



## We've Reached Our Goal!

We start the year on a positive note and with an exciting February event.

First, I'm delighted to report that we surpassed our fundraising goal!

Thank you to everyone for your support during our recent fundraising drive. The \$7500 challenge pledge from Machar's leadership was matched dollar-for-dollar—and then some—by your generosity. (Please see page 9 for a list of contributors).

This is so important and will help us continue to offer our various programs for expanding knowledge of Secular Jewish Humanism, for providing a sense of community with people who share our values, and for friendship and fun for everyone. It also allows us to maintain our policy of never refusing membership because of inability to pay.

Many thanks to our Fundraising Chair David Wittenberg and the volunteers who made the calls to encourage your participation in this effort: Pam Fye, Rick Gold, Neil Greene, Larry Lawrence, Karen Roe, Mark Swartz, Dan Tobocman and Renee Weitzner. A great job by everyone and we so appreciate your commitment to Machar.

On Sunday, February 9 at 11:30, we will have a Pete Seeger Sing-along after our Darwin Day talk by Michael Prival on the biblical creation story. And later this month—come meet our Rabbi Candidate

Rabbi Nehama Benmosche who will join us for a weekend of activities:

On Saturday, February 22, from 5:00–8:00 p.m. we will have a family-friendly event with Rabbi Benmosche. She will lead us in a Havdallah service before we share a potluck dinner. Machar member Rahel Hanadari will show us how to bake and braid challah along with some other kid-friendly activities. This will be in the Founders Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville, 100 Welsh Park Dr., Rockville, Md. Please register via Acceptiva on Machar's home page.

And, I encourage everyone to please join us for a special adult education program on Sunday, February 23 at 10:00 at the Jewish Primary Day School when Rabbi Nehama Benmosche will be Machar's guest speaker. In anticipation of Purim, Rabbi Benmosche's presentation "Im l'et kazot" (Perhaps for a time like this): The Story of Purim, Pema Chodron, and the ambiguity of the present moment," will intersect the Purim story with the teachings of Pema Chodron, a well-known Tibetan Buddhist nun.

Rabbi Benmosche will also join our song leader, Naomi Gamoran, for a Community Sunday sing-along following our adult education program.

We hope you will join us for these important weekend activities.

**Darlene Basch, Machar President**

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## JCS News

Debby Brennan

Our students have been busy during January, learning about Tu B'Shevat and Martin Luther King, Jr.

We look forward to a trip to Ellis Island at the end of March for our 4th through 6th graders. The same weekend, the teen conclave will take place in Boston. Machar has eight teens who are planning to attend conclave, together with Seth Garfinkel, our teen coordinator!

Rabbi Nehama Benmosche, a rabbinical candidate for Machar, will join us at 5 p.m. on February 22 for a special potluck/challah baking and Havdalah service at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville, 100 Welsh Park Drive. All children are welcome!

Looking ahead, our younger students will be participating on March 9 in a play of *Where the Wild Things Are* as part of our study of Maurice Sendak (SHJ's Humanist Jewish Role Model for 2013-14), and his work.

We also look forward to our annual Purim party on March 16. Any parents who would like to help organize the Purim party—please contact Debby Brennan.

### Tots Class:

The Tots class learned about Martin Luther King Jr. They focused on his dream of peace and remembering that we should always be nice to people, no matter how different. The students listened to stories focusing on these values. We each made our own friendship pick, where we drew pictures of things we like to do with friends, and things that make a good friend. After learning more about Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream, each student talked about what their dream would be. During next class, we will be learning about Tu B'Shevat.

