



Jewish Federation
OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS, SOUTHEAST MISSOURI
and WESTERN KENTUCKY

Community News

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011

ELUL/TISHRE 5771/5772

this rosh hashanah

Celebrate with the Jewish Federation

Inside This Issue

Federation News.....	2
Camp Ben Frankel.....	4
High Holiday Services....	5
News from Israel	6

Plus much more!

Find us on

facebook

Be sure to join the
Camp Ben Frankel
and
Federation pages to
keep up with the
latest news!

Dear Community Members,

I'm truly delighted to have this chance to wish you and your family a heartfelt happy New Year. Thanks to you, Federation does a world of good through our groundbreaking programs ... here in our own community, in Israel, and in over 70 countries around the world.

As you prepare to observe the High Holy Days, will you do a good deed, a *mitzvah*? Please open your heart again – by sending a generous gift to our 2011 Annual Campaign.

Please do your part in the New Year so we can reach out with food, medicine, and employment counseling to our most vulnerable neighbors. Together, we can help them face the toughest of challenges and get back on their feet as soon as possible. At the same time, you'll support so much more that you really can't put a price on.

Whether caring for families in need today or nurturing and sustaining Jewish identity for the long term, Federation brings all of us together as one.

So this Rosh Hashanah, this Yom Kippur, will you touch the lives of people who live near your own home and beyond? Please, I urge you to do something meaningful and send your tax-deductible contribution to our 2011 Annual Campaign.

On behalf of the grateful men, women, and children you'll help with your compassion and generosity, I thank you in advance for your *tzedakah*!

Sincerely,
Burton Zwick, President

**If not now, when?
If not you, who?**

FEDERATION NEWS

Dear Members, Families and Friends of the Jewish Federation of SIMOKY,

For those of you who do not know me yet, my name is Rick Kodner, and on July 1st I was hired as the Interim Executive Director of the Federation. For the past two summers, many of you may have known me as the Director of Camp Ben Frankel.

I come to you from a varied background of professional and volunteer expertise. I bring experience in working with children, managing staff, fundraising and team development. I have served on many boards throughout the community such as Brith Sholom Kneseth Israel as President for three years, Solomon Schechter Day School, March of Dimes and the Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol Cemetery Board. I have, in the past, been a volunteer for St. Louis Zoo; "Cards Care" and "Cardinals Crew - Kids Club" for the St. Louis Cardinals, and a volunteer for Faith Beyond Walls.

I believe very strongly that one must give back to the community that helps to support one's family in many different ways. Through business, through spirituality, and through recreation we rely on our communities for our very existence and livelihood. We must give back in return.

I have owned my own Computer Installation business for about 15 years. I have worked for Radio Shack, Delalb Swine Breeders, Dolgin Candy and Tobacco and Dairy Queen.

My duties will include, but are not limited to, the Annual Campaign, Camp Ben Frankel, Liaison to the 5 Temples, promoting Jewish activities in the various communities, and helping to coordinate programming brought to you by our Shaliach program, just to name a few.

I hope to become acquainted with as many of you as I can when I come to your communities.

B'Shalom,
Rick Kodner
Interim Executive Director

TEMPLE MEETING



The annual meeting of Temple Israel took place Sunday, June 12, and included installation of officers for the year 2011-2012. Pictured are President Gail Lipe, Vice President Robin Weinberger, Treasurer Anita Cooper and Secretary Melanie Tiaht. Temple Israel is a Reform Congregation that has been serving the needs of the Jewish community of the Greater Alton area since 1923. Temple Israel is associated with the Union of Reform Judaism, the Southern Illinois Jewish Federation and the Federation of Reform Temples in St. Louis. Services are held monthly on Friday evenings. Call 618-288-5427.

GOOD AND WELFARE

MAZEL TOV TO LENORA FISHER!

Mazel Tov to Lenora Fisher for her retirement from the Roxana School District. She began teaching in 1973. A party was held in her honor on June 4 celebrating 38 years of service. Congratulations Lenora!

ZICHRAM LIVRACHA

Please join us as we express our community's condolences to the families of Marvin Kodner, Harvard Sohn, and Donald Ugent.



