAS QUEEN OF PERSIA LONG BEFORE THE AYATOLLAHS
54. Before's opposite
56. African nation's and boy's names
57. Swedish car
58. Shakespearean villain
59. Electronic beam used in medical analysis
60. Jacob's half-brother, var. transliteration
61. You need it for bus, train, plane, or taxi
62. What's in a _____?
63. La Douce
64. Calf meat

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- Saum A. S. Noori, MD

Jewish Family Service

News from the Department of Aging

**United
Way**



By Sari Incedon

Last month David Gingerich, Pennsylvania Deputy Secretary of Aging spoke at a Community Partnership Meeting sponsored by the Berks County Area Agency on Aging. He shared a number



of statistics of Pennsylvania's senior population and priorities for the state aging plan. But what most of us wanted to know is how the Pennsylvania Aging network would be affected by sequestration.

Deputy Secretary Gingerich shared what he called relatively good news — the cuts to the PA Department of

Aging from sequestration were less than anticipated. Sequestration will cut 1.75 percent of the \$136 million (or about \$1.5 million) that Pennsylvania was expected to receive from the federal government. Nevertheless, programs that help seniors in the commonwealth will be impaired (home delivered meals, caregiver support and in home services). These cuts will be in place by Sept. 30. It is my hope that our elected officials in Washington will learn to work together so the most vulnerable populations will not suffer.

Pennsylvania has the fourth highest percentage of seniors in the nation. Currently we have 2.7 million people over age 60, and it is projected that in 2030 that number will rise to 3.6 million. Our census figures tell us 25 percent of senior households live in poverty. The

group that is growing the fastest is those over 85 years old. Pennsylvania has more than 300,000 residents over the age of 85. The Department of Aging projects that two thirds of that group will need long-term care at some point. So even though the cuts to our Department of Aging will be relatively small, our aging population is growing and to serve the needs of this population resources will need to increase.

**News from Habitat for Humanity:
Donate furniture to the ReStore**

Last month our Friendship Circle group heard about the important work Habitat for Humanity does in our community. Executive Director Tim Daly talked about how the organization increases home ownership in the city and rehabs homes in

clusters. He discussed the many benefits of home ownership and the positive effects it has on the community — breaking the cycle of poverty, improving education and jobs prospects and growing a sense of stability and dignity.

We also learned about Habitat's ReStore. Located at 5370 Allentown Pike in Temple, the ReStore accepts donations of furniture and building supplies and they will pick up! All the proceeds from the ReStore support the building of Habitat Houses, helping Berks County families with limited incomes get closer to their dream of owning a home.

For more information call 610-921-1315 or visit their website at www.HabitatBerks.org. The store is open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Jewish Family Service mourns the loss of

Howard Goodman

JFS volunteer of the year in 2004. We'll always be grateful to Howard for the help he devoted to our Kosher Meals on Wheels Program and our Food Pantry.

Jewish Family Service thanks

Dr. Glenn Corbin and the staff of Wyomissing Optometric Center, Inc.

for generously providing professional services to a client.

Living with Loss

Mondays, April 8 and 22, 3 - 4:30 p.m. at the JCC

For more information, call Sari at 610-921-0624

Seniors, join us for a backyard barbecue!

**Tuesday, April 16
4:30-6 pm**

We'll be grillin' up a complimentary barbecue with all the fixins' along with easy-listening tunes by "Just Us" out in our courtyard. What a great way to spend a Spring afternoon.

Please RSVP to Nicole at 610-790-1707 by April 11

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Federation Honorial - Memorial Card Information

Please mail your payment with complete information to the Jewish Federation, PO Box 14925, Reading, PA 19612-4925 or bring to the Jewish Cultural Center, 1100 Berkshire Blvd, Suite 125, Wyomissing. You may set up a "savings account" for the purpose of sending cards. Please contact the Jewish Federation at 610-921-0624 for further information.

Contributions as of March 15

Holocaust Library & Resource Center

In memory of:
Vivian Jakobs' mother – Hilde Gernsheimer and family

Jewish Family Service

In memory of:
Howard Goodman – Edith Mendelsohn, Wendy Neuhs, Mary Alice Bentz, Dr. Sandra Rowan
Esther Hellman – Andy and Corinne Wernick
Sidney Butterman – Florence and Marvin Segal
Dr. Clifford Vernick – Helene and Henry Singer

Honorials and Memorials

Contributions may be made to the following Funds:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Federation Jewish Community Campaign | \$10 |
| Jewish Family Service | \$10 |
| Leo Camp Lecture Fund | \$10 |
| JFS Food Bank | \$25 |
| JFS Taxi Transportation Program | \$20 |
| Holocaust Library & Resource Center | \$18 |
| Doris Levin Fund | \$10 |

