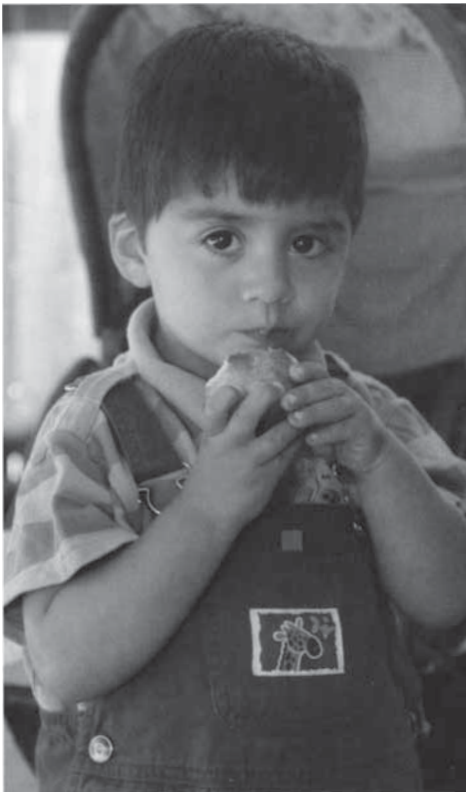




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David Greenspoon, Rabbi • C. Jeffrey Cook, President



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Passover 2007/5767

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CANDLE-LIGHTING FOR APRIL 2007

Friday, April 6	6:59 p.m.
Friday, April 13	7:07 p.m.
Friday, April 20	7:15 p.m.
Friday, April 27	7:23 p.m.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday evening services
April-5:45 p.m.
Shabbat morning services
start at 9:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Hol Hamoed Pesach
Minḥa-Ma'ariv 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Sidra: *Shemini*
Minḥa-Ma'ariv 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Sidra: *Tazria/Metzora*
Shabbat *Hahodesh*
Minḥa-Ma'ariv 7:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

Sidra: *Acharei Mot/Kedoshim*
Minḥa-Ma'ariv 7:30 p.m.

KOSHER MEAT DELIVERY

Delivery dates for the next month is April 12.

Deliveries will be made to the Price Chopper Store Meat Department in Lenox 443-5449.

The phone number to order is 800-727-5674. Orders must be called in the Tuesday before the delivery.

PASSOVER SERVICE SCHEDULE & CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

2007 5767



SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Bedikat Hametz after dark

MONDAY, APRIL 2

Service and *Siyum* for First Born, followed by a light breakfast 7:00 a.m.
Biur Hametz before 10:00 a.m.
First Night of Passover **Candle Lighting** 6:55 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

First Day of Passover 9:30 a.m.
Second Night of Passover **Candle Lighting** 7:56 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Second Day of Passover 9:30 a.m.
Hol Hamoed Pesah *Minḥah* in the Chapel 7:00 p.m.
Yom Tov Ends 8:08 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Hol Hamoed Pesah 9:30 a.m.
Minḥah/Maariv 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

8:45 p.m.
Minḥah/Maariv 7:00 p.m.
Seventh Night of Passover **Candle Lighting** 8:12 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 9

Seventh Day of Passover 9:30 p.m.
Minḥah/Maariv in the Library 7:00 p.m.
Eighth Night of Passover **Candle Lighting** 8:12 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Eighth Day of Passover (Yizkor) 9:30 p.m.
Minḥah/Maariv in the Chapel 7:45 p.m.
Passover Ends 8:15 p.m.

DEADLINE IS THE FIRST OF EVERY MONTH.
COPY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THAT DATE TO
INSURE TIMELY PUBLICATION.

If possible, please submit bulletin material, via electronic mail to,
Sylvia Stein at owholmes@rnetworx.com.

Editor – Sylvia S. Stein • Editorial Assistant – Devika Muruga



From the
Rabbi

THE BENEFITS AND THE CRISIS OF FREEDOM

With Passover, the Festival of Freedom, imminent, I recently experienced first-hand what religious freedom means. On our recent family vacation, we visited Silver Springs, Florida. Also present in “Nature’s Theme Park” that particular Wednesday were a number of religious Catholics, clearly identifiable by the ashen crosses of their foreheads, reflecting the fact that it was indeed Ash Wednesday. Also immediately recognizable were the large number of Amish families, distinctive in their plain garb, tied-on bonnet hats on the women, and beards-absent-moustaches worn by the men. My experience was made complete when a family of Muslims walked by, their clothing suggesting either Pakistani or Afghani origin. I turned to Anne and made the obvious statement: Isn’t America a great country for its religious freedom, or what?

It’s true that we live in the most open society in the recorded history of humanity. We are free to practice whatever religious beliefs we choose, to whatever degree we wish. There is of course an obverse side to this freedom: we are free to ignore our religious heritage and identity, to whatever degree we wish. The same freedoms of an open society that allow Judaism to flourish in America also threaten its viability in deep ways.

