

The Jewish Post & Opinion • Indiana Edition

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Multi-cultural mosaic promotes unity

Previously, this space has promoted the therapeutic benefits of art to help heal emotional wounds. On the surface this Tree of Life mosaic, an art project, by local artist Joani Rothenberg and her Israeli cousin Yael Buxbaum, fills that purpose but it goes a step further. It was definitely therapeutic to survivors of cancer and their loved ones, but also approximately 4,000 people of diverse backgrounds and locations contributed to this – not at the same time – uniting many people who do not always get along.

(see Mosaic, page IN 15)

Simcha Announcements

Mazel Tov to...

Rabbi Yisrael and Miriam Gettinger on the birth of their grandson **Menachem** through their son and daughter-in-law **Rabbi Yitzchak and Mariam Gettinger** of Jerusalem.

Fourth grade students at HHAI (below) win statewide reading contest. Sponsored by WISH TV and other fine Indiana organizations, the contest was titled, "I Love to Read Challenge." The main focus was to instill the love of reading for all Indiana students. HHA's fourth grade students were chosen in a statewide drawing and represented all fourth graders from Indiana at an awards ceremony held at The Children's Museum. HHA's students were awarded their class honor by First Lady Mrs. Karen Pence and news anchors from WISH TV News. After the awards ceremony, students were the guests of the museum. They had a great time learning, exploring, and playing! A fun day was had by all!



Josh Prince (below), son of **Irwin and Eileen Prince** of Indianapolis, was recently nominated for the prestigious Olivier (the British Tony) Award. The nomination was for his choreography of the London production of the Broadway musical: *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*. Josh's work on the Broadway show also received critical accolades in the *New York Times*. It was his second Broadway choreographic effort, the first being *Shrek the Musical*. Josh currently lives in New York where he



is also the founder and artistic director of The Broadway Dance Lab: www.broadwaydancelab.org or www.facebook.com/broadwaydancelab.

Tyler Louis Burnett (below), son of **Jill and Matthew Burnett**, grandson of **Janie and Michael Maurer** and **Ellen and Howard Burnett**, great-grandson of **Betty Carlin** was called to the *Torah* for his *Bar Mitzvah* at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck March 20–21.



Tyler's *Torah* portion, *Vayikra* was about the rules of sacrifice in the wilderness and

Simchas Welcome! *The Jewish Post & Opinion – IN Edition* welcomes your announcements for placement in our *Simcha* section. Submit photos and text to: jpostopinion@gmail.com. **Next Deadline: June 1, 2015.** All decisions on publishing, date of placement, size of photo, and length of announcement are at the sole discretion of the publisher.

he was not nervous on the *bimah* because he was very prepared. He was appreciative of the overwhelming support he got from all of his friends and family, and enjoyed seeing a lot of out-of-towners from Texas, Oklahoma, Ohio, New York, Florida, Kentucky, Georgia, Colorado, and Illinois.

His *mitzvah* project was called Pack Away Hunger. He and his family packed 12,000 meals to be donated to Gleaners Food Bank and hungry children around the world. When asked what his favorite part of his preparation was, he said it was the tutoring.

"The entire *Bar Mitzvah* was fun for me and I really enjoyed practicing and learning my *Haftorah* and *Torah* portions. I am excited to start my Jewish life with rituals and go deeper into my education about Jewish life and Judaism," exclaimed Tyler.

When asked what advice he would give (see *Mazel Tov*, page IN 6)

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Editorial

On April 30, the first four American Jewish women of each denomination to become rabbis, gathered at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck in Indianapolis where the first ever rabbinic couple, Rabbis Dennis and Sandy Sasso served together for 36 years.

The four are Sally Priesand, Reform ordained 1972; Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, Reconstructionist ordained 1974; Amy Eilberg, Conservative ordained 1985; and Sara Hurwitz, Orthodox ordained 2009. Dr. Gary Zola, director of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati was the moderator of a panel discussion with the women.

Even though to this day discord takes place among the denominations (see a prime example at the end of this editorial), none was apparent on this *bimah*. This was one of the most harmonious discussions to take place between the four denominations.

The four women had remarkably similar stories to tell. It was interesting to hear what factors led up to their wanting to become rabbis. For the most part it was that they loved Judaism – the rituals, synagogue, prayers, theology, holidays – and under their tutelage, they wanted to be able to help others discover that too.

All four told about the opposition they endured such as not getting jobs, and grossly inappropriate questions asked by the search committees. However, all four also reported having one or more male rabbis who were enormously supportive.

One example of opposition was told by Amy Eilberg, ordained in 1985. One year prior, the Conservative movement agreed to accept women into their rabbinical program. Before that time women were allowed to take the same classes that were required of men studying to become rabbis. By 1984, Eilberg had already done well in those classes. After she was ordained one year later, she got a letter from a man complaining that he had to go several years to get ordained so they must be making special exceptions for women. In reality, she had been studying for nine years and women students were held to a higher standard than the men.

During this two hour discussion it was intriguing to hear about these and other women rabbis going to Germany with Dr. Zola to walk in the footsteps of the first woman rabbi in Jewish history, Regina Jonas. She studied at a liberal rabbinic seminary, completing the entire rabbinic program and her thesis. She was scheduled to be ordained but the Talmud teacher with the authority to do so died. His successor would not ordain her in 1930 so she left that school with a degree to teach. As conditions deteriorated in Germany, the

need for more spiritual leadership grew and she was ordained privately in 1935. Letters and documents that were found showed that the liberal Jewish community put her to work as an official rabbi.

Toward the end of the discussion Dr. Zola asked, "What is the biggest change to Judaism brought about by having so many women in leadership positions today?"

Rabbi Sasso responded that one stands out to her. *Midrash*, the way we interpret texts – particularly biblical texts – has been claimed by women. Therefore questions that have never been asked of the text are now being asked.

For example, where was Sarah at the binding of Isaac and why did she die right afterward? Questions like that are being addressed in a different way. Stories of women who had no names are being retold. "The way we look at texts, the questions we ask, the spaces we fill in have made an enormous difference," exclaimed Sasso.

Ten days prior to this event and in sharp contrast to it, a clash at the Western Wall in Jerusalem took place. Two men, one whose readings we have recently published, were beaten. When I first heard this I thought it was done by terrorists, but it was by other Jewish men. The reason? They had handed a Torah to the Women of the Wall who joyously danced and prayed with it.

Since one can read the details about this at the two sites listed below, I will include here what Alden Solovy said at his synagogue and on Facebook. "At my synagogue I asked people not to hate the man who stomped on me. Rail against his misogyny, object to what he was taught, condemn his behavior, seek justice against his violence, if possible, and seek change in Israeli democracy. But please don't use what happened to me to justify hate or to prejudice others...Charlie Kalech and I have received an outpouring of kind wishes and support from all over the world."

