

Jewish Community of Amherst



קהילה היהודית של אמרסט

Jewish Reconstructionist
Federation

November 2007
Cheshvan/Kislev 5768
Vol. 6, Issue No. 10

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

November 2 ~ 5:24 pm
November 9 ~ 4:16 pm
November 16 ~ 4:09 pm
November 23 ~ 4:04 pm
November 30 ~ 4:01 pm

*Times shown are
18 minutes before sunset
for Amherst, MA*



Special Events

November 16
Camp JRF Presentation
November 18
Yonatan Shapira Talk
November 21
Red Cross Blood Drive



Meetings

November 1
Board Meeting
November 7
Religion Committee
November 13
Tikkun Olam Committee
November 15
Fundraising Committee
November 28
Education Committee

MESSAGE FROM CO-PRESIDENT

Kitty Axelson-Berry, 230-3271, kitty@modernmemoirs.com

Without any long-winded preamble, here's my update.

High Holidays

High Holidays were very well-received, and we received positive feedback on the choice of services. The Masorti services were traditional and long enough for some and the Reconstructionist services were alternative and short enough for the others. Rabbi Becker-Klein's leadership of children's' services went well. Members reserved more tickets than they actually used, however, and some non-members who requested tickets were turned away because we did not think there was any space left. Also, those non-members who attended services have given very little in donations and we wonder whether to go back to charging for tickets.

There was some controversy regarding the drama of the akedah performance and the sensuality of the Yom Kippur d'var. People miss hobnobbing in the lobby and doing a mental check-in with the entire community. Childcare organized by Andra Rose seemed to work well, despite problems with no-shows.

Major kudos for everyone involved in making it all happen smoothly, including Paul Charette (religious aspects), Eli Kwartler (nuts and bolts), Fay Zipkowitz (mailings, tickets), Rabbi Bauer (director, rabbi), Lisa Blain (onegs), Marc Cohen (outdoor beautification), Jonathan Souweine (ushers), Steve

Wolff (signage and "staging"), service leaders including Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser, the Gladstone tribe, Larry Fine, and Batya Perman, and cantors including Catherine Madsen, Judy Young (!), and Amy Rothenberg, and the many many others who volunteered.

Please contact Paul Charette or Eli Kwartler with your observations, recommendations, and willingness to help out next year. (Pick

...our membership is now up to 304, higher than it's been since 2004 and almost as high as 2003, which was 307.

up a directory from Marcia in the office if you don't have one.) Some of my own observations are: miraculous were the Kol Nidre services, as well as the afternoon and early

evening services of Yom Kippur, with their astonishing treats for the famished senses. That this was followed by a delicious, filling, hot break-fast organized by Linda Cooper with Jaymie Chernoff was the crème de la crème, holy time morphing so smoothly into eating time, in the company of very sweet, soulful JCA members. Also, it was so warm that we could spend time in the sukkah and do the shaky shaky thing with the lulavs and etrogs, as is traditional because of our, yes, agricultural roots. And finally, Simchat Torah was an eye-opener, an inspiring ritual with everyone dancing in circles carrying the Torah like a baby, then the drama of the last parsha chanted followed by the first (thank you Ed Feld!), closing and continuing the infinite cycle.

continued on page 11

CHESED COMMITTEE

The Chessed Committee assists JCA community members in times of joy, sorrow and need. We coordinate volunteers who provide the following services to the community: welcoming new JCA members with a Challah; welcoming new babies with a menorah; providing meals, rides to appointments, errands, and visits for those who are ill or in need. In addition, when there has been a death, we transport prayer books for Shiva minyans and provide a fruit platter or bagels and cream cheese. If you have a need, know of someone in need, would like to join our Committee or be added to our list of volunteers, please contact the JCA office at 256-0160 and a Chessed Committee member will be in touch with you.

Jewish Community of Amherst, Inc.

742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002
 (413) 256-0160, fax (413) 256-1588
 Religious School (413) 256-0160 ext. 203
 email: info@j-c-a.org; On line at: www.j-c-a.org

Rabbi David Dunn Bauer

Rabbi Emerita Sheila Weinberg

Rabbi Emeritus Yechiel Lander (586-1137)

Education Director: Jody Rosenbloom (256-0160 ext. 203)

Co-Presidents: Kitty Axelson-Berry (230-3271), **John Loeb** (253-0336)

Co-First Vice Presidents: Lisa Perl binder (230-3055), (to be determined),

Second Vice President: Randall Furash-Stewart (253-9754)

Third Vice President: Eli Kwartler (253-2929)

Treasurer: Alan Peterfreund (253-5485)

Membership: Jenny Heller (253-6786), **Oran Kaufman** (548-8139)

Chessed Committee: Please call the office (256-0160)

Office Administrator: Marcia Howard (256-0160)

Administrative Assistants: Bonnie Webster, Pam Cummings (256-0160)

Events Co-ordinator: Linda Cooper (256-0160 ext. 207)

A complete listing of committees and chairs can be found on the JCA website at:
<http://www.j-c-a.org/committees.html>

NEWSLETTER

Editor/Graphic Designer: Aaron Bousel

(Voice: 253-3544, Voice & Fax: 253-3846; news@j-c-a.org)

Proofreader: Sarah Thomson

Deadline for the December issue is November 12th

November 2007, Vol. 6, Issue No. 10

Newsletter is published 11 times per year.

Subscription price is included in JCA membership.

BEIT SHALOM COMMITTEE

Members of the Beit Shalom Committee have been asked by the co-presidents of the JCA to broaden our availability to members of the JCA. We are eager to afford any opportunity for open and productive communications within the congregation. Thus, if you as an individual (or as a committee) have concerns or disagreements, or feel a need to enhance communications with a JCA member or committee or the leadership of the JCA, contact us to facilitate this process. All such communications will be kept confidential, at the discretion of the participants.

Please feel free to contact any member of the Beit Shalom Committee:

Eva Metzger Brown: 256-8066
 embrown13@comcast.net

Josette Henschel: 213-0186
 josette.henschel@aic.edu

Rob Okun: 253-9372
 raokun@verizon.net

Melanie Lewis: 323-4155
 mslewislaw@aol.com

Haim Gunner: 549-0447
 haim_gunner@yahoo.com.

RABBI LIAISON COMMITTEE

The charge of the Rabbi Liaison Committee is:

“To provide an effective process that will expand and enhance both the functional and personal relationship between the Rabbi and the JCA community”

We encourage you to contact any member of the committee whenever you feel there is an issue that you would like them to consider with Rabbi Bauer.

Aaron Bousel 253-3544

Judy Glaser 253-9607

Haim Gunner 549-0447

Ruth Kane-Levit 548-1083

Eli Kwartler 253-2929



**DEVARIM:
WORDS FROM RABBI DAVID DUNN BAUER**

Some things get said over and over, and I'm occasionally not sure if I've said them already. Some things, though, are worth saying many times. So here's this, whether or not I've said it before.



Jewish summer camp. Jewish summer camp. Jewish summer camp. Jewish summer camp.



Most people who read this newsletter are adults. Adults who already value Jewish community. (If there are 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th graders reading this newsletter...wow! I'd love to know who you are.)



If children are to feel that Jewish community



matters to them, they need to experience Jewish



community beyond the JCA.