Numerous sociological studies of American Judaism reflect this tension as a reality in American Jewish life. One study from the Cohen Center at Brandeis University depicts the situation’s underlying roots on a generational basis. Those who raised their families through the 1940’s and 1950’s are in general defined by a sense of commitment to organizational life. Their children who raised their own families in the 1970’s and 1980’s are in turn defined by quests for personal meaning. Finally, their children raised in the 1990’s and today find themselves equally at home as Americans and Jews, and not likely to make any commitments that require prioritizing one part of their identity over the other.

What this means for organizational Jewish life in this country is that we are facing a potential disaster—not simply a crisis, but a full blown disaster—when we

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From the
President

*The President’s column will
not appear this month.*

From the
Editor

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

With a happy crowd of over 150, fabulous high-end desserts, beautifully and artfully displayed, warm sociability and camaraderie, a fantastic music Cabaret program, featuring Sherri Buxton, Laurie Schiff, Pam Rich and Jeff Cook, magnificent decorations, beautiful and touching presentations to Beth Radsken, the Woman of the Hour, preceded by beautiful invitations to this event, it added up to the most wonderful evening.

Now hear this!! Old presidents don’t fade away! They just plunge right in with the next and new project. Bobbi Cohn finished a spectacular 3 year term as President. She was conscientious, she was there for everyone, and she fulfilled all of her duties in a perfect way. She was entitled to take some time off from all the projects. But who steps up to the plate to chair this big fundraiser? None other than Bobbi!

Together with her excellent co-chair, Meryl Rudin, they forged together an outstanding committee: Beth Abramson, Amy Abramovich, Nancy Lamoureaux, Ruth Cohen, Darlene Weeks, Laurie Schwartz, Marcia Mandel, Phoebe Sugarman, Sherri Buxton, Pam Rich and Jilly Lederman.

Special thanks to Eric Lamoureaux and Bernie Abramson, who helped as bartenders, Sue Pickwell and her sister Nancy, Aaron and Hannah Weeks for helping with the set-up, Lanny Zuckerman for clean-up help, Len Schiller for the wine arrangements and carting it to the shul, and the many congregants and members who helped with the stuffing, sealing, labeling and mailing invitations.

Ruth Cohen offered touching and humorous thoughts as both a pre-school parent and pre-school teacher, and moving remarks were made by Kara Thornton, pre-school parent, of her personal journey and how Beth played a major role in their family’s observance.

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From the
Education
Director

KI HEBREW SCHOOL

With Pesach and a public school break week coming in April, there will be no additional family/com-

munity programs in the coming month. Instead, May will be solidly packed with important celebrations.

Sunday, May 6 will be our day to connect with Israel. Beginning at 11:00, we'll have L'ag B'omer games and competitions, hopefully outdoors. We'll have an area set up with photo albums and paraphernalia from any who wish to share their Israel trips. Panelist volunteers—please email if you'd like to be one—will share highlights of their Israel trips. We will have map activities (using a borrowed giant-sized one from the Resource Center for Jewish Education) and, we're working on a shuk for purchasing items for Tikkun Olam to a selected few Israeli causes. In honor of the late April Yom Ha'atzma'ut, we will read aloud the Israel's Declaration of Independence of 1948, sing Israeli songs and have an Israeli lunch.

Sunday, May 20, beginning at 4:00, we will culminate our work with Fern Leslie on the Knesset Israel tapestry of K.I. family stories. On that day, all families who could not attend the March program—e.g., snowbirds and others who were away, will come to meet Fern and be oriented to the guidelines of the project. All the other participating families will be expected to come that day too. A \$5 fee for materials will be collected and final work on the ideas and written material for the scrapbook should be close to final form. Fern will set a time-table by which all pieces must be submitted to the Hebrew School office so she can do the finishing touches and assembling. I will also be collecting the written scrapbook pages by the same date (TBD). We'll all share a light supper that evening together.

Add to these joyful programs the tributes planned for our graduating Hebrew in the form of a Community Education program with a Shavuot theme ending with a dairy dinner—all ages will be invited—May will be a merry month, indeed!

The faculty and administration wish you all a "zeesen pesach!"

Myrna Hammerling



From the
Synagogue
Coordinator

**BUSINESS
AS USUAL**

A few weeks ago we attended a Bar Mitzvah at a

beautiful temple in New Jersey. The Bar Mitzvah was one of four going on at the same time. Our friend's son shared his Bar Mitzvah with another boy in the main sanctuary while two others were conducted in smaller chapels. The Rabbi was very personable, the families kvelled and we attended a terrific party. When we had a few minutes to chat with our friend, Alan asked him how the kids managed not to overlap parties and how the parents managed buying gifts for these seemingly endless simchas. Our friend explained that the teens who attend the Bar Mitzvahs, Jewish and Gentile alike, have attended so many that they know what the Rabbi will say and know his jokes by heart. Scheduling parties is very tricky, but many of the kids do not attend the same schools so they have different friends at the parties. The two boys Bar Mitzvahed together hardly knew each other.