From JTA: <http://www.jta.org/2015/05/10/news-opinion/israel-middle-east/op-ed-my-message-to-the-man-who-attacked-me-at-the-kotel>

From the Los Angeles Jewish Journal: http://www.jewishjournal.com/israel/article/alden_solovy_wounded_but_still_defending_women_of_the_wall

Solovy penned the following a year ago:

Jew Against Jew

Oh my people,
What has happened to your heart?
What has happened to your vision?
And what has happened to your wisdom?
And what has happened to your love for one another?

The seeds of disrespect and misunderstanding have taken root,
Yielding fear and anger,
Condemnation and recrimination,
A rising hatred of Jew against Jew

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That threatens to consume us.

Sinat chinam has attacked

the soul of our people.

Ancient One,

G-d of our fathers and mothers,

Grant us a new wisdom and a new vision

To see beauty and holiness

In all of the tents of Israel.

Guide us back to each other

With reverence and understanding.

Renew our days with love.

Then, G-d of Old, we will build

A temple of song to your Holy Name,

Resounding from heart to heart,

From soul to soul,

From generation to generation,

The whole House of Israel.

Blessed are You, *Adonai* our G-d,

You delight in Your people's love.

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I say "Amen" to that and hopefully the day will soon come when we are able to work out our differences in a harmonious way like the panel discussion.

Jennie Cohen, May 13, 2015 ✨

Community Events

Sunday morning Tefillin Club

Starting at 9 a.m., at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life, 2640 W 96th St, Carmel. Get your week off to a great start! *Tefillin* – feed your soul; Breakfast – feed your body; Study – feed your mind. No experience necessary. Women are welcome too!

Religion, Spirituality and the Arts: Dreams and Sacrifice Stories of Genesis Reimagined

May 5 – June 26. This exciting and eclectic gallery show is the result of a prominent and creative group of local visual and performance artists' explorations with Rabbi Sandy Sasso to uncover the personal significance of the biblical story of Jacob, his dreams and his angelic confrontations. This is a follow-up to the artistic/spiritual work on the Binding of Isaac that culminated in the highly acclaimed program at Christian Theological Seminary in 2014.

The gallery exhibit will include the outstanding works of painters, sculptors, poets, musicians and other performers. The performance pieces will be part of the reception evening. Artists/performers will include Dawn Batson, Gabrielle Cerberville, Dan Cooper, John Domont, Pam Blevins Hinkle Sofiya Inger, David Landis, Bruce Lowenthal, Ray Marquette, Rabbi Sandy Sasso, and Wendy Vergoz.

Indianapolis Chapter of Hadassah Donor Day

Hadassah is hosting a High Tea to honor their donors on **Sun., May 17** at 2 p.m., with heartfelt songs by Susan Boots at the Ritz Charles in Carmel.

Committee members are Beverly Bercovitz, Lynn Davis, Brenda Freedman, Helaine Herman, Joan Katz, Phyllis Russell, Lyla Spath, and Carol Steinfeld. If you have questions please call the office at 475-4278. New office administrator is Leslie Barrick and new office hours are Mon., Wed., and Fri., from 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

Indianapolis Hadassah has been awarded the following for the fundraising year 2014: The Tower Award for achieving both Tower goal and Fundraising goal; The Pearl Award given to units who have made 100% Tower Goal; and The Emerald Award for achieving 25% above Goal.

Hate Crimes and Anti-Semitism in Indiana

Sun., May 17, 3 p.m., at the JCC. Important information you need to know. Be informed! Don't miss this important free program open to the entire community and sponsored by Congregation Beth Shalom.

We will view a DVD from the History Channel detailing the Nazi movement in the U.S. Then we will hear a Special Agent from the FBI speak to us about the state of hate crimes in Indiana. Please arrive early. Seating may be limited. Refreshments will be served. Questions? Call Cantor Deb at 317-344-3114.

BJE Dalet graduation

Sun., May 17, Dalet graduation ceremony at 5 p.m., for Smulyan-Stolkin Education Center Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE) in the Laikin Auditorium at the JCC, followed by a party for the children at 6 p.m., in the Domont Auditorium at the BJE.

Mega Challah-Bake

Sun., May 17 from 7–8:30 p.m., at Chabad Center for Jewish Life, 2640 West 96th St., Carmel, Ind. Join one hundred Jewish women in first 'Mega Challah-Bake'. Learn about the significance of baking *challah* from traditional and *Kabbalistic* sources. This is a hands-on project, and each participant will go home with their own challah. This event is open to all women and girls over the age of 12. \$18 online pre-registration. RSVP chabadindiana.org/megachallah or 317-251-5573.

Hadassah Book Club

This month's Book Club will be held on **Mon., May 18** at 7 p.m. Hostess is Marsha Rauscher, and facilitator is Joan Katz. The book is *The List* by Martin Fletcher. The next one will be **Mon., June 15** at 7 p.m., hostess is Judy Koor and facilitator is Annette Gross. The book will be, *The Golem and the Jinni* by Helen Wecker. For more info or to RSVP contact Helaine Herman at helaine1@gmail.com or the Hadassah office at 475-4278.

Birthday luncheon for 90+

Tues., May 19 from 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m., at Broadmoor Country Club, 2155 Kessler Blvd West Drive. Luncheon honoring community members who are 90+ years "young" from the JFGI and JFS. Contact Lori Moss 317-259-6824 lmoss@jfgi.org

Justice and the War on Terror – Continuing Education for lawyers

Tues., May 19, from 1:15–4:30 p.m. at the ICLEF Conference Facility, 230 E. Ohio Street, 5th Floor Indianapolis, 46204. Compare American and other secular law, contemporary social theory and 3000 years of legal and ethical thought from the corpus of Judaic law. This is a continuing education class for lawyers (3CLE credits) taught by Rabbi Mendel Schusterman and Robert J. Shuckit. Tuition is \$185 or \$150 for 0–3 years in practice or paralegal. For more information go to: <https://iclef.inreachce.com/> and in the search box type in: Justice and the War on Terror.

inreachce.com/ and in the search box type in: Justice and the War on Terror.

Indianapolis Opera and Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra

Fri., May 22 at 7:30 p.m., CRESCENDO at White River State Park. Free Community Concert features music ranging from opera's greatest hits, Broadway standards, orchestral gems, and tunes from the American Songbook. General admission is free on the lawn. Special reserved seating is available including VIP seating with reserved parking. Kick off the Indiana summer with a fun, family concert! For more info visit: www.indyopera.org, email: gettickets@Indyopera.org or call 317-283-3531.

Eskenazi Water Park at the JCC

Opens for the season on **May 23!**

Shavuot

Beginning on **Sun., May 24** at sundown, *Shavuot*, the festival of weeks, commemorating the giving of the *Torah* at Mt. Sinai will conclude after sundown on **Mon., May 25** which is also Memorial Day.

