

Smachot

Congratulations to these Temple families on their recent and upcoming smachot

RECENT BIRTHS

• **Jesse Joel Weller** (son for Torsten & Karin Weller)
• **Poppy Rauchberger** (daughter for Kate & Lior Rauchberger, granddaughter for Lesley & Jack Silber-scher) • **Zoe Jasmine Silkoff** (daughter for David & Lara Silkoff, granddaughter of Eric & Rhona Herz)

RECENT ENGAGEMENTS

Jeremy Wrobel & Amanda Fraser • Simon Rosin (son of Paula Rosin) & Libby Bear

B'NAI MITZVAH THIS MONTH

Benjamin Fih Sasse • Edith Shepherd • Savvy Kron Juvris



Raph Tenenbaum was bar mitzvah on 22 April 2006

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

Arthur & Bina Best (65th) • Rudolf & Sylvia Cherny (55th) • Harry & Deanna Ross (45th) • Alex & Janet Starr (45th) • Rex & Nan Moss (45th) • Julian & Meryl Rood (35th) • Bernard & Wendy Marin (20th)

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Kay Bancroft • Irene Benjamin • Jean Berah • Arthur Best • Fay Bock • Susie Cymbalist • Eric Davis • George Dryen • Kevin Eisfelder • Eli Firestone • Charlie Ford • Roma Frey • Ethel Goldin • Benjamin Graetzer • Wendy Hirsh • Isabel Hyman • Symon Hyman • Ruth Inwald • Magdi Jakobovits • Shellie Jelinek • Lauren Kaiserman • Lili Kiffer • Edith Kohn • Eve Landman • Peter Lawrence • Justin Lipinski • Laurence Mandie • Nicholas Marks • Miriam Rabinov • John Rogers • Michelle Rosenberg • Ruth Rosssdale • Lotte Roubicek • Paul Rozental • Graeme Samuel • Ron Schweitzer • Sara Segal • Kaslea Serina • Monica Shalit • Jeffrey Sher • Rael Solomon • Suzanna Taryan • Eva Towers • John Unglik • George Upton • Martha Weiner • Eva Weisl • Trude Wieder • George Wynn • Andre Zalchandler • Ilse Ziffer • Steven Zozula

NEW MEMBERS

Tony Brand • Giles & Rebecca Atwell

MAZAL TOV

• To Rabbi Dr John Levi, who has been awarded a degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa* from Monash University. He can now be officially addressed as Dr Dr J Levi!

Bereavements

DEATHS

We acknowledge the recently deceased and offer sincere condolences to their families

• **Edith Pulver** (mother of Peter Pulver) • **Leslie Koadlow** (father of Peter Koadlow & Yehudit Koadlow)

YARHZEITS

We remember those whose yahrzeits are commemorated this month

Yahrzeits observed on 6 May

• **Rachel Arber** (mother of Ziona Zylberman) • **Suzanne Bentata** (daughter of Albert & Carol Bentata) • **Helen Berkouvits** (sister of Rose Rosta) • **Tovia Blostizin** (father of Ducia Simons) • **John Jacob (Jack) Chazan** (husband of Halina Chazan) • **Henri Ciddor** (husband of Pola Ciddor) • **Maurice Cohen** (father of Saul Cohen & Ann Gild) • **Walter Donath** (husband of Annie Donath) • **Margareta Fleischer** (mother of Ellen Pahoff) • **Isabel Jane Goddard** (mother of Sue Sonenberg) • **Philip Hayman** (husband of Jane Hayman) • **John Hearst** (father of Gary Hearst) • **Walter Heine** (father of Leslie Heine) • **Marcia Joel** (mother of Graham Joel) • **Avner Kanatopsky** (father of Aviva Taft) • **Isaiah Kornhauser** (father of Leora Benjamin) • **Ilya Izrael Milechman** (1st husband of Helena Frosh) • **Felix Rosenbloom** (husband of Fela Rosenbloom, father of John Rosenbloom) • **Betty Roth** (great grandmother of Jeffrey Loewenstein) • **Aaron Leib Rother** (father of Michael Potter) • **Alfred Ruskin** (husband of Pamela Ruskin) • **Shmul Rybolov** (father of Manya Shmukler) • **Fanny Shiff** (mother of Eva Shneider) • **Jakob & Julia Szpigelsztein**, **Basia Szpigelsztein Grabman**, **Feliks Szpigelsztein**, **Sewek Szpigelsztein** (parents and siblings of Roma Frey) • **Julius Thurin** (father of Eric Thurin) • **Hinda Yoffa** (mother of Enid Elton) • **Maurice & Sarah Zylbering** (parents-in-law of Betty Silber)

