



SHALOM



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TEVET-SHEVAT 5773



**Chanukah
celebrated in
many ways**
Page 14

**More photos
from Israel trip**
Pages 4-7

**Fox buys back
Wyomissing
movie theater**
Page 8

**Lecture series
focuses on Jews
and the movies**
CENTERPIECE

**JEWISH
FAMILY SERVICE:
Newtown's school
tragedy and the
mental health
crisis**
Page 12



**2012 totals
as of Dec. 11**
**Jewish Community
Campaign**
\$602,374
*Includes transfers from
Donor Advised Funds

Expert on disaster relief meets with community leaders

The Jewish Federation of Reading kicked off its 2013 Jewish Community Campaign Dec. 2 with the Leadership Gifts Dinner at the home of Sam and Sarah Flamholz.

The guest speaker was Dr. William Recant, a disaster relief expert and assistant executive vice president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. Federation donors at the event learned some of the important ways their support helps Jews and others in need around the world, and how much more needs to be done.

Read more about Dr. Recant's talk on Page 11



Dr. Will Recant



Sam Flamholz with Rob Oppenheimer and Neal Jacobs



Rosalye Yashek and Yvonne Oppenheimer



Al and Betsy Katz with speaker Will Recant



Sarah Flamholz and Judith Jacobs



Drs. Alan and Lisa Levine



Harriet Baskin and Rosalye Yashek



Hostess Sarah Flamholz greets Haia Mazuz



Haia Mazuz and Debbie Flamholz



Dena and Vic Hammel



Carol Perlmutter with Harriet Baskin, Judith Jacobs



Janine Ure and Tammy Mitgang

Community Shabbat and Dinner
Jan. 25 at Kesher Zion. See Page 2 for details

Federation News

In estate planning, the 'how' is important

By Paul L. Landry

I was talking with a financial professional a couple of weeks ago, and we were discussing the various ways to make charitable gifts. If you have followed this column, you've read about beneficiary designations and how they can be excellent vehicles for charitable giving. As we discussed that topic, she shared with me a situation she has encountered on several occasions recently — people who name their estates as the beneficiaries of life insurance policies or checking/savings/money market accounts.

There's nothing inherently wrong with doing that, but in these cases the



cash from those financial instruments was intended to be quickly available for various purposes. Because the estate was the listed beneficiary, access to the money was delayed, which caused a variety of problems.

If you are facing this situation, you might want to arrange things differently. For instance, name a trusted relative or friend as the beneficiary and make sure they know the purposes for which this money is intended. Because assets covered by a beneficiary designation do not fall under your will, they can pass to your heirs much more quickly. Another is to open a separate checking or savings account jointly with that trusted relative or friend and place enough cash in that account to cover those known expenses. The relative/friend would have much

quicker access to the cash in time of need. There are many other ways to deal with these situations — the key is to think of them ahead of time, and then consult with your financial advisors to make the required changes.

Don't forget that beneficiary designations can be an excellent way to make a charitable gift to the Federation. Just contact the company with which you have the policy or account and ask for a "Change of Beneficiary" form. List the Federation as the beneficiary of all or part of the funds. The forms should have all of the instructions you need. It really is just that easy, and that's part of why it is such a great way to make a charitable gift.

If you have any questions, call me. All contacts are completely confidential and

without obligation. Paul Landry, 610-921-0624, paul@jfreeding.org.

Now for the answer to last month's brain teaser: What is the largest living thing?

Answer: It's a mushroom! In the Malheur National Forest in Oregon, one (1) "Honey Fungus" mushroom has spread underground to cover 2,200 acres. It is estimated to be between 2,000 and 8,000 years old.

One more brain-teaser before I put the book away (at least for a while). What's the name of the tallest mountain on Earth?

Again, remember the name of the book ("The Book of General Ignorance: Everything you think you know is wrong") and try to avoid the Internet. The answer next month!

Students at local Jewish community high school get lesson direct from Israel

History was made Dec. 16 at Gratz JCHS in Reading as Rabbi Barry Dov Lerner led a 45-minute class from Israel via Skype. Rabbi Lerner was in Israel for the Bat Mitzvah of his oldest grandchild, Atara Margolit, in Modiin.

Students came together promptly at 6:30 p.m., if only out of compassion for Rabbi Dov, who waited until 1:30 a.m. Israel time to begin the discussion.

Students had a variety of questions. Ari Spillerman wanted to know if Rabbi Dov had seen the Iron Dome in action. Rabbi Dov explained that thankfully there is a cessation of rockets from Gaza, but that IF there had been an alarm there were only seconds to realize that everyone had to get to a shelter ASAP, not stand around, look or take pictures.

However, he noted that it was ironic that so many are concerned about terror and danger in Israel

at this time so soon after the Gaza episode, while the Israeli newspapers were focused on the tragedy in Newtown, Conn.

Evan Cardinal wanted to know what was the most momentous experience. Rabbi Dov said it was the Bat Mitzvah. It is the first time that all of his children and his grandchildren were in one place for celebration of a simcha, with the presence of all grandparents, and dozens of aunts, uncles and cousins.

A number of students wanted to know about the food. The food court in the mall has a kosher McDonald's, pizza, Moroccan delicacies, Asian foods, delicatessen, "Burger Bar," and opportunities for schwarma, falafel and schnitzel.

Bryce Weiser wanted to understand why the rabbi was spending his vacation making notes and conducting a class. He was told that they as students are

very special, that time in Israel is more than a vacation — it is a "chavayah," an "experience" and Rabbi Dov wanted to do everything possible to maximize the time for the experience in Israel, which also included encouraging the students and their parents to plan on participating in trips to Israel.

Lastly, we computed together how many doughnuts were made, sold and consumed during Chanukah in Israel. As of September, Israel's population stood at 7.9 million. If each night each person ate only one doughnut (and you can't eat just one!) you would be dealing with 72 million doughnuts plus those that were made and not sold!

NOTE: Gratz JCHS classes resume Jan. 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the JCC. Any Jewish teen who might want to take classes second semester with our existing program should contact Rabbi Dov at bdlerner1@gmail.com.



The link to the Penn State book "A History of the Jewish Community in Reading and Berks County" is now on the Federation website — www.readingjewishcommunity.org. Check it out and help make history!



Annual Community Shabbat Dinner

Celebrate Shabbat Shira or "Sabbath of Song." Join Us for Dinner and Lift Your Voice in Song

Friday, Jan. 25. Service 6:00 PM followed by Dinner at 7:00PM

Keshet Zion Synagogue, 1245 Perkiomen Ave., Reading

Full Course Kosher Buffet Dinner by Boscov's Ala Carte Catering

Mushroom Barley Soup, Apricot Chicken, Kugel, Vegetables, Salad, Rolls, Coffee, Tea & Dessert

Chicken Fingers for the Children

Vegetarian Option Available by request

Adults \$20 per person; Children 18 & under Free

RSVP by Jan. 14

Sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Reading, Keshet Zion Synagogue, Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom and Chabad Lubavitch of Berks County

Our Celebration of Song and Torah continues

Saturday, Jan. 26, 9:30 a.m. at Keshet Zion Synagogue

Kiddush Lunch to Follow

Here we go again?