JCRC event

May 27 6–8 p.m., at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck. Congressman Andre Carson will address the Jewish community. More details forthcoming. Contact Lindsey Mintz at 317.926.2935 or lmintz@indyjcr.org.

Farmer's Market Outdoors at the JCC

Open **Sundays, beginning May 31**, from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Shop with us for fresh local produce, baked goods, dairy products and more.

2015 HAI-Life Awards dinner

On **Sun., May 31** from 5–9 p.m., at the Hasten Hebrew Academy Cultural Arts Center will be the 44th annual HAI-Life Awards Dinner honoring well known ophthalmologist and community philanthropist Dr. John Abrams for his commitment to education. President of Abrams EyeCare, and team eye physician for the Indiana Pacers and Indiana Fever, Dr. Abrams and his wife, Diane, have dedicated themselves to providing scholarship and opportunities for students.



Dr. J. Abrams



Matt Tucker

Mr. Matt Tucker will also be honored with the Distinguished Teacher Award for his contribution to the educational growth of the students in the area of Mathematics (see Events, page IN 14)

Children play at Lubavitch Lag B'Omer Picnic



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MAZEL TOV

(continued from page IN 2)

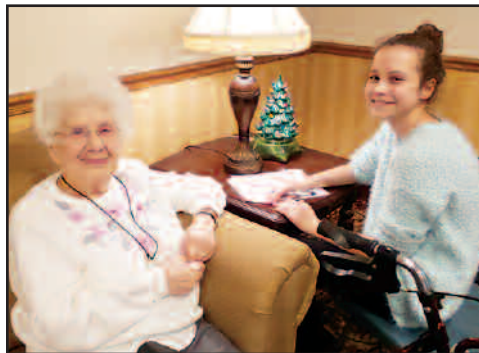
to those preparing for their *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* he said, “Be prepared and *work hard!*”

“My Mimi, **Janie Maurer**, made my *tallit*. It is very special to me. I also loved having my entire family as part of my *Bar Mitzvah* service. My uncles, **Todd** and **Greg Maurer**, and **Steven Goldberger**, and my aunt, **Julie Goldberger**, my Papa, **Mickey Maurer** and my mom all read from the *Torah*. It was very special to know they had to learn and study their portions as well and go through a little of what I was going through. It was truly a special and memorable day/weekend for me. I hope to be part of more services at Beth-El soon,” Tyler concluded.

Katherine and **Ron Soskin** on their 25th wedding anniversary June 8, and Ron’s retirement from Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, at the end of Dec. 2014.

“Ron Soskin was a member of our law firm for over 31 years. In that time Ron became one of the most highly respected tax attorneys in the Midwest. Moreover, he was instrumental to the leadership of the firm and the development of younger lawyers. We could not have asked for a finer partner than Ron. He will be missed.” ~ Jeffrey Gaither, Managing Partner.

Michaela Geller-Montague (pictured below right), a seventh-grader at the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis, has won an essay contest sponsored by the Legacy Heritage Fund, the 2015 “Better 2 Write” contest. Michaela’s essay is “Her Voice was the Strings.”



The HHAJ was one of 16 Jewish schools across the country that submitted essays for the contest. The other two middle school winners are from the Kadimah School of Buffalo and the Manhattan Day School. All three schools will receive scholarship funds, and the student winners will receive money for summer programs or gap year studies.

The essay contest is part of the “Better Together” inter-generational program that the HHAJ students are participating in

this year. Once a month, middle school students visited either Hooverwood Nursing Home or MorningSide of College Park to talk with seniors and write memory books, teach I-pad use, paint ceramic mugs or plant flowers. The school’s curriculum includes learning from previous generations, a computer genealogy project, Jewish laws on respecting our elders, and the “spiritual DNA” passed down from our patriarchs and matriarchs.

The winning submissions were of “particularly high quality and meaningfulness,” according to the judges. The HHAJ is proud of its middle school students for their work on the Better Together program, and proud of Michaela for her award-winning essay.

Rivkah Bunes, a Hasten Hebrew Academy sixth grade student (daughter of **Stacey** and **Charlie Bunes**), pictured below with Ruby Bridges, participated in the *Letters to Ruby* program which focuses on inequality, intolerance, and injustices in our society. Ms. Bridges was the first African-American child to attend an all white school in the South. Rivkah’s letter about inequality of women was chosen to be read by Ruby Bridges.

Rivkah attended a workshop May 8 at



Kidney still needed for Drew



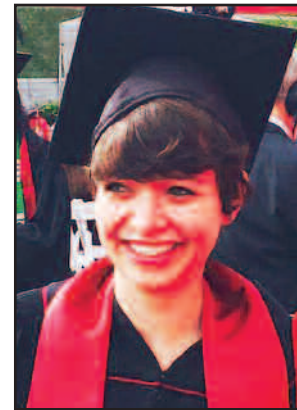
Drew, age 12, a Jewish child in Indianapolis, has been suffering from a very rare disease Alport’s Syndrome, which causes hearing loss and kidney failure, along with eye problems, since age six. She attended the Hasten Hebrew Academy until she was too weak to complete full school days. Her condition worsened last summer requiring her to start daily dialysis.

A transplant team is actively searching for a live kidney donor. If you have type “O” blood and would like to be considered, please ask for Kelly at (317) 944-4370. See www.facebook.com/kidneydrew and ireport.cnn.com/docs/DOC-1081282. ★



the Indianapolis Children’s Museum led by Ms. Bridges which included about 25 other students from throughout the county whose letters were also selected at their schools. Rivkah was thrilled to have the honor of meeting and speaking with Ms. Bridges.

This is the sixth year that a HHAJ student has had this opportunity. The HHAJ is proud of its sixth grade students for their work on this program, and proud of Rivkah for her amazing letter.



Synthia Steiman (left) on her graduation from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music ★



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Obituaries

Harry Joseph Traugott, 98, passed away April 16. He was born March 13, 1917. He was known for his volunteer activities and involved support of social causes, but also loved the woods and the deer herd viewed through the expansive windows of his Indianapolis home. Close friends also knew his dry wit and wry sense of humor.



His interest in philanthropy and volunteer activities began at the age of 16 in 1933, during the membership drive for the Jewish Welfare Fund. He began making calls in person and his first solicitation resulted in a \$50 donation from a non Jewish business, a large sum in the middle of the Great Depression.

Harry achieved his Eagle Scout rank as a member of Troop 65 sponsored by the Kirshbaum Center, and became the troop's scoutmaster. Later he served as an assistant scoutmaster and cubmaster, devoting more than 50 years of volunteer service to the scouts. He received the Silver Beaver Award, the highest volunteer acknowledgment, and the Shofar Award given to outstanding Jewish scouts. He lost interest in scouting when his arguments supporting sensitivity to multiple religious traditions were spurned.

For more than 20 years he actively supported immigrant resettlement into the Indianapolis community by teaching English to Russian Jews, Eastern Europeans, and new residents from Latin America. He also developed an emergency loan program to assist immigrant families in dire need.

