

The VOICE

of the Jewish Community Alliance of Lancaster

Volume 5 • Issue 2 • Winter 2009-2010 • Kislev-Adar 5770



*Celebrate
Good Times...*
COME ON!

PHOTO CREDIT: Heather Johnson, hnjphotography.com

Save The Date

December 13: Chanukah Dinner
December 25: Movie Day At The J
January 3, 2010: Author Event
January 13: Jewish Heritage Event
At The 76ers

February 28: Purim Padooza
March 1: Summer Camp
Registration Begins
May 15: Murder Mystery Gala

Support The JCAL

LATE AUGUST 2009 – NOVEMBER 2009

Lancaster JCC General Fund –
Offsets JCC Operating Expenses



Mazel Tov

- To: Alyssa & Steve Gottlieb on the birth of their nephew, Liam Elijah
From: Michele & Bob Matlin
- To: Tana Dardik on the birth of her grandson, Liam Elijah
From: Michele & Bob Matlin
- To: Shellie and Steve Gordon on the birth of their grandson,
Dov Francis
From: Bob & Michele Matlin; John & Arlene Branas; Sheila Scolnick
- To: Aidan Thorpe on being elected Student Council President
From: Michele & Bob Matlin

Condolences

- To: Jane Sandhaus-Packer in memory of her mother,
Helen Sandhaus
From: Michele & Bob Matlin
- To: Samuel Feldstein and Family in memory of his wife, Jean
From: Allan & Nan Geller; Michele & Bob Matlin
- To: Sharyn Bellafore in memory of her aunt
From: Bob & Michele Matlin; John & Arlene Branas
- To: Steve Schlissel in memory of his mother, Sylvia
From: Michele & Bob Matlin
- To: Irving Mall and Murray Mall in memory of Diana Mall
From: Allan & Nan Geller

Get Well

- To: Bernard Jacobson
From: Michele & Bob Matlin

In Honor of

- Zoe and Lilly Babione
From: Richard & Carolyn Babione

The Matlin Fund

In Honor of

- Bob & Michele Matlin
From: Ned Robbins, Tana Dardik; Arlene & John Branas; Jen & Eric Finkelstein; John and Ilene Schenkel; Eleanor Albaum

Lancaster JCC Membership

Annual membership to the Lancaster JCC runs from June 1 through the following May 31.

MEMBERSHIPS ACCEPTED ALL YEAR

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Family \$400: 2 or more adults, unlimited children living within household

Single Family \$300: 1 adult, unlimited children living within household

Single \$200: individual between the ages of 18 and 64

Senior Couple \$200: 2 adults, both 65 or older

Senior Single \$100: individual 65 or older

HONOR ROLL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

These levels afford all benefits of other membership levels plus honorary distinction, unlimited pool passes, and invitations to honor roll events.

Zahav: High Distinction: \$645

Platina: Highest Distinction: \$1135

Who's Who At The Lancaster JCC?

All of us can be reached at the main office number of **717-569-7352**

- Samantha M. Besnoff, Executive Director (sbesnoff@lancasterjcc.org)
- Jen Browne, Preschool Director, direct line 717-560-7572 (JCALAcademy@lancasterjcc.org)
- Alyssa Gottlieb, Assistant Preschool Director, (rainbowroom@lancasterjcc.org)
- Colleen Cranney, Summer Camp Director (LJCCdaycamp@lancasterjcc.org)
- Louise St. John, Operations Manager, Accounts Receivable, Co-Editor of TheVoice (lstjohn@lancasterjcc.org)
- Lisa Lampf, Finance Manager, Accounts Payable (JCALfinance@lancasterjcc.org)
- Jan Gitomer, Senior Adult Coordinator (LJCC@lancasterjcc.org)
- Arlene Branas, Shellie Gordon, Sheila Scolnick, Front Desk Day Team (LJCC@lancasterjcc.org)
- Olga Jaffae, Front Desk (evenings), Hebrew Instructor, Editor of TheVoice (JCALVoice@lancasterjcc.org)
- Mary Helder, Sunday Receptionist (LJCC@lancasterjcc.org)
- Jill Sherman, Banquet Coordinator (jills@legacylancaster.com)
- Ann Beck, Marketing & Special Events Coordinator (LJCC@lancasterjcc.org)
- Tom Reese, Ian Black, Maintenance

MESSAGE FROM TODD BARTOS- THE PRESIDENT, JCAL



As the holiday season approaches, with Chanukah and the New Year just around the corner, I am reminded of the wonderful rituals of my childhood: trips to visit family, lighting the candles and, of course, playing dreidel and eating latkes. On New Year's Eve, I was always trying to find a way to stay awake to watch the ball drop in Times Square. I look forward to sharing these rituals with my family every year. I hope that each of you are able to be with your family, and are able to take the time to reflect on the past and to look forward to the future.

