



Ha' Kol

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

Mark Your Calendars For Heska Amuna Sisterhood's

VASHTI'S BANQUET

Vashti's Banquet will capture the spirit of the fabled queen's banquet with some modern twists. Come savor the joys of Sisterhood in ancient Persia, in the atmosphere that surely surrounded Vashti "back in the day" when she stood up to King Ahasuerus and opened the door for Esther to leave her mark upon the Jewish people.



Date: Sunday, March 1, 2009

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Heska Amuna Synagogue

Who: All adult Jewish women in the Knoxville Jewish community (no men or children, please)

What: Delicious food, special entertainment including a viewing of the Arabian Knights and a Shuk shopping environment fit for a queen!

Watch for more information to follow!

Volume 1 | Issue 2 | February 2009

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Heska Amuna Synagogue

HaShofar



From the Rabbi's Desk

By Rabbi Louis Zivic, D.D.

Dear Friends,

I hope that you enjoyed your first edition of the new *Ha'Kol*. I know that I did. It's always exciting to be part of a new idea. Without new ideas, Judaism and we would languish.

The same kind of new ideas and experimentation is taking place with the holiday of Tu B'Shevat. Originally Tu B'Shevat, the 15th of the Hebrew month *Shevat*, was called the New Year for Trees. The idea of a new year for trees came from the notion of the Torah's command to let fruit grow and then harvest it only after three years. So somebody had to know when day one was and for all practical purposes that date was the 15th of Shevat. Since that time, the holiday's meaning has been under revision.

Some of you may remember Tu B'Shevat from your own days in religious school; remember bringing in your nickels (and then dimes) and getting a leaf (in stick-on form) to put on our tree, then when our trees were full, we got a certificate. Tu B'Shevat became the holiday for planting trees as it is in Israel today. Each year thousands of Israelis take to the hillsides and forests in a true community effort to have Israel be totally green.

We, at Heska Amuna use Tu B'Shevat to celebrate the earth. We have made it into an eco festival. In the past we had the Knoxville Zoo come out to show us some rare animals, the IJAMS nature center walked our students and their parents around our property showing us what plants we had living on the synagogue's land. We've had KUB and also a show of fuel efficient vehicles. This year Heska Amuna, Temple Beth El and the Jewish Community of Oak Ridge students will have a Tu B'Shevat seder, celebrating God's gift of the earth to us in a ritualized way.

As Jews, we believe it is one of our sacred tasks to redefine, evolve and grow our religion. What is true for Tu B'Shevat has been true for other ceremonies, rites, and rules in Judaism as well. We refine and keep the things that have meaning to us, while discarding that which seems to have lost its meaning. The struggle to define that area is what distinguishes us as Conservative Jews.

The work of living meaningful lives goes on. Everyone's participation is invited. B'shalom.

Continuing Education Opportunities

SHABBAT AFTERNOONS

February 7, 14, 21, and 28 following Kiddush
Torah Study with Rabbi Zivic

SUNDAY MORNINGS

February 1 and 22 At 9:00 a.m.
Talmud Study with Rabbi Zivic

TUESDAY MORNINGS

February 10 and 24 at 10:30 a.m.
HAZAK with Rabbi Zivic at Atria Weston Place on Middlebrook Pike



Shevat/Adar 5769

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Tu B'Shevat
February 9



Chant Sessions Open to Community

Every Tuesday morning from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., Jewish Chant and Meditation sessions are offered at Heska Amuna Synagogue. Everyone is welcome – no prior chant experience is necessary. Sessions start promptly and end promptly so that folks can get back to their lives in a timely manner. DO wear comfortable clothing; DO bring a water bottle; DO come prepared to enjoy and share; DO invite friends – Jewish or non-Jewish. Folks who wish to participate and have limited mobility for health reasons should contact Carolyn Silver-Alford before meeting so that your needs will be met comfortably! Questions? Call Carolyn at 522-0701.

From the President

By Marty Iroff

This article was written on the Sunday following the discovery of broken windows at Temple Beth El and Heska Amuna. There is no way to know what we learned from that day until the time you read these words, so forgive me if I'm out of date.

On January 2, I was the volunteer leader responsible for addressing the rock throwing incident at Heska Amuna. Within four hectic pre-Shabbat hours, I had to assess the damage, interview our staff and volunteers, meet with the Knoxville Police Department and the FBI, interview with WVLT News, inform our congregation about the damage, and update those in our leadership who were vacationing out of town. There was no time to prepare reasoned responses, no time to reflect on what to say publicly (the reporter arrived within 10 minutes of my arrival!), and there definitely was a lack of concrete information upon which to draw conclusions. Shabbat morning brought dozens of additional questions and comments. So, what was the correct thing to have said or done in this situation?

Some folks criticized me for not inflaming the community and protesting against anti-Semitism. We need to remember, however, at that moment we had no proof that the damage was an anti-Semitic act. Was it related to the military actions in Gaza or to New Year's Day celebrations? Was it a single person or a coordinated act of a group? Was the motivation political, religious, nationalistic, emotional, psychological, or chemical? Some seemed certain they knew it was the work of _____ (insert your choice of group, I've already heard many suggestions).

I chose not to inflame the community. Instead, I turned to the teachings of Judaism. When we return the Torah to the Ark, we sing, *"It is a tree of life for those who grasp it, and all who uphold it are blessed. Its ways are pleasantness, and all its paths are peace. Help us turn to You, and we shall return. Renew our lives as in days of old."* The Mourner's Kaddish ends with the phrase, *"He who brings peace to His universe will bring peace to us and to all the people Israel, Amen."* In the weekly Torah portion read on the Shabbat immediately after the discovery of the damage, we saw how Joseph revealed himself to his brothers and told them not to fear, for all their dastardly actions were part of God's plan. We are a people of peace and I chose to restrain my feelings and not jump to premature conclusions. I spoke of peace and hope, not anger and retribution. It should be noted that the raw footage of my news interview, available on the television station's website, was not included in the newscast.

With a nod to a chant from our youth, *"Their sticks and stones may have broken our windows, but God's words should always guide us."* I hope the individuals responsible for the vandalism are identified and receive the help they need to come to grips with their anti-social behaviors. May they have guilt-ridden consciences for their actions, and may it drive them to make more appropriate decisions in their future lives. I, for one, am at peace with my decision to show restraint in my public announcements and to continue to move towards peaceful relationships with all individuals and groups in our community with a similar goal. Sometimes, fighting fire with fire leaves us with only the ashes of our own integrity.

From the Chairman

By Ted Besmann

As Marty Iroff, our president, has written in his column this month, he, along with staff members Marian Jay and Chaya Silver-Alford dealt with the incident at the synagogue at the New Year and for that I want to express my gratitude and that of the congregation. The vandalism slightly damaged our stained glass window and is likely connected with the much more extensive damage done to the windows at Temple Beth El. At this writing, the police and FBI are investigating what occurred but are not reporting they have any information as to the perpetrators.