By Alvin Katz
Chairman

A very dangerous situation has begun to emerge again in many European countries — *Anti-Semitism*. In an area of the world that should be sensitive to this type of behavior, we're finding just the opposite. We're



finding an increase in anti-Semitic behavior, anti-circumcision laws, anti-Kashrut laws, the prohibiting of wearing Kipot in public, physical attacks on anyone perceived to be Jewish and on Jewish institutions.

This is 2012 and not the 1930's and 1940's. An extension of this anti-Semitism is the negative actions taken by many European governments regarding Israel's security and legitimacy. Physical

attacks on French Jews have resulted in many making Aliyah to Israel.

There are many possible reasons for this change in attitude in Europe: growing economic hardships, changing demographics and inaccurate reporting by the mainstream media concerning Israel and Jews; also failure of the world powers to come to grips with the truth regarding the Israeli/Palestinian issue. The world must face the fact that rockets targeting

civilians and their firing from within civilian populated areas is a war crime and should be dealt with accordingly. Our European allies must not fall into the same mindset that led to the eradication of most of European Jewry during World War II but rather recognize the contributions to the world made by Jews and those contributions the State of Israel has made in technology and many other fields for the betterment of mankind.

From the President's Desk

Israel is in danger — a reality check for 2013

By Tammy K. Mitgang
President

On Thursday, Dec. 13, hundreds of men and boys wearing the green militant garb of Hamas marched through the streets of Nablus, calling for Palestinian unity and renewed attacks on Israeli cities. It was the first public rally by the Islamist party in the West Bank in years. That's right — Nablus is in the West Bank.

The marchers chanted, "Qassam, repeat it, Tel Aviv, destroy it." Amid a sea of green flags, they continued, "Qassam, repeat it, hit Haifa this time."

The rally celebrated the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Hamas and was viewed as a step toward reconciliation with the Fatah faction that rules the West Bank. It seems the memory of President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority, the leader of Fatah and the Palestine Liberation Organization, is very short, considering Hamas' violent overthrow of



the Palestinian Authority from Gaza in 2007. Perhaps those members thrown from rooftops and executed by Hamas when they took control of Gaza were not essential to the future of a Palestinian state — a cut-and-paste assemblage of factions designed to clean up just well enough to gain full state status.

The demonstration in the West Bank was small in comparison to the gathering of tens of thousands of Hamas supporters who converged in Gaza City days earlier near a large replica of an M-75, a Hamas rocket that carried the words, "Made in Gaza." Khaled Meshal, the political leader of Hamas, gave a defiant speech, vowing to build an Islamic Palestinian state, "Palestine is ours from the river to the sea and from the south to the north. There will be no concession on any inch of the land." He pledged that all Palestinian refugees and their descendants would one day return to their original homes in what is now Israel.

Meshal promised that the Jewish State would be wiped away through resistance, or military action. "The state will come from resistance, not negotiation," he said.

"Liberation first, then statehood."

"We will never recognize the legitimacy of the Israeli occupation, and therefore there is no legitimacy for Israel, no matter how long it will take," he said. "We will free Jerusalem inch by inch, stone by stone. Israel has no right to be in Jerusalem."

Meshal promised Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons that they would be freed in prisoner exchanges negotiated by more kidnappings of Israelis and IDF soldiers such as Gilad Shalit. He assured unity, but on the basis of Hamas's principles, not subordinate to Fatah.

Meshal's words reflected longstanding Hamas principles — these are not new threats toward Israel. They are part of Hamas's mantra. So, why are so many American Progressive Jewish leaders refusing to accept the dangerous reality that is undeniable? Israel is facing real world dangers that threaten its very survival.

As Operation Pillar of Defense was raging, many American progressive Jewish leaders' response was that Israel needed to "engage earnestly and immediately in peace negotiations

with the Palestinian Authority." Clearly, these rabbis demonstrated a lack of understanding of the hatred of Israel that is now systemic in Palestinian life. In response to the UN General Assembly's vote to upgrade the Palestinians' status to that of non-member observers, rabbis of Bnai Beshurun in New York wrote their community saying that the vote at the UN was "a great moment for us as citizens of the world ... This is an opportunity to celebrate the process that allows a nation to come forward and ask for recognition."

Do these religious leaders think there will be any such shared sentiment on the other side? Partners sitting across the table ready to work toward ways to live side-by-side? Does anyone truly believe that Israeli concessions in the West Bank can curb the hatred?

Leon Wieseltier, literary editor of *The New Republic* wrote: "I no longer believe that peace between Israelis and Palestinians will occur in my lifetime. I have not changed my view; I have merely lost my hopes."

And, on this conclusion, Mr. Wieseltier, I sadly must agree.

Paper reports most Palestinians in poll favor armed struggle

The Times of Israel reported in mid-December that for the first time since 2006, more West Bank Palestinians support the political approach of Hamas as opposed to that of Fatah and its leader, Mahmoud Abbas, a new poll shows. And an overwhelming majority of Palestinians believe the results of the latest Hamas-Israeli escalation that included Operation Pillar of Defense — Israel's recent eight-day operation against terror targets in Gaza — prove that the armed struggle represents the best path to Palestinian independence.

The poll, conducted in December by Arab World Research and Development, a Ramallah-based research center,

sampled 1,200 Palestinians from Gaza and the West Bank. It set out to examine political opinions among Palestinians following Operation Pillar of Defense in Gaza and Mahmoud Abbas's successful UN nonmember statehood bid.

Here are the highlights, according to the *Times*:

■ 42 percent of West Bank respondents said they preferred the approach of Hamas to that of Fatah, as opposed to only 28 percent who preferred Fatah's approach. More Gazans, 40 percent, said they preferred Fatah's approach to that of Hamas, which rules over them. Meanwhile 37 percent of Gazans said

Hamas's approach was better. While Abbas tends to favor a two-state solution reached by negotiations, Hamas — recognized internationally as a terrorist group — refuses to recognize Israel and vows eternal Jihad against the Jewish "infidels" who reside in the land Palestinians consider their own.

■ An overwhelming 88 percent of the entire sample believed the result of Operation Pillar of Defense proved armed struggle is the best means of achieving Palestinian independence.

■ The poll found a sharp decline in support for negotiations with Israel among West Bank residents. In May 2011, 59 percent of West Bank residents

supported an immediate return to negotiations with Israel. That number dropped to 52 percent in May 2012, but declined sharply to 43 percent in the most recent poll. Meanwhile, support for negotiations remained largely stable in the Gaza Strip at around 50 percent.

Hillel Frisch, an expert on Palestinian politics at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar Ilan University, said he was not surprised with the results of the poll.

"Palestinians are becoming more frustrated and losing hope in negotiations," Frisch told *The Times*. "They may turn to Hamas not because it's Hamas, but because it's the movement that opposes negotiations with Israel."

