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SOUTH SUBURBAN
COOPERATIVE JEWISH COUNCIL

The South Suburban Jewish Community Newsletter

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Jewish Federation South
Suburban Office
Anita M. Stone JCC
Congregation Am Echad
Temple Anshe Sholom
Jewish War Veterans

B'nai Yehuda Beth Sholom
Joliet Jewish Congregation
Chai Unit B'nai B'rith
Zahava-Deborah Hadassah
NCJW South Cook Section

No. 24 · Spring 2009 · Supported by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago
Visit our website at: www.c-j-c.org

The Jewish United Fund's

38th Annual **ISRAEL**
SOLIDARITY DAY

featuring the Walk with Israel

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009

Stand with your community and support the people of Israel!

2009 Israel Solidarity Day Chair: Cindy Kaplan

SOUTH SUBURBAN WALK

Chair: Stan Dreyfuss

Parker Junior High • 2810 School St, Flossmoor

8:30 am: Registration and Breakfast

9:30 am: Entertainment featuring Kol Sasson

10:30 am: Kickoff, 6K Walk with Israel & Family Walk

• Street parking only.

• Busing to Parker Junior High from all area synagogues will be provided.

Please contact your congregation for details.

HELP CHILDREN IN THE SOUTH OF ISRAEL

Support the more than 10,000 children in the Sderot area who have been threatened by rocket attacks from Gaza.

All dollars raised through Israel Solidarity Day will support a summer of safe activities – well-deserved, greatly-needed breaks from the trauma and the threat of Kassam rocket attacks.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN SIGN UP!

To participate, call (312) 444-2905 • To volunteer, call (312) 444-2850

You can also visit us online at www.juf.org/walk

Israel Solidarity Day, featuring the Walk with Israel, is organized by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago and the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) in cooperation with the JUF Tikkun Olam Volunteer Network (TOV)



Save the Date..

The Cooperative Jewish Council's 2009 JUF Annual Event

Sunday, May 17

6:45 p.m.

Temple Anshe Sholom a Beth Torah
Dessert Reception

Guest Speaker:

Bret Stephens

Foreign Affairs Columnist for The Wall Street Journal

We will be honoring the following community members:

Ruth & Sherman Friedman, B'nai Yehuda Beth Sholom

Diane Kessler, National Council of Jewish Women

Carol Zucker, Chai Unit B'nai B'rith

For more information, please contact Becky Shulman, Congregations & Community Campaign,
Jewish United Fund, at (312) 357-4563 or email BeckyShulman@juf.org.

The Rabbi's Corner

RABBI CHARLES RUBOVITS, JOLIET JEWISH CONGREGATION

As the annual observance of the Shoah approaches, we need to stop for a moment and note the quickly dwindling numbers of our families, friends and acquaintances who are survivors of the horrors in Nazi Europe, but who, fortunately, are still with us to tell their stories. We are rapidly losing those who can tell us their stories and give us the first-hand accounts of their lives and their experiences.

Regrettably, some have become so inured to the stories of the Holocaust that they have taken the "I don't need to hear more of this - I know the stories" attitude. I am not sympathetic to that philosophy. We must remember! We must learn more so that we can tell the story when our dear survivors are no longer with us!

The children of today must be exposed to the stories of the Shoah in order to understand both the history and the consequences of Hitlerism and how they apply to tomorrow's societies.

The stories of our survivors, liberators and righteous gentiles are key to teaching upcoming generations about the Holocaust. Their words must be treated like gold. I know that many survivors have committed their life stories to tape via the Spielberg Project and other similar, very worthwhile efforts. However, for the new generations of youngsters, thousands of whom know of WWII only from a text book, a real life survivor's words mean so very much more and time is fleeting.

I strongly encourage everyone who reads these words to get involved with the Shoah observance in your community and, if there is no event where you live, find a community that will be observing the Shoah. Get involved and help plan the event. Participate, and get your friends to join with you.

We must continue to remember!



Jewish Child & Family Services

world over annually repeat "During the idle months of summer break, what camp or specialized activities will appeal to my teen, tween or 10-year-old?"