—Roxanne Arnon

### Kindergarten:

The kindergarteners began learning about Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish holiday celebrating trees. On this holiday, it is traditional to plant trees and consider ways to help the environment. First, the students set about decorating planter pots - and Mischa Blue still has hers from last year! Some students wanted their names written in He-

brew, many were excited by the gold ribbon and stickers, and others (namely, Sadie) decided to decorate the inside of the pot instead. After some much-needed energy expenditure outside, the class read *The Great Kapok Tree*, a story about recognizing the many impacts we can have on the environment, even with a single action like cutting down a tree. The class then went upstairs for a music session with Naomi, where they learned a new song about Tu B'Shevat and revisited some songs they learned last time. Finally, the class talked about ways that they can help the environment, like recycling materials and donating clothes rather than throwing them away to sit at a dump. The class will continue their lesson on Tu B'Shevat and also talk about Martin Luther King, Jr. day and how Jews fight for justice.

—Ben Lauing

### Fourth Grade:

The fourth grade is working on family tree projects. Each student will also conduct an interview with an older relative. Students will use the information they've collected to build family tree mobiles that they can take home with them. In preparation for the family tree projects the students learned about the origins of Ashkenazi last names. If parents have any stories about where their last name came from, please feel free to email it to Aviva and she will share it with the class. The students were very interested in this article about Ashkenazi names: [http://www.slate.com/blogs/lexicon\\_valley/2014/01/08/ashkenazi\\_names\\_the\\_etymology\\_of\\_the\\_most\\_common\\_jewish\\_surnames.html](http://www.slate.com/blogs/lexicon_valley/2014/01/08/ashkenazi_names_the_etymology_of_the_most_common_jewish_surnames.html)

—Aviva Downing

### Fifth/Sixth Grade:

The fifth/sixth graders had a very exciting and challenging discussion regarding the ethics of civil disobedience. Borrowing some resources from the Jewish Women's Archive, the class learned about a young Jewish woman's experiences as a Freedom Rider. The class talked about the civil rights women and the role of American Jews, particularly Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, in the movement.

—Izzy Parillis

**B'nei Mitzvah Class:**

The b'nei mitzvah class discussed where the holiday Tu B'Shevat comes from and what it celebrates. We talked about Shivat Haminim (the seven species) and talked about why and how some people relate characteristics of the seven species to people. We then used Shiva Maminim to talk about agriculture in Israel. We watched a video about the development of agriculture in Israel and also talked about the tradition of planting trees in Israel, such as when someone plants a tree in your honor.

Next, we built a tree out of the recyclable materials the students brought in. You can see from the photos at right it was quite the undertaking and the students worked really well together, some working on the base, others making leaves, birds and fruit all from recycled materials. The students wanted to add some finishing touches to the tree so hopefully we'll be able to present it at the next session.

—Hadas Gold



## Machar Adult Education and Community Sundays

**Adult Education Sessions are Sundays from 10–11:30 a.m.** Sessions are open to all.

There is parking on 16th Street and in the back. All talks will be in the gymnasium.  
(If you have trouble climbing stairs, use the rear entrance.)

### February 9

#### **Darwin Day/Michael Prival—In the Beginning, God Created...Twice**

As a young man, Charles Darwin believed in the literal truth of the Bible. This Darwin Day, Michael Prival will explore the Bible's creation narratives to help us understand what biblical literalists, including today's creationists, base their views on. The Bible starts with two different, contradictory creation stories by different authors with different purposes. We will review what Bible scholars have revealed about these stories and focus on what the stories say about the relationship between women and men and what makes humans different from animals. It would help to read these Bible stories in advance, Chapters 1–3 of Genesis, posted here: <http://bible.x10host.com/GenesisCreation.pdf>

#### **Community Sunday: Sing-along to celebrate the life and music of Pete Seeger.**

Sue Zwicker has volunteered to bring her guitar and help to lead us in singing, but we encourage anyone with an instrument to join in! The Machar songbook includes several songs written, adapted, and/or popularized by Seeger (including "If I Had a Hammer," "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?," "We Shall Overcome," and "Turn, Turn, Turn"). Sue also suggested that if you have a copy of the song collection *Rise Up Singing*, you should bring it along. Patti Maslinoff, who once had the opportunity to meet Pete Seeger, will offer a brief introduction about the legendary song-leader and his dedication to using music to promote social justice.