Harry volunteered as a docent at the Indianapolis Museum of Art for more than 20 years, and was particularly pleased teaching school children about the importance of art and culture. His passionate belief in the power of education led him to serve on the executive committee of the Washington Township Schools planning

committee. He was a past board member of the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation and the IHC Foundation. The Jewish Family and Children's Services presented him with the Ivan Chalfie Award for his commitment to education, human services, and culture. The Jewish Federation of Greater Indiana honored him with the Golden Giver award.

Traugott attended the University of Michigan after graduating from Shortridge High School in 1934. During WWII the U.S. Army Air Corps stationed him in Algeria and Italy and assigned him to the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces command. Between 1942 and 1945 he served as staff sergeant to playwright Thornton Wilder planning invasion and bombing runs. After the war Traugott rejoined his father in The Fair Store, a family run department store in downtown Indianapolis that closed in 1949. He retired as president of the Fair Finance Company in 1981 and devoted the rest of his life to volunteer service.

As a fearless traveler he thrived on family road trips, including an adventurous 1963 camping trek through the American Southwest, a 1964 drive to San Miguel Allende, Mexico, and another to Oaxaca, Mexico in 1966. Numerous more conventional trips followed to France, Guatemala, Israel, Italy, Peru, and the Yucatan.

Harry Traugott was the son of Leo Traugott and Bess Joseph. He is survived by his artist wife Leah Schneider Traugott of 68 years of marriage, son Joseph Traugott and wife Laurel Wallace, daughter Dale Traugott and husband Roy Campbell, and granddaughters Carlin and Lauren Traugott Campbell. His nieces include Joan Cassell Miller and husband Nathan Miller, Barbara Cassell Altman and husband Sonny Altman, Jean Feibleman Smith and husband Tyler Smith, and Dorothy Feibleman.

A funeral service was April 19 at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. Donations in his honor may be made to Indianapolis Museum of Art or to IHC. Arrangements entrusted to **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

Sherrie Ellen Seidman Norris, 70, of Indianapolis passed away April 16. She was born to Max and Hilda Seidman on June 14, 1944. Sherrie was a graduate of North Central High School. She worked for the Army Finance Center. She was a long-time volunteer at St. Vincent Hospital. Sherrie was a member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.



She is survived by her husband, Alan; brother, G. Douglas (Holly) Seidman;

brothers-in-law, Terry Adams and Marshall (Sharon) Norris; and several nieces and nephews. Sherrie was preceded in death by her sister, Elyse Adams.

A funeral service was held April 20 at **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**. Burial followed in Congregation Beth-El Zedek North Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

Rebecca (Becca) Wells Linville, 38, passed away April 25 after a long and courageous battle with cancer in Westfield, Ind. Becca was a 1994 graduate of Northmont High School in Dayton, Ohio and a 1998 graduate of Indiana University in Bloomington, where she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Speech & Hearing and Certificate in Jewish Studies.



Rebecca was an active member of the Ohio Valley region of the National Federation of Temple Youth, and spent a summer in Israel on a NFTY program. In 2001 she began teaching at The Orchard School in Indianapolis, where she proudly and gratefully taught for more than 10 years in their Elementary School.

In 2003 she married the love of her life, Kyle Linville. Becca was fortunate to spend three years living in Germany and traveling throughout Europe with her beloved young daughters and husband Kyle; while there she was an active volunteer at the Frankfurt International School.

Becca managed to be both friend and mentor to all whose lives she touched, from friends and fellow moms to co-workers and fellow volunteers. She filled her life with acts of loving kindness and *tzedakah*, always looking for opportunities to give of her time and talent, particularly to those in need or at risk. This powerful legacy of selfless giving will never be forgotten by all who knew and loved her.

Rebecca is survived by family members whom she cherished dearly and loved fully: her husband Kyle Linville, her children Madeline and Lauren Linville, her sister Jennifer Wells-Smith, brother-in-law Shannon Smith, and her parents Joan and Peter Wells. A funeral service was held on April 27 at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation and burial followed in the IHC north cemetery.

The Linville and Wells families are so grateful for the outpouring of love and support from friends and colleagues the world over during this incredibly difficult time. Tax-exempt donations can be made in Rebecca's honor to the Rebecca Wells Linville Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (www.jewishindianapolis.org).

(see **Obituaries**, page IN 9)



Aaron
Ruben
Nelson



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A Playful Path

By BERNIE DE KOVEN

Arguing – A game we play

I begin with a quote. So it's not like I'm saying it. So there's no argument here:

It's from a book called *The Shabbat Elevator and other Sabbath Subterfuges: An Unorthodox Essay on Circumventing Custom and Jewish Character*. By Alan Dundes. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. 2002.

"Even in modern times," he writes, "there are serious disagreements as to what the proper interpretation of a given law is or should be. The love of argument and disagreement is well documented in Jewish folklore. A popular proverb proclaims: 'Two Jews, three opinions.' An old joke claims that 'the only thing two Jews can agree on is how much a third Jew should give to charity.' Anything and everything can be subject to debate, can be questioned. In one old chestnut, a Jew is asked, 'Why do Jews always answer a question with a question?' His answer?

Wait for it. It's coming. In about 5 or 8 or so paragraphs (but who's counting?).

In the mean time, what's with all the arguing and disagreeing and debating? Why is it so deeply etched into the very synapses of the *yiddishekeppe*, this questioning, this constant controversy? Could it have something to do with, excuse me for mentioning this, fun?

Let me put it this way: so, you're arguing with somebody. It could be anybody you're arguing with: a partner, a parent, a pet. So, think about it for a minute. What are you hoping will happen as a result of all this arguing? So, excuse me for oversimplifying, but, answer me this – isn't it all about, really, when it comes down to it and you also, winning? Isn't that what you hope will happen? No matter what you're arguing about or with whom or who is maybe right – your goal, what you really want out of it all when it's all over and done with, is to be the one who wins. Yes? No?

Absolutely.

And if winning is what it's all about, then a game is what you're playing. Because only in a game can you win. Only when you're playing. Because winning isn't a real thing. It's a game thing. When you're arguing with your spouse, for example, your loved one, your only reason for going on – that one – when you're

New Humanistic Jewish Group in Indy

A new group is forming and the first meeting is Sun., June 7 at 10:45 a.m., at Paradise Bakery & Cafe, 9510 N Meridian St., Suite A, Indianapolis, 46260. This will be an initial meeting to gauge interest. It will also be an opportunity to get to know a little more about secular and cultural Judaism generally, and the Society for Humanistic Judaism and the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations in particular. We welcome secular and cultural Jews and their families – Jewish or not! – looking for community in Indianapolis and Central Indiana. For more info contact Jeremy at 317-903-9964, or email humanisticjewsindy@gmail.com or Facebook: www.facebook.com/HumanistJewsIndy. ★



arguing about the real meaning of life or the *parsha* or the color of your car, you really, in truth and fact, can't win. You can have a good argument. You can argue brilliantly and conclusively convincingly. But you can't win. Because it's the two of you, together that it's really all about. And if one of you is the winner, the other is the loser. And you're not together. Just like that. You're not together. And this is not the point. This is disaster.