The issue of the safety of our facility and our congregants has always been a high priority, and particularly so since the events of Sept. 11, 2001. In the last few months we have embarked on efforts to increase our level of security. We installed a security system a year ago and recently improved electronic communications with our security company. A consultant to the Knoxville Police Department walked our grounds and building a few months ago and determined that while we were already in very good shape, there were a number of things we could to improve security. These have largely been implemented or are being pursued.

Among other things we have increased the use of police officers at synagogue events and are doing better at making sure we have the front door staffed during services and school hours. A safety committee has been established to consider what more needs to be done and to ensure we have appropriate systems and procedures in place. Ric Pasi, our house committee chair, is leading that effort with help from Michael Glasman. They have been at work putting together a prioritized list of what we may need to further improve our situation.

In reality, we all know that we live in peaceful community that has been very generous to us as Jews. There will always be those very few that do want to harm us and what we represent. In the end there will be just so much we can do to protect our synagogue and ourselves without simply living in a fortress, and if we let it come to that then it will be that aberrant few that will have won.

Heska Amuna Board Meeting Synopsis for December 9

- We welcomed Jane Cohen to the board.
- Eric Bank said that the Yom Kippur pledges were \$4,000 less than last year. He sent letters to those who had donated last year, but had not yet donated this year.
- The board is working to promote grocery certificates. We will insert a grocery certificate order form with the synagogue bill so that they will be easier for congregants to obtain.
- Pat Rosenberg said that the kitchen will be renovated December 23-January 5. Amy Hull is preparing employee review policies by looking at the policies of other nonprofits as well as taking surveys.
- Michael Messing said that the HARS candle sale was cancelled because of Amy Hull's injury and subsequent schedule problems.
- Michael Messing said that the community learning program, including the Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge, Temple Beth El, and Heska Amuna was successful. Rabbi Zivic said that there were approximately 100 youth attending and that Carolyn Silver-Alford ran a well organized program.
- Sisterhood is leading efforts on kitchen renovation with new flooring and painting.
- The KJA Chanukah party, "Menorah Madness," will be December 21. Ted Besmann said that the board needs to be active in volunteering and in attending.
- Rabbi Zivic offered to have the prospective and new members' brunch at his home. Judy Brietstein and Rosalie Nagler will work on the date.

Heska Amuna Synagogue Religious School News



Sunday, February 1 - Celebrate Tu B'Shevat! – 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Food, art, and fun will characterize this year's Tu B'Shevat program at Heska Amuna. Heska Amuna will be joined by our friends from Temple Beth El for a festive celebration of Jewish Environmentalism and Trees. Programming will be available for all students as well as adults! There is no charge for this event. Adults will have the opportunity to listen to a lecture by **Ellen Rosenberg**, this year's speaker from the Jewish National Fund, who will look at environmental issues as well as political issues facing Israel today.

Friday, February 6 - Tot Shabbat Service - 6:30 p.m.

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 fantastic kid-friendly oneg. The theme for this Shabbat will be "Tu B'Shevat." Please call the school office at 522-0701 x13 if you have any questions about this popular program.

Sunday, February 8 - Mitzvah Day at the AJCC – 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

This year's community Mitzvah Day promises to be the best yet! Families are asked to come to the AJCC at 9:30 a.m. The day will include a variety of hands-on activities that promote Tikkun Olam, repairing the world, as well as educational activities, art and much more. We will begin the day at 9:30 a.m. with opening ceremonies and close the day at 12:15 with closing songs, skits, and prayers. All students who are not spending the day with their parents are to be picked up from the AJCC at 12:30 p.m.

Friday, February 13 – 15 – Teen Retreat

TEEN RETREAT 2009 is open to all Jewish Knoxville youth in grades 8 – 12. The retreat will held at Wesley Woods and will feature performer and scholar Jonathan Adam Ross who was a founder of the Storahtelling and the Northwoods Ramah Theater Company and has been seen in plays off Broadway and around the country. For event details and enrollment information, please contact the Education Director or Teen Program Director at your home institution. (Please see the article on Mr. Ross on *Ha'Kol* page 12)

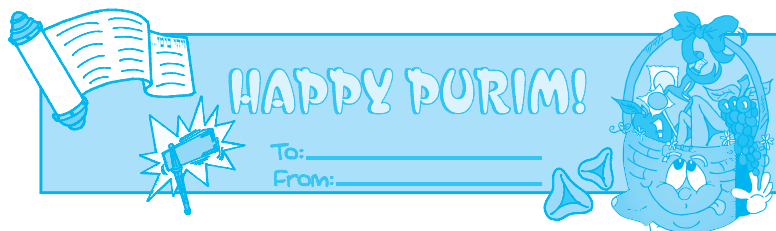
Friday, February 20 – Junior Choir - 6:30 p.m.

A special service for families with students in grades 3 – 7, our Junior Choir service incorporates some of today's most popular melodies for Friday night as well as traditional favorites. Please plan to come with your family. Visitors are always welcome.

Saturday, February 28 – Family Congregation - 10:15 a.m.

February ends with our innovative program called Family Congregation. This day of "Kosher-for Shabbos" learning is a multi-generational celebration of Shabbat, of being Jewish, and of being part of a Jewish family. ALL JEWISH FAMILIES in the community are welcome to attend this day. The program combines selections of the Shabbat morning liturgy, Torah study, and games. Adults and students have the opportunity to learn in mixed age groups as well as sessions just for adults and others just for kids.

Mishloach Manot are For Everyone



*Fulfill a mitzvah! Spread the joy of Purim!
Be a part of the fun!*

Sending Mishloach Manot (Purim treat bags) to someone locally or to someone you love who lives out of town has never been easier! Heska Amuna Religious School is once again making this mitzvah easy. Packages filled with candy, hamentashen, and other surprises will spread the joy of Purim. This year, the Heska Amuna Religious School will provide this service to the whole community. If you would like to send the joy of Purim to people locally or around the country, call **Michael Messing** at 694-4746 or contact **Heska Amuna Synagogue** at 522-0701. Orders will be taken until February 25.

SPREADING PURIM JOY HAS NEVER BEEN SO FUN!

Volunteer of the Month

Gene Rosenberg
for his work with
Sisterhood and his
stalwart efforts
on sponsors for
the kiddushim.