### February 23

#### **Im l'et kazot (Perhaps for a Time Like This): The Story of Purim, Pema Chodoron and the Ambiguity of the Present Moment**

Rabbi Nehama Benmosche is visiting the Machar community as a candidate for our rabbinic leadership position. In anticipation of Purim, Rabbi Benmosche's pre-

sentation will look at the one of only two Biblical texts that do not mention the name of God. She will discuss the intersection of the Purim story with the teachings of Pema Chodoron, a well-known Tibetan Buddhist nun.

#### **Community Sunday:** Music with Rabbi Nehama Benmosche and guitarist/song-leader Naomi Gamoran

Also, Please join us on February 22 for a Havdalah Potluck and challah baking with Rabbi candidate Nehama Benmosche. This will be a family-friendly event from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville, 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville, MD 20850.

### March 9

#### **Sendak Day/Hildie Block—Maurice Sendak and the Wilde Khaye (Wild Thing)**

Sendak, SHJ's Humanist Jewish Role Model for 2013–14, perhaps best known for his book *Where the Wild Things Are*, was an artist obsessed with bringing out the hidden truths in society. After years on the fringe, a child confined to bed, an adult who made window dressings for FAO Schwartz in NYC and who drew the backgrounds in for comic books, Sendak embraced the truths as he saw them: he was gay, people you love die, adults lie to children, and there is no god. Join us to find out more truths about this courageous artist and his role in humanism. The Washington Post called Machar member Hildie Block a "book expert," but when she's not lecturing about writing at American University's Literature Department, she's a "book midwife." (More info at [www.hildieblockworkshop.com](http://www.hildieblockworkshop.com))

#### **Community Sunday:** Children will perform "Where the Wild Things Are"

### March 16

**Purim Carnival at Schweinhaut Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD, 10 a.m. to noon**

All sessions are held in the Jewish Primary Day School, 6045 16th St. NW, DC 20012  
Community Sundays follow at JPDS unless noted; we share details by email, newsletter,  
and at [www.machar.org](http://www.machar.org).

**April 6**

**Group Discussion—Wholeheartedness and Humanism**

A discussion about embracing authenticity, self-compassion, play, and other guideposts of Brene Brown's research, which Rabbi Miriam Jerris introduced many of us to during the High Holidays this year. Led by Marlene Cohen and Danielle Leff.

**Community Sunday:** Good Deeds Day

**April 20 (Easter Sunday)**

**Passover Seder at Cedar Lane UU Church, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD, 4:30 p.m.**

**April 27**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Members' input is valued. Please attend to hear from the Board what we have been doing in the past year and discuss plans for the future.

**Community Sunday:** Yom Ha Shoah (Holocaust Remembrance)

**May 4**

**Sherry and Bob Jason—City Hearts: Kids Say Yes to the Arts...Transforming At-Risk Children through the Arts**

**May 18**

**Debby Brennan – Jewish Education: Exposure or Commitment?**

**Community Sunday:** Lag B'Omer Picnic

Our January 26 discussion by Dr. Andy Thomson was great, and it was wonderful to have a room of 52 audience members hanging on every word! Thomson's discussion of "Why We Believe in God/s" provided a great



lead-in to Prival's upcoming Bible discussion. Thomson reminded us that Charles Darwin felt a great deal of pain in realizing his new knowledge was a serious challenge to the religion of his time and of his dear wife Emma. When his sketches of birds which he saw on his travels on the Beagle were viewed in England, it was clear to experts that some were finches, yet types of finches unlike any seen in Europe. This was an obvious challenge to church teachings of the immutability of species, each created by God.

