Jewish Federation OF MADISON

Madison

JEWISH NEWS

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Jewish Federation Upcoming Events 5
Simchas & Condolences 7
Congregation News 8-9
Jewish Education 18
Hanukkah 19
Camp 20
Jewish Social Services 22-24
Business, Professional & Service Directory 25
Israel & The World 26-27

As Marc Steps Down...

Excerpts of speech given by Marc Shovers, outgoing president of Jewish Federation of Madison

As formally articulated in 1989, "The mission of the Jewish Federation of Madison is to work toward building a strong and unified Jewish community in order to ensure the survival, well-being, and continuity of the Jewish people in this area, in Israel and throughout the world." Every day our outstanding volunteers, lay leadership, and staff work as hard as we can to further that mission.

Every presidency has its challenges and successes, and I have had my share of both. This office is in many ways a second full-time job, but it is often inspirational, humbling, and incredibly fulfilling. Last week, my successor, Alicia Schiff, and I met with Andrea Arbel and Anat Sharvit of the Jewish Agency for Israel, both of whom are leaders of Partnership Together, or P2G, a program of the Jewish Agency that partners over 550 global communities directly with 45 Israeli communities to become directly and personally involved with each other. Madison, along with Milwaukee and St. Paul, are partners with the Sovev Kinneret region in Israel, and we have had many successful programs, such as marathons in Madison and Israel, bringing medical clowns to Madison, and the Mifgash program for Israeli and American teens. Andrea is the global head of P2G and Anat is from our region. As we were getting to know one another, Andrea asked me what moment I am proudest of that occurred during my presidency? It is hard to pick just one moment but, as it happens, I've been reflecting on that question for the past few months.

I told Andrea and Anat that one of my proudest moments as president was when I was asked to speak to the graduating class of Midrasha students last spring, and distribute the Laurence A. Weinstein Midrasha Incentive Awards to the twelve graduating high school seniors who applied for the award, including my younger son, Ben, along with his older brother, Sam. Both my boys loved Midrasha and received Incentive Awards, which are $2,000 grants to be used to further the Jewish education of the recipients by taking, for example, college classes in an area of Jewish studies, Hebrew language, or a trip to Israel, and are made available by the incredible generosity of Fran Weinstein and her family. Presenting graduating high school seniors a fantastic gift like this was certainly satisfying, but what made this particular award ceremony so special to me was the fact that ten out of the twelve recipients were graduates of Gan HaYeled and all twelve of them attended Camp Shalom.

Think about that for a moment in the context of the Federation's mission — to build a strong and unified Jewish com-

(Continued on page 6)



Marc Shovers and Alicia Schiff.

Alicia Steps Up

By Alicia Schiff, Incoming President of Jewish Federation of Madison

Good Evening. I am so honored to be elected President of the Jewish Federation of Madison. I am excited to become president at this very important time in our organization's life cycle. We as a Jewish people are faced with challenges daily and we have to be creative in meeting the needs of our community. Fortunately, we have our new Executive Director, Paula Winnig, to guide us.

I attended the GA (General Assembly) last week, the Jewish Federation of North America's annual meeting. I was inspired by all that Federation does locally, nationally and overseas. There are countless ways that our work affects people and I'm proud to be part of an organization that helps in times of crisis, like Hurricane Harvey, and also makes sure that Holocaust survivors receive food and shelter and are treated with respect at the end of their lives.

It was only natural that when we moved to Madison in 2006, I would reach out to the Jewish community. You see I grew up in Habonim in the Detroit area and spent part of my childhood and college years living in Israel. Our first entrance to the Jewish community in Madison was Gan HaYeled. After that it was on to Camp Shalom. Carly just finished her tenth summer as a camper and really does call Verona her home away from home. She also attends Midrasha where she is able to reunite with friends she went to Gan with.

I joined the board in 2009, taking on responsibilities such as the nominating committee, strategic planning, the Hava Nagila picnic and running Campaign for two years. And then one fateful day, I received a call from Jim Stein asking me if I would become president in 2017. It seemed so far away, but here we are today! The guidance and friendships of people in this room have helped me get here. And I look forward to continuing to work with you all. The only way this works is to function as a community – working together and supporting each other. Our similarities far outweigh our differences. To steal a quote from the President of Israel, Reuven Rivlin who was referring to the US-Israeli relations, "We need you and you need us."

I want to thank my family, my husband David and daughter Carly, both for their past support of my work at the Federation and future understanding of how many meetings I'll be attending! Not only have they been supportive and patient, they have helped behind the scenes. Carly baked cookies and David schlepped knishes for the Kick Off!

I am looking forward to the next couple of years; to help continue our traditions and create new ones; to help guide our Federation into the future; to work with our new executive director and with each one of you; to help fulfill our mission. Thank you and good evening!

The Ben Minkoff Award for Volunteer Service

By Paula Jayne Winnig

The Ben Minkoff Award for Volunteer Service is given occasionally to special members of our community who have over an extended period, given special gifts of time, talent and treasure. This award was named in memory of Past President, Ben Minkoff, the founder of Camp Shalom. The award was present by Livia Asher, the previous recipient, to Dr. Jon Eckhardt.

Jon is a Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation Distinguished Professor and editor at the Entrepreneur and Innovation Exchange. He and his wife Lee came to Madison fifteen years ago and



became active in the Federation after having contacted the executive director of Jewish Federation of Madison at that time to learn about the Jewish community of Madison. Prior to working in academia, Professor Jon Eckhardt served in the US Army, was a bond analyst at Legg Mason, and worked in consulting.

Jon has shared his talent for business and financial analysis with the Federation. He always provides insightful, caring support to our overall mission.

Jon is a loving husband, fantastic father and trusted friend. His wife, Dr. Lee Eckhardt describes Jon as one of the

(Continued on page 4)

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Camp Shalom Maker Space - COMING 2018

We are working to create a Maker Space at Camp Shalom for the upcoming summer. This space will allow campers to explore, design, and create with a variety of materials. If you have supplies to donate please contact Ellen Weismer at shalomdirector@jewishmadison.org. We are specifically looking for the following items:

- PVC pipes of all sizes, including elbows
- Legos, big and small, complete and incomplete sets, all will be combined
- Old wooden train tracks
- Magformers, Tinker Toys, and Kinex
- Blocks of all sizes



Hanukkah Wishes from the Executive Director

By Paula Jayne Winnig
Executive Director

During the month of December, we celebrate the festival of Hanukkah. Hanukkah in so many ways resonates with us as American Jews, especially living here in Madison. We know what it is like to be surrounded by a dominant culture that is not ours, just as did the ancient Hasmoneans during the Greek rule of Israel. We know it is often easier to assimilate into the culture than to preserve those activities, ideals and values that are unique to us as Jews. Yet, for some reason, we have persisted throughout the millennia, despite the number of times people have actively sought to destroy us and the times that we have assimilated into the surrounding culture to the exclusion of anything Jewish. What is it that keeps us connected not just to our heritage, but also to each other? Why is it that we continue to work to support Jews and feel connected to Jews who need help in places as far flung as Ethiopia, Morocco, Uganda, Argentina, New Zealand, Guatemala, Russia and Puerto Rico?

Part of the reason may be seen in the symbol of the Hanukkiah itself. The traditional eight branched, nine light (eight nights plus the shamah, the serving candle) menorah reminds us that we need each other in this world. If you take out the shamash, the light in the middle, the eight branches will collapse. If you take away any of the branches, the menorah will become unbalanced. It is the branches, representing the many different types of Jews in the world, that we need to keep stabilized and whole.

The word Hanukkah mean dedication. It refers to the time when the Temple in Jerusalem needed to be refurbished and cleansed after its desecration by the Greeks before the Maccabean revolt during an eight-day ceremony. The Temple was rededicated and renewed so that it could again be used as the focal point of Jewish religious life and practice in its day.

Today we celebrate Hanukkah by lighting our hanukkiot to demonstrate our commitment to our past as we rededicate ourselves to building a bright and glorious future.

During Hanukkah, we read from the biblical book of the prophet Zecharia 4:6, "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, said the God of hosts." Zecharia reminds us that we might not have mighty numbers or enormous power, but we as a people have the spirit and connection to all the generations of people who chose to build strong Jewish communities in the past so that we have them here for us now. This Hanukkah, it is our honor to be able to rededicate ourselves to building a strong Jewish community for us today and for the future generations.

Please join us in building the Jewish community of Madison, and by doing so, you will be helping Jews in need wherever they are; here, across the globe, and in Israel. Your Federation dollars make it possible for us to help bring security, identity, education and connection to tens of thousands of people annually. Please help us light the path to the future by making your pledge if you have not already done so, or by making an end of the year extra campaign gift. We are better together. We are stronger together. Hazak v'amatz, may we continue to strengthen one another.

Hag Urim Sameach,
A Happy festival of lights to all!

Happy Hanukkah



Come see our wide selection of menorahs and candles, dreidels, Hanukkah gelt and gifts for the whole family!

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Wisconsin Jewish Conference Report

By Michael Blumenfeld
Executive Director of the Wisconsin Jewish Conference
with Contributions from Erin Fabrizius

Jewish Agency Visit

Wisconsin Jewish Conference Executive Director Michael Blumenfeld recently coordinated legislative visits with Andrea Arbel from the Jewish Agency for Israel, Anat Sharvit from Sovev Kinneret, Madison's Partnership region, Zach Blumenfeld, Chair of Partnership2Gether for Jewish Federation of Madison and Shlomit Ezer, Madison's shaliach.

The group met with Dane County Executive Joe Parisi and State Representative Daniel Riemer (D-Milwaukee) to discuss ways to build partnerships and foster greater collaboration between the Madison area and our partnership region in Israel.

Governor Walker Shows Support for Israel

Governor Walker issued Executive Order #261 on October 27 prohibiting state agencies from contracting with any business entity that discriminates against Israel. Walker issued the order before leaving on a trade mission to Israel which included a visit with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The Wisconsin Jewish Conference and the Milwaukee and Madison Jewish Federations issued a joint statement in support of the order, which makes Wisconsin the 24th state in the nation to take action against the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

"We thank Governor Walker and all the state legislators who have shown leadership on this issue," said Michael Blumenfeld, director of the Wisconsin Jewish Conference.



Partnership2Gether

By Zach Blumenfeld

I have been involved in Federation for 26 years — yes that is my entire life. Through Federation, I have had the opportunity to travel, participate in programming, sharpen leadership skills through board and committee work, and meet amazing people that have been lifelong friends. By far, the coolest opportunity I have had to date is being a part of Partnership2Gether (P2G). P2G is a program of the Jewish Federation of Madison and the Jewish Agency for Israel, designed to cultivate people-to-people relationships, projects and professional programs between Madison and our beautiful partner region, Sovev Kinneret, in Israel, basically, a sister-city relationship. P2G is a global program that connects 450 Jewish and Israeli communities in 46 partnerships — engaging hundreds of thousands of participants each year.

On November 8, we had the opportunity to host two Israelis: Andrea Arbel, who is in charge of P2G globally and Anat Sharvit, a leader in our partnership region. We had a busy day in Madison including:

- A Tour of Gan Hayeled Preschool
- Meeting with the Federation Staff
- A Tour of UW Hillel
- Lunch at Adamah
- Meeting with Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive
- Tour of the State Capital by Michael Blumenfeld
- Meeting with Representative Daniel Riemer
- Meeting with the P2G Committee
- Community Social at the Great Dane

I enjoyed showing Andrea and Anat around our community and they had so much positive feedback. They really enjoyed meeting everyone. Throughout the day it was wonderful to hear Andrea and Anat talk about all the new and exciting programming and initiatives happening across the world. In May 2018, we will be taking a group of young adults to our partnership region as the second part of our Reverse Birthright Delegation — there is still space available. The first half of this program took place this past May. Six Israelis came to the Midwest to see what it is like to be a Jew in the diaspora — it was very successful.

Madison has only been a part of P2G for a few years and we have already done some outstanding programming. We are always looking for new ideas for programming and community involvement. If you are interested in becoming more involved please contact Shlomit, the Israeli Shlicha, at Israel@JewishMadison.org.

Ben Minkoff Award

Continued from page 1

kindest and most thoughtful people she knows, and we would agree.

Jon is an avid cyclist and lover of the outdoors. He is a talented teacher and researcher who is truly interested in helping nurture his students' desires to try new entrepreneurial ideas. Over the years he has spent countless hours doing one of the most important and thankless volunteer jobs, managing the Federation budgets. As chair of our budget and planning committee, he has tried to see that we have carefully used our Federation dollars to best serve our community and our people.

The entire Madison Jewish community is grateful to Jon for all that he has done in the past and all he will continue to do in the future. Jon joins a distinguished list of past Ben Minkoff award recipients. The full list may be seen on the Federation website, www.JewishMadison.org.

