



# Ha'Kol

COMMUNITY NEWS FROM THE KJA, HESKA AMUNA & TEMPLE BETH EL

Volume 1 | Issue 1 | January 2009

## KJA Elects New Officers, Board

The Knoxville Jewish Alliance honored past president Scott B. Hahn and elected a new slate of officers at its annual meeting, held Sunday, December 14 at the AJCC. New officers include:

- President, Stephen Rosen
- Treasurer, Adam Brown
- Secretary, Dr. Renee Hyatt
- VP Administration, Karen Robinson
- VP Children and Youth, Seth Schweitzer
- VP Educational and Cultural Arts, Andy Singer
- VP Jewish Community Services, Marilyn Wohl
- VP Public Relations, Mary Linda Schwarzbart
- Immediate Past President, Scott B. Hahn



*Stephen Rosen*

Board members with a one-year term remaining include Justin Bell, Marilyn Liberman, Rosalie Nagler and Matthew Theriot. Those beginning a two-year term are Barbara Bernstein, Caren Gallaher, Hayley Goldfeld and Janice Pollock.

Many thanks to Nominating Committee members Ellen Schnoll, chair, and Scott Hahn, Janice Pollock, Stephen Rosen and Mary Linda Schwarzbart for their hard work.

## Pacesetters 2009

Artist Tobi Kahn will be our featured guest and speaker at the 2009 Pacesetters event, hosted by Lesley and Bernie Rosenblatt. The event that includes dinner and a program by Mr. Kahn will take place at the Knoxville Museum of Art. The Pacesetters event is for Campaign donors with a minimum gift commitment of \$1800 per couple. Dinner is \$75 per person. Call 690-6343 to make your reservation.

New York resident Tobi Kahn is a painter and sculptor whose work has been shown in over 40 solo exhibitions and over 60 museum and groups shows since he was selected as one of nine artists to be included in the 1985 Guggenheim Museum exhibition, *New Horizons in American Art*. Using paint, stone and bronze, Kahn has been steadfast in the pursuit of his distinct vision and persistent in his commitment to the redemptive possibilities of art. He has had five traveling exhibits, Works by Kahn are in major museums, corporate, and private collections.

For twenty-five years, Kahn has been making miniature sacred spaces he calls "shrines." The first full-scale shrine, *Shalev*, is in New Harmony, Indiana. He has created chapels and other spaces for reflection and meditation in Houston and New York..

Kahn was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award from Pratt Institute in 2000 and an Honorary Doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary in 2007 for his work as an artist and educator.

A graduate of the Pratt Institute, Tobi Kahn also communicates his vision through his passion for teaching. For twenty-eight years, he has taught fine arts workshops at the School of Visual Arts in New York City and created art curricula for many schools. Kahn and his wife, writer Nessa Rapoport, live in New York with their three children.

## IN THIS ISSUE

### KJA Ha'Kol

Partnership 2000.....	6
President's Report.....	7
Friendshippers.....	7
Camp Tikkun Olam.....	8
Preschool.....	9
KJCFF - Beckers Honored.....	10

### Heska Amuna Synagogue HaShofar

From the Rabbi's Desk.....	11
Chairman's Report.....	12
HARS News.....	13
Membership News.....	14
Contributions.....	16

### Temple Beth El Times

From the Rabbi's Study.....	17
President's Message.....	18
TBE Sisterhood.....	19
Religious School News.....	20
Isaac's Shelter.....	21
Get-Togethers.....	21

# Mazel Tov!

## Heska Amuna Synagogue

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Martin Brownstein • Zeke Frumin • Susan Cohen • Scott Hahn • Jeffrey Scott • Marion Goodstein • Susie Frost • David Beerman
- Pat Books • Frank Floyd • Deborah Oleshansky • Markus Eisenbach • Adrienne Dessel • Evelyn Oberman • Jenifer Ohriner
- Gene Bocknek • Lynn Fuson • Susan Brown • Toby Slabosky • Mark Blumenthal • Gilya Schmidt • Allyn Bailey • Marc Forman
- Anita Kay • Helene Messing • Sharon Icové • Norman Licht • Alan Quartararo

*All members with January birthdays are invited to receive a blessing at kiddush on Shabbat morning, January 17.*

## TEMPLE BETH EL

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Peter Hance • Jonathan Schultz • Belinda Smith • Alan Smuckler • Joan Cohn • Sarah Conklin • Louis Gross • Jacob Brown
- Paul Lee • Marcy Frankel • Jerry Jaffe • Ray Pais • Laura Supman • Susan Billinson • Anthony Gibbons • Sylvia Witcoff
- Rylee Kolnick • Danielle Goldfeld • Bernard Levenson • Harold Markman • Shirley Sturm • Ron Feinbaum • Edith Hecht
- Jerry Mincey • Pessa Brody • Debra Caylor • Alan Schwartz • Joelle Roth • Sheila Popkin • Dani Rosenberg • Elisha Sauers
- Jon Shefner • Elaine Freeman • Lily Jeanette Hirsh • Sandra Khaddouma • Rachel Kline • Becky Winston • Eric Eisen
- Rachael Feinbaum • Mark Kaufman • Megan Weiss • Benjamin Margulies • Lyubov Morkovnikova • Beth Newman
- Robert Feinberg • Benjamin Johnson • Bonnie Kolnick • Karen Smith • Jenna Anderson • Harrison Roth • Zilla Weininger
- Thomas Evans

### Support Your Local Synagogue and Temple Buy Grocery Store Certificates

Everyone has to eat, so you can help your temple or synagogue raise funds without increasing your monthly expenses. Purchase grocery certificates and a percentage will go to your local organization. Simply complete the form and mail it or call a representative to learn more.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Kroger	\$10 _____	\$25 _____	\$50 _____	\$100 _____	Total	\$ _____
Fresh Market	\$25 _____	\$50 _____	\$100 _____	Total	\$ _____	
Food City	\$25 _____	\$50 _____	\$100 _____	Total	\$ _____	

**Total Order Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Heska Amuna Sisterhood and Synagogue Members:

Please complete the form, mail your check payable to Heska Amuna Sisterhood and send to either Marilyn Liberman, 7932 Corteland Drive, 37909 or Gene Rosenberg, 717 E. Meadecrest Drive, 37923.

#### Temple Beth El Members:

Temple Beth El, P.O. Box 10325, Knoxville, TN 37939-0325. Gift Cards can also be obtained in person from the Temple Office or any of the following individuals: Patti Austin 483-3049; Ruth Sherrill 690-5015; Evan Sturm 584-0429.

# YARZHEITS

## TEMPLE BETH EL

### January 2

Eileen Pucci  
Hyman Henry Smith  
Mollie Bolshine  
Bessie Weinstein  
Samuel Levy  
Ben R. Winick  
Luba Golburt  
Barnie Frankel  
Rosa Bart  
Lillian S. Weiss  
Pauline Orovan  
Rika Licht Goodfriend  
William Haas  
Bernard Newton  
Morris Schwartz  
Jacob Caller  
Mone Hess  
Jean Fribourg  
Sam Morrison  
Tammie M. Brodie

### January 9

Robert Oury  
Arthur Slome  
Bella Zavels  
Mollie B. Smith  
Lena B. Konigsberg  
Edward J. Moss

### January 16

Isadore Beiler  
Michael Kostinsky  
Mr. Louis Gershberg  
Telsie Greif  
Harold Stanley Harris  
Temma Nassau Schwartz  
Grigory Targonsky  
Minette Jacobstein Clark  
Stanley Webster  
Mary Lippner  
Mary Kichler Licht  
Irene Schiffer  
Max Zuckerman  
Sadie Goldberg  
David Farin  
Walter N. Blaufeld  
Fannie Liebman Beiler  
Mortimer Berger

### January 23

Jacob Spiro  
Fannie Burnett  
Beatrice S. Steinfeld  
Alfred Korkin  
Mrs. Helen Sandberg  
Caroline Schwartz  
Ella Marx  
Theodore Hecht  
Mary S. Bernard  
Frank Bernard  
Meyer Ostrovskiy  
Joseph Herman Bush  
Howard Teitelbaum  
Ethel Brown  
Maxine H. Arbibal  
William Steinberg  
Sarah Vendig Samuel  
Joseph Soss  
Irvin Shenkman

### January 30

Evalyn B. Weiss  
Basya Shusterman  
Boris Shusterman  
Julius Hohenemser  
Frank Heart  
Helen M. Siegel  
Albert G. Bessel  
Leo Diamond  
Caroline S. Ziegler  
Gustav Dreyfuss  
Fannie Spiro  
Oscar Sisman

## *Heska Amuna Synagogue*

### January 3

Helen Billig  
Alvin Ellin  
David Mandell  
Benjamin Zwick  
Frances August  
Ida Glazer  
Idell Harris  
Louis Glazer  
Renee Perl  
Samuel Rosen  
Simon Deitch  
Ben Diftler  
Morris Schneider  
Jeanette Scyefsky  
Minnie Slovis  
Henry Sturm  
Minnie Kramer  
George Busch  
Julius Siegel  
William Shaw

### January 10

Gerson Corkland  
Dora Friedlob  
Lottie Mottsmann  
Norma Wolf  
Julian Kalotkin  
Louis Levin  
Lazarus Abrams  
Samuel Forman  
Arthur Meyer  
Isadore Rosenblatt  
Sam Saroff  
Selma Vogel  
Bertha Bernstein  
Hyman Gabler  
Abraham Garber  
Benjamin Joffe  
Morris Kraut  
Taube Diftler  
Louie Herbin  
Aaron Gurwin  
Edna Cohen

### January 17

Alice Abrams  
Lenore Dessel  
Adrian Harris  
Leon Saroff  
Lillian Simon  
Gregory Waugh  
Charles Brown  
Leib Gabler  
Aaron Glazer  
Abraham Schwartz  
Nathan Deitch  
Channah Goldstein  
Maurice Lieberman  
Manuel Marvet  
Melvin Shorr  
Samuel Bebergal  
Louis Gluck  
Helen Shersky  
Clara Sunstein  
Stephen Sugarman  
David Abramson  
Clarence Mann II  
Stanley Webster  
Jill Witten

Mark Balloff  
Joseph Bernstein  
Fannie Moskowitz  
Rose Tischler

### January 24

Rachel Menachem  
Jack Ruchlin  
Rose Bart  
Morris Schwartz  
Morris Simon  
Bella Bresoff  
Ann Busch  
Nathan Diftler  
Rafael Anidjar  
Ben Winick  
Seymour Chasan  
Delia Skalet  
Sam Morrison  
Samuel Fenrow  
Charles O'Brien

### January 31

David Cohen  
Cecil Nichols  
Jack Orlick  
Mae Stern  
Samuel Brown  
Annie Joffe  
Joseph Soss  
Celia Berry  
Elizabeth Busch  
Caroline Schwartz  
Frank Winick  
Jack Scott  
Harry Tobe

# K N O X V I L L E

KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Ha' Kol

Issue Number 1, Volume 1

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6800 Deane Hill Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919

### Officers

Stephen Rosen	President
Adam Brown	Treasurer
Renee Hyatt	Secretary
Karen Robinson	VP Administration
Seth Schweitzer	Vice President – Children & Youth
Andy Singer	VP Educational & Cultural Arts
Marilyn Wohl	VP Jewish Community Services
Mary Linda Schwarzbart	VP Public Relations
Scott B. Hahn	Immediate Past President
Jeff Gubitz	Executive Director

### Board Members at Large

Justin Bell, Barbara Bernstein, Caren  
Gallagher, Hayley Goldfeld, Marilyn  
Lieberman, Rosalie Nagler, Janice Pollock  
and Matthew Theriot

*Ha' Kol* Publication Staff:

Jeff Gubitz, Publisher; Joyce York, Editor;  
Publication Layout by Martha Andrus



## KJDS a Bustling Place

Knoxville Jewish Day School students have been busy and want to share some of their recent activities.