We are also at a time of year where the JCAL needs the support of all of our members and the larger community. We have made great strides in this past year to enhance our Jewish programming and to open our doors to the larger Jewish and non-Jewish community. Our annual Chanukah dinner will be the largest yet and I hope that everyone is able to drop in for some great food and fun. We continue to have very good traffic through our renovated facilities and I encourage you to stop in

and take a look around – I can assure you that you will be pleasantly surprised by what you'll see.

Finally, I want to challenge each of you to participate in our Annual Campaign. As a non-profit, we rely heavily on our donors to meet our costs. If you have helped in the past, we thank you and ask that you continue your much-needed support. If you have not participated in the past, I ask that you please consider us in your charitable giving plans this year. Every dollar helps us meet our ongoing business expenses, provide programming for our members, assist with JCAL Academy and provide a safe and fun environment for our summer campers. While our tuition and fees for our school and programs, respectively, cover most of the expenses, we rely on the kindness of our community to help us meet our obligations. We are counting on you again this year.

Best wishes for a safe and healthy Chanukah and New Year.

L'Shana Tova!

JCAL Annual
Chanukah Celebration!
In the Legacy Ballroom of the Lancaster JCC

Sunday, December 13, 2009
Celebration Begins At 4pm

4:00 Celebration Begins
Family Entertainment And Fabulous Raffles

Entertainment Provided By
Chopped Liver River Band

5:15 Community Candle-Lighting Ceremony
Bring Your Favorite Chanukah And 4 Candles

5:30 Family-Style Dinner

NEW! Reserve A Table For 8 For Just \$10

Adults: \$18
Seniors: \$15
Kids: (age 4-12) \$12
Kids under 4: our guests

For More Information And Ticket Prices
Call: (717) 569-7352
OR On-Line:
www.lancasterjcc.org



The VOICE

is printed on a quarterly basis. It is mailed to over 1,300 homes in the Greater Lancaster County area and covers all age groups. If you have information to share with the Lancaster Jewish Community, please contact Olga Jaffae, editor, at the Lancaster JCC at 717-569-7352 evenings, Monday through Thursday or JCALVoice@lancasterjcc.org. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for content and length. Advertising in TheVoice is easy and affordable:

Full page (8 1/2" x 11") \$400 • 1/2 page \$200 • 1/4 page \$108

Business Card size: \$72

2010 DEADLINES FOR MATERIALS SUBMISSION:

Spring 2010
(March, April, May)
January 22

Summer 2010
(June, July, August)
April 21

Fall 2010
(September, October, November)
July 21

Vegetarian and Dairy Menu

Enjoy **delicious, healthful & affordable meals** in a comfortable, relaxed setting!

Chickpeas
café

Located inside the Lancaster JCC
2120 Oregon Pike • Lancaster
735-3230
Dine indoors or out
(weather permitting), or take it to go!

OPEN:
Mon.-Fri.
9am-4pm

Sandwiches
and Wraps

Ice Cream
Snacks and Sweet Treats

Salads, Pasta
Homemade Soup

\$2 off any
purchase
of \$10 or more

Chickpeas Cafe
2120 Oregon Pike • Lancaster • 735-3230
With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Offer expires 12-30-09.

MESSAGE FROM SAMANTHA M. BESNOFF- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LJCC



Brisket Just Like Bubbe Made It

A young Jewish mother is preparing a brisket one Friday for Shabbat dinner. Her daughter watches with interest as the mother slices off the ends of the brisket before placing it in the roasting pan.

The young girl asks her mother why she did this. The mother pauses for a moment and then says, "You know, I'm not sure. This is the way I always saw my mother make a brisket. Let's call Grandma and ask her." So, she phones her mother and asks why they always slice the ends off the brisket before roasting.

The Grandmother thinks for a moment and then says, "You know, I'm not sure why, this is the way I always saw MY mother make a brisket."

Now the two women are very curious, so they pay a visit to the great-grandmother in the nursing home.

"You know when we make a brisket," they explain, "we always slice off the ends before roasting. Why is that?"

"I don't know why YOU do it," says the old woman, "but I never had a pan that was large enough!"

By <http://www.haruth.com/jhumor/jhumor37>

I would like to send a big thank you to all of the LJCC staff for everything that they do to keep our Center running smoothly. We have been busy lately and it's wonderful to be a part of the events, programs and livelihood of the JCC. Thank you to Gina and crew for the appetizing aromas coming from Chickpeas Café. And thanks to the JCAL Board and to the community for your continued support.

Thank you to Sharon Alexander-Keilly for her many years of continued service to the JCAL and LJCC. Sharon is stepping down from her position on the JCAL Board, but we know she will still be here helping out when we need her!

**I wish everyone a Happy Chanukah and
Happy Holiday Season!**

Chag Sameach
Samantha

EASY FUNDRAISING AT THE LANCASTER JCC

Entertainment Book



Just
\$25

Last chance to pick up your Entertainment Book!
On sale through December 15

Accepting Used Printer Ink Cartridges For The Lancaster LJCC Recycling Program!