Yahrzeits observed on 13 May

• **Harry Benjamin** (father-in-law of Irene Benjamin, grandfather of Gordon Benjamin) • **Cecilia Bram** (mother of Arnold Bram) • **Erich Bruch** (brother of Max Bruch) • **Jacob Goldberg** (grandfather of Dianne Gringlas) • **Werner Heymann** (husband of Dorothea Heymann) • **Lola Kelman** (mother of Hilda Brous, grandmother of Pia Brous) • **Lily Lustig** (mother of Jenny Gorog) • **Alfred & Irmgard Marx** (parents of Irene Stern) • **Eitan Newman** (cousin of Sandy Benjamin & Ron Dodge) • **Jarryd Phillip Hirsh** (son of Irwin & Wendy Hirsh) • **Alfred Rogers** (husband of Gerda Rogers) • **Alla Savenkoff** (niece of Ducia Simons) • **Friedrich (Fred) Schlesinger** (grandfather of Vicki Lustig) • **Hugo Seligmann** (father of Fred Seligmann) • **Woolfe Sharpe** (father of Roslyn Levy & Laurence Sharpe) • **Trude Trebitsch** (mother of Erika Fisher)

Yahrzeits observed on 20 May

• **Hilde Adler** (mother of Ilse Ziffer) • **Sylvia Belman** (mother of Joy Waller, grandmother of Lorraine Topol) • **Stephanie Berg** (daughter of Ralph & Olive Berg) • **Ron Blashki** (father in law of Sue Blashki) • **Kim Clain** (friend of Philip Mayers) • **Betty Dreyfus** (mother of Ilse Breth) • **Vaughan Hastings Goddard** (father of Sue Sonenberg) • **Maurice Gold** (husband of Marie Gold) • **Benno Goldband** (step-father of Samuel Langer, grandfather of Dan Langer) • **Neville Harrison** (father of Jeffrey Harrison) • **Rosa Hoffman** (grandmother of Mervyn Cohen) • **Boris Ivensky** (father of Bella Shannon) • **Joseph Kahan** (father of Jeffrey Kahan) • **Isaac Kaplan** (father of Joy Waller, grandfather of Lorraine Topol) • **Erwin Paul Kraus** (husband of Martha Sanders) • **Millie (Malka) Levy** (mother of Philip Levy) • **Ernest Marks** (father of Jane Hayman) • **Sofia Miller** (sister of Efim Shmukler) • **Esther Moss** (mother of Theo Moss, grandmother of Marcus Moss) • **Eric Newman** (father of Dot Nathan) • **Ethel O'Brien** (mother of Fliss Goldstein) • **Moishe Piterman** (father of Leon Piterman) • **Samuel & Shayndel Rosenberg** (grandparents of Rhonda Nirens) • **Gerda Schifftan** (mother of Peter Schifftan) • **Kay Segal** (aunt of Alan Samuel) • **Ethel Sharp** (mother of Ron Sharp) • **Morris Shinberg** (father of Simon Shinberg) • **Luba Slome** (grandmother of Lorraine Topol)

Yahrzeits observed on 27 May

• **Faye Burns** (niece of Ann Greenwood, cousin of Susan Marcus & Harry Mrocki) • **Rafal Cwajenberg** (father of Esther Telkes) • **Margery Elton** (mother of Howard Elton) • **Betty Evans** (mother of Rhondda Hall) • **Peter Holan** (son of George & Ruth Holan) • **Albert Jacob** (father of Lili Kiffer) • **Barbara Koadlow** (sister of Yehudit Koadlow & Peter Koadlow) • **Alice Koranyi** (aunt of Peter Kolliner) • **Blanche Lind** (mother of Mary Dunn, grandmother of Fay Nussbaum) • **Efraim Meierowitz** (father of Fay Bock) • **Margarete Paneth** (mother of Charlotte Layton) • **Eric Pearce** (husband of Grete Pearce, father of Gerald Pearce) • **Philip Ralph Joseph** (father of Margaret Bentley) • **Ota Roubicek** (husband of Lotte Roubicek) • **Shulim Shmukler** (father of Efim Shmukler) • **Harry Simons** (father of Gail Simons) • **Miriam Swire** (mother of Rodney Swire) • **John Teleki** (father of Stephen Teleki) • **Elvira Wilkan** (mother-in-law of Gary Hartmann)