Marvin Kodner, died August 20, 2011. Beloved husband of Sue Fadem Kodner for 62 years; son of the late Pearl and Paul Kodner, son-in-law of the late Rose and Joe Fadem; loving father of Steve (Lanie), Robert (Mary), Gary (Peggy Nehmen), Ricky (Gail Brody) Kodner, brother and brother-in-law of the late Sylvia (the late Manuel) Rothberg, Myron (Gail) Kodner, Marilyn (Louis) Diamond; dear grandfather of Joe (Holly), Dr. Robin, Tracy, Kenton (Emily), Rachel, Oliver, Paul and Jordan Kodner; great-grandfather of Emi Elise and Elias Kodner; dear uncle, cousin and friend. The family suggests donations be made to Brith Sholom Kneseth Israel (1107 E. Linden Ave., St. Louis, MO 63117, www.e-bski.org) or charity of choice.

Donald Ugent, 77, of Carbondale passed away at 12:29 AM, Friday, September 2, 2011 at Memorial Hospital of Carbondale. Graveside services were held Sunday, September 4, 2011 at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park with Sam Goldman and Doug McEwen officiating with special music by Ed Benyas. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the charity of donor's choice. To leave online condolences please visit crainsonline.com



Harvard Sohn, 86, of Boca Raton, FL passed away on Monday, August 29, 2011. Mr. Sohn was born in Herrin, IL where he lived until permanently retiring to Florida in 1995. He was President of his Herrin High School class, served in the army during World War II and was a business graduate of Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. Mr. Sohn operated Sohn's Quality Stores, a retail chain of men's clothing stores in Southern Illinois; Cape Girardeau, Missouri and Paducah, Kentucky. He was a staunch advocate for the small town community where he served on many boards including President of the Herrin Chamber of Commerce, President of the John A. Logan Board, President of United Hebrew Synagogue and a co-founder of Herrinfest. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Miriam Sarasohn Sohn; son Barry Sohn; daughter Nancy Sohn (Mike Simon); and son Bruce (Julia) Sohn; and grandchildren Ashley (Aaron) Higashi, Spencer Sohn, Dan Simon and Ben Simon. The family suggests that donations be made to either Boca Pointe Cancer Research, 1192 E Newport Center Drive; Suite 230; Deerfield Beach, 33442 https://papcorps.org/get_involved/donate/; or Hospice by the Sea, Inc., 1531 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33486.

Cristaudo's is back under original family ownership for the first time in over 5 years!

The Kaleidoscope Mercantile building, 207-209 South Illinois Avenue, Carbondale, IL, will become the new home of Cristaudo's Café, Bakery, Restaurant and Catering. A gift shop called 6Pence, artist studios, and gallery space, will be joining Yesteryear Tobacconists, which will remain in its current location.

As we have over the past 30 years, Cristaudo's will once again be able to provide traditional bread and pastries including challah, hamantaschen, and bagels, and custom catering for special events and celebrations.

Our goal is to fuel, support and entertain the community by offering a variety of products and services under one roof, featuring continental cuisine and locally, regionally and sustainably produced items.

Follow our page on Facebook (look for **Cristaudo's**) to stay up-to-date on our progress!



We are now booking catering orders - Please e-mail us with inquiries at: cristaudos@rocketmail.com or call 618-529-4303 or 618-457-4313.

CAMP BEN FRANKEL WRAPS UP ANOTHER SUMMER

Another year of Camp Ben Frankel is in the history books. A great year was had by all. We had an amazing summer filled with memories, friendships, learning, songs, dancing, and new experiences. Camp couldn't have gone better. The senior staff agreed it was one of the best staff they had ever worked with, our Angry Puppy experiment turned out to be several campers' favorite part of the year, and our programs were inventive and fun. Each and every one of us emerged from camp better than the day we got there. This was a season that set the bar for the future of Camp Ben Frankel. Though no one has any doubt that Camp Ben Frankel is truly the best camp in the land.

In the off season it will be the time for me to hit the recruitment trail looking for more campers, and, once

again, I will be asking for all of you to give us a hand with finding potential campers throughout the SIMOKY territory. I appeal to all of you within the reach of this newsletter to help us with Camp Ben Frankel.

How can I help? You ask. Many ways: 1) Help us recruit campers (we pay \$50.00 for every camper someone recruits to the camp). 2) Sponsor a camper who otherwise could not afford to go to camp. 3) Provide scholarship funds for the general scholarship pool. 4) Help get me a face-to-face recruitment presentation at your local religious school or Jewish Community Center. And finally, 5) Talk up the camp to all the people you know within your community.