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Happy Hanukkah
To all the men and women in our armed forces whose service preserves the freedoms we hold so dear.
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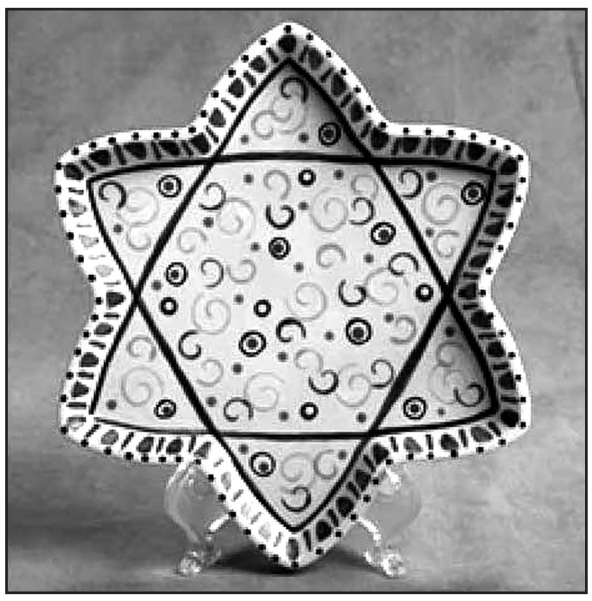
Upcoming Jewish Federation OF MADISON EVENTS

Paint a Hanukkah Plate

December 3, 2017, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Studio You Paint It Pottery
6670 Odana Road, Madison, WI 53719

Please join us in painting your very own 8" Hanukkah plate! The cost for this brand new and artistic event is $25. Light snacks and drinks will be provided.
Please note you will need to return to Studio You Paint It Pottery to collect your finished plate on December 10.
Space is limited, so please sign up now!
Online Registration Required, coming soon.
Deadline to register is November 23.
Contact Tiz Goff at outreach@jewishmadison.org



Jewish Adults of Madison(JAM) Kickoff Meeting & Dinner

December 3, 2017, 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

JAM (Jewish Adults of Madison) will have its kickoff in a community member's home. Shlomit and Tal will lead the group in a discussion, while offering more ideas for future meetings. Please bring a vegetarian side to share.
JAM is an adult group to socialize, learn, plan activities, and attend entertainment events together. JAM is geared to people who have more time for themselves. JAM members are able to socialize, learn, and travel easier now that the focus is back on them! Everyone is welcome!
RSVP to Tiz at outreach@jewishmadison.org for location.

Mitzvah Makers: Volunteer Time to Wrap Gifts

December 4, 2017, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
December 6, 2017, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
December 11, 2017, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Barnes and Noble, 7433 Mineral Point Road, Madison, WI 53717

Jewish Federation of Madison is delighted to have the opportunity to wrap gifts at Barnes and Noble. We are looking for volunteers to participate in this fun way to support our community. All donations received for wrapping gifts will go to the 2017 Annual Tzedakah Campaign - benefiting over 20 local programs including Camp Shalom and Gan HaYeled Preschool. If you're shopping at this time, please stop by and say hello. (And get your gifts wrapped!)
Please contact Tiz Goff at outreach@jewishmadison.org. Please specify if you can help for the entire time or for a portion.

Ivrit Kallah - Adult Hebrew Lessons

December 4, 11, 18, 2017, January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2018
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm every week until May 14, 2018
Max Weinstein Jewish Community Building
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI 53719

Learn Hebrew in a class setting with a native speaker - our Shlicha, Shlomit.
• Beginner Level (introduction to letters, vowels, and vocabulary) 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
• Advanced Level (continuation of vocabulary and sentences) 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Only $18 for the year (to cover materials.) Try the first class for free!
Contact Shlomit Ezer at (608) 442-4072 or Israel@JewishMadison.org.

Matzah Balls Play Basketball

December 5, 12, 2017, January 9, 2018, 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm
Playoff games January 16, 23, 2018. Time TBD
Boys and Girls Club, 4619 Jenewein Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711

The Jewish Federation of Madison's very own coed sports team, the Matzah Balls, will be playing basketball this season! We invite you to attend to watch them play and cheer them on from the bleachers! You could even be a part of the team ruach (spirit) by wearing our mascot costume!
Contact Tiz Goff at outreach@jewishmadison.org

Family Potluck Shabbat and PJ Library

December 8, 2017, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Gan HaYeled
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, WI 53719

Let's bring in Shabbat together! We'll sing songs, light candles, drink Kiddush, eat challah, read a PJ Library Book and enjoy a casual vegetarian potluck dinner. Adults can schmooze while the children play. There will also be a clothing swap. It will be a great time for all!

Hanukkah Party

December 14, 2017, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
NuuNoosh
1431 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53711

This isn't any Hanukkah party! Dreidel spinning contests, an ugly Hanukkah sweater contest, and a white elephant gift exchange will keep everyone entertained!
Cost: $20 per person (includes food and special signature Hanukkah cocktail - details TBA.)
This event is for adults 21+. Onling registration coming soon.
Also, you can do a mitzvah by bringing an item for someone who needs it; details to follow shortly.
Contact Tiz Goff at outreach@jewishmadison.org

SPF Goes to Sky Zone

January 18, 2018, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Sky Zone
2134 W Beltline Hwy, Madison, WI, 53713

SPF (Singles, Professionals, and (Adults with) Families) in their 20s, 30s, and 40s will have a blast at Sky Zone!
Cost: $16.00. Online registration coming soon.
Contact Tiz Goff at outreach@jewishmadison.org.

Shovers Continued from page 1

munity in order to ensure the survival, well-being, and continuity of the Jewish people in this area, in Israel and throughout the world. Starting with their experiences in our wonderful preschool, these children began their engagement with Jewish life in Madison… Many of these kids continued their Jewish engagement through Camp Shalom, another one of the Federation's flagship programs. Those Gan and Camp Shalom friendships continued even though these kids went to different schools. In many cases, after their b'nai mitzvah, these Gan alumni attended Midrasha. While they certainly learned a lot in their Midrasha classes, be it rabbinics, Israeli history, or the central role Judaism plays in the Simpsons, which I have to say is the best show in the history of television, the most important part of Midrasha was the opportunity this program of the Federation, Beth Israel Center, and Temple Beth El gave to our kids to continue to connect with their Jewish peers.

The love of being Jewish and participating in Jewish life was a journey that started at Gan, was furthered at Camp Shalom and, for my kids and several of their friends, at Camp Interlaken in Eagle River; their journey progressed with the Camp Interlaken trip to Israel, and their Jewish identity was reinforced and expanded at Midrasha. In fact, when I attended the General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America in Jerusalem several years ago, our group from Madison traveled to our P2G region in Sovev Kinneret. At dinner one night at the Rabin Center, I met a group of Israelis from our region. We all went around the table and introduced ourselves, and several of the young Israelis asked me if I knew their friend, Sam Shovers. How did these Israelis know Sam? Well, they all participated in the P2G Mifgash program that Sam participated in before his Camp Interlaken trip to Israel. The impact of Federation programs is everywhere, bringing people together!

These connections don't just happen, taking kids from Gan, to Camp Shalom, to Camp Interlaken, to Mifgash and P2G, to Midrasha. They happen because of the programs and structures that all of us work so hard to create, sustain, and advance.

To enable these programs to continue to flourish, I ask all here this evening who have not yet made your pledge to our annual Tzedakah Campaign to do so now. To those of you who have made your pledge, I offer my sincere thanks for your generosity, and I would like to point out that it would not be the worst thing in the world (actually, it is the best) to increase your pledge right here and now. I extend my thanks to our campaign volunteers, and urge all of you to make your solicitations yet this month. Maimonides wrote that it is a mitzvah to ask others for tzedakah, so to all of you wonderful campaign workers, go forth and perform mitzvot!

The volunteers who serve on Federation committees, the lay leaders of our community, and our gifted staff all work with incredible dedication to ensure that the Jewish Federation of Madison is able to fulfill its mission. As President, I was able to benefit from the assistance of many people. While it may be risky to name names, for fear of leaving someone out, and I apologize in advance if I forget anyone, I will take that risk. Actually, it's not that big a risk because my presidency will be over in about 45 minutes and Alicia will have to deal with anyone I've offended. First and foremost, I thank Dina Weinbach for her devotion to this organization, her guidance, her wisdom, and her friendship. I thank my friend Lynn Kaplan for her tireless work on behalf of our Federation at Camp Shalom, Gan HaYeled, and as our financial Resources development director. Debbie Minkoff was an exceptional mentor to me when she was "only" a past president, but when she became interim executive director last summer, and shepherded this organization through a difficult transition, I grew to admire and value her all the more. Debbie, thank you so much for the guidance and support you have given the Federation and me. And during this time of personnel transitions, our dedicated staff members stepped up their game, so a special shout out goes to Lynne Ballesta, Jim Mackman, Rozan Anderson, Tiz Goff, Anne Shlimovitz, Ellen Weismer, Laurie Nagus, and Svetlana Govorukha. I truly appreciate all your efforts, especially in the last several months. My predecessor, Jim Stein, was also a constant source of support and Jim, I want you to know that I appreciate your passion and your wisdom. Steve Morrison, thank you so much for your mentorship over the years. Your sage advice has been invaluable to me as I navigated my way through various positions in the Federation, not to mention your keen insights about Wisconsin Badger basketball. On second thought, maybe not so much that last part.

Looking to the future, I have to say that I am incredibly optimistic that the Jewish Federation of Madison is poised to achieve even greater things. With young leaders like Joe Shumow, Jesse Sondel, Sasha Kerlow, Dan Weiss, Lainie Minkoff, Jon Eckhardt, Ann Imig, Zach Galin, Amy Krauthamer-Maloney and Zach Blumenfeld taking on more responsibility, our future is bright. The new director of Gan HaYeled, Marla Becker is outstanding, and I know that she will lead Gan to new heights. Paula Winnig, our new executive director is simply fantastic. She has the vision, drive, and experience to lead this organization forward. It has been a privilege working very closely with Alicia Schiff over the last few months to prepare for and work through staff and lay leadership transitions. I had much respect for Alicia before we started working so closely and my admiration for Alicia's abilities and leadership have grown tremendously. Alicia, you will do wonderful things as President.

Finally, I have to thank my phenomenal family for your love and support through the years. My mother, Betty, was my first role model of leadership in the Jewish community, shown by her lifelong devotion to Hadassah and multiple stints as a chapter president. I would not have been able to devote the amount of time and energy to the Federation that I have without my family's encouragement and understanding, especially from my wise, patient, and supportive best friend, Jan. Thank you Mom, Sam, Ben, Jan, and Mystic.

As I close my two years as president, I think back to my remarks to the Midrasha graduating class last spring, and the Incentive Awards that JFM distributed to such a large percentage of graduates of Gan HaYeled and Camp Shalom. I feel proud that our Federation programs helped develop and nurture so many of our children along their Jewish journeys from preschool through high school and now, thanks to their incentive awards, into fuller participation in Jewish life in college.

We have a lot to be proud of as a community and it has been my great honor to serve as President of the Jewish Federation of Madison and do my part to give back to this community that has given so much to my family and me. Together, we can continue to do extraordinary things. Thank you very much.

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Outreach News

By Tiz Goff
Community Outreach Coordinator

As the Federation's Community Outreach Coordinator, I, Tiz Goff, have been happily meeting with newcomers and new babies since November 2013. There are many ways to find one's way into a community and listed below are some of the opportunities that might help you find your way into your new home.

Shalom Madison and Shalom Baby

New to Madison? Have a new baby? Want to learn more about what the Madison Jewish Community has to offer? I will come to you with a package of goodies and resources from local Jewish organizations and programs. This is a great way to start connecting with the community.

Yad B'Yad (Hand in Hand)

This is a playgroup for newborns to two-year-olds and their caretakers. This group usually meets in members' homes for the parents and children to develop close relationships.

Matzah Balls

A coed sports team that plays flag football, dodgeball, kickball, basketball, and sand volleyball. The players usually enjoy socializing before or after games.

JAM (Jewish Adults of Madison)

A group geared toward people who have more time for themselves. Most meetups are in members' homes sharing good food and great conversation as their main form of entertainment.

SPF (Singles Professionals and Families)

This program is for people in their 20s, 30s, and 40s who get together for social and networking events.

Schlichim meet and greets

Our schlichim are eager to come to you and bring their programs to the hosts. The menu of programing includes: Israeli cooking, discussions of art, discussions of music or watching Israeli movies. All you need to do is volunteer your home and work with the schlichim on the program that work best for you.

Mitzvah Makers

This is an initiative to bring the Jewish community together to have fun while helping the larger Madison community. Enjoy yourself while helping others. Inaugural program will be wrapping gifts at Barnes and Noble this month.

These are just some of the programs that Federation offers as outreach to all. See the Federation calendar on page 5 for a listing of programs happening this season. If you are interested in learning more about any of these opportunities or have ideas for new initiatives please let Tiz know at outreach@jewishmadison.org



Simchas & Condolences

Mazel tov on the wedding of

Mandi Hildebrandt and Leora Mirkin, daughter of Les and Denise Mirkin

Condolences to the families of

Julie Schutten Pitot, mother of Jeanne (Robert Frank) Pitot-Frank, grandmother of Alexander Frank and Samantha Frank

Nathan Josephson, step-father of Sherry (Michael) Lessing, husband of Faye Josephson, grandfather of Amy Lessing

Thomas Bernstein, son of Howard and Barbara Bernstein, brother of Laura (Jonathan) Bernstein-Kurtycz

Wayne John Thompson, father of Peter (Susette) Thompson, Deborah Thompson, and Laura (Kenneth) Felz; grandfather of Jared and Jacob Stone, and Max Thompson

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

In honor of Jojo Sidney's Bat Mitzvah
James Stein

In memory of Andrea Stein
Steven Morrison and Goldie Kadushin

In memory of Ronald Weiss
Margaret Weiss

In memory of Barbara Cohen
Jan Loeb, Marc, Sam, and Ben Shovers

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Congregation News

Temple Beth El • Congregation Shaarei Shamayim • Beth Israel Center

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim

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

Shabbat Services and Potlucks

Fridays, December 1, January 19
6:00 pm
Please call the office for location.

On December 1, we will come together for a Kabbalat Shabbat service led by Cantorial Soloist, Michele Rozansky, followed by a potluck dinner. On January 19, we will invite a speaker to discuss a social justice issue, topic TBA. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share.

Becoming a Trans–Inclusive Community: Stories and Reflections A Conversation with Dawn Berney, Kris Glodoski Wolf, Matt Banks, and Levi Sable

Sunday, December 3
9:50 am–11:30 am
Center for Families
2120 Fordem Ave.

Join us for a panel of community members who will tell their own stories as parents of transgender children or of transitioning themselves. They will help us reflect on how the Jewish community can be more inclusive of its transgender members and how it can take stronger positions on justice issues facing the trans community.