SHALOM

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Deadline for the February issue is Jan. 5

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MISSION TO ISRAEL — EXTENDED

A contingent representing the Jewish Federations of Reading and the Lehigh Valley visited Israel in October. This was more than just a sightseeing trip. The mission participants had an opportunity to learn firsthand how the dollars our community sends to the Jewish state are helping people. Our contingent had the option of extending their mission experience several days and traveling to the north. Thanks to Hurricane Sandy, even those who had planned to return to the East Coast enjoyed an unintended extension. Some chose to stay in Jerusalem while others relocated to Tel Aviv.

A visit to Latrun

On Monday, the “official” travelers headed toward Latrun, the first of the hilly ridges you see on your way to Jerusalem and the site of battles mentioned in the Bible and a key position for British authorities who dominated the old Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway. It was later controlled by the Arabs and used to attack traffic on the highway from Latrun to Jerusalem but was captured in 1967 by Israeli forces. Today, Latrun is a museum and memorial for Israel's armored corps.



The Tegar Fort became the Yad La-Shiryon memorial for fallen soldiers of the Israeli Armored Corps and the Museum was established there. The group enjoyed a guided tour by a member of the IDF's Armored Corps.



The outdoor display includes 110 tanks and other armored fighting vehicles, including the Merkava and T-72 tanks



A Wall of Names, erected outside, displays the names of all the fallen soldiers from the Armored Corps, beginning with the War of Independence (1948) and up to this very day.



Upclose and personal, our guide explained the importance of the tank when fighting in the desert and the evolution of the equipment that enables it to be so effective.



In the north, winemaking was an important element in the economic development of the early settlements and today is home to many outstanding wineries including the world renowned Tishbi Winery. Invited to participate in a ‘tasting’, the group sniffed, swished and swirled a variety of Tishbi's fine wines and after lunch, boarded the bus for a well-deserved and very restful nap as they traveled to Ein Hod.

Ein Hod

Ein Hod is an artists' village founded in 1952 by Dadaist artist Marcel Janco. The location also provides a beautiful view of the sea and the mountains. The group took a moment to 'smile' for Dan Ben Arye, a village founder and our personal guide, in front of a sculpture by esteemed sculptor, Benjamin Levy. The work entitled, "Couple in a Sardine Can" again greets visitors later in the village but in a work that 'reveals' the can's contents



In the center of the artists' village of Ein Hod is the gallery. The gallery exhibits the work of 95 member artists and craftsmen. The largest hall features changing exhibits of paintings and sculptures. Two rooms exhibit works on paper and mixed media; watercolors, pastels, graphics, photographs and prints.



From left, Sheila Bornstein, Mara Winn, Mindy Small and Victoria Hafetz learn about screen printing techniques before beginning their own t-shirt projects.



Drying in the fresh mountain air; Andy Wernick helps hang newly screened t-shirts created by the group.

Safed

The group arrived in Safed (also spelled Zefat, Tsfat, Zfat, Safad, Safes, Safet, Tzfat, etc.), an ancient city located in Northern Israel in the mountains of the Upper Galilee. One of the four holy cities in Israel, together with Jerusalem, Hebron and Tiberias, Safed enjoys magnificent views east to the Golan, north to the Hermon and Lebanon, west to Mt. Meron and the Amud Valley, and south to Tiberias and the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee). According to the great mystics of the past, Safed is to play an important role in the final redemption; some believe the Messiah will come from Safed on his way to Jerusalem. The Ari HaKodesh said that until the Third Temple is built, the Shechinah (God's Manifest Presence) rests above Safed.



One of Safed's sweeping views from a patio atop the Kabbala Center.



The group joined Avraham Loewenthal at Tzfat Gallery of Mystical Art to learn more about Kabbala through his work that ranges from spiritual maps of transcendental harmonies to large abstract painted wood constructions. Loewenthal has been living in the Old City Artist Quarter of Tzfat since 1994. He divides his time between painting and studying Kabbala. Prior to coming to Israel, Avraham grew up in Michigan.



A selection of meditational maps of the sounds of the shofar by Avraham Loewenthal in his gallery.



The scroll in the Abuhav Synagogue is the oldest in Safed, and many traditions and legends are associated with it. It is only taken out for reading at Yom Kippur, Shavuot, and Rosh Hashanah.



Some homes have blue doors and often steps and lintels are painted blue, a color that appears everywhere in Safed, even on some tombs. Blue symbolizes Heaven, according to the Kabbalah. (White symbolizes Earth). The synagogues frequently have beautiful blue ornamentation.



Canaan Gallery where handloom weaving is used to create traditional talit



The group traveled further north along the Blue Line, the border demarcation between Lebanon and Israel and met with retired Col. Kobi Marom, an IDF career officer and Brigade Commander, Eastern Front, South Lebanon of the Hermon Brigade during the 2000 evacuation of Lebanon. While taking in the breathtaking, panoramic view of the area including Lebanon, the Western Galilee and the Golan, the group learned about the geopolitical overview of the security situation in the north.



Howard Hafetz with Col. (res.) Kobi Marom

Golan Heights

After lunch at the Charolais Restaurant located near Har Dov, we boarded jeeps and traveled on the Golan Heights, one of Israel's most beautiful and controversial regions.



It was a somber visit to the Northern Galilee monument that was erected in 2009 near Kibbutz Dafna to commemorate 73 soldiers killed when two helicopters collided en route to Lebanon.



Barbara Silverberg leads the way through a captured Syrian bunker.

Youth Futures and Rosh Hanikra

It was time to enjoy new friends at one of Jewish Agency's Youth Futures programs where we were invited to decorate cookies with at-risk children in one of Galilee's underserved schools. The Jewish Agency is funded by our local Federation dollars, The Jewish Federations of North America, Keren Hayesod, the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, foundations and donors from Israel and around the world.



Corinne Wernick & Mindy Small, left, and Sheila Bornstein, right, roll and chat with energized students at the Jewish Agency's after-school program.



Mara Winn & Sandy Davis finish cookie master works that were presented to the staff at Ruth Rimonim Hotel, where the group stayed in Safed. Prior to being transformed into a boutique hotel (quirky yet charming), it was a Turkish Kahn dating to the 17th century.



Our last day in Israel began with a visit to Rosh Hanikra with its stunning chalk-white cliffs. It is Israel's most northern coastal border.



While at Rosh Hanikra, the group took the cable car down to the grottoes and toured the underground caves eroded by the pounding waves over thousands of years.



The group listens intently during a tour of the state-of-the-art, underground surgery facility at the Western Galilee Hospital. It is hard to imagine the need for a suite of underground operating rooms, but Western Galilee Hospital, a 627-bed facility, took a direct hit that destroyed part of the hospital during the 2006 Lebanon War. The hospital handled the largest number of casualties in Israel during the fighting. The hospital staff and the patients it serves reflect the demography of the Western Galilee, consisting of Jews, Muslims, Christians, Druze and others. Prior to Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and the resulting security concerns, the hospital served many Lebanese citizens. Jewish Federation of Lehigh Valley directly supports the hospital.