Jewish kids need to spend time with other Jewish



kids, to build their own community,



to teach their home traditions to their friends and bring other kids' traditions



back when they return home. Summer camp is where young people find a sense of



empowerment and strength that can't be had at home, in school, or in shul. My summer camp



in New Jersey (an arts camp that was Jewish by default rather than by design) was where I



first started to be a three-dimensional person in the world. What happens at camp stays at camp (*baruch Hashem*), but who we become

at camp becomes who we are at home, school, and shul (double *baruch Hashem*).

Camp Shemesh supplies something extraordinary for our younger children. I see them as they bring that energy, those songs, and that comfort in Jewish community back to the JCA at the end of the summer.

If possible, our older children should have a chance to go to Jewish overnight camp, and I particularly want them to experience Camp JRF (www.campjrf.org), the summer camp of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. It is one of the most successful undertakings by the Reconstructionist Movement and has grown spectacularly in size and excellence over the last few years. For JCA kids, it may be a significant opportunity to realize that they are already part of more than one remarkable Jewish community.

The director of Camp JRF, Rabbi Jeffrey Eisenstat, will be visiting the JCA on Friday night,

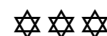
November 16. He will lead services à la Camp JRF in a special Kabbalat Shabbat service at 6:15 (running parallel to our regular Carlebach Minyan) and join us for our pot-luck supper at 7:15. At 8:00 Camp JRF will be the topic of our Friday night programming as Rabbi Jeff will show a film about the camp and talk about the plans for this coming summer.

Our 5th and 6th grade families will definitely be in attendance for the evening, but everyone is invited to meet Rabbi Jeff and to learn about the camp. Please think of other families with Jewish children who might be interested in having the summer of their lives.

Remember, also, that the Harold Grinspoon Foundation offers generous subsidy for attending Jewish overnight camp. (Harold has also been a strong supporter of Camp JRF in particular.)

It can't be said too often: Reconstructionist Jewish summer camp. Reconstructionist Jewish summer camp. Reconstructionist Jewish summer camp. Come learn more on November 16.

If children are to feel that Jewish community matters to them, they need to experience Jewish community beyond the JCA.....Summer camp is where young people find a sense of empowerment and strength...





RELIGION COMMITTEE

Paul Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, Cyclone411@charter.net

Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser, Co-chair 413-774-5796, shapiro-rieser@verizon.net

RELIGION CALENDAR

Shabbat Chaye Sarah, Genesis 23:1-25:18

November 2, Friday

5:30 PM

Intergenerational Family Service and potluck supper

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

November 3, Saturday

10:00 AM

Reconstructionist Service (main sanctuary)

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer

Masorti Service (small sanctuary)

Service Leader: To be announced

D'var Torah: To be announced



Shabbat Toledot, Genesis 25:19-28:9

November 9, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

November 10, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer



November 11, Sunday, Rosh Chodesh Kislev



Shabbat Vayetze, Genesis 28:10-32:3

November 16, Friday

6:15 PM- Two Services

Carlebach Style Service

Service Leader: To be announced

Camp JRF Service

Service Leader: Rabbi Jeff Eisenstat

We will all join together for a potluck supper following services

8:00 PM

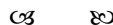
Camp JRF Presentation

November 17, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer



Shabbat Vayishlach, Genesis 32:4-36:43

November 23, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: To be announced

November 24

10:00 AM

Service Leader: To be announced

D'var Torah: To be announced



Shabbat Vayeshev, Genesis 37:1-40:23

November 30, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

Mak'hela will participate in the service

December 1

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer

The process of replacing our chumashim in the sanctuary continues.

Our only source of revenue for this is from your donations to the prayerbook fund. Please consider aiding this effort.

Donations of any amount are gratefully accepted, however a minimum donation of \$65.00 is required for a book dedication plate.

WEEKDAY MASORTI MINYAN

A masorti minyan meets Tuesdays at 7:30 am.
Latecomers welcome.

MEDITATION MINYAN

The weekday meditation minyan continues to meet every Wednesday at 7:30 am in the small sanctuary.

KIDDUSH SPONSORS**October 6-**

Michael Rossen & Kate Troast, in honor of their daughter, Julia Rossen becoming Bat Mitzvah

October 13-

Devorah Jacobson, Regina Mooney & Margaret Mastrangelo, in honor of their son Jacob Mooney becoming Bar Mitzvah

October 20-

Merle Feld in celebration of her new book and the blessings of her work

Please make sure you speak to Linda Cooper and fill out a Kiddush/Oneg sponsor form to assure that the date you want will be reserved.

תודה רבה

THANK YOU:

Thanks to all who helped put up and take down the JCA sukkah: Arnie Alper, Leah Alper, Aaron Bousel, Jordan Diamond, Spencer Diamond, Helena Donovan, Gordon Freed, Felicia Mednick, Leah Parker-Bernstein, Steve Rifkin, Anna Robbins, and Sarah Thomson.

MASORTI LAY-LED SHABBAT MINYAN

The Masorti Minyan continues to meet on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 am.

All are welcome to attend, including families with children, and to take a leadership role.

For details contact:
Catherine Madsen
253-2930

INTERFAITH GATHERING AT THE JCA SUKKAH

From the Religion Committee

At the suggestion of Felicia Mednick, on Sunday September 30th, women from the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities met in the JCA Sukkah for Iftar, the breaking of the daily fast that occurs during the month of Ramadan. Thirty women attended--with enough vegetarian pot luck items to feed another 50. The Iftar/Sukkot activity arises from a women's study group initiated by First Congregational Church as a follow-up to the Scarves Project.

The group was constituted to meet for six meetings and has met four times. The meeting format calls for two members of each faith group to read from sacred texts that reflect on topics chosen by the group.

The topics so far have been Creation (two meetings), Prayer, and Social justice. After the readings there is time for contemplation and questions. It has been quite sweet to hear, in a given meeting, Torah chanting, followed by Muslim women chanting from the Koran. The deep bond of spirit that had developed in the group allowed both Christian and Muslim women to feel welcomed and comfortable at the JCA. We sat in the Sukkah. We ate together and we made place in our synagogue for those Muslim women who needed to do evening prayer. The evening ended with all of us singing a niggun.

For me these gatherings have deepened the words of our tradition, "She is a tree of life to all who hold on to her, and all her paths are Peace.

Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser, Co-chair, Religion Committee

FIRST FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE AND POTLUCK SUPPER

Please join us on the first Friday of each month at 5:30 pm for a brief child oriented service followed by a potluck supper. Although the service is geared towards young children, it contains all the elements of a regular Friday evening service, including mourner's kaddish. People of all ages are encouraged to attend. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

TORAH READERS NEEDED

Looking for Torah readers to read all seven aliyot from the scroll (triennial cycle) once a month. Dates to be determined.

Payment for preparing the reading will be \$150.00 per parasha.

Contact **Felicia Mednick** at **548-9690**
if you are interested or for more information.

Check the JCA website at:

www.j-c-a.org/services.html

for updated religion calendar information.