Helpful information

Temple Beth Israel is located at 76 Alma Road, St Kilda. Our postal address is POB 128 St Kilda, Victoria, 3182 Australia. You can contact the office on +61-3-9510-1488 or info@tbi.org.au. Check our website for our programs and activities on www.tbi.org.au

Shabbat services commence at 6:15 pm on Friday evening, and 10 am each Saturday morning throughout the year.

Bet Olam Progressive Jewish funeral service can be contacted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week throughout the year on +61-3-9883-6237. Your call will be taken immediately. For funeral information see www.jewishfunerals.org.au



Temple Beth Israel Inc.
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TEMPE TIME DIGEST

The magazine of The Temple Beth Israel Community

MAY 2006

IYAR/SIVAN 5766

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Don't miss May!

Rabbi Gersh Zylberman



Pesach is over, and our communal seder on the second night of Pesach was tremendously successful, with about 90 people participating. Rabbis John Levi, Rayna Gevurtz and I led the seder using our very own "A Family Haggadah". I can call it that

because the production of "A Family Haggadah" and accompanying cookbook and CD of Seder music was seeded by the Union for Progressive Judaism, edited by Rabbi Levi, illustrated by children from The King David School and Temple Beth Israel and designed by TBI members. The haggadah was a great success!

The community also commemorated Yom Hashoah in late April with a service in our synagogue before proceeding to the Victorian community commemoration.

In the meantime, on Monday evening, 1 May at 8 pm, the community observes erev Yom Hazikaron, the commemoration day for Israel's fallen soldiers

TBI Junior Chazzanim making Friday nights Live

Jamie Wajnberg



Late last year I walked in on a rehearsal for the TKDS sports awards evening and witnessed young KDS/TBI-nikim singing 'Eye of the Tiger' with the usual gusto the song requires, plus some added funk.

And then it clicked – what if we could have these kids, who are all post b'nei mitzvah in our community, actually help lead services? What if we could get them to bring their jazzy tunes and youthful exuberance to the *bima* during *t'fillah* times?

I waited until the end of the song and asked them would they do it? Luckily for us, they agreed.

Since then, every Thursday afternoon at TBI has become a source of immense joy. We meet at 5:30 pm, and proceed to snack and sing and laugh and enjoy Jewish music together. Under the guidance of myself and Rabbi Zylberman, Temple's awesome keyboard playing Rabbi, our Junior Chazzanim, Tammy Cohen, Ramelle Lewis, Alex Harrison and Yossi Torbiner brighten up every fourth Kabbalat Shabbat service of the month.

Two months ago, on a whim, we decided after our Thursday afternoon rehearsal to just jump straight

at Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University, followed swiftly by Yom Ha'atzmaut the next evening. The community-wide celebration at the Rod Laver Arena on Tuesday night, 2 May, is followed by our Shabbat Ha'atzmaut service on Friday 5 May at TBI, with celebration and feasting.

We are now counting the Omer, the period that leads us from Pesach to Shavuot, from our liberation from Egypt to our revelation at Mt Sinai. Lag B'Omer, the 33rd day of the Omer, comes in the middle of May and Netzer is planning an activity for our teens. On the evenings of 7 & 14 May please join us as we share in an interfaith text-study with members of the Toorak Uniting church.

Finally, we have planned a thought-provoking evening for our Tikken L'eil Shavuot on Monday 1 June, which is outlined elsewhere in Temple Time. Cheesecake will be plentiful, of course. Please join Rabbis Rayna Gevurtz, John Levi, myself and student Rabbi Deb Marcus for our Tikken.

Details of all these activities can be found in this issue of Temple Time. We hope you will enjoy our offerings.

into Friday nights and it's been amazing since. The atmosphere of the service changed, bringing in new tunes and new life to our already beautiful service. We've added guitar, bongos and electric piano to our usual musical accompaniment, as well as additional clapping, singing and humming.