Arik Ascherman: A Torah of Justice for Israel

Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 pm
First Unitarian Society
900 University Bay Drive
Landmark Auditorium

Join us for a special evening with Rabbi Arik Ascherman, founder and Executive Director of Rabbis for Human Rights for 21 years, and current leader of Torat Tzedek – Torah of Justice. Rabbi Ascherman is visiting from Israel and will discuss current events in Israel and the West Bank.

Exploring Judaism: Open Discussion About All Your Jewish Questions

Wednesdays, December 6, January 3
4:30 pm
Please call the office for exact location.

Curious about Judaism? Join Rabbi Laurie for a monthly gathering where we discuss different aspects of Judaism. This group is for people who want to deepen their knowledge of Jewish practice, who have questions regarding Jewish identity, who are considering becoming Jewish, or who are looking for an opportunity to ask questions in a relaxed environment. We structure each session around participant questions and interests. If you would like to learn more or receive updates, and to RSVP, please contact the office.

Shabbat Services

Saturdays, December 9, 23, January 13, 27
First Unitarian Society
900 University Bay Drive.

On December 9, we welcome Lila Glinberg to the community as a bat mitzvah. Services begin at 9:30 am. All are invited to the kiddush lunch at 11:45 am. On December 23, January 13, and January 27, Torah study will be held at 9:30 am followed by services at 10:30 am and kiddush at 12:30 pm.

Celebrate Hanukkah with Shaarei Shamayim

Friday, December 15
First Unitarian Society
900 University Bay Drive
Landmark Auditorium

Gather in the early evening for a festive meal, followed by singing, activities, and games for all ages. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share. We'll provide the latkes and sufganiyot (jelly donuts). If you have a young child, come at 5:30 pm for tot activities and mac and cheese!

Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Jewish Community: A Conversation with Shahanna McKinney Baldon

Sunday, December 17
9:50 am–11:30 am
Center for Families
2120 Fordem Ave.

In this session we will discuss Jewish diversity in Madison and beyond, with a focus on racial and ethnic diversity, and will use the Haas Institute Othering and Belonging Framework as a springboard for thinking together about fostering and promoting belonging in Jewish spaces. This is part of our series on Diversity and Inclusivity. Shahanna McKinney Baldon has a long career in the field of education and is currently the director of Professional Learning for the Minority Student Achievement Network at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research.

Community Winter Retreat

January 6–7
JCC Pearlstone Resort and Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells

Looking to build community and connect with others in a beautiful space? Join us for our annual overnight retreat. Enjoy plenty of programming for adults and kids, as well as singing, great conversation, and lots of fun. All are welcome — this is not just for young families. Please contact the office for more information.

Beth Israel Center

Come see what our lively, traditional, egalitarian community is all about. Beth Israel Center programs and services are open to all; visitors are especially welcome. Please introduce yourself. Some events require registration. Please call (608) 256-7763 or email office@bethisraelcenter.org with any questions. We love to talk about upcoming events, education for children and adults, membership and more. Visit our website, www.bethisraelcenter.org, or our Facebook page for more information. Here are some upcoming calendar highlights:

Schmooze with Rabbi Barth

Tuesday, December 5
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Zuzu Café
Friday, December 29
10:30 am – 11:30 am
Colectivo on Monroe
Thursday, January 4
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Colectivo on Monroe
Tuesday, January 16
10:30 am – 11:30 am
Zuzu Café

Enjoy coffee or your beverage/nosh of choice with Interim Rabbi Sami Barth. This is an open invitation to a table at local coffee bars. Talk about life, the meaning of life, Beth Israel Center, Israel…whatever is on your mind.

Yiddish Choir Sing-a-long

Saturday, December 9, 12:30 pm

The Madison Yiddish Choir will lead a pre-Hanukkah sing-a-long during Kiddush after Shabbat morning services. All are welcome!

MOUSY No Sew Fleece Blankets

Saturday night, December 9

Come hang out with our MOUSY high-schoolers when we make stylish blankets for donation to a worthy cause at our seventh annual No Sew Fleece Blankets social action program. We will groove to tunes, nosh on snacks, and schmooze with friends.
Contact Deborah Hoffman (hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org) to find out how to get warm and fuzzy for our favorite mitzvah project.

Get Moving with Kadima

Sunday afternoon, December 10

All sixth, seventh and eighth graders are invited to get busy and dizzy with Kadima as we jump around, fly high, shoot hoops, climb walls, and try to balance...or just fall on padded mats at Sky Zone. Experience your inner acrobat at this indoor trampoline park!
Email Deborah Hoffman (hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org) for more information.

Hanukkah Party

Thursday, December 14, 5:45 pm

On the third night of Hanukkah, join our Beth Israel Center community for a homey meal, friendly company, sugared sufganiyot, and, of course, traditional latkes. The party will start after evening minyan and Talmud Torah, and will include candle-lighting, games, songs, and more family fun. Outside it might be cold, but inside we'll be sizzling warm! RSVP to office@bethisraecenter.org or (608) 256-7763. Cost is $10 per person, $36 maximum per family.

MOUSY Shabbat Schmooze

Friday, December 15
5:45 pm–9:15 pm

Get a taste of Kabbalat Shabbat, savor a delicious dinner, and enjoy a bit of play, learning, and schmoozing aplenty with our gracious host Wilson/Nagus family and other high schoolers. Bring your banter. Email Deborah Hoffman (hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org) with questions.

Yom Rishon

Sundays, December 17 and January 28, 10:15 am–11:30 am

Come experience family education for preschoolers at its finest! Enjoy art, movement, music, stories and snacks as well as age-appropriate learning on a Jewish theme for preschoolers and their grownups. Yom Rishon meets about once a month during the school year. Put our remaining 5778 dates on your calendar: March 18, April 15, and May 6. Contact Beth Copelovitch for more information at education@bethisraelcenter.org.

Rosh Hodesh Tevet

Monday and Tuesday
December 17 & 18, 7:00 am

Celebrate the new month with Hallel, bagels and Beth Israel Center's morning minyan. All are welcome!

Advanced Text Study Seudah Shlishit

Saturday, December 30
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Arboretum Cohousing
1137 Erin St.

Arbco, Rabbi Barth's home for the year. All are welcome who are comfortable reading and understanding non-vowelled rabbinic texts.

Z'mirot / Songs of Shabbat

Saturday, January 6, 12:30 pm

Sing new songs and recall old ones with Rabbi Barth during and after Shabbat Kiddush lunch. All are welcome, whether or not you can sing. We'll begin singing when we've finished eating.

Supper Quiz!

Saturday, January 13, 7:00 pm

Assemble your crew for our ninth Supper Quiz! This year's theme will take you on an ocean cruise, including cruise-inspired cocktails and a delicious dinner. Between supper courses, quiz participants match wits, knowledge, and ingenuity. Past Supper Quiz contestants have solved puzzles, identified fruits and fabrics, answered trivia questions, played games of chance, and much more. Tickets are $85 per person until December 13, then the per-person price goes up to $100. To reserve your berth, go to www.bethisraelcenter.org/supperquiz or call (608) 256-7763. Seats at the Captain's Table are available for a modest additional premium and are limited to the first seven reservations.

Temple Beth El

Visit us online at www.templebethel-madison.org.

All events are open to the community and take place at Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive, Madison, unless otherwise noted.

We encourage members of the Jewish community to join Temple Beth El, and we welcome prospective members to participate in programs and activities. Contact Executive Director Terrie Goren at (608) 238-3123 or executive@tbemadison.org.

Shabbat Starts Here

Friday, December 1
5:45 pm–9:00 pm

5:45 pm, Preneg
6:00 pm, Shabbat Shalom Service
6:45 pm, Potluck Dinner
7:45 pm, Special Program: Jews on Broadway: Enjoy the music as composed and performed by Jews for the Broadway stage.

The evening will be enhanced with a Shabbat Shalom service! Great for all ages, music based and includes visual t'filah. RSVP at tbemadison.shulcloud.com/event/shabbat-starts-here3.html

Singles Creating Community Dinner

Wednesday, December 6, 6:30 pm
Laredo's, 694 S. Whitney Way Madison

Enjoy an informal, relaxing dinner with others who are single. Everyone is responsible for purchasing their own meal.

Shabbat Dinner Get Together at Everly

Friday, December 8, 5:30 pm

Join with friends for a delicious dinner prior to services on Friday night. Each person is responsible for paying their own bill. Those interested will have plenty of time to eat, schmooze and return to Temple Beth El for Shabbat Evening Services which begin at 7:30 pm. RSVP online or call (608) 238-3123.

Tots 'n' Tunes

Sunday, December 10, 10:30 am

This program is for newborns to five-year-olds and open to the entire Madison Jewish community. Cantor Sharon Brown-Levy will host Jewish families with young children by engaging them in playful, musical, educational moments. Rabbi Biatch and our director of lifelong learning, Nicole A. Jahr, RJE, will take turns reading a PJ Library book. Our 4K teacher will plan a meaningful craft project. Our new 4K class with their caregivers will join Tots 'n' Tunes every month. Connect with other Jewish families in Madison as well as TBE clergy and staff and become familiar with Temple Beth El. Caregivers and their children can expect to sing, move, learn, play, create, bond, pray, and grow with our Tots and Tunes programming. Feel free to drop in for any or all sessions. The December session will be Hanukkah-themed!

Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 15

5:45 pm, First Grade Shabbat Service
6:30 pm, Congregational Shabbat Hanukkah Dinner
7:15 pm, Hanukkah Lighting
7:30 pm, Shabbat Hanukkah Service with Choir

Celebrate the fourth night of Hanukkah and welcome in Shabbat with us. Coming for dinner or the evening service? Bring your hanukkiah and five candles (one shamash, and one for each of the four days) to light together as a community. Congregational dinner catered by Adamah, will include latkes, chicken or tofu (chicken tenders for youth), roasted vegetables, sufganiyot and challah.

Register online at: tbemadison.shulcloud.com/event/hanukkahshabbat
$18 for adults (age 13+)
$10 for youth (age 4–12)
Free for kids age 3 and under

Cancer Support Group

Sunday, December 17, 2:00 pm
Frank Adult Lounge
Temple Beth El

A Support Group for those whose lives have been touched by cancer are gathering on certain Sundays throughout the year meeting from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. The group meets monthly to address the mutual needs of patients and caregivers that confront cancer. If you'd like more information, please contact Rabbi Biatch rabbi@tbemadison.org or (608) 238-3123.

Hanukkah Farmers Market

Sunday, December 17
10:15 am–1:00 pm

Come shop at our winter's farmer's market in partnership with the Food, Faith and Farming Network, purchase brunch sourced from market vendors and share in the Hanukkah spirit. Brunch will include root veggie latkes, eggs and other tasty treats. Look for more info coming soon or contact Aleeza Hoffert at engage@tbemadison.org.

Kesher Israel Film Night-Time of Favor

Wednesday, December 20
7:00 pm

TBE doors open 7:00 pm, the film shows at 7:15 pm. Please join us for free snacks, schmoozing and another vibrant discussion!

Chinese Food and a Double Feature

Sunday, December 24, 4:00 pm
Temple Beth El

4:00 pm Moana (PG, animated adventure)
6:00 pm Chinese Food Dinner & Hanukkah Candle Lighting
7:00 pm My Favorite Year (PG, comedy)
$15/person for dinner.

Bring your blankets, pillows and snuggle up for movie night at Temple Beth El. Come for one or both films and dinner. We'll have snacks during the movies and we're bringing in a yummy Chinese food dinner from Hong Kong Café. Contact Aleeza A. Hoffert, director of community engagement with questions at engage@tbemadison.org or (608) 238-3123.

Singles Creating Community Coffee

Friday, January 9, 9:00 am
Panera Bread
3416 University Ave

Start your Friday with some lovely conversation.

Congregational Retreat at OSRUI

Friday–Sunday, January 12–14

Join Temple Beth El for a weekend of retreat at OSRUI! This year our adult learning opportunities will specifically connect back with activities going on at Temple, from Torah Study, family history and the Urgency of Now campaigns we'll have great opportunities to expand ourselves and our community. Enjoy Shabbat services together on Friday evening and Saturday morning along with wonderful community meals that are a perfect time to make new acquaintances and new friends. There will be activities for all to enjoy from the youngest members to those who are young at heart including sledding (weather permitting), and a team trivia contest after Havdalah Saturday evening. Coming to Temple for services, for Sunday School, or any other activity is much more enjoyable when you see friendly faces and people who know your name. If you've been looking for ways to begin building those new relationships and connecting with the TBE community the retreat is an excellent place to start. Register online at tbemadison.shulcloud.com/event/congregational-retreat-2018.html

Kesher Israel Film Night-Policeman

Wednesday, January 17, 7:00 pm
TBE

Doors open 7:00 pm, the film shows at 7:15 pm. Please join us for free snacks, schmoozing and another vibrant discussion!

Singles Creating Community Dinner

Tuesday, January 23, 6:30 pm
Imperial Garden, 2039 Allen Blvd, Middleton

Enjoy an informal, relaxing dinner with others who are single. Everyone is responsible for purchasing their own meal.

Cancer Support Group

Sunday, January 14, 2:00 pm
Frank Adult Lounge
Temple Beth El

A Support Group for those whose lives have been touched by cancer are meeting on certain Sundays throughout the year meeting from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. The group meets monthly to address the mutual needs of patients and caregivers that confront cancer. If you'd like more information, please contact Rabbi Biatch rabbi@tbemadison.org or (608)238-3123.

God Shopping

Wednesday, January 24
6:45 pm to 9:00 pm

The outreach committee invites you to join our director of lifelong learning on a journey to identify your personal concept of God through an exploration in personal theology based on Rabbi Billy Dreskin and wife Cantor Ellen Dreskin's course "God, Torah and Israel… What's in it for Me?" The objectives for this class are to understand that Judaism asks of us these acts of faith regarding God: to understand that while it is difficult to have complete faith, it is possible to develop a personal idea of God that is both reasonable and meaningful and consider that Judaism will challenge us on the components of our God-belief, spurring us on to uncover and accept a God that wants us to be a partner in bettering the world.