EDUCATION NEWS

Jody Rosenbloom, Director of Education, 256-0160, ext. 203



Introducing the Rest of the Teaching Staff (continued from last month)

Grades 3 & 4 are a combined class being taught by new teacher, **Carolyn Ware**. She is a first year student at UMASS. Carolyn attended Jewish Day School, was active in Jewish camping and has extensive Jewish youth group leadership experience. She went to Israel last summer and has lived in Jewish communities in the Midwest and East Coast. **5th Grade** is being taught by **Rachel Smith**. She has worked as a camp counselor and program specialist for children ages 10-15 in the United States and in Africa. She has also been a B'nai Mitzvah tutor and Hebrew School teacher. Originally from New York, Rachel is a Div2 student at Hampshire College studying education. New mother of her 3rd daughter, **Andrea Olkin** returns for the 6th year to teach **6th grade**. Andrea has an MA, teaching certificate, and passion for history. Andrea has also tutored b'nai mitzvah students and worked with the Sons of Zion School at the National Yiddish Book Center. Andrea is a past recipient of the Harold Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. Returning to teach **7th grade** for the second year is **Kelilah Miller**, a Boston University graduate with a BA in Religion. A Philadelphia native, Kelilah attended Jewish Day School. She can also be seen occasionally leading services and chanting torah at the JCA.

Music Specialist Enriches School

On Sunday mornings, each grade has 20-30 minutes of time for music. Usually we sing, sometimes we dance, and sometimes just listen. Students learn the tunes for key prayers & traditional songs and get a chance to learn a Yiddish folk song, modern Israeli rock tune, or a Chasidic niggun. Our music specialist this year is **Av Harris**. He comes from a family with roots in music; a grandfather who sang Yiddish folk songs and a mother who is an accordion playing Klezmer musician/Hebrew teacher. Raised in New Hampshire but with family in Israel, he was surrounded by Jewish music and Hebrew through the interests of his parents, his years in Jewish camping, and

his travels. He is returning to teaching in a Hebrew School after an 8 year hiatus, having previously taught in religious schools in New Hampshire for 6 years. Av is the capitol reporter in Hartford, CT for WFCR, WNPR, and WAMC National Public Radio. Av and his wife, Jill have two daughters (Lily and Nora) in our school.

New Students Ready for Kedushah LaTorah

Starting formal Jewish education is something to celebrate. At the JCA, we have Kedusha LaTorah. New students in 1st & 2nd grade with their parents, have a special workshop on Sunday, November 18 to prepare for the special recognition at services. Together they create an Aron HaKodesh (Holy Ark) for the miniature Torah scroll each student will receive. They talk about their Hebrew names and where they come from. And together review the songs and blessings they will share. New 1st & 2nd graders include **Max Abramowitz, Samantha Bush, Elijah Flint, Lily Harris, Larkin Campbell Morton, Calder Robbins, Emily Porter & Sasha Zeidemberg**. All congregants are encouraged to join us on Friday, Dec. 7!

Thank You To

Eliezer Huber for Shofar Blowing in our Learner's Minyan.

Lisa Blain for saving the day, picking up the Sukkot party pizza.

The Community Education Committee (Andra Rose, Felicia Mednick and Jodi Levine) for their work in bringing the Sukkot Storytellers Mark Novak and Renee Brachfeld.



Please see the next page for this month's school calendar listings

WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE...

**Organic, Fair trade, Kosher, Fresh,
and a Such a Deal!**

Support the JCA by ordering Dean's Beans Organic Coffee each month (September through June). It's a fundraiser for us and a bargain for you (\$8.50/lb and \$9.50/lb for decaf). Chai tea and chocolate covered coffee beans are also available.



For details, pick up an order form in the JCA lobby or contact susanweinstein1@yahoo.com (413-548-9552) to get on the e mail list.

The next order date is: November 11th.
Pick up will be November 18th, or thereafter
(contact Sue -see above- for more details)

See Teen Programming info on the following two pages

RECONSTRUCTIONIST MUSIC RETREAT:

The First Annual Retreat of Harmoniyah-Reconstructionist Music Network will be held November 9-12, 2007, in Philadelphia, PA.

Join us for Shabbat services and a unique opportunity to learn with Reconstructionist clergy, lay leaders, song leaders and musicians nationwide:

- music for worship
- vocal and instrumental workshops
- music for children and families
- panel on "Music of the Jewish People" today with Cantor Rachel Epstein, Rabbis Shefa Gold, Liz Bolton, Margot Stein and Shawn Zevit
- informal discussions, jam sessions, and more

The end of the retreat also coincides with the annual RENA (Reconstructionist Educators of North America) conference also being hosted by Or Hadash in Philadelphia, PA. Synergistic workshops have also been planned between the two retreats.

For more information, contact Rabbi Shawn Zevit at szevit@jrf.org or call 215-885-5601 ext. 24.

Register online now at
<http://www4.jrf.org/harmoniyah-retreat>

NEW ADULT ED CLASSES ARE STARTING- SEE PAGE 17

Calendar

Thurs, Nov. 1	B'nai Mitzvah Family Workshop for 2008 B'nai Mitzvah and their parents at 6:30 pm
Fri, Nov. 2	Shabbat Family Dinner: Grades 1 & 2 5:30 pm service followed by potluck supper
Sat/Sun, Nov. 10/11	No Classes: Veteran's 3 Day Weekend
Fri, Nov. 16	Shabbat Family Dinner: Grades 5 & 6 6:15 pm Service followed by potluck supper 8:00 pm Intro to Camp JRF with Rabbi Jeff
Sat, Nov. 17	Shabbat Shalom 10:30 am - Noon (registered 4 - 6 year olds) Concurrent parent discussion group
Sun, Nov. 18	Kedusha LaTorah Workshop for 1st graders and new 2nd graders with a parent. 10:00-11:45 am
Wed, Nov. 21 - Sun, Nov. 25	No Classes: Thanksgiving Holiday
Wed, Nov. 28	Education Committee Meeting 7:30 pm

THANK YOU FROM UMASS HILLEL


We want to express our appreciation to the members of the Jewish Community of Amherst, who helped make our first Sukkot Ride to Provide on September 30 a resounding success and great fun for people of all ages throughout the Pioneer Valley. Some 70 riders and many supporters raised over \$35,000 for Hillel's community service programs in Amherst, Louisiana, and Darfur, and for our environmentally friendly projects. Thank you so much for enabling our students to experience the joy of helping others!

It's not too early to mark your calendars for Sunday, October 19, 2008, both Sukkot and peak foliage season, when we hope to do it again. Please join us!

Sincerely,
Betsy Bertuzzi, Chair
Rabbi Saul Perlmutter



TEEN PROGRAMMING CALENDAR November 2007

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 Holocaust & Human Rights 6-8p	2 3 Possible Anne Frank replica house field trip– TBA
4 TA training 1145-115 Car Care 101 130-4	5 	6	7 Confirmation Class with Rabbi 6-8p	8 Film Series 530-8p	9 	10
11 Leadership meeting 4-530 Schmooze– Bling my Shabbat 530-8	12 		14 Confirmation Class with Rachael 6-8p	15 Holocaust & Hu- man Rights 6-8p	16	17 JCAT evening event– TBD
18 	19	20 	21	22 Happy Thanksgiving!	23	24 
25 	26	27	28 Creative Writing & Understanding Tolerance 6-8p	29 Holocaust & Hu- man Rights	30	

Thurs. Nov 1, 15 & 29, 6-8p, Holocaust & Human Rights, JCA Open to all 9-12th graders– 8 credits for all 4 sessions for CC. Free to confirmation class students and chai members, \$36 for the series for alef members, \$48 for non-members. Dinner provided.