It's just awesome. And it's something that you can join in with too! So if you are post B'nei Mitzvah age, you love to sing or can play an instrument and want to come and jazz up your Judaism, why not come along to Temple on Thursday afternoons between 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm. We are making Friday nights LIVE. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Below: Junior Chazzanim with Youth Director Jamie Wajnberg, performed at Harmony Day



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Temple Beth Israel acknowledges that we are assembled on land whose traditional custodians are the people of the Kulin Nation.

Temple Beth Israel is proud to be affiliated with the Union for Progressive Judaism.

If you would like to receive Temple Time Digest in electronic format instead of, or in addition to, a conventional copy, please email alan.samuel@tbi.org.au

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Quest:
PIRKE AVOT: WISDOM OF THE SAGES

During the Omer period we look at selected passages from Pirke Avot, the accumulated writings of the ancient rabbis.

With Rabbi Gersh Zylberman, 7, 14, 21, 28 Apr @10:30 am – 12 noon. Gold coin donation for refreshments

INTERFAITH SHARED LEARNING

We will be joining with members of the Toorak Uniting Church community to explore aspects of our shared religious heritage through the lenses of our different faith traditions.

The first session, presented by Rev Anneke Oppewal and Rabbi Zylberman will focus on the Shema. The second session, presented by lay leaders, will compare and contrast the Jewish festival of Shavuot with Christianity's Pentecost. Each session will begin with introductory presentations followed by a lively discussion. A highly successful pilot program ran last year and as a result we are now opening the program to all members of our communities. Please join us!

With Rabbi Zylberman and Rev Oppewal at TBI, 7 May, 5 – 7 pm

With lay leaders at Toorak Uniting Church, 603 Toorak Road Toorak, 14 May, 5 – 7 pm

TUESDAY TALK @ TBI

Jewish current affairs with Rabbi Gersh Zylberman. 23 May, 13 & 27 Jun.

SHABBAT DELIGHTS

SHABBAT SHALOM @ TBI

A special service with songs, stories & activities for families with young children from Kinder to Grade 2. Children must be accompanied by a parent. 11 am on 6 May.

GESHER L'TEFILLAH @ TBI

Monthly lay-led minyan with Torah study in place of a sermon. Following the service we join the main kiddush. 10 am on 13 May.

B'NEI MITZVAH SHIUR @ TBI

An opportunity for b'nei mitzvah students to join together for in-depth exploration of the week's parashah with a knowledgeable discussion leader. Commencing at approx 11 am on Saturday 20 May.

JEWISH TIME OUT

Caring Community Committee: DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

This group meets every six weeks to offer support and information to family and friends caring for someone with dementia.

On Monday 1 May, 7:30 – 9 pm, experts Virginia Creaser and Freda Goldberg will be discussing 'Support for Carers'. For information or to advise attendance call 9510-1488.

NISHMAT COL CHAI MEDITATION @ TBI

Learn and practise meditation, chant, discuss and dance. Suitable for those who have not meditated before and beginner and experienced meditators.

With Eva Light, Wednesday 3 May @ 7:30 pm

LIBRARY HOURS @ TBI

The TBI library is one of the hidden treasures of our community, growing at quite a pace and developing into a rich resource. Please call 9510-1488 to enquire about access during office hours.

DROP IN AND CHAT/CRAFT CIRCLE @ TBI

Low-key relaxation, BYO tabletop games of your choice or take the opportunity to indulge your craft interests with others. Wednesdays, 14, 21 Dec, 18, 25 Jan @ 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. \$2 to cover costs, refreshments always available.

SOCIAL GROUP FOR JEWISH ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

A social and support group for Jewish Australian families with adopted children (JAFAC). The group is open to anyone within the Australian Jewish community. Informal meetings for families to get together and socialise. Contact Fliss 0418-504-526 or send an email to JAFAC_subscribe@yahoo.com

BE SOCIABLE

FRIENDSHIP CLUB @ TBI

Wednesday 17 May at 11:30 am – 1 pm.