- All students participated in the Jungle Book play on December 11. Costumes, sets, and actors combined for a great performance for family and friends.
- With the assistance of artist-in-residence Cheri Pollack, children sculpted and painted a unique ceramic piece. Pieces were then strung on metal poles, which will eventually be placed in a garden.
- Afterschool enrichment programs now include a chess class taught by national chess master Leonard Dickerson. An art class taught by Josh Carson is also popular, and KJDS is planning a cooking class.
- The Special Friends program pairs a grandparent-age “special friend” with a student who meet regularly and develop relationships that last a lifetime. Anyone interested in taking part, please call 560-9922.
- The third and fourth grade overnight retreat in the Smoky Mountains was successful. Students learned about the diversity of species and the interdependence of animals in common habitats. They also inventoried soil and reported their discoveries.
- Recent guest speakers included Rabbi Beth Schwartz, who discussed the concept of terminal illness from the Jewish perspective with the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes; Mel Sturm, who talked about his WWII experiences; and Dr. Jeff Becker, who taught children about conducting scientific experiments.



*Jeff Becker, a UT professor, teaches children about conducting scientific experiments.*

## KJA Introduces Grandparents Circle Program

The Grandparents Circle is an education and networking program for Jewish grandparents whose adult children have intermarried. These grandparents often feel unsure of how they can cultivate the Jewish identities of their grandchildren, especially when it is not always clear as to whether or not those children are being raised as Jews.

The Grandparents Circle is a comprehensive program that offers grandparents skills and techniques to nurture, and in some cases help establish, their interfaith grandchildren's Jewish identities. It also provides participants with a supportive and open-minded environment to share achievements, express concerns, and acknowledge challenges.

The course is a six-session course for Jewish grandparents whose grandchildren are being raised in interfaith homes. The National Grandparents Circle Listserve allows for communication between current course participants, course alumni, and grandparents who have not yet taken the course or who live in a city without an available course.

The Grandparents Circle is free to participants but you must register. Please let us know if you are interested in participating in this program. Call Wilma at 690-6343 or e-mail [wweinstein@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:wweinstein@jewishknoxville.org).

## AIPAC Sets Spring Meeting Date

AIPAC will meet on April 1, 2009. Times and meeting details will be available closer to the event date. AIPAC is America's pro-Israel lobby that worked with the U.S. Congress to pass resolutions honoring Israel's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary by the House and Senate; to pass in the House a resolution condemning continuing Palestinian rocket attacks and supporting Israel's right to defend its citizens; and to pass legislation in the House and gain 70 co-sponsors in the Senate for a bill strengthening U.S. tools to cut off funds to Iran's nuclear program and prohibiting U.S. nuclear cooperation with those aiding Iran's atomic efforts.

# H A P P E N I N G S



## BBYO Welcomes Area Teens

BBYO is known as the largest and most effective provider of identity-building and leadership development programs for Jewish teens. Headquartered in Washington, DC, BBYO encompasses over 40 regions across North America, as well as Europe, Israel, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, and comprises more than 130 employees and over 800 volunteer advisors. Among BBYO's 250,000 living alumni are many of the most prominent figures in Jewish communal life, as well as people of note in the business, political, academic and cultural worlds. Key to the organization's success has been a highly effective leadership model operating on the local, national and international levels through a fraternity/sorority-based chapter structure (AZA for boys and BBG for girls).

If you like more information on BBYO activities, please call 633-5902 or email [jrosenberg@bbyo.org](mailto:jrosenberg@bbyo.org). You may also visit [www.bbyo.org](http://www.bbyo.org).

## Hadassah Starts Book Group

Hadassah has just started a book club and is actively seeking members to join.

Last month's meeting featured *The Devil in the White City*, by Erik Larson. Hadassah Book Club questions? Call Peggy Littmann at 588-6661 or [plittmann@comcast.net](mailto:plittmann@comcast.net).

## Rosenberg Promoted to BBYO Regional Post

Knoxville has a strong, vibrant B'nai B'rith Youth Organization tradition, with scores of close-knit Jewish teens engaged in thought-provoking social, community, and mitzvah-oriented activism. A product of this tradition is Knoxville native Judith Rosenberg, who holds the administrative post of BBYO area executive director.

In this role, Rosenberg is involved in programming, working with regional executive boards, including those in Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Birmingham and New Orleans. She also trains volunteers and supervises local program directors as well as directors of other regions including Atlanta. A big part of her job is fundraising, and of course, there's always the administrative side such as budgets and finances.

A Bearden High graduate, Rosenberg graduated from Indiana University with a marketing degree. She went to work for a small advertising agency in Cincinnati for three years, and then returned to Knoxville to become marketing manager for Knoxville Sports Corp. She worked for seven years at Shelton Communications, a marketing/advertising agency. While here, she served as the BBYO volunteer advisor. When the regional director was promoted, Rosenberg applied for the opening and got the job. Later, Rosenberg was promoted to her current position of area executive director.

Rosenberg's marketing background has proved useful because "I'm still able to look at the big picture and develop strategies," which is key to promoting the organization to the region's teens. She also closely follows trends so that her organization can respond appropriately to teen and community issues.

Rosenberg credits her career path to her

experiences in BBYO as a youth and volunteer. She was very active in the Knoxville BBYO as a teen. She also spent time as a volunteer BBYO advisor in Cincinnati and Knoxville. "I got four great years out of BBYO and thought that I would give back four years," she said.



*Judith Rosenberg*

Rosenberg says she's come to appreciate the value of BBYO more now that she is an adult. "It made me realize that for teens in general and Jewish teens especially, that they need a place they can be themselves. In schools or counties where teens may be the only one or part of a handful of Jewish kids, they need to find that safe spot. And BBYO is providing that safe spot."

Rosenberg cited one study that noted that by the time Jewish teens reach their senior year, less than 30 percent of Jewish youth participate in Jewish life and community activities. BBYO's exciting because it is a means to reversing that trend. I hope BBYO really inspires within teens a lifelong commitment to the Jewish people," she said.

While Rosenberg enjoys working with all her regions, she is very proud of the Knoxville region. "Knoxville has a strong, rich tradition. From a local perspective, Knoxville always seemed bigger than it is. Members are consistently represented on regional boards, the chapters win awards, its alumni serve on many Jewish and BBYO boards. It's a BBYO history the community should be proud of," she said.

## Study Says Service Attendance Benefits Women

Regular attendance at religious services reduces the risk of death for women by 20 percent, according to a new study. The study by researchers at Yeshiva University and its Albert Einstein College of Medicine was published in the November 2008 *Psychology and Health Journal*.

The researchers evaluated the religious practices of 92,395 women aged 50 to 79 participating in the Women's Health Initiative, a national, long-term study aimed at addressing women's health issues and funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Those who said they attended religious services at least once a week showed a 20 percent mortality risk reduction compared with those not attending services at all. The study did not attempt to measure spirituality; its authors stress that it examined self-reported measures of religiosity.

The study adjusted for the women's participation in organizations and group activities that promote a strong social life and enjoyable routines, behaviors known to lead to overall wellness.

## P2K: Israel 2008

By *Bernie Rosenblatt, P2K Chairperson*

Our Israeli Partnership 2000 (P2K) Region is alive and well! On November 19 – 20<sup>th</sup> Jeff Gubitza and I were in the Hadera-Eiron region following participation in the GA in Jerusalem. (While in Jerusalem I had the opportunity to spend Shabbat with Rena and Ran Neiger and their children; they are well and send their regards to all of their Knoxville friends. Jeff and I also had the chance to visit with Marion and Joe Goodstein and they seem to be well established Israelis!) Consortium representatives from Nashville, Jacksonville, Ft. Myers and Knoxville were involved with an intense visit to our region. We started off on Wednesday night with a visit to the Technoda to see the largest observatory in the Middle East; this educational institution also runs many education programs in science for regional youth.

Then onto a “gala” reunion party with at least 10 teen alumni of our Camp Tikkun Olam (CTO) program. We had the largest contingent of alumni and the reunion was joyous to say the least! In addition there were past Israeli chaperones, staff, volunteers, etc. The entertainment included songs by teens from the Hadera High School and children from the Maxam, the Ethiopian community center. We saw a visual presentation of all of the different activities supported by our Consortium in addition to Camp Tikkun Olam, including the teacher delegation and exchange in which three of our Knoxville teachers will be participating for the first time this year. Amidst the fun and catching up there were sobering moments as we realized that some in our “extended family” were going into the IDF soon and some were already serving. As always, the emotions were high and the time too brief.

The next day we visited the Bar Yakir Youth Village for Boys. This mostly residential setting was a school for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders who had difficulties going to regular schools or who had serious family or social problems. Part of the program is related to animal therapy; each teen takes care of an animal for a period of time. This is a very impressive school which reminded me of a visit by our 2000 Mission to Neve Michael, another innovative boarding school in the region.

Then we toured the Green Line and Security Fence line which



*Bernie Rosenblatt and Jeff Gubitza with our Hadera family in Israel*



is part of our region. Each time we visit this area we are reminded of the geography and proximity and complexity of life among the Israeli Jews, Israeli Arabs and Palestinians. We visited Harish which was targeted in the 90s to be a major Israeli city with 80,000 residents. But due to the October 2000 Arab riots and political violence, full development never took place. There is now some hope that more and more residents will be moving into Harish.

Our next stop was at the Agricultural High School in Pardes Hanna. This regional school has an agricultural component so in addition to their regular studies, the students can learn to care for animals, learn about horse therapy and take other agricultural subjects. Galit, the Israeli chaperone for last year's Tikkun Olam program, teaches at the school and was there to greet us along with two other students who participated in CTO. We toured the school and after a wonderful lunch we engaged in an activity based on perceptions of today's Israel with the teens who are part of YP2K.

Our final visit of the day was in the charming town of Zichron Yaacov and the Azulay Winery. We learned that there is a growing boutique winery business in the Region as well as in other parts of Israel.

Clearly our visit was jam packed and full of emotion, learning and growing admiration and pride that we are part of an exciting Israeli region and that our allocations are being well spent and appreciated.