Herman Goldstein Wins International Stockholm Prize in Criminology

By Tammy Kempfert
University of Wisconsin Law School
Reprinted with permission from University of Wisconsin

Herman Goldstein, professor emeritus at University of Wisconsin Law School, will receive the 2018 Stockholm Prize in Criminology for his decades of scholarship on policing, Stockholm University announced today. The international prize recognizes excellence in criminology research or in the application of research shown to significantly reduce crime or advance human rights.

Spanning more than 50 years, Goldstein's scholarship includes two groundbreaking books and many articles on policing reforms. He is credited with introducing more just, more effective strategies for police to carry out their duties, everything from dealing with crime to protecting free speech to caring for the homeless and mentally ill. In awarding this year's prize, the Stockholm jury not only praised Goldstein's body of work but commended its accessibility to broad audiences.

In 1977's "Policing a Free Society," Goldstein weighed public perceptions of the police against how police actually respond to the day-to-day complexities of their jobs. The book's analysis of police discretion has widely informed police administrators' policy making to promote better police accountability and transparency.

In "Problem-Oriented Policing," published in 1990, Goldstein proposed a prevention-oriented approach to policing, one that focuses on the intensive study of discrete problems and tailor-made responses to them. It calls on officers to look for patterns of behavior, determining the root causes of problems and engaging with their communities to identify solutions.

Police agencies across the United States and abroad have implemented Goldstein's strategies to tackle issues as diverse as drug trafficking, domestic violence and landlord-tenant conflicts. In Madison, Wisconsin, police used the



Herman Goldstein

concept to make a challenged neighborhood safer and restore a local park to its full intended use. Madison police also worked with local public and private agencies to deal with an annual Halloween celebration that had mushroomed out of control. The solution, a gated, ticketed event known as Freakfest, now draws up to 30,000 attendees each year with minimal disruptions.

Law School Dean Margaret Raymond says Goldstein is an important part of the Law School's story because his work embodies its focus on learning, teaching and studying the law, not just as it is written but as it is experienced.

"Professor Goldstein's books on policing are renowned classics of his field, and his work continues to inform and advance contemporary thought and best practices on policing. I congratulate him on this remarkable, well-deserved honor," she says.

Before joining UW Law School's faculty in 1964, Goldstein served for four years as executive assistant to Chicago police superintendent and reformer O.W. Wilson. In the late 1950s, he was staff investigator and analyst for a landmark ten-year American Bar Foundation study of policing and the criminal justice system.

Goldstein will accept his prize in Sweden next June, where he will also attend a colloquium focusing on his work.

Temple Beth El Kesher Israel Film Series Presents:

Sponsored by Jewish Federation of Madison

Time of Favor

Mix together a romantic triangle, love of Israel and the land, the Israeli army and the Haredim (Ultra-Orthodox) and you are more likely to get an explosion than a chocolate covered cake. This is precisely what happens in the award winning Israeli movie, Time of Favor. Grab your snacks, sit back, and prepare yourself for some gripping drama as issues of love, loyalty and faith are set on a collision course…
Genre: Art House & International, Drama
Produced: Jan 1, 2000
Runtime: 102 minutes
Studio: Kino International
Rating: (N/R) Kesher Israel Committee rates this film for adults, over 21, only
Free Movie, Free Snacks, Free Comradery and Great Post Movie Discussion

SHOWING:
Wednesday, December 20, 2017
Location: Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive
Doors Open: 7:00 pm Film Shown: 7:15 pm

Policeman

Movie Review: By MANOHLA DARGIS JUNE 12, 2014
Quotes from Manohla Dargis 2014 movie review:
"'This is,' one of the policemen had exclaimed, just before they began shouting, 'the most beautiful country in the world.'"
"Suddenly, there are two stories where there was one, and a movie that, as it pits one group against another, becomes bracingly dialectical."
"In Policeman, Mr. Lapid, …… traces the line between the group and the individual in a story that can be read as a commentary on the world as much as on Israel."
"Two Bands of True Believers Hurtling Toward a Collision"
Rating Not Rated: Kesher Israel Committee rates this film ADULTS ONLY, 21 and over
Running Time: 1h 45m, Genre: Drama, Produced 2011

SHOWING:
Wednesday, January 17, 2018
Location: Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive
Doors Open: 7:00 pm Film Shown: 7:15 pm



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www.jssmadison.org

Hadassah's Cooking Adventures

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

Madison Hadassah's Cooking Adventure and Three Course Meal
With Chef Jason Kierce
Adamah Cafe at UW Hillel

Sunday, January 21, 2018
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Cost of $40/person includes a hands-on cooking class and three-course meal featuring Mediterranean dishes, many ways to prepare fish, and a special Pavlova dessert.

Reservations required.
Non-members welcome.
Email: MadisonHadassah@gmail.com
Call: (608) 770-6521
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/HadassahMadison

If there is enough interest, Madison Hadassah will hold more cooking classes in the future. Interested in cooking classes or other Hadassah adventures with the community? Then let us know by phone or email.

Parking near Hillel will be easier than during winter break. Park on Langdon or at Lake St. Parking Lot. (Less than two blocks away.)

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Jason Kierce, Adamah Chef who is teaching the Hadassah Cooking Adventure in January.



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One More Reason to Donate Quality Clothes & Items

Madison Hadassah is working with Madison Jewish Social Services to offer donated clothing and supplies to Madison's refugees. We encourage you to donate your gently used items. Only donated items are available to refugees (not consignment items.)



More of our models (volunteers) showing some of our beautiful winter coats.



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(608) 831-2474
6633 University Ave. Middleton, WI 53562
www.facebook.com/HadassahMadison

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No Jewish Child Left Behind
My Girls in Ukraine

By Menucha Baila Matusof

As the bus pulled up to the camp grounds, I felt a chill run down my spine. This was it. The moment had come. I saw frantic waving from the windows as girls jumped on their seats. They had arrived! It's real! Another summer at camp Yeka had commenced. The doors opened and girls of all ages and backgrounds came tumbling off. The feeling was electric, yet surreal. You can't put pen to paper to adequately describe the emotions at this type of reunion.

You see, these girls are not your regular campers, and this is not your regular camp. This is Yeka.

Through the noise and the crowd I saw Vika. Tiny, little, petite, four-year-old Vika. The same Vika who watched her father shoot her mother and then himself, now came running as fast as her legs could carry her, for an embrace. I watched as her torn dress flapped in the breeze as she made her way across the grass. She jumped into my arms and I squeezed her so tightly. Her little arms barely reached around my neck but hug, she did. I hadn't quite mastered the expression, "I'm so happy to see you again," but that didn't matter. What mattered was that we were together. I jumbled some words together and she got what I was trying to say. See, nothing speaks louder than the language of love. As we stood there, noses pressed against each other, I realized how much I missed her. In those few moments, the sleepless nights, the hours of preparation, the intense fundraising and the tiresome physical labor of preparing camp, was worth every second. We were together.

Sasha came strolling off the bus. She had grown up her entire life in the Dneper orphanage, ever since her mother decided she didn't want her. In fact, she doesn't even want to know her. Camp for Sasha is her yearly boost of love and attention. It gives her a sense of belonging. Her sense of worth and importance has been crumpled but every time she returns to Yeka, she gets a little bit back. It's a process, but bit by bit, because in Yeka we work on every child, each according to her needs. Even though outwardly Sasha is quieter and takes everything in stride, she benefits from every moment spent at camp.

She casually strolled towards her head counselor. She did not want to seem too eager, but she can't control herself and clutches her favorite counselor until her fingertips are white. It has been too long. She was now at peace and for two moments she lowered that wall and lets the tears of love flow.

There are 137 other girls and 137 other stories. They are not all shared, not yet. It takes a special moment, activity or even a trusting relationship with a counselor to get a girl to open up. A bond so strong, it's enough to make her share her journey.

Lena is just that girl. It happened during swimming, she just walked up to her counselor Mushkie and explained with her deep eyes, creased forehead and bony fingers, that her mother is extremely abusive, and she had just been moved to her father's home. Life is so much better for her but she is too scared. She doesn't trust him. She waited for Yeka so she could leave the city and think about her life in a healthy and safe environment. Why, she asked? Why does she have to deal with this? Maybe nothing will change? Perhaps she should join an orphanage so she wouldn't have to deal with her home life? An eleven year old making her own living arrangements? What has the world come to?!

Mushkie treaded carefully with Lena and managed to bring her into a warm and safe hug. She did not pull away but rather lingers to hold onto her only feeling of security and love. Something she won't experience after camp for a very long time.



Our youngest camper Vika (age 4) hugging her American counselor.

Lena asks why. Sasha wonders why. Vika doesn't know any differently.

The counselors question and ponder. They cry countless tears for these pure souls suffering so deeply. How did this happen? How has it come to this? Pure innocent children are being exposed to too much. No one should have to experience poverty, abuse, violence and so much more at such a young age. Never ever!!

As the staff of Yeka gather round late at night and discuss the daily events, we share our feelings. In a crazy world, what can we do to help these kids? How do we explain that this isn't normal life? How to convey that the world has beautiful opportunities and kind loving people? In a dark country, is there any light left?

As we sit together in the darkness, we pray. We pray for the safety of their souls. We pray for the peace of their minds. We pray for the love that is lost. We pray that they smile more than they cry. That they will play more than they suffer. That they will heal more than they hurt. We can't fix the world and we can't change the situation. But for three weeks we can. For three weeks we can laugh and love with no borders. And that's exactly what we did. Every day.

(Continued on page 13)



Happy Hanukkah!

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Happy Hannukah!

Ukraine Continued from page 12

Not a moment to waste.

Early morning, waking up next to the sea and breathing in the smell of freedom. 8:00 am begins the first line up with cheerful dances and high-fives. Not a moment to waste. Smiles from the get-go and good morning hugs to every camper. It takes a couple of days until the kids realize that there will be three meals a day and no need to hide and save food for later. Meal times are extra special full of games and singing.

The activities follow, one after the other. From games to art, exploring G-D given talent and creating masterpieces. Nothing beats the pool. Splashing without a care and of course the ultimate beach ball games with their favorite counselors. Life doesn't get better, except it does— Baking and cycling, dance parties and presentations. In Yeka we reach for the stars and every girl gets to shine.

We are currently planning and counting down the days until we see our girls again at our second Yeka Winter Camp, January 1 – 9, 2018.

Yeka Girls was founded in the summer of 2015 as a summer camp for orphans and other underprivileged Jewish girls in the Ukraine. Since then, it has grown, providing 130 girls ages five to twenty from all over the country with holiday programs, winter camp, summer camp, higher education scholarships, and most importantly, love and hope for a brighter future.

To become a partner in this meaningful endeavor of shaping these girls' lives or to find out more information, check out our Facebook page under Camp Yeka Girls or Email Menucha Baila Matusof at Campyekagirls@gmail.com.





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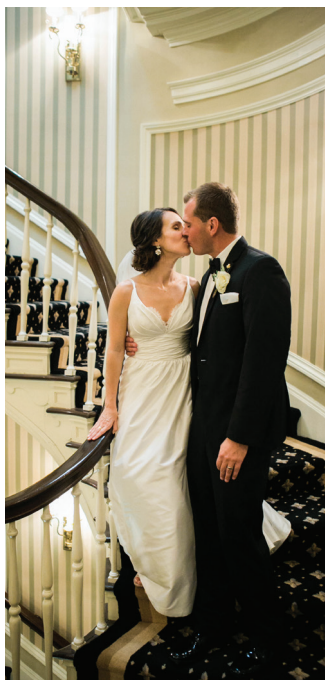

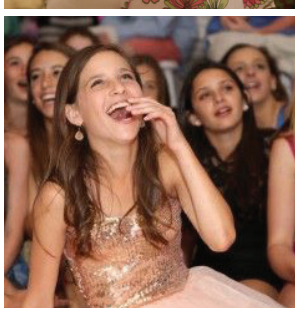



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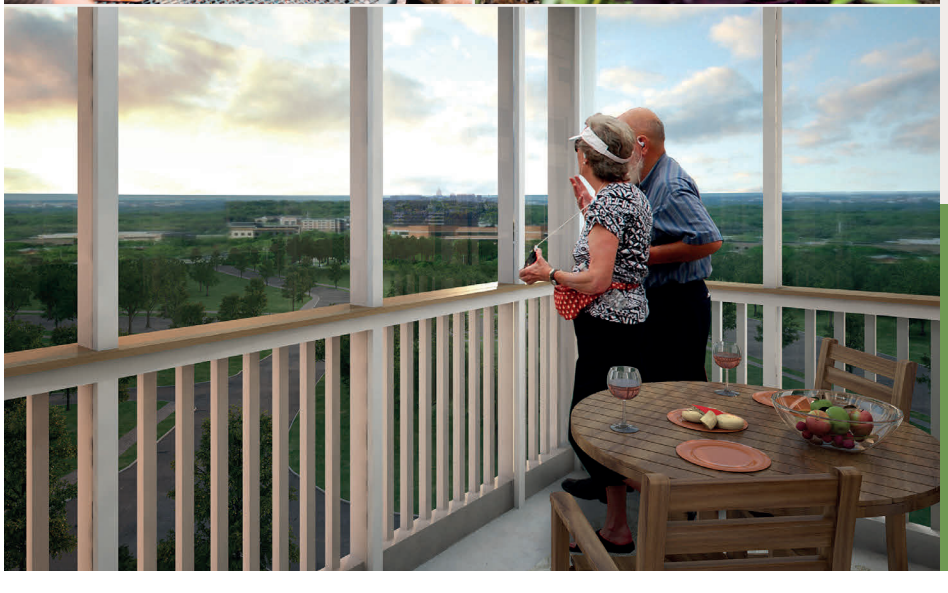

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Jewish Federation® OF MADISON

2016-2017 Annual Report
THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The Jewish Federation of Madison's mission guides us as we work toward building a strong and unified Jewish community which will ensure the survival, well-being and continuity of the Jewish people locally, in Israel, and throughout the world. Our community strives to accomplish these goals through the many services and programs the Jewish Federation of Madison provides and supports.

