Jewish Federation OF MADISON

Madison JEWISH NEWS

February 2019
Adar 5779

A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Madison

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Todah Rabah from the I HEART Jewish Madison Tzedakah Campaign

The 2018 Tzedakah Campaign ~ I Heart Jewish Madison has officially come to a close, and we are pleased to report, that $936,797 was raised thanks to the generosity of 579 donors. Thank you for investing in a place for everyone in our community, at every age and stage, with your contribution.

Your generosity helped create connections and strong Jewish experiences that build lifelong friendships and networks of support for our children and their families through Gan HaYeled Preschool and Camp Shalom. You helped build community and keep it strong through shared celebrations of Jewish life such as the Hava Nagila Jewish Community Picnic, by collectively honoring shared history through the Yom HaShoah service and program, and by providing a serene and welcoming space to those who mourn through the Jewish Burial Association of Madison. You helped nourish education by supporting Judaic studies for teens through Midrasha Hebrew High School and Hebrew classes for children and adults. You secured a Jewish future when you supported the development of young leaders through Future Directions and a Jewish home for college students through UW Hillel and Chabad at UW. You helped strengthen bonds with Israel through people to people exchanges like our Community Israeli Shlichim and Partnership2Gether.

What's more, through our innovative partnership programs, you helped those in need by supporting struggling families and enriching the lives of seniors here in Madison through Jewish Social Services and feeding, clothing and comforting people throughout the world through the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Israel. You made sure Jewish voices are heard by local and state leaders through Wisconsin Jewish Conference and federally through Federation's Washington DC office. You helped ensure all this and more with your single gift.

We would also like to thank our incredible volunteers, without whom the success of this campaign would not have been possible. We are inspired and humbled by the commitment, passion, and hard work contributed by our Campaign co-chairs, Jeremy Tunis and Michelle Poliak-Tunis and Dan and Carey Weiss, as well as our dedicated team of donor engagers.

THANK YOU for supporting a place for everyone in our community, at every age and stage, by contributing to the 2018 Tzedakah Campaign ~ I Heart Jewish Madison. Our hearts are full of appreciation and gratitude for your partnership in supporting what we love and together making sure our local and global community thrive. TODAH RABAH!



Jewish Federation of Madison Welcomes Alan Klugman

By Debbie Minkoff
President of Jewish Federation of Madison



After an extensive search, with several highly qualified candidates, we are delighted to announce that Alan Klugman begins February 5, 2019 as the Jewish Federation of Madison's interim executive director. Alan's warmth, experience, and passion for Jewish communal service make him an excellent choice as our interim executive director. He has served as the executive director of the Jewish Federation of Palm Springs and Desert Area, as FRD director of the Jewish Community Federation of Greater Louisville, Campaign director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Springfield (MA), and as director of the Metropolitan Division for the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston. Alan has also served as national executive director of ORT America. A professional with vast fundraising experience, Alan is known for creative event management as well as marketing and PR strategies for outreach, along with systems development.

A fluent Hebrew speaker who lived in Jerusalem, Israel for an extended period, Alan believes strongly in the partnership between Israel and North American Jewry. While serving the Jewish Community Federation of Louisville, Alan led the JFNA Partnership Consortium that twinned 12 midwestern Jewish Federation communities with the Western Galilee Region of Israel. Of his new position, Klugman noted that the opportunity to return to the Federation system at a time when much work lies ahead to re-envision its role in Jewish communal life is something he is very excited about.

Last September, JFM's board of directors decided to search for an interim executive director, before hiring a permanent executive director. We felt we needed time to clarify our needs and spend time on self-reflection as an organization before committing to a permanent executive. Alan's extensive experience as a proven leader in the Federation system, background in social work, and resource development success will help guide JFM going forward.

As President, I look forward to working closely with and learning from Alan, as he acclimates to his new position. Join me in welcoming Alan and Orly Klugman to Madison.

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Coming in from the Cold: Outreach Events

By Tiz Ihnchak
Outreach Coordinator

December was a fun month as the weather cooled. We began on December 13 with a Girls Night Out. Sixteen wonderful women braved the cold to have dinner together. This group of ladies varied in ages, experiences, and involvement, making it a great place to talk and learn. A wonderful time was had by all.

On Wednesday, December 19, 11 Mitzvah Makers from our community helped make lives easier for gift buyers by wrapping their purchases of books and such at Barnes and Noble. The volunteers had a great time diligently working one-hour shifts over a ten-hour period. Great conversations and laughs were the theme of the day. Federation accepted over $150 in donations throughout the day, which was added to the Campaign to fund programs against hate.

As the new year begins, we continue to look for opportunities to gather, enjoy one another's company and do good. Contact Tiz Ihnchak at outreach@jewishmadison.org if you are interested in joining Girls Night Out or the Mitzvah Makers at future events.



Girl's Night Out at Stamm House



Best Gift Wrappers in Town at Barnes and Noble

Jewish Federation of Madison expresses its sincere appreciation to these businesses for their generous support of our website.

JewishMadison.org
The central information source for the entire Madison Jewish community

Jewish Federation OF MADISON

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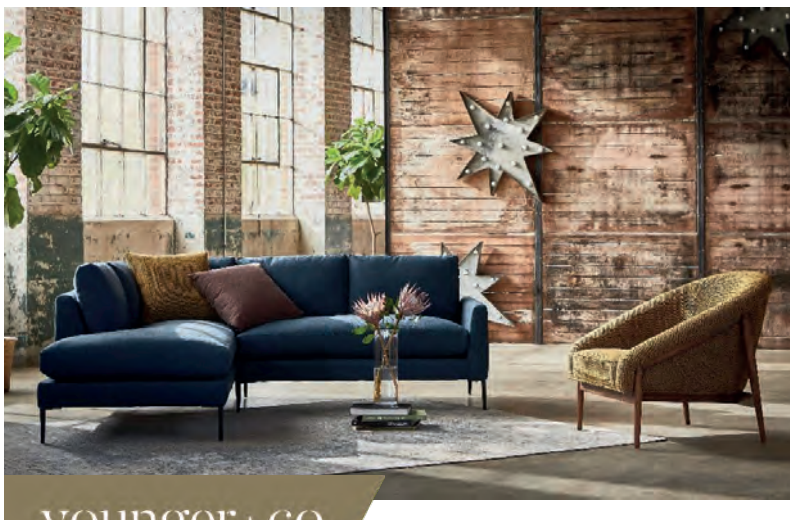

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Sacred Burial Plots Secured for Madison Jewish Community

By Jim Stein
President of Jewish Burial Association of Madison
JBAM is a beneficiary organization of the Jewish Federation of Madison

The Jewish Burial Association of Madison (JBAM) is honored to announce that it achieved its dream of securing sacred burial space for the Madison Jewish community. JBAM finalized acquisition of 1272 plots in the Beit Olamim Jewish section of Sunset Memory Gardens, assuring that the burial needs of the Madison Jewish community will be met well into the future.

This accomplishment was made possible by the generosity of the Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Foundation which provided a two-part gift to JBAM: a generous loan to purchase all plots in the Jewish cemetery and a $183,000 gift to develop, install, and landscape an entry road to Beit Olamim. The road will provide easy and direct access to the Jewish cemetery from Westfield Road, along its north and eastern border.

"We are grateful to the Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Foundation for providing funding to secure the cemetery plots and for beautification of Beit Olamim," said James Stein, President of JBAM. "Jewish laws surrounding death and burial are among the most serious commandments. They are the way we honor the departed for eternity and are the last good deed we do for someone before they leave this world," said Stein. "Where a person is buried is a sacred place where we can connect to the soul of the departed."

"The Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Foundation is honored to carry on the philanthropic work of Irwin and Robert Goodman in support of the Jewish community of Madison," said E.G. Schramka, Executive Director of the Foundation. We were excited to help JBAM make this purchase and to implement its landscaping plan that will transform Beit Olamim into a beautiful, serene, and spiritual environment. We know how much this means to the Madison Jewish community."



Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman

About JBAM and Beit Olamim

Beit Olamim was established in 2009 due to a shortage of Jewish burial plots in the Madison area. It is located in Sunset Memory Gardens cemetery at 7302 Mineral Point Road. It has two distinct areas for burial: Sha'ar HaRachamin (a section in which plots are available for burial in accordance with halachah and traditional Jewish burial practices) and Sha'ar Shalom (a section in which plots are available for burial in accordance with less traditional Jewish burial practices, particularly for inclusion of families with non-Jewish members and that allows burial of cremains). JBAM manages Beit Olamim. For information on becoming involved in JBAM, our community-wide fundraising campaign, or to purchase plots please visit www.jbamadison.org.



Beit Olamim

Love the Outdoors? This is for You!

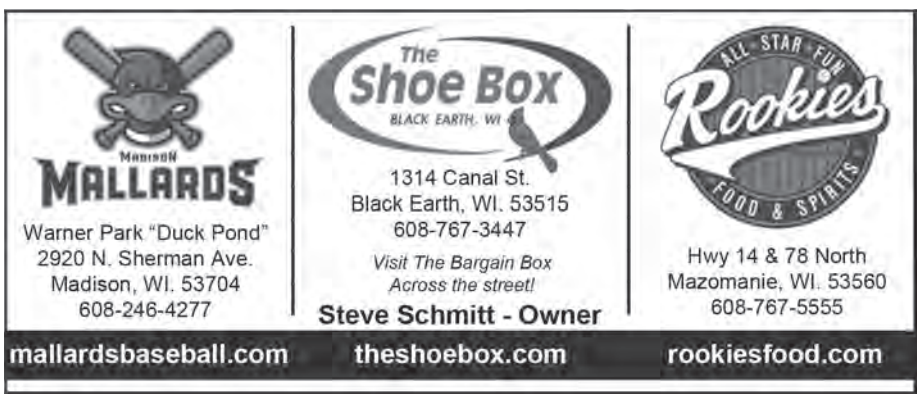
By Louise Goldstein
Trails2gether Event Chair, A Partnership2Gether (P2G) Event

This summer ten adult visitors from our partnership region in Israel, Sovev Kinneret, will come to Madison to enjoy some of our beautiful parks and trails while forming friendships with you, members of the Madison Jewish community. From June 26 to July 3, Israelis and Madisonians will explore nature together by hiking and biking trails in and around Madison, visiting places like the UW-Arboretum, various Dane County and State parks, Camp Shalom, some of our beautiful lakes, rivers and bike trails.

What a great way to make connections with Israelis who share your interest in nature and outdoor activities! We hope you'll be inspired to visit your new Israeli friends and check out similar opportunities for outdoor recreation there, such as Shvil Yisrael, the national trail that travels the entire length of the State of Israel.

There will be a number of ways to join the fun; families (and others!) can participate by hosting an Israeli visitor and adults will be invited to join one or more of the activities. Watch for more information in the coming months! If you have any questions please contact our shlicha, Shlomit Ezer, israel@jewishmadison.org/











How Hillel's Jewish Learning Fellowship Cultivates Relationship through Jewish Learning

By Rabbi Andrea Steinberger, Hillel at the University of Wisconsin
UW Hillel is a beneficiary organization

In December, I was talking about UW Hillel's Jewish Learning Fellowship (JLF) with a student, Kate, at our Hanukkah party. She ruminated, "I found my voice in JLF. I met friends there. I read texts that I had never read before. I found Hillel." Kate is a second year UW student from San Francisco who leads a bi-weekly conversation about Judaism and feminism called WTF, or "We Talk Feminism," for a committed group of 15 or so students at Hillel. They come for a nosh, a cup of tea, and deep conversation that is student-led, staff supported.