We get \$3 for each ink cartridge we recycle – which can add up fast when the whole community helps out. Drop your cartridges off at the main office. We can recycle as many as 20 per month at the local Staples store – a quick \$60 that we can turn into much-needed office supplies!



Is it time
to pitch
the old
pair?

Get up to **25% off** a new pair

Purchase select **New Balance** shoes up to 25% off retail and your JCC will earn a **7% rebate**. Visit our JCC member's only store today:

www.jcca.org/newbalance
Password: JCCNB (all caps)



FREE
SHIPPING

**LANCASTER JCC
MEMBER EVENT**

**Spend December 25th
At The "J"**
1-4pm

Join Us For A Member Event At
The Lancaster Jewish Community Center

**Movies, Snacks and
Fun Activities**

Please RSVP By December 20
\$10 Per Family (LJCC Members)
Bring A Non-Member Family Or
Friends As Our Guests!

2009-10 Philadelphia 76ers



JEWISH HERITAGE NIGHT

Philadelphia 76ers vs. New York Knicks
Wednesday, January 13th at 7:00PM

Come celebrate the 1st ever Sixers Jewish Heritage Night!
This is a night you will not want to miss!

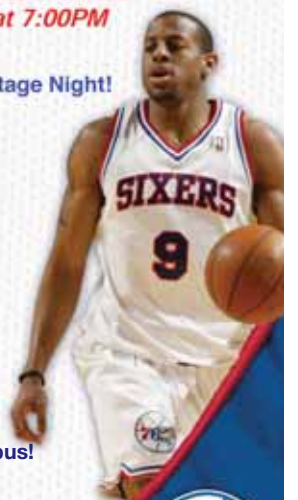
Cost: \$50 per person

Includes:

- Bus Ride (bus leaves the JCC at 4pm and returns around midnight)
- Mezzanine seat for the game
- Hebrew T-Shirt
- Concert after the game

Kosher Food Stands will be on the Concourse

Contact the Lancaster JCC at 717-569-7352 to purchase tickets and reserve your spot on the bus!



SIXERS.COM





During the fall we enjoyed several exciting activities. We all took a school bus to Cherry Hill Orchard and picked apples and pumpkins!



The preschool has been bustling with activity this fall, and we are all very excited about the progress the students have already made. We were proud to welcome back our returning students and to make many new friends as well. The children are engaged in the classroom activities and themes, and we are looking forward to the opportunities ahead.

Our first fall event was the annual Barnyard Bash, a harvest festival where the children enjoyed the JCAL Academy Farm. Teachers and students dressed as their favorite animals and participated in farm-related activities.

We also celebrated Sukkot by decorating our sukkah and having an outdoor Shabbat service. We are planning several exciting events for the winter including our Chanukah Shop (December 7-11), a Tu B'Shevat event and a celebration of cultures for Diversity Day. We are still accepting orders for Challah Chappenings. Challah is delivered to LJCC each Friday and proceeds benefit the JCAL Academy. Thank you for continuing to collect box tops and Campbell's Soup labels for our school. Did you know that the JCAL Academy can benefit each time you use your Target card or shop at Giant? Please designate our school as the recipient of your shopping points.

If you are interested in learning more about our preschool programs, please call Jen at 560-7572.



Rabbi Paskoff visited our school and we learned about Rosh Hashanah and what the shofar sounds like.



Calling All 2- to 5-Year-Olds!

JCAL Academy is proud to offer its award-winning programming to the entire Lancaster community and provide this educational supplement on weekday afternoons.

12:00-12:30 Lunch Buddies

Interact with peers and develop social skills while enjoying lunch in a calm, friendly environment.

12:30-1:30 Enrichment Class



Mondays Cooking Club

Enjoy fun in the kitchen with real ingredients and hands-on fun



Wednesdays KinderMusik

The official KinderMusik program



Tuesdays Beautiful Books

Instill a love of books for your child



Thursdays Science Club

Hands-on science class



Fridays FunFit

Exercise and healthy living for preschoolers

Mix & Match!
Stay for a little or stay for a lot. Choose one day, all five, or anything in between!



1:30-3:30 Playgroup

Stay and play—lots of outdoor fun, art activities and games

Parents call now for more information, (717) 560-7572 or visit www.jcalacademy.org

CLUE
SAVE THE DATE
WHO: All Community Sleuths
WHAT: Murder Mystery Gala
WHEN: Saturday, May 15, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.
WHERE: The Legacy Ballroom
2120 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, 717-560-7572
WHY: To Benefit The JCAL Academy
More information will be forthcoming but only those in attendance will find out "whodunit."

GIANT GIANT Food Stores A+ School REWARDS program

GIANT® Food Stores is pleased to offer the A+ School Rewards program to our local schools and customers. With the A+ School Rewards program, your school earns CASH each time you shop at any GIANT® Food Stores using your BONUSCARD.