Sun. Nov. 4, 11:45-1:15p, TA Training, JCA Free for TAs in the school or office. Lunch provided.

Sun. Nov. 4, 1:30-4p, Car Care and Being a Jewish Driver 101, JCA Open to all 10-12th graders. Learn the basics of taking care of your car (changing tires, checking oil) and what Judaism says about learning to drive. Free to confirmation class students and chai members, \$8 for Alef members, \$18 for non-members.

Wed. Nov.7, 6-8p; Confirmation Class, JCA Open to all 10th-12th graders, contact Rachael for more information. (mandatory session for confirmands). Dinner provided

Thurs. Nov. 8, 5:30-8p, Film Series, JCA Movie TBD– dinner and discussion. 2 credits for CC. Free to confirmands or Chai Members, \$8 for Alef members. Open to 8-12th graders.

Sun. Nov. 11, 4-5:30, Leadership Meeting, JCA Come help plan the events that you want to happen! Dinner Provided. New members are encouraged to attend.

Sun. Nov. 11, 5:30-8p, Schmooze with the Jewz– Bling my Shabbat!, JCA BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND. We will be making blinged out Shabbat candlesticks holders– you won't want to miss it. Dinner provided. Open to 7-12th graders. Free to Chai members, \$8 for Alef, BBYO and CC, \$12 for non-members.

Wed. Nov.14, 6-8p; Confirmation Class, JCA Open to all 10th-12th graders, contact Rachael for more information. (mandatory session for confirmands). Dinner provided

Sat. Nov. 17; TBA– We will decide what event we want to do during the leadership meeting.

Sun. Nov. 18th, 2-4:30, Spark!, Center for Extended Care– Contact Avital at avihistory@gmail.com to RSVP.

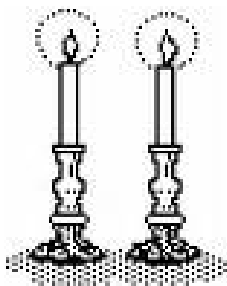
**Want more info? Contact teen advisor Rachael at rbgoren@gmail.com or 256-0160 x208.
These programs are partially funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation Teen Initiative.**

My Shabbat

Sunday, November 11th

RSVP to rbgoren@gmail.com by 11/9

Open to all 7-12th graders
Free to chai members
\$8 for alef & BBYO members
\$12 for non-members



Number of 7-12th graders who attended a Jewish teen program since the beginning of the 2007-08 school year- 72

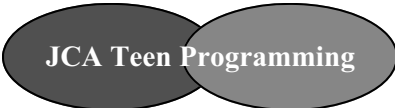
Number of programs that have been held for Jewish teens grades 7-12 since the beginning of the 2007-08 school year- 21

Average number of teens at any given Jewish teen programming event- 14

How much fun teens have when they come to events? PRICELESS

There are some things that stats can measure... for everything else there will always be Jewish Community of Amherst Teen Programming (spark, JCAT, BBYO, Confirmation class, & Pre-confirmation class)

Contact Rachael at rbgoren@gmail.com for more information. New teens always welcome.



BLOOD DRIVE

The Chesed Committee will be sponsoring the 3rd Annual JCA Thanksgiving Blood Drive (Give thanks, give blood!) on **Wednesday, November 21st from 8 AM-2 PM.**

In August we responded to a call from the Red Cross to host an emergency Blood Drive to help alleviate an immediate shortage in our community. Thanks to you and others, an astounding 115 pints of blood was collected that day! The Red Cross knew that they could count on our site when the need was greatest.

And now it's time to give again... Our goal this Thanksgiving is to match or exceed the number of pints collected previously.

Please help us spread the word! Appointments are recommended (more advance appointments will guarantee better staffing!) but walk-ins are also welcome.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-Give-Life (1-800-448-3543) or stop by the JCA office.

For more info or to volunteer the day of the Blood Drive, please contact Robin Diamond at 253-0660 or gemmom3@aol.com. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NOT BREAD ALONE

Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve the Christmas Day meal at Not Bread Alone, Amherst's local soup kitchen. Two Shifts Available: Cooking (10:30-12:00) and Clean-Up (12:00-1:30)

To volunteer, contact Barbara Pistrang at <barbara@jpcr.com> or 256-1737.

Space is limited, so please call or write as soon as possible.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Looking for someone who runs a business, manages a workgroup, works in HR, has legal experience or just likes to create policies and make decisions about the workplace. Please consider joining the Personnel committee if you fit the description.

Please call:
Judi Fonsh-PC chair at 548-9053.

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Avi Gladstone & Barbara Goldstein
256-0040

continued from page 1

Former Members Are Returning, New Households Are Joining

We've had a flurry of new members as well as returning members, and our membership is now up to 304, higher than it's been since 2004 and almost as high as 2003, which was 307. Our goal is 350, which our facilities were designed for. Who can you encourage to join (or re-join)? Our biggest growth I think is families of teenagers who signed up for one of our four teen programs —thank you, Rachael Goren!

Chair a Committee? Join The Board?

Ready to commit to your community (again? for the first time?)? For healthy turnover on the board, it would be perfect to have four or five new board members. Here's what your responsibilities are for your two-year term:

- provide guidance and oversight for synagogue and staff (sets direction, provides fiscal oversight, supports and holds accountable the rabbi and director of educational programs or school principal);
- prepare pro-actively for board meetings (reads, thinks about backrounders);
- send out background information

about relevant issues to all board members in advance of meetings;

- attend all board meetings (one a month and as needed) and two general meetings, and notify one of the co-presidents if you have to miss a meeting;
- serve pro-actively as the (sole) chairperson of one committee and/or the coordinator of one cluster;
- seek out what would be useful or is needed here, and take responsibility for being part of the solution;
- participate as needed in all JCA fundraising efforts, including the Annual Campaign;
- maintain good two-way contact with JCA members, especially the twenty or so households assigned for regular contact;
- support JCA events and initiatives;
- represent the JCA to the membership and the community at large;
- attend JCA services at least three times a year;
- respond in a timely and forthcoming way to requests from the membership, staff, rabbi, educational director or school principal, and other board members.

Several committees are anxious for

new members and some even need a co-chair. Please contact Amy Rothenberg (membership directories are available from Marcia at the JCA office) if you want to volunteer or can help her match up energetic volunteers and needy committees. We now have a database and will be entering current information asap.

**Annual Meeting
December 2, from 10 a.m. to noon.**

The agenda will include: vote on proposed new board and officers; discuss and vote on proposed budget for 2008; hopefully a real discussion of YOUR thoughts about the ideal priorities for our educational programs, cradle to grave but especially school-age. This should be an enjoyable meeting -- if possible, bring and share food and beverages to help make it so.

Mikveh Opportunities

Amherst has a great new opportunity that some of us have apparently already availed themselves of: Jeff and Diana Krauth are very happy to accommodate JCA members who want to use a mikveh, at their new hot tub place (the only public hot tubs here), on Main Street halfway between downtown and the JCA.

b'shalom,
Kitty Axelson-Berry

 <p style="text-align: center;">Pelham Auto Service Div. of Pelham Industrial Group Ltd. 1315 Federal St. Belchertown, Ma. 01007</p> <p>413-253-9302 413-253-9811 FAX Foreign Car Repairs Since 1972</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Are your Kids Way Ahead of You in Math and Science?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11th grade ARHS Honor Student available to tutor</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Math: Basic Math, Algebra I & II, Geometry Science: Biology or Chemistry.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Misha Herscu 253-5011 or misha@nesh.com Available Evenings or Weekends Can drive to your home or meet at mine</p>
---	---

The letter below was recently received by Rabbi Bauer by email.
The writer asked that it be shared with the JCA community.