Thomson's rich talk cannot be fully summarized here, but it focused on the human brain functions which are tapped by religious belief and actions. Rituals, as well as incorporated group singing and dancing, are three aspects of the existing religions of the world most related to ancient peoples. His talk could reinforce for us the value that Machar places on community, hugs all around, supportiveness, creating our own rituals, and singing and dancing together! Those actions build trust and decrease pain; we can all use that.

A version of Thomson's talk, given to the American Atheists in 2009, can be found on YouTube at "Why We Believe in God/s – Andy Thomson – American Atheists 09."

# Clubs and Activities

## Machar Dinner Event

*Nancy Harris and Roberto Levy*

After a long hiatus, we are getting ready for our next dinner event. Our plan is to meet at Indique Heights, an Indian restaurant around Friendship Heights. We are aiming for February 8th, at 6 PM, going until 8 PM. The reservation will be in Nancy Harris's name.

Address:

2 Wisconsin Circle, Chevy Chase, MD

Phone:

(301)656-4822

Friendship Heights Metro Station is a short walking distance from the restaurant. If you plan to drive, you will probably need to find parking in one of the garages in the area

If you intend to come, please let us know as soon as possible, by sending a confirmation to Nancy Harris at [remwen@earthlink.net](mailto:remwen@earthlink.net) or to Roberto Levy at [levy.roberto@yahoo.com](mailto:levy.roberto@yahoo.com).

Looking forward to seeing you there! Feel free to call or email us for any questions.

## WITs

*Renée Weitzner*

The wonderful wimmin of WITs were sadly disappointed that they were unable to meet in January at the home of Judith Wiesburg due to the snowy weather and the icy temperatures. Kindly enough, Judith offered to host again in February, 2014. That is where we will meet next month on February 26, 2014 at 7 pm. Thank you, Judith, for your flexibility!!!

WITs is open to all members of Machar who seek friendship and support of women and women's issues. We meet monthly mostly at each other's homes to discuss whatever is on our minds as well as issues of the day. We each bring a pot-luck dish to share along with our keen minds and strong hearts. I hope many of us will be able to meet and share an engrossing discussion. If there is a topic you would like to discuss, please let me know, and I will try to find someone who can guide our discussion. I will need to know that you are coming and what you are bringing by February 24, 2014 so that I can let our host know of our numbers and our menu. You may email me at [rw-cats at aol.com](mailto:rw-cats@aol.com) or reach me by phone.

Thank you for your interest in WITs. I hope to see many of you next month....

## Young Adult Havurah

*Danielle Leff*

Join our listserve at [groups.google.com/group/macharyah](https://groups.google.com/group/macharyah) or join our group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/macharyah](https://www.facebook.com/groups/macharyah) to get the details. YAH events are open to all regardless of membership status in Machar, and participants are encouraged to bring friends who may be curious about our movement.

## Book Club

*Renée Weitzner and Darlene Basch*

The Book Club of Machar met at the home of Phyllis Hodes for a lively discussion of *The Swerve* by Stephen Greenblatt. Thank you, Phyllis. We decided that our next selection would be *Gone to Soldiers* by Marge Piercy, a tale of family life and strife in WWII and thereafter. We would like to welcome Machar members to join us for a discussion of this book at the home of Martha Mednick on March 16, 2014. Please let me or Darlene know if you are coming. We need this information by March 14, so that we can let our host know how many people to expect.

## Evening Study Group

*Michael Prival*

The Machar Study Group on Jewish religious texts continues to meet every other Monday evening at my home. We are reading and discussing texts from the Bible, the Talmud, and other rabbinic sources. In this way we are learning not only about the Hebrew Bible but also many fascinating and surprising things about traditional Judaism as it existed before the Jewish Enlightenment began in the 18th century. All Machar members, at any level of prior knowledge, are invited to join us. If you'd like more information about this study group, please send me a note: [mprival at aol.com](mailto:mprival@aol.com).

