



L'Chain!

News & "Chailights" of The Greater Altoona Jewish Community

September 2010
Issue No. 19
Federation: 515-1182
E-mail:
altfed@atlanticbb.net
www.greateraltoona
jewishfederation.org

Temple welcomes new rabbi

Temple Beth Israel invites the entire Jewish and interfaith community to the installation service for its new spiritual leader, Rabbi Audrey Korotkin on Friday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m.

The installation will be a component of the Temple's Shabbat liturgy. Rabbi Audrey explained that it would be a "covenant service uniting the congregation and Rabbi in a spiritual and ritual bond."

Sandra Knepp, board president, will represent the congregation in the ceremony. She said, "This will mark a new time of energy and enthusiasm for our Temple, and we hope all of our com-



Rabbi Audrey Korotkin and husband, Don Clippinger, posed for this picture during Greater Altoona Jewish Federation night at Blair County Ballpark last month.

munity partners will join us."

The Friday service begins a weekend of activities important to Rabbi Audrey. On Saturday, Oct. 16, she will lead a team of walkers in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and on Sunday, Oct. 17, the Rabbi will conduct a "blessing of animals" service following Sunday School.

Korotkin thanks everyone for the very warm welcome extended by the community to her and her husband, Don Clippinger, and hopes to share many important moments in our lives for years to come.

Israel Bonds dinner to honor Rev. Johnson

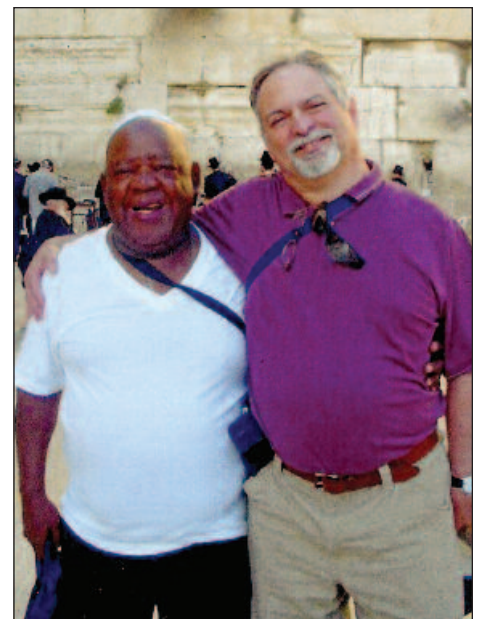
The State of Israel Bonds annual dinner will be held on Sunday, Oct. 10, at 1 p.m. at The Casino at Lakemont. This year's honoree will be Reverend Paul L. Johnson, Pastor of the Eighteenth Street Community Church in Altoona.

Reverend Paul is active in veterans organizations, especially Fire Base Eagle, which is dedicated to the experiences and lessons from the Vietnam War. He is an advocate of social justice for all minorities and people in need in our community. He

is also a trainer for our Celebrate Diversity! program, presenting the "blue eyes – brown eyes" exercise each year to all of the students.

In April 2010, Pastor Johnson participated in an interfaith Mission to Israel sponsored by ZOA (Zionist Organization of America). He describes his experiences there as "unbelievable and life changing."

Plan on attending the Bonds tribute October 10 and hearing Reverend Paul's account of his mission to Israel.



Rev. Paul Johnson (left) joins ZOA's Stuart Pavlick at the Wailing Wall.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: BY BILL WALLEN

Around the community

Comings and goings



Welcome to **Rabbi Yossi and Mrs. Chana'le Stein and their children,**

Mendel and Srolik, who have moved to Duncansville this summer and opened a Chabad Lubavitch Center there. The Steins are already known to many as they have offered Chanukah and Passover programs in our Sunday School and a Lag B'Omer picnic for the community. To learn more about upcoming programs check their website www.jewishaltoona.com.

Best wishes to **Bob and Barbara Klein**, who recently relocated to Florida. Their new address is: The Carlislie, 6935 Carlislie Court, Apt. C 105, Naples, FL 31409.

Mazel Tov

Nancy Devorris was awarded an honorary degree from Mount Aloysius College and recognized by WISE Women of Blair County for her many activities as a community service volunteer and a community philanthropist. Our Federation is one of the many organizations for which Nancy has raised funds over many years.

She is also a Federation **Lion of Judah**, which recognizes her own generous contribution to the

Federation.

Judy Meisel to return

Holocaust survivor and civil rights activist **Judy Meisel** will make her fifth visit to our community from October 28 through November 4.