Key questions plague parents trying to pre-plan their child's summer months long before boredom sets in and June jolts them into reality. Very soon the structure of academic rigors subsides and summertime routines of hanging out with friends or "loafing" around the house necessitate a parent's swift action. The response often is the four-letter word... CAMP.

The starting point in the transition from school to camp begins with a conversation to determine your child's desire, readiness and ability to be separated from home for a week or two, or perhaps head off to a day-camp experience.

John Andrich, a therapist from Jewish Child & Family Services, recommends asking questions and engaging in conversations that will result in what is best for both parent and camper.

- Ask how the child envisions a week away from home. Ask about special interests and preferences, and involve the child in the search process.
- Discuss the fact that being away from home involves a lot of independence and responsibility, and talk through any insecurities or questions. Ask the child whether they would like to attend sleep-away camp.

ASSESSING IF YOUR CHILD IS 'CAMP READY?'

Just as Cubs fans continue to repeat "There's always next year..." parents the

· Camp should reflect your values and beliefs, promote community, encourage cooperative learning and remain engaging from start to finish.

"Parents can be very instrumental in camp selection, yet allow the child ownership in making the final decision," Andrich said. "It is key that the child has options to choose among. It gives them even more responsibility when they make the choice and the camp isn't a forced issue.

"One of the great benefits of camp is the opportunity to make long-lasting friendships, forged in fun and solidified around a camp fire, mess hall or bunk house," Andrich said. "Along with other kids, there's camaraderie and self-reliance and an opportunity to build social skills."

Perhaps on their own for the first time, campers are away from parental supervision and are making decisions about what to wear, what to eat, how to spend free time. Camp engenders a meeting of diverse cultures learning to live together and operate as a team despite differences. Camp provides memories that last a lifetime.

JCFS provides licensed clinical social workers in the South Suburbs who are able to help parents and children with a variety of camp-related issues. Please call (708) 798-1859 or visit www.jcfs.org for additional information. The office is at 3649 W. 183rd Street, Suite 123, in Hazel Crest.



IT'S RAINING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: SAVE THE DATE FOR TOV'S SPRING MITZVAH MANIA PROJECT

The JUF TOV Volunteer Network's Spring Mitzvah Mania, a calendar of one-time volunteer opportunities, will run through

Sunday, May 17. Check it out and discover the many ways to help your community. There are projects for individuals and groups of all ages. For more info or to sign up, visit www.juf.org/tov/mm_form.aspx or call the TOV hotline at (312) 357-4762.

Mark your calendar for this South Suburbs project.

Sunrise Assisted Living

Started in 1981, Sunrise of Flossmoor offers assisted living and a secure area to serve and care for seniors and enable them to live life on their terms.

Socialize and play Bingo with residents at Prize Bingo night.

Date: Tuesday, May 12

Time: 5:45-6:45 p.m.

Location: 19715 Governors Highway, Flossmoor

Ages: 16+, 0-16 with an adult

Volunteers: 4

Each year, TOV sponsors a book drive at area synagogues and JCCs in conjunction with the annual Spring Mitzvah Mania project. New and gently used children's books are welcome. Collected books will be donated to schools participating in the JUF TOV Literacy Project and other local social service agencies. Help a child discover the magic of reading and join the JUF TOV Volunteer Network in ensuring that every child has the opportunity to read.

Due to the current economic climate, food pantry client numbers are at an all-time high. To help our agencies and their clients, TOV also will be collecting new canned and non-perishable food items to stock food pantries at the EZRA Multi-Service Center and The ARK.

Please drop off all donations at:
Anita Stone JCC
3400 W. 196th, Flossmoor



CJE SENIORLIFE ANNOUNCES PREFERRED PROVIDER RELATIONSHIP WITH GENTLE HOME SERVICES

CJE SeniorLife is pleased to announce the establishment of a preferred provider agreement with Gentle Home Services to make private-pay personal care services available to CJE clients and families. Gentle Home Services (GHS) has been providing non-medical homecare services to residents of the Chicago area, including the southern suburbs, for more than 18 years.