## Foundation for Jewish Studies

The Foundation for Jewish Studies offers a study retreat on Presidents' Day Weekend with Jack Kugelmass, Professor of Anthropology and the Sam Melton Professor and Director of the Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Florida.

*Journeys to Catastrophe: Yiddish Travel Writing Before, During, and After the Holocaust*

Lecture Topics:

*Writing the Jewish Nation: 1920s work of the greatest of the modern Jewish travelers during the Polish Republic's early years*

*On the Battlefields of Spain: Yiddish writers return to Spain before and during its civil war*

*Through the Jungles and Across the Mountains: A Buenos Aires Yiddish writer visits Peru's highlands to see "primitive" tribes and civilized communities*

*Sifting the Ruins: Émigré Yiddish (and Hebrew) journalists return to Poland to write about who and what survived, and the possibilities of a Jewish future in postwar Poland*

Noon Sunday, February 16 to 2:00 pm Monday, February 17

Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center  
5425 Mt. Gilead Road  
Reisterstown, MD 21136

For registration and more information, visit the Foundation for Jewish Studies website, [www.foundjs.org](http://www.foundjs.org)

## JCC of Greater Washington

Join us for the 4th Annual Community Education Day on Israeli Arab Issues, in conjunction with the 24th Annual Washington Jewish Film Festival

Sunday, March 9, 2014  
1:30 pm–5:00 pm  
Washington DCJCC

Stills from films "Garden of Eden" and "When Doves Cry"

Join us for a day of in-depth exploration of the daily lives and challenges of Arab citizens of Israel. We will be screening two films and holding two panel discussions simultaneously.

Ticket sales begin January 31!

*Other Upcoming Events:*

Middle East Forum: Israel and the Next Generation: The Pew Study Results and Successful Models of Young Israel Engagement (NIF is a co-sponsor)

Tuesday, February 4  
7:30 p.m. at the JCC of Greater Washington

NIF-DC New Generations Food for Thought Shabbat Dinners - The second in a series of Shabbat dinners for progressive Jewish young professionals in their 20s and 30s

Friday, February 21  
7:30 p.m.

At the homes of New Gen-ers  
For more information, please email Jessica Simon at [jessica@nif.org](mailto:jessica@nif.org).

## International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism

STAFF POSITION

Job Title:  
Campus Outreach/Student Recruiter

Compensation:  
\$4,000 per year, to increase as job responsibilities increase

Hours:  
5-10 hours per week in first year

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree.
- At least one year experience working with youth, with campus or community organizing, or in non-profit management.
- Strong identification with the ideas of cultural, Humanistic and Secular Judaism.
- Organized and professional with strong writing and computer skills. Graphic design skills a plus.
- Relates well to college-aged students, professors and university administrators.

To Apply:

Send a resume and cover letter to: International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism  
[info@iishj.org](mailto:info@iishj.org) OR 175 Olde Half Day Road, Suite 124, Lincolnshire, IL 60069

For more information contact Dean for North America Adam Chalom at [dean@iishj.org](mailto:dean@iishj.org) or 847-383-6330.

# The Machar Family

## Birthdays

February 2: Paul Eliot  
February 7: Emanuel Pastreich  
February 10: Julie Lewis  
February 11: Alessandro Topa  
February 13: Jean Itkin  
February 16: Amanda Nothaft  
February 17: Leah Kaplan  
February 18: Teo Topa  
February 23: Ann Black  
February 25: Marina Cooper  
February 26: Evan Williamson

## Anniversaries

February 21: Adam Namm and Mei Huang  
February 26: Susan Morawetz and Yan Raytselis

## Yarheits: We remember...

February 16: Rose Miller, grandmother of Laurie Miller  
February 16: Frances Wiesberg, mother of Judith Wiesberg  
February 19: Thelma Baron, mother of David Baron  
February 19: Robert Arthur Kahn, father of Peter Kahn  
February 28: Bessie Maslinoff, grandmother of Patti Maslinoff  
February: Nicholas Dopolos, stepfather of Harriet/Gary Peck

Machar is so fortunate to have a community of people willing to share their expertise. Three of our members are therapists or social workers and are willing to be contacted by any members who may need someone to talk to about any personal trauma or other issues that come up. These volunteers will plan to have an initial discussion with the member and/or family, to listen and to help direct them to more support or services in the area. Please contact Renee Weitzner, [rwcats at aol.com](mailto:rwcats@aol.com), for information. All discussions are entirely confidential.