## Marty's Mission Report

By *Joyce Tragout, Marty's Mission Food Chair*

Mazel Tov! To all who contributed to our High Holy Days Food Drive, my sincere thanks. Your participation made this year's food drive a tremendous success. A heart felt thank you to each organization that sponsored this drive through their facilities. We touched so many lives by joining together for this wonderful cause. Your contribution made a difference for many less fortunate families. As a combined effort we were able to donate 1,338 pounds of food to the Second Harvest Food Bank. One person, one effort, can make a difference.

My heartfelt thanks too, to all who contributed to our “Turkey Trot” collection. We were able to successfully feed many families to assure that these families could enjoy a warm Thanksgiving Dinner.

The first year of our penny drive seems to be going along very well. It will conclude at the end of this year. At this time I have no conclusive amount to report, but will keep you posted when we complete this collection.

Thank you to our wonderful Jewish Community for your support to this ongoing effort. Please remember, hunger does not take a holiday. Please continue to bring non-perishable foods to your organization. I will be sure that it is picked up and transported to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

## KJA President's Report

By Stephen Rosen

The inaugural issue of *Ha' Kol* is a perfect opportunity to introduce myself as the fifth president of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance. My name is Stephen Rosen and I am very happy and proud to be leading the KJA for the next two years. My wife, Kim, and I have been very active in the Knoxville Jewish community for the last 18 years. I have served on the board of the AJCC and KJA since 1992. For most of those years, I was the treasurer of each organization. Kim spent nine years volunteering with the preschool as all of our children are graduates of the AJCC Early Childhood Program. Nathan (6<sup>th</sup>), Arielle (3<sup>rd</sup>) and Tifannie (K) are now students at Webb. When I am not with my family or volunteering with the Alliance, I am a managing director for Morgan Keegan's Fixed Income Capital Markets Division. As an institutional bond salesman, my client base consists of banks, money managers, municipalities, and other brokerage firms.

I grew up in a family that was very involved in our Jewish community. My grandparents, Sam and Esther Rosen and George and Alice Palmer, were longtime members and volunteers for the AJCC, the Knoxville Jewish Federation, B'nai B'rith Women, Hadassah, Temple Beth El, Heska Amuna, AIPAC, ORT and probably a few organizations I am forgetting. My parents, Allen and Alexandra Rosen, were involved in many of these parts of the community as well. I grew up at the AJCC on Deane Hill Drive and spent (and misspent!) much of

my childhood at the pool or in the building. I was heavily influenced by my experiences in the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization and currently give back to the recently independent BBYO by serving on its national board.

The overriding sentiment that guides and motivates me is simple: it is my job to advance Jewish communal life from what my parents and grandparents gave to me to what Kim and I would like to be available for our children. This means working to build Jewish life in Knoxville and save Jewish lives in Israel, Europe, and around the world. My priorities in working towards this goal in the next two years will be the following: expand our excellent local Jewish leadership by attracting the best, brightest and most energetic volunteers; ramp up existing community collaboration in Knoxville (this newspaper is a great example) while promoting the advancement of cooperation with the Oak Ridge community; reenergize our connection with and commitment to Israel; and finally, solidify and improve all of our wonderful KJA programs. Please watch this column for more details on each of these priorities in the coming months.

I invite your input, both positive and negative, your presence at our programs, and your financial support through the annual campaign. Any good salesman thrives on contact with his customers, so let me hear from you. I can be reached at [Stephen.rosen@morgankeegan.com](mailto:Stephen.rosen@morgankeegan.com) or on my cell phone at 599-1853. I look forward to working with you.

## KJA Jewish Faculty Lecture Series Starts This Month

The KJA Institute for Jewish Studies presents the first three lectures of the UT Jewish Faculty Lecture series. The sessions meet the fourth Monday January through April at the AJCC from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Please call 690-6343 to register.

- **January 26:** Marilyn Kallet, PhD, UT Lindsey Young Professor of English, and Louis Gross, PhD, UT professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and mathematics, will present "The Marriage of Science and Poetry."
- **February 23:** Rivka Ribak-Gil, PhD, Schusterman visiting scholar, Department of Religious Studies, will present "Domesticating the Mobile: Parents, Children and Telephones in Two Israeli Communities."
- **March 23:** Jon Shefner, PhD, associate professor, Department of Sociology and director, Interdisciplinary Program in Global Studies, will present "Global Financial Crisis and the Turn to the Left in Latin America."

## Jewish Family Services News

By Laura Faye Berry, BSSW, Esq.,  
Jewish Family Services Director

As we head into a new year, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank our wonderful volunteers for all that they do. Our volunteer coordinator, Evan Sturm, reports that from July through October alone this past year, eight volunteers put in an average of over 63 hours a month visiting residents of long term care facilities. Those hours do not include all of the time our committee members devote to planning and hosting six holiday parties a year in addition to monthly Shabbat evening services, cooking for Mitzvah Meals and Family Promise dinners, and numerous other activities. Jewish Family Services could not function without our committee members and volunteers. I am eternally grateful for the many ways in which they serve our community.

## KJA Friendship Programs

By Wilma Weinstein, Director

Individuals age 55+ are invited to participate in the Friendshippers, which enjoys a variety of talks and entertainment during its monthly meetings. Newcomers are welcome. To reserve your spot at the luncheon, please call 690-6343.

**Wednesday, January 14:** Vance Thompson and The Knoxville Jazz Orchestra - a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation founded in 1999 by trumpeter, composer and arranger Vance Thompson. The mission of the organization is to provide our community with musical experiences that are both exceptionally entertaining and culturally enlightening.

Catered lunch at \$8.00 per person; no charge for program alone. Program location: Rothchilds, 8807 Kingston Pike.

**Wednesday, February 4:** Wendel Werner and the UT Singers will entertain us! Wendel Werner he has worked in many capacities. Since 2001, Werner has served as director for UT Singers, the jazz choir at the University of Tennessee. Catered lunch at \$8.00 per person; no charge for program alone. Program location: Rothchilds, 8807 Kingston Pike.

Transportation is available to all programs. Don't miss out.

**Friendship Book Group** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the AJCC.

## Teen Connection Provides Fun Outing

By Amy Rosenberg

Teen Connection, a program for kids grades 5-8, organized a scavenger hunt at West Town Mall. For more information on Teen Connection, call 690-6343.

You all reached many different destinations. I hope you enjoyed your travel experience throughout the West Town Mall. Haley and I enjoyed watching everyone walk back and forth, back and forth, and back and forth for an hour.

An extra special thanks to Hayley Goldfeld for helping me plan this event and helping execute it by taping 84 envelopes throughout the mall. I also want to express a huge thank you to all of the chaperones.

All parents should be proud of their kids because they all behaved beautifully during lunch and during their amazing journey. Our group grew to 30 kids today.

Congrats to our winning team: Hila, Esther, Michael, Ethan, Eli and Anita.

Welcome some new participants to Teen Connection: Lilly S., Michael D., Danielle D., Jennye M., Ethan S., Jessica T., Michael G. and Isaac S.

Teen Connection is a joint program of KJA, Heska Amuna and Temple Beth El.

## SHORRLINES: Everything Old is New Again

By Eleanor Shorr

Have we a lot to celebrate! A new Jewish year – A new secular year – A new spirit of community cooperation with the publication of the new *Ha' Kol* (the new name for the old Voice) – A new President-elect – A new view toward healing the world's economy – The list is pretty long and very encouraging.

It reinforces our American belief that after the rhetoric and a blow-out fight, reconciliation and mending fences are in the forefront. The President-elect is reaching out to his honorable and formidable opponent to work toward a more nonpartisan approach in governing the country. We look forward to the government realizing its obligation to govern with moderation, compassion and equal justice for all of the people of this country – an old reiteration of the Preamble to the U. S Constitution that is always new.

Knoxville also has something very new at the Worlds Fair Park. A War Memorial to celebrate the lives of those men and boys to whom we owe so much. We can be so proud of the city. The Worlds Fair Park has become a beautiful landmark to visit summer and winter.

We are eager to hear about the new plans for refurbishing the AJCC, - new beginnings for an old site.

No – the sky is not falling. Just a bump or two on our heads to remind us that most things are within our grasp to fix or adjust. Now let's hope Iran and the other crazies of the world realize we are all in this together. Boy – what a time for a miracle from above – we sure could use it.

## Travel to Israel This Summer With Your Friends

**Do you want to go to Israel this Summer?  
Are you in the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade?  
Then Camp Tikkun Olam is for YOU!**

Camp Tikkun Olam is accepting applications from 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students to travel to Israel this summer. For the past nine summers our local teens have been participating in this cultural exchange



program. Camp Tikkun Olam is a program which allows teens to host an Israeli teen, and also travel to Israel and live in an Israeli home. Unlike other travel programs to Israel, Tikkun Olam offers you the opportunity to see Israel from the Israeli perspective, not just as a tourist. While in Israel we will visit Jerusalem and spend time exploring the city. We will also travel to the Dead Sea, play in the mud, explore the waterfalls of Ein Gedi, and climb to the top of Masada. While here at home, you will have the chance to show our Israeli friends all the best places around, including hikes in the Smokey Mountains, fun at the lake, and music in downtown Knoxville.

Interviews for summer 2009 will be held on Sunday, February 1. To schedule an interview and learn more about how you can have the **BEST** summer of your life, contact Deborah Oleshansky, Tikkun Olam Director, 865-690-6343 or [doleshansky@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:doleshansky@jewishknoxville.org)

## Ice Skating Event Planned for Youth

Teen Connection members are invited to ice skating, pizza, and hot chocolate on Sunday, January 11, from 1:00-3:15 p.m. at the Ice Chalet, 100 Lebanon Street, just off of Kingston Pike. Teen Connection is a social program for area Jewish youth grades 5-8 that meets quarterly.

The cost is \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 for non-members. Siblings are welcome with a parent. Please respond by January 7 by contacting coordinator Amy Rosenberg at [rockybergs@tds.net](mailto:rockybergs@tds.net) or calling 356-6830.

Mark your calendar for "Survivor," on April 19. It will be the most fun you've ever had.



**Save the Date!**  
**February 8, 2009**  
**Mitzvah Day!**

## AJCC Preschool Announces Staff Changes

Early Childhood Director Brooke Seeliger reports that Gimel Teacher Rachel Bleuze will be leaving the program. While it is considered losing an asset to the program, everyone at the AJCC wishes her luck.

Because the Gimel class children went through several unexpected teacher changes last year while in Bet, Rachel will be replaced with a familiar face. Terri Adkisson has decided to move from Hey into the Gimel classroom. While Brooke is sure that the Hey parents are sad to see her leave that classroom, she is certain that it was the best decision in regard to the program as a whole. Terri has been teaching 29 years, with 12 years of that in a three-year-old classroom. With her knowledge and understanding of all age groups, she will be a great fit in the Gimel classroom.