Our last dinner together as the "intended" extended in Israel was held at Jem Beer Factory, a micro-brewery and trendy eatery in Petach Tikva.



"What happens in Israel doesn't stay in Israel. You take it with you — in your memories and in your heart."

Community News



Fox buys back Wyomissing theatre; plans renovation and expansion

A longtime local movie exhibitor with ties to the Jewish community has expanded its presence in Berks County.

Fox Theatres, owned by community member Don Fox, has acquired the Wyomissing 8 theatre on Berkshire Boulevard and renamed it Fox Berkshire. There are plans to renovate the building, which Fox constructed 19 years ago. Carmike Cinemas had been operating the theater since 1996.

"I'm delighted to be getting back this theater that we built in 1993," Fox said. "Fox Theatres has a long history of showing movies to local audiences, dating back to 1957 at the Sinking Spring Drive-In. We're proud to continue our tradition of innovation and outstanding customer service."

The eight-screen theater was originally built and operated by Fox Theatres from 1993-1996. In the hands of its original owner and operator, it will undergo a

two-phase transformation to revitalize the theater over the next several months.

Beginning immediately, phase one of the renovation will include the installation of Christie HFR digital projection systems and Dolby 7.1 sound in all auditoriums. Additionally, the lobby, entrance, restrooms, concession stand, signage and parking areas will be renovated.

Later this year Fox will install new seating in the existing auditoriums and add four screens, including a large-format theater with a giant screen providing an immersive experience. It also will broaden the concession offerings. Fox's theaters boast the lowest ticket prices in the area.

With this addition, Fox Theatres operates five theaters with 32 screens: the Berkshire and Fox East in the Reading area, and theaters in Ocean City and Greenbelt, Md.

Mezuzah at the movies

Did you know that there is a mezuzah at the entrance to the Fox Berkshire theater?

If you look closely as you enter the lobby through the door on the far right, there's a metal contemporary mezuzah.

It was put up by theater owner Don Fox and then-Kesher Zion Synagogue Rabbi Joel Weintraub for the building's opening in 1993.

Fox said he was pleasantly surprised to see that the mezuzah remained untouched more than 15 years after he sold the theater to a national chain.



"I don't think the previous owners ever realized what it was, if they even noticed it," he said.

SHOW US YOUR MEZUZAH!

The Jewish Federation of Reading would like to compile photos of local mezuzot in their endless variety. Please share photos of these beautiful, sacred objects as they appear in your home. Email them to Marknem@aol.com or submit printed photos to the Federation office.

Acclaimed chef opens kosher restaurant

Chef Michael Solomonov, who wowed local Federation donors with an appearance in Berks County last year, is a partner in Citron and Rose, a new glatt kosher European-Jewish restaurant and catering company at 368-370 Montgomery Ave. in Merion, Pa.

Solomonov, along with partners David Magerman and Steven Cook, opened the restaurant last summer. Solomonov, a 2011 James Beard Award winner who is known for his modern Israeli cooking at Philadelphia's Zahav, uses kosher practices to create new interpretations of old world Jewish dishes at Citron and Rose.

"We noticed a need for high quality kosher food in this area, then sought out the top people to help us bring it to life,"

says Magerman, a food enthusiast and philanthropist who created the Kohelet Foundation, which supports Jewish day-school education.

The restaurant's bar features an all-kosher cocktail, wine and beer list. Chef Solomonov's menu offers meat cooked over a charcoal rotisserie grill, house-made Jewish charcuterie, an assortment of traditional pickles, vegetable dishes and salads, and freshly baked breads and desserts.

Citron and Rose Catering will be a full-service catering company for on- and off-site events.

Citron and Rose is open for dinner Sunday through Thursday. For more information, please visit www.citronandrose.com.

All Around the Town

Congratulations to **Ralph Kabakoff**, son of Karen and Myron Kabakoff on his engagement to Kristin Grandstrom.

Until next time: Shalom!
Please e-mail all your simcha news to joan@friedman.net.

Obituaries

Harry VanTosh, 95, of Columbus Ohio and formerly of Reading. Harry loved golf and football and played on the Albright College's 1937 undefeated football team.

He is survived by his daughters; Barbara Van Tosh and Louise Siegel and her husband Albert, his granddaughter Leslie McCarthy and three great-grandchildren: Henry, Holden and

Charlotte. He is also survived by his brother and sister-in-law Samuel and Connie Van Tosh of Florida.

Joan (Yaffee) Schiller, 86, Allentown. Joan is survived by her brother David Yaffee of Wyomissing and her nephew Brian Yaffee of Reading. Other survivors include her son Joel Schiller and his wife Stacey of Delaware; her daughter Paige Hirsch and her husband Elihu and their two children.

Women of Hadassah mark group's centennial

The Reading Chapter of Hadassah celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Hadassah at the Stirling Mansion Dec. 1.

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, was established by Henrietta Szold with 30 other women on Feb. 24, 1912, at Temple Emanu-El in New York. This philanthropic volunteer Jewish women's service organization is dedicated to its partnership with the land and people of Israel, where the organization initiates and supports pace-setting health care, education and youth institutions. Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem welcomes every individual in need of medical attention and is committed to excellence in health care, medical research and education. It employs about 850 physicians and 1,940 nurses who treat more than 1 million patients annually.

Over the years, the dedicated members of the Reading chapter have volunteered their time and talent to raise money to donate toward the upkeep of Hadassah Hospital in Israel by conducting breast cancer awareness walks and Election Day bake sales and through the sales of greeting cards. The local chapter has sponsored the planting of trees in the Negev Desert.

The enduring success, excellent



Hadassah Presidium Ann Greenstein, Jan Simon, Gaye Corbin and Susan Wilson.

Photo courtesy of the Reading Branch of Hadassah

reputation and substantial impact of Hadassah is due in no small part to the continuing dedicated efforts of the more than 330,000 women members and men associates in the United States, as well as supporters around the world.

Among the attendees was state Sen. Judy Schwank, who presented a proclamation congratulating and recognizing the efforts of this dedicated group.



Women in Yiddish song

More than 50 people were captivated by Susan Leviton's presentation "Women's Voices: Women's Lives in Yiddish Song" held at the Jewish Cultural Center. This presentation is a program of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities and by the Jewish Federation of Reading.

Congregational News

Joy and pride

By Rabbi Yosef Lipsker
Chabad Center of Berks County

After a festive evening of celebration, I stood with my wife and watched as my daughter Chaya left the wedding hall with her new husband, Zalmi. They walked out into a cold night filled with the warm promise of a new home, a new beginning, a future.

Many of us speak and worry of Jewish continuity; of the threat of assimilation. My wife and I have dedicated our lives to bring the joy and beauty of Jewish traditions to the Reading community — everything we do is to ensure that there is a Jewish today and a Jewish tomorrow here in Pennsylvania. Yet it was at that moment that I realized that this was the truest expression of “Am Yisrael Chai.”