2016 Tzedakah Campaign closed at

$996,514

$

1,018,000

GOAL for 2017 Tzedakah Campaign



100+

VOLUNTEERS

collected food
sorted coats & books
registered as bone marrow donors
at the **MITZVAHTHON**

Emergency Relief

provided from Houston to Florida, Puerto Rico to St. Thomas



Gesher Program

SUPPORTED

4

Camp Shalom Staff with special needs





$15,000

Gan HaYeled Preschool

Scholarships distributed to families



Camp Shalom

Scholarship Fund raised

$115,000

distributed to

106 campers



Matzah Balls

played **4** sports

and won **1**

Basketball CHAMPIONSHIP



Camp Shalom & Camp Shalom Noar-Bogram

served

673

CAMPERS

in grades K-9

"**CAMP SHALOM** now needs to work on starting a year-round school. Seriously, I wish my kids could a attend a school that was like Camp Shalom. Thanks again. ~ *Camp Shalom Parent*

1 Retiring
Executive Director

1 Interim
Executive Director

1 New
Executive Director

125
STAFF
worked at
Camp Shalom
and
Camp Shalom
Noar-Bogrim



COMMUNITY
Celebrations
Purim Carnival
Hamantashen Baking
Yom Ha'Atzmaut
& Remembrances
Yom Hashoah
Yom Hazikaron

10
MADISON
RUNNERS
ran in the Tiberias Marathon through our **Partnership2Gether** (P2G) program



2 departing Shlichim
with **1** new baby
2 arriving Shlichim
2 Shin Shinim
LOTS of **ISRAELI PROGRAMMING & HEBREW CLASSES**
for adults and kids





21 students enrolled for Fall 2017 and new programs - Family Potluck Shabbat & Parents' Time Out! kicked off at
Gan HaYeled Preschool



12
Midrasha Graduates
in the class of 2017
12 Midrasha Incentive Awards given



200+
people attended the **HAVA NAGILA Jewish Community Picnic**
NEW this year - dunk tank and food by local Jewish venders

Weekly Monday Morning News kept
1400
subscribers
updated...Facebook, Twitter & Instagram provided additional ways to **CONNECT**

YAD B'YAD
hosted themed playgroups for
30 families
with
young children
at member homes and playgrounds

2500
HOUSEHOLDS
received the FREE
Madison Jewish News
10 times per year
which celebrated its 50th Anniversary



50
Attendees
celebrated with
3 creative craft cocktails at
Tu B'Shevat with a Twist



"**LEARNING ABOUT JUDAISM** these last 5 years has been an absolute pleasure every step of the way and it is so sad for it actually to be over. ~ *Ben Shovers, Midrasha Graduate*

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

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See More Details & Sign Up at **http://bit.ly/purim_volunteer**

From Alabama to Hillel's Adamah
The Kashrut Education of Chef Jason Kierce

By Jerrilyne Goodman, for Hillel
A beneficiary organization of the Jewish Federation of Madison

He peppers his speech with Yiddishisms — *bubbe, kashrut, milchig, fleishig, schmaltz*, but these are not words Jason Kierce learned at home. The executive chef of Adamah Neighborhood Table and Catering at Hillel grew up in Alabama, an only child from a troubled family. Shuttled through multiple households, he lived in squalor a good part of his youth. There are no happy memories of family life, no holiday get-togethers or family meals. "Food," he says, "was sustenance and it was comfort, never healthy."

Despite his circumstances, from his first job at age twelve, through college, graduate school, high-level jobs with non-profits and time in commercial banking, Jason gave his all to his work and took every opportunity to learn and grow. At age 30, he felt the need for a life change — a risky move for a married man with two young children. His first step into the culinary world is legend. "I was at Delmonico's (Steakhouse), went to the restroom, (I passed the kitchen and) saw the cooks in their whites and said, 'Hey, I want to do this.'"

With desire, but no training or even knowledge of the culinary arts and industry, he convinced the chef at Liliana's to take him on as an unpaid kitchen worker. Two months later, having proved his mettle, Jason was hired and began his self-devised, purposeful, food education. "I was very methodical about every place I went, because I knew there was a skill I didn't have. I went to Blue Marlin because all they do is fish. I went to Graze to gain experience in high-speed and high-volume operations," he explains. After more forays into fine dining with prime meats and Italian cuisine, he took a job at Blue Plate Catering, to learn that side of the business. At the time, Blue Plate managed Adamah at Hillel and Jason was hired to run the restaurant. When Hillel took over management three years ago, he was offered a chance to stay and he said yes.

Today, the man who found his calling in the kitchen proudly runs one of only two kosher restaurants in the state. The menu ranges from the familiar pastrami sandwiches, homemade brisket and matzoh ball soup to lettuce wraps and salads featuring hydroponic greens grown on the premises. The staff at Hillel and

(Continued on page 25)

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Jewish Education

Maccabee March

By Marla Becker
Director, Gan HaYeled

We are thrilled to announce the Maccabee March taking place on Sunday, December 17 at 2:00 pm! Join us for a mitzvah project for the entire community at the Goodman Campus. For 18 minutes, children will run laps to Chanukah music, raising money for holiday gifts. These gifts will go to the refugee families who have been receiving tremendous support from Jewish Social Services of Madison. After we cheer on the runners, we will all make holiday cards to accompany the gifts. In addition, we are hoping that the seniors through the Jewish Social Services' programs will attend, making this a truly multigenerational event. Teenagers from Jewish Federation's Midrasha program will take the donation money and go shopping for the "wish list" items. The following day, the Federation's Gan HaYeled preschool children will personally wrap the gifts, and they will attach the cards!

We can all participate in the Maccabee March: • Transport seniors • Play live Chanukah music (musicians of all ages) • Run laps • Cheer on the children • Decorate cards • Donate money

Please contact Gan HaYeled Director, Marla Becker - gan@jewishmadison.org for more information.



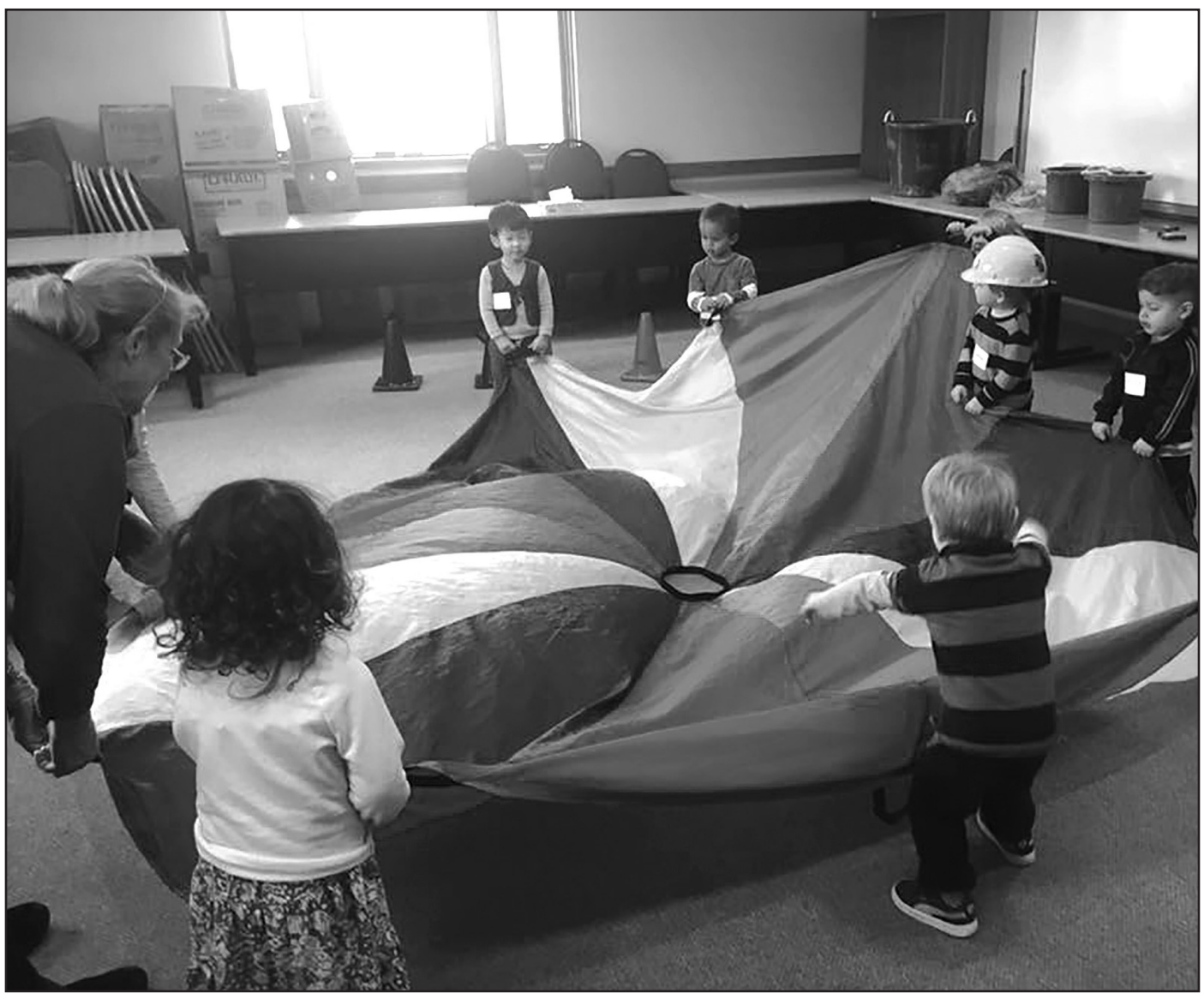
We love baking together. We even make cookies for our sick friends who are staying home from school.



We all added material to our school wide rainbow project!



While studying creation, we searched for gold, yellow, orange, and red leaves to represent, "Let there be light!"



We love our Keva sports classes with Coach Amy!

A Busy Time

By Kimberly Rosenthal
Interim Director, Midrasha

Midrasha has been busy, but in the best way! At the end of this semester we will have had programming from Shlomit surrounding Yitzhak Rabin, three social action projects from the Jewish Social Justice class, and a wonderful Hanukkah celebration wrapping up what each class learned as well as lighting the Hanukkah candles.

Second semester starts Wednesday, January 24 and Sunday Hebrew begins January 29 with classes at Temple Beth El.

A huge thank you to our eight seniors who have helped our 16 eighth grade students become engaged and excited about Midrasha! This program also would not be possible without our fantastic teachers; thank you to all of you for the work you do to provide a fun, enriching program for Jewish teens in Madison!



Students learn about Yitzhak Rabin with Shlomit.

Hanukkah חנוכה

While many think the story of Hanukkah is a quaint story about oil burning and lasting for eight days, it is actually quite complex and very pertinent to today's world. The story begins with Alexander the Great of Greece who conquered Judea, the home of the Jews, in 333 BCE. At that time, Alexander allowed the Jews to maintain their beliefs and traditions. With Alexander's death, the lands he ruled were divided between the Ptolemies, who ruled Egypt and the Seleucids, who ruled in Syria. The Ptolemies and Seleucids fought for control over Judea. The Syrians, under the influence of the Seleucids became Hellenized, adopting Greek culture and habits. In 198 BCE. Antiochus III, king of Syria, conquered Judea. Like Alexander, he also allowed the practice of Judaism. All this changed in 175 BCE when Antiochus IV, also known as Antiochus Epiphanes, came to power.

Antiochus Epiphanes changed the status quo and decided to forcibly Hellenize the Jews. He outlawed Sabbath observance, circumcision, and Torah study. The Temple in Jerusalem was desecrated with a pagan altar and Syrian soldiers set up altars to the Greek gods throughout Judea. A Jewish resistance movement began to grow, led by a priestly family known as the Hasmoneans or Maccabees. The leader of the family was Matityahu (Mattithias) along with his five sons — Judah, Yonatan, Eliezer, Yochanan and Simeon. Three years of fighting ensued with the Maccabees fighting the armies of Antiochus Epiphanes and the Hellenized Jews who supported them. Though the Jews were greatly out-numbered they prevailed. This was a great victory for it confirmed the right of the Jews to practice their religion freely.

The Temple in Jerusalem was cleansed of the pagan gods brought in by Antiochus and a ceremony of rededication was held for eight days. The Hebrew word Hanukkah (also spelled Chanukah) means dedication. The historical story teaches us today about the importance of preserving religious freedom for all peoples. It also reminds us of the power that can come when people care enough to work and struggle together for something they believe in.

But the oil story is also very important, for it came about because our rabbis wanted to teach us that military victory without spiritual connection is not to be celebrated alone. Because the rabbis of long ago faced this dilemma they recorded the legendary miracle of the oil in the Talmud. They wrote: When the Maccabees had cleansed the Temple and they were ready to kindle the Ner Tamid — Eternal Light, only one small jar of oil marked with the seal of the Cohanim - High Priests was found. It would last only one day, and it would be eight more days before more oil could be prepared. But a great miracle happened; the oil lasted for eight days. According to the rabbis, this is the reason we celebrate Hanukkah for eight days.

In choosing the haftarah for the Shabbat of Hanukkah, the rabbis sought to teach us another lesson about faith. The haftarah, Zechariah 4:1-7 includes the verse, "Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, said the Lord of Hosts." This was to remind us that it was not by the military force of the Maccabees that the Temple was restored, but it was by the spirit and influence of God that these events occurred.

Today we celebrate the miracle of Hanukkah as the miracle of Jewish survival throughout the millennia. We light the Hanukkiah each night adding a new candle to add to the joy of the holiday. We play the dreidel game in celebration of the diversionary activity created to hide the fact that Jews were still studying Torah, even when it was forbidden. We eat food cooked in oil like latkes — potato pancakes, common among European Jews, and Sufganiot — jelly doughnuts, common among Jews of Spanish and North African descent.