Realizing the importance of continuing the quality program that Terri created, the interviewing process was not taken lightly. Amber Bradley has accepted the position of the Hey classroom teacher. She will graduate in early December from the University of Tennessee with her Bachelor of Arts degree with a concentration in speech language pathology. Honors and activities include Gamma Sigma Sigma, Phi Beta Kappa Honors Fraternity, AP Scholar with Distinction Award recipient, President's Volunteer Service Award recipient, and Family Services chair of Habitat for Humanity at UT. Amber has been a part of Camp Will for two summers in Franklin, Tenn. While working there as a head counselor for children with disabilities, she was responsible for caring for children with mild to severe disabilities and supervising three assistant counselors. She was also a caregiver for a family with three children all under the age of five for three years. Amber is full of ideas and very excited about working with the children at the AJCC Preschool. She has the knowledge and skills to fully prepare the students for kindergarten. To assist with the transition, Terri and Amber will be meeting on a daily basis during Gimel's rest time to discuss where the children are currently in their preschool education and what they will need for the remainder of the year. Amber will be a great addition to the preschool program.

## Preschoolers Host Thanksgiving Feast

On Friday, November 21, the AJCC Preschool had its annual Thanksgiving Feast. Many parents and grandparents came to the event. The program began promptly at 11:00 a.m. with each classroom putting on a performance followed with a delicious potluck lunch. The children were just adorable with their Pilgrim and Indian costumes, while singing songs for everyone! It was a wonderful program that all in attendance enjoyed very much!



*Decorations created by Brooke Seeliger*



*Riding in the Mayflower created by Brooke Seeliger are Gabby Goodfriend and John Coon, Bet class students. Pulling the wagon is Jill Woods, Bet teacher holding Alex Feldblum.*



*Gimel Class- Left to Right- Gabby Rowland-Gimel Teacher, Brooklyn Halter, Jack Abrams, Abby Abrams, Samantha Abrams-Cohen, Alex Christodoulou, Elizabeth Floyd, Joseph McCord, Aaron Contente, Jackson Landry, Stella Contente, Benjamin Lorenze, and Rachel Bleuze- Gimel Teacher*



## Knoxville Jewish Community of Family Funds

A Supporting Foundation of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and the East Tennessee Foundation to preserve and strengthen the Jewish Community of Knoxville

### Beckers Honored at Annual Philanthropy Day Meeting

By Pace Robinson, KJCF President

It was a proud day for the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds (KJCF). It is only fitting for this first issue of *Ha' Kol* that I can tell you about the 2008 Annual Philanthropy Day. The Association of Fundraising Professionals holds an annual event to recognize individuals, businesses, and organizations for their efforts in the wide world of philanthropy. Honorees are chosen from several categories. The major awards are for business, foundation, and individual. I am proud to say that our own Jeff and Nancy Becker were honored as individual philanthropists of the year. I cannot think of any two people more deserving of this honor. Previous winners in this individual category reads like a who's who of wealthy and influential Knoxvilleans.

Most of you are aware of the many (and seemingly unending) things that the Beckers have done to contribute to the local community. You may not be aware that Jeff almost single-handedly started the KJCF. He had a vision some 10 years ago to establish a Jewish community foundation. His hard work, his persistence, his money, and his contagious enthusiasm all contributed to the founding of the KJCF. Today the Jewish community is benefiting from his efforts. We now have 37 funds under our umbrella, not including the 50 or so B'nai Tzedek funds and the list keeps growing. Simply put, the funds exist to help our Jewish community family both locally and on the wider world stage. And that's the reason we should all consider establishing a fund or contributing to an existing one. If you wish to consider this, please don't hesitate to contact me at [pacer@modernsupplyco.com](mailto:pacer@modernsupplyco.com) or at my home 584-9090. Or you may contact Susan Contente at the KJA office or [scontente@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:scontente@jewishknoxville.org). You may also contact either one of us if you are interested in learning how our grant program works. If you see Jeff and Nancy, tell them congratulations and how proud our community is of them.



*Jeff and Nancy Becker*

### Donations:

#### Nancy and Jeff Becker Cultural Enrichment Fund

- Gilya Schmidt in honor of their AFP Award

#### B'nai Tzedek General Fund

- Susan and Harold Silber

#### B'nai Tzedek Fund of Harris Bailey

#### B'nai Tzedek Fund of Rae Oleshansky

- Susan Contente and Kurt Piehler in honor of Rae's bat mitzvah
- Patricia Marra in honor of Rae's bat mitzvah
- Carole and Robert Martin
- Natalie Robinson in honor of Rae's bat mitzvah
- Pace and Karen Robinson in honor of Rae's bat mitzvah
- Bernie and Lesley Rosenblatt in honor of Rae's bat mitzvah
- Gilya Schmidt in honor of Rae's bat mitzvah
- Mary Linda and Arnold Schwarzbart in honor of Rae's bat mitzvah

#### Sylvia Greenberg Family Fund

- Marion and Martin Abrams in memory of Sylvia Greenberg
- Renee Hyatt in memory of Sylvia Greenberg
- Charles and Madeline Mann in memory of Sylvia Greenberg
- Mary Linda and Arnold Schwarzbart in memory of Sylvia Greenberg
- Dr. R. Shanny and Laura Hamilton Shanny in memory of Sylvia Greenberg

#### Heska Amuna Cemetery Fund

- Mary Linda and Arnold Schwarzbart for the Yahrzeits of Isadore Schwarzbart, Isaac Joffe, Anna Gruenberg, Blima and Samuel Schwarzbart, Virginia Morrison, and Yizkor

#### Heska Amuna Educator's Supplement Fund

- Lynda Rosen in honor of her mother, Bernice Rosen's yartzheit

### KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pace Robinson, President; Richard Jacobstein, Vice President; Bernie Rosenblatt, Secretary/Treasurer; Jeff Becker; Bernard Bernstein; Arnold Cohen; Bobby Goodfriend; Scott Hahn; Herb Jacobs; Harold Markman; Alexandra Rosen; Mary Linda Schwarzbart; Mel Sturm; Jeff Gubitz, Ex-Officio; Susan Contente, Donor Development Specialist

The Board of Directors of the Knoxville Jewish Family of Funds thanks the Knoxville Jewish Community, the staff of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and the East Tennessee Foundation for their support and encouragement. The KJCF encourages you to help insure the healthy future of our Knoxville Jewish community by including a commitment to the KJCF in your financial and estate planning.

To learn more about KJCF philanthropic opportunities, call 690-6343 or visit our website at [www.jewishknoxville.org/kjcf](http://www.jewishknoxville.org/kjcf)



From the Rabbi's Desk

By Rabbi Louis Zivic, D.D.

Dear Friends,

Once, in my first congregation, when I was shopping following Sukkot, I happened to meet a member of the shul. I said with a smile on my face; "I thought that I'd see you in shul yesterday." She replied; "No, rabbi. I only do the big holidays."

Our Sages found the same attitudes among the people of their age; therefore they declared that all of the holidays are of equal worth and importance. They made the same declaration with regard to the mitzvot and sins, as well. The Sages did not want Jews to be able to select "important," or "big" mitzvot, or holidays to do while ignoring the rest.

The observance of the Fast of the 10th of Tevet is a practice which many Conservative Jews tend to ignore. Our tradition tells us that the Fast of the 10th of Tevet commemorates not only the start of the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians but also marks the tragedy that took

place on the 8th of Tevet when King Ptolemy of Egypt confined 70 Jewish scholars and demanded that they translate the Tanakh into Greek. Tradition tells us the 9th of Tevet was when Ezra, the Scribe, died.

Why aren't these significant events each given their own date on the Jewish calendar? Answer: because we do not wish to have so many sad dates on our calendar. As Jewish history is replete with sad events, we added historical events to existing periods of mourning. Another example would be that we mourn for the destruction of medieval Jewish communities on Tisha B'Av even though that may not have been the exact date of their destruction.

How do we mark our own calendars? Are they marked with the tragedies of our lives; the date we got divorced, the day our parents died, the time we lost our job? Or are our calendars marked with the happy days of lives? Most of us have both written down, but which leave the most lasting imprint? It's up to us to decide.

B'Shalom!

Tevet / Sh'vat 5769

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Rabbi's Desk.....11
From the Chairman.....12
Sisterhood.....12
HARS News.....13
Among Our Members.....14
Kitchen and Kiddush News.....15
Contributions.....16

Mark Your Calendar

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 though
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

For Heska Amuna Sisterhood's Torah Fund Shabbaton with Rabbi Amy Eilberg

Rabbi Eilberg is the first woman rabbi ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Ordained in 1985, she was the first woman appointed to serve on the Rabbinical Assembly's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards in 1986. As of 2004, the JTS had ordained more than 150 women rabbis and the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies has ordained approximately 30.

Rabbi Eilberg currently resides in Minnesota and serves at Congregation Kol Emeth in Palo Alto on the High Holidays.

Come learn, pray, eat and schmooze with your fellow congregants and meet this dynamic and innovative Rabbi.



Continuing Education

SHABBAT AFTERNOONS

January 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 following Kiddush

Torah Study with Rabbi Zivic

SUNDAY MORNINGS

January 11 and 25 at 9:00 a.m.

Talmud Study with Rabbi Zivic

TUESDAY MORNINGS

January 13, 27 at 11:00 a.m.

HAZAK with Rabbi Zivic



Rabbi Amy Eilberg

## From the Chairman

By Ted Besmann

I want to thank the congregants of Heska Amuna for their terrific response to our Yom Kippur appeal. While the pledges for the evening have not quite reached our target of \$33,000, there are a number of generous congregants who we expect will be mailing in their pledges and I am confident we can reach our goal.

I am very grateful to Mary Ann Merrell and Susan Contente who have agreed to co-chair our upcoming "Harold's at Heska Amuna," now scheduled for March 22. This is a critical event for Heska Amuna, as it is our largest general fundraiser and allows us to have income from beyond our membership.

Sisterhood and the board are looking to expand participation in the supermarket certificate program that Sisterhood is supporting. In the program you purchase certificates from the Sisterhood for Krogers, Food City, or the Fresh Market, and Sisterhood, and therefore the synagogue, gets between 5 and 10 percent of the face value. It is a no cost way for congregants to help support the synagogue, and congregations both locally and around the country cover a good fraction of their costs this way. It is in everyone's best interest to participate, and hopefully an expanded effort will help limit future needs for increased dues and donations from our members. We will be providing more and easier opportunities for you to participate, including an option directly on your monthly synagogue invoice.

Finally, I am pleased to be able to offer my first message in our new HaShofar, now as part of the community newsletter *Ha' Kol*. Marian Jay will continue as our editor, working with KJA staff to get out the news. This new publication offers advantages for Heska Amuna including wider dissemination of our news and announcements, higher quality publication values including color, return to eleven issues per year, and a significant reduction in cost despite the larger number of issues, with advertising revenues reducing that cost even further. To paraphrase a famous Knoxvillean, Adolf Ochs, who grew the New York Times into a leading newspaper, for our HaShofar - "All the news that fits, we print."

### Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

#### Summary ~ October 7, 2008

- Eric Bank reported that the Board of Trustees had already donated approximately \$5,000 to the Kol Nidre Appeal.
- A motion to accept the community newspaper was passed. HaShofar, KJA, and Temple Beth El would have 24-28 pages total. Our portion of pages would be about 8. The cost would be about \$150 per month for postage and our part of layout expenses. The cost for HaShofar now is \$5,100 yearly. The cost for the joint newsletter is \$10,000 per year. The printer would try to get this amount with advertising. If it is all covered, we only pay the \$150 per month. All three organizations share the costs of what is left that is not covered. We would sign a contract for one year. The first issue is in January.
- A lot of work went into the plans for the High Holiday services. Marty Iroff thanks all who helped with the preparations.
- Jenifer Ohriner has offered to chair the Bikkur Cholim Committee.
- David Perkins was approved as a new member.
- Marty Iroff reported that there are changes of policy regarding food items according to the Rabbi. Non-certified kosher foods may be wrapped and temporarily stored in the refrigerators and freezers. Rabbi and Religious Services' dairy potluck meals may be served in the Rosen Social Hall kitchen area. Any additional items needed cannot come from the synagogue. There is a storage cabinet for these. Nancy Becker has the key. Rabbi Zivic will coordinate these events with the kitchen supervisor.
- Annette Winston has agreed to lead Pathways Adult Education Committee.

### Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

#### Summary - November 11, 2008

- Ted Besmann said that at a meeting with Stephen Eisen, Jeff Gubitz, and Scott Hahn, plans were made for the new community newspaper. It would start in January.
- The Yom Kippur Appeal pledges so far are \$3,876 short of the budgeted amount of \$32,500 and that calls will be made to those who have yet to contribute.
- Judy Brietstein suggested making the Newcomer's Brunch an annual affair.
- Estimates are coming in for the new roof on the Rabbi's house.
- Dead shrubs on Heska Amuna's property are being removed.
- Anshei Heska Amuna has a dinner and beer tasting planned at Smoky Mountain Brewery. There will be a speaker and tour of the brewery.
- Anshei Heska Amuna will host the Bagel Café as needed on Sundays whenever people would like food to be made available.
- Mary Ann Merrell and Susan Contente have agreed to co-chair Harold's at Heska Amuna. It will be held some time in the late winter or spring at a time that doesn't conflict with the Alliance fundraising.
- Jane Cohen was voted onto the Board of Trustees to complete the 2-year term of Joan Leeds.

## Heska Amuna Religious School News

### Friday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m. Tot Shabbat Service



Everyone is invited to Heska Amuna's Tot Shabbat Service. This service is designed for families with very young children. Services include participatory music, games, prayers, and fun for parents and children. We end our service with a sumptuous kid-friendly Oneg. The theme for this Shabbat will be "Freedom." Please call the school office at 522-0701 x13 if you have any questions about this popular program.

### Friday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner and Junior Choir Service

This Kabbalat Shabbat Service is a great way for families and friends to start their weekend Jewishly, with food, music, and community. We will begin our evening with a dairy pot luck dinner. If you plan to dine with us, bring a dairy dish that can feed 6 – 8 people. Don't forget your serving pieces. Drinks and paper goods will be provided. Following our dinner, we will have a spirited participant-based musical service. If you have questions about what to bring or about this great program, drop a note to [EdDirector@heskaamuna.org](mailto:EdDirector@heskaamuna.org). Special arrangements have been made for those who wish to participate in the pot luck dinner and are Shomer Shabbos. Please call the school office for details.

### Sunday, January 25 from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CLC Day at Temple Beth El

Thanks to the generosity of the Rosen family, Heska Amuna is again able to participate in our community-wide program that allows students in all grades K – 7 to learn together at special events over the school year. This program, known affectionately as the Cooperative Learning Component or CLC Program, allows us to bring in educational interns from the Institute of Southern Jewish Life to work with local educators to create hands-on learning programs on a variety of topics. The topic for the January CLC program is "Tzedakah" which is a perfect segue to the community's Mitzvah Day in February. Parents are asked to drop-off and pick up their children at TBE on January 25. The next CLC day will be hosted at Heska Amuna on March 29, 2009.

### Saturday, January 31 at 10:15 a.m. Junior Congregation

This service is a participant-based Shabbat morning service. We will enjoy the Not Ready for Torah Time Players Parshah play called *Buy, Buy Baby* and listen to students share prayers they are learning in classes, as well as having one of three special Torah blessings. After the service, we join the full congregation for a tasty Kiddush in honor of Shabbat.

**NOTE:** Heska Amuna Religious School will not hold classes on Sunday, January 18 and Monday, January 19 in observance of the Martin Luther King Holiday.

### Weather Policy for Religious School Closings

With winter really here, it is a great time to remind everyone about the religious school closing policy.

In case of severe winter weather, Heska Amuna Religious School follows the Webb School schedule instead of the Knox County School schedule. This will allow us to hold classes when the weather is bad in the morning, but roads have cleared by mid-day.

If weather is severe on a Sunday morning, the decision about closing school will be made at 8:00 a.m. and all families will be called using a phone-tree. The announcement will also be included on local news stations. Please make sure that the school has all of your family's correct phone numbers to help facilitate this process if it becomes necessary.



*Rachel Iroff holds the ladder while Arielle Rosen strings decorations on the Heska Amuna sukkah.*

### Be True to Your School

*The world is new to us every morning - this is God's gift;  
and every man should believe he is reborn each day.*

-- Baal Shem Tov

The future of our Jewish children is the responsibility of the entire community, not just those households that have children. Just as the school grows and prospers by your financial gifts, so too we grow by gifts of volunteer time and effort. If you are interested in assisting in a classroom, helping with school projects, or serving on the Education Committee, we would love to hear from you! Contact Carolyn Silver-Alford at [EdDirector@heskaamuna.org](mailto:EdDirector@heskaamuna.org)



### Kudos

Thanks to all of those who helped make the HARS Hannukah Assembly such a friendly fun morning including Marilyn Burnett, Debbie Johnson, Shush Carson, Anita Kay, Jill Chasan and many, many others.

## Among Our Members

Condolences go out to the following members and their families: **Pam and Ernie Gross** on the passing of **Ernie's** uncle, **Ignatz Frank**; **Lee Miller** on the loss of her aunt **Beulah Weaker**. May their memories be a blessing.

Get well wishes go out to the following people who were ill, in the hospital, or in rehabilitative therapy during the past month: **Charlene Gubitz, David Hecht, Amy Hull, Abby Kaplan, Shirley Leeds, Helene Messing, Seth Roseman, Lesley Rosenblatt, Rose Rosenthal, Melissa Schweitzer** and **Bernie Shorr**. We wish all of you a comfortable road to recovery.

Mazal Tov to the following members and their families: **Pam and Ernie Gross** on daughter **Anna's** marriage to **Matt McDonald**; **Marion and Joe Goodstein** on grandson **Amittai's** marriage to **Ya'ara Shtesel**; **Nancy and Jeff Becker** on being recognized as Outstanding Philanthropists by the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Todah Rabah to **Ethel Wittenberg** who continues to help out in the Synagogue office several times per month. We appreciate **Ethel's** time and effort.

*Heska Amuna members enjoy delicious potluck under the sukkah canopy on a balmy fall evening during Sukkot.*



## Sisterhood News

*By Amy Hull and Nancy Young*

As Jews, we talk a lot about our roots in the community we live in, trying to establish a lasting structure that will weather anything. The root is the core and foundation of the plant and in this second phase of the year, we seek our core selves, trying to discover who we are. For many of us roots symbolize our ancestors (The Jewish Book of Days, A Companion for All Seasons) and we in the Sisterhood of Heska Amuna find ourselves looking inward as we discover exactly who we are in the greater Jewish community here in Knoxville.

We are working hard to bring a beautiful, meaningful and fun Shabbaton to our community the weekend of January 23. Rabbi Amy Eilberg will be joining us to teach, pray, eat and schmooze. As we plan this weekend we are looking to determine what is meaningful to our community, what will encourage each and every one of you to

take the time out of your busy lives to come spend some time listening to or visiting with Rabbi Eilberg.

Nancy and I recently sat down with Ted Besmann, Heska Amuna chairman, to discuss ways our fundraising efforts could be streamlined. We all agree that this is not the best time to be asking people for extra money. One of the best possible ways you can help is by doing something we all do on a regular basis. Grocery Shop! We offer grocery coupons to Kroger, Food City, and The Fresh Market. When you buy these coupons, between 5-10 percent of your purchase price goes straight back to the synagogue. What an amazing way to donate money without having to increase your monthly expenses. We will even put the cost right on your monthly invoice and have the coupons delivered to you. All you need do is call and we will take care of the rest for you.

Please, feel free to join us over the coming months; we would love to see you at a Sisterhood function.

## Chavurot News

*By Nancy Becker*

Heska Amuna's Chavurot are alive and well. If you want to be part of a chavurah (group of friends), please let me know. Right now, we have a Young Families chavurah and a Friday night chavurah. The Young Professionals chavurah led by Laura Berry is also going strong.

<http://heskaamuna.org/chavurot.html>

## Book Nook News in the Winick Library

*By Nancy Becker and Marilyn Liberman - Winick Library co-librarians*

Thank you to Andrew and Jacob Messing for their donation of a Chanukah DVD and to the Isadore Abrams family for the DVD "Living Legacy."

Thanks go also to our wonderful volunteers Alice Farkas, Elaine Dobbs, and Rich Adlin. We are whipping the Winick Library into good shape!

## Heska Amuna Welcomes New Member

David Perkins has lived in Los Angeles and Israel, is a performance artist and is zealously involved in national politics both with demonstrations, publishing and performing. He has bought a big house on a nice chunk of property in a great part of the city and has built a place where he can have performances and even a small festival. He is fairly well known in areas of Israel as a performer and has done shows in many countries. He has studied Jewish texts at several institutions in Jerusalem, has a B.A. in biology, further studies in music in Jerusalem and the U.S., pursues other continuing collegiate studies, is a Mensa member, and claims a rich family lineage tracing back to David and Solomon. His father was a physician and his mom was a tennis pro and is still a community leader. David is finding life in Tennessee is a bit slower and less hectic than where he's previously lived. His address is 516 Mellen Avenue, 37919, his phone number is 525-5846, his e-mail address is [perkinsmusic@bellsouth.net](mailto:perkinsmusic@bellsouth.net) and his music and entertainment website is [www.PartyMusicShows.com](http://www.PartyMusicShows.com).

## Sponsor a Kiddush, It's So Easy

All kiddushim are deliciously prepared by Marilyn Burnett. Call Gene Rosenberg at 693-3162 for more information and to reserve a date.

We thank the following people for sponsoring Kiddushim for the month of November: Deborah and David Oleshansky in honor of daughter Rae's Bat Mitzvah.

## Kitchen Korner

By Marilyn Burnett

Baby carrots are dipped in a solution of water and chlorine in order to preserve them. We've all noticed the white covering that forms on the carrots, this is the chlorine which resurfaces. Washing the carrots thoroughly does not remove the chlorine.

Room reservation and set-up forms are required on all functions at the Synagogue. This form is available for your computer or hard copies in the synagogue office.