Kate is just one example of what happens every semester with JLF. We create a semester-long community of learners and friends. Students regularly meet their best friend in our circle. They feel emotion, sometimes tears as they talk about trying to steady themselves, about learning to live patiently with questions on their minds. Sometimes there is shared laughter as students agree that cultivating friendships can be challenging, and navigating relationships can sometimes lead to awkward situations. People share their own experiences and even their "fails" in this area. They are vulnerable. And everyone feels a little less lonely.

And amidst it all we are modeling that Jewish learning is a lifelong opportunity with possibilities for conversation, shared meals and cultivating community that can be found on a college campus in their communities for many years to come, and throughout all stages and phases of their lives.

Senior Katie Seitelman said that "growing up I was not very involved with my Jewish community. I did not have many Jewish friends and I never attended any Jewish summer camps or anything. So, when coming to college, that was not something I was seeking. Nevertheless, the Jewish community is something that found me, and has greatly enriched my life. Hillel became home and the people who hang out here became family. And as a senior, thinking very sentimentally, Shabbat dinners, weekly JLF sessions, and hanging out at Hillel with my growing Jewish community are some of the things I will miss most after I graduate."

JLF brings together students who have had a deep Jewish life since birth with students whose first formal Jewish experiences came in college. These students sit side by side one another and learn. Some of the students who have come from immersive Jewish day school experiences have to open themselves up to looking at a text in a different way. We do not teach a text dogmatically, saying, "This is what Judaism says." Instead we often show a variety of texts, with alternating views and voices, allowing students to see that Judaism has always had a multiplicity of voices and questions. This approach enables students to offer their own views and questions, to share their own life experiences, and begin to articulate their own view on the subject.

As Seitelman said, "JLF gave me a space to express myself – whether it was my love of Heschel or my doubt over what to do after graduation. And every week provided a sanctuary for me where I was not distracted by school, work, or things I needed to get done but was merely invested in the discussion and exploring life's questions."

JLF models a learning community based on relationship and rich conversation. This year has been no exception. Each Wednesday night last semester, we held one JLF session for 16 people at 6:00 pm and a second session at 7:30 pm for nine JLF alumni, called JLF 2.0. As students walked out from the first session, they could see JLF alumni, eating dinner together around the table, effortlessly making conversation, laughter coming forth from the table, preparing to learn together. As the semester continued, students would say, "I want to be in that group next semester."

And plans are being made for a next, third experience, JLF 3.0, as we affectionately call it, where students who have participated in both sessions 1 and 2 are meeting together at UW Hillel and students' apartments, creating their own syllabus and sometimes their own meal, and preparing to learn with one another about their next set of questions. This, of course, is our intention, to nurture and support students to continuously ask questions and not let their doubt or their challenges get in the way of their relationship to Judaism. Instead, we gave them permission to wrestle with each text, to read text subversively, to apply it to their contemporary lives, to let it enhance their spiritual or cultural practices, to never stop learning in relationship to their Judaism.

In addition to 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0, this past semester we started our JLF: Social Justice track for the first time, with plans to teach it again this spring semester. The Social Justice class specifically ties Jewish thought and values to the issues our campus, country, and world are facing today. We look critically at historic moments and talk through how we can apply those lessons today.

Freshman Jordan Resnick said, "By learning about times when the Jewish people have been active participants in the struggle for social justice, and times when they have failed to engage, I have learned to think critically about the Jewish community and the roles we play—or don't—in tikkun olam."

I know students who literally carry text with them; they have found it so inspiring. Whether it be Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, Rav Kook, Rebbe Nachshon of Breslov, or Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, students are finding ways to literally carry text with them, on their person or in their hearts.

Teaching JLF changed my professional life, handing me the tools of a curriculum not just made of texts, but with the intentions of creating community and friendship among the learners. Since using the curriculum at UW Hillel, we have created communities of learners who do not stop when the semester ends but find new outlets for their lust for learning. Whether it be in signing up for the next staff-led class or leading their own group at UW Hillel, JLF has been the entry-level experience that has young people coming back for more. Since learning the JLF approach of combining text with community building, I have been able to use the model to create other seminars. These include a pluralistic Israel text class and a civil-rights learning fellowship, each seminar offering a meal, creating a space for relationships to form from conversation around text.

At the end of our last session of JLF 2.0, students lingered at the table. No one wanted to get up, for when they did, this latest round of community would end, and nothing would be exactly the same ever again. We all looked around, we praised and gave gratitude for each other. We promised to start again next semester. We let the moment last as long as it could before we could stand up and acknowledge its ending.

What a gift this JLF experience is. What a gift to live in this time, which seems unique and full of its particular challenges, and reach back, hundreds, even thousands of years each week, and realize that Judaism has something to say about human nature, about the ways of this world, that still speaks to us today, sending us words of wisdom, comfort and connection, reaching into our souls and reminding us that we are not alone. For more information about JLF or other UW Hillel programs, events and activities, please visit uwhillel.org.



Hillel's JLF Fall 2018 Cohort Celebrating their Graduation





Madison JEWISH NEWS

Published monthly by
JEWISH FEDERATION OF MADISON
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53719
(608) 278-1808 | Fax: (608) 278-7814
JewishMadison.org | mjn@jewishmadison.org

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Tiz Ihnchak, Advertising Manager
Brianna Chizek, Advertising Design and Layout
Printing by: News Publishing Company, Inc., Black Earth

Copy deadline is at noon on the 12th of each month for the following month's issue. If the 12th falls on a Saturday or Sunday, copy must be received by noon the preceding Friday. If the 12th 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.

Catching Up With Rep. Lisa Subeck

By Michael Blumenfeld
Executive Director of the Wisconsin Jewish Conference
with contributions from Erin Fabrizius
WJC is a beneficiary organization of the Jewish Federation of Madison



The Wisconsin State Legislature began its 2019-20 legislative session in January, which will include the passage of a new state budget and the introduction of hundreds of pieces of legislation. In preparation for the new session, the Wisconsin Jewish Conference caught up with some of Wisconsin's Jewish lawmakers.

Representative Lisa Subeck (D-Madison) shares her perspective as a Jewish lawmaker below.

How do your Jewish values inform your work as a lawmaker?

I take an evidence-based approach to lawmaking. When reviewing bill drafts or amendments, I first look to see if there is evidence that the approach being taken will work. I then examine how the proposal aligns with my own values and political perspective. Like many other people, my values were formed through family, community, faith, and life experience.

As a lawmaker I think it is essential there is a strong separation of church and state. As a Jewish lawmaker I feel it is important to ensure that people of all faiths are represented and treated equally under the law. I especially feel a need to speak out and remind other office holders that words matter and that singling out anyone because of their faith or ethnicity serves to empower and encourage people whose actions are prejudicial.

What issues do you plan to prioritize this session?

The issues that I plan to prioritize this session fall into three general topics. One is addressing poverty and homelessness, particularly the prevention of eviction. Another is women's health. This includes the reintroduction of measures such as the Healthy Babies, Working Mothers Act (breastfeeding bill) I introduced last session. I also believe we need to close the background check loophole and restore waiting periods for firearm purchases in order to help all of society, but especially women who are victims of domestic abuse. And finally, I want to focus on supporting our workforce through the passage of measures to provide affordable childcare, paid leave, sick days, living wages, etc.

What advice do you have for members of the Jewish community looking to advocate on issues that are important to them?

Make the time to advocate and do whatever it takes to make sure your voice is heard. This can mean contacting your representative, exercising your right to assemble, spreading awareness on social media, and most of all voting in elections.

Simchas & Condolences

Mazel Tov on the birth of

Harriet, daughter of Rubi Hayim and Faye Zemel

Leo Goldstone, son of Charlie and Alaina Goldstone

Ricardo Oliver, grandson of Ken and Laura Felz

Vivian Christiane, daughter of Brian Schmidt and Christine Khosropour, brother to Julian, granddaughter to Laurie and Gary (z"l) Schmidt

Margaret Olson, daughter of Colleen Marion and Thomas Olson, and granddaughter of Eddie Marion and Margaret Maroney

Condolences to the families of

Richard (Jeff) Lehman, brother of Cathy Kaplan

Evelyn Brahms, mother of Rabbi Jan (Ann Dee) Brahams

Kenneth Dean Jenks, brother of Barbara Vlach

Marie Mocny, mother of Patrice (Michael) Onheiber, wife of Al Mocny (z"l), grandmother of Josh and Miriam Onheiber, and mother of Jim (Susan), Laurel Ann (Louis), Chris (Renette), Michael (Monica), and Bob (Jerzy)

Ruth Suzanne Boll, mother of Catherine (Neal) Miller, grandmother of Samuel and Lucas Miller

Frank J. Morea, grandfather of Roger Wolkoff (Anne Hansen), and great-grandfather of Bethany and Nathaniel Wolkoff

Deborah Thompson, sister of Peter (Susette) Thompson and Laura (Ken) Felz, aunt of Max Thompson

Lucille Shovers, mother of Janice Gratch (Steve Wilensky), Gloria Cramer, and Harvey Shovers; and grandmother of Adam and Nicole Gratch

Shirley Volpiansky, mother of Paula Volpiansky (Larry Chapman), grandmother of Alyssa and Shanna

Akiyasu Kitano, father of Kazu and Toshi Kitano

Corine Abramson Cohn, mother of Betsy Abramson (David Seligman), Joel (Carole Roth) Abramson and Marice (Ken) Theriault; grandmother of Seth (Dana Ostrow) Theriault, Emily (Luca) Laino, Leah (Michael) Cohen, Aaron (Jami Crespo) Seligman, Noah (Katie) Seligman, Ronit (Darin) Dalmat and Gabrielle Abramson; great-grandmother to Zoe, Abby, Ethan, Louisa, Frederick, Max, Stella, Mara, Asher, and Eden

Tributes

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

In honor of Campaign Chairs: Jeremy Tunis and Dan Weiss
Dawn Berney and Edward Angelina

In honor of Sue and Ellis Bauman
Barbara Katz and Stephen Fleischman

In honor of Kevin Kranzusch and Lynne Bosworth
Dean, Lauren, Maia, and Morgan

Upcoming Jewish Federation EVENTS

Israeli Film Festival - *In Her Footsteps* (Documentary)

February 4, 2019, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
UW Hillel, 611 Langdon St., Madison, WI 53703

Refer to page 17 for more information.

Gan HaYeled Preschool Open House and Pancake Breakfast

February 10, 2019, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Gan HaYeled Preschool, 6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI 53719

Join us for a wonderful morning at Gan HaYeled! Drop in anytime between 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Explore our preschool and meet our families and staff, while enjoying a delicious pancake breakfast. Experience hands-on exploration and play: art, challah making, science, creative play, and music.
RSVP: gan@jewishmadison.org or (608) 442-4075.
We can't wait to see you at the Open House!

Israeli Film Festival - *Shoelaces*

February 12, 2019, 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
UW Hillel, 611 Langdon St., Madison, WI 53703

Refer to page 17 for more information.

Israeli Film Festival - *Family in Transition* (Documentary)

February 21, 2019, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
The Red Gym, 716 Langdon St., Madison, WI 53703

Refer to page 17 for more information.

Israeli Film Festival - *Scaffolding*

February 26, 2019, 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
UW Hillel, 611 Langdon St., Madison, WI 53703

Refer to page 17 for more information.