How to designate your school: Customer designation is simple. Visit GiantAplus.com and click "Designate Schools" to designate your choice of registered school(s) (up to two per household) to receive your A+ School Rewards points. Then, each time you shop at a participating GIANT using your BONUSCARD between 10/09 – 3/10, your school will earn credit for 1% of your total BONUSCARD purchases. At the end of the program, your school will be awarded a check for the total amount earned through participation in the program. Remember, even if you designated a school last year you must designate again this year! **JCAL Academy school ID: 02065**

Phone: 717-569-7352 | Fax: 717-569-1614 | Web: www.lancasterjcc.org



JCAL Academy FUNDRAISERS:



JCAL Academy earns 10 cents for each box top. Visit the boxtopsforeducation.com web site and print out money-saving coupons on box top products. Then, cut off and turn in the box tops to the JCC office. Also, if you shop on-line, check for your favorite stores at the Box Tops Marketplace. Participating stores will give up to 8% of your purchase back to JCAL Academy.

Challah Chappenings At JCAL Academy

Once again we will be offering weekly challah. Please contact the Preschool at 560-7572 for dates and prices.



LANCASTER
JCC Mommy&ME CLASSES

MUSICAL MERRIMENT • AMAZING ART • MINI MAKE-BELIEVE

MAGICAL MORNINGS
An Expressive Arts Program
Designed For Toddlers* and Preschoolers

- Art & sensory activities
- Musical expression & movement
- Creative & imaginative play
- Independent exploration
- Social interaction with peers

Wednesdays or Thursdays
10:00-11:30am OR Both Mornings

Two 6-week sessions:

Wednesdays, January 13 – February 17
And/Or
Thursdays, January 14 – February 18

Members \$65 • Nonmembers \$70

Mixed age class...
toddlers, preschoolers and Mommy

Great shared experience for siblings –
50% discount for 2nd child in same session



**AWESOME
AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB**
Wednesdays 2:30-4:30 pm
January 13-February 17

For pre-K, kindergarten and
grade school-aged children.
Fosters the creative spirit in an
artistic environment designed
to encourage independence,
free expression and lots of fun!



*Toddlers and walkers only; no crawlers/creepers

For more information about **Magical Mornings** and/or the **Awesome After-School Club**,
contact "Miss Susan" Carr at (717) 201-1712 or email sbcarr@epix.net

Purim Palooza

Sunday, February 28
4-8pm

At the Lancaster JCC

**Dress up as your favorite character
and come join in on the fun!**

**FREE
ADMISSION**

**PURIM CARNIVAL
KOSHER CHINESE DINNER**

SUMMER DAY CAMP 2010
Registration Begins March 1
Look For Camp Info In January



Jewish Community Alliance of Lancaster

Conversational Hebrew Classes
– WINTER SESSION –

These year-round classes taught by our very own multilingual Olga Jaffae meet weekly. Olga, our evening receptionist, has been teaching Conversational Hebrew at the JCC for several years and is skilled at teaching beginners as well as advanced students.

BEGINNERS: THURSDAYS

7:30-9:00 PM

\$50 members • \$60 nonmembers

INTERMEDIATES: TUESDAYS

7:00-9:30 PM

\$50 members • \$60 nonmembers

ADVANCED: MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

7:30-9:00 PM

\$90 members • \$100 nonmembers

**Cammie And Alex's Adventures
At Rainbow Rinks**

BY OLGA JAFFAE



Eleven-year-old Cammie is one of the best ice skaters at her hometown rink. But when an older girl joins her class, Cammie is in awe of the beautiful sixteen-year-old's expensive clothes and ability to glide gracefully over the ice. Isabelle convinces Cammie to move to Skateland, a magical place with skating rinks of unusual, enchanting colors. And then everything starts falling apart. Something strange is going on in Skateland—someone is trying to sabotage her chances at a gold medal! With the help of her friend Alex, Cammie must unravel the mystery at Rainbow Rinks and save her skating career before it's too late!

\$18.99 (paperback)

A great gift for the upcoming holidays; have your copy personalized and signed by the author, Olga Jaffae. Olga is the Lancaster JCC's own evening receptionist and Hebrew instructor. Copies are available at the LJCC. Call for details 569-7352

Phone: 717-569-7352 | Fax: 717-569-1614 | Web: www.lancasterjcc.org

Author Event At the Lancaster JCC

Appropriate for grade 5 and up

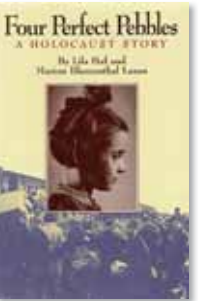
SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010, 7 PM

**FOUR PERFECT PEBBLES
A HOLOCAUST STORY**

www.fourperfectpebbles.com

BY LILA PERL & MARION BLUMENTHAL LAZAN

**COME AND MEET THE AUTHOR,
MARION BLUMENTHAL LAZAN**



Marion Blumenthal Lazan at age 7 and today

Marion Blumenthal Lazan's unforgettable memoir recalls the devastating years that shaped her childhood.