Hanukkah Blessings

Candles are added to the *hanukkiyah* (menorah) from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first. (On the Shabbat of Hanukkah, kindle the Hanukkah lights first and then the Shabbat candles.)

Light the *shamash* (the helper candle) first, using it to kindle the rest of the Hanukkah lights. As you do, say or sing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who hallows us with mitzvot, commanding us to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים
לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בַּזְּמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim hahaeim baz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who performed wonderous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

For first night only:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחֱיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזְּמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higianu laz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

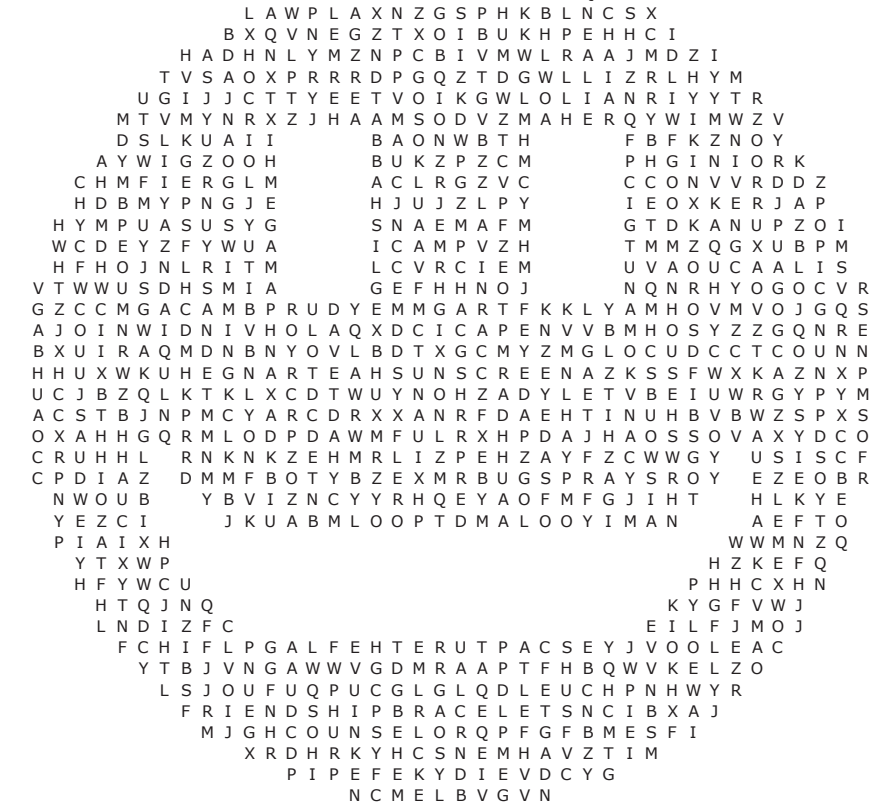
Hanerot Halalu

We kindle these lights because of the wondrous deliverance You performed for our ancestors. During these eight days of Hanukkah, these lights are sacred; we are not to use them but only to behold them, so that their glow may rouse us to give thanks for Your wondrous acts of deliverance.

Camp Corner



Camp Shalom Word Search



WORD LIST:

ALEPH
BET
BUG SPRAY
CAMP
CAPTURE THE FLAG
CARNIVAL
CHALLAH
CHUGIM
COUNSELOR
FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS
FUN
GAGA
GIMEL
GIMP
GOODMAN HOUSE
MACCABIAH
MEGAMA
MINKOFF CENTER
MITZVAH MENSCH
MOADON
NOAR BOGRIM
OMANUT
OOLAM
POOL
SHABBAT
SHALOM
SUNSCREEN
SWIMMING
TEVA
UNIT HEAD



Camp Shalom Making A Difference

By Ellen Weismer
Camp Shalom Director

In November, I had the honor of attending a reception for all of the organizations that receive funding from the Capital Times Kids Fund. What makes this reception special is that each of the organizations does a small introduction and each year I am in awe of the special programs that serve children in our community. I love the response when I say that I am from Camp Shalom, there is always someone in the room who has a story to share about their Camp Shalom connection. I feel privileged to represent Camp Shalom and to be in the company of so many outstanding individuals who also receive grants from the Kids Fund.

There were several other camp directors in the room and after the event, I spent a long time reflecting on Camp Shalom and what sets us apart from other programs. Camp Shalom does not have a ropes course or a fancy rock climbing wall. We DO have an amazing pool and a beautiful campus though! Camp Shalom doesn't focus on one specialty but offers a well-rounded day of programming that gives campers the power of choice! But, those are not the things that set our camp apart from other camps. What really makes Camp Shalom special is the fantastic staff we hire each summer. They are what make camp great. Even on the days when it is pouring rain or too hot to play outside, our staff does what they do best, they make every day of Camp Shalom a great day!

Many Camp Shalom staff members were campers at Shalom and they help us to carry on the traditions that are unique to Camp Shalom, like the songs we sing at rallies, Camp Shalom Players Skits and special events such as Maccabiah. And, each year our staff is enriched with new members who bring their own histories and traditions from camp and recreational experiences they have had. Each member of the Camp Shalom staff is an important piece of the puzzle. We work hard to hire a diverse staff that represents our campers, so everyone can find a connection and everyone can learn something new.

While we have introduced new aspects of programming over recent years that have allowed our campers to have a more enriching experience, we have also continued to honor what we know makes this camp extraordinary. We look forward to welcoming back many of our staff members in 2018 and look forward to meeting new people as well. If you are interested in working at Camp Shalom please apply online starting on January 1, 2018.
www. jewishmadison. org/camp-shalom

Thoughts from our Staff

Why Do You Work at Camp Shalom?

I met so many incredible kids over the years at camp, and I've loved watching campers grow and learn summer after summer. I grew as a leader, caretaker, and person through working at Camp Shalom. I learned skills that are helping me in my adult life, such as responsibility, consistency, and leadership. The relationships built through camp can last a lifetime, and it's wonderful to know that you are making a difference for campers the same way your counselors made a difference for you. Working at Camp Shalom is the best job a person could have!
Emery Rankin- Utevsky

Working at Camp Shalom is so much fun, you get to spend time with amazing kids and you get to learn so many things about yourself.
Ava Diamond- Tumbush

As a staff member I have learned a lot by being a C. I. T. I learned how to get along with people and even if things became difficult with the staff. I turned things to be positive. I learned how to understand kids, be creative when I did a lesson with the kids. I loved how I would make kids happy, and from this experience, I now think it's a career I would like to go into. I also loved my boss Ellen! She worked so hard on the activities and the staff meeting. She makes Camp Shalom a happy place to be every day.
Liza Diamond

Working for camp has meant a lot to me, because I get to try to make a difference in so many kids' lives. Going here as a child has left me with so many wonderful memories, and I get to be part of helping these kids experience the same fun. Another reason that Camp Shalom means a lot to me, is because I get to work with so many other great people from different backgrounds. Every time I come back to this campus, I make a new friend, and I feel part of something bigger.
Autumn J





Solar Panels at BIC

By Steve Goldstein, Chair, House Committee
Beth Israel Center

As the Jewish community celebrates the festival of lights this year, Beth Israel Center will be looking to the sun to power to its lights. As this article goes to press, an array of 192 solar panels is being installed on the roof of the Mound Street shul. This array will generate nearly half the electricity Beth Israel Center needs, saving thousands of dollars over the decades of the panels' useful life. It will also substantially reduce the carbon footprint of the building.

As Rabbi Samuel Barth explains, an ancient midrash records the instruction given by God to Adam and Eve: "Look at my works! See how beautiful they are — how excellent! For your sake I created them all. See to it that you do not spoil and destroy My world; for if you do, there will be no one else to repair it."

"Projects like this are our way of keeping faith with the responsibility of all humanity to preserve and cherish the world and its ecosystems," Rabbi Barth adds.

Beth Israel Center's project begins at a key time for solar energy. In the last few years, prices have dropped while efficiency of panels and systems has increased, analogous to what's been happening in other areas of rapid technological growth, such as computers and smart phones. Add the generous tax incentives and funding from grants, and it's a sensible investment.

As Jordy Loeb, chair of the BIC building committee that oversaw the synagogue's recent renovation, recalls, "We explored solar in 2014, but at that time, the technology was too expensive to yield energy cost savings. Since then, our house committee has investigated advances in the technology and cost sharing opportunities. When the house committee recently brought a proposal to the board of directors showing that this investment would now have a favorable return, we knew it was the right thing to do." BIC's commitment to the ethic of Tikkun Olam, along with the prospect of a good financial investment resulted in a unanimous decision by the Board to go forward.

The BIC solar panel project will raise awareness of the benefits of solar in our own congregation as well as the larger community. We plan to install a monitor that will inform congregants and visitors about the value and efficiency of our panels. This project will strongly enhance our already active commitment to "green" our synagogue through changes such as using LED light fixtures, reducing use of disposable paper and plastic products at community meals, and using only organic fertilizer on our grounds. In addition, we are planning tie-ins with our youth and adult education programs about the Jewish tradition of stewarding the earth and caring for the environment. Many of our texts, rituals and holiday traditions have references and roots in the earth and its gifts. We celebrate the natural world in many ways, including it often in prayer. Our solar project will serve as a real and tangible example of putting our prayers and traditions to action.

Watch for more information about upcoming events to celebrate this project and educate ourselves and others about investing in solar energy. Beth Israel wishes to encourage other congregations, Jewish community organizations, and others to consider investigating solar energy for their buildings. The BIC house committee is happy to offer advice and consult. Renew Wisconsin, a project organized by the city of Madison, is offering small grants to encourage houses of worship to consider solar.

The Jewish Federation of Madison installed solar panels in the early 2000s to help heat the Goodman Aquatic Center pool. They are currently exploring other opportunities for expanding solar panel usage at the Goodman Campus as well. The Federation too looks forward to sharing what they have learned and will continue to learn about these initiatives.

There is general consensus among scientists that decreasing the use of fossil fuel improves air quality and reduces global warming. While Beth Israel Center's solar panels will have only a tiny impact on the environment, we take Pirke Avot seriously: "…it is not upon us to complete the work, neither are we free to desist from it." And besides, every little bit helps…just like the Maccabees and their little bit of oil producing eight days of light so long ago!



Cranes lifting panels to roof of Beth Israel Center. When the system goes online, it will deliver nearly half of the synagogue's power.

Interested in Jewish Studies? Audit a Course at UW-Madison this Spring

The Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies invities community members to audit a course this spring. Courses begin on January 23, 2018.
For more details about courses, contact assoc-director@cjs.wisc.edu or (608) 265-4763. Wisconsin residents age 60 (as of the first day of class) and older are eligible to audit courses free of charge. For details on how to apply see: http://continuingstudies.wisc.edu/advising/audit60.htm

LIST OF COURSES

JS 230 – Representing the Holocaust in Poland (Professor Filipowicz)
TR 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm

JS 231 – History of the Holocaust (Professor Bitzan)
MWF 1:20 pm - 2:10 pm

JS 231 – Religion and Sexuality (Professor Rosenblum)
MW 11:00 am - 11:50 am

JS 236 – Jewish Composers: Early Modern to Modern (Professor Swack)
TR 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm

JS 279 – Yiddish Literature and Culture in America (Professor Hollander)
TR 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm

JS 318 – Modern Jewish Literature (Professor Hollander)
TR 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm

JS 356 – Jerusalem, Holy City of Conflict and Desire (Professor Brenner)
MWF 9:55 am - 10:45 am

JS 430 – Holocaust: Testimony and Expressions (Professor Brenner)
MWF 8:50 am - 9:40 am

JS 432 – Struggling with God in Literature (Professor Zilbergerts)
TR 9:30 pm - 10:45 pm

JS 432 – Modern Jewish Thought
TR 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm

JS 435 – Jewish Philosophy from Antiquity to the Seventh Century (Professor Nadler)
MWF 11:00 am - 11:50 am

JS 451 – Biblical Archaeology (Professor Blakely)
R 6:30 pm - 9:15 pm

JS 514 – Biblical Texts, Poetry
MW 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm

JS 632 – Intellectual Origins of Israel (Professor Armon)
R 1:20 pm - 3:15 pm

JS 665 – Israeli Politics and Society (Professor Shelef)
TR 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm

Madison's Synagogues Sponsor Introduction to Judaism Course

Madison rabbis and educators are joining together again this year to co-teach this cross-denominational Introduction to Judaism course. Sponsored by Congregation Shaarei Shamayim, Temple Beth El, and Beth Israel Center, we are pleased to continue this into our fourth year. We will cover a wide range of topics concerning the fundamentals of Jewish thought, history, and practice over the 16 sessions that we will spend together.

Class begins on Thursday evening, January 11, and runs until May 10. It meets from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm and will be held for eight sessions at Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive, and eight sessions at Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound Street. In addition to the Thursday class sessions, we will organize special excursions around Jewish Madison.

This course is open to anyone who is interested in learning about the basics of Judaism. It can stand alone as an adult education course or serve as a pre-requisite for conversion to Judaism. Often intermarried couples take this course together.

Tuition (which does not include the cost of books) is as follows:
Members of a Madison synagogue: $100 per person, $175 per couple
Non-members: $150 per person, $250 per couple
Undergraduate or Graduate students: $50.

We have a twelve-student minimum for the class to happen. Scholarships are available.

Please contact Joy Zotalis at office@shamayim.org or 257-2944 for further information. Registration forms and schedule can be found at www.shamayim.org.

Jewish Social Services

JSS is a Beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of Madison

www.jssmadison.org

Legacy Gift Shows Gratitude for Welcoming of JSS's Senior Lunch Program

Friends and community have always been important to Ernie Clasen.