Israeli Elections 101

February 28, 2019

This April Israel will hold its elections for the 21st Knesset (Parliament) and Prime Minister.

The Israeli elections and political system are very different from here in the United States. Want to follow this election season but need more background to understand it? Join us and hear about the political system in Israel and this election season.

This talk will take place in the evening.

Please send an email to israel@jewishmadison.org if you want to attend, and you will receive specific time and location.

Madison Hadassah

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

Hoyt Park Winter Walking and Animal Watching Adventure with Madison Hadassah
Sunday, February 17, 11:00 am, 3902 Regent St.

Hoyt Park is an ideal location for a winter hike and for wildlife watching in the middle of Madison. It's a perfect place to find owls, deer, fox, and more.

We plan to build and enjoy a fire in one of the shelters, so bring hot coffee, tea, or hot chocolate to enjoy by the fire.
• Dogs are allowed on leash.
• Park and meet at Hoyt Park School.
• Please bring a thermos of coffee or hot chocolate for yourself, binoculars and a camera.

Bird, animal, and animal track guidebooks will be available.

Rain date: Sunday, February 24 if weather is too harsh. Check our Facebook or call us to confirm date. RSVP so we know to expect you or can reach you if plans change at the last minute.

Email: MadisonHadassah@gmail.com
Call: (608) 770-6521
Or visit Collectors Corner at 6633 University Ave., Middleton
For more information please visit: www.facebook.com/HadassahMadison



Hoyt Park is an ideal place for a light winter walk and animal watching adventure. Weather permitting, we'll light a fire in one of the stone shelters.





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

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

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

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

Volunteer
If you have three hours to volunteer once a week, join our wonderful team of volunteers. In the upcoming months, watch for stories from some of the Collectors Corner volunteers about why they volunteer at CC. Some women have been involved for more than 40 years.

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

Celebrating Differences Through Experiences and Friendship

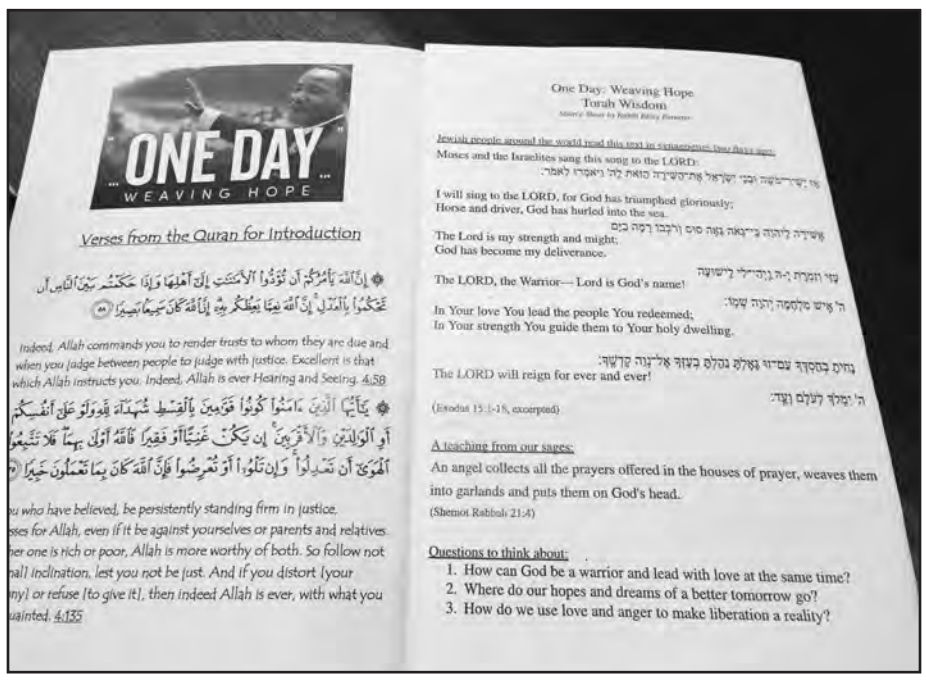
By Beth Copelovitch
Director of Education, Beth Israel Center

Four years ago, educators from four faith-based communities (Beth Israel Center, Madison Christian Community, Middleton Community Church UCC and First Congregational Church UCC) decided that the time was right to put into action some of the Reverend Dr Martin Luther King's teachings. Realizing that our religious communities and congregations had more in common than not, we began to collaborate and have since grown our relationships and our annual MLK program; this year we are thrilled to have Seema Tahir of the Madinah Academy of Madison as a member of our planning committee, and to have her students from the Madinah Academy and the Islamic Center of Madison participating in our programs. Our main goal is simple: to build bridges through friendships and shared experiences—that the shared experiences include Dr King's teachings, ideas and actual words, make the connections that much stronger.

My relationship with the planning committee began in 2014 when Beth Israel Center's new building was not yet complete and the High Holy days drew near. Looking for a building that could house our 400+ congregants on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur while still within walking distance of Beth Israel Center brought us to First Congregational and a wonderful—and continuing—relationship with them. Now, besides our ongoing MLK Day program, the memory that for me best demonstrates our loving, supportive rapport is watching congregants from First Congregational come from church on a Sunday to join us in marching our Torahs back to 1406 Mound Street when we were ready to move back into our newly remodeled synagogue. Seeing Reverend Hazen's glow while she carried a Torah toward our renewed home, knowing that she had worked hard to do our mitzvah of hachnasat orchim (welcoming guests) while we wandered, will be forever in my mind.

Since then I've studied text with my Christian colleagues, answered numerous questions (and asked even more!) and modeled what we want to provide for our children of faith. The thoughtful, intentional, joyful collaboration between me and the educators at First Congregational, Madison Christian Community, Middleton Community Church and Madinah Academy forms a highpoint of my career.

Reading the news lately, I have felt hopeless—like many of you, I'm sure. Yet, every time I interact with the children in my community, I realize that we have the power to shape the world to come. Let's start now. Let's not just teach, let's model what we want to see—celebrating differences, respecting humanity and demanding dignity and equality. Our children are watching.



The day began with an opening worship ceremony readings from the Quran and the Torah led by Imam Ibrahim Saeed and Rabbi Betsy Forester





Elmore Lawson facilitates cooperative drumming with a group of students. The 5th-8th grade students later drummed in the closing program.

Martin Luther King Holiday Observance

By Laurie Nagus
Editor, Madison Jewish News

The weekend of Friday, January 18, through Monday, January 21, 2019, celebrated the life and legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Jewish Federation of Madison is a proud sponsor of the 34th annual Madison and Dane County King Holiday Observance—a series of beautiful and fitting events presented through the hard work of the King Coalition.



Don Miner with the Coalition choir

The King Coalition was established in the fall of 1985 to plan the official City of Madison and Dane County observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The Coalition consists of representatives from religious communities, organized labor, the UW-Madison, public schools, peace groups, service organizations, and city and county government, plus individuals who have joined because of their personal commitment to equal rights and justice for all people. Given this membership—people from all walks of life, gathered in the spirit of true brotherhood and sisterhood to commemorate the life and accomplishments of a renowned leader of the Civil Rights movement—the planning of this holiday celebration took on special significance.

Don Miner, a longtime member of Beth Israel Center, became involved in the Coalition through his love of singing. BIC had a small choir in the early 1990s, led by Hannah Bettner. Hannah was at that time studying with Leotha Stanley, director of music at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church and organizer of the Community Choir, which sings at the annual King events. Hannah and Leotha discovered that *Down by the Riverside* and *Lo Yisa Goy el Goy Cherev* (from Isaiah) could be sung as a round. At the King celebration in 1992 the Beth Israel Center Choir sang the round alongside the Community Choir at the Capitol Theater. After that performance, Beth Israel Center Choir members were invited to join the Community Choir and Don did.

When Don learned that the Federation's representative to the King Coalition was leaving, he spoke with Steve Morrison, then executive director of Jewish Federation of Madison and a founding member of the King Coalition, and volunteered to fill the position. Don has represented the Federation ever since.

Since Don began representing the Jewish community in the Coalition, Beth Israel Center, Congregation Shaarei Shamayim and Temple Beth El have stepped forward to help sponsor Coalition events. In addition, local rabbis have become involved in Coalition programs. This year, BIC's Rabbi Betsy Forester spoke and Don, along with 70 other community members, sang at the Sunday ecumenical service

The MLK Community Choir continues to be an integral part of the official Madison and Dane County King Holiday Observance. The Choir is unique in bringing together community members, regardless of musical background, for the purpose of performing at this event.

The MLK Observance included many weekend events sponsored by the King Coalition. A free community dinner on the Friday prior to the official King holiday—this year held at Gordon Commons at the UW Madison, and serving about 650 people. Anyone can come and have a great dinner; the Coalition provides free transportation to the Madison low-income and homeless community, running buses provided courtesy of Kobussen Buses Ltd. An inter-faith ecumenical service takes place on the Sunday before. On the official Monday holiday, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Coalitions sponsors a Youth Call to Service event. Finally, Monday night there is a City and County Humanitarian Award program at the Capitol Theater with singing by the Community Choir, a keynote address by a prominent national figure in the Civil Rights Movement, and a Call to Action for community involvement.



Kathy Miner with the MLK Community Choir

Don Miner remarks, "I have always felt that engagement with the community you live in was very important to creating a just and sustainable community. The Coalition fulfills MLK's dream of the beloved community and I'm proud to be part of the activities of the Coalition."

Membership in the Coalition is open to all—to anyone committed to working together in the spirit of harmony. King Coalition activities are made possible through public and private financial, in-kind, and volunteer support. To volunteer or become a sponsor, contact Gloria Hawkins (608) 335-8339, or Edward Lee (608) 213-7907.



King Coalition with Reverend Joseph Lowry

Words of Worth: Letters to the Border

By Erica Serlin, Lynn Silverman, and Marta Karlov
Co-Chairs, Immigrant Action Team

On October 29, 2018, several members of the TBE Urgency of Now Immigration Action Team attended a wonderful program at the Community Immigration Law Clinic (CILC) titled "Words of Worth: Letters to the Border." We attended with about 50 representatives from a variety of nonprofit agencies and faith communities.

The evening began with an introduction to the crisis on our southern border. We heard from volunteer attorneys and interns who provided support and legal assistance at detention centers in Artesia, New Mexico, in 2014 and Dilly, Texas, in the summer



of 2018. These volunteers shared their experiences witnessing the terrible conditions in which men, women, and children are being detained, and why outside support is so important to the well-being of our immigrant community.

After this introduction, we were provided with letter-writing supplies, including sample English and Spanish letters and phrases we could incorporate. We completed 200 cards and letters to current detainees, immigrants awaiting court hearings, and staff and volunteers at the border. We were told that reading our encouraging words and knowing that we and others care about their plight has instilled hope in the recipients and will continue to be important to them!

We will be replicating this program at TBE with the involvement of CILC's staff immigration attorney, Aissa Olivarez; volunteer attorney Kris Rasmussen; Leah Durst-Lee, CILC's volunteer coordinator; Karen Perz-Wilson, a student who helped at the border; and Marin Smith, the fundraising and development intern for CILC. In addition to the letter-writing campaign, we will hear about the range of services provided at CILC as well as volunteer opportunities, including providing intake services to assist the immigration attorneys. Letters can be written in English, Spanish, or some combination with the help of the samples provided.

Watch for date and more information about the event at JewishMadison.org.