"We are excited about our new relationship with GHS, an agency that has a proven track record of excellence in personal care," said Laura Prohov, CJE SeniorLife Vice President of Community Services. "CJE is committed to providing a continuum of services to older adults and their family members."

Through the agreement, a nursing supervisor meets with the requesting client or family member to develop an individual care plan. GHS caregivers provide clients with personal care services such as assistance with meal preparation, light housekeeping and laundry, an escort to appointments or activities, companionship, medication reminders, help with bathing and dressing, and assistance with other household tasks.

Those interested in arranging services can call Gentle Home Services at (847) 282-3883. CJE is a partner in serving the community, supported by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation. For more information about CJE services, call (773) 508-1000 or visit www.cje.net.



REACHING FOR GOD AT AM ECHAD

Rabbi Shalom Podwol conducted a six-week adult education course entitled *Reaching for God*. The class was made up of adult students from the three South Suburban synagogues.

Through lecture, discussion and readings, the class dealt with stimulating issues such as: How do we really know anything about God? What are the various approaches to understanding revelation in the Torah? Is there a human element in the development of Torah, and in what way is it still sacred? And finally, Has God changed or has our human understanding of God changed over time?

The students are looking forward to more classes on related topics in the near future.

Continuing on the theme of *Reaching for God*, since September 2008 the congregation has added three regularly scheduled weekday services. Services are held Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:15 to 9 a.m., and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Members of the community are cordially invited to attend. For more information, contact Rabbi Podwol at (708) 748-5722.



NEWS FROM THE JCC

The Anita M. Stone JCC, 3400 W. 196th St, Flossmoor, has some exciting programming for the spring and summer months.

A Gift Gala from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 26, is a great chance to buy jewelry, children's toys, gourmet foods, kitchen accessories, purses and personalized items all under one roof. Israeli artists specializing in an art form called Kakadu, which includes hard-painted wood items, floor mats and cutting boards, will be featured along with our other vendors.

Movie Mondays for May will be May 4 and May 11. This is an opportunity to view Jewish-themed films that are followed by a facilitated discussion led by Suzanne Patterson. The movies are shown at the JCC at 1 and 7 p.m. The cost is \$5 and includes popcorn.

The Computer Learning Exchange has an eight-week program beginning May 11. Please call the J for information.

The film "In the Family" will be screened at 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 18, followed by a panel discussion on hereditary cancer.

(To learn more about this compelling, intensely personal documentary, see the related article from the Chicago Center for Jewish Genetic Disorders.) This is a partnership program with Chicago Center for Jewish Genetic Disorders and the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.

At 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, Dr. Paul Green will share his analysis of the local, national and international political scene. Green is the Director of Policy Studies and Arthur Rubloff Professor at Roosevelt University in Chicago, as well as a political analyst for WGN Radio and columnist for Crain's Chicago Business.

The JCC Day Camp eight-week session is June 22-Aug. 14. This summer we have a new camp director, Josh Kramer, who brings 18 years of camp experience to the South Suburb's No. 1 Day Camp. Six-week and four-week options also are available. Please call the JCC for more information and registration.

The JCC outdoor pool will open June 1! For more information on Stone JCC programs, call (708) 799-7650.



JVS WORKSHOPS OFFER HELP, IDEAS TO WOULD-BE ENTREPRENEURS

On behalf of the Jewish Employment Network, the Jewish Vocational Service's Duman Microenterprise Center and Loan Fund will present a program for would-be entrepreneurs at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, at Temple Anshe Sholom, 20820 Western Ave. in Olympia Fields. "From Contract to Consulting: Think Like a Business" will be presented by Donna Rockin, MBA, Director of the Duman program.

As managers and professionals transition to a new position, they may consider or have the opportunity to work as a "consultant." This program will help you learn to clarify contract expectations; be paid equal to your value; and develop new business and networking contacts.

There is no fee for the program. For further information or to reserve a place, contact Arlene Shafon at (312) 673-3443.