I think one of the things that we understand, genetically, maybe, from the fathers, probably, is that all this arguing is really just playing. Even if we're arguing with Himself (or Hers). It's fun. All we have to do is remember: it's a game, and we're just playing.

It's an art, this arguing. And part of the art is all about remembering to be playful, to enjoy each other, to appreciate each other's brilliance, the cunningness of each other's reasoning, the cleverness, the cuteness. Ah, we say to each other, that's a good point you made just there; ah again, you could, in fact, after all, be something

Indy joins LIFE & LEGACY partnership

The Indianapolis Jewish community has been selected as a LIFE & LEGACY partner of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. This forward-thinking program seeks to engage local Jewish organizations in a collaborative endeavor that will ensure the strength of our community now and for the future. "As my parents planted for me before I was born, so do I plant for those who will come after me." – *Talmud, Ta'anit 23a*

Jewish organizations in the greater Indianapolis community applied to be a part of the program, and JFGI accepted 14. *Mazel tov* to our community partners! Bureau of Jewish Education; Chabad/Lubavitch of Indiana; Congregation Beth-El Zedeck; Congregation B'nai Torah; Congregation Shaarey Tefilla; Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation; Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis; Hillel Foundation at Indiana University; Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation; Jewish Community Center of Indianapolis; Hooverwood; Jewish Community Relations Council; Jewish Family Services and Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis.

Training and support will be provided to them as they go out to the community and secure after lifetime gifts from donors. You can read a little more at the following link: <http://www.jewishindianapolis.org/life-legacy>. Conversation training will be Thurs., June 17 from 5–7:30 p.m., at the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis. For more information contact Paula Goldberg at pgoldberg@jfgi.org or 317-715-6980. ★



very close to right. I could agree entirely and that would be that. And the argument would be over. But what's the fun of that?

Which brings me to the question, and the answer to it:

(see De Koven, page IN 9)



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OBITUARIES

(continued from page IN 7)

jewishindianapolis.org). Her husband, Kyle, will be able to make recommendations on distributions from this fund to non-profit organizations that were important to Becca.

To contribute to a fund established for the near-term direct benefit of the Linville daughters, you can visit: www.gofundme.com/rebeccalinville. Rebecca Wells Linville's life and memory will forever be a blessing.

Henrietta Mervis, 95, passed away on May 1, in her home in Kokomo, Ind. She was born Aug. 6, 1919, in Indianapolis to Abraham and Rose Schwartz.



As a youth she spent her summers as a camp counselor at Big Eagle Camp, where she made lifelong friendships and impacted the lives of many young people. She was a graduate of Manual High School in 1937, and later attended IUK. As a secretary at Solotkins, she met her husband, David Mervis. They were married on Aug. 11, 1946, in Indianapolis.

Beginning in 1964, she served as the member of the board of trustees for the Kokomo Public Library. During her 17 years of service, she served two terms as the president of the Kokomo Public Library Board. She also served as the president of the Indiana Library Trustees Association, and was honored in 1970 as the Outstanding Library Trustee of the State of Indiana. She served as treasurer during the construction of the downtown Kokomo Public Library. She was instrumental in the formation of the Bona Vista School with Tri Kappa. She was very proud that she led the effort with Dr. Moulton to keep Bona Vista as an independent organization.

Her other services include involvement in the fundraising for Brandeis University in Palm Beach County, Fla. She was a member of Hadassah and B'nai Brith. In recent years, she enjoyed participating in "The Neighborhood of Saturdays" Project about the multi-ethnic Indianapolis south side community, which was covered by the *New York Times*.

She is survived by her two sons, Garry and Bill and wife Karen; and three grandchildren, Aaron, Elliot and Matthew; and her niece and nephew Charlene (Jeff) Gubitz and Alan Schwartz. She was preceded in death by her brother Morris Schwartz of Indianapolis.

Services were May 3 at the Sons of Abraham Cemetery in Lafayette. Contributions can be made to Temple B'nai Israel of Kokomo or the Kokomo Public Library. ✨

DE KOVEN

(continued from page IN 8)

The question: "Why do Jews always answer a question with a question?" The answer: "Why not"?

Bernie De Koven is the author of The Well-Played Game, A Playful Path and Junkyard Sports. A Playful Path is available at: <http://press.etc.cmu.edu/content/playful-path>. One can also purchase and download the book from <http://aplayfulpath.com> where one can also be entertained and learn more about the author. ✨

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Chassidic Rabbi

BY RABBI BENZION COHEN

Mushki

Mushki is one of my grandchildren. She is almost three years old, and lives in Kfar Chabad, right down the street. She is the star of today's story.

One of my jobs is to visit the sick and elderly at our local hospital. This is a wonderful *Mitzvah*. Many of the people that I meet are suffering. Some have lost hope. When they see that someone cares about them they feel better already. I give them a smile to cheer them up. They smile back, and cheer me up.

Two days before *Pesach* this year they had a special treat. My granddaughter Mushki came with me to the hospital. I promised her that if she would wish everyone a happy holiday, I would buy her ice cream.

She did a great job. When we met someone, she looked up to them and wished them a happy holiday. They all smiled back and wished us a happy holiday. Then she offered them a flyer about the Rebbe and our eminent redemption. No one could refuse her. (When I offer people flyers, some people accept, and some don't.) She brought a lot of happiness to a lot of people, and especially to her very proud grandfather.

We came to the geriatric ward. She wished everyone a happy holiday and a complete recovery. Their faces lit up. I started to help the men to put on *tefillin*. Mushki reminded me about the ice cream that I promised her. I told her that soon we would be going home, and then I would buy her the ice cream. She said no! She wants her ice cream right now! For a few minutes I tried in vain to get her to wait.

Finally I went over to one of the nurses. I told her about my predicament, and asked if they had any ice cream in the freezer. The nurse thought for a moment. She said that they didn't have ice cream, but they did have a different treat for my granddaughter. She went into a room, and after a minute came out with a small carefully decorated box. What was the box? A *Purim* treat from *Chabad*! What was inside? A bag of jelly candies, a chocolate coated wafer and a bag of nosh.

My little Mushki was thrilled. She quickly devoured everything. I was also very happy. She was off my back. A minute later it hit me. Wow! Miracle of miracles! In two more days it will be *Pesach*! That little box was full of *chamaitz* (foods made from flour, which are strictly forbidden during the week of *Pesach*) My Mushki

Tzedakah Fair at IHC

Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation's Religious School is hosting its second annual "Tzedakah Fair" Sun., Aug. 30 from 9:15 a.m.–1:15 p.m. The purpose is for those involved in local non-profits to tell the students and parents about their organization.