Congregation News

Temple Beth El • Congregation Shaarei Shamayim • Beth Israel Center

February Events

02 Kadima Goes Ice Skating (BIC)
Saturday, February 2, 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Middle-schoolers chill out for some frosty ice skating at the UW Shell Sports Center, followed by nosh, hot drinks, and games in the BIC youth lounge. RSVP to hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org.

03 24 Living Torah (BIC)
Sundays, February 3 and 24, 9:15 am - 10:15 am
Learn with Rabbi Forester about making modern, meaningful sense out of Judaism through exploration of current topics affecting how we live.

05 06 Rosh Chodesh Adar I (BIC)
Tuesday and Wednesday, February 5 and 6, 7:00 am
Celebrate the new month at morning minyan, followed by a light breakfast.

07 NEW: Israeli Film Series (BIC)
Thursday, February 7, 7:00 pm
Come to BIC for a salon-like film screening of *My Michael*, an adaptation of the same-titled book by Amos Oz, with discussion facilitated by Professor Yair Mazor.

08 MJND (20s and 30s) Potluck Shabbat Dinner (TBE)
Friday, February 8, 6:30 pm - 10:00 pm
Bring a dairy-free or vegetarian dish to pass. Can't bring a dish? Bring a drink! Can't bring a drink? Bring a friend! Address provided upon RSVP. RSVP at http://www.tbemadison.org/event/mjnd-potluck-shabbat-dinner3.html

09 Shabbat Z'mirot (BIC)
Saturday, February 9, 12:45 pm
Sing a little after Shabbat kiddush lunch.

09 MOUSY Cook-Off (BIC)
Saturday, February 9, 7:00 pm
High-schoolers compete to cook the best-tasting Israeli foods with shlicha Shlomit Ezer. Contact Deborah Hoffman at hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org for details and to RSVP.

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

10 Blockstein Lecture and Brunch (TBE)
Sunday, February 10, 9:45 am - 11:00 am
Temple Beth El and Jewish Social Services are happy to sponsor the Liesl Blockstein Memorial Brunch and speaker.

10 Adult Education: Jewish Rituals Around Death and Mourning (CSS)
Sunday, February 10
RISE, 2120 Fordem Avenue
Rabbi Laurie will walk participants through Jewish rituals following death. She will cover practical issues such as working with a funeral home and choosing a cemetery, explain the customs of tahara and shmirah, and discuss different ways of observing shiva and engaging in a mourning process. This session is for people who generally want to learn more, as well as for those who are considering end of life arrangements for themselves or a loved one.

15 Singles Creating Community Coffee (TBE)
Friday, February 15, 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Original Pancake House, 5518 University Ave.

15 Shabbat Dinner Get Together (TBE)
Friday, February 15, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Join fellow members of the TBE community for dinner prior to Shabbat services. Dinners are the third Friday of the month, beginning at 5:30 pm with plenty of time to get to services at 7:30 pm. Locations vary. Participants pay for their own meals. Please RSVP (and mention date) so that we have an accurate count for the reservation.

16 Merchav HaLev Meditation Mini-Retreat (BIC)
Saturday, February 16, 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm
An afternoon of meditation, chanting, and teachings on the theme of "listening to our lives." No reservations or experience necessary. All are welcome.

16 LGBTQ Havurah (CSS)
Saturday, February 16, 6:30 pm
Please contact the office for the location. All LGBTQ Jews and their friends are welcome to join us for our new havurah. We'll gather at 6:30 pm for dinner, Havdalah, and conversation. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share.

17 Kolot Kehilla (BIC)
Sunday, February 17, 9:30 am - 11:00 am
Yoram Shenker is the next presenter in our Sunday morning speaker series featuring the voices of our community – *kolot kehillah*. He will be speaking about diabetes.

17 24 Thinking of Having a Bar/Bat Mitzvah? Find out More! (CSS)
Sundays, February 17, 24, March 3, 9:50 am - 11:30 am
RISE, 2120 Fordem Avenue
Rabbi Laurie will lead three family education sessions for parents and their 5th-7th grade children. This is an opportunity to discuss the meaning of Bar/Bat Mitzvah, explore 21st century Jewish identity, and learn how the process works in our community. It is not necessary to be a member of the congregation to attend, and parents of 4th graders who wish to learn more are welcome as well. Please RSVP at office@shamayim.org or 257-2944.

17 PJ Library Tots and Tunes (TBE)
Sunday, February 17, 10:30 am - 11:30 am
For young children (ages 0-5) and their families. Enjoy playful, musical, educational moments, including a PJ Library story and meaningful craft project. No RSVP required.

20 Kesher Film (TBE)
Wednesday, February 20, 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
The film is Impossible Spy. Doors open at 7:00 pm and film begins at 7:15 pm. Snacks and schmoozing. There will be a discussion after the film.

22 Berries & Jammies (BIC)
Friday, February 22, 8:00 am - 8:45 am
Preschoolers: bring your grown-ups, wear your PJs, and get ready for Shabbat with Rabbi Forester, challah, berries, and songs.

22 Potluck Shabbat Dinner (BIC)
Friday, February 22, 5:00 pm
Enjoy a kosher-dairy potluck Shabbat dinner after services at Beth Israel Center. Gather at 5:00, services at 5:45, dinner follows. Please bring contributions between 5:00 pm and 5:15 pm or earlier in the week (when the office is open.)

23 Parasha Study (BIC)
Saturday, February 23, 12:45 pm
About once a month, join Rabbi Forester after kiddush lunch for discussion of the week's parasha.

23 Cocoa, Cookies, and Havdalah: Get to Know Us Gathering (CSS)
Saturday, February 23
Please contact the office for the location. Interested in joining Shaarei Shamayim? New to the congregation and want to learn more? Join us for an informal gathering to learn more about our community from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm. We'll provide cocoa and cookies and end Shabbat together with Havdalah. Please RSVP at office@shamayim.org or 257-2944.

23 MOUSY Goes Cosmic with MaTTY (BIC, TBE)
Saturday, February 23, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
MOUSY of BIC joins forces with MaTTY of TBE to play laser tag, schmooze, and nosh in the alternate universe of Ultrazone.

24 Studio Sinai (BIC)
Sunday, February 24, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Not an art class, and not (necessarily) for artists, this class with Rabbi Forester will challenge students to conceptualize and learn about Jewish text using artistic media and creative writing.

26 Singles Creating Community Dinner (TBE)
Tuesday, February 26, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Swagat Indian Restaurant, 707 N. High Point Rd.
Join us for dinner. RSVP required.



Winter retreat at the Perlstein Retreat Center! Eliana and Meytal Zimbauer, Lily Cooper-Conniff, Kalena Nielson, Audrey Sujewicz (CSS)



Teens prepare and serve a meal to Madison's homeless community (CSS)



Lighting Hanukiot at the BIC Hanukkah Party. (BIC)



MOUSY makes adorable fleece blankets for the American Family Children's Hospital (BIC)



Kadima middle-schoolers jumping for joy and basketball shots at Sky Zone. (BIC)



TBE hosted a Hanukkah's Farmer's Market on Brunch on December 9. (TBE)



Berries and Jammies fun with Rabbi Forester (BIC)



MJND (20s and 30s) goes bowling! The group met at Schwoegler's on January 5 (TBE)



Young children and their families enjoy a TuBishvat themed activity at PJ Library Tots and Tunes on December 16 (TBE)



Our first Shabbalalanukkah drew a huge crowd spanning many generations! (TBE)

Legend

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

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

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

Unless otherwise noted, events take place in the congregations' buildings. Call or email for more information for any specific event.

Regular Service Schedules

Beth Israel Center (BIC)

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

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim (CSS)

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim celebrates Shabbat each week with Torah study every Saturday at 9:30 am. Twice a month we have services on Saturdays. In February we have services on February 9 at 10:30 am, followed by kiddush. February 23, we begin with coffee at 9:00 am followed by services at 9:30. Kiddush will be at 10:30 am followed by speaker Judith Heilizer, sharing stories and reflections of being part of the Dutch Resistance in World War II. Please join us.

Temple Beth El (TBE)

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

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

Camp Corner





Spring Break Camp is located at Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Jewish Community Campus in Verona. Bussing will be available. Apply www.JewishMadison.org. Applications due Feb. 10th.

Camp Shalom Winter and Spring Information

Camp Shalom Online Applications available NOW
Camp Shalom Spring Break Camp: March 26-28

Camp Shalom Summer Session Information

Camp Shalom Registration for returning families and alumni: March 6
Camp Shalom Registration for everyone: March 7
Camp Shalom New Camper Information Session: TBA
Camp Shalom Staff Orientation: June 17 - June 21, 2019

Session 1: June 24 - July 12, 2019 (no camp July 4)
Session 2: July 16 - August 2, 2019 (no camp Monday, July 15)
Session 3 (Camp Shalom only): August 6-August 16, 2019 (no camp Monday, August 5)

IMPORTANT CALENDAR UPDATE: Camp Shalom will NOT be having visitor lunches in 2019. We will continue to have our late-night/visitor program. If you have any questions about this change please contact Ellen Weismer at shalomdirector@jewishmadison.org.

Winter Camp Shalom is the Place to Be!

By Ellen Weismer
Camp Shalom Director

The word is out and the Winter Camp Shalom at the Goodman Campus was the place to be for elementary school aged kids during winter break! Winter Camp Shalom was a huge success thanks to the many campers who attended over the three-day program. We had our biggest enrollment to date with more than 60 campers attending.

We had one rainy/snowy afternoon and other than that the campers were able to engage in indoor and outdoor programming. Every day included arts and crafts, camp games and Chugim (choice time), similar to summer programming. The campers were also able to experience some new activities like inflatables, carnival games, Amazing Race themed scavenger hunts and early-coding activities using Ozobots (small coding robots).

Winter Break Camp is the perfect remedy to "I miss Camp Shalom fever" and a great way for campers who are not able to attend summer camp to experience the magic of Camp Shalom. We even had campers from as far away as Massachusetts and Minnesota who came to town for winter break and spent their days with us.

We are hoping to offer a spring break camp from March 26-28. Check the www.JewishMadison.org website for more details.

What's Happening Out at The Goodman Campus?

Camp Shalom is so fortunate to call the 155 acres of the Goodman Campus our home! We are always exploring new ways to use the campus, to keep the facilities fresh and to make updates as needed. This year, the Goodman Campus Committee has spent a lot of time finding ways to make the indoor space, the Minkoff Center, more useful. We added cubbies for storing small items and projects and we moved or replaced our water fountains and added trough sinks outside the Minkoff Center to be able to accommodate more campers and make better use of the space.

In 2018 we applied for a Focus on Energy grant and in the late fall we added new solar panels to the Omanut (arts and crafts building) to make our campus more energy efficient. We are so thrilled that these projects are complete and so grateful to the volunteers on the Goodman Campus Committee who worked hard by applying for grants, researching options and supporting us to make this all happen!

If you have an idea about a program or update you would like to see at the Goodman Campus please contact Ellen Weismer, shalomdirector@jewishmadison.org. We always appreciate thoughts and ideas from the community.