Our sincere condolences go to member Alberto Grosmark, whose mother died at age 87 in Buenos Aires, Argentina on January 18.

We send our best wishes to member Ken Lederman as he recovers from major surgery in Massachusetts.

## Whaddaya Talkin'?

Marlene Cohen

*In which Machar's newsletter will provide you with Your Monthly Word in Yiddish—Use it ten times this month and you won't forget it!*

### AZOY? "Really?" or "So"

Seems to me if you're looking to sprinkle a little Yiddish into your conversational style, the word "Really?" can fit so often. So try an "Azoy?" with a look of incredulity and see if the speaker switches to Yiddish for you

But it's never that simple. The website, *The Schmooze: Stories with a Yiddish Twist*, says that "azoy" is Yiddish for "so." And the author, Marjorie

Gottlieb Wolfe says, "Google "azoy" and you'll get 68,400 results! That includes a song sung by Paul Robeson Paul Robeson (1898 - 1976) who sang in Chinese, Russian, German and Yiddish! He sang, "Vi Azoy Lebt Der Kayser?" ("How does the Czar live?"), a Yiddish folk song.

Here's another use of the word: "Azoy geyt es." (That's how it goes/So it goes.)

## List of contributors to Machar in 2013 (includes above-minimum dues pledges for 2013–14)

### Members

Jules Abrams & Anita Willens  
David Abramson and Kelly Hand  
Harry Appelman & Mimi Brody  
Amichay & Ann Argaman  
Darlene Basch  
Donna Bassin  
Kara Blank-Gonzalez & Marco Gonzalez  
Marina Broitman and Tibor Roberts  
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Stephen Cohen & Alison Barnes  
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Renée Weitzner & Peter Wolfe  
Nadine Wettstein & David Baron  
David & Katie Wittenberg  
Michael Zamore and Abigail Smith  
Ari Zentner & Kathryn Greenberg  
Kenneth Zinn & Roxie Herbekian

### Nonmembers

Rick Berzon  
Barbara Kritzer  
Jonathan Levine  
Riderwood Jewish Community  
Susan Schappert (former member)  
Meka Schwartz  
SHJ Riderwood

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Jewish Cultural School Director  
Debby Brennan

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Marlene Cohen  
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Communications  
Joyce Rosenthal

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Barbara Francisco

Education

Email Lists Manager  
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Fundraising  
David Wittenberg

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Membership Directory  
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Renée Weitzner

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Shelter Staffing  
Ann Levin

Social Action  
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Sunday Refreshments  
Ami Argaman

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Book Club  
Darlene Basch  
Renée Weitzner

Neighborhood Havurot  
Laurie Miller

Wimmin' In Transition (WITs)  
Renée Weitzner

Young Adult Havurah  
Danielle Leff

## SHJ Reps from Machar

Machar Rep to SHJ  
Marlene Cohen

SHJ Board of Directors Members  
Larry Lawrence (Vice President)  
Rick Gold

## Machar Trained Leaders

Michael Prival, Madrikh  
Deb Godden, Madrikha  
Dan Tobocman, Spokesperson

# Join us at the HuJews Conclave 2014!



Are you or is someone  
you know a Humanistic  
Jew between the ages of  
13 and 21?

Are you interested in  
meeting other HuJews  
from around North  
America?