As we watched our newlywed children, my mind flooded with memories; I



remembered Chaya’s birth, I thought back to her first step, her first word, that first day at kindergarten, her first graduation. I recalled many beginnings and many firsts, but realized that none were quite like this.

The rest had all been stepping stones; mere moments on a journey leading to this day. The goal of our guidance, advice, nurturing and even mistakes as parents had been to instill within Chaya a sense of Jewish pride and values, hoping that one day she too would build a home based on the traditions of our ancestors. Right then, it was becoming a reality.

So yes, there was a tinge of sadness as I watched her walk off into the night with her husband. In a way, this was the end of our journey. Had we done enough, I worried? Had we been there for her when she needed us most? Had we offered the right guidance, the right counsel, adequate support? Sure, we will always be there for them, offering encouragement and unsolicited advice. But for the most part, they’re on their own.

Chabad Lubavitch breaks ground on important expansion project

By Matthew Stock

Chabad Lubavitch of Berks County recently celebrated a groundbreaking ceremony at the Lipsker home. The groundbreaking marked the beginning of a project called “A Home Away From Home.”

Rabbi Yosef Lipsker is affiliated with the Caron Treatment Center, and every Friday night he invites patients from the facility over to his house for Shabbos Dinner. His home is open to countless Jews thirsting for spirituality, for a taste of their heritage. With warmth and a non-judgmental attitude, he, his wife, Chana and their nine children provide an oasis for many people struggling with addiction. A hot, home-cooked meal, the family atmosphere, and a small taste of Judaism can go a long way in helping someone who is far from home.

I would like to tell you a little bit about my story. Last winter I was at Caron. I had overdosed Nov. 19, 2011, developed pneumonia, and went into a coma for 10 days. I ended up at Caron, trying to pick up the pieces of a life I had lost control over.

I entered treatment as an agnostic. Born Jewish, I had stopped believing in G-d when I was young. During my first week at Caron, I was very depressed and in much physical pain. I had heard that there was a rabbi at Caron, but I had no intentions of ever getting to know him. Judaism was not my thing. One day, Rabbi Lipsker came into the Men’s Lounge and talked with me. I told him my story and that I was not religious, and frankly, that I wasn’t interested. He looked at me and said, “Who cares about that, what about you?” This was the first time in my life that a religious person had ever spoken to me with no judgments; only love. It was the first step in my spiritual recovery.

After that first encounter, I went to dinner at his house for four consecutive Friday nights and got reintroduced to Judaism and the beauty it has to offer. First, we had services at the Temple, and I thought we would then have dinner there. I was surprised, to say the least, when he invited us to come home with him. The fact that he invited me and the other patients over to his house left a long-lasting impression. Until that moment I had considered



Community leader Michael Fromm takes part in the Nov. 27 groundbreaking ceremony for a project that will enable Chabad Lubavitch of Berks County to better accomodate the recovering addicts who visit the Lipsker family each week for Shabbos dinner.

myself to be a drug addict. The rabbi was welcoming myself and my fellow drug addicts into his synagogue. As I entered his home, I suddenly started to see myself differently. I was a valuable person. My addiction no longer defined who I was. The simple act of being invited into a home as opposed to just a synagogue, in the state that I was in, restored my faith in myself. The kindness and warmth the rabbi, Chana, and their entire family showed, helped lift my spirits.

Over the last 12 years, the Lipskers have been fortunate enough to reach out and touch the lives of hundreds of people like myself, who are disconnected from our families, our lives, and our spirituality. Many of the people, like me, who have joined his family at their Shabbos dinner table, feel that it was a key turning point in their recovery. There is only one problem. The dining room is too small for the amount of people who come every week.

Construction will start in the spring for an expansion which will provide a more spacious dining area, that will open the doors for more people to join on Friday nights.

Matthew Stock is president of GAC Environmental in New York.

But looking across to Zalmi’s parents, we were reminded that though they may have grown up in different neighborhoods and different cities —Reading and Jewish Brooklyn are as far apart as one might imagine — Chaya and Zalmi shared the same values, the same principles, the same heritage.

Like thousands before us throughout history, my wife and I looked on proudly knowing that our children were setting out to build a warm, welcoming Jewish home. A home open to all, filled with knowledge and kindness.

The blessing I give to those not yet lucky enough to experience this is to feel the same way we felt on that night. It is almost impossible to describe that combination of pure joy, satisfaction, hope, anxiety, excitement and pride at watching your child underneath the Chupah.

I pray that each of us is able to watch our children begin new homes, sure in the knowledge that, indeed, Am Yisrael Chai.



Rabbi Yosef and Chana Lipsker’s daughter Chaya with her husband, Zalmi.

LOCAL CONGREGATIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE

Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.; Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

Babysitting available upon request with one week’s notice
COMMUNITY SHABBAT: Friday evening service, Jan. 25 at 6 p.m.
followed by a Community Dinner at 7 p.m.

REFORM CONGREGATION OHEB SHOLOM

Fridays, Jan. 4 and 11, 6 p.m. Jan. 18, 7:45 p.m.

Tot Shabbat, Saturday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m.

Tu B’Shevat Seder, Jan. 26, 4 p.m.

No service at RCOS Jan. 25 due to Community Shabbat at KZ.

CHABAD CENTER OF BERKS COUNTY

Saturday mornings: 9:30 a.m.

Friday evenings: 6:30 p.m.

CONGREGATION SHOMREI HABRITH

Adult Education with Rabbi Minna Bromberg

*Our “Walking with . . .” series will continue on
the following Wednesdays in 2013*

Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 27

March 20, April 10, April 24

May 8, May 22

1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Kesher Zion Library

All are welcome to join!

Healing Service at Kesher Zion

Healing services are designed to bring more wholeness and peace into our lives, the life of the community, and beyond.

All are welcome to join!

Healing services will be held

Tuesday, Jan. 15,

7:30 p.m.

in the KZ Chapel.



True Thanksgiving

By Anne Seltzer

It was our turn to host Thanksgiving this year. Due to a few extenuating circumstances beyond our control, the whole event was a little iffy as to where it would be and who would be there until a couple days before.

This led to my doing something I never thought possible, buying pre-made food and giving up some control in the kitchen. What I learned from this is that I had a better time. I bought a pre-brined organic turkey from Trader Joe's. Best turkey I ever cooked! Put Gina, my sister-in-law, in charge of the spinach au gratin. Let Diane make the pies. And bought pasta and sauces and salads for Friday's dinner.

It was the best Thanksgiving ever! Enough about the food. Well, never enough about the food, but that wasn't the reason it was the best Thanksgiving ever. The real reason is because for the first Thanksgiving in I cannot even count how many years, all three of our sons were home and under the same roof for at least 14 hours.