That experience made me stop and think about the Bar Mitzvah experience in a large Jewish community in New Jersey as compared with the our small Jewish community in Berkshires. We all know what magical experiences Bar and Bat Mitzvahs are at Knesset Israel. We all know how important the embrace of Judaism at KI feels in a community where we are definitely a minority. As in any family we do not always agree with our loved ones, but we will not stand for others saying anything derogatory about them. The congregation becomes our extended family. Some families are more involved with each others lives than others. Sometimes we distance ourselves from our family and other times we move closer.

How can we make ourselves feel more a part of the KI family? **Roll up your sleeves and participate.** Volunteer for Kiddush duty or with the catering committee. Help with the film festival or any number of our fundraisers. Help us revive our social action committee. Learn to participate in services as a service leader or a Torah or Haftorah reader. Consider having an adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Relearn your Bar or Bat Mitzvah Torah and Haftorah portions and celebrate with your KI family. Just let me know that you are interested in being more active

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Ed Udel 413-684-3693

■ Editor from pg. 3

A scrapbook of photos, memorabilia, and tributes, prepared magnificently by Jilly Lederman, was presented to Beth by Bobbi Cohn.

The exquisite decorations, executed so artistically by Phoebe Sugarman, Marcia Mandel and Lynn Denmark made the perfect entrance for our State Senator Ben Downing, who arrived in time to present a citation from the Massachusetts Senate to his former teacher, Beth Radsken.

It was ONE ENCHANTED EVENING!!

Sylvia Stein

SYNAGOGUE FAMILY HAPPENINGS

Warmest wishes of Mazel Tov to first-time grandparents Ellen and Tobi Lanciano on the birth of their grandson, Gabriel Dash Dahari, born to David and Brandi Dahari of Charlotte, North Carolina.

We share our joy with Claire Lipton Zimmers on the birth of her grandson, Caleb Henry Katz, born to Joshua and Jeri Katz. The proud great-grandmother is Esther Lipton.

And more wishes of Mazel Tov to Judy Gitelson on the birth of her granddaughter, Kira Rose, born to Andy and Jenny Gitelson.

Happy milestone 90th birthday to Helen Maislen. Keep on celebrating!!

We note with pride our congregant, Frederic Rutberg, who has been named presiding justice of the Central Berkshire District Court. We wish him good luck and great success.

Max Bookless, a member of the Jewish War Veterans, Louis Green Post 140, gave an excellent and most interesting interview for the Veterans History Project on Local TV Channel 16 recently. The interview was aired several times. A copy of this interview was sent to the Library of Congress for their permanent records.

■ Synagogue Coordinator from pg. 4

here and we can find a niche for you.

Also, let us know what you do professionally. In June we will be featuring a business card section to let our congregants know the wealth of skill and talent among us. If you are an artist, carpenter, doctor, attorney, accountant, social worker, painter, small business owner, realtor just to name a few, send us your card and give other congregants some options for goods and services.

There is a lot to be said for an intimate congregation. Let's nourish it.

Margie Metzger



IN SYMPATHY

We extend heartfelt condolences to the following:

Elaine Epstein, on the loss of her beloved aunt, Dorothy Klein Harab Martin Fishman, on the loss of his beloved mother, Ruth Gertrude Cushing Fishman

Esther Meirowitz, Karen Drucker and Mark Meirowitz, on the loss of their beloved husband and father, Robert Meirowitz

Adele Cukor, on the loss of her beloved husband, Dr. Peter Cukor

Anne Jaffe and Frances Seltzer, on the loss of their beloved sister, Dora Gruberg

And we are saddened to learn of the passing of Hedy Fischel Lopez of Ackton, MA. Hedy's mother, Ilse Fischel, was a long time pillar of the Community Hebrew School Office. Shelley Olsen, a former KI member, was kind enough to send us this notice. Shelley can be reached at (336) 970-1562

consider who will support Jewish causes and concerns in another generation or two.

What this means for Congregation Knesset Israel today is that we are in the throes of the crisis that portends to become a disaster in the future. We have to ask ourselves some difficult and probing questions as to what it means for us to be a congregational community, now, if we want to be here 50 years from now.

If we exist to simply provide pastoral services to our members, then we don't need a building. We can save a lot of our fiscal resources simply subletting office space for Rosalie and myself.

If we exist to simply provide Jewish educational experiences for our youth, then similarly we don't need a building. We can save a lot of our fiscal resources simply subletting classroom space for Youth and Education programming from Sinai Academy of the Berkshires.

If we exist simply to provide religious services, then we can conduct them differently, and again save a lot of our fiscal resources simply holding daily minyan in a community room someplace, or conference nook in someone's office. We can borrow or rent an appealing space for Shabbat morning services, and consider holding the High Holy Days in a theater or auditorium.