Following Hitler's rise to power, the Blumenthal family – father, mother, Marion, and her brother, Albert – were trapped in Nazi Germany. They managed

eventually to get to Holland, but soon thereafter it was occupied by the Nazis. For the next six and a half years the Blumenthals were forced to live in refugee, transit, and prison camps that included Westerbork in Holland and the notorious Bergen-Belsen in Germany. Though they all survived the camps, Walter Blumenthal, the father, succumbed to typhus just after liberation.

It took three more years of struggle and waiting before Marion, Albert, and their mother at last obtained the necessary papers and boarded ship for the United States. Their story is one of horror and hardship, but it is also a story of courage, hope, and the will to survive.

Books on sale now at the LJCC for \$18 and can be signed by the author after the event. Call and reserve your copy today.

2010 MAH JONGG CARDS

**IT IS TIME TO ORDER YOUR
2010 MAH JONGG CARD!**

- Cards are \$7.00 (standard size)
- \$8.00 (large size)



Your check must be made payable to:

Linda Glazer. Linda must have your payment no later than February 1, 2010. Please be sure to include your name and address and those of any others for whom you order.

Send the check to:

Linda Glazer, 724 Hansom Dr., Lancaster, PA 17603
The donation from the Mah Jongg league, made as a "thanks for bulk order," benefits the Lancaster Jewish Community Center.

Don't Forget To Send For Your 2010 Mah Jongg Card!

Hello To All From
The Legacy Banquet Manager...Once Again!

Picture This...

A blushing bride is thrilled to be dancing her first dance with her new husband on our beautiful dance floor.
A hockey club is happily raising money with a silent auction and "A Nite at the Races." A Real Estate company is thrilled to unveil its new website on our large roll-down screen. A swim team recognizes star swimmers while holding their end-of-season banquet dinner. Finally, there is a thirteen-year-old girl who is looking forward to celebrating her Bat Mitzvah with 75 of her closest friends and whole family.

Legacy Is A Part Of It All!

As you can see, we have a host of different functions happening at Legacy. I am excited to begin marketing our ballroom to the corporate market. My goal is to see the ballroom used during the week and weeknights as well. If you work for a company or know of someone looking for a great space for speakers, sales meetings or awards ceremonies and more...help spread the word about our wonderful, versatile space. I look forward to updating you in the Spring when our ballroom will be in full-swing wedding season!



The 1st Annual Holiday Bazaar hosted over 70 vendors with a wide variety of hand-made crafts and other unique items.



The birthday boy gets roasted!



Guests enjoy the simple, casual atmosphere at a recent 50th birthday party.



Toes were tapping to the Klezmer-style music of The Old World Folk Band.

Doing the Hora at Emily's Bat Mitzvah!



Jill Sherman, Banquet Manager

717-201-0037 • www.legacylanaster.com



Bride and groom cutting the cake.

Photo Credit: S. Ole Hongvanthong

Photo Credit: Mike Sutherland Photography



You are never too young or old
to learn Torah!

B"Y



Call Rabbi Green for personal
or group Torah learning.
717-368-6565

www.Jewishenrichment.com

Lancaster Yeshiva Center

OPEN HOUSE

When: Sunday December 6, 2009

Where: Current Project Site

Time: 1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.



Torah studies and vocational training combined
to bring out the best in each of our students

Come see what the Yeshiva boys are doing now!

Current project site:

616 High Street
Lancaster, Pennsylvania



For more Information call:

Rabbi Shaya Sackett
717-940-4028

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

CONGREGATION DEGEL ISRAEL Rabbi Shaya Sackett • 1120 Columbia Avenue • Lancaster, PA 17603 • 717-397-0183

Degel Update

We had a busy holiday season this year, with Degel Israel hopping with tourists. We enjoyed all of the Succot festivities in the area including Succos in Hershey Park. The congregants also feasted on soup and sandwiches in the Degel Israel succah.

The students at Lancaster Yeshiva Center built a succah for the Masonic Home in Elizabethtown. Having a succah there was quite a novelty for the 16 Jewish residents, and they had a great time.

Degel Israel NCSY was invited to attend an event in Baltimore at Mama Leah's Pizza Store. Everyone made their own pizzas. It was a great opportunity to meet and to interact with other Jewish kids.

Rabbi Sackett will be continuing his weekly class on Tuesday nights: "The Silent Prayer – what it's really all about!" The weekly women's class has begun on Shabbos mornings at 10:30.

Chanukah is right around the corner. Please join us for our annual Chanukah candle lighting and dinner on Wednesday, December 16 at 5:30. For more information, contact Degel Israel at degelisrael@dejazzd.com

TEMPLE BETH EL Rabbi Stephan Parnes • 1836 Rohrerstown Road • Lancaster, PA 17601 • 717-581-7891

Temple Beth El News Programs! Interesting Topics! Inquiring Minds Want to Know!