Jonathan and Ben arrived Wednesday, and since I was hopelessly behind I pulled out the sofa beds and blew up the air mattresses and put on sheets and blankets. Dave and family arrived later in the afternoon. We had a great time playing board games and laughing at (excuse me, *with*) each other. Diane (Gina's friend) arrived Thursday shortly after Gina and I returned from our annual Thanksgiving outing to Starbucks for Skinny Peppermint Mochas. She came bearing all kinds of yummy pies. Thanks to Ellice the day started off great with her recipe for overnight French toast. A definite keeper. After eating all day, we sat down to dinner and took turns saying what we were thankful for. It was a truly touching time for me as you can imagine



after the year we have had. It was a true blessing and gift from God that we were all sitting there eating dinner together. The true meaning of Thanksgiving was not lost on me this year. Perhaps that is why I fretted so much less about the food.

Matt and Jamie arrived Friday afternoon, and as is typical when Matt enters a room, a certain amount of energy and vibrancy came with him. Since I wanted pictures, we spent a good while taking various permutations of the family group pictures. There were again many laughs at my expense. Ben and Diane left early Saturday, Jonathan late that evening, Dave and family very early Sunday, and Matt and Jamie later Sunday morning. Once again it was Alan, Buttons, and me. I cried for a little while, but then remembered "don't cry because it is over, but smile because it happened."

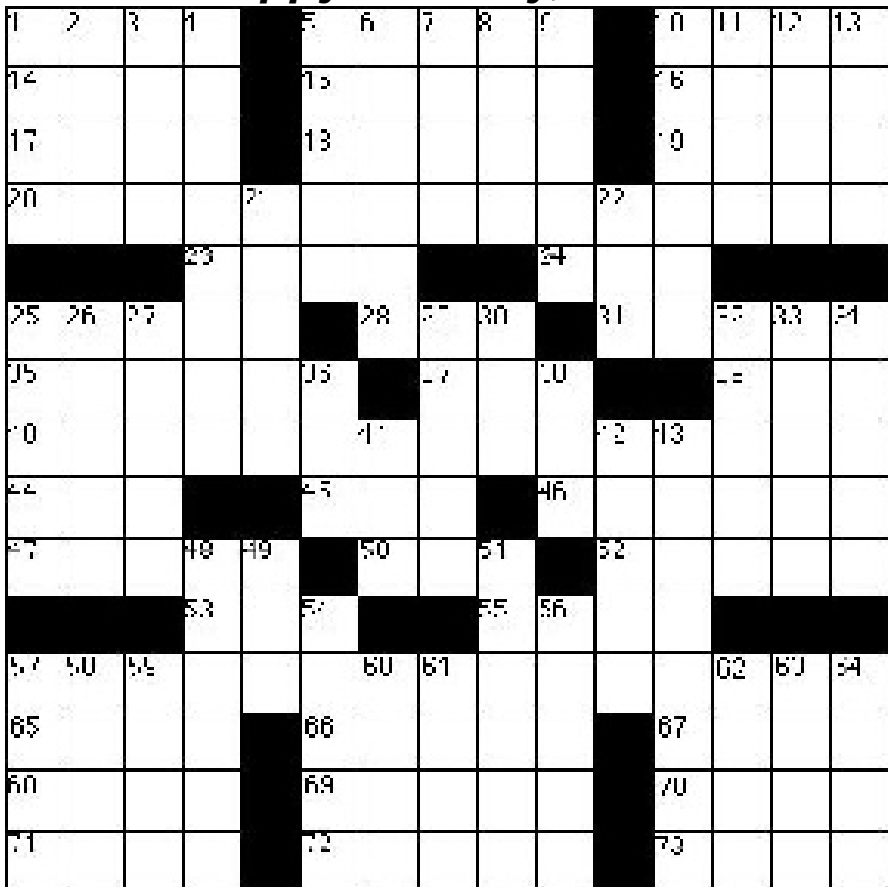
I didn't really do the baking this year, but I did make chocolate chips. Dave and Jonathan both want my recipe so here it is. Only a slight tweak to the original toll house recipe.

Chocolate Chip Cookies

2 sticks butter, softened 2 ½ c. flour
1 c. sugar 1 tsp. baking soda
1 c. brown sugar
1 tsp. salt (can use slightly less)
2 eggs 1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 overflowing c. chocolate chips
(I use Wilbur buds baking chips)

Cream butter and sugars. Add eggs and vanilla, beat well. Add dry ingredients. Mix just until blended. Stir in chips by hand. Drop by tsp. or T. onto parchment-lined or greased baking sheets. Bake at 375° for 8-10 minutes depending on size of cookies. I let my unbaked cookies sit overnight in the fridge before baking them. This seems to meld the flavors. Don't worry if you don't have time to do this. They are still wonderful. Can also drop onto cookie sheet, freeze, and take out of the freezer to bake at a later date. Make a double recipe and freeze some for later. Enjoy!

Happy Birthday, Trees



Solution on Page 13

© 2012, Bernard Mann / Legacy Crosswords

Across

- SUBJECT OF OUR HOLIDAY
- Phys. condition, with jerking, abbr.
- "as long as we have a ____ over our heads"
- The ____ of the Rockies are sharp and clear
- The harmonica Marx
- "WELL, EITHER PA ____ CAN BRING THE APPLES"
- A vat filled with this leads to beer
- Hayworth and Hurricane
- "Oh, yes, ____!"
- OH, NO PROBLEM! IT'S A ____
- Composer John
- What you might be busy as
- Reef builder
- "What's up, ____?" said the carrot chewer
- Poe
- Asian styled lanterns
- Dot follower
- Lawyers' natl. org.
- THE EDIBLES WE ENJOY, BY TRADITION, THIS DAY (3 words)
- ____ Brooks
- Short for a Hebrew king's name
- Inclinations (in the markets, populations)
- The newspapers, collectively
- IN SPRING, IT RISES IN OUR SUBJECT OF TODAY
- ____-porosis
- ____-Magnon
- "Alright, children -- ____ and shine!"
- TEMPLE REQUIREMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THIS DAY, A MEANS OF RAISING FUNDS (3 words)
- Cleveland's lake
- Level surface
- Alter, modify
- The ____ before the storm
- Greek fabulist
- European counterpart of 61 Down, et al
- Fifth letter of Greek alphabet (var.)
- Respond
- Fate, abbr.

Down

- AFTER PLANTING, YOU ____ DOWN THE SOIL
- Teheran currency
- Gardner
- Staked, as in Texas Staked Plains, en Español
- "Oh, I'll just ____ it off"
- Two by two, as with Noah's Ark
- Peinture or similar
- Modest-level argument
- It's sometimes easier to cry aloud than ____
- That issue really ____ the waters.
- Killer whale
- Country on the Arabian Sea
- Wild dream, exciting vision, abbr.
- Hairdresser's venue
- ____-wee
- "Ooh, got a ____ in my leg"
- Natural resource carrier
- Arab city near Ben-Gurion
- City of central Florida
- Ex-____
- Thin and wiry
- Live in, or tolerate
- Hoffman role in "Midnight Cowboy"
- Leftist student movement of the '60's
- Savings time in Denver
- Emergency call
- Poet Robert
- "I'm sorry. This seat is ____"
- Plan, outline of intent
- Honorific address in India
- Application prior to formal submittal of drug for approval
- "That performance is ____ with the best"
- "____ when I heard some died in the Gaza shellings"
- High-____
- Dies ____
- At a slant
- Merry happiness
- U.S. space orgn.
- Comfort
- Pleistocene and such
- Network or such, abbr.