It is my deep feeling that Congregation Knesset Israel does not exist simply to "x" in any way, shape or form. We exist to be home for a congregational community on all levels. Yet if we don't have more and stronger commitment from our membership—in other words, a real, meaningful, and participatory sense of ownership—then we need not exist at all. Alternatively, but no more positively, we could decide to be a seasonal congregation, looking only to offer synagogue life from Memorial Day through the foliage season. Another option is that the different functions of a full-service synagogue can be out-sourced, or offered on a cash-for-services rendered basis. In other words, at that point we might as well be the Jewish Kiosk at the Berkshire Mall, in between the ear piercing and cell phone stands.

There are some absolute things that we can do to avoid such ignominious fate.

Our Prayer Life: We can commit to coming to the synagogue on a habitual basis for a daily *minyan*, even if that habit is once or twice a week during the work week.

Our Shabbat and Holy Day Life: We can commit to bringing our children to Shabbat services, instead of simply dropping them off. We can make it a point to come to at least one Shabbat *minhah* service. We can clear our calendars for the morning of Festival days, no matter if we are working people, retired people, or stay-at-home parents.

Our Volunteer Life: We can commit to finding a need that will strengthen our congregation if addressed, and help address it. Right now our congregation has more programming and activity ongoing than at any time in the collective memory of our most senior members. We are also doing more with less volunteerism than ever before, I know that Margie Metzger has been engaged in a Sisyphean task trying to find volunteers to chair and staff committees for significant events that this congregation wants to see happen. When she next calls you, please say, "Sure, Margie! I'm glad to help."

Our Fiscal Life: If we want our sanctuary to be more attractive and inviting, we need to reconsider its current ambience and make some changes to it. If we want our building to be more accessible, than we need to reconfigure it to make it so. If we want our programming to continue to be top-drawer, we need to pay for it. If we expect that more work that used to be done by volunteers will be done by staff, then we need to be able to afford appropriate levels of staffing. If we simply just want to keep the current building functioning, we need to continue to maintain it and cover operating costs. In short, we need your ongoing fiscal commitment to our congregation. If you have not finished paying your building fund pledge, consider accelerating those payments. If you can increase your voluntary support through the High Holy Day Appeal by 10%, I urge that you do so. If you have not yet made a bequest in your will, please contact Jeff Cook to do so.

Our Ownership Base: *Ownership*—not membership—is what will make the difference. All of us should feel that we are ambassadors to expand KI's membership base. Even more critically, all of us should consider ourselves models for expanding KI's ownership base.

Congregation Knesset Israel has a long and proud history. It's my deep privilege to serve as your rabbi, especially given the high quality of our laity in general and our lay leadership in particular, the wonderful values that define this congregational community, and the promise that this congregation offers for a proud future. I know that we can

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CALENDAR

EVENTS AND MEETING

DATE	TIME	EVENT
April 2	8:00 AM	Syuum Bechorim
April 2		First Seder
April 3	9:30 AM	First day of Pesach
April 4	9:30 AM	Second day of Pesach
April 6	5:45 PM	Carlebach Shabbat Service
April 7	11:00 AM	Adult Learners' Minyan
April 7	1:00 PM	Passover/Shavuot Experience (K-6)
April 9	9:30 AM	Seventh day of Pesach
April 10	9:30 AM	Eighth day of Pesach
April 12	7:30 PM	Hadassah Event?
April 17	7:30 PM	Cemetery Committee Meeting
April 18	7:30 PM	KI Board Meeting
April 21	10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	"Respite Time" Yoga Service
April 21	11:00 – 11:45 AM	Tot Shabbat
April 22	11:00 AM	Kadima Israel
April 27	5:30 PM	Family Shabbat Service & Dinner
April 29		Israeli Dance Festival - Albany
April 29	7:30 PM	Book Club

CLASSES

SUNDAYS: 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 TALMUD CLASS	10:00 – 11:00 AM RABBI GREENSPOON
TUESDAYS: 4/17 & 4/24 MELTON CLASSES	7:15 - 9:15 PM RABBIS GREENSPOON & KLEIN
*(Special Date) SUNDAY: 4/22 MELTON CLASS	9:15 – 11:15 AM
WEDNESDAYS: 4/18 & 4/25 MISHNAH CLASSES	3:00 – 4:00 PM GEORGE CAREY

Please forward all information on activities, events, meetings and classes to be listed on the KI calendar to synagogue coordinator, Margie Metzger at 445-4872 ext. 11 or syncoord@knesetisrael.org.