Contributions from Caring People

For a list of funds, please visit www.heskaamuna.org

BUILDING FUND

For the yarzheits of George Kramer, Minnie Kramer and Helen Billig
By: Suzi and Jerry Candy

GERTRUDE GLAZER COHEN AND I.B. COHEN ENDOWMENT FUND

For the yarzheits of Ida Glazer, Aaron Glazer and Bella Bresoff
By: Arnold Cohen

COHEN-PRESSER FUND

In memory of Meyer Miller
By: Stephanie and Eric Bank

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Addie and Harold Shersky and in appreciation of all the care and concern for them by Marilyn Burnett

By: Nancy Britcher
Thanking Judi and Martin Abrams
By: Lee Miller

A general donation to the fund

By: Ruben Garcia

In memory of Helaine Levin Jacobs

By: Betty Levin Anfanger and family

For Anna Kaplan's yarzheit

By: Judy and Lindsey Brown and family

In honor of the kindness he received when attending services

By: Bert Routman

In honor of Jeff Becker on his honors from UT and in memory of Meyer Miller

By: Gilya Schmidt

H.R. Waugh and Gregory Waugh yarzheits

By: Lesley Rosenblatt

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

For Bella Bresoff's yarzheit

By: Bella Leeds

For Belle Gotlieb's yarzheit

By: Evelyn Oberman

For Calvin Hahn's yarzheit

By: Jan Hahn

In honor of all that Debbie Johnson does to keep us safe and secure

By: Rodney Peron

For the yarzheits of Ida Glazer, Louis Glazer and Aaron Glazer

By: Bella Leeds

For Sandra Saxon's yarzheit

By: Joni Hirschhaut

In honor of Bernie Bernstein and Scott Hahn as an expression of his gratitude and in appreciation of the opportunity they extended to him

By: Howard Zoldessy

For Ben Zwick's yarzheit

By: Carole Zwick Mandel

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID FUND

In honor of Susan and Jerry Becker for their care and kindness

By: Marian Jay

In honor of Rae Oleshansky's Bat Mitzvah

By: The Silver-Alford family

VMC FUND

In honor of Heska Amuna Synagogue's Staff

By: Janet and Bert Gurwitch

WINICK LIBRARY FUND

In honor of Rabbi Louis Zivic and Carolyn Silver-Alford

By: Lynn and Scott Dryzer

In honor of Heather Hirschfeld winning the National Endowment Grant

By: Rabbi Louis Zivic

In honor of Arnold Cohen receiving the Race Relations award and in memory of Meyer Miller

By: Marilyn and Harvey Liberman

In memory of Meyer Miller

By: Pat and Gene Rosenberg

YARZHEIT FUND

Alice Abrams

By: Marilyn and Isadore Abrams

For his family's yarzheits

By: Ed Balloff

Bonny Hasden Barsky

By: Leon Hasden

David Norynberg

By: Helene Messing

Raye and Morris Panitz

By: Barbara Leeds

Milton Shaw

By: Genevieve Kramer

Heska Amuna Synagogue *HaShofar*

Rabbi Louis Zivic

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Carolyn Silver-Alford

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Office Administrator

Marian Jay

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Heska Amuna Synagogue

e-mail: 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

Heska Amuna Synagogue

is an affiliate of United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism.

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

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Use Your Credit Card to Pay Synagogue Dues and Fees

Heska Amuna accepts credit cards for payment. Members have the option of paying your balance partially or in full or setting up an "auto pay" which charges 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 as to whether you want 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.

New and Prospective Members Brunch

Interested in learning about the Heska Amuna family?
Please come schmooze & nosh with Rabbi Zivic and others.



Date ~ Sunday, February 22
Time ~ 10:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Place ~ Rabbi Zivic's home
Address ~ 3900 Kingston Pike
RSVP ~ info@heskaamuna.org or 522-0701

Sisterhood Happenings

By Amy Hull, Sisterhood Co-President

Heska Amuna Synagogue's Sisterhood is such an amazing, vibrant organization. We recently completed a much needed renovation of the Synagogue kitchen; many thanks to Marilyn Burnett and Pat Rosenberg for their diligence, determination and hard work to make this project a success. We had an amazing Shabbaton with our leadership once again proving what a vibrant community of women we have to draw upon. And we are enjoying great on-going programs for our monthly Rosh Chodesh celebrations thanks to Barb Levin.

We would like to invite all the women in the community to join us on Sunday, March 1 at 5:00 p.m. for Purim Celebration. We will host a *Vashti's Banquet*. In addition to amazing food and entertainment, we will have a *Shuk*-like shopping experience. Come and let yourself be pampered as you indulge in some quality time with friends new and old. Join Heska Amuna Sisterhood for a special event for **WOMEN ONLY** of all ages.

Among Our Members

- ◆ Get well wishes go out to the following people who were ill, in the hospital, or in rehabilitation during the past two months: **Josh Gettinger**, **Betty Himes**, **Shirley Leeds**, **Arlene Lindheim**, **Fred Lindheim**, **Helene Messing**, **Seth Roseman**, **Rose Rosenthal**, **Toby Schwartz**, and **Melissa Schweitzer**. We wish all of you a comfortable road to recovery.
- ◆ Mazel tov to the following members and their families: **Marcie and Moshe Shloush** on son **Omer's** graduation in December from Arizona State University with a degree in civil engineering; **Heather Hirschfeld**, UT associate professor, on being awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant.
- ◆ Todah rabah to **Ethel Wittenberg** who continues to work in the Synagogue office every month. We appreciate your time and the effort on behalf of the shul.

Federal law prevents us from knowing who is in the hospital. If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please let us know so we can place you on our Misheberach list.

Sponsor a Kiddush! It's So Easy

All kiddushim are prepared by Marilyn Burnett. Call Gene Rosenberg at 693-3162 to reserve a date. Thanks to December's sponsors: Tanya Hess in honor of her graduation and all her friends at Heska Amuna who made the journey all the more enjoyable and made Knoxville a home for her; Pam and Ernie Gross in observance of the yartzheit of Ernie's father, Eugene Gross; Marilyn and Sidney Burnett and Pat and Gene Rosenberg in honor of Hanukkah and Michael Burnett in honor of the anniversary of his bar mitzvah.

The Shul Deli Offers Kosher Meats and Treats

Satisfy those cravings for real kosher food. You may order kosher meats and other items, with funds benefitting the kitchen operating fund. Orders are received on Mondays, with pick-up on Tuesday (no pickup on Shabbat). Payment is due at pick-up. If interested, please contact Marilyn Burnett at 922-2626 or shbmhb@aol.com for a price list or to place an order.

Celebrate Purim and Support the Shul Deli

Place your order for hamantashen. Proceeds help finance the Synagogue Kitchen. Contact Marilyn Burnett, kitchen supervisor, by Thursday, February 19.



Flavors ~ Strawberry,
Poppy Seed, Prune, Apricot
\$6.00 per dozen.

FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 9a-HA Talmud study 9:45a-HA minyan 10-12:30—HARS and TBE Tu B'Shevet seder at HA 10:15-HA Sisterhood Liturgy class 1:30-3p-Basketball practice, AJCC gym	2 7a-HA minyan 3-7p-Kinderdance, AJCC gym 4:15-6:15p-HARS 7:30-9:30p Israeli dancing, AJCC gym	3 1:30-3-Friendshippers Book Group, AJCC AL 5:30-9:30p-fencing, AJCC gym 6p-TBE Exec Comm 6:30p-Hadassah Bd Mtg, AJCC AL 7:30p-HA Exec Comm	4 10a-Archives Comm, BR 12p-Friendshippers 2-8p-Knox Opera practice, gym 4:15p-HARS 5:30-9:30p-fencing, AJCC gym 6:15p-TBE Midweek Hebrew 6:15p-TBE adult ed 7:30p-HA Pathways	5 7a-HA minyan 3-5p-Soccer Shots, AJCC gym 5-8:30p-basketball, AJCC gym 7:30p-Jewish Life and Thought class, HA	6 6:30p-HA Tot Shabbat 6:30p-TBE BOWling for Hunger dinner 7:30p-BOWling for Hunger 9th grade svc, TBE 8p-Shabbat Svc Birthday & Anniv blessing, TBE	7 9:30a-HA services HA-Torah study after kiddush
8 MITZVAH DAY 9:30-12:30 Mitzvah Day at AJCC 9:30-Both HA and TBE religious school students meet at AJCC 4p-David Tal lecture, AJCC AL	9 Tu B'Shevat 7a-HA minyan 10a-Preschool Family Celebration, gym 3-7p-Kinderdance, gym 4:15p-HARS 4:30p-David Tal lecture 6p-KJA Exec Comm, AJCC AL 7:30p-KJA Board, AL	10 10:30a-HA HAZAK@ Atria Weston Place 5:30-9:30p-fencing, AJCC gym 6:30pTBE Board 7:30pHA Board	11 4:15p-HARS 5:30-9:30p-fencing, AJCC gym 6:15p-TBE Midweek Hebrew 6:15p-TBE adult ed 7:30p-HA Pathways	12 7a-HA minyan 3-5p-Soccer Shots, AJCC gym 6-8:30 basketball, AJCC gym 7:30p-Jewish Life and Thought class, HA	13 Teen Retreat Weekend—both HA & TBE 7:30p-TBE Shabbat service	14 Teen Retreat Weekend—both HA & TBE 9:30a-HA services HA-Torah study after kiddush 7p-AJCC gym private use
15 Teen Retreat Weekend—both HA & TBE NO HARS NO TBE religious school 9:45a-HA minyan 1:30-3p-basketball, AJCC gym	16 <i>President's Day</i> AJCC Preschool closed—teacher in-service No HARS 7a-HA minyan 3-7p-Kinderdance, AJCC gym 7:30-9:30p-Israeli dancing, AJCC gym	17 4:30p-Marina Rustow lecture, TBD 5:30-9:30p-fencing, AJCC gym 7:30p-HA Rabbi & Rel Serv Comm	18 4:15p-HARS 5:30-9:30p-fencing, AJCC gym 6:15p-TBE Midweek Hebrew 6:15p-TBE adult ed 7:30p-HA Pathways	19 3-5p-Soccer Shots, AJCC gym 4:15p-HARS 6-8:30p-basketball, AJCC gym 7p-HA Ed Comm Mtg 7:30p-HA Jewish Life & Thought class	20 KJA Shabbat 5:45p-TBE Family Shabbat Service w.PK-K1 class oneg 6:30p-HARS Jr. Choir services 7:30p-TBE Shabbat Serv plus Sisterhood oneg	21 KJA Shabbat 9:30a-HA services Birthday & Anniv Shabbat HA-Torah study after kiddush
22 9a-HA Talmud study 9:30-12:30p-TBE religious school 9:45a-HA minyan 10a-HARS 10:15a-HA Sisterhood Bd Mtg, HA 10:30-HA Newcomers Brunch, Rabbi's house 1:30-3:30p-basketball, gym	23 7a-HA minyan 3-7p-Kinderdance, AJCC gym 4:15p-HARS 7:30-8:30p-UT Faculty Lecture Series, AJCC AL	24 10:30a-HA HAZAK @ Atria Weston Place 5:30-9:30p-fencing, AJCC gym	25 Rosh Chodesh 4:15p-HARS 5:30-9:30p-fencing, AJCC gym 6p-HA Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh program 6:15p-TBE Midweek Hebrew 6:15p-TBE adult ed 7:30p-HA Pathways	26 7a-HA minyan 3-5p-Soccer Shots, gym 6-8:30p-basketball, AJCC gym 7:30p-Jewish Life and Thought class, HA	27 6:30p-HA traditional service 7:30p-TBE service	28 9:30a-HA service 10:15a-HARS Family Learning service, HA HA-Torah study after kiddush

For the most up-to-date listings or event contact information, please visit the KJA website at www.jewishknoxville.org

AL=AJCC Adult Lounge

BR=AJCC Board Room

HA=Heska Amuna—www.heskaamuna.org

TBE=Temple Beth El—www.tbeknox.org

K N O X V I L L E

Community-Wide Mitzvah Day Slated for February 8

KJA Mitzvah Day will be Sunday, February 8 at the Arnstein Jewish Community Center. ALL Religious School students of both Temple Beth El and Heska Amuna Synagogue **will meet at the AJCC at 9:30 a.m. that morning to participate.** Parents are encouraged to attend. Please remember that this is a community event, not just for religious school students. **PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US AT THE AJCC FOR THE EVENT!** Children learn by what we as adults do. The more we model the value of helping others the more real the lesson will be for our children.

To prepare for the day, collection sites will be available at Temple, Synagogue and the AJCC for the following items: high protein items such as peanut butter and tuna, canned fruits and vegetables for Second Harvest.

- **Students K – 7th Grade**

Students K–12th grade will have the opportunity to choose from several arts and crafts projects during the day.



- **8th Grade Students**

After the opening ceremony, students will go clean the West Hills Holocaust Memorial that morning under the guidance of their teachers, Aaron Margulies and Mark Littmann.

- **9th Grade Students**

After the opening ceremony, students will go to Elmcroft.

- **10th – 12th Grade Students**

After the opening ceremony, students will go to the Love Kitchen to make it spic and span.

Mitzvah Day is for adults too!

Handy with power tools? Experts and novices are welcome. Bring them as we are building several picnic tables and a pergola shade structure.

- Painters are needed for some small paint projects.
- Crochet or knit a hat for foster children.
- MEDIC needs your blood and the bloodmobile is here to serve that need.
- Come and help that day. Come and make your pledge to the Knoxville Jewish Alliance 2009 Annual Campaign.

For additional information, please contact Wilma Weinstein at 690-6343.

Day School a Busy Place

By Miriam Esther Wilhelm

Many exciting things have been happening at the Knoxville Jewish Day School. In December, much time was spent preparing for the school play, *The Jungle Book*. The play included every child at the school and was a huge success. We also had a wonderful Chanukah party with games, music, and food. The children even sang traditional Chanukah songs!

Among the many interesting projects the kids are working on is a research project on famous artists. Each child is researching their favorite artist/style of art and then working on their own art project depicting this style. In January we planned exciting field trip destinations including the Planetarium and Safety City. For more information about what's going on at the KJDS, call us at (865) 560-9922.



Jackson Davis delights the audience as King Louie in the KJDS production of The Jungle Book.