EVERYTHING'S RELATIVE

by Jordan B. Gorfinkel • www.jewishcartoon.com



Uplifting

Your Federation Campaign dollars change the world An afternoon with relief worker Will Recant

Will Recant is one of those people whom you meet for the first time and feel like you have known him forever. The worldwide humanitarian work he helps to make possible through the American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) seems to infuse him with boundless energy. Hopping from plane to plane, time zone to time zone, Will is a globetrotter and storyteller. His stories are of real people; people struggling in life but not hopeless. His stories are of the resilience of the human spirit and our ability as Jews to lift up the most vulnerable. His message – YOU make a difference.

When Will arrived at the home of Sam and Sarah Flamholz for the Leadership Gifts event, he hit the ground running. He required little — little food, water or attention. His years of working in some of the world's most ravaged countries — wars, earthquakes, poverty and disease, have taught him to live minimally and appreciate everything.

Will thanked us — again and again for our generosity. And, then, he began to share stories — the stories of

individuals who touched his life.

Will shared the story of a man living in the former Soviet Union (FSU) who depends on small care packages provided by the JDC. The packages provide basic daily necessities for tens of thousands of at-risk elderly throughout the FSU. During a recent visit, he asked Will why he (Will) had cut the number of adult diapers that his neighbor was receiving. Will had known the man for many years and understood his concern for his aging neighbor.

Although, he, too, was receiving smaller care packages; the man's only concern was for his neighbor. Will struggled to find the words to tell the selfless man that due to the growing number of struggling people in his community that the staples and personal care items had to be further divided to ensure that everyone received an equal share. The man nodded that he understood, never asked about his own diminished package and thanked Will for his kindness.

Will spoke about Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village in Rwanda.

The dedication of the village marks 15 years since the genocide in that African nation. It is designed to provide a healing community to the African orphans. The youth village is a special project of the JDC and will eventually house 500 high school age Rwandan orphans. The village is modeled after Yemin Orde Youth Village in the Carmel Mountains of Israel, a project our community knows well.

Agahozo is the Kinyarwanda word for "a place where tears are dried," and Shalom is Hebrew for "live in peace." The Village is situated on 143 acres of land that overlooks Lake Mugesera in Rwanda's Eastern Province and includes 32 group homes, a high school, science and computer labs, land for organic farming, a reforestation program, dining hall, counseling and medical facilities, and recreational fields.

Will concluded with the story of the telephone call he receives each year on his birthday by retelling the urgent rescue of 14,000 Ethiopian Jews from Addis Ababa during an unprecedented airlift known as Operation Solomon in

1991. He was there helping as plane after plane landed on the air strip and opened their doors. Thousands of exhausted Ethiopian refugees kissed the ground in their homeland, Israel. And, what about that call? It is from a young woman, now 21 years of age, born on the plane during the emergency airlift. She calls each year to say, "Thank you."

"Thank you, Will." You touched our hearts.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) is the world's leading Jewish humanitarian assistance organization. Since 1914, JDC has exemplified that all Jews are responsible for one another and for improving the well-being of vulnerable people around the world. Your campaign dollars help to fund the work of JDC.

Today, JDC works in more than 70 countries and in Israel to alleviate hunger and hardship, rescue Jews in danger, create lasting connections to Jewish life, and provide immediate relief and long-term development support for victims of natural and man-made disasters.

Israeli teens aid in cleanup of Hurricane Sandy in New York

Israel21c.com

A group of 10th-graders from Hashmonaim and Beit Shemesh, Israel, arrived in New York in December to help in the ongoing cleanup and fix-up efforts after Hurricane Sandy. They dubbed their impromptu trip Masa Hashemesh, or Sunshine Journey.

"Unfortunately, six weeks may seem like a very long time after Sandy, but there are still areas that need tremendous assistance," coordinator Stuart Katz of Hashmonaim said. "It's grassroots level and dealing in some neighborhoods that weren't so well-off to begin with."

Katz had flown over to help for the first 10 days after the storm did its damage, and then his youngest daughter asked if she could come, too. He took her along with five of her friends, arranging for the self-funded group to demolish a ruined basement in a home in the Arverne neighborhood of Queens — taking out nails from the walls, tearing down sheetrock and carrying debris to the curb — and to clean up a Long Beach condo's backyard and driveway ("all done in the rain, incidentally.")

They also prepared fruits and vegetables and set tables for lunch at



a soup kitchen run out of a Brooklyn church. "Our purpose is to show that we help all people — regardless of faith or religion — representing Israel," says Katz.

During their week in New York, the kids are going on about 20 speaking engagements at local schools, and livened up Hanukkah parties in Long

Beach and Brighton where they met many individuals whose homes and/or synagogues were damaged by the storm.

"Homeowners were very appreciative — they couldn't believe that the journey was put together so quickly and were astonished that kid citizens of Israel (who they feel are under attack so much) feel

a need to come and help," says Katz. "They were amazed with the work that could be accomplished by teens with a team effort."

Some of the peers they spoke with at schools said they would now like to visit Israel — a destination that was not in their plans previously. Maybe these six high school kids have a future in diplomacy.

Finding owners of pre-Holocaust assets in Israel

You probably know about the efforts to find the owners or their heirs of Holocaust-era assets from Europe. Did you also know that there is another effort — to find the rightful owners of \$300 million of Holocaust-era assets in Israel. The assets, bought by European Jews, include real estate, safety deposit boxes, bank accounts and stocks — all from pre-independence Israel. The Israeli company in charge of identifying the assets and locating the owners believes many heirs of the original owners who died in the Holocaust may be residing in North America.

"Everyone should log on to our website and check if they are legal

heirs of family members who purchased assets before being sent to the crematoriums," said Israel Peleg, CEO of Hashava, the Holocaust restitution company of Israel.

"It's all about property bought by Zionists before World War II, who believed in the Zionist vision," said Peleg. "Some had planned to move back to Israel and others simply thought it was a good investment."

These investments took the form of real estate in Tel Aviv and other cities, and in agricultural lands located in central and northern Israel. Investors also owned bank accounts and stocks of the Jewish Colonial Trust, which

evolved into the Anglo-Palestine bank and which is known today as Bank Leumi. After the Holocaust, these assets were held by the representative of the British Crown that ruled the area. But with the creation of the State of Israel in 1948, the new Israeli government and the Jewish National Fund took over the assets.

To date, only \$20 million of the \$300 million in assets have been returned to heirs. Of the \$300 million, Hashava has allocated an additional \$100 million for helping Holocaust survivors living in Israel and for commemoration.