During her visits she has shared her amazing story of survival and her continuing advocacy activities with over 10,000 students in local colleges, high schools and junior highs. She has raised our consciousness about current genocides, including Darfur, and focuses on everyone's responsibility to stand up for the rights of others. To schedule Judy for a talk to your group or to find out when you can see her, call the Federation office.

Our clergy and Tikkun Olam

I'm inviting you to join the Temple Beth Israel team of walkers in the October 16 "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk at Penn State-Altoona. Many Jewish women are at greater risk of developing breast cancer because of our genetic code, so it's important for the Jewish community to take part.

Please sign up at the Temple office 942-0057. Let's walk together toward a world with less cancer and more birthdays!

L'shalom, Rabbi Audrey

Please consider a pledge to help Hazzan Michael Horwitz and over 15 other Rabbis and Cantors raise funds for Achilles International, an organization that works with special needs athletes around the globe.

The purpose of the fundraising effort is in conjunction with the upcoming New York City Marathon in November that each of these Rabbis and Cantors are busy training for and running along with over 30,000 runners.

A donation can be made via my website <http://www.firstgiving.com/marathon30run26witzz> very easily and securely with a credit card. If you wish to donate via a check, it should be made out to ACHILLES INTERNATIONAL and sent directly to Hazzan Horwitz.

Todahh Rabbah, Hazzan Michael

Join us for
the 3rd annual
Fall Foliage Picnic/Wagon ride

On Sunday, September 26th
the Greater Altoona Jewish
Federation will be sponsoring
a Fall Foliage Picnic/Wagon ride
at Diamond Carriage Lane just
south of Roaring Spring
from 4:30 - 7:30pm.
There will be no charge
for this event.

There will be games, a wagon
ride and dinner, catered by
Paula and Dave Binus. We will
also roast marshmallows and
make s' mores by a bonfire.



L'CHAIM MILESTONES



Ian Housman and Danielle Ascher



Mike, Heather and Ari Holzer

ENGAGEMENTS

Ian Housman and Danielle Ascher. Ian is the son of **Jack and Jan Housman** and the grandson of **Joe Lurie**. A fall 2011 wedding is planned.

Nanci Hollander and Ben Caplan. Nanci is the daughter of Barbara and Joel Hollander. A November 2010 wedding is planned in Washington D.C. and October Auf Ruf in Altoona.

MARRIAGES

Danielle Newborn and Bob Kaniewsky were married on August 7, 2010 at the Blairmont in Hollidaysburg. Danielle is the daughter of **Michele Schmidt** and **Barry Newborn**.

Andre and Diana Kodanov were recently married. Andre is the nephew of **Mina and Gary Belenitsky** and lived in Altoona with his mother, **Anna**, when they first came to the USA from the Ukraine.

BIRTHS

Ari Bernard Holzer was born on July 22, 2010 and is the son of **Michael and Heather Holzer**, grandson of **Sue and Russ Holzer** and great grandson of **Norma Sevel** and the late **Bernie Sevel**.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 9	1st day Rosh Hashanah
Sept. 10	2nd day Rosh Hashanah
Sept. 12	Opening of Sunday School
Sept. 17	Kol Nidre
Sept. 18	Yom Kippur
Sept. 23	1st day Sukkot
Sept. 26	Federation picnic/wagon ride
Oct. 1	Simchat Torah
Oct. 10	Israel Bonds dinner
Oct. 15	Installation of Rabbi Korotkin
Nov. 7	Global Day of Jewish Learning
Nov. 23	Interfaith Thanksgiving service at Sacred Heart
Dec. 1	1st candle Chanukah

L'Chaim!

is published annually by
The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation.

Editor: Neil Rudel

Conscience: Bill Wallen

Photographer: Jeff Greenberg

Articles should be submitted to the
Federation at 515-1182

or e-mailed to altfed@atlanticbb.net

Website: greateraltoonajewishfederation.org

Printing by A+ Printing, Inc.

Join the Network Leadership for Building Our Jewish Communities

The Jewish Federations of North America invites you and members of your community to a Network Leadership meeting on Building Our Jewish Communities. Penn State Hillel at the Pennsylvania State University campus, will host the meeting on Sunday, Oct. 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The agenda will include Jewish community outreach to the next generation; Israel advocacy; and community issues and programs. Speakers and participants will include Hillel students and alumni from Birthright Israel, Masa, Otzma and the David Project, and professionals from JFNA's Washington office and from our overseas partners — the Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Call the Federation at 515-1182 for details. There will be no cost for participants.