Thank you to our members who have made generous donations to the kitchen fund. These are very much appreciated.

## The Shul Deli

**Orders are received on Mondays, with orders ready for pick-up on Tuesday**

Satisfy those cravings that you have for REAL KOSHER food! Help the Synagogue Kitchen Operating Fund. You may order any of the following delicious items just by calling Marilyn Burnett.

ORDERS MUST BE PAID FOR UPON PICK UP AND ORDERS MAY NOT BE PICKED UP ON SHABBAT.

IF INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT MARILYN BURNETT AT 922-2626 OR SHBMHB@AOL.COM

### LEAN CORNED BEEF

\$15.00 per pound

### PASTRAMI

\$10.00 per pound

### DELI TURKEY

\$9.00 per pound

### SALAMI

\$15.00 per 2 lb. stick

### STUFFED CABBAGE

\$14.50 per box

### BRISKET

whole & uncooked; current market price

### DINNER FRANKS

\$5.50 for package of 4

### TURKEY DOGS

\$2.00 for package of 8

### NEW YORK RYE

\$6.00 per loaf

### SEVEN LAYER PAREVE

### CHOCOLATE CAKE

\$20.00

### 5 POUND TUBS OF WHITEFISH SALAD

\$35.00 per tub  
(share with friends or buy it alone!)

### HUMMUS

\$25.00 per tub

### BABA GHANOUSH

\$25.00 per tub

# Heska Amuna Synagogue HaShofar

### Rabbi Louis Zivic

e-mail: [RabbiZivic@heskaamuna.org](mailto:RabbiZivic@heskaamuna.org)

### Chair of the Board

Theodore Besmann

e-mail: [hachair@heskaamuna.org](mailto:hachair@heskaamuna.org)

### President

Martin Iroff

e-mail: [hapresident@heskaamuna.org](mailto:hapresident@heskaamuna.org)

### Education Director

Carolyn Silver-Alford

e-mail: [EdDirector@heskaamuna.org](mailto:EdDirector@heskaamuna.org)

### Office Administrator

Marian Jay

e-mail: [tantamay@heskaamuna.org](mailto:tantamay@heskaamuna.org)

### Heska Amuna Synagogue

e-mail: [info@heskaamuna.org](mailto:info@heskaamuna.org)

## Permanent Schedule

Friday Night Services.....Varies  
Saturday Morning Service.....9:30 a.m.  
Mon. & Thurs. Minyanim.....7:00 a.m.

Evening minyanim can be arranged  
by calling President Marty Iroff,  
691-4420, one week beforehand

Sunday Minyan.....9:45 a.m.

For a list of Heska Amuna's funds and  
other information, please go to our  
website [www.heskaamuna.org](http://www.heskaamuna.org)

### Heska Amuna Synagogue

is an affiliate of United Synagogue  
of Conservative Judaism.

HaShofar editor - **Marian F. Jay**.

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Heska Amuna Synagogue.

## Volunteer of the Month

Josh Gettinger for his frequent reading of the Torah and for his d'var Torah.

## Use Your Credit Card to Pay Synagogue Dues and Fees

Heska Amuna Synagogue accepts credit cards for payment and you have the option of paying your balance partially or in full or setting up an "auto pay" which would charge your credit card monthly over the next 12 months. If you wish to make a payment by credit card, please complete the "Credit Card Information" box on your statement and indicate the amount you are paying next to the account and make a note if you wish the 1-time pay or the auto-pay setup. Tear off the bottom portion and return in the enclosed envelope. All credit card information will be kept confidential. If you are making a payment by check, please indicate the amount you are paying next to the account, tear off the bottom portion and return in the enclosed envelope.

## Synagogue Fund Contributions

### BUILDING FUND

#### Joyce Hirschhaut's yarzheit

By: Steve Hirschhaut

#### Julius Krauss's yarzheit

By: Janet Krauss

#### In memory of Sylvia Greenberg; get well to Alan Merlin

By: Natalie Robinson

### CALENDAR FUND

#### The following people made donations to the fund

By: Anne and Bernard Bendriem, Cheryl and Rich Caplan, Dina and Andy Kramer, Mary Ann and Bryan Merrell, Lee Miller, Jenny Pfeffer-Rodriguez and Carlos Rodriguez

### GERTRUDE GLAZER COHEN AND I.B. COHEN FUND

#### Yarzheits of Gertrude Glazer Cohen, Gunsa Glazer and Morris Bresoff

By: Arnold Cohen

#### Gertrude Cohen and Gunsa Glazer yarzheits

By: Bella Leeds

### COHEN-PRESSER FUND

#### In honor of: Amittai and Ya'ara Hilbuch's marriage and the birth of Samuel Joseph Westermann; get well wishes to Bernie Shorr and Rose Rosenthal

By: Marilyn Presser

### EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT FUND

#### Get well wishes to Seth Roseman and in honor of their High Holiday honor

By: Jill and Doug Weinstein

### GENERAL FUND

#### For Rebecca Benbenisty's yarzheit

By: Stella and Bernie Iroff

#### For Jennie Cooper's yarzheit

By: Icel and David Cooper

#### Earmarked for the Kitchen, in honor of Trudy Dreyer and in memory of Peter Dreyer

By: Ellen Clare and Scott Dreyer

#### For David Goldstein's yarzheit

By: Kathy and Don Goldstein

#### In memory of Sylvia Greenberg

By: Melinda Ethier, The Goldman family, Louise Nichols, Cheri and Robert Pollack

#### Get well wishes to Shirley Leeds and Alan Merlin; in memory of Dale Hasden

By: Leon Hasden

#### In honor of their High Holiday Honor

By: Dina Kramer, Nicole Russler

#### In honor of the High Holidays

By: Madelyn and Roger Merritt

#### In honor of Debbie Johnson

By: Jack Benhayon

#### Get well wishes to Rose Rosenthal, Charlene Gubitz, David Hecht, Seth Roseman; in memory of Esther Greenspan, Sylvia Greenberg, Harold Shersky, Harold Brown; in honor of Amittai and Ya'ara Hilbuch's marriage

By: Cheryl and Rich Kaplan

#### Get well wishes to Shirley Leeds

By: Leslie and Peter Rosen

#### Anna Leibowitz's yarzheit

By: Mary Beth and Michael Eisenstadt

#### Hyman Levison's yarzheit

By: Gilbert Levison

#### Lenny Miller's yarzheit and for her High Holiday honor

By: Lee Miller

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

#### In honor of the High Holiday Cemetery Service

By: Honorlin Del Moro

#### In honor of Trudy Dreyer and in memory of Peter Dreyer

By: Ellen Clare and Scott Dreyer

#### For the yarzheits of Sadye Jacobs and Irvin Wolf

By: Elise and Herb Jacobs

#### For Muriel Littmann's yarzheit

By: Peggy and Mark Littmann

#### In honor of Cindy and Ric Pasi and thanking their friends for their help with Rose in their absence

By: Jenifer and Evan Ohriner

#### In honor of Rae Oleshansky becoming a Bat Mitzvah

By: Rodney Peron

#### For Joseph Solomon's yarzheit

By: Alan Solomon

#### For Pearl Zwick's yarzheit

By: Carole Mandel

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID FUND

#### In honor of Trudy Dreyer and in memory of Peter Dreyer

By: Ellen Clare and Scott Dreyer

#### In honor of: Nancy Becker, Ellen Berez and Ianne Koppel and Aviva Weiner on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

By: Marian Jay

#### In honor of Ianne Koppel

By: Nancy Becker, Ellen Berez and Marian Jay

#### Leo Vogel's yarzheit

By: Nancy and Jeff Becker

### WINICK LIBRARY FUND

#### In honor of Nancy and Jeff Becker's Philanthropy Award

By: Marilyn and Harvey Liberman

#### In memory of Sylvia Greenberg

By: Pat and Gene Rosenberg

#### Nathan Rattner's yarzheit

By: Judith Rattner

#### A library shelf in memory of William Rubin

By: Judy and Jerry Zivic

### YARZHEIT FUND

#### Isaac Anidjar

By: Judith and Jack Benhayon

#### Isaac Baskin

By: Selma Tobe

#### Esmeralda Benhayon and Sasson Benhayon

By: Jack Benhayon

#### C.B. "Buster" Brown

By: Edith Brown

#### Peter Dreyer and Nathan Naumann

By: Trudy Dreyer

#### Mark Alan Fleishman

By: Lori Fleishman

#### Mordecai Heiser

By: Gilya Schmidt

#### Irene and William Hershey

By: Barbara and Len Handler

#### Selma and Herbert Smullian, Jennie and Max Friedman

By: Terry Hahn

#### Anna Leibowitz

By: Peggy and Gale Hedrick

#### Lillian and David Liberman

By: Marilyn and Harvey Liberman

#### Celia Shaw

By: Genevieve Kramer

#### Ruben Sunstein

By: Arlene and Fred Lindheim

# TEMPLE BETH EL TIMES



## From the Rabbi's Study

Thirty years ago, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, z"l, then president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), now known as the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), challenged our Movement to reach out to welcome intermarried families into our congregations. He called for more than just "Introduction to Judaism" programs, aimed at potential converts. He stated quite clearly that "we must not reject the intermarried." If all our efforts to promote Jews marrying Jews do not prevent intermarriage, "and they manifestly do not," then we must "draw [our children] even closer to our hearts...that they will be part of our community and share the destiny of our people."

Even more radically, Rabbi Schindler proposed formal outreach to interfaith families in our community, whether they were members of our congregations or not. "Judaism has an enormous wealth of wisdom and experience to offer in and to this anguished world, and we Jews ought to be proud to speak about it...with enthusiasm and dignity."

Rabbi Schindler looked at the larger picture – of Judaism not being diminished by the presence of interfaith families, but rather being preserved and enriched by not rejecting those who marry outside of Judaism. He taught that our history shows more welcoming times than non-welcoming; despite persecutions and oppression, Jews have found ways to welcome the stranger. Rather than cry over Jews "marrying out," he advocated the position that non-Jews were "marrying in," and he welcomed their Jewish choices and called for supporting them.

Thirty years later, Reform congregations are known for accepting interfaith families as members. We have led the way on inclusion, and continue to heed Rabbi Schindler's call for open discussion and ex-

ploration of interfaith relationships. Rabbi Schindler's successor, Rabbi Eric Yoffie, has reaffirmed Rabbi Schindler's call. Today we debate the role of the non-Jew in the synagogue, but we do not question whether that role should exist.

Today, we almost take it for granted that we welcome interfaith families, except that we forget to talk about how much we have gained along the way: members and neighbors who are Jewishly curious, who are active – often very active – in the cultural, social, and educational life of our congregation; members who bring their spirituality and their seeking after holiness with them, renewing the ways in which we talk about God and faith; beautiful children who are indeed part of the future of our people.

Our service on January 9 will be a service of celebration and thanksgiving, for all our members, and the Jewish choices they make every day for themselves and their families as members of Temple Beth El. Join us!