YAHREZEITS

The names below will be read in the Sanctuary on SATURDAY MORNING, March 31, 2007:

Saturday, March 31–12 Nisan

Samuel Weiss

Sonia Weiss

Sunday, April 1–13 Nisan

Maxwell Cutler

Carole Schiller Kraus

Dorothy Levine

Pearl London

Murray M. Samek

Gertrude Schwartz

Monday, April 2–14 Nisan

Esther Lubin

Pincus Rosenfeld

Frank Udel

Tuesday, April 3–15 Nisan

Libby Perlman

Rose Weiss

Wednesday, April 4–16 Nisan

Bertha Rosenblatt

Mary Temple

Thursday, April 5–17 Nisan

Jacob L. Becker

Hyman Bitensky

Ferenc Glattstein

Sol Goldman

Murray Mandel

Harry Weinberger

Friday, April 6–18 Nisan

Anna Herman

Julius Kramer

Stella Goldberg LeVine

Bradley Jay Medney

Frieda Rosenthal

David Siegel

Alice Weeks

The names below will be read in the Sanctuary on SATURDAY MORNING, April 7, 2007:

Saturday, April 7–19 Nisan

Benjamin Cohen

Harry Green

Rebecca Horelly

Bella Schaitkin

Monday, April 9–21 Nisan

Abe Geller

Irving Marks

Tuesday, April 10–22 Nisan

Rebecca Fishelson

Diane Marmulstein Freadman

Boris Zernitsky

Wednesday, April 11–23 Nisan

Lippman Cohen

Louis Gorfinkle

Harry David Green

Thursday, April 12–24 Nisan

Harris Cohen

Ida Marks

William Harris

Friday, April 13–25 Nisan

Libby Levine Strauss

The names below will be read in the Sanctuary on SATURDAY MORNING, April 14, 2007:

Saturday, April 14–26 Nisan

Anna Astrachan

Julius Feigenbaum

Sunday, April 15–27 Nisan

Isador Toporofsky

Monday, April 16–28 Nisan

Semyon Berlin

Esther Tabaknek Goldstein

William Shusterman

Tuesday, April 17–29 Nisan

Sandra Alhadeff

Carole Goodman

Charles Robbins

Samuel Spiegel

Gershon Udel

Wednesday, April 18–30 Nisan

Louis Frankel

Gertrude Goodman

Theodore Louzin

Mae Mones

Thursday, April 19–1 Iyar

Muriel Cogan

Eve Lerner

Friday, April 20–2 Iyar

Lena Goodheartz

The names below will be read in the Sanctuary on SATURDAY MORNING, April 21, 2007:

Saturday, April 21–3 Iyar

Fay Buff

Bruce M. Havsy

Anna Rich

Betty Berk Turetsky

Archie Weinstein

Sunday, April 22–4 Iyar

Rose Cohen

Monday, April 23–5 Iyar

Jason Borke

Martin Curran

Morton Kahn

Tuesday, April 24–6 Iyar

Selma Cohn

Robert Epstein

Rebecca Freadman

Thursday, April 26–8 Iyar

Jacob Cusick

Benjamin M. Greenwald

Israel Kutik

Gilbert Marks

Louis Tarnower

Friday, April 27–9 Iyar

Samuil Rashkes

Nathan Zuckerman

The names below will be read in the Sanctuary on SATURDAY MORNING, April 28, 2007:

Saturday, April 28–10 Iyar

Isaac Ginsberg

Natalie Greenwald

Barnet Mendis

Esther Scholder

Sunday, April 29–11 Iyar

Harris Borke

Samuel Edelstein

Sylvia Flaster

Murray Lipton

Monday, April 30–12 Iyar

Rose Davidson

Benjamin Fribush

Jerome Green

Moshe Mestechkin

Herman Rudolf

Dee Singer

Tuesday, May 1–13 Iyar

Luba Mizikovskaya

Wednesday, May 2–14 Iyar

Daniel L. Bookless

Sonia Carr

Lillian Klein

Dorothy Kornbluth

Herman Levinson

Percy Marcus

Max Samel

Regina Singer

Thursday, May 3–15 Iyar

Louis Katz

Celia Novick

Friday, May 4–16 Iyar

Eva Bialor

Bruce Kolman

Louis Moiseff

KI BOOK CLUB NEWS MARCH 2007

The books club members are reading are intellectually stimulating and this month our selection *Kabbalah: A Love Story* by Rabbi Lawrence Kushner was right on target. This book may be read on many different levels and our presenter Bea Selig did a great job of enlightening us about the history of Kabbalah and its relationship to Jewish mysticism. In addition Bea found some reference books to help us understand what the Kabbalah is. Sorry, Madonna was not included.

Another fun event that some of our book club members were involved in was a KI sponsored trip to the *National Jewish Book Center* in Amherst, MA. To date the center has saved 1.5 million volumes and helped bring Yiddish literature back into print as well as strengthening Yiddish collections at 450 major libraries.

Looking ahead, our schedule and selections for the next few months are as follows: Sunday, March 25th was our last 2:00 PM session. After that we will again meet on Sunday evenings at 7:30PM. On the 25th our book will be *Those Who Save Us*, by Jenna Blum, and our presenter will be Ruth Kerbel. Naomi Schwartz will be the presenter on Sunday April 29th discussing *A Tale of Love and Darkness* by Amos Oz. In May we will discuss *Maimonides*, by Sherwin Nuland, date to be determined later.

Some of the above books are available at local libraries or can be ordered at Amazon.com. The prices vary but often it is less expensive to order a bunch of new copies and split the shipping costs that tend to be around \$4.00 for each order.