NOV. 07.10

1 WORLD. 1 PEOPLE. 1 DAY.

www.1people1day.org

The global day is a once in a lifetime opportunity for Jews around the world to share in a meaningful day of learning and community building.

The day celebrates the achievements of renowned Jewish scholar, Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz and his completion of a modern translation and commentary on the Talmud. There will be sessions for pre-schoolers, elementary and secondary students and adults. The programs will be in conjunction with Sunday school and held at Temple Beth Israel.

Stay tuned for details.

Smile for the camera: The



Leaders and participants at the annual Veterans' Memorial Service held at the Jewish cemeteries. Featured speakers include Ben, Noah, Nathan, and Jacob proudly display the flag of the Jewish War Veterans Post, named in honor of their great



Two fixtures at Agudath Achim: Albert Mealing and Ray Altberg.



Dan Henderson and his parents, Kathy and Ed.



Pam Kivitz-Pater is joined by sons Howie (left) and Lucas.



Cindy Burkhart is proud of her son, Dan – as we all are.

Jewish community in focus



ded Vietnam veteran, John Gority, and his wife Blair County Commissioner Donna Gority. The Scheinberg boys, from at-grandfather, Samuel Scheinberg.



Mina Belenitsky poses with Erica Binus.



Adam Port with friends Grant Glass and Gage Paul.



Cheryl Davis and Ron Adelman smile for the camera.



Ginger Glass and Carly Port say cheese.



Jorge and Anya Aguero – new to the community.

We remember them... *So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now part of us, as we remember them.*

A Tribute to Rabbi Berger

Our community was deeply saddened by the loss of Rabbi M. Herbert Berger on May 25, 2010. He served Agudath Achim Congregation from 1977-1997 and was given the honor of Rabbi Laureate for his "rabbinic excellence, interfaith outreach and community leadership."

Rabbi visited Altoona regularly since moving to New Jersey and kept in frequent telephone and e-mail contact with his many friends here. He thought of Altoona as his real home and friends here as his family. Congregants described him as "a wonderful friend and great teacher, open



and inclusive to everyone, kind, gentle and generous with his time and energy,

and an encyclopedia of Judaism."

Rabbi Berger often told us that he loved Judaism, and his goal was to share its beliefs and practices with as many people as he could. He reached out to the entire community. He especially ministered to individuals in state prisons and in mental health and developmental disability centers.

On the plaque in the Synagogue chapel honoring him is the quote, "As you have blessed us, may the Almighty continue to bless you."

May all of us continue to remember Rabbi Berger for a blessing and be assured that God blessed him for his good life.

Jack Edelman

Jack Edelman, 86, died on March 19, 2010 in Chico, California. He was born in Altoona and he was a lifelong member of Agudath Achim Congregation.

Jack served in the New York National Guard from 1943-1945, returned to Altoona and married Helen Cazen in 1946. They were married for 64 happy years.

Jack worked for over 60 years as a salesman and a buyer, first for Sky Bros and later for Imler's Poultry. He was a dedicated volunteer in the Jewish and general community. He could always bring a smile to people's faces with his humor, stories and jokes. His friends remember him as a generous and fun-loving man, "a real mensch."

Helen and Jack moved to Chico six years ago to be close to their family. The Edelman, Cazen and Adelman families will always have many fond memories of him.

Irvin Goldberg

Irvin Goldberg, 88, died on February 25, 2010 in Florida. Irv was an Altoona native, the son of Harry and Tessie, and brother of Lewis, Albert, "Shimmy" and Allen. He graduated from Altoona High in 1940, joined the Navy and achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

Irv returned to Altoona and worked in the family business, Altoona Welding Supply, where he later became the CEO.

Condolences

Barry Kaufman and family on the death of his wife, **Sherry Lynn Kaufman**, on Feb. 22, 2010.

The **Mosler and Friedland** families on the death of **Alberta Friedland Mosler** on April 22, 2010.

The **Whipple** family on the death of Leroy's father, **Edwin Whipple**, in June 2010.

The **Diamond and Schulman** families on the death of their niece and cousin **Florence "Flo" Diamond** on July 16, 2010.

He helped create Allegheny Medical Equipment and was a founder of the Blue Knob Ski Resort.

He was first married to Leila Auerbach in 1949, and they had four children. He later married Judy Hopper of Altoona in 1976. They moved to Florida in 1992.

In Altoona, Irv was active in Agudath Achim Congregation and various service organizations. Throughout his life he loved golf, music and travel.