**WE ARE FAMILY!**

*Members, New Members,  
Members-To-Be All Are Welcome!*

Join Us as We Celebrate

Our Congregation's Diversity

Friday Evening, January 9<sup>th</sup>

Hors D'oeuvres Reception 6:45 PM

Shabbat Service 7:30 PM

Oneg Shabbat

*Childcare for young children provided*

## 5 Tevet - 6 Sh'vat , 5769

**Rabbi Beth L. Schwartz**  
**Rabbi Emeritus Howard Simon**  
**Temple President Stephen Eisen**  
**Sisterhood President Liz Gassel**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Rabbi's Study.....	17
President's Message.....	18
TBE Sisterhood.....	19
Religious School News.....	20
Isaac's Shelter.....	21
Get-Togethers.....	21

## SERVICES IN JANUARY

**January 2** – Shabbat services at 7:30, led by guest Rabbi Jim Cohn, in Rabbi Schwartz's absence.

**January 9** – Special reception before services at 6:45. Services begin at 7:30, honoring our interfaith families and celebrating the diversity of our congregation.

**January 16** – 5:45 p.m. Family Shabbat service, led by our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Shabbat services with Rabbi Schwartz begin at 7:30.

**January 23** – Shabbat services begin at 7:30. We welcome guests from area churches.

**January 30** – Shabbat services being at 7:30, with the Union Prayer Book, Sinai Edition, and a discussion of the weekly Torah portion, *Bo* (Ex.10:1 – 13:36)

## President's Message

By Stephen Eisen

From the first day I became involved at Temple Beth El and in the greater Knoxville Jewish community, I have heard of the idea of "One Jewish Community." There has been talk of "one campus" bringing together all of our Jewish congregations and organizations. Reasoning behind this consolidation, of sorts, is to build a stronger Jewish community and to save money by reducing overall costs for each entity. Will we evolve into such a community? Is it truly in the best interests for all concerned? The answers to these questions will be found as we continue to experiment with new ideas and to go after the "low hanging fruit."

Our first piece of fruit is an exciting religious school joint venture with Heska Amuna and the Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge. Our children will have opportunities throughout the religious school year to join together for learning, prayer and fun. Of course, parents and non-parents are not only welcome but are encouraged to attend. From the Temple Beth El side of this program, Norma James, our Religious School director, has done a phenomenal job and deserves many thanks. Lori Hirsch and Dan Smith, co-chairs of School and Youth, also deserve accolades for making sure the curriculum for these joint sessions meets our expectations for our students.

This new publication is the second piece of fruit. Although it was obviously low hanging, it took several months of determining the best way to harvest it. By publishing one quality bulletin we are replacing three under-funded bulletins and cutting redundancy. The cost savings to all three organizations is enormous and, over time, could become a source of income. Sandy Parsons has been an invaluable editor of the TBE Times and has consistently published a very good bulletin. With limited resources and next to no help Sandy has been able to overcome many obstacles including contributors habitually missing deadlines (me included) to have our bulletins in our mailboxes by the first week of every month. *Ha' Kol* will require an earlier deadline and Sandy may not be able to work her magic as we have grown accustomed to. Thankfully, she will remain as the main contact and editor for our section and will help us all with the new requirements.

Working together with the other Jewish organizations in the area, to build a stronger and more inclusive community, is important and exciting. By securing the foundation of Judaism for our children, we are honoring our forefathers, who started this process many generations before us. I pray that our endeavors will bear sweet fruit for generations to come.

B'Shalom, Stephen

# TEMPLE BETH EL TIMES

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**Visit our website:** [www.tbeknox.org](http://www.tbeknox.org)

**Temple Office Hours**

Monday – Friday

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM



## 'BOWling for HUNGER'

A joint project of Sisterhood and the TBE Religious School and TBE Social Justice Committee

Sunday, January 11 and 18 @ 9:30 a.m. in the Social Hall

FIRST - PAINT A Bowl

The Religious School and all Temple members and their friends are invited to paint a bowl to add to your collection. If you are a new participant, what an opportunity to begin your unique, hand painted, dinnerware series!! Using lgazes and brushes, a white ware bowl will be yours to paint with your own unique designs. Your completed bowl will be kiln fired and ready for your use.

Join us for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual 'BOWling for Hunger' Dinner

Friday evening February 6 at 6:30 p.m. with Shabbat Services to follow.

The Chili and Soup Cook-Off will be part of the festivities with. The kid's category will be back this year. So test your culinary prowess. Be it a soup – matzoh ball, French onion, vegetable or green pea or be it a chili - Texas, Cincinnati, white, vegetarian... we all want to taste it and our celebrity judges will get to taste each entry. Winners will receive great prizes. Look for the sign up sheet in the Temple lobby as we get nearer to the date.

All proceeds will go to MAZON and Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee.

You will be picking up your very own - 'painted by you' glazed bisque ware the night of the dinner. We will also be offering the work of our guest artists for a special donation to this worthwhile cause. Let's make this year the year we raise a spectacular amount to feed those in need.

## The Sisterhood of Temple Beth El

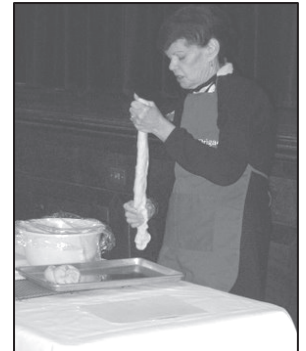
We are an affiliate of WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM

### November 2008 Events

“Challah How To” with Joan Cohn

On Sunday morning, November 16, Joan Cohn offered a workshop on how to make her signature challah bread. Sisterhood hosted a full house of interested bakers. Adults and children joined us for the class. A number of religious school classes (with Norma's okay) came in to view the presentation. All were very attentive, especially the group of 14-15 year olds in Aaron Margulies' class. Joan passed out her written recipe and proceeded to demonstrate the entire process from measuring the ingredients to proofing the yeast and kneading the dough. She even passed around a 'ziplocked' bag of finished dough so that we all could feel the correct consistency-as she described it- "like a baby's bottom." Joan answered questions and gave helpful hints for easy preparation. She stressed that making bread is not hard. Finally, Joan brought from the oven freshly baked challah for all to taste. Two extra 'just baked challahs' were auctioned off to the highest bidder....

Honerlin Del Moro made that offer and took home the two, still hot, loaves. Along with Joan's cheese grits casserole and blueberry coffee cake plus other brunch items kindly donated by our members, the informative and social morning came to a close with many having the urge to go right home and start kneading.



Joan Cohn presents her Challah 'How To' Workshop and the finished product

### December 2008 Events

Our Chanukah Craft and Food Fair, chaired by Lesley Krakauer, was held on Sunday, December 14. We wish to thank all of you who donated your special crafts, helped with set up and sales and all of you who purchased items. These funds go to support our Sisterhood projects. Look for more information in the February Bulletin.

### Welcome To Sisterhood

We welcome all Temple Members. It is never too late to join us. Please note that dues are now \$40.00 a year and yes, we welcome men as Associate members. A portion of your dues goes to support Women of Reform Judaism and their projects.

Be our guest for the year. If you are a new member of Temple Beth El, your first year of Sisterhood membership is on us.

### Jewish Words of Wisdom...

Happy is he who performs a good deed: for he may tip the scales for himself and the world. Talmud: Kiddushin 40a

### Sisterhood Letter

Dear Temple Sisterhood Member,

We have just returned from the WRJ Central District *Convention "Shema! Hear Our Voices"* in Louisville, Kentucky. The convention was designed to provide a leadership development experience for local Sisterhood leaders.

Addressing the delegates was Katie Roeper, WRJ Vice President for Programming and Advocacy, and Rabbi Lane Steinger, Director of the Midwest Council, Union of Reform Judaism.

We attended many workshops some with the theme of communication and listening skills emphasizing how we get the word out to each other. Other workshops educated us about WRJ and its departments including the YES Fund. We are very proud that our Sisterhood is an annual contributor to the YES Fund earmarking funds for youth, education, and special projects.

Highlights of the weekend included Friday night Shabbat services and dinner at Temple Shalom and a beautiful Saturday morning Shabbat service written and led by delegates and a female rabbi from Louisville.

Saturday night installation, havdalah, and dinner were held at Churchill Downs in the Kentucky Derby Museum. During installation, Karen Smith was installed as Central District Past President/Vice Chair Nominating.

During Shabbat dinner on Friday night, our Sisterhood was awarded the President's Award for Small Sisterhoods for our 'BOWling for Hunger' event. It demonstrates how we work in partnership with our Temple, religious school, and community. Our Sisterhood also won the YES Fund Award showing how we use the YES fund stationery for correspondence. Our Sisterhood was also given recognition in the convention program book for a 10% increase in membership. Finally, Sisterhood President Liz Gassel was named as our Sisterhood's Deborah for the next biennium. Look for efforts to bring in new programs, new ideas, and renewed enthusiasm as we begin to incorporate all that we learned and shared this past weekend.

We want to thank YOU, our Sisterhood members, for the opportunity to attend this valuable, informative convention and for budgeting funds to allow our Sisterhood to send delegates, be recognized, and be counted. Thank you for sharing the joy that is Sisterhood!

B'shalom,

Liz Gassel, Sisterhood President

Karen Smith and Joyce Traugot, Co-Vice Presidents for Membership

## Temple Beth El Religious School News

By Norma James, Director,  
nfxjames@aol.com, 483-5213

Greetings to our Jewish community from TBE Religious School. I write this first article with excitement because it marks another chapter in our growing together as a community. I hope you will read our school news and feel welcome to participate with us if something we are doing catches your eye. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you have regarding our school or our school activities.

TBE and HA join for in-service January 4: While our students are enjoying another Sunday of winter break, our staff will be hard at work planning together for the remainder of the school year. This is the first time we have had a joint in-service in the middle of the school year, and we look forward to the sharing of ideas. Religious School resumes Sunday, January 11.

Paint Your Bowl January 11 and 18: Our Bowling for Hunger Project has now become a regular part of our Religious School as we join with the Sisterhood to raise money for Mazon, Second Harvest, and Volunteer Ministry Center. We encourage parents to join your child as we all create beautiful soup bowls. We are sorry to lose the magnificent Cheri Pollack as our head artist and kiln queen. Cheri, we never could have come this far without the love and hard work you poured into this project as you helped us all realize the artist within ourselves. Thank you so very much for all

you have done for this project.

Bowling for Hunger Shabbat dinner and Social Justice service February 6: Painting a bowl is only part of the mitzvah. On February 6, our entire congregation and our friends in the community will join together for a delicious Shabbat dinner of homemade soups and chili, salads, breads, and of course dessert. You will have the option to buy your dinner in a hand painted bowl you may keep for \$15 or you may buy your dinner in a regular bowl for \$7.50 (\$5.00 for children under 12). All food items and materials for the bowl making have been donated so that every penny we take in at the event will go to our selected charities. Services that night will be lead by our 9<sup>th</sup> graders Noah Erwin, Jake Rosenberg, and Eric Berman with the help of their teacher Kelley Kidd. The theme will be social justice.