We want to thank Lora and Sig Tobias for hosting our last book club discussion and hope to see you all at our next session in March.

Cordially,

Bea Selig & Lora Tobias, Co-Chairs

USY AND KADIMA ACTIVITIES

The Purim Carnival sponsored by Kadima and USY was a great success! This year we had two new games: bingo, and a duck pond for our littlest guests. In addition, we had fabulous raffle prizes including the always popular goldfish, a \$25 Best Buy gift card, a \$25 Target gift card, a spa basket, a chocolate basket, and a Ben and Jerry's ice cream cake. All the raffle prizes were donated—thank you to Cindy Helitzer for getting the prizes! Also new this year was cotton candy—a sweet addition!

USY and Kadima would like to thank the following people for their help with this year's carnival: Cindy Helitzer, Ed Udel, Lisa Udel, Susan Federspiel, Jeff Siegel, Amy Herman, Robin Fleet and Phil Coleman. A very special thank you to K.I. staff Margie Metzger and Chris Pirelli for their incredible help leading up to and throughout the carnival and also to Rosalie Buckley and Myrna Hammerling.

The Purim Carnival raised over \$400 for *Tikkun Olam*, the USY *tzedakah* fund. Thank you to everyone who came out on such a cold (the coldest of the year) day!! We hope everyone had a great time.

Upcoming activities:

Sunday, April 15th

USY participates in the Yom Ha'Shoah service at K.I.

Sunday, April 22nd

Kadima helps at the Community Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration at Sinai Academy.

Anne Greenspoon
USY/KADIMA Director



Photos from Purim Carnival

SAVE THE DATE

The annual Larry Dubin Memorial Blood Drive will take place this year on May 30. More information will be forthcoming.

Important Note. You must wait 56 days after your last blood donation.

PLEASE PLAN TO SUPPORT OUR DRIVE.

■ *Rabbi from pg. 6*

successfully meet the challenges in front of us, and continue to be a congregational community that makes a difference for our member-owners and the larger community as well. I look forward to sharing that inspiring future that awaits us with a long term and fulfilling rabbinate, and a deepening of the many wonderful relationships that we have already built.

May we be inspired this Passover to recommit ourselves to the deeper meaning of religious freedom as American Jews: the opportunity to help make American Jewry, and Congregation Kneset Israel as a model of it, to flourish for the generations to come.

Anne, Miles and Micah join me in wishing you a joyous and wonderful Passover.

Rabbi David Greenspoon



MISHLOACH MANOT

Thanks to all of you who made the Mishloach Manot project a success. This year we grossed over \$ 4,250!!

It has been a pleasure to work with so many dedicated volunteers who bake, bake and then bake some more; who shop for supplies and help with the packing and mailing of all of those boxes! Even an ice storm could not deter Eleanor Kaplan from coming out to help pack hamentashen for the baskets.

A special thanks goes to Judy Moss, who oversaw all the baking of the hamentashen; to Susan Gordon, for letting us use her commercial kitchen to make the dough; to Cindy Helitzer, who coordinated all the bakers; to Margie Metzger, who assisted with the delivery of the baskets and handling all those questions; to Nancy Stoll, who ordered the supplies, and to Laurie Schwartz, who typed and checked all those labels. We could not have done it without you.

Lastly, thanks to all of you, who ordered the baskets and supported this project, which raises money for Kneset Israel, and brings joy to so many.

Kara Thornton, Chair



A very big Todah Rabah to Kara Thornton, for having chaired this wonderful project. The congregation deeply appreciates her devotion and dedication to a project that brought so many smiles and so much happiness to the many recipients.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

The JWV will conduct services on Saturday, May 26th. If you would like to participate in the service, please contact Bob Shindler at 443-0231

The Louis Green Post 140 will be marching in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28. All veterans are invited to join in the march.

Cars are available for anyone unable to walk the distance.

Volunteers are needed to place American flags on veterans graves. If you can help, please call Bob Shindler

TO THE KNESSET ISRAEL COMMUNITY

Thanks to all who contributed to the March 10 Cabaret evening in my honor. It was definitely a night to remember. So many people were there, the room looked beautiful, the desserts were outstanding, and the performances were great - it was a great feeling. I appreciate all the planning that went into this event and I thank Bobbi Cohn, Meryl Rudin, the KI staff and all the volunteers who were involved.

I have loved my job from the beginning and I feel lucky to have enjoyed it for so many years. Although I was given a lot of credit for the preschool program, I appreciate and value the contributions made by many of wonderful and creative people I have worked with as the program has evolved.

Judaism has provided me with a path that enriched my life and I'm happy that I can offer it to others. I've tried to help Jewish families feel comfortable celebrating Jewish traditions with their children. And many of non-Jewish preschool families over the years have expressed pleasure in learning about the values and customs of Judaism.

I was glad my family and friends were able to be at this event and I was delighted to share the evening with Joel, our daughters Jill and Kim, their husbands and their ever expanding families.