Temple Beth El's mission to develop a sense of family and community among members and to encourage growth and understanding of Jewish identity is alive and well this fall and winter through our new Religious School concept and the addition of many fun, friendly and informative Sisterhood, Adult Education and Men's Clubs programs. Yes, our religious services are a great way to participate in observing traditional Judaism within the framework of modern living – we daven together, our Chevra sings beautifully in one voice, and we enjoy services led by both our Rabbi and congregants each week in an egalitarian setting, but what about the rest of the week? What about that sense of togetherness and community spirit? Through our religious school, Hebrew High and our programs, the congregation has current, wonderful ways in which we are all learning, laughing and growing together.

Programs that were held in October and November include: Sisterhood "Cooking with Herbs" Program: A master gardener and an expert in using herbs in cooking presented this program to a delighted crowd. A cooking demonstration was held at Joanne Goldfarb's home.

Men's Club and Sisterhood's combined program: Professor Matthew Hoffman, F&M Department of Judaic Studies & History, presented "From Rebel to Rabbi: Jewish Perspective On Jesus Through the Ages."

"Annotate Your Own Siddur" with Lori & Ralph Taber. Participants were able to personalize their own Siddur Sim Shalom prayer book so it is highlighted and ready to help them find their way around the Saturday morning service.

"An In-depth Look at Bereishit" with Ken Firestone and Lynn Brooks. Where does it all begin? At the beginning with Genesis, Bereishit. From it emerges Torah and Talmud, commentaries and commandments, questions and quandaries. Students from both Temple Beth El and our local Lancaster Jewish community learned together in a supportive environment.

Carolyn Kleinman led a lively group in a book discussion on "Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean" by Edward Kritzer. Random House extols the read as "How a Generation of Swashbuckling Jews Carved Out an Empire in the New World in Their Quest for Treasure, Religious Freedom - and Revenge."

Ken Firestone and Marc Weiner led a mini-course exploring the meanings of Siddur Sim Shalom's English translations. The Sisterhood Book Fair kicked off with a light breakfast and book discussion by Berel Arrow on his new book, "God's Water." Professor Antonio Callari led the Men's Club breakfast with "Lancaster Economy and the People of Lancaster: Why We Are Who We Are."

These programs are engaging our congregation in new, innovative ways. We are committed to offering rigorous and fun Jewish education from pre-K through high school. With lots of work from our President Eve Wachhaus, Education Chair Larry Besnoff and Rabbi Parnes, our improved religious school is up and running with all-new curriculum, modern textbooks, and many new teachers. United Synagogue Conservative Judaism's North American Consultant for Synagogue Education, Susan E. Wyner, visited our school on November 14 and gave us two enthusiastic thumbs up!

Temple Beth El warmly welcomes visitors to join us at services Friday nights at 7:30, Saturday mornings at 9:30 and to visit our website www.tbelancaster.org or call the Temple office at (717) 581-7891 for more information.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

CONGREGATION SHAARAI SHOMAYIM Rabbi Jack Paskoff • 75 East James Street • Lancaster, PA 17602 • 717-397-5575

Congregation Shaarai Shomayim Returns To The Gulf Coast



On-site tents serve as the group's quarters.



The group at the site of the future Waveland City Hall Complex.



Shaarai youth got hands-on building experience.



Volunteers meet with Mr. Barnheart, who is still rebuilding his home four years after Katrina.

Last year, instead of spending their Winter Break celebrating Chanukah with friends and family, a group of 14 volunteers from Shaarai Shomayim – most of them teens – headed to the small coastal city of Waveland, Mississippi, where they drilled, hammered, cleaned and did anything else they could to help residents continue to recover from Hurricane Katrina.

They later shared their experiences with the rest of the congregation during a Shabbat service in February and collected hundreds of dollars in cash and gift cards from the congregation, which were donated to the Gulf Coast rebuilding effort. But it's an effort that still has a long way to go.

That's why Congregation Shaarai Shomayim will be making its second trip to the Gulf Coast in 2010, departing February 11 and returning February 15. "When we left, a number of us felt we weren't done," Rabbi Paskoff explains. "We also wanted to create an opportunity for people who expressed an interest when we came back."

During the previous trip, volunteers spent three days on projects that honed their carpentry, cleaning and other vocational skills – but more importantly, introduced them to the human faces behind the images of flooded roads, felled trees and ravaged homes they've seen since Katrina hit in August 2005. They helped one homeowner clear construction

debris after he lost funding on his house, which was close to completion. They helped clean a park in an African-American community, discovering along the way that parks in white neighborhoods had been fixed up first. And they helped rebuild a fence for a homeowner who was paralyzed with despair.