Jacob Hale, Camden Boring, and Noah Mesa shine in the KJDS production of The Jungle Book.

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. You may also visit www.bbyo.org.

BBG Members Elected to BBYO Regional Board

Gert Weinstein BBG members **Mara Hahn**, daughter of **Dr. Jan Hahn** and **Dr. Heather O'Brien**, and **Megan Weiss**, daughter of **Dr. Mitch Weiss** and **Mary Weiss**, have been elected to serve on the Cotton States Regional Board. **Mara** will serve as N'Siah (President) and **Megan** as Aym Ha-Chaverot, meaning "Mother of the friends." Most commonly called "Mit Mom," an Aym Ha-Chaverot is responsible for the recruitment of MITs (members-in-training), retention of current members, and re-education of all the members of a chapter, or in this case, a region. As described by **Megan**, "My job is to help the chapter Mit Moms with any obstacles they might encounter during their term and also to set certain initiatives I see as beneficial to the region as a whole regarding membership."



Megan Weiss and Mara Hahn at BBYO Cotton States regional convention. They have been elected to the Regional Board.

AIPAC Meeting

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

at 6:30 p.m.

Place of event:

Modern Supply

Teen Leaders Zack Kramer and Kelley Kidd attend J-Serve National Leadership Training Seminar in San Diego, California

Zack Kramer and **Kelley Kidd** represented the KJA and East Tennessee at the Panim J-Serve training conference from January 11-13 in San Diego. Project leaders, both teen and adult, will attend the training conference. The conference will prepare leaders for all aspects of the planning process including logistics, marketing and reflection. **Deborah Oleshansky** accompanied them.

J-Serve is the annual day of service for Jewish youth throughout the world. It is a day on which Jewish teens join their counterparts in other faith communities, other cities and other countries to give their time to serve the communities in which they live.

Our local J-Serve project is co-sponsored by B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Program, Weinstein BBG, Winick AZA, Temple Beth El and Heska Amuna Synagogue.

J-Serve Planning Team is open to ALL INTERESTED students in 8-12th grade. Meetings will be held at the AJCC from 1-3:

- * Sunday, January 18
- * Sunday, February 8
- * Sunday, March 8
- * Sunday, April 5



Hold the Date J-Serve Event Sunday, April 26

Our Keynote speaker will be Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz (D-Penn)

For information about our local J-Serve project and planning meetings contact: Deborah Oleshansky at doleshansky@jewishknoxville.org or (865) 690-6343

TEMPLE BETH EL TIMES



From the Rabbi's Study

"Wag more / Bark less" – that was the bumper sticker that I followed on Kingston Pike one day. Very cute, as I told my daughter, the devoted owner of my granddog, Zack. It has stayed with me, as a sneakily wise catchphrase. There is conflict all around us, and times are difficult for many. It is tempting to want to "bark" – a lot – to complain, and to be defensive, to share our anxieties. Ah, but when we choose to "wag" – to be welcoming, to celebrate our lives, to recognize and share our blessings, then we are better able to cope.

Our annual BOWling for Hunger Project is a great example of "wagging." So is Marty's Mission. Every time we do something for someone else, we are wagging. But every time we do something for one another, we also wag. Here are some other recent reasons to "wag" in our Temple:

- Our Chanukah Music Fest with the Knoxville Opera
- The Chanukah Maccabiad
- Home-made challah at services
- The murals on the classroom walls
- Family Shabbat services
- Members who do or pay more than their fair share

- New children in the Temple family
- Friendships that grow out of membership in TBE
- Civic responsibility that comes from the values of Reform Judaism

Sometimes we need to vent our frustrations, to "bark" about our problems and our peeves. It is helpful to know who is a sympathetic listener, who will not bark back at you. But I suspect that it is just as easy to learn how to share your wags as it is to bark at people. It is certainly more pleasant. Our tradition might put it a little differently, like, "Make your friend's honor as precious to you as your own," or, from Rabbi Hillel: "Whomever people like, God likes. Whomever people do not like, God does not like." Goodness is an investment that never fails.

Dogs are less subtle than we are. Wagging and barking are pretty good indicators of what they think. Let's not keep one another guessing, but let's choose the positive path: wag more, bark less.

I'd like to offer a special "wag" to everyone who called and cared and fed us during my recent surgery – *today rabbah*, thank you very much!

Temple Members Financial Commitment

By Richard Licht

Whenever the subject of Temple member's financial commitment comes up, it's a touchy subject. We all want the services that Temple offers, but a lot of us are hesitant to pay for them. It's human nature and we are all human.

This year the Temple Board is **asking** all of the members of Temple Beth El to increase their financial commitment. Temple, like everyone else, is seeing rising expenses and lowered income. You will be sent a letter giving you the option of increasing your financial commitment for 2009/2010 or leaving it the same as 2008/2009. PLEASE return the letter to the Temple office in a timely fashion. With this information, we can help plan the budget for 2009/2010. This also gives you the opportunity to make a larger donation to Temple if you want to do so.

In early December 2008, you all received a letter asking you to give to the Temple General Fund. The response was very gratifying. A substantial number of members made gifts to the Temple Beth El General Fund. Thank you to all that were able to send in a contribution. It shows what Temple members can do when they are asked to contribute.

Continued on page 11.

7 Sh'vat - 4 Adar, 5769

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

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SERVICES IN JANUARY

February 6 – BOWling for Hunger dinner and service, led by our 9th grade students.

February 7 – Shabbat morning services begin at 10:30 a.m. Chuck Dickey will read Torah from the weekly portion, *Beshallah*.

February 13 – Shabbat services begin at 7:30 p.m.

February 20 – Family Shabbat services begin at 5:45 p.m. with Norma James. Shabbat services with Rabbi Schwartz begin at 7:30.

February 27 – Shabbat services begin at 7:30 p.m., with the *Union Prayer Book, Sinai Edition*. Deborah Roberts will lead "What's Your Story?" following services.

President's Message

By Stephen Eisen

The call I received on January 2 was the worst I have received as Temple Beth El president. Our sacred space, our sanctuary, had been violated. Rock-hurling cowards damaged our beautiful stained glass windows but, thankfully, not our spirit.

Rabbi Schwartz, recuperating from recent surgery, literally jumped to action, as did Dan Smith and Jeff Gubitz. All with Knoxville Police Department or FBI contacts were on the phone immediately. Although the "standard" policy of the KPD is to take a report over the phone, we had a KPD detective and a forensic photographer as well as an FBI special agent on site shortly after they made their phone calls. We can't thank them enough for making sure this incident was not recorded as just random violence. In my opinion, it was not random. It is no coincidence that of all the houses of worship on our stretch of Kingston Pike, Temple Beth El and Heska Amuna were the only two targeted. On the same day it was reported that a Markman's Jewelry billboard was also vandalized.