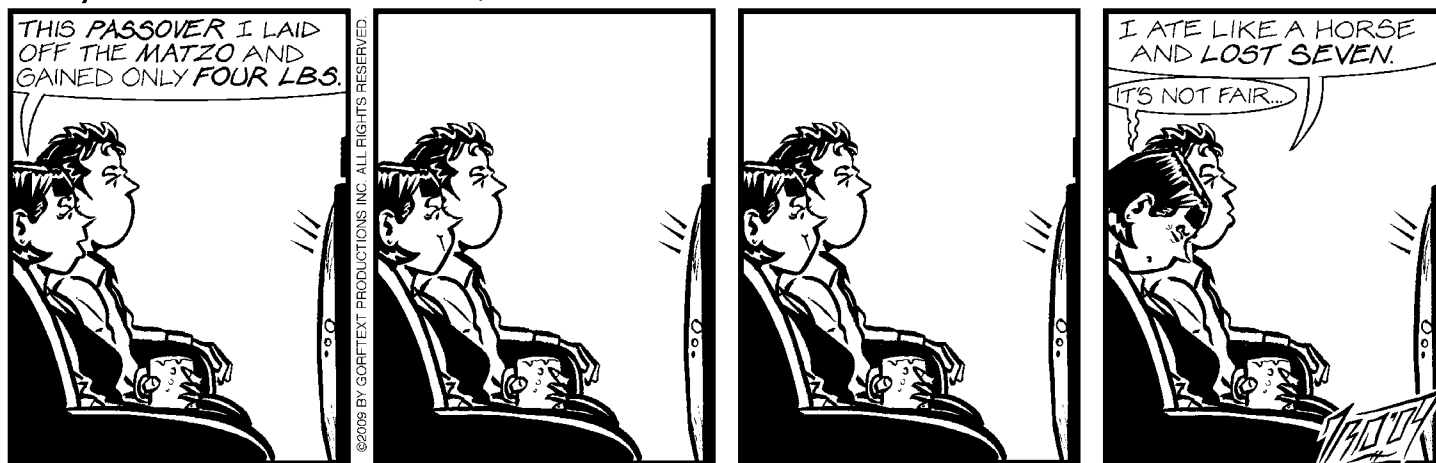
Federation Jewish Community Campaign

In honor of:
Neil Hoffman's retirement – Rob and Yvonne Oppenheimer
Birth of Allen and Cara Kozloff's son – Dena and Vic Hammel

Evelyn Thompson Nursery School Fund

In memory of:
David Pariser (Anne Seltzer's brother) – Amy S. and Howard Saidman

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PUZZLE SOLUTION

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| A | L | A | I | M | A | G | E | N | A | F | A | N | | |
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| F | O | R | T | H | E | B | U | R | M | A | R | O | A | D |
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Volunteers Needed to Conduct Hunger Study

Become an integral part of the most in-depth surveys of the hunger problem in America!

In April, Hunger in America 2014 - sponsored by Feeding America, the national food bank network will be conducted in our area. The **Greater Berks Food Bank, a member of FA** and the **United Way of Berks County** are partnering to administer this research in our area. The research results will provide us with a deeper understanding of the causes and effects of hunger locally and how to best address this serious issue.

Hundreds of people who receive food assistance in Berks and Schuylkill County will need to be surveyed. Volunteers are needed to work in a 3-person team to manage the survey process with these people, who will be using electronic touch pad computers (tablets) to answer the survey questions.

Qualifications: Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older. The ideal volunteer should have a positive attitude, work well under minimal supervision, and be comfortable interacting with a variety of diverse individuals. Volunteers should be knowledgeable with-basic computer operations. Bilingual volunteers are also needed.

Training: Volunteers will be required to attend a two and a half hour training session provided by the United Way. Trainings will include practice on the operations of using the computer tablets. Volunteer training sessions will begin at the end of March.

Schedule and Time Commitment: Volunteers will be needed mornings, afternoons, evenings, during the week and weekends beginning in April and continuing through August. Volunteers select the locations based on their availability.

Come and be a part of this exciting research project!

If you are interested in volunteering for this important research study please click on the link below and complete the on-line registration form:

[Hunger In America Volunteer Registration](#)

Youth Group goes to BodyZone



Kickball and ice skating were among the highlights of a JCC Youth Group activity March 17 at BodyZone. The children who took part had a fun, busy and very active day.



FRAGILE:

HANDLE WITH

CARE.

Every day, thousands of elderly Jews here at home, in Israel and around the world are fed, sheltered and given the care and love they deserve. From emergency financial assistance to medical care to transportation, with your help we can provide every Jewish senior with the help they need to live with dignity.



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