Needless to say, the work was physically and emotionally exhausting. But it was also extremely rewarding, as volunteers gained a unique perspective, not only to the sheer magnitude of devastation caused by Katrina but also the perpetuation, of it by the uneven response by the government. And they were able to examine their own thoughts and preconceptions not only of Katrina but also of the area. "I saw our kids at their absolute best: working hard, never complaining despite very long hours, showing great sensitivity, confronting their own prejudices about the South," Rabbi Paskoff remarks.

Already, there is intense interest in the return trip. "The first van is almost full," Rabbi Paskoff says. "After that, we'll keep a waiting list until we have another full van." Those who cannot go can still help out by donating funds and resources such as work gloves. And he says that as long as there is a need on the Gulf Coast and a desire on the part of Shaarai congregants to help, the trip may become a regular event.

For more information, call Shaarai Shomayim at 397-5575 or visit www.shaarai.org.

Seniors On The Go



On October 6, our program took place in the Fireside Lounge of the JCC. We were entertained by the Lancaster Senior Orchestra, which is part of the Happy Hearts Club of the Lancaster Recreation Commission. The musicians played songs from the 1940s and 1950s. The music was so beautiful; it echoed throughout the JCC.

The Intercity Luncheon was held October 13 at the Harrisburg

Jewish Community Center. The meal was catered by Norman Gras of Harrisburg. It was delicious! 150 people attended the luncheon; there were seniors from Reading JCC, Wilkes-Barre JCC, York JCC, Lebanon and Lancaster. We listened to the beautiful tones of the Keystone Capitol Chorus and had a wonderful time. Next year the Intercity Luncheon will be held here in Lancaster.

On October 20 we had another great program. Mary Bach, who serves as a consumer advocate for AARP, spoke about fraud against older people. Mary is from Murrysville, PA (outside of Pittsburgh), and she has made many appearances on television and radio. She explained to us what items required taxation and what shouldn't be taxed. Her speech was a real eye-opener to all of us.

Senior Adult Services At The LJCC

By Jan Gitomer, Sr. Adult Coordinator

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
PLEASE RSVP FOR EACH EVENT: 569-7352

DECEMBER 1, 2009

Lunch Out at Ciro's
605 Richmond Square, Suite PV103

DECEMBER 8, 2009

Intergenerational program with JCAL Academy preschool students

DECEMBER 15, 2009

Game: Now You Have It, Now You Don't
Bring in a \$5 gift suitable for either a male or a female

JANUARY 5, 2010

Speaker Nancy Long will speak on "Quilts and Quilters of the Civil War"

JANUARY 15, 2010

Ken Firestone will speak on "The Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructional Movements in the 21st Century"

FEBRUARY 2, 2010

Covered Dish and Bingo

FEBRUARY 16, 2010

Exercise with Exotic Elegance
Belly Dancing with Phyllis Giberson



Senior Citizen Awareness Tips From Sky

The following information is courtesy of Sky Armstrong, Courage and Associates. Sky is a personal safety instructor and recently taught a course at the LJCC on

Women's Self-Defense. The safety tips below are just a sampling of the useful information she shares during her classes.

Who is responsible for your safety? You are! Safety is your own responsibility. By using common sense and foresight in your everyday life, you can avoid trouble, allowing you to have a more stress-free life and to overcome fear in your life. Use all the means you can to deter an attack. Avoidance should always take priority. The moment you leave your home look around and be aware of your surroundings. People become victims of crime because they appear vulnerable and, therefore, an easy target. Make it a habit to appear confident, even if you have to pretend you're brave. Having a non-victim response and behavior is a strong deterrent to criminals.

HOME SAFETY TIPS:

- Be aware of who you are opening the door to. Be alert and aware without being suspicious of everybody. Legitimate callers (UPS, postal workers, utility employees, etc.) wear uniforms, carry identification and drive commercial vehicles. Ask to see identification or phone the company to confirm their identity.
- You do not have to give a reason or excuse not to let someone in. It is your home, and you are the one who decides who may or may not enter.
- Don't open your door to a stranger or door salesperson; they are usually fraudulent and dangerous. You can ignore them or look out a window or door viewer, speak through the door. You never know what their intentions are, so be safe and don't open the door.
- If they are trying to sell you something, ask to see their solicitor's license; that usually scares them away. If they state they are from a company, call the company and verify their stop. Do not use a phone number they give you; get it from directory assistance or the yellow pages. If your gut is telling you something is wrong, it most likely is, so call the police.
- You can put up a "No solicitors" sign on your porch; by law they must obey the sign.

COURAGE and Associates, 717-435-4354
sky@getcourage.com, www.getcourage.com



TUTTI PANI is a friendly and relaxing international bakery and café specializing in

DELICIOUS MEALS, DESSERTS, BREADS and PASTRIES,

primarily from Brazil and Italy.

Each day there is a different featured meal that is available for takeout...