September 19, 2007

Dear Rabbi Bauer:

This week, I have come to understand that "Community" is, indeed, at the heart of the Jewish Community of Amherst. You see, my father died 10 days ago, on September 7. The following Tuesday, my husband and I went to the JCA shacharit service in order to say kaddish. Although we are Amherst residents, we belong to and attend CBI in Northampton. I have frequently noted the JCA in passing, but have not come in except for the occasional bar mitzvah. This time, we were met in the parking lot by Saul and Esther, who seemed to be waiting just for us. They welcomed us warmly and ushered us in to the sanctuary, commenting that it was looking good for a minyan since we came. In my befuddled state, I don't even recall how we introduced ourselves and somehow conveyed the barest details of our purpose for attending. I immediately felt enfolded by their kind-

ness and sympathy, however. Saul and Esther also managed, without my being aware of it, to discreetly share the news of our loss with the others who came in later. This was evident because, at the end of the service, the community joined in offering us the traditional blessing for bereaved persons. That same day, a member of JCA, whom I'd never met before, phoned to find out if we would have enough for a minyan that night. I don't know how she knew who I was or that she might be needed.

I returned to the shacharit service this Tuesday. At first, it seemed as though the group would max out at 9. Although disappointed, my heart was warmed when I noticed Saul looking about and counting ("not 1, not 2..."), and overheard him conferring with some others about whether or not to say kaddish in the event of no minyan. Just in the nick of time, however, a tenth person arrived. After the conclusion of the service, we all noted that the importance of each

individual had been reinforced by the tension (before there were 10) and the relief (after the last arrival) we'd shared. Various people confessed they'd considered not coming today, including the tenth to arrive. Most amazingly, she said that the reason she'd come was so that I – I! – could say kaddish for my father. Rabbi, we hadn't even introduced ourselves last week, we certainly hadn't spoken, and she'd had no way of knowing that I would be back.

There are no words to express my gratitude for the gentle kindness and generosity I have experienced from these members of the JCA congregation, nor can I describe the wondrous feeling of being supported and welcomed by this community, even though I am not a "member". I hope to thank the community, my community on this side of the river, through this email to you.

*B'shalom,
Sandy Sulsky*

See the flyer for the **JCA Chanukah Party** on the next page? Looks like fun, no?
But without latkes, what's a Chanukah party?
Please come on December 2nd from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and help us make latkes.
The More the Merrier. For more information contact Amy Mittelman: 256-0883.



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Come play dreidel - young and old
- and listen to stories.
Everyone bring your menorah and
candles so the room is filled with light.

ADULT READING GROUP

The second meeting of the new cycle for the JCA Adult Reading Group will take place on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room. The book for discussion is *The World to Come: a Novel* by Dara Horn. It is in paperback.

Each cycle for the Adult Reading Group goes from September to June; four books are read during that time-about two months between each meeting. We focus on Jewish authors, alternating male and female, and the members decide at each meeting what the next book to be read and discussed will be. New group members are always welcome.

Come to one meeting or all remaining three! If you have any questions, please call Ken Talan at 253-2248.

*Advertise in the
JCA Newsletter*

By advertising you can:

- Help support the cost of producing the newsletter
- Let the community know about your products and/or services.
- Increase your business!

Contact Aaron Bousel
253-3544, news@j-c-a.org
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SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 9TH, 2008

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Your donation will help make this a truly special event!

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- ~Can you offer a service?
- ~Can you donate a week(end) at your vacation home?
- ~Do you own a business that can make a donation?
- ~Can you donate a home-cooked meal?

BE CREATIVE!!!

AUCTION 2008 DONATION FORM
(no used or recycled items, please)

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Item/Service to be donated: _____

Detailed description of donation (a photo is appreciated, if applicable):

Estimated value: _____ Minimum bid (optional): _____

Extra comments/concerns: _____

Please return this form to the JCA office.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE JCA!

Please contact Tobi to help with any aspect of our Auction:

tobiandjoel@gmail.com 549-1795

AMERICAN JEWS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS: AN ISRAELI JEWISH PEACE ACTIVIST SPEAKS OUT

Speaker : Yonatan Shapira

Sunday, November 18, 2007, 2:00 PM

Yonatan Shapira, a former Captain in the Israeli Air Force Reserves, authored the famous “pilots letter” in which 27 Israeli Air Force pilots refused to fly attack missions on Palestinian territories in 2003. He was a founding member of Combatants for Peace, <http://www.combatantsforpeace.org/> in which Israeli former soldiers and Palestinian former fighters have laid down their arms and travel the world encouraging dialogue and peace. Yonatan Shapira spoke in Northampton in Fall 2006 and welcomes the opportunity to speak in synagogues with fellow Jews.



Yonatan Shapira (right) with Souliman Khatib during Combatants for Peace US campus tour.



Yonatan Shapira, when he was a pilot for the IDF.

**This event is free and
open to the public.**

**Light refreshments will
be served.**

Sponsored by the Western Mass chapter of Brit Tzedek v'Shalom and the JCA

ADULT ED AT THE JCA

Here are the Adult Ed classes at the JCA for the fall. Yiddish, taught by Henny Lewin, has already begun. The courses below are open. Friends: I know how hard it is to get out of the house after a day's work. But please, please, consider signing up for one of these courses. It will be worth it; it may be the start of a deeper, richer connection to Jewish culture and Jewish practice.

BEIT MIDRASH RUACH V'LEV

Dates: All sessions are on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 P.M. at the JCA.

November 7, 14, 21, 28; December 5, 12.

Cost: \$50 for members, \$75 for non-members, of the JCA or one of the other synagogues in the Valley.

If unable to pay the fee, speak to John Clayton (548-9645; jclayton@english.umass.edu)

Experience Chasidus, the unique, personal approach to Torah found in Chasidic teachings. We'll read it in the original Hebrew. You'll need to know Hebrew letters, but not how to translate. Each session we will study how a Chasidic text works, exploring its Kabbalistic and rabbinic background, seeing Torah through its eyes. Our study will be lead by Rabbi David Seidenberg, a scholar of Kabbalah and Chasidut and creator of Neohasid.org, and will include chevruta (paired study with a partner), along with tutoring in all the Hebrew you need to interpret the text.

Rabbi David Seidenberg teaches throughout North America on Jewish thought and text, with a special focus on ecology, and on Chasidic song and prayer. He was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary and by Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, and holds a doctorate from JTS, where he wrote on ecology and Kabbalah. David has taught at the University of Judaism and the Academy for Jewish Religion, at Pardes and the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, and in the Beit Midrash of JTS. He is the webmaster of Neohasid.org.

JEWISH, ALIVE AND AMERICAN

Dates: All sessions are on Tuesday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.

November 6, 13, 20, 27; December 4, 11, 18; January 8, 15, 22

Cost: There is no charge for JCA members (or members of another local synagogue), but you are strongly encouraged to make a donation of \$50 for the series of classes. Non-members pay \$75.