Sitting on the bimah that evening gave me a sense of satisfaction, seeing the sanctuary filled near capacity with our congregants and representatives from many nearby churches. Rabbi Schwartz and Rabbi Zivic sat on the bimah as Rabbi Jim Cohn led us in service. I watched many stare at the holes in the windows throughout the service and saw many try to hold back tears. It was a beautiful service and one that shall always be remembered. We began moving forward so quickly after such a terrible event. We are Jews and that is what we do.

Many have asked "what can I do?" We can continue to come together every Friday night and pray together, as a Temple family. We can get more involved to make our congregation even stronger. We can lend our minds, ideas and hands to find better ways to secure what is ours and what is sacred to us. We can continue to teach our children the importance of religious freedom and why we must always fight for tolerance throughout the world.

Temple Beth El will move forward, we will repair the windows and we will find a way to better secure them in the future. What we will not do is forget.

B'Shalom,
Stephen

4th Annual 'BOWLING FOR HUNGER' DINNER and Chili/Soup Cook-Off Friday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m. Shabbat Services at 7:30 p.m. with Oneg to follow

Please remember that again this year we offer:

The Kids' Cook-Off Category

Any child capable of doing 'most of their OWN cooking'
can enter a soup or chili.

Come for the opportunity to Repair the World - TIKKUN OLAM. Come for the opportunity to sample the congregation's best homemade soups and chilis. Come to celebrate Shabbat with your fellow congregants. When you pay for dinner and pick up your very own fired bowl, the proceeds will be donated to:

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger and Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee.



*This could be you
in 2009!*

Where's Rabbi?

Rabbi Schwartz spent a good part of January at home, recuperating from surgery, but she did manage a visit with the Westside Unitarian Universalist Church, with the Confirmation class. She also attended the quarterly meeting of the Police Advisory Review Committee and graduated from the KPD Citizens Police Academy.

Temple Members Financial Commitment, Continued from p.10

If you still owe your financial commitment from 2008/2009, please send a check or pay by credit card for the money you owe. Temple has to pay its bills just like everyone else.

If you have any questions about your financial commitment, please contact the Financial Secretary, Richard Licht, at (865) 523-5593, (865) 256-3326, or email richward46@hotmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support of Temple Beth El.

The Sisterhood of Temple Beth El

We are an affiliate of WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM

On two Sundays in January, the 11th and 18th, the Temple Beth El congregation participated in Part One of 'BOWling for Hunger.' Part One involved painting a whiteware bowl or mug with colorful glazes. Creating our very own, distinct bowls while working together with fellow students, parents, congregants and friends has become a tradition over the last four years and many elegant and creative pieces have come out of the process. It is worth attending the Cook-off just to see these beautiful bowls.

Local Knoxville artists joined us again this year to create a 'Special Edition Artist's Series' to be sold at the 'BOWling for Hunger' Dinner for a specific donation amount. Artists this year include Annamaria Gundlach, Denise Sanabria, Booder Barnes and our own Moema Furtado.

Once the bowls were painted, they were fired and will be ready for pick up on the night of the 'BOWling for Hunger' Dinner. This event is a joint effort of The Sisterhood of Temple Beth El, the Religious School and the Social Justice Committee. The dinner takes place on Friday evening, February 6 at 6:30 p.m. with Shabbat services to follow. With the cost of dinner, participants will receive their own fired bowl. The artists' bowls will be for sale and there are always some extra pieces by very talented congregants that will be available. The theme for the night is, as always, Tikkun Olam – to leave behind a better world than the one we came into and to strive for justice and healing. The Shabbat service following the dinner will continue this theme and will be led by the religious school's ninth grade class.

The meal we will eat this night consists of donations of chili and soup. All will be entered into our 'Cook-Off.' Judges include Lesley Krakauer, a two-time cook-off winner; Stephen Eisen, Temple president, who loves to eat; and Phyllis Hirsh, who has demonstrated her baking prowess in the Temple kitchen.

Last year we began a 'Cook-Off' category for kids and it is back this year. So test your culinary prowess. Be it a soup – matzoh ball, borscht or French onion - or be it a chili - Texas, Cincinnati, white, vegetarian - we all want to taste it. Our celebrity judges will taste each entry. Winners will receive great prizes.

All funds raised will go to MAZON, a Jewish Response to Hunger and Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee. Remember those of you who painted a bowl or mug will be picking up, with the price of your dinner, your very own - 'painted by you' glazed bisqueware. And even if you didn't paint your own... we will also offer 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.

On Sunday, February 22 at 1 p.m., Sisterhood will host another 'Chai' Tea in the Temple Library with special guest Kathy Sergeant of the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee – Office on Aging. She will present information on "The One Call Club for Seniors." If you are a senior who wishes to be independent and stay in your own home or if you have parents, friends or relatives who wish to stay in their own home.... this is the talk for you. Come join us for a cup of tea and an opportunity to see your friends and to welcome new Sisterhood members.

Mark your calendars for the Hamentaschen Bake, Sunday, March 1 at 9:30 a.m. in the Temple Kitchen. If you love to bake or even if you don't, this is a fun morning of rolling, filling and chatting. We raise funds for Sisterhood events through the sale of Hamentaschen orders. An order form will be available towards the end of February. Watch for more info in the blast and posted in the Temple lobby.

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

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 Temple Beth El member, your first year of Sisterhood membership is on us.

For more information, please contact Liz Gassel, Sisterhood president, at 546-2813 or pardee3@comcast.net

TBE/Heska Amuna Teen Retreat February 13-15

This year's teen retreat will feature scholar-in-residence Jon Adam Ross. Jonathan caught our attention with an outstanding performance of his one man show at the 2008 ISJL conference. Using a variety of theatre games, improvisation, and discussion, students attending this year's retreat at Wesley Woods will have the opportunity to work on in-depth Torah study.

Widely acclaimed as a Jewish theatre artist, Ross created original works in both the commercial and educational spheres. Ross is a founding company member of *Storahtelling* and the Northwoods Ramah Theater Company. Jonathan Ross earned his BFA in Acting from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. He is currently touring with his new solo show, *Gods of our Fathers*, portraying all the members of a fictional Jewish family living through a generation of assimilation. Jon appeared off-Broadway in his first solo show, *Walking in Memphis: The Life of a Southern Jew*.

Ross's acting roots stem from his long-term association in

Wisconsin with Camp Ramah, serving as director of Performing Arts. Jon has served as faculty for the Cornerstone Fellowship and the Spielberg Fellowship in Jewish Theater Education (Foundation for Jewish Camp). Directing credits include *First Supper* and *Wrestling God* (Storahtelling), *In the Beginning, This is a Test*. and *I am Jonah* (Anshe Emet Synagogue, Chicago), *Hardball*, a play about a Jewish baseball player (Playwright's Forum, Memphis), and *Elvis Does Chanukah* for which he was interviewed on MSNBC.



His appearance is sponsored in part by a KJA allocation from the Community Cooperation Initiative. Full details about this year's retreat are available from Norma James and Chaya Silver-Alford. Learn more about Jonathan Ross at www.jonathanadamross.com.