All of the campers could fit in their invention together









Jordan and Nevaeh showed off their Winter Camp hats



New Solar Panels at the Campus



Popcorn was a fun treat at the carnival



Solly and Cora enjoyed cotton candy at the carnival



Winter campers created new friendships



All the Winter Campers together



Facepaint was a popular booth at the Winter Carnival



Showing off the winter paintings they made with Shlomit



Winter Campers practiced coding with Ozobots 2



Jewish Federation of Madison recognizes and tha



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Jewish Federation OF MADISON

Jewish Education

Our Israeli Guest from Gan Savyon

By Marla Becker
Director of Gan HaYeled

During the 2017-2018 school year, Gan HaYeled partnered with Gan Savyon Preschool in Kfar Tavor, Israel. This was arranged through a Jewish agency school twinning program, Partnership 2Gether (P2G). We shared photos of our children experiencing the various Jewish Holidays and even had a live video conference last July.

Before the winter break, Yehudit, a teacher at Gan Savyon, spent December 3-7 with us at Gan HaYeled. She immediately bonded with the children and staff and shared many photos with us. We could all see what preschool was like in Israel and learned about the similarities and differences. She even spent special time with our Gan HaYeled staff explaining the philosophy and practices of her program.

Some highlights from Yehudit's visit included making challah from scratch in the shape of a menorah with the children, singing Hebrew songs, playing games and sharing stories in Hebrew. Our community Friday night potluck Shabbat provided a wonderful opportunity for our preschool families to spend time with her. Even though Gan HaYeled and Gan Savyon are thousands of miles apart, Yehudit's visit was an incredible reminder that the Jewish bond is incredibly strong.



The children made challah from scratch with Yehudit and created a stunning challah menorah



What a fabulous decorated Hanukkah tablecloth Yehudit brough us from Gan Savyon Preschool. We even played a specal game with it!

My Visit to Madison

By Yehudit Vanger
A teacher at Gan Savion preschool in Kfar Tavor, Sovev Kinneret

"Would you like to go to the United States?" It all started with a question from Nofar, the coordinator of the Partnership2Gether program of Sovev Kinneret and Madison. Obviously, I replied yes without even thinking what it meant and what it would require. It sounded so exciting. From there, everything started happening quickly: getting my visa, preparing everything I wanted to take with me for the children of Gan HaYeled in Madison. Our Gan's staff helped with the preparations, including taking photos of our program and explaining how our Gan works.

Arriving to Madison was very exciting. Even before the plane landed, I noticed that all the building were built low and all the trees were bare, something we do not see as much of in Israel. Madison reminded me of Kfar Tavor, only bigger. It was snowing, and we started the first day lighting the first candle of Hanukkah with Chabad at Hilldale. A big Hanukkiah standing peacefully alongside a Christmas tree. Everyone was singing, eating latkes and sufganiuot and seemed so happy to come together and celebrate. From there we continued to a Hanukkah celebration with Israeli families and much Hebrew. It was nice to see that despite the cold, people did not miss a chance to meet and celebrate together, and, of course, as with any Jewish holiday—to eat together.

The next day, we arrived at Gan HaYeled. I was very warmly welcomed by the Gan staff. I was surprised to see that the children play outside even when it is freezing. One of the little girls asked me if I was coming outside to play with them. when I said it was too cold, she stared at me and said, "but we need some fresh air." In Israel, a few drops of rain are enough to keep the children inside for the day.

I spent the week at Gan. I got to show the staff our Gan's work methods using photos I had brought with me. I was very happy to be a part of the staff and work with the children for the week, see some of the differences, for example, the children bring their own lunch to school in Madison, while, in Kfar Tavor we have a kitchen and prepare three meals a day.

I was very impressed with the Shabbat potluck at Gan. That morning we made a big Hanukkiah challah together, and in the evening each parent brought a dish to share. There was great atmosphere and

(Continued on page 15)









HILDE L. MOSSE
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For more info: https://jewishmadison.org/gan
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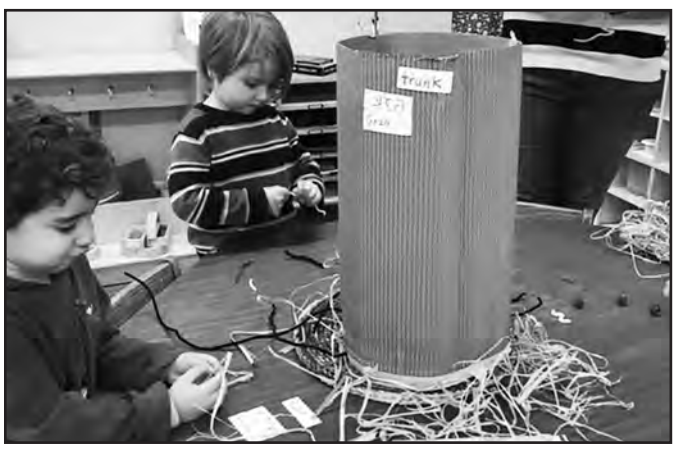
Drop in anytime between 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Gan HaYeled Preschool
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI 53719-1117

Experience hands-on exploration and play: art, challah making, science, creative play, and music

Enjoy a pancake breakfast!
RSVP: gan@jewishmadison.org
(608) 442-4075

There are always exciting things happening at Gan HaYeled. We had fun celebrating Tu B'Shevat, having a talent show, and going on our field trip.



We have such incredible imagination! Look at our tree we created. We even know how to say the tree parts in Hebrew!


Visiting the Overture Center was such a treat! We saw The Rainbow Fish.


We also saw during the talent show the incredible skill it takes to rescue and bandage a hurt skier.

My Visit to Madison

Continued from page 14

we lit the candles together and recited the blessings differently from how we do in Israel.

I have never celebrated Hanukkah as much as I did in Madison. I was surprised by the number of Hanukkah children's books and games you have (which we do not). There were so many holiday songs, some of which I knew and some of which I did not.

It was so special attending holiday celebrations at the various synagogues. Everything from the rabbis' singing, the small details such as Hanukkah napkins, the community Hanukkiyot lighting. I got the feeling that the synagogues here are similar to the community center in Kfar Tavor: places for children and parents to come together for community gatherings and activities.

I was happy to teach at different programs as well, such as "Ivrit B'Kef" with Shlomit where we read a famous Israeli Hanukkah story in Hebrew and English, and at different Sunday schools. I was surprised to see how many children and parents gather on a Sunday. We sang in Hebrew and danced.

It took a few days to process everything that had happened. I am thankful for the amazing hospitality, for those who hosted me in their homes and for everyone I have met who ensured that I had a good experience. I am grateful for the celebrations in synagogues and in peoples' homes, and for seeing Madison.

During this trip I learned that Judaism has a place in Madison: with all the synagogues and rabbis I have met from different denominations; with Hillel which is located right in the center of Madison. It is not to be taken for granted that Jews have a place to meet and celebrate Jewish holidays together.

I felt very relaxed in Madison. There is some peace and quiet there that felt different than what I am used to, feeling like I am in a race. I am, once again, thankful for the opportunity to visit such a beautiful place and meet so many good people.



Yehudit lit the candles and said the Hanukkah blessings (which is slightly different from the way we do) at our special Community Hanukkah Potluck Shabbat.


Capillary action is fascinating, as is Professor Smarty Pants!


Celebrating Shabbat every Friday together fills our school with such warmth.


Our school talent show included the cello.


Singing about the parts of a tree for Tu B'Shevat makes us smile.

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Sundays:
February 3, 10, 17, 24
March 3, 10, 31
April 7, 14, 28

Please email Kim at midrasha@jewishmadison.org if you are interested in signing up. We look forward to a fun semester!


Students prepping shakshuka during their Ashkenazi, Sephardi, and Beyond class


Students vs. Rabbi Biatch and Laurel Hefty!

On Countering Anti-Semitism, Fight or Join Critics? Yes.

By David Bernstein
President and CEO, Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA)

The lead up to the Women's March held last Saturday exposed yet another rift in the American Jewish body politic. In the face of the controversy over March founders Tamika Mallory's and Linda Sarsour's associations with Louis Farrakhan and their various pronouncements on Jews and Jewish issues, Jews differed on how best to respond and whether to join or boycott the March. At root was a spirited disagreement over the best way to counter growing anti-Semitism.

Noted Holocaust historian Deborah Lipstadt strongly opposed participation in the March. "How can self-respecting Jewish women support you when you stand by someone who called us 'termites' and then only offer tepid critiques after a wave of criticism swept over you?" she asks rhetorically of the two March founders.

Jewish feminist activist Shifra Bronznick strongly supported participation in the March. "Many of us know that this is a critical time to stay at the table," she argues. "To stay and talk and build an agenda based on the Women's March Unity Principles that reflect so many of our core commitments, including the need to fight anti-Semitism."

The Deborah Lipstadt camp embraces the more traditional approach to opposing anti-Semitism: condemn it whenever and wherever it rears its ugly head. It holds that by fighting hatred we consign it to the margins of society. And by sitting with people tainted by anti-Semitism we enable and empower it.

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The Shifra Bronznick camp, by contrast, believes that Jews cannot influence these progressive movements if they refrain from being at the table. Condemning these leaders, they argue, simply cuts Jews out of the conversation and prevents us from swaying the internal discourse of these movements and how they ultimately perceive Jews and Jewish issues. It marginalizes us, not them.

These two camps are often seen as working against each other. The Jews who sit with the March organizers are seen by the condemn/marginalize camp as providing validation to anti-Semitism. The Jews who call out anti-Semitism are seen by the engage/influence camp as contributing to a perception among progressives that the Jewish community is aloof and uncommitted to the equality agenda.

It would be easy to see this rift as further evidence that ideological disagreements are tearing at the fabric of Jewish unity and weakening our political potency.

Might it be possible, however, that we should welcome these differences even if we personally prefer one approach over the other?

It is a sign of the times that so many Jews assert their singular, inalterable truth, wishing away anyone who doesn't agree with them. Wishing away our diversity.

But I would argue the best way to collectively fight anti-Semitism is for some people to take an unwavering principled stance, calling out anti-Semitism at every turn, and for others to engage intersectional circles, join planning efforts, and influence the movements from within.

The mixed messages and differing approaches are better than if either one completely won out. If the condemn/marginalize camp had its way, Jews would be more isolated.

If the engage/influence camp had its way, no one would send the unmistakable message that associating or espousing anti-Semitism is a blight.

Neither of those outcomes would be better than these two approaches playing out in the public square at the same time.

Moreover, far from working against each other, the two camps inadvertently enhance each other. The good-cop bad dynamic has long been effective in negotiations and in advocacy. The bad cop—in this case the condemn/marginalize camp—can enhance the status of the good cop—the engage/influence camp—whose approach can come across as a rational and fair-minded alternative. With the bad cop breathing down her neck, the good cop can make the case against anti-Semitism in a way the target audience—in this case people involved in the Women's March movement—are more likely to hear.

In this light, perhaps these seemingly contradictory approaches can be more tolerant of each other and not see the other as its mortal enemy, but perhaps even as a reluctant ally. One thing's for sure: neither of these approaches is going away, no matter how hard the other may wish.

In fighting the world's oldest hatred, our diversity is our strength.

Jewish Women of Color – Including Madison's Shahanna McKinney Baldon – Lead National Women's March in Washington D.C.

By David Dahmer
Reprinted and edited with permission for this publication

Editor's Note: *The Jewish Federation of Madison is deeply disappointed that a march in support of women's rights was derailed by some of its leaders anti-Semitic and anti-Israel sentiment. Jews have differed on how best to respond to this hatred and whether to join or boycott the March. The following article features one local woman's personal experience as a Jewish woman of color at the National Women's March. The Madison Jewish News seeks to represent the diversity of Jewish Madison to create connections and build community.*

A large delegation of women from around the country—the Associated Press estimated 100,000 marchers—took part in National Women's March in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, January 20. Leading the march, the very first group in line, was a new international coalition of over one hundred Jewish Women of Color. And leading the Jewish Women of Color—and carrying the Torah—was Madison's own Shahanna McKinney Baldon of Congregation Shaarei Shamayim.