**Then the SHJ Conclave  
is the event for you!**

## Highlights:

- Make new friends!
- Work to develop your Humanistic Jewish Identity!
- Participate in Community Service Projects!
- Explore a new city!



**When:** March 28th-30th, 2014

**Where:** Boston, Massachusetts

**How to Register:** Online Registration coming soon.

**Registration Deadline:** January 31st, 2014

**Member Fee:** \$230 **Non-Member Fee:** \$255 **Chaperones:** \$290

**Late Registration Fee:** \$25

\*Scholarships available for those who qualify. Please contact Miriam Rubín for details.

**Questions: Contact Miriam Rubín, [hujews@shj.org](mailto:hujews@shj.org), 857-472-0525, or SHJ, [info@shj.org](mailto:info@shj.org), 248-478-7610**



**Interested in Advertising with Machar?**  
Contact [info at machar.org](mailto:info@machar.org)

## Directions to Machar

“Cedar Lane” events are held at Cedar Lane UU Church. 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD.

From DC, go north on Wisconsin Ave. (Rt. 355), pass the Naval Hospital, right on Cedar Lane., cross Beach Dr., 2nd entrance on right. From 495, Rockville, etc., take Rockville Pike (Rt. 355) S to left on Cedar to 9601. Metro - Red Line to Medical Center. Walk ½ mile north on 355, right on Cedar, 0.7 miles, or Ride-On Bus #34 (ask the driver).

“JPDS” is the site of our Jewish Cultural School (JCS). 6045 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Metro: Red Line to Silver Spring. S-2 or S-4 bus to Federal Triangle to Military Road and cross 16th Street. JCS and Adult Ed begin promptly at 10 a.m.; please arrive early.

For meetings in private homes, contact hosts for directions.

## Machar E-mail Lists for Members and Nonmembers

*Michael Prival*

There are two different e-mail lists that Machar members can join. The first, the “Machar” list, enables members to receive the monthly Newsletter, event reminders by email, plus announcements of program changes that may

occur between printed newsletters. Almost all Machar members are already on this list.

The second list is “MacharCommunity.” Members of this list can share information about local, non-Machar cultural, educational, social action, or community service events and activities. Any list member can post a note on the “Machar Community” list at any time.

If you would like to be added to either of these lists, or if we are not using your preferred e-mail addresses for them, please send a note to Email at machar.org. Of course you can get off these lists at any time.

## Earn for Machar Jewish Cultural School with Service Magic and DriversEd.com!

*Get Matched to Prescreened Home Improvement Contractors and earn up to \$6\*!*

Service Magic is a FREE service matching you to pre-screened, customer-rated service professionals: Maids, painters, remodelers, plumbers, roofers & more! \*Earnings depend on the type of project and range from \$2–\$6.

*Your Teen Can Start Earning a Driver's License Today!*

With DriversEd.com, your teen can complete the required drivers education online—without ever stepping in a classroom.

Their quality course provides everything needed to prepare for the DMV permit and driver's license exams. Sign up and DriversEd.com will contribute 5% of the tuition amount to Machar's Jewish Cultural School.

## Help Machar as You Shop

*Larry Lawrence*

Machar participates in the eScrip (Electronic Scrip) program, a fundraising organization in which participating business partners contribute a percentage of your purchases to our Jewish Cultural School. Some participating businesses in the Mid-Atlantic are Safeway (which contributes 1-3% of your purchase value) and American Airlines (3%). To sign up for eScrip, go to <http://www.eScrip.com> and choose “Machar–Jewish Cultural School” as the benefiting group.

## Raise Money for SHJ While you Surf

*Use GOODSEARCH.COM to Search on the Web and Raise Money for SHJ*

GoodSearch.com is a Web search tool for organizations such as ours to raise money each time someone uses it. Simply go to [goodsearch.com](http://goodsearch.com), key in “humanistic Judaism,” and type in whatever you are searching for. You can even see how much we have raised—and imagine the potential if all of us use it! .