There are kids out there who need

Camp Ben Frankel to help them establish, keep and grow their Jewish Identity. For many kids this will be their only connection to their Jewish roots all year. Please help us find them and give them this chance to grow Jewishly.

Camp Ben Frankel has been in existence for 62 years, giving campers a sense of Jewish pride and Jewish identity, all within a safe and friendly environment. It is run by your Federation of Southern Illinois. Please help us keep a Jewish Camp in Southern Illinois available for our kids for future generations. Thank you to all that have helped, are helping and will continue helping us in the future.

B'Shalom,
Rick Kodner, Director
Camp Ben Frankel

NEW PROJECTS AT CAMP BEN FRANKEL

Camp Ben Frankel saw many changes in programming this year. Among the changes were an added fourth week to camp, which allowed expanded programming, Angry Puppy, a camp out overnight program for younger campers, and Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World) projects. The added fourth week was enjoyed by all, Angry Puppy was a huge success and the Tikkun Olam projects are listed below.

Mitzvah Night: Tikkun Olam, repairing the world, is a Jewish concept that Camp Ben Frankel takes seriously. Mitzvah night involved stations where the campers could give back and learn how to repair the world. One station had the children making tote bags for

children in the hospital. Another had campers making friendship bracelets so the sick kids would know someone is out there for them. There was another station where campers and staff wrote notes inspiring hope with wishes to feel better and get well soon. Finally, we had a station that taught our kids about being better to the earth and our own environment. They were reminded of the recycling options we have at camp and to pick up our trash to conserve the nature that surrounds us. The program was touching and the campers were happy they could give back to kids that weren't able to go to camp.

Community Cleanup: A group of campers and staff went to

Congregation Beth Jacob in Carbondale, Illinois and weeded the flower beds, trimmed the trees, painted, sealed benches, spread mulch on the play area, cleared sweet gum balls from the gaga court and more. The Temple was very happy at the job that was done by our campers and staff.

Good Will: The CITs went to Camp Little Giant on two separate occasions. The first time they put on a skit for the campers and the second they sang and taught the campers songs. On both occasions after the program they worked with the campers on art projects, such as, making necklaces, coloring plates and making bookmarks. Camp Little (continued on page 5)

UPCOMING SERVICES

TEMPLE ISRAEL-ALTON

609 West Delmar
Alton, IL 62002
618-288-5427

September 29—Rosh Hashana
10 am—Services with Rabbi Jay
Goldberg followed by dairy potluck

October 8—Yom Kippur
10 am—Services & memorial
service with Rabbi Jay Goldberg
5 pm—Concluding services
followed by break-the-fast

TEMPLE ISRAEL-PADUCAH

330 Joe Clifton Drive
Paducah, KY 42001
info@templeisrael.us

September 28—Erev Rosh Hashanah
7 pm—Evening service

September 29—Rosh Hashanah
10 am—Morning services

October 7—Erev Yom Kippur
7 pm—Evening Service

October 8—Yom Kippur
10 am—Morning services
3:30 pm (approx.)—Memorial
services

CONGREGATION BETH JACOB-CARBONDALE

904 North Norwest Drive
Carbondale, IL 62901
618-529-1409

September 9—7:30 pm
September 16—7:30 pm
September 23—7:30 pm

September 28—Erev Rosh Hashanah
7:30 pm—Evening service

September 29—Rosh Hashanah
9 am—Morning services

October 7—Erev Yom Kippur
7:30 pm—Kol Nidre

October 8—Yom Kippur
9:00 am—Morning services
4 pm—Yizkor
4:30 pm—Minchah

October 14—7:30 pm
Sukkot services in the sukkah

October 21—7:30 pm
October 28—7:30 pm



UNITED HEBREW TEMPLE-BENTON

East Park Avenue
Benton, IL 62812
618-521-1393

Services conducted by
Rabbi Lina Zerbarini

September 28—Erev Rosh Hashanah
6:30 pm—Dinner
8 pm—Evening services

September 29—Rosh Hashanah
10 am—Morning services

October 7—Erev Yom Kippur
8 pm—Evening service

October 8—Yom Kippur
10 am—Morning services
5 pm—Afternoon services
6 pm—Memorial service
6:45 pm—Concluding service

AGUDAS ACHIM BETH

ISRAEL-BELLEVILLE

225 N. High St. at C St.
Belleville, IL

Service Times To Be Announced

NEW PROJECTS (FROM PAGE 5)

Giant is a program of Southern Illinois University located at Touch of Nature Environmental Center in the Shawnee National Forest of Southern Illinois. Camp Little Giant provides six- and twelve-day camp sessions to campers in ages ranging from 8-80 with a wide range of disabilities. They emphasize participation, cooperation, self-expression, achievement, mutual appreciation, and FUN among campers and staff alike.