"We led the entire march of 100,000 women," Shahanna McKinney Baldon tells Madison365 in a phone conversation from Washington D.C. "That Torah I had in my hands led the whole march. And several of us right up front were Wisconsin women."

McKinney Baldon, the director of Professional Learning for the Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN) project at Wisconsin Center for Education Research (WCER), was one of a dozen women from the Midwest who traveled to Washington D.C. to join a diverse, international coalition of Jewish women of color and allies to declare allegiance with the Women's March.

Many of the women in the coalition arrived on Friday prior to the march where they attended several Jewish Women of Color events in the D. C. area. The coalition affirmed its support for the Women's March unity principles with an open letter that they released prior to the march and emphasized the unique and crucial role of Jewish women of color in organizing for social justice.

"As Jewish Women of Color, we support the Women's March and believe that this is the time for our communities to affirm together that women's rights are human rights and human rights are women's rights," the open letter reads. "As Jewish Women of Color who live at the intersection of racism, sexism and anti-Semitism, and who are committed to standing against white supremacy, patriarchy and religious oppression in all its forms, we will play an integral role in the healing and unification of our communities and in the work of securing greater justice and freedom for us all."

The coalition has members hailing from communities across the US and Canada who are leaders from across a range of social, political, religious, and secular groups and organizations. One of the leaders of the coalition was Boston-based CEO Yavilah McCoy, who was also one of the Women's March's official speakers.

A graduate of the UW Madison School of Education, McKinney Baldon is a leader in equity education and advocacy work, and has led a number local, regional, and national projects that focus on racial diversity, including in faith community settings. McKinney Baldon has been doing work around racial and ethnic diversity in the Jewish community for decades.

"The event, for me, felt like a life-affirming and life-changing moment," McKinney Baldon says. "There were Jewish women of color marching here in D.C., there were Jewish women of color marching at local events. There were Jewish women of color who chose to stay home, but regardless we are all marching together into this moment of uplift and this moment of unity and into this moment of Jewish women of color leading the charge of getting at the nuance in these conversations around racism and sexism and anti-Semitism and other forms of oppression."

There was a some of controversy leading up to this year's march over alleged anti-Semitism against the organizers, with national march co-president Tamika Mallory at the center of the controversy. Major sponsors, including the NAACP and the Democratic National Convention, pulled their support from the organization as a result of the growing debates.

"This binary [choice]—Jews or people of color—erases our experiences for Jews who are also people of color," McKinney Baldon says. "But over the last several weeks, Jewish women of color have been teaching the leadership of the women's march about anti-Semitism and intersectionality, and

(Continued on page 17)



Madison's Shahanna McKinney (in front, holding the Torah) and the Jewish Women of Color lead the National Women's March in Washington D.C.

Seventeenth Annual Israeli Film Festival at Hillel and Other Campus Locations

By Tal Sheffer UW Hillel Shaliach
UW Hillel is a beneficiary organization of the Jewish Federation of Madison

The months of February and March are upon us, and that means that it is time for the Annual Israeli Film Festival. I am excited for the festival not only because I love movies and think this year's movies are amazing, but also because I think movies are a great tool and opportunity to show different aspects of Israel and its culture, and they are able to go beyond political disagreements. What I love the most about Israeli movies is that they often explore small, personal stories of everyday people that are interesting and easy to relate to.

We are happy to bring you the 17th Annual Film Festival, which has some of the best Israeli movies produced in the past two years.

This year's festival offers five movies, each of them showing a different aspect of Israeli life, culture and society. Three of the movies were generously sponsored by ASM (UW Madison Student Government), and we were lucky enough to include two additional movies as well. One of the movies, Kilometer 147, won the Israeli Academy Award for Best Short Film in 2018, and Director Boaz Frankel will come to Madison for a Q&A after the screening.

The festival is student-led and is organized by the Israel Interest Group (IIG). IIG is a UW student org, whose purpose is to bring various aspects of Israel to campus. The group meets every week, and for the past few months has worked on hosting the Annual Israeli Film Festival, while carefully choosing the movies to show.

Here is the list of the movies, including a description for each movie:

***In Her Footsteps*, documentary**
Monday, February 4, 7:00 pm at Hillel, 611 Langdon St.

In the dead of night, a Bedouin family decides to leave their home in the Bedouin village of Tal-a-Sabeh, and moves, perhaps "flees," to Omer, a very bourgeois Jewish town, located only five km away. After ten years of dealing with breast cancer, the mother's only wish was to be buried in Omer. The town had never dealt with this issue, of where to bury its Muslim residents. The film documents an entire family torn between fulfilling the mother's last wish and social codes that cannot be ignored. During the process of separation from the mother, the film reveals the family intimacy, secrets and dilemmas, and raises serious questions about women's identity, nationality and the meaning of home.



Shoelaces
Tuesday, February 12, 7:30 pm at Hillel, 611 Langdon St.

Shoelaces tells the story of a complicated relationship between an aging father and his special-needs son, whom he abandoned while he was still a young boy. The director of the movie, Jacob Goldwasser, wrote the following: "Shoelaces is a special project for me. As a father of a special-needs son, I never felt that the depiction of special-needs characters on film rang true. However, when I saw Nevo Kimchi's work (the main actor), I was dumbfounded. He created a special needs character, who was human and real, filled with humor, optimism and charm."



***Family in Transition*, documentary**
Thursday, February 21, 6:00 pm at the Red Gym, 716 Langdon St.

Amit, a father of four living in a small town in Israel, tells his wife, Galit, that he is a woman and wants to transition his gender from male to female. Galit pledges her support, ready to overcome surgery, social stigma and bureaucracy to maintain her marriage. However, as Amit transitions, tensions arise while everyone in the family readjusts to understand themselves and each other anew. In the process, Galit must redefine her own identity and what it means to be a parent, a spouse and a lover. The movie is co-sponsored with the Gender and Sexuality Campus Center.



Scaffolding
Tuesday, February 26, 7:30 pm at Hillel, 611 Langdon St.

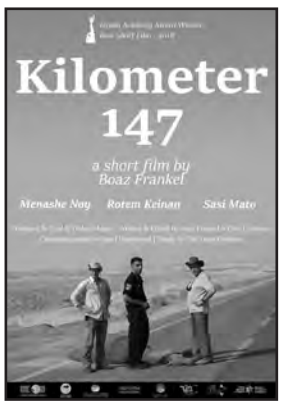
Seventeen-year-old Asher has always been the impulsive troublemaker, from primary school, all through junior high and high school. It is hard for him to concentrate in class, and he is consumed by a lot of rage and violence; yet he is also endowed with a considerable amount of charm and street wisdom. While his strict father sees him as a natural successor to the family's scaffolding business, Asher finds a different masculine role model in his gentle literature teacher Rami and forges a special connection with him. Torn between the two worlds, Asher looks for a chance for a new life and new identity. When a sudden tragedy occurs, he has to take the ultimate test of maturity.



Kilometer 147
Israeli Academy Award Winner for Best Short Film 2018.
Monday, March 25th, 6pm at the Marquee Cinema, Union South, 1308 W Dayton St.

A camel's body lies in the middle of a desert road, exactly on the 147th kilometer, on the border between two towns. Neither of them agrees to take responsibility for it. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the director Boaz Frankel.

All dates, times and venues are subject to change. For the most recent and updated information, please check the UW Hillel website, JFM website, or contact Tal at Tsheffer@uwhillel.org



Women's March

Continued from page 16

the narrative is shifting to a focus on intersectionality while also maintaining a focus on ending anti-black racism."

"We came to Washington D.C. to stand in unity and support the unity principles of the Women's March," she adds. "And women from Wisconsin led the way, including five women from Milwaukee in our Midwest delegation."

Jewish women of color is a pan-ethnic term that is used to identify Jews whose family origins are originally in African, Asian or Latin American countries and may identify as black, Latina, Asian American or of mixed heritage such as biracial or multi-racial. They join the Jewish community in a variety of ways including birth, transracial/transnational adoption, intermarriage and conversion.

"Jews have always been a mixed people. There are stories in the Bible about our diversity and that diversity persists today," McKinney Baldon says. "It's true that most of the Jews in this country are of Eastern-European descent, so there is a stereotype here that Jews are white, but I am a Jew of Eastern-European descent and I'm also African American."

McKinney Baldon said she was proud to have the backing of Rabbi Laurie Zimmerman of Congregation Shaarei Shamayim here in Madison. She added that participating in—and leading!—the 2019 Women's March on Washington D.C. with her daughter will be an experience that she will continue to draw upon in her leadership.

"I'm very much looking forward to this next phase of stepping up our game in terms of getting at the complexities and the nuance around what we need to do to end all types of oppression," she says. "And we feel really good about our group's contributions to this year's march."

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Amoz Oz

Courtesy of World Jewish Congress

World Jewish Congress mourns the death of Israeli literary giant Amos Oz, who passed away on Friday at the age of 79 after a battle with cancer.

Oz was one of the most influential writers in Israeli history, and the words, ideas, and colorful characters he created have had a lasting impact on the way both Israelis and non-Israelis view the state today.

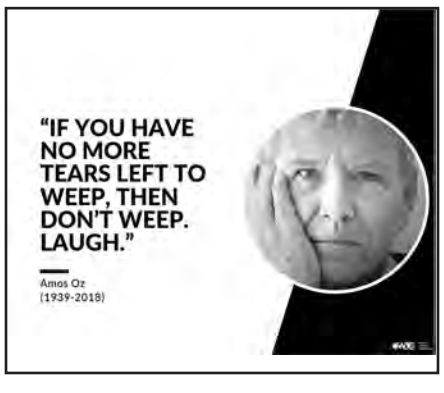
He was born Amos Klausner in Jerusalem in Mandatory Palestine in 1939, and his deep love for Israel, and nostalgia and longing for what he believed it should be shone strongly throughout his work.

Oz was a passionate supporter of the two-state solution, and often critical of the policies of the State of Israel. Despite his strong political ideas, and disagreements with many, he was cherished as a national figure and embraced as an icon of Israeli literature and thought by people across the spectrum.

Throughout his life, Oz wrote dozens of Hebrew-language books, including novels, novellas, and collections of short stories, and some 500 articles and essays for Israeli and international periodicals. His memoir, "A Tale of Love and Darkness," published in 2002, was an international best-seller.

Oz won several prizes for his work in both Israel and abroad, including the Israel Prize, the Prix Femina and Officier des Arts et Lettres in France, the Frankfurt Peace Prize, and the Primo Levi Prize in Italy. For years, he was considered to be a candidate for the Nobel Prize in literature.

Amos Oz's legacy will continue for years to come, and he will forever be remembered as a face of Israel in its first 70 years of creation.



Jewish Social Services

JSS is a Beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of Madison

www.jssmadison.org

Register Now for "Stepping On": A Falls Prevention Workshop

Jewish Social Services of Madison is thrilled to again offer the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging's Stepping On Falls Prevention class. This seven-week program has been shown to reduce falls by as much as 50%.