Additionally, the 7th grade students are responsible for creating a project to donate time or help raise money for various organizations.

The Tzedakah Fair will give their youth an opportunity to see what these organizations are all about and ask questions. Parents and staff will also be in the building and will have the opportunity to visit the booths to find out about their causes.

A limited number of 8' x 8' booth spaces available, at no charge the organization, on a first-come-first-served basis.

Members of the Social Justice Committee will be contacting organizations in the coming weeks, or one can respond to Ron Herman 317-965-8161 or email: Ron.Herman@EncoreSothebysRealty.com. ★



saved the day, and the holiday!

The Lubavitcher Rebbe once spoke about the lessons that we can learn from little children. One lesson is that when they want something, they want it right away. They are not willing to wait. What should we learn from this? We want *Moshiach* (our Messiah) now! We don't want to wait! We have been in exile for almost two thousand years. This is a million years too long! This is the message that we have to give to *Hashem* three times every day, when we pray to Him.

How else can we bring *Moshiach* now? By learning *Torah* and doing *Mitzvahs*. Specifically, to learn what the *Torah* teaches us about *Moshiach* and our complete and final redemption. Your local *Chabad* House will be happy to assist. If you don't have a local *Chabad* House, go to the *Chabad* websites, or call a rabbi long distance, and learn over the phone.

Which *Mitzvahs*? Eat only *kosher* food, light *Shabbos* candles, love your neighbor as yourself, give charity, put up *mezuzahs* in every room, put on *tefillin* every weekday. Do everything in your power to bring others to learn about *Moshiach* and fulfill these *Mitzvahs*, and to bring non Jews to fulfill their seven *Mitzvahs*.

We wish all of our readers a happy *Shavuos* Holiday. Do what you can to bring *Moshiach* now, so that we will all celebrate together in the Holy Temple which will be rebuilt in Jerusalem.

Rabbi Cohen lives in K'far Chabad, Israel. He can be reached by email at bzcohen@orange.net.il. ★

New play at The Jewish Theatre of Bloomington

Now in its 10th year, The Jewish Theatre of Bloomington will present *Coming to See Aunt Sophie* a play by Arthur Feinsod this summer.

This play is the heroic true story of one man who tried to stop the Holocaust! Jan Karski, a Polish Catholic, was a courier for the Polish underground during World War II. Using the code, *Coming to See Aunt Sophie*, and wearing ragged clothes and an armband with the yellow Star of David, he penetrated into such places as the Warsaw Ghetto and Nazi transit camps with the intent of bringing eyewitness accounts to the Western Allies of the atrocities being committed by the Nazis. Tragically, his reports fell on deaf ears. "The common humanity of people, not the power of governments, is the only protector of human rights." said Jan Karski.

The play, written by Arthur Feinsod a member of the theatre faculty at Indiana State University, begins with an interview in 1978 when Karski hesitantly broke silence about his experiences. The play opens with that interview, and a cast of six actors brings to life the haunting images of Karski's heroic efforts to stop the Holocaust. According to Feinsod, "This play has something to say to the whole community about the importance of people from different religions and different cultures to work together."

The director is Dale McFadden a professor in Indiana University's Contemporary Dance, Theatre, and Drama Department. Gerard Pauwels, well-known local and regional actor, plays the older Karski while David Gordon-Johnson takes the role of the young Karski. Playing several roles, is Martha Jacobs who is seen frequently as an actor and director on Bloomington and Indianapolis stages. Rounding out the cast are Indiana University theatre students, Jason West, Emily Sullivan, and John Putz.

Performances are Jun. 13, 18, 20 at 7:30 p.m., Jun. 14, 21 at 3 p.m., at The Bloomington Playwrights



Martha Jacobs

Project building at 107 West 9th Street, Bloomington. There will be two talk backs.

Tickets are \$20, at the Buskirk-Chumley box office, 114 E. Kirkwood, Bloomington, by phone 812-323-2030, or online at www.bctboxoffice.com

This play is generously supported by (see Jewish Play, page IN 11)

From Broadway to Hollywood with Richard Glazier

Premiering June 4, 2015 at 8 p.m., and June 13, 2015 at 7 p.m., on WFYI, pianist and historian Richard Glazier weaves together interviews, piano performances, and commentary to create a unique view of Broadway and Hollywood through music in *From Broadway to Hollywood with Richard Glazier: The Stories Behind Legendary Show Tunes and Film and Television Scores*. Glazier explores the history of the great music that has been written for Broadway musicals and Hollywood films and television, sharing his lifetime love of each, as well as his proven talent as a host/narrator and pianist. This is part of special programming premiering on PBS stations beginning Sat., May 30. Check local listings: www.pbs.org/tv_schedules.

Among the remarkable people who appear in this special are the late actor Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.; Broadway veteran Patricia Morison; film and television composer Lalo Schifrin; author Daniel Selznick; composer/conductor David Newman; Miles Kreuger, founder of the



Institute of the American Musical; and Gene Allen, former president of the Motion Picture Academy and the Art Directors Guild, Academy Award-winning art director (*My Fair Lady*), and longtime production manager for famed director George Cukor.

Each of the fascinating interviews relates to, and is shown in conjunction with, a musical selection. For example,

JEWISH PLAY

(continued from page IN 10)

the Indiana University Jewish Studies Program, The School of Global and International Studies, the Polish Studies Center, Susan Klein and Bob Agranoff, Ken Heller, Deb Allmayer and Jim Williams. For more info go to: www.jewishtheatrebloomington.org. ✨



Patricia Morison talks about her role in *Kiss Me Kate*, her relationship with composer/lyricist Cole Porter and the song "So In Love," followed by Richard Glazier performing a glorious piano transcription of the song. One can view a 30 second teaser of the show on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/hox9T6RvQ2E> and facebook page is dedicated to the show: www.facebook.com/GlazierPBS?ref=hl.

Glazier grew up in Indianapolis and was bar mitzvahed by Rabbi Sidney Steiman at Beth-El Zedeck one month after he met Ira Gershwin in April 1975. His mother Harriett was a very active member of the theater community. His father still lives in the same house in which Richard was born and raised. His brother Steve is an attorney at Cohen, Garelick and Glazier. ✨



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How much does the JGift cost? The JGift costs \$99.

What does the JGift cover? The value of the JGift will be used to offset out-of-pocket (OOP) laboratory expenses for the

Seniors in Place

Spring Fling

Sun., May 17, from noon to 5 p.m., at Lions Head Clubhouse. \$10 per person in advance/\$12 at the door. 2nd Annual Fundraiser. Enjoy a leisurely lunch at 12:30 p.m., followed by musical entertainment and raffle prize drawings. Time for games of your choice: Euchre, Bridge, Dominoes, Mahjong and more. Each family is asked to



recipient.

Does it work with insurance?