Ernie Clasen gets to hang out with some of his closest friends at lunchtime on most Mondays. Nearly every Monday, he drives, (or gets a ride) to Goodman Lechayim Lunchtime Plus, Jewish Social Services' senior nutrition program, for its amazing food, great programs, and most importantly, for the friends he has found. As a way to support Jewish Social Services and in particular, in support of senior programs and case management, Ernie has recently let JSS know that he will be leaving an estate gift of $250,000 to the Jewish Social Services endowment fund.

Ernie started coming to Lechayim about two years ago, prompted by his good friend Dolores Salganick and her daughter. Ernie said, "Then I met Gary Geller. We became friends. We sit at the same table at Lechayim. And when I met Gary's wife Denny, she told me, 'You know whatever we are, Jewish, Catholic, whatever, we are all made from the same stuff.'"

Ernie moved to Madison from Germany in 1957 after seeing an ad in a German newspaper for a pastry man at Dykman's Restaurant. He spoke no English, but took a chance. Ernie came by ship to New York City, followed by trains to Chicago, and finally to Madison. He said that when he finally arrived at his hotel on the Square, he only had $3.50. Luckily, Dykman's Restaurant was only one and half blocks off the square, so he could walk to work.

Ernie's boss helped to bring over his fiancée, Ruth Fischer and his younger brother. Ernie and Ruthie were married nearly 53 years. The three bought a small bakery on Parmenter Street in Middleton. This business later evolved into a larger bakery and a chocolate company.

Ernie explains why a German Catholic who emigrated to Madison in 1957 would want to leave a legacy for senior programs and services at Jewish Social Services: "the people that I met. First, when I went, I thought that I am Catholic and German. I was worried, but everyone was so nice. And I don't want the money to run out for the program." Ernie is leaving the funds in memory of his good friend and neighbor Dolores Salganick.

For more information, please contact Dawn Berney, Jewish Social Services at (608) 442-4081 or dawn@jssmadison.org.



Join us for great food, friends, fun, and interesting programs at Lechayim Lunchtime Plus at Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound Street. Contact Jewish Social Services at (608) 442-4081 or email office@jssmadison.org ***no later than 2:00pm the preceding Wednesday.*** **A vegetarian or strictly kosher option is available with a reservation.** If you are over age 60, a minimum donation of $4.00 is suggested, but please only pay what is comfortable for you. The cost of the meal is $10.23 for those under age 60.

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

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

December Lechayim Calendar

Monday, December 4

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Moroccan beef stew (vegetarian option: Moroccan tofu stew), herbed rice, market vegetable, dessert, fruit
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	Sue Schroder presentation, "My Life with Beads"

Monday, December 11

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Estelle Katz
11:30 am-12:30 pm	Complimentary blood pressure check with nurse, Lori Edelstein
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Beef brisket, garlic roasted red potato, roasted carrots, fruit, babka (Vegetarian option: Marinated garlic tofu)
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	Klezmer/folk music by Yid Vicious

Monday, December 18

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Fettuccini Alfredo, Caesar salad, market vegetable, fruit, brownie
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	Great composers: piano music by Dan Barker

Making Lechayim reservations:

- When you check in at Lechayim, sign up for the following week.
- Call Jewish Social Services at (608) 442-4081 or email us at office@jssmadison.org **before 2:00 pm on the preceding <u>Wednesday.</u>**
- If you did not make a reservation but would like to come, **call Paul at (608) 442-4083** to see if there have been any cancellations.
- We regret that we are unable to guarantee a meal for last minute reservations or walk-ins.

January Lechayim Calendar

Monday, January 8

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	Hickory smoked roasted chicken, vegetable medley, mashed sweet potatoes, fruit, lemon bars (Vegetarian option: Smoked BBQ tofu)
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	John Shillinglaw presentation, "Explorations in Conservation and Science: Karner Blue Butterfly"

Monday, January 22

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Eggplant parmesan, fettuccini noodles, house salad, fruit, mini dessert
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	The Double Double Reeders - harmonious blend of oboes, bassoons, and English horn

Monday, January 29

11:30 am-12:00 pm	Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm	Orange sesame chicken, fried rice, Asian slaw, cake (Vegetarian option: Orange sesame tofu)
1:00 pm-2:00 pm	Eric Rosenbaum presentation, "History, Folklore and Natural Beauty of Mallorca, Spain"

Next Month's Dates: February 5, 12, 19, 26

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

Lechayim Lights

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

About our Programs

Monday, December 4

Sue Schroeder has been acquiring, loving, and trading antique and ancient beads and beadwork for many years. She found that she was not enchanted by many of the traditional hobbies that some of her peers were engaged in. Happening upon on ad for a bead store, she went to visit it in Washington, D.C. Sue recognized that this was something that captured her passion. Sue saw how beads and beadwork have their own histories that interweave personally and culturally significant details into the story of the particular pieces as well as the stories told by the use of a wide array of materials. Materials such as glass, stone, turquoise and a variety of metals help illustrate the special relationships of ownership, craft and the personal and cultural histories of the examples of beads and beadwork that Sue will share with us. If you have beadwork that you would like Sue to look at, or to discuss, please feel free to bring to today's program.



Monday, December 11

We will celebrate Hanukkah on Monday, December 11, which means we welcome back Yid Vicious, the talented and dynamic local band that has been volunteering at Lechayim for many, many years. Yid Vicious was formed in 1995 in Madison, WI, to ameliorate the woeful dearth of klezmer in America's otherwise pleasant heartland. Klezmer is Yiddish folk music, music for dancing and celebrating, and always providing a freilach (happy) atmosphere. All told, there are six members of Yid Vicious, their musical arsenal consisting of clarinets, fiddle, horn, vocals, guitar, accordion, tuba, drums and sometimes theremin (electronic instrument). Dancing is encouraged!



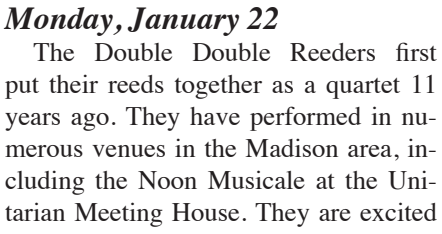
Yid Vicious

Monday, December 18

Dan Barker will be performing music composed by George Gershwin (1898-1937). George Gershwin was an American composer and pianist. Gershwin's compositions spanned both popular and classical genres, and his most popular melodies are widely known. In addition to being a professional jazz pianist, our pianist today, Dan Barker is co-president of the Freedom from Religion Foundation, an author, lecturer and debater. Dan performs 50 - 100 gigs a year in the Madison area, including dinner music at Nakoma Country Club since 1988.

Monday, January 8

John Shillinglaw will present, "Explorations in Conservation and Science: Karner Blue Butterfly." John is a trout angler, bird watcher, and prairie and wetland enthusiast. He grew up in a smallish size town in Iowa, and spent his childhood free time outdoors. This fostered an appreciation for nature and habitat that John has been expressing all his life. Like many of us, John educated himself on habitat and natural landscape



Dan Barker

issues so that he could be creative and sensitive to plantings around his house that would foster a healthy environment. This proved to be an excellent lead up to his use of a larger portion of property in central Wisconsin by the Mecan River that John is currently nurturing and protecting. Among the many prairie species on this property are some prolific patches of lupine. These attractive purple flowering plants happen to be the host plant for the endangered Karner Blue butterfly. There are several places in Wisconsin and elsewhere concentrating on building and maintaining habitat for the Karner Blue. One of the properties is the private land of our presenter today. Currently, John and other survey researchers have estimated that his land has attracted and supported up to 12,000 Karner Blue butterflies in a season. John will tell us about these experiences in habitat restoration as well as relate his experience as a citizen scientist.

Monday, January 22

The Double Double Reeders first put their reeds together as a quartet 11 years ago. They have performed in numerous venues in the Madison area, including the Noon Musicale at the Unitarian Meeting House. They are excited to share with Lechayim a range of musical styles, including a piece written especially for them. There's nothing else like the harmonious blend of oboes, bassoons, and English horns!

Rozan Anderson, bassoon, has been an active amateur and semi-professional musician since a young age, playing in numerous community orchestras, wind ensembles, and chamber groups. She is the principal bassoonist for the Edgewood Chamber Orchestra. In addition to



Karnerblue butterfly

working professionally as the database administrator for the Jewish Federation of Madison, she is president of Temple Beth El.

(Continued on page 24)

Календарь Лехаим ЛанчТайм Плюс на Декабрь

Изменения, обновления и новую информацию о программах Еврейской Социальной Службы вы можете найти на нашем веб-сайте www.jssmadison.org.

Все желающие присоединются к нам для отличной еды, встречи с друзьями и интересных программ. **Лехаим ЛанчТайм Плюс тпроводится в Центре Beth Israel Center, 1406 Mound Street.**
Заказать место вы можете в Еврейской Социальной Службе по телефону (608) 442-4081 или по адресу office@jssmadison.org **до 14:00 часов среды предшествующей очередной встрече. Вегетарианское или строго кошерное меню готовится по предварительному заказу.** Стоимость ланча составляет $10.23; минимальное пожертвование для людей старше 60 лет $4.00, если возможно.

Если вы не можете присутствовать на обеде, пожалуйста, присоединяйтесь к нам для бесплатной программы в 13:00 часов.

ЛЕХАИМ БЛАГОДАРИТ UW ГИЛЕЛЬ ADAMAH КАТЕРИНГ ЗА ВКУСНЫЕ И КОШЕРНЫЕ БЛЮДА!

Понедельник, 4 декабря
11:30 - 12:00: Йога на стуле с Бетси Хеймсон
12:00 -1:00: Тушеная по-марокканской говядина (вариант вегетарианской кухни: тушеное тофу), пряный рис, сезонные овощи, десерт, фрукты
13:00 - 2:00: Презентация Сью Шредер; «Моя жизнь и бисер»

Понедельник, 11 декабря
11:30 - 12:00: Йога на стуле с Эстеллой Кац
11:30 -12:30: Бесплатное измерение артериального давления медсестрой Лорой Эдельштейн
12:00 -1:00: Говяжая грудинка, (вегетарианский вариант: маринованный чесночный тофу), жареный красный картофель с чесноком, жареная морковь, фрукты, бабка
1:00 -2:00: Клецмер: народная музыка от Yid Vicious (Неистовый Жид)

Понедельник, 18 декабря
11:30 - 12:00: Йога на стуле с Бетси Хеймсон
12:00 -1 :00: Паста с соусом Альфредо, салат Цезарь, сезонные овощи, фрукты, пирожные
13:00 - 2:00: Великие композиторы. Фортепианная музыка: Дэн Баркер

Понедельник, 8 января
11:30 - 12:00: Йога на стуле с Бетси Хеймсон
11:30 -12:30: Бесплатное измерение артериального давления медсестрой, Лорой Эдельштейн
12:00 -1:00: Копченый жареный цыпленок (вегетарианский вариант: копченое тофу), овощное рагу, пюре из сладкого картофеля, фрукты, лимонные пирожные
13:00 - 2:00: Презентация Джона Шиллингла: Исследования в области сохранения и науки. Карнер, "Голубая бабочка"

Понедельник, 22 января
11:30 - 12:00: Йога на стуле с Бетси Хеймсон
12:00 -1:00: Баклажаны с пармезаном, лапша феттучини, домашний салат, фрукты, мини-десерт
1:00 -2:00 The Double Double Reeders (Двойные Двойные Ридеры): гармоничное сочетание гобоев, фагота и английского рога

Понедельник, 29 января
11:30 - 12:00: Йога на стуле с Бетси Хеймсон
12:00 -1:00: Курица с апельсинами и кунжутом (вегетарианский вариант: тофу с апельсинами и кунжутом), жареный рис, капуста по-азиатски, торт
1:00 - 2:00: Презентация Эрика Розенбаума: «История, фольклор и природная красота Майорки, Испания»

Programs

Continued from page 23

Ruth Dahlke, oboe and English horn, has played in numerous large and chamber ensembles since high school. She retired and moved to Madison in 2005 after 29 years of teaching music at Minnesota State University Moorhead and playing principal oboe with the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony. She fills her retirement hours enjoying time with family, attending concerts and recitals, playing chamber music, volunteering for the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation and Wisconsin Historical Society, and playing tennis.

Scott Ellington, oboe, has played for much of his life. While earning engineering degrees at UW-Madison, he played with the UW Orchestra and Wind Ensemble, as well as chamber groups. Before retiring in 2011, he designed electronics at UW-Madison.

Willy Walter, bassoon, has played orchestras, bands, and various ensembles for most of his life. He was a researcher in the Biochemistry Dept. at the UW-Madison until he retired in 2008. He recently began learning jazz improvisation with a local quintet, but loves playing in a community orchestra and, of course, any combination of double reeds.

Monday, January 29

Eric Rosenbaum will present, "History, Folklore and Natural Beauty of Mallorca, Spain." Eric studied history, government and international relations at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. In one of his college classes, he sat next to the princess of Spain. While working for the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency during the Reagan Administration, Eric had a chance to take a guided tour of Spain. Since then, he has returned to Spain and other areas of the region. He became particularly interested in the island of Mallorca, Spain. Eric will give us some idea of the folklore and the history of Roman and Celtic occupation on Mallorca. He will also describe some of the issues around relationships of Jewish people in the area and discuss the two remaining synagogues that are currently in use.

Mallorca has many natural areas, including large beaches, coves, inlets, and mountains, which attract nine million tourists each year. The island is also famous for their decorations of entryways, lobbies, and courtyards as well as their restaurants, nightlife and music festivals.



Double Double Reeders

Happy Birthday!