Please email the Rabbi if you intend to take the class.

Rabbi David Dunn Bauer is offering an opportunity to explore fundamental traditions and issues in Judaism. Jewish, Alive and American was developed by the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and begins with ten sessions this autumn, followed by twenty more sessions in spring and fall 2008. Register now for the first ten sessions; we hope to form a core group that will study together for the entire course.

“What does it mean to live a committed Jewish life in the twenty-first century?” Rather than imposing simple answers on fundamental questions, the course examines the variety of Jewish responses, exploring our doubts as well as opening new paths for joy and celebration.

The sessions examine traditional and contemporary texts and practices and explore through discussion the interaction of tradition with our lives and our world. Subjects in the course include Shabbat, God, prayer, Torah, Talmud, mysticism, and the Jewish life cycle.

WORLD JEWISH CONCERNS AND ACTION COMMITTEE

Karen Loeb, Chair

from Joseph Kushick

I write in response to Amy Goodman’s essay in the JCA October Newsletter. Her short piece touches on a number of complex topics: Camp David 2000, the security barrier, Israeli/Palestinian borders, Norman Finkelstein (!), all brought together by her evident admiration for former President Jimmy Carter and his book about Israeli “apartheid.”

Goodman’s embrace of Carter’s views is not universally shared. The catalog of denunciations of the book, by academics, diplomats, journalists, and even members of the Carter Center, is legion. To make a choice among the many harsh objections to Carter’s point of view in this very small space is daunting, but to provide a few illustrations:

Despite some analysis to the contrary (for example, by American negotiator Robert Malley), the great preponderance of opinion about the aftermath of Camp David 2000, leading to the Al Aqsa Intifada, is very clear about the failure of the Palestinian side to come to terms with the concept of permanent peace with a Jewish state. This not

only from former President Clinton, as Goodman acknowledges, but from most of the key players who participated, including senior negotiators Shlomo Avineri, Shlomo Ben-Ami, and Dennis Ross.

I am in no position to comment on either the content or the context of a private conversation between Amy Goodman and Shlomo Ben-Ami. But here is what Ben-Ami had to say publicly, in an interview with Ha’aretz:

Never in the negotiations between us and the Palestinians was there a Palestinian counterproposal. There never was and there never will be. So the Israeli negotiator always finds himself in a dilemma: Either I get up and walk out because these guys aren’t ready to put forward proposals of their own, or I make another concession. In the end, even the most moderate negotiator reaches a point where he understands that there is no end to it....


Morally and conceptually, (Arafat) didn’t recognize Israel’s right to exist. He doesn’t accept the idea of two states for two peoples. He may be able to make some sort of partial, temporary

settlement with us ...but at the deep level, he doesn’t accept us. Neither he nor the Palestinian national movement accept us....

At the deepest level, they are not ready to recognize that we have any kind of title here.

With regard to the security barrier that so distresses Goodman (and Carter), does she give any credence to the overwhelming majority of Israelis who believe that the barrier saves lives? Certainly there are some Israelis who believe that barrier cannot be justified, but just as certainly, Goodman must know that the construction of the barrier was virtually forced upon an unwilling Israeli government by the cries of a population terrified and outraged by near-weekly instances of deliberate mass murder of civilians. Is Goodman ready to sell her suggestion that the barrier be torn down to the millions of Israelis who credit it with keeping their children alive? And what of the route of the barrier? Goodman (and Carter) writes repeatedly of Israel’s “internationally recognized,” “legal” borders, and Israel’s alleged responsibility to withdraw completely to them.

continued on next page

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continued from previous page

But no such borders exist. The legal significance of the Green Line is entirely that of an armistice line, that is, the line that happened to separate the Israeli and the various Arab armies on the day that Israel's War of Independence ended. Both the armistice agreement and UNSC Resolution 242 envisioned that final borders would only be determined by negotiations. Those negotiations have never been consummated, not least because of the Arab failure to come to terms with the concept of permanent peace with a Jewish state.

Beyond the many matters of substance that have been raised by

Carter's critics, most critics have been left very uneasy by what they see as Carter's hostility to Israel and to Israelis. Perhaps most telling is a sentence that only appeared in the earliest printing of Carter's book:

It is imperative that the general Arab community and all significant Palestinian groups make it clear that they will end the suicide bombings and other acts of terrorism when international laws and the ultimate goals of the Roadmap for Peace are accepted by Israel (emphasis mine).

Numerous reviewers noted that the sentence sounds suspiciously like an endorsement of mass murder pending the Israeli acceptance of Pales-

tinian political demands. An apparently embarrassed Carter quickly deleted the offensive sentence from subsequent printings, saying that it had been a mistake.

But I have to wonder about the character of a man who would make a mistake like that, just as I have to wonder about the character of a famous Hollywood actor who, in a drunken stupor, let loose with a tirade of antisemitic obscenities. He, too, said later that it was all a mistake, that it was only the booze that was talking.

What had Jimmy Carter been drinking when he wrote that sentence?

-- Joseph Kushick

PROJECT REHOVOT

Sincere thanks to those who have donated to Project Rehovot

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JCA OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday 10:30 - 4:00

**Wednesday 4:00 - 6:00 pm &
Sunday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
for Religious School support.**

Please Note:

Despite our expanded space, our space is so heavily used we have had problems accommodating all those who would like a space for a meeting or an event. To make sure that no one is inconvenienced due to conflicts in space availability, please call the office to check for scheduling as soon as you know of a need for space. While we understand that sometimes these needs develop at the last minute, the earlier we hear of your need, the more effectively we can be responsive to you.

Thank you,
Marcia, JCA Office

GET IT ON LINE!

You can read the JCA Newsletter on line at:
www.j-c-a.org/news/current.pdf

Many of our members have elected not to receive a printed copy of the Newsletter and read it on line instead (or print their own copy from the on line edition). This helps reduce the cost of producing the Newsletter each month.

Please contact the office if you no longer need to have the Newsletter mailed to you.

Have you checked out the JCA Judaica Store lately?

Books by JCA members and others, siddurim, chumashim, tallitot, mezzuzot and many lovely gift items.

You can shop whenever the office is open.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: STUDY SCIENCE IN ISRAEL!

September 19, 2007

Dear Editor,

I would just like to tell everyone about a great opportunity for science-minded teens who are interested in traveling to Israel. I am a senior at Amherst Regional High School. Over the summer I went on a program called SciTech at the Technion (Israel's equivalent to MIT) in Haifa. On the program, I learned a lot about doing real scientific research in a lab. I got to use cutting-edge scientific equipment and learn a lot about the scientific process, to a level I could not hope to do for at least a few years without this program. I was in the Biotechnology and Food Engineering lab working on categorizing a specific enzyme that was discovered there. The enzyme is called acytxylan extrase, and comes from *Geobacillus stearothermophilus* T-6. It was hard work, but it was also very rewarding. The work has really given me a good sense of what doing work in the field of biotechnology is really like, and has given me a good sense of what I want to do in college and possibly as a career now.

The program was more than just scientific research. It took us to the magnificent Bahai gardens in Haifa. We also went to Jerusalem to see the Western Wall and Yad Vashem. It was a very touching and interesting experience to see those places and hear their stories. The program not only gives a good taste of scientific research, but also an excellent feel for Israel, and Israeli culture. Throughout this program and on these trips, I also made some great friends, some Israeli, some American, whom I plan to stay in touch with.