Camp was a huge success in that not only did the campers have fun, but, in the true tradition of Camp Ben

Frankel, they learned as well. They learned while having fun. They learned while helping others. Finally they learned, while repairing the world, one project at a time.

B'Shalom,
Rick Kodner, Director
Camp Ben Frankel

THREE YEARS, ONE FAMILY

BY ERIC SAMUELS

In 2008, I arrived to Israel on an *aliyah* flight along with hundreds of other North American *olim* (immigrants); since then, I have gained tremendously. I shored up my Hebrew to the level where I am pursuing a Master's in Gerontology at Ben-Gurion University, working, and even dating...*all in Hebrew*. I have grown religiously: obtaining my first set of tefillin, incorporating three-times daily prayer into my routine, and strengthening my relationship with G-d through the mere half-hour walk from my Jerusalem apartment to the Kotel. And I have connected to amazing people—other *olim* from around the world, countless native Israelis—classmates, co-workers and others such as the Holocaust survivors at Jerusalem's Cafe Europa where I volunteered—who all adopt me as one of their own.

I have also lost quite a bit over these years. Five months after landing, I reached the milestone of being in Israel for my first war—Operation Cast Lead. I was in the same city where terror struck—twice, tractors were used to try to run over Israelis in Jerusalem; this spring, after two rockets fell on Beer Sheva in one morning (one in the same neighborhood where I had been sleeping), terror followed me back to Jerusalem with an afternoon bus bombing.

The multi-pronged terror attack outside of Eilat in August took the lives of eight innocent Israelis who merely wanted to live and love in their homeland, a rocket in Beer Sheva took another, and rockets

continue to fall across Israel's South. Having joined the Israeli family, my pain is much more tangible when seeing children mourning their parents and the unfathomable image of parents burying their children. Israelis' care for our Southern brothers takes the form of "*Sh'yihye shaket*—may it be quiet," uttered across the country.

A sentence rarely includes both "smiling passengers" and "Israeli public transportation." Last night I saw those smiles while riding for the first time the Jerusalem light rail, a project nine years in the making. As endless as that wait has felt to Jerusalemites who have endured construction-related traffic, it pales in comparison to the eternally-awaited peace over Israel.

Until the day comes when Israel achieves peace with her neighbors, I will swallow that increasingly deep pain, while also tasting the incredibly sweet support from other Israelis. After each university exam, the exam monitors emphatically proclaim "*B'hatzlacha*—good luck!" When I didn't have the address for a Shabbat lunch, six complete strangers invited me into their homes.

Does the threat of terror contribute to these acts of lovingkindness between Israelis? Undoubtedly. But responsibility for your fellow Israeli is larger than that—it is about being part of one extended, millions-strong family.



Ada and Ester, participants at Jerusalem's Cafe Europa (run by Avia Fridlich), have grown to support each other. They have also greatly supported the author in his studies and acclimation to Israel.

CARBONDALE BRUNCH AND SPEAKER

SEPTEMBER 18
11 AM

Home of Dr. Simeon & Ruth Grater
33 Southmoor Street
Carbondale, IL 62903

Special Guest Speaker
Douglas M. Bloomfield
Syndicated Columnist, Washington
Lobbyist and Consultant

A kosher brunch will be provided.

For more information, contact
Debra at 618-235-1614 or
debra@simokyfed.com



SHALIACH REPORT: WELCOME HOME—NOW GO SLEEP IN A TENT

BY ASSAF GRUMBERG

I'm writing this article just hours after returning from the biggest demonstration in Israel's history. On Saturday night, August 6th the citizens of Israel made it clear that they would not stand by and watch as Israel loses its basic values, values upon which it was established. More than a quarter of a million people marched the streets of Tel Aviv shouting "we demand social justice!" "we demand new order!"—lifting signs about the cost of living, low salaries, high taxes and more, letting the government know, "if you're not with us, you're against us." I can proudly say I was part of that march. What an exciting time to be back in Israel, definitely an opportunity to witness history in the making. In the past year I followed the social protest taking shape, on Facebook, in the newspapers and through discussions with friends—I knew it had to come sooner or later. I can say that part of my reasons for going on my Shlichut was that I had to show myself and everyone around me that a new social state of mind is needed, in order to do more for our society.