Stepping On will help participants identify why they fall and different ways to prevent falls, including strength and balance exercises, home safety check suggestions and a medication review. The workshop is both for people who have fallen and for people who fear falling. Participants will leave with more strength, achieve better balance, and experience a feeling of confidence and independence as a result of performing various exercises and sharing personal falls experiences as a group. We are very happy that Rabbi Irv Ehrich, a Stepping On graduate, will be a peer ambassador for the class.

The Stepping On class will be offered in Madison by Jewish Social Services and hosted by Temple Beth El beginning on Thursday, March 14th at 9:30 am at Temple Beth El (2702 Arbor Drive). The classes will take place every Thursday in March and April.

Stepping On registration is $35 and scholarships are available. To register for the class please contact Caren Minkoff ASAP at (608) 442-4081, or caren@jssmadison.org.

Jewish Social Services Brings Shabbat to Our Seniors

Our monthly Shabbat gatherings include candle lighting, challah, singing, and discussion.

Attic Angel Place in the Garden Room, 2:30 pm

8301 Old Sauk Rd.

A Jewish Social Services and Attic Angel Place program. Led by Rabbi Renee Bauer, Director of Chaplaincy and Outreach with music by Les Goldsmith and with the assistance of Angel Volunteers.

March 29

Capitol Lakes in the Grand Hall, 3:00 pm 333 West Main St.

A Jewish Social Services and Capitol Lakes Retirement Community program. Led by Rabbi Andrea Steinberger with assistance from UW students through the Hillel Foundation.

February 1, March 1

Oakwood West in Oak's Community Room, 3:30 pm 6225 Mineral Point Rd.

A Jewish Social Services and Oakwood Village University Woods program. Led by Rabbi Renee Bauer with the assistance of JSS volunteers. Music by Paul Grossberg.

February 15, March 15

ATTENTION REHAB PATIENTS: *If you are going to be in one of these locations during your rehabilitation, you are welcome to attend.*

Liesl Blockstein Memorial Lecture "Working Toward Criminal Justice Reform in Wisconsin"

Sunday, February 10



Jewish Social Services is pleased to continue to co-sponsor, with Temple Beth El, the annual Liesl Blockstein Memorial Lecture. The event honors Liesl Blockstein, a woman who escaped from Hitler's Austria in the 1930s and was a well-known force for justice and a leader in both the Jewish and wider community. The lecture always features a woman who embodies Liesl's commitment to social justice and Jewish life. We are pleased to announce that this year's lecture features Carousel Byrd.

Like Liesl Blockstein, Carousel serves on the Dane County Board of Supervisors. Since 2006, she has focused on criminal reform, racial justice, immigrants rights, mental health services, and alternatives to incarceration, along with housing and women's rights.

Carousel is currently a partner at the law firm Herrick and Kasdorf where she focuses on landlord and tenant law, and employment and housing discrimination. She also taught legal research and writing at UW Madison Law School.

Carousel grew up in Los Angeles and attended the Sephardic Temple. She lives in Madison with her husband Tim Sobota, and her two daughters Cassandra and Mari.

For more information, or to register for the event, visit tbemadison.org.

Carousel will talk about the different facets of the criminal justice system-- from policing to the courts to incarceration-- and how we can make changes in every area and address the root causes of racism within the systems. She will also talk about alternatives to incarceration and programs that are already working in Wisconsin that keep us safer and stop incarceration.

Happy February Birthdays

Freda Blair • Ruth Calden
Donald Folberg
Louise Goldstein • Jeff Reis
Milt Rosenberg • Arlene Rotter

Condolences

to the Family of Shirley Volpiansky

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

Volunteer application at www.jssmadison.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer
Contact our volunteer program at (608) 442-4083 or visit our website for information.

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.

Drivers Needed: Help people remain independent! Provide rides to clients for appointments and other destinations on an as-needed and as-available basis. Requires copies of proof of insurance and driver's license plus a driver's record check, done at our expense.

Designated Shopper:
Help people remain independent by providing assistance and companionship by shopping or running errands with them. At times, clients may also need someone to pick up groceries or other items for them when they are not able to be accompanied by the volunteer.

Back-up Volunteer Photographer: Take photos at JSS events which will be used for promotional materials and social media.

Bikur Cholim/Friendly Visitor: Visit with people in rehabilitation, hospital, or memory care. These visits can be made when convenient for you.

Computer/Odd Job Help: Help and support the elderly with doing small jobs – changing light bulbs, fixing loose hinge, etc. Help also needed to operate and learn basic computer tasks and general electronic devices such as television and remote controls.

Volunteer at holiday, social events, and Oakwood Shabbats: Help the residents of Oakwood Village welcome Shabbat one Friday per month from 3:30 pm-4:30 pm. Seat guests, pour wine and juice, and distribute challah, interact with the residents of Oakwood Village and their families.

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!

Lechayim Lights

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

About our Programs

Monday, February 4

Kaia Fowler's music draws from the rich traditions of American folk, acoustic blues, and roots. "Sharing songs helps me connect with others," says Kaia. "When I sing about my loves and losses, concerns and inspirations, fears and hopes, I know we all share these experiences, each in our own way. There, in that moment, because of the mysterious power of music and words, we understand one another better. We sense that we're all in this together. I love that aspect of what I do most of all." With over 20 years as a performing singer-songwriter, Kaia draws from a large repertoire of original material and well-loved cover songs.



Kaia Fowler

Monday, February 11

The Retro Swing Band is an ensemble formed as a senior recreation band. Members are music educators and experienced musicians who are retired or have flexible work schedules. The group features original arrangements culled from the personal collections of its members as well as unpublished arrangements mostly from musical styles of the 1930's – 1950's. You will hear selections of big band music including music of Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Woody Herman, Tommy Dorsey and others. The band was organized and had its first performance in 1996.



The Retro Swing Band

Monday, February 18

The United States has been defined in various ways as a "Christian nation"; if so, how do Jews and Muslims—whose understandings of such things as sacred space, sacred time, food, and the religious meaning of the state, can be quite different from those of Christians—fit into American society? Professor Emeritus Charles Cohen will discuss this in his talk entitled, "Jews and Muslims in Christian America." Professor Cohen is the E. Gordon Fox Professor of American Institutions. He teaches at UW Madison in the Departments of History and Religious Studies. Professor Cohen was founding director of the Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions, whose mission is to create better understandings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam by encouraging ongoing discussion of these traditions and their interrelationships.. His book, Abrahamic Religions: A Very Short Introduction, will be published in 2019 by Oxford University press.



Professor Charles Cohen

Monday, February 25

Sean Michael Dargan was seven when he "borrowed" his sister's copy of the Beatles' Magical Mystery Tour. Forty years later he still has not given it back. Sean has fronted his own band for over 25 years, touring the world and elsewhere. The songs he writes and plays can all be traced directly to the Beatles. In Get Back he has finally found a sacred repository for this longstanding love of the lads.



Sean Michael Dargan

The Goodman Lechayim Lunchtime Plus is a Senior Adult Program. Find changes, updates, and new information about JSS programs on our website, www.jssmadison.org.

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

Contact Jewish Social Services at (608) 442-4081 or email office@jssmadison.org ***no later than 2:00 pm the preceding Wednesday.*** **A vegetarian option is available with a reservation.** If you are 60 years or older, a minimum donation of $4.00 is suggested, but please only pay what is comfortable for you. The cost of the meal is $9.73 for those younger than 60 years old.

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

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

February Lechayim Calendar

Monday, February 4

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
11:30 am-12:30 pm	Complimentary blood pressure check with nurse, Lori Edelstein
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Braised balsamic chicken, couscous, market salad, rugelach (vegetarian option: Balsamic tofu)
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	Folk and blues music by Kaia Fowler

Monday, February 11

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Ropa Vieja (Cuban shredded beef), congri (rice and beans), corn on the cob, churros
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	Big band music by Retro Swing Band

Monday, February 18

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Prime rib, whipped potato, squash and zucchini, dinner rolls, Greek salad, dessert
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	"Jews and Muslims in Christian America." Presentation by Professor Charles Cohen

Monday, February 25

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Sweet and sour brisket, rice, steamed vegetables, mixed greens with Balsamic vinaigrette, dessert
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	Music by the Beatles: guitarist and singer/songwriter, Sean Michael Dargan

Next month dates: March 4, 11, 18, 25

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

Making Lechayim reservations

- When you check-in at Lechayim, you can sign up for the following week
- Call Jewish Social Services at (608) 442-4081 or email **office@jssmadison.org before 2:00 pm on the preceding Wednesday.**
- If you want to check on any cancellations, or want any further info on meals or programs, contact **Paul (608) 442-4083, paul@jssmadison.org**
- We are not able to guarantee a meal for last minute reservations or walk-ins, but all are able and welcome to attend the program following the meal
- Our policy is to cancel Lechayim when the Madison Public Schools close.

Russian Instructions for Making Lechayim Reservations

· Проверьте расписание программы Лехаим по адресу Segoe Terrace. Для резервирования цвяжитесь с еврейской социальной службой по телефону (608) 442-4081 или по электронной почте paul@jssmadison.org не позднее 14:00 в предыдущую среду.

· Если вы хотите проверить какие-либо отмены или хотите получить дополнительную информацию о еде или программах, свяжитесь с Полом (608) 442-4083, paul@jssmadison.org

· По вопросам, касающимся социальных услуг, обращайтесь к Майе (608) 442-4085, maya@jssmadison.org

Always a Good Time with Friends at Lechayim



Arie



Conference time with Ginny, Jean, Davera, Susan, & Sally



Dan from FFRF



Davera & Roz



Lorna



Estelle & Dan



Gary and Jeff Twist



Janis David



Keith, Peter, Dawn



Merilyn



Yoga with Betsy

Jewish Federation OF MADISON

Outreach

Quick check-in to make sure you are receiving all the news, updates and more from the Jewish Community!

Please contact Tiz Ihnchak, (608) 278-1808 or outreach@jewishmadison.org if you or someone you know needs a warm welcome!



- Monday emails that summarize the upcoming week's events
- Facebook Group for Parents of kids ages 0-12 years of age
- Facebook Group for Matzah Balls: coed sports year-round
- Facebook Group for SPF: adults in their 20s, 30s, and 40s
- Facebook Group for Girls Night Out
- Email list for Mitzvah Makers: volunteers for the Madison-area

Like Us on Facebook!

Find us at **www.facebook.com/jewishmadison**

Spring Semester at CJS

By Preston L. Atwood
Project Assistant, Center for Jewish Studies

The Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies looks forward to another exciting semester of events. On March 5, Dr. Bryan Roby, assistant professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor will deliver the annual Weinstein-Minkoff Lecture in Israel Studies. His talk, "Israel through a Colored Lens: African-American Perspectives on Mizrahi Israelis," will explore African-American interactions with Middle Eastern Jewish (Mizrahi) Israelis in the 1950s and 1960s. And on April 11, the Center is proud to bring to campus Susan Stamberg, the nationally renowned broadcast journalist and special correspondent for NPR. Susan will give her talk on "The Jews of Shanghai." Both lectures promise to be thought-provoking and inspiring, so mark your calendars now.

The Center also is cosponsoring the Annual Israeli Film Festival that is put on by the university's Israel Interest Group. Showings this year include In Her Footsteps (2/4), Shoelaces (2/12), Family in Transition (2/21), Scaffolding (2/26), and Kilometer 147 (3/25). Please see page 2 for more details. Additionally, the Center is joining other entities on campus (e.g., Mayrent and CREECA) to sponsor a musical performance brought by Alicia Svigals and Uli Geissendoerfer at the Morphy Recital Hall, Mead Witter School of Music, on April 4. Alicia and Uli will be performing their "Beregovski Suite," which gives life to Moshe Beregovski's unpublished collections of folk music by musicians from Ukrainian shtetlekh in the 1930s.