For individuals with private health insurance, the JGift will cover the entire OOP cost for the test. If a recipient does not have insurance or chooses not to use insurance, the value of the JGift will be applied to reduce their OOP laboratory expenses. The recipient will be billed for the balance owed. Multiple JGifts can be combined to prevent this from happening.

JScreen's JGift program is a great way for people attending summer weddings to give the gift of Jewish genetic screening to a couple. For \$99, they offset the cost of screening for a friend or loved one. More information can be found here: <http://jscreen.org/gift/>. ★

bring their favorite dish (salad, vegetable, dessert) to share. Contact Shirley Mark 257-1838 or Sheila Seleman 517-9745 to RSVP and indicate what food item you will bring. Entertainment, raffle, and fun for all. Tickets for the raffle will be sold for \$5 each or 3 for \$10. For additional info call Janet at 251-8881.

Classic Movie Club

Mon., May 18 at 2 p.m. showing *The Harvey Girls*. This movie stars Judy Garland. It will be shown at the Stillerman residence. RSVP to Marilyn Block 253-9027 who is the hostess for this movie.

Plant Club Holliday Park

Fri., May 22 at 12:30 p.m. Come join us for a guided leisurely stroll through the highlighted gardens, including the rock gardens. We will be able to view many beautiful flowers in bloom. Let's start with lunch first in the picnic area. Bring a sack lunch. \$6 for tour. RSVP to Janet 251-8881.

Derby Dinner Playhouse in Clarksville, IN

Wed., May 27, leave JCC 9 a.m. to see *Social Security*. This hilarious Broadway hit comedy tells the chaotic story of a New York couple whose domestic tranquility is shattered when the wife's goody-goody sister, her upright CPA husband, and her crazy mother all converge on their apartment. RSVP to Janet 251-8881. \$49 Includes transportation, lunch and show.

The cocktail hour; Music of the Mad Men Era

Fri., May 29, leave JCC 9 a.m. Light up a Lucky and pour yourself a highball. This is the music of the *Mad Men* era. New York Pops Music Director Steven Reineke leads the top 40s of the early 60s. A few ounces of Paul Anka, a shot of Brenda Lee and even a splash of Ben E. King – all mixed into a *Mad Men* musical cocktail. A few seats are still available. RSVP to Janet 251-8881. \$45 includes transportation, coffee, pastry, concert.

Dirty Dancing

Sun., June 14 at Clowes Hall. Leave JCC 5:30 p.m. The classic story on stage is an unprecedented live experience, exploding with heart pounding music, passionate romance, and sensational dancing. This worldwide smash hit tells the classic story of Baby and Johnny, two fiercely independent young spirits from different worlds who come together in what will be the most challenging and triumphant summer of their lives. Don't miss your chance to see this record breaking live theatre sensation. You'll have the time of your life! RSVP to Janet for your ticket 251.8881. \$51 transportation and show. ★

Spring Greetings!

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Indianapolis Jewish Film Festival

Killing Kasztner: The Jew who Dealt with Nazis

Rezso Kasztner, known as the Jewish Schindler, negotiated face to face with Adolf Eichmann, rescuing 1,700 Jews on a train to Switzerland, and may have saved tens of thousands more lives. Yet Kasztner was condemned as a traitor in his adopted country of Israel; accused as a collaborator in a libel trial and verdict that divided a nation and forever stamped him as the “man who sold his soul to the devil.” It was a verdict overturned by Israel’s Supreme Court but too late for Kasztner. He was ultimately assassinated by Jewish right wing extremists in Tel Aviv in 1957.

Now living in New York, Director Gaylen Ross was at the Film Festival to tell the story of the making of the film. She graduated from Broad Ripple High School in 1968 – then named Gail Rosenblum.

For anyone who would like to see the film but missed it, a 2 DVD Edition is now available on Amazon or the film website: www.killingkasztner.com

“I was very impressed with the work of the film director, Gaylen Ross. The research and presentation were both interesting and compelling. I came out of the theater with a little more insight into the early history of the modern state of Israel and its attitudes in regards to the Holocaust” said Sally Cotlar.

Above and Beyond

The first major feature-length documentary about the foreign airmen in Israel’s 1948 war, *Above and Beyond* brings together new interviews as well as stunning aerial footage to present a fascinating, little-known tale filled with heart, heroism and high-flying *chutzpah*.

In 1948, just three years after the liberation of Nazi death camps, a group of Jewish American pilots answered a call for help. In secret and at great personal risk, they smuggled planes out of the U.S., trained behind the Iron Curtain in Czechoslovakia and flew for Israel in its War of Independence. This ragtag band of brothers not only turned the tide of the war; they also embarked on personal journeys of discovery, sacrifice and renewed Jewish pride.

Filmed in the U.S., Israel and the United Kingdom, the film is produced by Nancy Spielberg, Steven Spielberg’s sister, and directed by Roberta Grossman, with cinematography by Harris Done, special effects by Industrial Light and Magic and an original score from Hans Zimmer’s Studio.

“This remarkable movie needs to be shown in Israel in every high school, IDF training course and especially in officer

House passes opposition to BDS

On April 22, 2015, the Indiana House of Representatives unanimously passed House Resolution 59 “expressing opposition to the anti-Jewish and anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign (BDS)”.



(L-R) Elliot Bartkey, Rabbi Yisrael Gettinger, with Indiana House Speaker Brian Bosma, and Rick Bentley at the passage of the anti-BDS resolution.

This is an important step in the fight against anti-Jewish movements in recent years. Ideas and speech have consequences, and the growth of BDS on university campuses and in the public arena must be fought now to prevent this attempt to delegitimize and damage Israel from spreading.

The Jewish American Affairs Committee of Indiana (JAACI) presented the resolution to the Indiana General Assembly and appreciates the leadership of House Speaker Brian Bosma in seeing the resolution adopted. Indiana’s resolution benefited from the Tennessee model anti-BDS resolution and is now the second state in a growing national movement to defend Israel against BDS. ✨



Film Producer Nancy Spielberg and Indy shaliach Roy Swisa at the screening of *Above and Beyond* on Apr. 29, 2015.

and commander training because it’s part of our history that we all need to know,” stated Roy Swisa, Indianapolis *shaliach*. ✨

EVENTS

(continued from page IN 4)

at HHAI for the past nine years. The eight graduating eighth graders will also be honored.

Call the school to make your reservations at 317-251-1261.

Shavuot at Traders Point Creamery with PJ Library and YLD

Sun., June 7 3:45 p.m., 9101 Moore Rd, Zionsville. Cost \$6, children under age 3 accompanied by paying adult are free. Questions: Email Inna at pjlibrary@jfgi.org. RSVP to www.jewishindianapolis.org.

PJ in the Park Play Dates

Mondays at 10 a.m., at Holliday Park **June 8, July 13, August 10.** Your children will love PJ Library’s Play Dates in the Park! Fun activities include story time, music, and snacks. Siblings are welcome. RSVP to Inna at pjlibrary@jfgi.org.