JVS also offers seminars to help clients and congregants from the southern suburbs recalibrate their efforts to find a job and/or start a small business. The Jewish Employment Network and the Duman Microenterprise Center and Loan Fund sponsor these

programs as an adjunct to individual sessions with a JVS career counselor or to business technical assistance provided by Duman Center professional staff. Upcoming seminars include:

· "Acing the Interview" will be presented from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, by the Jewish Employment Network and Career Connections for Professionals. The seminar will feature Holly Katz, career and life coach from Katz Career Coaching, who will focus on different types of interviews and the strategies that will help you stand out. The program will be held at the Jewish Federation, 30 S. Wells St., Chicago. Free admission, networking. To RSVP, call (312) 673-3437.

· "How to Start a Business in Illinois" will be presented from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 29, by the Illinois SBDC/Duman Microenterprise Center. The workshop offers attendees important information and resources for operating or expanding a business. The session will be at the Jewish Vocational Service, 216 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 700, Chicago, and is sponsored by CHASE. Free admission includes workbook/business plan templates. To reserve a space, call (312) 673-3429.



HADASSAH PROGRAMS FOR SPRING

Hadassah's first Spring program is set for 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 28, at Carlo's Restaurant (Lorenzetti's). The program features antique appraiser Rex Newell, owner of Rex's Antiques, who has participated in antique shows throughout the United States. He will appraise up to 35 antiques and collectibles. Donated restaurant meals, merchandise and personal services will be raffled at the event.

On Tuesday, May 19, the closing luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. at Idlewild Country Club.

Wednesday, Aug. 12, has been scheduled for our membership luncheon, location and time TBD.

Proceeds from all programs and fund-raising activities - such as directory ads, lox boxes and Hadassah greeting card sales - help the Hadassah Medical Organizations (HMOs) continue their cutting-edge research. Here are just three examples of the

research breakthroughs announced in the past year:

1. A new type of bandage capable of healing wounds and regenerating tissue. It will be manufactured and marketed through a joint effort of a Hadassah subsidiary and a private American partner - after an anticipated successful clinical trial.
2. Therapies have been developed that have extended life expectancy and improved the quality of life for Jews with Familial Dysautonomia (FD), which is a rare genetic disease mainly affecting Jews of Ashkenazi origin.
3. Robots originally developed by NASA scientists and engineers for performing emergency surgery on astronauts in space have been improved, and are being used by surgeons at the Hadassah hospital in Ein-Kerem, Jerusalem. The robotic system overcomes the limitations of conventional tools and instruments, direct observation, and patient movements.

For more information on Hadassah activities, please contact Bea Kamen at (708) 799-5491.



TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM WELCOMES SPRING

In addition to the community-wide Israel Solidarity Day on Sunday, May 3, Temple Anshe Sholom has planned several events for the spring season.

On Friday, April 24, The MeshugaNotes, a co-ed a capella group and the only Jewish voice ensemble at Ohio State University, will perform at a deli dinner preceding Shabbat Service, and will participate in the service itself. Their repertoire includes Israeli folk and popular songs, Yiddish tunes and English pop songs. This promises to be a wonderful service!

On Sunday, April 26, Temple Anshe Sholom Sisterhood will sponsor a Brunch and Theater Event. For further information, please call Sheila Mina, (708) 754-3766.

On Friday and Saturday, May 1-2, Presidential Historian Dr. Robert

Watson will return to our Temple for our "Scholar-in-Residence" weekend. The tentative subject matter will be "An Early Report Card on President Obama's Presidency: His Mideast and Israel Policies." Dr. Watson and our High School Havurah graduates and their families will share a Shabbat dinner prior to the Friday night Shabbat Service. Our Men's Club will sponsor a breakfast on Saturday morning prior to Dr. Watson's presentation.

In addition to our High School Havurah Graduation, our Hebrew School Graduation will take place during our Shabbat Services on May 8.

Erev Shavuot/Confirmation Services will take place on Thursday evening, May 28, for our 10th grade HSH students. Mazel Tov to all our students!