I would also like to thank Harold Grinspoon. This was an excellent program that became affordable for my family thanks to the Israel travel incentive grants to teens that the Harold Grinspoon Foundation offers to kids in Western Massachusetts.

Sincerely
Adam Pely
 Amherst MA

Galina Vromen
 Director of Israel Grants and Special Projects
 The Harold Grinspoon Foundation
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JCA MEMORIAL TABLET REQUEST FORM

1. Tablets may be installed in memory of a JCA member or in memory of a relative or a friend of a member.
2. Tablets are of solid brass, 8 7/8 x 2 1/2 inches.
3. Tablets will include the name of the deceased in English, the name of the deceased and his or her parents in Hebrew, the date of death in English, and the date of death on the Jewish calendar in Hebrew. (Some information may be omitted if not known or desired, but no additional information may be included. We will assist in getting Hebrew names and dates if necessary.)
4. Annual reminders of the Yahrzeit will be mailed out by the JCA office if desired.
5. A minimum donation of \$100 per tablet has been set by the Board.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY:

Name of donor: _____ Tel. Day: _____

Address: _____ Evening: _____

Do you want an annual reminder of the Yahrzeit? Yes _____ No _____

Name and address of reminder if different from above: _____

NAME OF DECEASED in English: _____

in Hebrew (or transliterated): _____

DATE OF DEATH: _____

(English)

(Jewish Calendar, if known)

TIME OF DEATH (before or after sundown): _____

PARENTS' FIRST NAMES (in Hebrew if known; otherwise in English)

FATHER: _____ MOTHER: _____

Return this form with your check to the JCA office. Mail should be sent to:

JCA YAHRZEIT
742 Main Street
Amherst, MA 01002

Call the JCA office (256-0160) or Saul Gladstone (253-0631) if you have questions.

MA NISHMAH
THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST FEDERATION



Together we can make a difference: JRF's Sustainable Synagogue Initiative

With the enthusiasm around JRF's Omer Learning Initiative, as well as the solid response of JRF congregations in the Climate Change Initiative, JRF continues to deepen its greening work with member communities next year.

Our hope is to motivate and educate our congregations in sustainable practices, with the goal of reaching 100 percent participation in the years ahead, recognizing those JRF communities who excel at sustainable practices at the JRF Convention in Boston, 2008.

Learn about the Sustainable Synagogue Initiative on the JRF website's environment pages at www4.jrf.org/green-call and www4.jrf.org/climate.

For more information contact Rabbi Shawn Zevit, Director of Outreach and Tikkun Olam, SZevit@jrf.org

Heshvan: International Jewish Social Action Month

JRF is once again enthusiastically joining Jewish communities, organizations and individuals from around the world in celebrating a month of social action and Jewish unity. The Hebrew month of Heshvan - which in 2007/5768 will be from October 13 until November 10 - has been declared Jewish Social Action Month.

A wide spectrum of Jewish religious groups including JRF, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, major institutions, youth groups, communal organizations and many others from around the world endorsed the initiative and created exciting and widespread programs. See

www.cheshvan.org and www.socialaction.com for a fuller indication of partners and projects.

For more information contact Rabbi Shawn Zevit, JRF director of outreach, external affairs and tikkun olam at

SZevit@jrf.org or Paul Thomas, KolDor Content and Advocacy at paul@koldor.org, and visit www.Cheshvan.org.

Camp JRF meets fundraising challenge

Camp JRF has met its "Ultimate Match Challenge," raising \$300,000 by its Sept. 30 deadline!

The challenge was initiated by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation of Springfield, MA. Upon meeting the Challenge, the foundation awarded Camp JRF a bonus check in the amount of \$10,000. In addition, an anonymous donor, who established a \$100,000 Incentive Challenge this summer to increase the match to nearly dollar-for-dollar, is shortly awarding that gift to Camp JRF, effectively doubling the funds raised through this Challenge.

Kudos to all the donors and Camp JRF leadership for helping to meet the Challenge.

For further information about how you can support Camp JRF, visit http://www4.jrf.org/development_camp_operating, contact the JRF Development Department at (215) 885-5601, ext. 19, or e-mail Barry Nove, director of development at bnove@jrf.org.

Camp JRF registration is now open

Make sure that your child has the summer of a lifetime at Camp JRF on the Aaron and Marjorie Ziegelman Campus in the Pocono Mountains.

Here's how to register: Go to www.campjrf.org and either register online or print the application and mail to our camp office.

In just a few weeks the Summer 2008 Camp JRF brochure will be in the mail and will also be included in the next issue of Reconstructionism Today.

Register by November 15th and take advantage of the Early Registration discount!

For more information, please contact the Camp JRF office at 877-CAMP-JRF (877-226-7573).

Visit the JRF website <http://www4.jrf.org/> for more news and information.

If someone in your family, or someone you know in the community, is ill and/or in the hospital, please contact Rabbi Bauer or the Chesed Committee by calling the office (256-0160). Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important for us as a community to be aware of the health and well being of our members and their families. We cannot help if we don't know.

The Deadline for the December Newsletter is
November 12th

All submissions **MUST** be made either by e-mail or e-mail with a file attached. If you do not have access to a computer or email, please contact the editor.

PLEASE RESPECT THE DEADLINE!

Thank you,
Aaron Bousel,
news@j-c-a.org 253-3544



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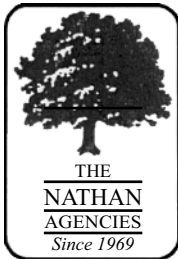


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DONATIONS

Chesed Committee

In Celebration of John Clayton’s new book; may you go from strength to strength (Amy Rothenberg & Paul Herscu)

JCA General Fund

Henry Lappen
 In Memory of Ethel & Joseph Schwartz (Roberta Issler)
 Ira Rubenzahl
 In Honor of Judy Young & Gene Stewart at Kol Nidre (Elinor Levine & Scott Nielsen)
 In Honor of the marriage of the son of Jonathan & Judith Souweine (Fran Saed)
 For the Work of “Spirituality and Social Change”
 Interfaith Group (Herb Bernstein)

Prayer Book Fund

In Memory of Kim Wood, brother of Guy Wood (Patience & Aaron Bousel)
 In Appreciation of Paul Charette, Eli Kwartler, and the High Holidays Committee (Patience & Aaron Bousel)
 In Appreciation of all who led services and read Torah during the High Holidays (Patience & Aaron Bousel)
 In Memory of Kenneth Benda, father of Barbara Jenkins and father-in-law of Eli Kwartler (Patience & Aaron Bousel)

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund

In Honor of Rabbi Bauer (Elinor Levine & Scott Nielsen)
 On the Yahrzeit of Marvin Peltz (Rabbi Sheila Weinberg)

CONDOLENCES

We offer our sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have recently died:

Kim Wood, brother of Guy Wood
 Kenneth Benda, father of Barbara Jenkins and father-in-law of Eli Kwartler

NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome the following new members to the JCA community.