I am honored that our family and friends have decided to create an endowment at KI in my name and I chose to have it support Youth Activities because I want children of all ages to have the opportunity to participate in fun and enriching Jewish experiences.

Thank you again for the lovely and memorable honor.

Beth Radsken

FUNDS AND ENDOWMENTS

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND IN HONOR OF:

Get well wishes to Bruce Leavitt
by Robert & Iris Cohen

IN MEMORY OF:

Abraham "Benny" Israel
by Carole & Sol Israel
Abraham Schottenfeld
by Alvin Schottenfeld
Ira Bender
by Lillian Bender
Itzhak Ber
by Moysey Kirshteyn
Leonard Hazen
by Robert & Iris Cohen
Sidney Greenberg
by Lillian Greenberg

ACCESSIBILITY FUND IN MEMORY OF:

David Ferber
Lillian Farber
by Merle Ferber

BUILDING FUND IN HONOR OF:

Helen Weiss' Special Birthday
by Arthur & Sylvia Stein

IN MEMORY OF:

Ben Hayden
Sol Lusthaus
by Barbara & Gerald Hayden
Freida Rosen
by Abraham Rosen
Leonard Hazen
by Arthur & Sylvia Stein
Minnie Schiller
by Alice & Len Schiller
Philip Rosen
by Abraham Rosen
Robert Meiorowitz
by Norma Zalutsky

CAPITAL FUND IN MEMORY OF:

Reta Less
by Joel Less

CEMETERY FUND IN MEMORY OF:

Arthur Levinson
by Miriam Levinson

Arthur Zuckerman
Bessie Zuckerman
Esther Mayer
Nathan Zuckerman
Shirley Everhart
by Sylvia & Sidney Zuckerman
Gussie Rod
by Norma Zalutsky
Irving Rosenbaum
by Miriam Rosenbaum
Leonard Kahn
by Marion Kahn & Judy Kahn
Samuel Tauber
by Miriam Rosenbaum

CHESED

IN MEMORY OF:

Samuel Widitor
by Jack & Janet Widitor

FLOWER FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Iva Kaplan Ashner
by Eleanor Kaplan

HEBREW SCHOOL FUND IN HONOR OF:

Adam Dukehart's Bar Mitzvah
by Ruth Cohen, Robert Thistle,
Jack & Patty

Ruth Cohen
by David & Kyneret Albert

IN MEMORY OF:

Beth Anne Zocchi
by Josh & Darlene Weeks
Bruce Haft
Nathan Haft
by Sheila Donath
Dr. Peter Cukor
Leslie May Osterman
by Elie & Myrna Hammerling,
Bobbi & Michael Cohn

JUDITH COOK FUND IN HONOR OF:

Judith & Jeffrey Cook's 40th Wedding Anniversary
by Ellen & Stuart Masters,
Virginia & George Elvin, Myra &
Myer Snowise, Gary & Carol
Scarafoni, Bobbi & Michael
Cohn, Lillian Glickman, Peter &
Nancy Perault, Sandra Knox &
Michael MacDonald, Scott

Hochfelder & Jennifer Sacon,
Anne & Rabbi David Greenspoon,
Sherri & David Buxton, Joel &
Phyllis Curran, Hilda Buckheim,
Sonia & Herbert Lebowitz, Gail
& Herman Mindlin, Harvey &
Susan Frisch Lehrer & Sons

KENNETH & ADDELE TEFILLAH INSTITUTE FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Judith & Jeffrey Cook's 40th
Wedding Anniversary
by Adelle & Ken Goldblum,
Diana, Jerry & Andy Geller

KIDDUSH

IN MEMORY OF:

Harold Palefsky
Harry Palefsky
by Shirley Solomon
Pauline Mass
by Shirley Metzger

LIBRARY

IN HONOR OF:

Jack Lerman's 100th Birthday
by Sidney & Shirley Solomon

IN MEMORY OF:

Harry Lefkowitz
by Monroe & Donna Lefkowitz
Robert Meiorowitz
by Diana, Jerry & Andy Geller,
Molly & Sidney Novick

PRAYER BOOK

IN MEMORY OF:

Alexander Stein
by Florence & Steven Winter
William Raflowitz
by Erma Raflowitz

PRESCHOOL

IN HONOR OF:

Helen Weiss' Special Birthday
by Helene & Bruce Leavitt &
Family

IN MEMORY OF:

Esther Schuman
by Phyllis & Joel Curran

FUNDS AND ENDOWMENTS

ROBERT BRAUN MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND IN MEMORY OF:

Alfred Davidson
by Betty Braun

YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN MEMORY OF:

August Rossomando
by Janet & David Rothstein

SANDRA ABELES BRAUN ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Sandra Abeles Braun
by Betty Braun

HILDA & SIDNEY BUCKHEIM ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Fannie Simkin
by Hilda Buckheim

ROBERT & IRIS COHEN ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Rose Sidman
Ruth A. Cohen
by Robert & Iris Cohen