NATIONAL DAY OF JEWISH YOUTH SERVICE, SUNDAY, APRIL 26

In honor of J-Serve, the National Day of Jewish Youth Service, there will be three volunteer projects to choose from throughout the day to accommodate your teen's schedule and interests. Volunteer organizations include the Chicago Chesed Fund, CJE SeniorLife Gidwitz/Friend Center, and the Campus Kitchen at Northwestern University. Mark your calendar for Sunday, April 26.

Please contact Brett Klugman at (312) 357-4928 or teens@juf.org for more information. Register online at www.jservice.org/chicago.

Camp TOV 2009
Camp TOV is a week-long, fun, interactive, service-oriented program on wheels. Each day brings a new volunteer project and service-learning experience, focusing on poverty, hunger, homelessness, environmental concerns, caring for the elderly, leadership skills and more. Seventh- through 10th-grade teens from throughout the city and suburbs will be brought together for what promises to be a memorable summer learning experience!
Camp TOV 2009 Session Dates:

- August 10-14
- August 17-21

Space is limited; registration deadline is June 26. For more information, to receive promotional materials or to register, please contact Brett Klugman at (312) 357-4928 or teens@juf.org.



CHICAGO CENTER FOR JEWISH GENETIC DISORDERS TO PRESENT LOCAL SCREENING OF DOCUMENTARY FILM "IN THE FAMILY"

"In the Family" is a feature-length documentary film, directed by Chicago filmmaker Joanna Rudnick and produced by Kartemquin Films, which takes an intensely personal look at what follows the results of a predictive genetic test.

At age 27, Joanna confronts a strong family history of breast and ovarian cancers by getting tested for the "breast cancer genes." Learning that she has a mutation that confers a drastically increased risk, she now faces a seemingly impossible decision: Would you sacrifice your breasts, your ovaries, your fertility, to possibly save your life? Joanna struggles with this decision in the midst of a new romantic relationship and seeks out other women who also must deal with a family history of the gene. Some are living with the mutation and the cancer that may be linked to it, while others face the test itself, trying to prepare for their own or a loved one's results. Blending the emotional with the investigative, "In the Family" attempts to navigate the unpredictable path of predictive genetic testing.

Jewish women of Eastern European descent like Joanna face a 1 in 40 chance of carrying a BRCA (Breast Cancer) mutation. To raise awareness of this issue, the Chicago Center for Jewish Genetic Disorders has been sponsoring screenings of this innovative film throughout the Chicago area. A South Suburban screening will be held on Monday, May 18, at the Anita M. Stone JCC in Flossmoor. Light refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m., with the film beginning at 7 p.m. A panel of experts, including a genetic counselor from Advocate Christ Hospital, a physician from Ingalls Health System, a bioethicist, and woman who is a carrier of a BRCA mutation, will answer questions following the film. The program is free and is cosponsored by the Center, the JCC, and the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.

To sign up for this film screening, please contact the Anita M. Stone JCC at (708) 799-7650. To learn more about the Center or any of its other upcoming events, please contact the Center at (312) 357-4718 or jewishgeneticsctr@juf.org, and visit the Center online at www.jewishgeneticscenter.org.



B'NAI YEHUDA BETH SHOLOM WELCOMES SPRING WITH CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION

B'nai Yehuda Beth Sholom (BYBS) is anticipating an exciting spring with many activities, events and observances. This year we have decided to move the ceremony of Confirmation (when our 10th graders conduct the service at the conclusion of their formal education within our United Religious School) off the festival of Shavuot. Instead, the celebration will occur at a Shabbat morning service on Saturday, May 23. It will be a combined service at Congregation Am Echad, involving students from both congregations.