Martin & Brenda Miller and children Liliya and Aaron

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card 3.125 x 1.7857
 (Standard business card, reduced ~ 10%)

	1 issue	4 issues	11 issues
Non-Member	\$ 35.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 270.00
<i>rate per issue</i>		\$ 30.00	\$ 24.55
JCA Member	\$ 28.00	\$ 96.00	\$ 216.00
<i>rate per issue</i>		\$ 24.00	\$ 19.64

¼ Sheet
 3.125 x 3.875 3 1/16 x 3 7/8

	1 issue	4 issues	11 issues
Non-Member	\$ 60.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 462.00
<i>rate per issue</i>		\$ 50.00	\$ 42.00
JCA Member	\$ 48.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 370.00
<i>rate per issue</i>		\$ 40.00	\$ 33.64

½ Sheet
 6.25 x 3.875 6 1/4 x 3 7/8

	1 issue	4 issues	11 issues
Non-Member	\$ 110.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 847.00
<i>rate per issue</i>		\$ 93.75	\$ 77.00
JCA Member	\$ 88.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 600.00
<i>rate per issue</i>		\$ 75.00	\$ 61.82

Full Sheet
 6.25 x 7.75 6 1/4 x 7 3/4

	1 issue	4 issues	11 issues
Non-Member	\$ 200.00	\$ 670.00	\$ 1540.00
<i>rate per issue</i>		\$ 167.50	\$ 140.00
JCA Member	\$ 160.00	\$ 536.00	\$ 1232.00
<i>rate per issue</i>		\$ 134.00	\$ 112.00

Community Announcements

Super Tzedakah Sunday

December 2, 2007

On Super Tzedakah Sunday, more than 100 volunteers come together to build a community based on compassion and justice. It's the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts' annual phone-a-thon, and the impact is enormous.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Debbie Peskin at the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, 737-4313 x121.

☆☆☆

Celebrate Israel's 60th Birthday-- in Israel!

Yom Ha'atzmaut

*Community Mission to Israel
May 4 - 15, 2008*

Space is limited & reservations will be taken in the order received! For more information, contact Harold Berman, Executive Director, Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, at (413) 737-4313 x139 or hberman@jewishwesternmass.org.

☆☆☆

Adoption Link

*An Evening on
International Adoption*

November 12, 2007 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the AdoptionLink offices, 475 Rear Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA (behind the Goodwill building at the "X") and Tuesday, November 13, 2007 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at All Saints Episcopal Church, 7 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley, MA

☆☆☆

Meditation Group

Thursday Morning "Lecha Dumiyah Tehillah"* Meditation Group

Every Thursday in the CBI Library, from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Led by Rabbis Nancy Flam and Sheila Peltz Weinberg

Please know that is not an instructional group. Rather, each of us comes with our own silent meditation or prayer practice and draws strength and affirmation for our deep, inner work by being together in community.

- Arrive & Settling In: 8:00 - 8:15 a.m.
- Setting of Kavvanah/Teaching: 8:15 - 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to begin silent meditation: 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to end silent meditation: 8:55 a.m.

*"To You silence is praise." Psalm 65:2

☆☆☆

National Yiddish Book Center

There are too many programs at the Yiddish Book Center to list them all here. Please go to their website: www.yiddishbookcenter.org for more information.

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Bubbe's Cooking

Does the thought of brisket, kasha varnishkas, stuffed derma, chicken mazoh ball soup, stuffed cabbage, blintzes, kugels, etc. start your mouth watering?

If you've always wanted to make one of those dishes on your own or try someone else's version, then...

Come Shmooze with Jews (and friends). The price of admission is one dish of Jewish food (like Bubbe used to make), and maybe a couple of bucks to donate to a good cause.

If you need ideas for Jewish food or recipes call Felice (548-9690).

Children are welcome!

Join us for the first (but hopefully, not last) Jewish Foods Dinner...

Shabbat Dinner on Friday, November 2nd at 6 p.m. @ Pioneer Valley CoHousing, 120 Pulpit Hill Road, Amherst

This is an organized potluck, please let me know what you plan to bring.

If you are making meat, please think about the possibility of kosher/organic meat.

RSVP with your food to: fyeskel@stuaf.umass.edu by October 28th.

☆☆☆

Amherst Survival Center

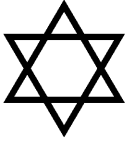
The Amherst Survival Center is very appreciative of the help that the community and colleges have offered. The Trash to Treasures Sale was a HUGE success, our Pantry is loving the food from the Food Drives and the Center has welcomed over 20 new volunteers in the last two weeks.

But we foresee a volunteer shortage from December 17th - January 25th. If anyone, including teenagers, is willing to lend a hand for even 2 hours during that time we'd appreciate the help.

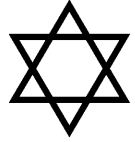
If anyone is interested in helping, please contact me at 549-3968 x202 or tracey@amherstsuvival.org.

THANK YOU!

☆☆☆



Jewish Community of Amherst
November 2007
 20 Cheshvan ~ 20 Kislev 5768



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 20 CHESHVAN 6:30-8:30 pm BM Workshop 7:30 pm Board Meeting	2 21 CHESHVAN 11:5:24 5:30 pm Intergenerational Family Service and Potluck Supper 1st/2nd Grade Dinner With Rabbi	3 22 CHESHVAN Chaye Sarah 10:00 am Reconstructionist Service 10:00 am Masorti Service
4 23 CHESHVAN Daylight Savings Time Ends- Turn Clocks Back One Hour 5:00 pm Teen Smooze	5 24 CHESHVAN	6 25 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	7 26 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 12 Noon Text Class 6:00 pm Confirmation Class With Rabbi 8:00 pm Religion Committee	8 27 CHESHVAN	9 28 CHESHVAN 11:4:16 6:15 pm Service	10 29 CHESHVAN Toldot 10:00 am Service No Religious School for 7th grade
11 1 KISLEV Rosh Chodesh Kislev No Religious School	12 2 KISLEV Deadline for the December Newsletter	13 3 KISLEV 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 8:30 am Tikkum Olam	14 4 KISLEV 7:30 am 6:00 pm Confirmation Class - Panim el Panim Discussion	15 5 KISLEV 7:00 pm Fundraising Committee	16 6 KISLEV 11:4:09 6:15 pm Carlebach style Service followed by Potluck Supper 6:15 pm Camp Service and Potluck Supper followed by Camp JRF presentation	17 7 KISLEV Vayetzte 10:00 am Service 10:30 am Shabbat Shalom for enrolled 4-6 year olds
18 8 KISLEV 2:00 pm Yonatan Shapira of Combatants for Peace (see page 16)	19 9 KISLEV	20 10 KISLEV 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	21 11 KISLEV 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 8:00 am-2:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive 12 noon Text Class No Religious School	22 12 KISLEV Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	23 13 KISLEV 11:4:04 6:15 pm Service Office Closed	24 14 KISLEV Vayishlach 10:00 am Service No Religious School for 7th grade
25 15 KISLEV No Religious School	26 16 KISLEV	27 17 KISLEV 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	28 18 KISLEV 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 7:30 pm Education Committee	29 19 KISLEV	30 20 KISLEV 11:4:01 6:15 pm Service	Coming up in December December 9th CHANUKAH PARTS (see page 13)



November 16
Camp JRF Service, Potluck Supper & Film

November 18
Yonatan Shapira of Combatants for Peace (see page 16)

November 21
Red Cross Blood Drive (see page 10)

December 9
Chanukah Party (see page 13)

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