Norman Glucroft

Norman Glucroft, 89, died on May 27, 2010 in State College. He was born in New York City, the youngest of three children. He graduated from Boys High and studied business at CCNY. During WWII, Norman served in the Army Air Corps as a gunner and decoder and attained the rank of Second Lieutenant.

He moved to Altoona, where he met Shirley Marcus, who became the love of his life. They wed in 1943 and would have celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary on July 4.

Norman operated a decorating shop, The Spinning Wheel, and expanded to many small fabric shops throughout Western PA. He opened Roaring River Mills, selling discounted fabrics and attracting people from great distances.

Norman and Shirley had two children, Ross and Susan, and six grandchildren. They were active members of Agudath Achim Congregation. Norman was a great supporter of Israel and many Jewish organizations. Upon his retirement, they moved to Florida and returned to this area six years ago to live in State College.

His memory will always be a blessing to his family and many friends.

(Continued on page 7)



L'CHAIM PROFILE: DRS. ALAN KIVITZ AND VICKI SOMMER

Kivitzes appreciate community

Residence: Woodlawn Terrace, Hollidaysburg

Family: Alan and Vicki have four children – Janine Werstil (spouse Greg Werstil), Dr. Melissa Kivitz-Krantzow (spouse Dr. Michael Krantzow) and sons Matthew and David. Alan and Vicki have three grandchildren.

Education: Alan graduated from South Side High School, Rockville Center Long Island, N.Y. in 1971. Vicki graduated from John Bowne High School, Queens N.Y. in 1971. Both attended the six-year Biomedical Program, awarding a BS in Biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy N.Y. and an MD from Albany Medical College, Albany N.Y. from 1971-1977. Both did residencies from 1977-80 at North Shore University Hospital, Manhasset N.Y. (Cornell) and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. Vicki specializes in Pediatrics, and Alan in Internal Medicine. Alan then did a fellowship in Rheumatology in Albany N.Y. from 1980-1982.

Congregation: Temple Beth Israel

We've been to Israel: Vicki has been to Israel three times, Alan twice. We were there for the first time when we were both 19, visiting Vicki's extended family that lives in Israel. Most recently, we went on an organized tour led by Rabbi Gary Klein with his Palm Harbor, FL Congregation this past June. Vicki also went 15 years ago with Janine and Melissa to attend her cousin's wedding.



First memories of being Jewish include: Alan's are his grandparents speaking Yiddish expressions and attending Hebrew School at Temple B'nai Sholom in Rockville Center N.Y. in preparation for his Bar Mitzvah. Vicki remembers her older brother, Harry Sommer, telling her when she was 5 years old that their parents had been in a concentration camp during World War II.

Our strongest Jewish influences at an early age were: Alan's were his exposure to Hebrew School. Vicki was moved knowing that family existed in Israel.

The leaders in the Altoona Jewish community when we first came here in 1981 were: Rabbi Gary Klein and his wife, Ilene, who were instrumental in our decision to move to Altoona from New York.

Past positions held: Alan is a past President of the Blair County Medical Society and current president of Altoona Arthritis & Osteoporosis & Research Center.

In our Jewish community, we are most proud of: The Jewish identity that is displayed by our relatively small numbers in the community.

Our vision (hope) for our Jewish community includes: Since we have brought extended family members into the community – some members of Agudath Achim Synagogue, some who are members of Temple Beth Israel and some both – any Jewish functions such as those sponsored by the Federation for our entire Jewish community are especially welcomed and appreciated. For such a small Jewish community, the Federation does a wonderful job of providing offerings to all Jews in our region.

(Continued from page 6)

Bernard M. "Bernie" Shapiro

Bernard M. "Bernie" Shapiro, 92, died on August 18, 2010 in Miami, Florida. He was born and grew up in Pittsburgh where he met and married his dear wife, Ethel in 1940. They had been married for 62

years, upon her death in 2002.

They moved to Altoona where they lived for many years and became very active in the Jewish and general community. Bernie was a devoted member of Temple Beth Israel, being active in the Brotherhood, serving as an usher at services and blowing the shofar during the High

Holy Days. He was concerned about all Jews who were in need and especially Holocaust survivors.

Bernie was a sweet and gentle man who will be remembered for a blessing by his dear friend Nina, his brother Irving as well as his children Leslie and Sheldon and his grandchildren and great grandchildren.



*The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation
1308 17th Street
Altoona PA 16601*

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Altoona PA
Permit No. 88



*May this New Year
be filled with
the promise of peace,
health and happiness*