According to law, Hashava is scheduled to cease operation by 2022,

at which point the assets would be either returned to the heirs or used for support of any remaining Holocaust survivors. But, despite having disposed of less than 10 percent of their assets, sources close to the issue have estimated the company may not last more than another five years, because the major assets have already been located and investigations into locating the heirs are already under way.

To find out if you are an heir to these assets, you can go to Hashava's website at www.hashava.info. There you will find the form to search for any of your ancestors whose assets are being tracked by the company.

Jewish Family Service

State mental health cuts — the continuing tragedy

**United
Way**



By Sari Incledon

I am writing this only days after the tragedy in Newtown, Conn. It is hard to think of anything else. It is my hope that we as a nation will be galvanized to make meaningful changes from such a senseless tragedy.

New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof wrote a moving piece titled "Do We Have the Courage to Stop This" (Dec. 16), wondering why we can't regulate guns as seriously as we do cars. I recommend this column to all. The gun control debate is an important one that needs to be



addressed, but I'd like to turn my attention to another important component — that is the continuing crisis in cuts nationwide for mental health services.

The following information comes from a report published in March 2011 by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. NAMI advocates for access to services, treatment, support and research and is steadfast in its commitment to raising awareness and building a community of hope for all of those in need.

The following information highlights how deep cuts to state spending on services for children and adults living with serious

mental illness led to significant reductions in both hospital and community services for this vulnerable population. Today, with demand for public mental health services extremely high, especially at a time of severe economic distress, the crisis in mental health care continues. The impacts are felt throughout society as people go without the treatment they need. Since fiscal year 2009 states have cut more than \$1.6 billion from their mental health agency budgets while demand for such services increased significantly. A complete state-by-state report of changes to general funding is in the NAMI report. South Carolina (39.3 percent) and Alabama (36 percent) made the largest cuts by percentage. California cut \$764.8 million, New York \$204.9 million and Illinois \$187 million.

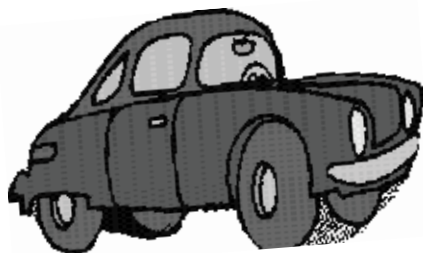
The NAMI report includes the following policy recommendations:

- Protect and strengthen mental health services and restore spending that had been cut.
- Improve data collection and outcomes measurement for mental health services.
- Preserve access to acute care and long-term care.

I hope that from the senseless tragedy in Newtown our country sees the need to provide diagnostic, support and treatment services to clients and families in need of mental health services. Research for mental health treatments and services needs to have parity with the resources devoted to cancer, heart disease and Alzheimer's disease. The report — State Mental Health Cuts: The Continuing Crisis is available online. Go to www.nami.org and use the search function on the website.

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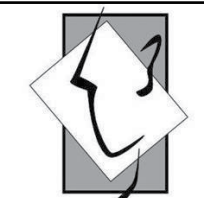
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Contributions as of Dec. 17

Holocaust Library

In memory of:
Susan Simon – Hilde Gernsheimer

Jewish Family Service

In honor of:
Chaya Lipsker’s marriage – Edith Mendelsohn

In memory of:
Andrew Hafetz – Roger Schein
Sylvia Lewis – Gaye and Glenn Corbin

Friendship Circle Fund

In memory of:
Marvin Adelglass – Bob and Carolyn Hoffman, Donald and Victoria Fingerman
Marlene Weiss’ sister Evelyn – Marcia Gross

Harry and Rose Sack Fund

In memory of:
Bruce Gehret – Albert and Nancy Sack

Konrad Zegota - Saving Lives

Konrad Zegota saved thousands of Jewish lives during the Holocaust. It was the code name for the Council for Aid to the Jews, generally referred to simply as Zegota. It was created in 1942 through the efforts of Wanda Krahelska-Filipowic and Zofia Kossak-Szczucka. These women came from opposite sides of the political spectrum. Krahelska-Filipowicz was a socialist. Kossak-Szczucka was a conservative nationalist who, prior to the war, would have been considered an anti-Semite. In 1942 Kossak published a pamphlet exhorting Poles to assist the Jews, recognizing that the murderous plans of the Germans were beyond immoral.

Zegota was a collaboration of key players from different Polish underground organizations that were assisting Jews. Two important Jewish members, Dr. Adolf Berman (of the Zionists) and Leon Feiner (of the Bund), deliberately escaped the Warsaw ghetto to create contacts with the non-Jewish resistance. Zegota was not able to move large numbers of Jews out of the country. Zegota, however, was instrumental in providing funds, supplies, forged papers and medical aid to Jews in hiding.

—Source: Jewish Treats, National Jewish Outreach Program, New York

Honorials and Memorials

Contributions may be made to the following Funds:

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

Federation Jewish Community Campaign

In honor of:
Chaya Lipsker and Zalmi Naparstek’s marriage – Rob and Yvonne Oppenheimer
Yvonne Oppenheimer’s special birthday – Neal and Judy Jacobs
Yvonne Oppenheimer’s selection as a Take the Lead Honoree by the Girl Scouts – Debbie Goodman and John Moyer

In memory of:
Marlene Weiss’ sister Evelyn – Elaine and Paul Safir
Michael Ritter – Barbara Nazimov
Joseph Wittenberg – Anzie and Edward Golden
Harry Van Tosh – Cheryl and Eric Farber, Fran Suknow, Anzie and Edward Golden

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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Country Meadows does not discriminate in resident admission on the basis of race, ancestry, religious creed, age, sex, handicap, disability or national origin, provided the resident, in the sole opinion of Country Meadows, can be cared for legally and responsibly.

Chanukah 5773



Local college students gather at the JCC for an opportunity to celebrate Chanukah.



JCC Friendship Circle members enjoy a festive afternoon



Jerry Marcus lights the Berkshire Mall menorah during the annual Chanukah at the Mall celebration.



Sylvia Wenger and Judith Hartman sample fresh latkes and jelly donuts during Keshar Zion Synagogue's Chanukah event at the Neag Planetarium at the Reading Public Museum



Rabbi Yosef Lipsker lights up Berks Lanes of Sinking Spring with a special menorah at a Chanukah event hosted by Chabad Lubavitch of Berks County. Bowling, pizza and lots of community spirit ensured a "perfect" game for more than 40 participants..

PERFECTLY PAIRED.



"It's so easy to make friends here."

-Ruth



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

-Hilde

While Hilde and Ruth have been friends for more than 40 years, they say that there are lots of new friendships waiting for you at The Highlands! Here, you have the best of all worlds: great friendships, comfort and convenience, superior service and peace of mind. From a variety of living options to generous amenities and services, The Highlands empowers you to live an engaging, worryfree and secure lifestyle.



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A member of The Reading Hospital health system.



Souper fundraiser

A private JCC bowl-making workshop at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts was held for the 11th Annual Souper Bowl on May 6 to benefit Opportunity House.

Photo by Aaron Ure