Shavuot is the major festival at which we commemorate the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. It is traditional to read the *Book of Ruth* and to dedicate time to study. We will observe the beginning of Shavuot together with our neighbors from Am Echad at BYBS on Thursday evening, May 28, starting with a dairy pot-luck dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by a combined festival evening service at 7:30 p.m. The evening will conclude with a *Tikkun Layl Shavuot* - a late-night study session after the service - and an *oneg yom tov* (dessert reception). Rabbi Ellen

Dreyfus and Rabbi Shalom Podwol will stay to teach all who are interested in topics to be announced in the congregation bulletins and emails. BYBS also will hold a Shavuot morning service, including *yizkor* (memorial) prayers on Friday, May 29, at 10 a.m.

The Congregation's 65th anniversary weekend celebration will begin Friday evening, May 29. Plans include a special Shabbat evening service for members of all ages, highlighting music and melodies from various periods in our congregation's history. Activities throughout the weekend will culminate in a gala dinner on Sunday, May 31, details of which will be available in the temple bulletin and on our website, www.bybs.org.

We will celebrate the rich tapestry that is our congregation: Every strand is part of the whole, and all the diverse threads add to the strength and beauty of B'nai Yehuda Beth Sholom.

For more information on BYBS, contact the synagogue office at (708) 799-4110.



TEENS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Get involved with Jewish Youth Philanthropy and make a difference today.

For high-school students who want to make a difference in the Jewish community, Israel and the world, VOICES and KOLOT are hands-on youth philanthropy programs that give teens the opportunity

to allocate at least \$25,000 to important causes that make an impact on the world. These programs invite students to combine tzedakah and tikkun olam in an exciting new way.

Visit www.juf.org/teens/voices.aspx and www.juf.org/teens/kolot.aspx to learn more. For more information, email voices@juf.org.



SAVE THE DATE:

South Suburban Conversations and Connections
Tuesday, April 21
7 p.m.
At the home of Betti Goldberg
Featuring Gil Hoffman of the Jerusalem Post
Call (312) 444-2848 for more information

JUF WOMEN'S DIVISION SPRING EVENT

Monday, May 18
Hilton Chicago
11 a.m. Registration
Speaker: David Gergen
Call (312) 357-4821 for more information

JUF SOUTH SUBURBAN ISRAEL SOLIDARITY DAY AND WALK WITH ISRAEL

Sunday, May 3
Parker Junior High
2810 School St., Flossmoor
8:30 a.m. Registration & Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Entertainment, Featuring Kol Sasson
10:30 a.m. Kickoff, 6K Walk with Israel & Family Walk
Here's how you can sign up:
To participate, call (312) 444-2905
To volunteer, call (312) 444-2850
You also can visit us online at www.juf.org/walk

SHALOM OUTREACH

SHALOM BABY
Shalom Baby is celebrating its Bar/Bat Mitzvah year! As Shalom Baby enters its 13th year of welcoming newborns into Chicago's Jewish community, it has revised its Shalom Baby package to include additional gifts, such as "My First Shabbat Board Book," a babysitter refrigerator magnet with space for important numbers, and personalized sibling recognition certificates for older brothers or sisters. The JUF Guide to Jewish Living in Chicago, an \$18 coupon that can be used at any institution listed in it, a personalized baby certificate, "Mazel Tov/Baby's First Record Book," and information and resources on raising a Jewish baby still are included in the package.

Shalom Baby also publishes an e-newsletter for families of young children. It includes a calendar of agency activities and a relevant article. If you or someone you know is celebrating the birth of a Jewish baby (up to one year old) in the Chicago area, you can request a complimentary Shalom Baby package be sent. Just call the Shalom Baby hotline at (312) 357-4826 or go to www.juf.org/shalom_baby and complete the form. We look forward to hearing from you about this simcha.

SHALOM CHICAGO
Are you, or someone you know, new to the Chicago area or planning to move here? Shalom Chicago welcomes newcomers to the Chicago Jewish community. Contact Shalom Chicago to receive a Shalom Chicago packet that includes a copy of the JUF Guide to Jewish Living in Chicago, the JUF News, a free three-month JCC membership, and other materials on the Jewish community. Call (312) 357-4851, email shalomchicago@juf.org, or go to www.juf.org and click on "New to Chicago." We look forward to saying SHALOM.