JFGI Annual Meeting

Wed., June 10 at 7 p.m. Agenda for the Evening: Celebration of Outgoing President Paul Kraft and Welcome to President-Elect Offer Korin; Election and Installation of 2015 – 2016 Board of Directors; and Presentation of Awards. Dessert reception to follow. RSVP to (317) 726-5450.

JCC annual meeting

Thurs., June 11 at 7 p.m. In addition to elections to the JCC Board of Directors, there will be an awards ceremony, recognition of outgoing board members, refreshments and dessert!

Burn Your Carbs with Congregation Shaarey Tefilla

Sun., June 14 from 9 a.m. to noon. For all ages: Bike ride for 5, 20, or 40 mile suggested route or a walk at West Park. Bring family, friends and acquaintances. Starts at CST, 3085 W 116th St., Carmel, Ind. Contact Andrea Leopold 317.733.2169 or office@shaareytefilla.org

JFGI trip to CANDLES Museum

Sun., Jun. 14, community bus trip to CANDLES Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. – includes private tour and lunch. Cost: \$15. Contact Inna at 715-9264 or ikolesnikova@jfgi.org.

JCRC annual meeting

Tues., June 16 at 7 p.m. Contact Lindsey Mintz lmintz@indyjrc.org

Jews in Twos and Singles Mingle

Thurs., June 18, two programs on one night – Jews in Twos for couples and Singles Mingle for singles! ✨

MOSAIC

(continued from cover)

The mosaic panels will soon be hanging prominently in the new maternity wing of Galilee Medical Center in Nahariya in northern Israel. There the sun coming through the glass wall of the lobby will reflect off the glass tiles allowing many more to gain strength from its beauty.

Two years ago Rothenberg began an art therapy program for cancer patients, survivors, their families and friends at St. Vincent Hospital which proved to be a real community-building experience. A visit by the head of the Galilee Medical Center came the following year. When he saw the mosaic at St. Vincent he asked if one could be made for his hospital.

A grant from the Glick Fund of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis helped get this new Tree of Life project started. The St. Vincent Foundation donated one of the side panels, which was made in that hospital; another side panel traveled with Rothenberg to Jewish communities throughout the American Midwest, including her home town of Indianapolis, as a project of Partnership2Gether, a program of the Jewish Agency and Jewish Federations of North America.

Rothenberg and Buxbaum first made a gorgeous painting (see cover). It was divided into three panels. Then glass of the colors was cut into pieces to match the colors in their creative work. Locally, she brought one panel, containers of cut glass and glue to different locations such as the Hasten Hebrew Academy, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, Beth-Zedeck, and the JCC.

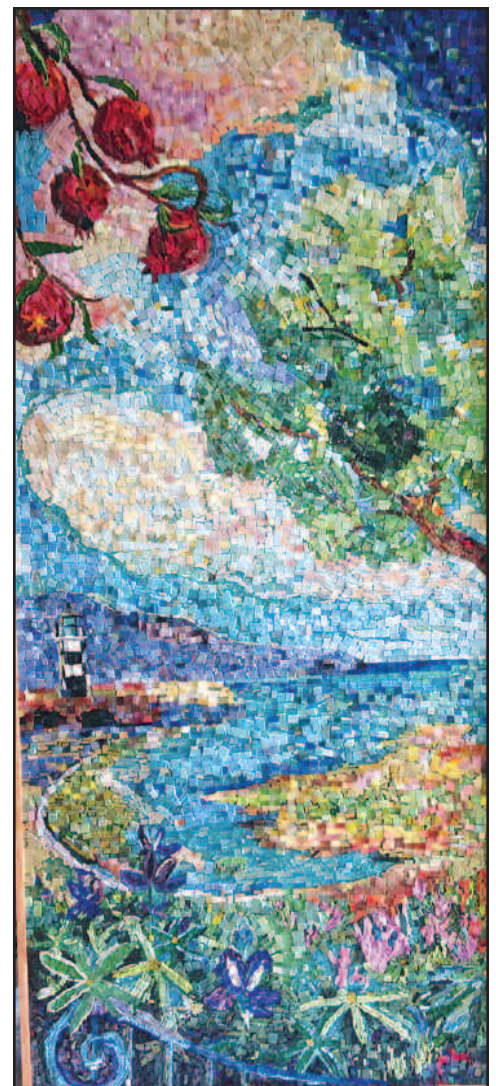
People of all ages attending services or classes or even preschool would approach the panel laid out on a long narrow table with containers of cut glass and glue. They would look for a spot on the panel not yet filled with glass and then search for a matching piece of colored glass to fill that spot on the mosaic. Once found, they would put glue on the glass piece and place it in the matching spot. (See photo on back cover of the first four American women rabbis placing some pieces at a reception after they spoke at Beth-El Zedeck on April 30.)

At the Galilee Medical Center in Israel hospital staff, patients, their visitors and residents were all encouraged to come and help glue tiles to a third panel. The hospital serves an area with 600,000 residents of different backgrounds such as Christians, Jews, Muslims and Druze, and the treating physicians represent all of these communities as well.

The mosaic as a whole is non-denominational featuring scenes of fertility representing all cultures. The two cousins

created a scene in which fertility and feminism are portrayed as a tree of life on the Mediterranean Sea, with Rosh Hanikra and Acre in the distance. The finished mosaic represents thousands of hours of work by hundreds of people of different backgrounds on two continents working together. It will be installed June 30, 2015 at noon.

An article on this first appeared in The Jerusalem Post by Barbara Bamberger on March 27 and then in the Indianapolis Star by Shari Rudavsky on May 2. ☆



Above: A finished panel. Left: Joani Rothenberg (L) and Katy Cantor attend to panel production at IHC.

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The Four Firsts: Women Rabbis in American Judaism

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A wonderful program April 30 at Beth-El Zedeck with four firsts American Women rabbis – Sally Priesand, Reform ordained 1972; Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, Reconstructionist ordained 1974; Amy Eilberg, Conservative ordained 1985; and Sara Hurwitz, Orthodox ordained 2009. The discussion with the four rabbis was moderated by Dr. Gary Zola, director of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati. (See editorial on p. 3 more about this.) ✨



JFGI Executive Vice President Debra Barton Grant (L) speaks with American Jewish Archives Director Dr. Gary Zola.



Rabbi Audrey Pollack (L) of Temple Israel in West Lafayette, Ind. and Sally Priesand at the reception.



Rabba Sara Hurwitz.



(above) Artist Joani Rothenberg (L) leads the Four Firsts: (L-R) Rabba Sara Hurwitz, Rabbi Amy Eilberg, Rabbi Sandy Sasso, and Rabbi Sally Priesand in the production of the mosaic panel (see cover).



(right) Rabbi Lew Weiss speaks with Rabbi Amy Eilberg. Both have been chaplains at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis – Weiss is now and Eilberg was in the 1980s.

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