3 May: Laiya Rothberg returns to present a concert of popular English, Hebrew and Yiddish favourites.

17 May: Danny Segal and Paul Glass, with their repertoire of superb music and song from many countries.

Entertainment, luncheon, fun and chat, all for \$7 - and raffle ticket!

Yom Ha'atzmaut Sleepover

For all b'nei mitzvah students, guaranteed enjoyment for every single kid! Drop off on Friday 5 May at 5:30 pm in MRC, pick up after shul Saturday 6 May at 12:30 pm. Cost of \$15 includes delicious dinner, breakfast, snacks and special Yom Ha'atzmaut gift. Enquiries Jamie 9510-1488 or jamie.wajnberg@tbi.org.au

Yom Hazikaron

Monday 1 May at 8 pm

A community-wide commemoration, remembering the fallen soldiers of Israel, at Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University, Clayton. No charge.

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Tuesday 2 May

Community-wide celebration at the Rod Laver Arena, incorporating two major events - the Concert, with international entertainers, and the Foyer Party with interactive stalls and activities. Tickets from 9272-5544

Shabbat Ha'atzmaut

Friday 5 May at 6:15 pm

The Temple Beth Israel family comes together for a special celebratory service and oneg Shabbat to celebrate Israel's anniversary. Come and demonstrate your support and your faith that the future will be bright and peaceful.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Thursday 1 June

'You shall have one law for stranger and citizen alike...' (Lev. 24:23)

Judaism's approaches to 'the other' who dwells in our midst.

We Jews have lived in many lands surrounded by many different peoples. We have also lived with other peoples in our midst - as we do today in Israel and in Jewish communities around the world. Join us for an evening of study and discussion about how our people relate to 'the other people' with whom we learn, work and live.

Sessions led by Rabbis Gevurtz, Levi and Zylberman and student Rabbi Deb Marcus

6:15 pm Evening service
7 pm Bring a dish dinner in Slome Hall followed by cheesecake
8 pm Our Tikkun begins
Midnight (approx) our Tikkun ends

Breaks between sessions for refreshments will include cheesecake!

Lag B'Omer Tiyul

Friday 19 May – Sat 20 May

Netzer invites Year 9 – 12 students to a **Lag B'Omer overnight camp at Creswick.** (a.k.a. Robin Hood and his merry band) Only \$65 per person and all inclusive, roaring fires, fully programmed, lots of fun. Details from Nicole 0407-680-622 or Romi 0402-285-099

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW...

Are you thinking of a bar or bat mitzvah in the next eight years?

Dates for TBI b'nei mitzvah are booked eight years in advance; and educational preparations begin at least three years before the event. If your child is nearing six years of age, it is time to make enquiries for bar or bat mitzvah. Call the Temple on 9510 1488.

ON THE WEB...

- Temple website www.tbi.org.au
- www.upi.org which offers links and info on Progressive issues.
- For news and information about Israel and the Progressive Jewish world, join the special UPJ news list. To subscribe send an email to ProjeNews_subscribe@egroups.com
- School age and want to get involved? www.netzer.org.au
- And for activities of the Australian Jewish community check out www.jewishaustralia.com
- A wonderful family resource, with information on texts, history, lifecycle and lifestyle, current events, holidays, ideas, culture. <http://www.myjewishlearning.com/>

Jewish Youth Musical (JYM) theatre presents

'Little Shop of Horrors'

22-27 May at the Phoenix Theatre, Elwood.

A not-for-profit musical theatre company, JYM theatre co. provides Jewish people over 18 with the unique opportunity to showcase their talents, both on the stage and behind the scenes. For tickets, log onto jewishaustralia.com/shop or call 9568-8088.

Netzer Camp is coming

Netzer WINTER Camps 2006!

★ **Melbourne CAMP!**
27th June - 2nd Jul
JOE: 0408 569 811

★ **Sydney CAMP!**
13th - 20th July
YONAH: 0214 934 467

Melbourne Camp 27 June – 2 July
Call Joe on 0408 569 811

YESH!

The King David School Israel Trip



ON 8 DECEMBER 2005 King David students Buckley (Robbie) Flint, Simone Sandler, Yael Appelboom, Dani Robinson and from Emanuel School, Sydney, Toby Evans, together with KDS Head of Jewish Studies, Shayndel Samuel, touched down in Israel for the start of a fun, enriching, and life-changing three weeks.