December

Charlie Meyer
Estelle Katz
Eve Siegel
Janice Oltman
Jean Esch-Theobald
Jim Blair
Karen Shevet Dinah
Nena Dyhr
(in blessed memory)
Stacy Graff
Susan Eichhorn

January

Betsy Haimson
Bezalel Haimson
David Aronin
Ginny Graff
Hilary Blue
Ike Lewis
Jeff C. Levy
Michele Rohan
Milt Leidner
Rob Greenberg
Rosalind Levin
Sally Jamison

Jewish Social Services Brings Shabbat to Our Seniors

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

Attic Angel Place in the Garden Room, 2:30 pm, 8301 Old Sauk Road
A program of Jewish Social Services and Attic Angel Place. Music by Les Goldsmith and with the assistance of Angel Volunteers
December 1

Capitol Lakes in the Grand Hall, 3:00 pm, 333 West Main Street
A program of Jewish Social Services and Capitol Lakes Retirement Community. Led by Rabbi Andrea Steinberger with assistance from UW students through the Hillel Foundation.
November 3, December 1

Oakwood West in Oak's Community Room, 3:30 pm, 6225 Mineral Point Road
A program of Jewish Social Services and Oakwood Village University Woods, with the assistance of JSS volunteers and music by Paul Grossberg
November 10, December 8

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

Time to Sign up to Deliver Hanukkah Menorahs!

Great for friends and families of all kinds! Celebrate the Festival of Lights by bringing some light to seniors in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Volunteers deliver and set up electric menorahs, return once or twice to "light" the candles and pick up the menorah at the end of the holiday. Have a little visit and share the holiday! The first candle is December 12, 2017. To sign up, contact Paul Borowsky at (608) 442-4083, or at pborowsky@jssmadison.org.

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: Take a friendly older woman to do errands once or twice a month in the west Madison area or help an elderly homebound man remain in independent living by delivering groceries and other items.

Back-up Volunteer Photographer: At JSS events, take photos which may be used for promotional materials and social media.

Bikur Cholim/Friendly Visitor: Opportunities to make brief drop-in visits with several elderly women in memory care - Verona, Middleton and southwest Madison. We are also seeking a friendly visitor for an elderly newcomer in Sun Prairie. These visits can be made at your convenience.

Computer/Odd Job Help: Support elderly and others by doing small jobs – changing light bulbs, fixing loose hinges, etc. Help them learn to use a computer and complete basic computer tasks, and use 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 to 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!

Adamah Continued from page 17

Adamah has created a home away from home for anyone in search of a wholesome nosh and a friendly face. Adamah's kosher catering is now in demand for events at Madison's synagogues, homes and offices, and members of the public are welcome to join hundreds of students every Friday night at Hillel after services for nourishing and novel Shabbat dinners.

How Jason Kierce left Alabama and found his way to Adamah is a tale of one man's indomitable love of learning and the lure of Judaism's foundations of family, faith and tradition.

In this interview, edited for length and clarity, Jason describes his journey.

As a child in Alabama, what was your experience with Jews?

"Zero! I'm sure that I met people who were Jewish, but no one talked about it. I think it wasn't until I met my wife that she introduced me to someone who said they were Jewish. I didn't know what Orthodox, Reform, kashrut were. I didn't know what Hillel was. There are so many things that were an uphill learning curve for me here, it's amazing."

How did you learn it all?

"I embraced it. Everything I do in my career track, I say, if you're going to do something, go all out; you try to learn as much as you can. I asked tons of questions, read as many books as I could, looked things up on the Internet."

If you have questions now, where do you go?

"If I have a question because I need something for the job, I go to our head rabbi who's in charge of Wisconsin K (Kosher Supervisors of Wisconsin). If I want to understand for my own personal reasons, I'll go to (Hillel) Rabbi Andrea (Steinberger) because she'll tell me the Orthodox reason why, and also why Reform may or may not participate in that religious duty. I love it because I like to learn, so it's a good spot to do it."

How did you learn the style of Jewish food?

"I'd never been to a Jewish deli, so Greg (Steinberger, Hillel Executive Director) took me to Chicago. It was gluttony to a T. We went to eight to ten different restaurants in one day. I had probably that many bowls of matzoh ball soup; they're across the board. I wanted to figure out what I liked because I didn't know."

What's your favorite Jewish food?

"That's a tough one because it depends on the day. I remember the first time I tried gefilte fish I thought it was gross, the consistency and that aftertaste. Now, I'm excited for Passover because I actually do want my gefilte fish. I make good gefilte fish…you can't do that jar stuff. I actually miss it."

You've traded the hip world of celebrity chefs for a place that has the feel of a cozy, Jewish family kitchen. Why?

"I made a choice and I chose a life of community that is comforting to me where I'm at with my family and my life at the moment. Remember, I grew up with no family, so my colleagues at Hillel and the Jewish community are my family. When I go to Lechayim, there are ladies there that I would consider my bubbe and I think they would treat me as their son or grandson."

Except for a Hebrew National hot dog, a lot of people think kosher food is dull and boring.

"It's not; it's just good food that happens to be kosher. We've done bar and bat mitzvahs with Harry Potter themes and with elegant fleishig rack of lamb. We do weddings, Purim parties, corporate events. There's no fixed menu for catering. Every event has been custom; you get the creative component when you come to Adamah."

How has being part of the Hillel and Madison Jewish communities changed you?

"I have a unique job, I'm not just a cook, or even just a chef; it's chef to a completely different level. I get to cook a cuisine I have learned to love. I not only feed people nutritious food, but I also get to be a part of something more spiritual. One of the reasons I enjoy Shabbat and all the different holidays so much is because I grew up with none of that. I hope the college students, when they come through here, can grab a hold of the community spirit and traditions at Hillel and Adamah and keep them as a memory they bring home to their own families."

Adamah Neighborhood Table at UW Hillel's Barbara Hochberg Center for Jewish Life on Langdon St. is open Monday-Thursday 10 am-8 pm, Friday 10:00 am-2:00 pm, closed Saturday, Sunday 10:00 am-8:00 pm. For catering call (608) 441-1574, ext. 2. Parking is available on the street and in the Lake St. ramp.



Adamah chef Jason Kierce.

ADAMAH Neighborhood Table

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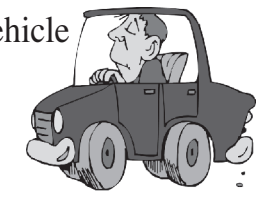

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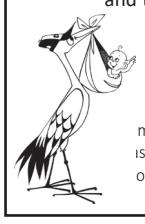

Shalom Baby is designed to help Madison families celebrate the arrival of their Jewish newborns and welcome them to the Madison Jewish Community.

more information on joining a playgroup or ıss, or receiving a Shalom Baby gift basket, ontact Tiz Goff at 773-620-4404 or email outreach@jewishmadison.org

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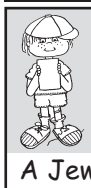

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- *Are you new to Madison?*
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Jewish Federation OF MADISON

Israel and the World

From Israel to Madison- Reflections on the Past Month

The past few weeks were full of programs, activities and cold. We know what you're thinking: "poor Israelis, already cold in November? this is nothing!". We know. We'll talk more about that in just a few lines. At Hillel I (Tal) had a Ptitim Night with my Hebrew Club students. Ptitim is a type of toasted pasta shaped like rice grains or little balls. It was developed in Israel in the 1950s when rice was scarce. Outside Israel, it is typically marketed as Israeli couscous, Jerusalem couscous, or pearl couscous. Not only did we cook and eat ptitim together, but we also learned about Israeli food. Another program I had at Hillel these past few weeks was Israeli Movie Night. This time we watched the Israeli documentary "Who's Gonna Love Me Now?". The movie centers on Saar Maoz, a gay and HIV-positive Israeli expatriate living in London. Returning home for the first time since being thrown out by his family twenty years earlier for coming out as gay, the film contrasts his difficulties finding acceptance at home with the life he has built for himself as a member of the London Gay Men's Chorus. At the end of the movie we had a discussion lead by students which was fascinating.

At the Jewish Federation, I (Shlomit) had the usual programs: Ivrit and science activities in Gan HaYeled, Hebrew fun at Ivrit B'kef (to which Tal joined, on a few occasions), Ivrit Kallah lessons for adults, and Midrasha (classes of Hebrew, youth movements in Israel and Israeli recent events). Other than that, we had the Partnership2Gether visit we mentioned earlier.

We also had some joint programs: We were invited to Edgewood College, to speak with the students in a Jewish-Christian Dialogue class. We had an interesting, open discussion, about Israel, and we want to take this opportunity to thank the students who participated and Professor Steven Olson who invited us.

Later that month we had a Shakshukah cooking night in a house in Middleton. We got to meet a few wonderful young families and have a cooking lesson and dinner together. We plan to do more Israeli cooking, movies, music or arts events, so contact us if you wish to participate in any or host them in your house.

We also had some first Café Ivrit meetings: around twice a month, on Sundays, we meet at a café with anyone who wants to practice conversational Hebrew over a cup of coffee. So far it has been a lot of fun, and anyone who wants to join can contact us and come have coffee with us next time.

Lastly, we had the first Yom Ha'Atzmaut committee meeting which plans Madison's celebrations for Israel's 70th anniversary.

And now, the cold. We love Madison. Whenever we say that, the usual reply is "let's talk again after the winter." We want to share two thoughts on this issue: First, we are pretty sure we will love it no matter what, and we can't wait for it to snow. The other thing is, while we know it's not yet winter (at the time of this writing, in November), it is so cold. Many days in November have been much colder than the coldest day in Jerusalem. At the beginning of November, we went to buy our winter clothes. We feel like we prepared as well as we could have. Is it good enough? Find out on the next issue.

Hanukkah is Coming

The dreidels here have a different letter from the dreidels in Israel: ours have the letters נ ג ה פ, and they stand for "Nes Gadol Haya Po" which means "a big miracle happened here". Here, the letters are נ ג ה ש . They stand for "Nes Gadol Haya Sham" which means "a big miracle happened there".

Hanukkah is one of the most fun holidays we have, and one with a great message as well. While we know it will be different, we are "Sham" in Madison and not "Po" in Israel, we are very excited to celebrate Hanukkah here. Follow us on Facebook to see our Hanukkah programs, Chag Same'ach!



Dreidel outside of Israel.



Dreidel in Israel.



To celebrate Hanukkah, this month's recipe is for Moroccan Sfinge: the Moroccan version of Soofganiot (doughnuts). Both words, Sfinge and Soofganiot, come from the same root meaning "absorb". They are named that way because of the oil they absorb. Not the healthiest, but delicious and Hanukkah is a great excuse to make them. The Moroccan version is less sweet, it is not filled with jelly like Soofganiot and the look of it is more home-made.

Sfinge

Ingredients
3 cups flour
2 teaspoons yeast
1 teaspoon salt
1 1/4 cup warm water
vegetable oil, for frying
sugar, for coating



In a small bowl, dissolve the yeast in the warm water.
In a large bowl mix the flour and salt. Add the water and yeast mixture, and stir vigorously with your hand or a spoon until smooth. The dough should be too sticky to knead or shape.
Cover the bowl, and leave the dough to rise for three to four hours, until double or triple in bulk.
In a wide pot heat at least an inch of vegetable oil until hot.
Fill another bowl with water and set to the side. You should have three bowls ready. One with your dough, one with water, and a third with sugar. Also cover a large plate with paper toweling or a towel.
To begin dip your hand in the water and pull off a piece of dough about the size of a plum. Using your fingers make a hole in the dough and stretch into a ring. Place into the oil. Repeat with the remaining dough. Be careful not to crowd the pan. Depending on the size you may only be able to do 2 or 3 at a time. Fry them until golden brown, flipping a few times to make sure both sides are cooked well. Remove from oil and set on plate to drain. Once the extra oil has been absorbed, while still hot, roll the Sfinge in the sugar.
ובאיתב!

Connecting with Israel

The Israel National Trail (Shvil Israel) - around the Kinneret

By Shlomit Ezer and Tal Sheffer

Last month we had two special visitors, Andrea Arbel and Anat Sharvit. They are the global and regional directors of Partnership2Gether program. Madison's partners in this program are Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Sovev Kinneret, which is the region around the Sea of Galilee. The Israeli side of this partnership, Sovev Kinneret, is one of the most beautiful and interesting areas in Israel. It has the great combination of beautiful nature, historic and religious sites, a lake (which we call "sea", by the way: in Israel we don't have five lakes in the same city, but one in the state, and so it enjoys the special status of a sea) and a varied population.

So many towns, kibbutzim and moshavim along the Israel National Trail are in our partnership region of Sovev Kinneret. In this area of the trail, you will walk through Kibbutz Dgania and learn the history of Zionism before the establishment of the state of Israel, during the second Aliyah (second wave of immigration from Russia (1904 – 1914). You can walk or bike along the shores of the Sea of Kinneret, or, if you prefer the water, you can swim or rent a boat. You will visit the historical Kinneret cemetery where many important Zionist leaders from that time were buried, including Berl Katznelson and Rachel the Poetess. You will hike Mount Arbel and Mount Tabor, two amazing trails: Tabor is related to the history of the Jewish, Muslim and Christian people. It is known for its unique round shape. Both Tabor and Arbel have a large variety of plants and animals. While in Arbel you can also see archeological findings that include the ruins of a synagogue from the eighth century. Near Arbel, there is also the most sacred site for the Druze: Nabi Shu'ayb. According to the Druze tradition, this is the site where the Prophet Shu'ayb (Jethro, in the Jewish tradition) is buried. Another must-see is Zippori national park and Zippori stream. Aside from the beautiful view, you will see many historical and archeological sites from the times of the Crusades or from the time of the Ottoman Empire. The stream goes along several Bedouin villages.

After a long hike, you can relax at one of the hot springs near Kinneret: Tiberias Hot Springs or Hamat Gader, where you can also visit a big crocodile farm.

This is just a small fraction of what there is to do in this area of the trail. If you do plan to go, feel free to ask us more about it.


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Go to the Source: Websites about Israel

For questions on how to support Israel and information about what is happening, please contact our Israeli Shlichim: Shlomit, Jewish Federation of Madison Shliach at Israel@JewishMadison.org and Tal, UW Hillel Israel Fellow at IsraelFellow@UWHillel.org

To learn more about what is happening in Israel you can view these websites:
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