You will also find a **VARIETY OF SOUPS** and **SALADS**

including options for vegetarians and people with certain eating limitations (such as no dairy, please)



Tutti Pani also bakes an exceptional CHALLAH (large and mini-sized), and multi-grain and sourdough loaves.

717-509-2664

Located in Brighton Shoppes at the junction of Fruitville Pike and Erbs Quarry Road.

Wednesday-Saturday
8:30am-3:00pm
Sunday 8:30am-2:00pm



— LIVING AND LEARNING TOGETHER — לחיות וללמוד ביחד

Rosh Chodesh

The religious observances of Judaism rely on the lunar calendar. The arrival of the new moon is an occasion for special prayers and celebration. It is named Rosh Chodesh and means the beginning of the new month. It is observed for one or two days. When there are two days of Rosh Chodesh, the first is the last day of the preceding Jewish month. Rosh Chodesh is announced in the synagogue on the preceding Sabbath with a special prayer for the new month, the Birkhat Ha-Chodesh.

The lunar month on the Jewish calendar begins when the first sliver of moon becomes visible after the dark of the moon. In ancient times, the new months used to be determined by observation. When people observed the new moon, they would notify the Sanhedrin. When the Sanhedrin heard testimony from two independent, reliable eyewitnesses that the new moon occurred on a certain date, they would declare the rosh chodesh and send out messengers to tell people when the month began. —www.jewfaq.org/calendar.htm

BIG BRIGHT BOUNCES

Thank you to Big Bright Bounces for adding the "bounce" to our holiday celebrations!

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE

1120 Columbia Avenue • Lancaster, PA 17603 • 717-293-1928



Jewish Family Service can do and does much for the Lancaster Jewish Community. Contact us if you have a need or if you know someone who can use our services or assistance. Everybody needs help at a certain

point in his life. Just remember that, if the time comes, JFS will be able to do something to help you.

JFS accepts donations of bath seats, commodes, walkers, electrical and manual wheelchairs and canes. The items are made available to patients in the area.

Anyone wishing to borrow an item, or to make a donation, should call JFS at 293-1928.



2120 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601

JCAL Office Hours At The Lancaster JCC

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am-8:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Saturday: by arrangements
Sunday: 12noon-6pm



“The Jewish Community Alliance of Lancaster is the central Jewish communal agency in Lancaster County. Working in partnership with other organizations and local congregations, the Alliance

seeks to build community and enhance Jewish life; strengthen and connect the community as a whole through cultural, educational, recreational and social opportunities; and raise and allocate funds for local and international needs.”

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LANCASTER, PA
PERMIT NO. 827

2009-2010 Board Of Directors

Todd Bartos, President
Dr. Robert Matlin, 2nd Vice President
Dr. Alan Glazer, Secretary
Kevin Babione, Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair
Steve Zuckerman, Past President
Samantha Besnoff, Executive Director

2009-2010 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Jen Finkelstein – Youth Programs
Adam Kosowsky – Membership
Rodney Gleiberman – Building & Grounds
Herbert Beeders – Community Relations Chair
Dolly Shuster – Adult Programming

2009-2010 AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Josh Cohen
Joan Weiner
Marvin Margolis

NON-VOTING, EX OFFICIO

Rabbi Stephan Parnes
Temple Beth El
Rabbi Jack Paskoff
Congregation Shaarai Shomayim
Rabbi Shaya Sackett
Congregation Degel Israel

2009-2010 ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

Congregation Degel Israel – TBD
Congregation Shaarai Shomayim – Aaron Zinner
Jewish Family Service – David Natan
Temple Beth El – TBD



JCAL 2009-2010 Honor Rolls

ZAHAV HONOR ROLL

Kevin & Julianne Babione
Alan & Linda Glazer
Julius & Joyce Goldfarb
Steven & Shellie Gordon
Gordon & Linda Hutt
Shirley Kadushin
Johanna Lever
Chris & Sharon Randazzo
Dr. Beryl & Joan Sherman
David & Colleen Stameshkin

PLATINA HONOR ROLL

Allan & Nan Geller
Burt & Betty Margolis
Robert & Michele Matlin
Mrs. Ned Robbins
Dr. Jeffrey Edelson & Ms. Dolly Shuster
Steve & Vicki Zuckerman
Robert & Stephanie Zuckerman

Lancaster JCC 2009-2010 Holiday Schedule

THANKSGIVING:

Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27:
Closed all day

WINTER BREAK:

Thursday and Friday, December 24 and 25:
Closed all day
Thursday and Friday, December 31 and January 1:
Closed all day

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY:

January 18, 2010: Closed all day

PASSOVER:

Monday, March 29: Erev Passover, closing at 4pm
Tuesday and Wednesday, March 30 and April 1:
Closed all day
Monday, April 5 and Tuesday, April 6: Closed all day

SHAVUOT:

Tuesday May 18: Erev, Closing at 4pm
Wednesday and Thursday, May 19 and 20:
Closed all day