The five began their adventure in the centre of our Jewish world, Jerusalem, before heading south to recuperate on the progressive Kibbutz Lotan, and try out their snorkelling skills in Eilat.

The next week was spent discovering Israel's picturesque golden Arava, and included a period of home-stay with kids from a school who had recently visited Melbourne themselves. A free weekend in Jerusalem was perfectly placed for a break from the group to enjoy a Shabbat with friends and family.

A quick stop in Tel Aviv was followed by Tiyulim (hikes) and sightseeing in Israel's luscious Galil and Golan.

The Leo Baeck Centre in Haifa is a Progressive community complex, including a school, shule, and public facilities. A four-night home-stay allowed participants to experience Haifa and its citizens and enjoy the landmarks and beautiful landscape.

The ancient city of Akko was next, then a return to Jerusalem to witness its magnificent hills, visit the Kotel and meet new immigrants from Ethiopia. The tour ended with a bittersweet Latke-Hanukka party at the house of Yahav, the *madrich* (leader) who led the tour from day one. A few remained in Israel a little longer while others returned to Melbourne at the end of the program.

Those magical three weeks fostered friendships, knowledge, a better understanding of Israeli culture, independence and a clearer idea of their identity as young Progressive Jews.

The Yesh trip 2006 is planned for 6 – 27 December 2006. Parents and students from Progressive congregations in years 10 and 11 interested in this incredible opportunity should contact Shayndel Samuel 8508 9600 for more information.

Yael Appelboom and Simone Sandler



Above: Yeshniks 2005, with their tour leader, in one of the beautiful caves of the Negev



www.jewishfunerals.org.au
ST KILDA (03) 9883 6237

The Progressive World

Sydney shul open to gays and lesbians

TEMPLE EMANUEL WOOLLAHRA WELCOME gay and lesbian worshippers on the Shabbat coinciding with Sydney's Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in March, an annual event begun in 1978 as both a celebration and a protest for gay rights.

Cantor Joseph Toltz inserted a special message into the *Geula* (Redemption) prayer, calling on society to recognise 'our rightful place among families and friends, our rightful place in our communities.' He said the *Geula* prayer is an appropriate place to address the issue of gay rights: 'It speaks of the Jewish people's liberation from Egypt to the shores of freedom. Mardi Gras is a time where we speak out against persecution based on sexual orientation.'

More than 100 gays and lesbians joined congregants for services and a special Shabbat dinner, at which Rabbi Mark Solomon of London was the guest speaker. Sydney-born and -educated, Solomon was ordained in 1991 at Jews' College, the British Orthodox seminary, and, after coming out, joined Britain's Liberal movement. He is currently a minister at London's Liberal Jewish Synagogue, 'foster-rabbi' of the Liberal congregation in Edinburgh, Scotland, and an 'honorary rabbi' of Britain's Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group.

Muslim leader visits Haifa congregation

EMIR MUHAMMAD SHARIF, LEADER of Haifa's Ahmadiyya Muslim community, spoke of the need for peace and coexistence last month during Kabbalat Shabbat services at Or Hadash, one of the city's two Progressive congregations.

Or Hadash's spiritual leader, Rabbi Edgar Nof, is active in local interfaith efforts, and the congregation is planning to hold joint events with Haifa's Ahmadiyya community in the near future.

The emir's talk on March 17 marked International Anti-racism Day and was facilitated by the Israel Religious Action Centre. In it he said the Ahmadiyya Movement, founded in 1889, emphasizes the use of original religious texts. Later interpretations, or 'misinterpretations,' as he called them, have led many Muslims to turn toward hatred rather than love and mutual respect.

According to Dr Jesse Lachter, immediate past president of Or Hadash, Emir Sharif also dwelt on more serious issues. 'Not shying away from the hard stuff, the emir explained the concept of *Jihad*. The very word, he said, makes many people who misunderstand it anxious.' Lachter said Emir Sharif explained that '*Jihad*' consistently appears in the Koran as meaning a great, devoted and sincere effort, and never in the context of war or enmity, and that the Koran says a Muslim should feel more love toward his fellow man than a mother feels for her child even if the other person considers the Muslim his enemy.

The Boston-Haifa partnership has supported various projects aimed at promoting pluralism and brotherhood among the city's varied communities.