We do have Religious School MLK Weekend! In addition to bowl painting, we plan a wonderful day of social justice activities for all of our students. Our 9<sup>th</sup> graders will not have HeartAction that day, but will join with us instead.

Family Service January 16 at 5:45 p.m. This year we will try something new for our younger classes. The 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class of Rachel Blueze will help Norma lead the Family Service. The parents will help with the oneg following the service. Alex and Gabe Abrams, Justen Bain, Taylor Kolnick, Kalissa Parsons, Brandon Schulz,

Rachel Margulies, and Benjamin Gib-

bons will be our service leaders. Please join these wonderful children and their families for this special Shabbat.

Our Third Combined Learning Day will be at TBE January 25: We as a Jewish community continue to enjoy this brand new cooperative learning program with our friends at Heska Amuna and the Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge. On Sunday, January 25, TBE will once again host these Religious Schools for a day of learning and fun. Our topic will be tzedakah. We have chosen this topic as we prepare for our Community Mitzvah Day February 8. We will use our ISJL curriculum and our ISJL Fellow, Janine Jankovitz, for many of the activities for the days. We would be happy to have parents help us with our day.

TBE will attend a very special Tu b'Shevat Seder/Environmental Day at Heska Amuna February 1. One of the best ways to make the Tu b'Shevat holiday feel as real as possible is to hold a Tu b' Shevat seder, a ceremony celebrating the fruits of Israel, adapted from the Passover seder.

This is a real treat for those who have never taken part in this unique event. For the first time ever, our schools are combining for this beautiful event. Heska Amuna Religious School is hosting TBE Religious School for a Tu b'Shevat seder. In addition to the seder, the students will participate in Environmental Awareness activities. We are all looking forward to this special celebration.

## Help Update Our Mailing List

Planning on leaving town for a long vacation? Moving soon? You can help our organizations save money by informing us of your plans and preventing the U.S. Postal Service from charging us for returned mail and address change notices.

Before you go, call or email your organization and let us know if you would like the mail sent temporarily to a different address or halted for a certain number of months.

## Thank You

Thanks to all of you who donated and purchased books at our "People of the Book" Sale in November. This event brought in \$350. Sisterhood donated half the earnings to the Temple Beth El Beiler Miscellaneous Library Shelves Fund.

## Teen Retreat

Teen Retreat for 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades Presidents' Weekend. Our teens will have a wonderful experience February 13- 15 as they travel to Wesley Woods for a weekend of worship, study, but above all, FUN. We are lining up a very special guest for the weekend and one that our young people will adore! The fee for the weekend is \$95, which covers room and board. The fee for a younger sibling is \$75. This event is open to all area Jewish teens. The fee for students who are not currently attending or working in Religious School at Temple Beth El, Heska Amuna, or JCOR is \$150. Contact your Religious Ed director for more information.

## Beiler Bimah Floral Fund

The Beiler Bimah Flower fund is maintained by our Women of Reform Judaism.

Pulpit Flowers are a great way to honor a loved one, observe a Yartzheit, or any occasion.

Your \$30 payment, made payable to Temple Beth El Sisterhood, should be sent at least TWO WEEKS prior to the Friday you wish flowers.

Ruth Sherill will handle any special arrangements, flowers or extra quantities. Call her at 690- 5015.

## Isaac's Shelter TBE Social Justice

By Jerry Mincey, Chairperson

*A season is set for everything, a time for every experience under heaven. Kethuvim Ecclesiastes 3: 1.*

At Isaac's Shelter, moreover at Temple Beth El, the past year has been one With MUCH experience.

Starting early in February 2008, we assisted Sisterhood with BOWling for Hunger, a great fund raising event for our area's agencies that assist the poor and homeless.

After that, we engaged in the Nothing But Nets mitzvah, buying nets for the children of Africa that protect against harmful insect bites

that carry disease.

Then a consciousness-raising effort against hate crimes.

Then our ongoing summer project "Adopt a Soldier," where Temple adopted a Squad of Marines. Our summer was busy collecting items donated by generous Temple attendees until just before the High Holy Days, when we boxed them up and mailed them to the Marines. Letters and cards were and are being sent to the soldiers currently, and except for a few snafu's it has all gone very well.

In November and December 2008, and for the fourth consecutive year, our Temple family has joined with CAC Mobile Meals and delivered meals and gifts and fruit to the elderly and infirmed.

## Temple Beth El Get-Togethers

As a Temple family, we enjoy getting together and just sharing events that are social and welcoming. Well, we have two events planned for January that fit that bill.

Please mark your calendars and plan on participating in these two special events. They are not fancy, but we expect to share warm and friendly times together.

**January 9**, we are planning a membership event before services. We will have a wine and cheese reception, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. The entire membership is invited to attend this Temple family event. We would like everyone to mix and mingle as we celebrate the diversity of our congregation. Following the wine and cheese we will join together for regular services as we embrace our interfaith families.

**January 17**, please join us as we get together for an evening of pure fun. We have scheduled a Karaoke Party. This is scheduled as a family event and is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m., so that the children can join in as we enjoy pizza, snacks, popcorn, soda and each other. All you shower singers, come on down and show us your stuff! The cost of this event is \$3 per person or no more that \$10 per family. If your children are grown, please come anyway. We can always lend you a youngster if you will feel more comfortable.

## Temple Beth El Funds

### General Operating

*In memory of:*

- Jane and Daniel Taubman by Irv and Sylvia Witcoff
- Samuel H. Brody by Zelmor & Jamie Brody
- Berta Moss by Robert, Stuart and Neil Moss
- Pauline Silverman by Sylvia Silver

### Jay and Matilda Goodfriend "Do Not Forget" For Holocaust Education

*In honor of:*

- Morris Goodfriend by Robert and Wendy Goodfriend

### Patio & Grounds

*In memory of:*

- Naum Safro by Ilya and Bella Safro

### Rabbi's Discretionary

*Wishing a speedy recovery to:*

- Bert Gudis' by Mark and Carol Harris

*In memory of:*

- Anna Kolodkin Bush by Mathis and Bea Bush
- Arthur Marchand by Gertrude Siegel

### Rona Simon Israel Scholarship

*In memory of:*

- Jeter Mace by Linda Arbital

### TBE SISTERHOOD FUNDS

#### Beiler Bimah Flowers

*In memory of:*

- Julia Markman by Harold and Ida Markman
- Anna Bohn by Laura Supman

*In Honor of:*

- Rachel & Joshua's Wedding by Jeanne and Tony Zucker
- Ryan's Bar Mitzvah by Don and Heather Marshall

#### Sisterhood Tribute

- Thank you Sisterhood by Don and Heather Marshall

## Temple Beth El Fund Contributions - November 2008

### General Fund

In memory of Basia and Boris Shusterman by Maria Shusterman

In memory of Chava Barkan by Lisega Inc.

In honor of Marty and Karen Gerson by Marilyn and Harvey Liberman

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Seymour and Carrie Lehigh by Marc Lehigh

In honor of Joyce Traugot by Honerlin Del Moro

In honor of Rabbi Schwartz by Brian and Karen Smith

### Library Fund

In memory of Herbert Glazer by Marcie Silverstein

### Rona Simon Israel Scholarship

In memory of Herbert Cohen by Jay and Arline Gershberg

### Endowment Fund

In memory of Chava Barkan by Bella & Boris Budik

### Licht Prayer Books

In memory of Seymour and Carrie Lehigh by Marc Lehigh

### Beiler Cultural Fund

In honor of Joan Cohn by Honerlin Del Moro

### Beiler Bimah Flowers

In honor of 4th & 5th Graders holding services by their parents

# ADS

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*Ha' Kol* is a joint community project

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Dear Reader:

Happy 2009 and welcome to the new *Ha' Kol*; your new Knoxville Jewish community newsletter. A great deal of thought and energy has gone into the "birth" of this newest addition to the life of Jewish Knoxville. *Ha' Kol* is a joint project for this community to take a chance by "...departing from the past for the good of the people, rather than limiting people for the good of the past." *Ha' Kol* is designed to give you, the community member and reader, a greater picture of what is happening in our broader Jewish community. Now you will be able to read about the wide variety of programs and activities all in one publication. We will be using color to highlight the publication's contents. In order to finance this publication, our publishing contractor, LPI, will be selling advertisements on our behalf. They print over 50 congregational and Federation publications nationwide. You will be able to continue to read this on the KJA and congregation websites as well.

Each congregation, represented by Ted Besmann and Stephen Eisen, and the KJA executive committee, represented by Scott Hahn and Jeff Gubitz and respective boards, have reviewed the concept and approved its form and content. The content of each issue is created by correspondents from each sponsoring organization.

For the next few months, *Ha' Kol* will continue to be a "work in progress" as we slowly work with our organizational correspondents to make revisions and finalize the concept. We welcome your comments and suggestions. All good things take time and cooperation.

We hope you like *Ha' Kol*. As a community working together we can only be stronger than we are.

Jeff Gubitz, Publisher

## Suzy Snoops

Got good news? Please share it with our community. E-mail to [hakol@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:hakol@jewishknoxville.org), fax to 694-4746, or mail to *Ha Kol*, 6800 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919. Photos are also welcome.

- A recent UT Chancellor's Associates breakfast featured **Robert Heller**, UT School of Journalism and Electronic Media associate professor, who spoke on his Holocaust photo documentary project that tells the stories of people who lived through one of the most horrific periods in world history. **Heller** has spent the last five years working on a project with the Tennessee Holocaust Commission. With a writer, **Heller** traveled the state, photographing and interviewing those with personal experiences with the Holocaust. The results have been exhibited in every part of the state and seen by more than 10,000 Tennesseans. In addition, a smaller exhibit has traveled to cities in Poland. UT Press has published a book of this work. **Heller** will describe this important project and how it has affected his own life.
- **Rishi Wilhelm** is among this year's Grinspoon-Steinhardt Award recipients recognized for her outstanding accomplishments in Jewish education. She is a teacher at the Knoxville Jewish Day School. The Harold Grinspoon Foundation, the Steinhart Foundation for Jewish Life and the Jewish Education Service of North America bestowed this award upon 68 of the finest Jewish educators across North America. **Wilhelm** received a \$1,000 cash prize in addition to a \$1,500 stipend for professional development from the Grinspoon Foundation and the Steinhardt Foundation for Jewish Life.
- **Kelley Kidd**, daughter of **Jeanne** and **Will Kidd**, was recognized as a National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalist for 2009. She is a senior at Webb School of Knoxville.
- **Ian Renert**, son of **Alice Goldfarb** of New Jersey, has been creating new concepts in city living in his capacity as a property developer in Cape Town, South Africa. He has shown locals that they can create stylish, affordable housing by turning a parking bay, an air shaft and a bathroom into apartments.
- **Adam Brown**, Tennessee School of Beauty president, and his business were featured in the News Sentinel's business section. One of his employees, upon learning she had cancer, decided to donate her long hair to Locks of Love, which uses donated hair to make wigs for disadvantaged children who have cancer. The story features the employee and TSB's participation in this charity.