JUDITH COOK ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Esther Minnie Maislen
by Helen Maislen

SAMUEL & ESTHER CUTLER ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Rachel Lena Cutler
by Esther Cutler

HERBERT & CELIA FISHMAN ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Joel & Mary Mintz
by Celia & Herbert Fishman

MADELINE GALANTER ENDOW- MENT IN HONOR OF:

Arnold & Barbara Silverstein's new
grandson, William Edward
by Beth & Joel Radsken

MORRIS & SYLVIA GELLER ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Pearl Wexler
by Betty Braun

MARCIE GREENFIELD SIMONS ENDOWMENT IN HONOR OF:

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to
Joyce Abecassis
Best wishes for a speedy recovery to
Marcia Mandel
by Marcie & Richard Simons

JACOB & LILLIAN KLEIN ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Benjamin Novick
by Walter & Elaine Epstein

MILTON KOLODKIN ENDOW- MENT IN MEMORY OF:

Ethel Taubin
by Morton Taubin & Rochelle
Leinwand
Dr. Peter Cukor
by Bonnie & Alvin Edelstein,
Barbara Kolodkin

SANFORD & ROSE LUBIN ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Ida Adelson
by Sanford Lubin

BEN & BERNICE ORTENBERG ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Bernice Ortenberg
by Russel & Jean May Bousquet,
Judith Gitelson

MAX & SARAH SKOLETSKY ENDOWMENT IN MEMORY OF:

Esther Skoletsky
by Jules Skoletsky, Marlene &
Joseph Corsetti
Faye Skoletsky Minsk
by Loretta & Ed Skoletsky

SHIRLEY & BERNARD STARR ENDOWMENT IN HONOR OF:

Bernard Starr's Special Birthday
by Arthur & Sylvia Stein

ARTHUR & TERRY WASSER ENDOWMENT IN HONOR OF:

Helen Maislen's 90th Birthday
Bonnie Lipton's Hadassah Award
by Terry & Arthur Wasser

A new yarzeit/donation envelope has been
instituted, listing various
funds that one may contribute to.

PLEASE NOTE: Minimum donation to
funds is now \$5.00. Endowment Fund
contributions remain at \$10.

We welcome contributions in any
amount. Contributions of less than
\$5 are not publicized.

NEED HELP?

The following organizations can provide
professional and confidential guidance:

- Berkshire Center for Families & Children (counseling, parenting) (413) 448-8281
- Brien Center for Mental Health & Substance Abuse
24-hour CRISIS HOTLINE
1-800-252-0227
- Elder Abuse Hotline 1-800-922-2275
- Elder Services of Berkshire County (services for age 60 and older) (413) 499-0524
- Elizabeth Freeman Center (victim assistance/women's services) 24-hour (413) 443-0089
- Jewish Federation of the Berkshires (counseling from a Jewish perspective) (413) 442-4360, ext. 17
- Mass. Dept. of Social Services Child Abuse Hotline:
1-800-292-5022;
after 5:00 p.m. 1-800-792-5200

BUSINESS CARD ADS

In the June issue of the bulletin, we are planning a page or two of ads, business card size, of our congregants' businesses. For a fee of \$25, we will feature your ad in this way.

If you would like to be included, please drop your business cards off in the Bulletin Box in the office, or give them to our coordinator, Margie Metzger.

YOUR AD
COULD APPEAR HERE

See above for details



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adults, and families*

steven.skoblow@verizon.net

(413) 822-0151

A FLOWERY THANK YOU

For 10 years, Elaine Epstein has seen to it that beautiful and appropriate bouquets have adorned the bimah for Shabbat, High Holy Days and every kind of a simcha.

She ordered all the flowers and floral arrangements, working closely with the florist. She has single-handedly run the High Holy Days Flowers fundraiser as well.

This has been a true labor of love for her and we are deeply appreciative of her devoted service.

Elaine is now stepping down from this post, but not from her job of volunteering. She will continue her services weekly in the library and assisting in the front office whenever help is needed.

We are pleased to announce that the new Flower Fund Chairman is Naomi Schwartz. Naomi will be happy to assist you with your flower order after April 1.

Naomi can be reached at 448-8043



FLOWERS

March 2 – In loving memory of Bernard Helitzer presented by Ed, Cindy, Mike, Lindsey and Kayla Helitzer

March 9 – In loving memory of Edward Pincus and Rose Freedman presented by Bobbi and Mike Cohen

*As of April 1, 2007 Naomi Schwartz 448-8043
will be in charge of Flowers.*



BIMAH FLOWERS

There is a lovely way to remember a loved one and celebrate happy occasions. It is by purchasing flowers for the Bimah. Fresh flowers enhance the décor as well as reminding those who have contributed them of their special meaning. We would encourage members to think of a contribution of Bimah flowers for any occasion. Your contribution of \$40 for a floral bouquet will be announced from the Bimah, as well as being printed in the bulletin.

Naomi Schwartz welcomes your calls at 448-8043.

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