And last but not least, please save the date for our upcoming Greenfield Summer Institute. This summer's institute is from July 14-18 and titled "Business, Labor, and Social Justice: Jewish Perspectives, Jewish Traditions." We hope to see many of you at our events!

Complete and current information about our events is available on our website at jewishstudies.wisc.edu or by emailing events-lectures@cjs.wisc.edu. The details for the Israeli Film Festival are available at Hillel's website, uwhillel.org/filmfest. And the details for the Svigals and Geissendoerfer concert are available at Mayrent's website, mayrentinstitute.wisc.edu/events/alicia-svigals-and-uli-geissendoerfer-beregovski-suite.

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Social Services

Add Something Special to your Life:
Volunteer for Jewish Social Services!
Volunteer applications are available at jssmadison.org or contact Paul Borowsky at (608) 278-1808 or pborowsky@jssmadison.org

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Recognize and celebrate all of life's occasions with a Tribute Donation to Jewish Federation of Madison.
www.JewishMadison.org

New Baby?

Are you pregnant or recently had a baby? Would you like to meet other Jewish caregivers and their little ones ages 0-2?



Shalom Baby is designed to help Madison families celebrate the arrival of their Jewish newborns and welcome them to the Madison Jewish Community.
For more information on joining a playgroup or class, or receiving a Shalom Baby gift basket, contact Tiz Goff at (773) 620-4404 or email outreach@jewishmadison.org

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www.lbw-wealth.com
Daniel J. Weiss
Financial Advisor
Co-Founder

Welcome to Madison

- *Are you new to Madison?*
- *Are you looking to get more involved in Madison's amazing Jewish community?*
- *Have you been here for years, but are looking for a new social circle or activity group?*

Shalom Madison is for you! Tiz Goff will help link you to the Jewish Community through your interests and availability.
Contact Tiz at outreach@jewishmadison.org or call (773) 620-4404 for more info.

For information on directory advertising, please contact Tiz Ihnchak 773-620-4404 or email outreach@jewishmadison.org

Israel and the World

Elections in Israel

By Shlomit Ezer
Jewish Federation of Madison Community Shaliach

A few weeks ago, at the end of December, the Israeli Knesset (parliament) was dispersed as the government decided to go to early elections. The elections will take place a few months ahead of the original schedule, on April 9, 2019.

The election system in Israel is very different from the system here. In short, we have many parties running for the Knesset, and they get a proportionate representation of the available 120 seats according to the number of votes they receive. The leader of the party that receives the majority of votes has the opportunity to assemble a coalition that needs to be larger than half of the Knesset. If the leader of the party succeeds in creating a coalition, their party is the new government and they become the prime minister. The rest of the Knesset is the opposition. Israel is holding elections because the coalition became too narrow, only 61 of the 120, and was no longer able to successfully pass laws.

This is expected to be a time of rapid change and much news from Israel. We will try to keep you updated, here and on Facebook. As always, we recommend following the news on one of the following websites: Ynetnews.com, Haaretz.com, Jpost.com.

Before April we plan to meet and talk about the current political situation in Israel. Please check the Monday Morning News for updates. If you are interested in receiving email updates about future talks or events regarding Israeli politics, please let us know at Israel@JewishMadison.org



Elections in Israel

Jewish American-Israeli Dialogue at Midrasha

By Shlomit Ezer
Jewish Federation of Madison Community Shaliach

Working as a schlicha is very interesting. We schlichim find ourselves pre-occupied with many topics and thoughts we would not necessarily think about back in Israel, not being involved with a Jewish-American community. One of the broader topics is the connection between Israeli and American Jews: in what way are we connected, why is this important to either side, what connects us and what are the differences between the communities? A few weeks ago, I had an interesting conversation about some of that which got me thinking. There are many things that bring us together, and many things that pull us apart. It seems there are issues on each side that might not make sense to the other side, or things that are seen differently from each point of view. The way I see it, this is completely fine as long as we continue talking and trying to understand each other's perspective. When I was trying to plan the next Midrasha classes, this is what I had in mind. This dialogue seems even more important for the Midrasha age group, since they are our future: this will be the next generation of our people, and the next generation of the connection between Israel and American Jewry. I wanted to create a platform to explore the connection between the two communities. For that, I decided to reach out to my old high school where Tal later worked as a guidance counselor. This school (Israel Arts and Science Academy, known as IASA) is a boarding school and has a diversity of students from all over Israel, including different faiths (while there is a Jewish majority) and different backgrounds. As high school students, they and the Midrasha students have a lot in common. I want them to have a chance to get to know each other and learn from each other on any topic that interests them, about who they are, how they are perceived by the other side and what life really is like in their community. As Midrasha classes take place in the evening, and it is very late night in Israel, we will not talk online. Each group of students will discuss questions that interest them and ask the other group to answer in the form of short videos. We will spend our Midrasha classes making those videos for the Israeli group, watching the videos they send us and discussing the topics that come up.

I hope we will be able to build a new bridge between two wonderful young groups of teenagers, here and in Israel – meeting new friends, trying to explore our identity together and learn more about our brothers and sisters on both sides.

Creating Dialogue and Co-Existence in Israel

By Tal Sheffer
Jewish Federation of Madison Campus Shaliach

In the last issue we told you about Beit HaGefen and haChag shel haChagim (the holiday of holidays) taking place in Israel. We mentioned that from now on, each month we will share one more organization that works towards creating dialogue and coexistence in Israel.

This month we will talk about bringing teenagers from opposite sides of the conflict to come together and have a dialogue. This is very different from the Midrasha program described above, which creates dialogue between young people of Jewish communities in different parts of the world. Still, the point remains that teenagers are the future, and if we want to create a dialogue this is an important group to start with.

In this case, the "MEET" organization we will now tell you about, the teenagers are not brought together just for the purpose of having a dialogue. This is just the byproduct, but an important one.

Before moving to Madison, we lived in a boarding school in Jerusalem where Tal worked as a guidance counselor there. Every summer, when the students were gone for the break, the school used to rent out the dorms to different groups. There were many different groups there and we usually did not have interaction with them, but we do remember one group that caught our attention. I (Tal) did not know anything about that group back then, but what caught my attention was the fact that the entire dorms were filled with teenagers who spoke Hebrew, Arabic, and English. I later learned that they all were a part of an organization called MEET (The Middle East Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow). I (Shlomit) knew about them because my good friend in high-school used to be involved with their programs as a young teenager, and I had heard about some of her experiences.

MEET is a non-profit organization that brings together Israeli and Palestinian high school leaders, the goal being to connect, educate and empower the next generation of young Israeli and Palestinian entrepreneurs. The expectation is that this will positively impact the social and political atmosphere in the Middle East. MEET thrives to create a positive change through technology and entrepreneurship, and it does so in partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

MEET has two programs: a Student Program, which is three years long and runs parallel to high school, and an Alumni Program, which promotes bi-national networking and professional enrichment for graduates. Conducted in English, the Student Program is taught by MIT instructors, and takes place both at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and in Nazareth. The students study computer science, entrepreneurship, and leadership.

The program is for Palestinian and Israeli youth who show real leadership potential, regardless of their backgrounds or socio-economic status. The students are accepted based only on their skills and they receive a full scholarship. Students are being recruited from 42 schools and 11 cities in Israel, including the West Bank, East and West Jerusalem, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Mevasseret, Beit Shemesh, Nazareth and the surrounding areas.

MEET's vision is to create a peaceful future where Palestinians and Israelis live and work together equally. The assumption is that a peaceful and economically successful future depends on our ability to create and foster young leaders, who are committed and able to make a change in their personal lives and in society.



Palestinian and Israeli teenagers meet to shape their futures with tech.

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Thursday, March 14 , 4:00-6:00 pm

Sunday, March 17, 10:00-11:45 am
[during the Purim Carnival]

Recipe: Burekas

By Tal Sheffer
Jewish Federation of Madison Campus Shaliach

Last November, the Israel Interest Group (IIG) at Hillel organized an Israeli cooking night. Food is always a great way to learn about a country's culture, and this time the students made (and of course, ate) burekas. The event had a great turnout, and I was surprised to hear that many of the students who attended had never heard of burekas but once the students tasted them, they fell in love with the pastry, and I cannot blame them.

Although not as famous as hummus or falafel, burekas are one of Israel's most popular foods. Originating in Turkey, Burekas are a savory stuffed pastry, usually filled with cheese, potatoes, spinach, mushrooms, eggplants, hard-boiled egg, olives, and much more. It can be made either vegetarian or vegan (or sometimes even with meat), and you'll find them as street food, in restaurants and coffee shops, sold by the kilo in bakeries and supermarkets, or made at home. Not only are burekas delicious, but they are also super easy to make. This is how to make burekas:



Students making burekas at Hillel.

Burekas

Ingredients
(for 10 burekas)

- **10 square sheets of puff pastry**
- **Filling of your choice (any kind of cheese/ sauteed mushrooms/ mashed potatoes/sauteed spinach/anything else you can think of)**
- **1 egg**
- **Sesame seeds (for toppings)**
- **Cooking oil spray**
- **Baking sheets**
- **Parchment paper**

Preparation:
1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. On a smooth, clean surface, unfold one of your puff pastry sheets. Cut the sheet of puff pastry dough into small squares, 4" x 4" each
3. Place 1 scant tablespoon of the filling in the center of each dough square.
4. Fold the dough squares by grasping one corner and folding it over to the opposite corner to make triangles. Pinch firmly along the outer open edge of the triangles to seal. If you are having trouble sealing the dough and getting it to stick together, wet your finger with a bit of water and run it around the edge of the square before folding—this will help it stick together.
5. You can also crimp the edges with the tines of a fork, if you wish.
6. Spray your baking sheets with nonstick cooking spray or line with parchment paper. Place burekas on each sheet, evenly spaced, giving them some room to expand during baking.
7. In a small bowl, whisk the egg yolk. Use a pastry brush to brush a light layer of the egg wash onto the surface of each bureka.
8. Sprinkle the burekas with sesame seeds, if desired.
9. Bake the burekas for 20-30 minutes until golden brown and cooked through.
10. Serve warm. בתיאבון!







PRESENTED BY BETH ISRAEL CENTER, CONGREGATION SHAAREI SHAMAYIM, JEWISH FEDERATION OF MADISON, TEMPLE BETH EL & UW HILLEL

COMMUNITY PURIM CARNIVAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019
9:00 AM TO 11:45 AM
BETH ISRAEL CENTER
1406 MOUND STREET, MADISON, WI

THEME: SUPER HEROS • from the Comics and Movies, the Megillah, our Community or Everyday Life...

SCHEDULE
- 9:00 am: **Doors Open**
- 9:30 am: **Purim Spiel**
  [by Community Rabbis, Educators & Shlichim]
- 9:45 - 11:45 am: **Carnival Games**

ADMISSION COST
$7 for ages 3-12
Free for ages 2 and under
Free for adults
$25 max per family

HAMANTASCHEN
Hamantaschen will be for sale at the carnival and by pre-order online at www.bethisraelcenter.org.

KASHRUT: Beth Israel Center is a kosher facility. Please do not bring in any outside food. Snacks will be available for purchase.



VOLUNTEER
to help make the fun happen!

JEWISHMADISON.ORG
for more details and to sign up