The main question is, of course, what are the masses demanding? And though it looks scattered and unorganized it's actually fairly simple: Change the economic approach prevalent in Israel in recent decades so that a middle-class person who makes an honest living will also be able to support himself and his family. That includes finding adequate housing at a worthy price and allowing himself and his family a proper standard of

living—all without finding himself in great debt he has no chance to return.

Isn't that what we all want?

During the march in Tel Aviv on Saturday I discovered that the people shouting for proper housing and lowering the cost of living were not alone. Next to the thousands and under one slogan of "Social Justice" stood people demanding fair prices on pre-schools for working parents (it came to my knowledge that in Israel it's more expensive to send a child to a day care than to college). Next to them I saw doctors leaving their shifts to protest about their salaries and impossibly long hours (it pays more to work at McDonalds than to be an intern at a major hospital). It was truly democracy's finest hour. And except for a small group of anarchists trying to make a mess, all passed quietly, while even a SWAT team positioned there (just in case) got to be part of the harmony that developed in the streets of Tel Aviv that night.

Do not be mistaken—this is not a continuation of the "Arab spring" we saw in recent months among our

neighbors (even if was inspired by them). Israel is a democracy; in fact, it is the only real democracy in our region. Despite the attempt to present this as a political event, it is clear to me and the thousands I met demonstrating in Tel Aviv, that the problem is the way, not who's in power. If people are not satisfied with their government, they are welcome to replace it in next year's elections.

Obviously, in a place like Israel, much is going on these days— Hamas is still shooting rockets in the south, and still holding Gilad Shalit hostage! There is a fear of violent events sparked by the Palestinians in September as a reaction to their attempt to be recognized as a state by the UN. Lest we forget the economic crisis which sometimes feels as if it's relaxed, when actually it's always threatening us, especially after recent events in the U.S. which compromises the economic strength of Israel as well. But in our eyes, it's all connected: the people who serve in reserve units and would probably be called to service if September events turn bad, the folks who are suffering from rockets being shot in the south, the people who feel the raise on mortgage payments—they are the same people who walked the streets of Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Ashkelon, Eilat and more. These are the people who carry this country on their back.

Next year, and this time from southern Illinois, it will be exciting to see how this revolution takes shape.



Quarter of a million people demonstrating.

ISRAELI SCOUTS

Once again we would like to give a big thank you to Mr. Ron Rubin for his generosity in sponsoring the Israeli Scouts and Friendship Caravan programs at Camp Ben Frankel.

Israeli Scouts are 16- and 17-year-olds that have proven leadership experience, a broad knowledge of Israeli and Jewish history, a high level of scouting achievement, fluency in English and strong communication skills. Most of all, they have a love for their country and their people and a desire to share that love. Israeli Scouts assist in all facets of the camping experience each summer, at Camp Ben Frankel, specifically as counselors, scouting specialists and representatives of Israel. Scouts share their experiences

and backgrounds with other counselors and campers, teaching them about Israel's culture and history. Their unique enthusiasm, energy and passion bring a joyful Israeli spirit to camp. Through this, Camp Ben Frankel children have gained deep exposure and a meaningful bond to Israel, its people and its culture.

The Friendship Caravan consists of 5 male and 5 female Tzofim (Israel Scouts) who are entering their senior year of high school. The Caravans travel throughout North America each summer as emissaries, sharing their lives in Israel through song, dance and story. The Tzofim Friendship Caravan typically will stay at Camp Ben Frankel two nights before doing



a community performance at SIU-C. While in camp they teach songs and dances to the campers and staff.

**The Jewish Federation of
Southern Illinois, Southeast
Missouri and Western Kentucky**
3419 West Main Street
Belleville, IL 62226
Phone 618-235-1614
877-714-6103
Website: www.simokyfed.com

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
8 am-4:30 pm
Friday
8 am-12 pm

Burton Zwick*President*
Bill Bruns.....*Vice President*
Bill Flarsheim.....*Treasurer*
Carol Korein.....*Assistant Treasurer*
Dan Jolly.....*Assistant Treasurer*
Gail Lipe*Secretary*
Richard Goldenhersh...*Parliamentarian*
Debra Vahlkamp*Office Manager*
Rick Kodner*Camp Director*
Assaf Grumberg*Shaliach*
Ann Lesley Rosen*Newsletter Editor*