February Religious School News

Norma James, nfjames@aol.com, 483-5213

Heska Amuna hosts TBE Religious School for Tu B'Shevat - February 1

Don't forget to drop your TBE student at Heska from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on February 1. Heska has invited us to share their traditional Tu B'Shevat seder. Our students have thoroughly enjoyed the combined programs we have planned for this school year, and this one is really special! In addition to a seder, the students will join together for environmental awareness activities in honor of the holiday. We are looking forward to this big event. **All grades PreK through 10th will attend.**

BOWLING for Hunger Friday, February 6

This is an evening NOT TO BE MISSED! Everyone, and I do mean everyone, will be at our annual BOWLING for Hunger dinner and Shabbat. Again this year we have a contest category for adults AND children. Best of all, you will see for the first time that night your own creation or that of your child. The lobby will be a splash of color as each bowl adds its own bit of beauty to the display. Your bowl costs \$15 which includes your meal. For those who are not buying a crafted bowl, adult meals are \$8 and child meals are \$5. ALL money goes to MAZON and Second Harvest. **Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. with a service by our 9th graders at 7:30 p.m. The theme will be Social Justice.**

- **What if I don't want to buy my bowl?** If you know that you don't want to purchase your bowl, please e-mail Norma so that I can release it for sale to the congregation. I would encourage you to come to the dinner anyway so that you can share in the tzedakah event.
- **What if I want my child's bowl but I cannot attend the dinner?** Remember that attending the dinner is an important part of the mitzvah. However if you cannot possibly attend please, please let Norma know in advance so that I don't sell your child's bowl. BUT, don't forget to pay for it and pick it up. I still have a few bowls from last year that were requested but never bought.

Mitzvah Day, February 8, has a new look this year!

Please note that Religious School will meet at the AJCC 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for Mitzvah Day. You will receive special fliers with all the information. We are planning some exciting changes for this year. **Parents are strongly encouraged to attend and either participate with your child OR participate in one of the many adult activities for that day.** This year all grades will stay at the AJCC for our projects except the 8th graders who will be cleaning the Holocaust Memorial that day.

Teen Retreat for 8th-12th grades Presidents' Weekend

Back by popular demand, our teens will have a wonderful experience February 13th-15th as they travel to Wesley Woods for a weekend of worship, study, but above all FUN. The fee for the weekend is \$95 which covers room and board. Temple Beth El's portion of the stipend for our guest Rabbi is paid for by our TBE endowed funds. Again this year we will have a scholar in residence who is amazing with young people.

There will be NO Religious School February 15th except for those on the Teen Retreat.

PreK, Kindergarten, & First Grade Lead Family Service February 20 at 5:45 p.m.

Don't miss one of the sweetest Shabbats of the year as our youngest children lead our Family Service. The students of Christina Karni, Missy Noon, and Sandy Khaddouma will help Norma with our service. The parents will be responsible for the oneg following the service. Riley Goodfriend, Lily & Benjamin Hirsh, Leo & Sophie Pollock, Joel Rosenbaum, Zoe Saylor, Heidi & Frank Sturm, Michael Abrams, Keara Bain, Ryan Gibbons, Rueben & Benjamin Margulies, Kirk Parson, Jordan Sandberg, Loren Shagen, Blake Chrusciel, and Joelle Roth will be our service leaders. Please join these wonderful children and their families for this special Shabbat.

TEMPLE BETH EL TIMES

Rabbi Beth Schwartz

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TEMPLE Beth El Office Staff

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TBE Fax: 525.6030

Visit our website: www.tbeknox.org

Temple Office Hours

Monday – Friday

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Our Family in Hadera Would Like to Hear From You!

Please see the note below from Galit Dagan, who was the Camp Tikun Olam Hadera youth chaperone last summer and a host to Marc Forman, Jenifer Ohriner and Melissa Treece during their December trip.

Hi Marc,

We're feeling good including my students.

I know that you see all the news on T.V and it looks like a mess.

It's very helpful to know that you understand us and support us.

I know that you are working in a public high school. But if you know children (Jews or not Jews) who can write to my students and support them or encourage them it might be a big help.

If you can send me their letters, I will show them to my students.

Please write and send them some messages of support:
galit_dagan@walla.com

Two Great Successes

We have had a wonderful month here at Temple Beth El. First, our very first Penny Drive for the Second Harvest Food Bank has collected over \$300.00. To all who contributed your coins and bills to support this very worth while cause my sincerest thanks. Please continue to bring your non-perishable food to the Temple as we continue our ongoing Food Drive.

Our Membership Wine & Cheese held on Friday Jan 11th before services was a wonderful success. It was fantastic seeing so many current and prospective members in attendance. Special thanks to Phyllis & Ken Hirsh, Susan Derrington, Honerlin DelMoro, Sylvia Joy Witcoff and Liz Gassel for all your support and assistance. What a wonderful group effort.

Thanks to all,
Joyce Traugot

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.

Donations to the Funds of Temple Beth El

BEILER CULTURAL

BEILER MISC. LIBRARY SHELVES

H. BEILER YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP

DAVIS EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT:

GENERAL OPERATING

- By Dr. Joseph Zimmerman
- By Jeannine Stanley
- By Ursula Marx

In memory of:

- Sheila Belensen by Marsha Gross
- Seymour Brill, grandfather of Janice Pollock, by Ronald & Ebbie Sandberg
- Erma Hill by Neil & Stuart Moss
- Ann Lieberman by Daryle and Marsha Gross
- All Family Members by Marilyn Rabin

In honor of:

- Harold and Becky Winston's grandson's (Sam) marriage to Lee Morganroth by Bernie and Eleanor Shorr
- Marty and Karen Gerson and Lee Miller by Elene and Leonard Miller

GELBER CULTURAL

GELBER WINNER'S CIRCLE

GELBER FAMILY RABBINIC FUND

GOLDBERGER MEMORIAL SANCTUARY

In memory of:

- Melvin Goldberger by Marcia Silverstein
- Melvin Goldberger by Leona Spritz

ERMA GERSON COMMUNITY

ENDOWMENT FUND

JAY AND MITILDA GOODFRIEND "DO NOT FORGET" FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

STANLEY & ELISE LEVY ENRICHMENT

LICHT PRAYER BOOKS

LICHT YOUTH

MARX FAMILY EDUCATION ENDOWMENT

In memory of:

- Elise R. Guthman by Ursula Marx

PATIO & GROUNDS

LESTER POPKIN MEMORIAL CAMPERSHIP AND SCHOLARSHIP

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY

In memory of:

- Elly Zimmerman by Carron and Arthur Landau
- Abraham Markman by Harold and Ida Markman

JACOB & BETTIE REICH FAMILY MEMORIAL FUND

RONA SIMON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP

CLARENCE STRASBURGER SACRED MUSIC

TEMPLE BETH EL PRESERVATION FUND

- By Keith and Susan Derrington

In memory of:

- Barney Seligstein by Laura Johnson

TBE SISTERHOOD FUNDS

BEILER BIMAH FLOWERS

In Memory of

- Belar Koptieva by Andy and Zoya Loebel
- Elise Levy by Richard Licht and Shirley McGuire
- Louis Pollock by Howard and Janice Pollock
- Dr. Bernie Silverstein by Debra Silverstein

SISTERHOOD TRIBUTE

SISTERHOOD SPECIAL GIFTS

**Help Update Our Mailing List!
Away? Moving? Leaving Soon?
Let us know!!**

Knoxville Jewish Alliance

KNOXVILLE
JEWISH
ALLIANCE
*Building Community
Enriching Lives*

Ha' Kol

KJA Leadership to be Led by Campaign 2009's Early Returns

By Stephen Rosen

The Knoxville Jewish Alliance leadership will be paying close attention to the "votes" cast by the community in the early months of the 2009 Annual Campaign. Last year, KJA raised approximately \$400,000 through this effort, down about 5 percent from previous years. This year, in order to maintain our current program, we will need to raise at least \$420,000. The problem is that we have been raising this same amount of funds for the last 10 years while the cost of operations has only gone up.

The 2008 operating year is leaving KJA with the ability to make external allocations of approximately \$30,000. This is a far cry from the approximately \$150,000 we granted in the early years of this decade. This means that we will not be doing our job to save Jewish lives in Israel and abroad through the efforts of the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Joint Distribution Committee. For many years, we sent \$100,000 or more from Knoxville to these groups through the United Jewish Appeal, now known as United Jewish Communities. KJA will also not be able to provide the same level of commitment for improving Jewish life at home through its annual support of BBYO, Hadassah, UT Judaic Studies, Birthright Israel, Southeastern Jewish Children's Services and many more wonderful and important causes.



When the Arnstein Jewish Community Center and Knoxville Jewish Federation held merger talks in the late 90s, one of the compelling arguments was the ability to discuss financial resources in one board meeting rather than two. It was apparent at that time that the trend of expenses increasing faster than revenue would one day leave us faced with hard choices. The founders of KJA put us in the right framework and we are prepared to deal with these issues today.

Based on "early returns," KJA's leadership will evaluate our program to make sure that we do not operate 2009 in a deficit. It will be of immense help if you will make your contribution to the campaign early rather than waiting for someone to call you. You can call the KJA office (690-6343), go to our website www.jewishknoxville.org or call me at 599-1853. The KJA board has already eliminated lots of expenses that have traditionally been part of our program and basically rejected outright all new programming proposals. It will be up to the community to decide which direction we head next. Let us hear from you so we know that you too want to continue to build Jewish life in Knoxville while saving Jewish lives in Israel and around the world.

Stephen Rosen is the president of KJA and can be reached at Stephen.rosen@morgankeegan.com

February 2009

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The Middle East

By Jeff Gubitza

The Gaza situation is very complex and very emotional for supporters of both sides of the issue. Many innocent civilians are being hurt through no fault of their own, except where they live. Please take time to understand the situation. Whether you agree with one side or the other is your personal choice. Before weighing in, please take time to educate yourself to the facts of the matter. One needs to understand the history of the Middle East since 1900 and the events that brought about a proposed two state solution in 1947. One must remember that it takes partners to negotiate and work for peaceful resolutions of conflict. Your KJA has been participating in a number of local programs to provide fair and balanced information to the community.

We have been sending you updates via email and you can view even more information on our website. If you are not on our email list, please send an email to kja@jewishknoxville.org. Please note add or delete email address in the subject line.

Gaza Discussion on the Air

Jeff Gubitz represented the Knoxville Jewish Alliance on the WNOX Hallerlin Hilton Hill morning talk radio program on Tuesday, December 30, 2008. Joining Jeff was Dr. Tony Crisp, Senior Pastor at Chilhowee Hills Baptist Church and Fatih Hussein, representing the Knoxville Jewish community. You can listen to a podcast by entering this link into your web browser <http://wnoxnewstalk.com/Article.asp?id=1080281&spid=18042>

The original invitation was for a one-hour program discussing the Gaza situation. After 45 minutes, Hill invited the guests to stay for another one hour segment. Hill took a number of calls from listeners who spoke on both sides of the issue. According to Gubitz, "this was an excellent venue for clearly laying out the situation that Israel faces in the Middle East."

The roundtable discussion dealt with the Gaza situation and the history of the conflict in the Middle East. West Bank-born Hussein outlined the views of the Palestinian and Arab community, the Israeli perspective was represented by Gubitz and a Christian perspective by Dr. Crisp.

Fatih Hussein was born near Jenin and later moved to Kuwait with his family in 1967. He attended UT Martin and is in the retail business in South Knoxville. He has represented the Muslim community at a number of interfaith programs including the 2008 MLK Prayer service.

Dr. Crisp is a frequent traveler to Israel. He has devoted considerable time to the study of Middle East history and politics and presented a very clear cut and concise statement of the facts relative to the history of the situation.

Daily updates of the Middle East situation are available at www.jewishknoxville.org.

Afternoon Fun at the AJCC

By Brooke Seeliger, AJCC Preschool Director

The AJCC hosts several after school extracurricular activities. Any child can register and attend two of the programs. On Monday afternoons there is Kinderdance and Thursday afternoons is Soccer Shots. Below is a brief description of each program as well as contact information.

Kinderdance (ages 3-5) is a developmental dance/movement and fitness program taught on 3 levels, teaching the basics of ballet, tap, acrobatics and creative movement while blending educational concepts. Please contact Maria Richardson at (865)-573-0094 for more information regarding this program.

Soccer Shots (ages 3-6) is a great introduction to soccer, designed to teach your child the skills needed to prepare him/her for future team play.

Instructors are at the AJCC once a week for 8 weeks and each class runs approximately 30 minutes long. All necessary equipment is provided by Soccer Shots, so all your child has to do is be at the AJCC and

come ready to have fun. The winter session begins the week of January 12 and runs for 8 weeks. The spring session begins the week of March 9 and runs for 10 weeks. Please contact Holly Kelly and Lori Timmis at (865) 671-7657 or email lori@soccershots.org, holly@soccershots.org for more information regarding this program.



Start Planning Your Summer at the AJCC



What are you doing this summer? There is no better way to spend the warm summer months than with your friends at the Arnstein Jewish Community Center camps, Camp K'ton Ton (14 months to 5 years of age) and Milton Collins Day Camp (Kindergarten through 10th Grade), with the swimming pool, tennis courts and 13 acre site. It is without a doubt "The Most Fun Under the Sun!" The American Camping Association accredited Milton Collins Day Camp and the Department of Human Services licensed-Camp K'ton ton are

ready for another fantastic season! Whether you are joining us for the first time or as a returning camp family, the 2009 season offers excitement and fun for everyone. Many of your camper's favorite activities and traditional programs will return this summer. We have planned many new experiences for all age groups, including children's British soccer.

Registration will be open to the public as of February 2. Save time and register online. Access all registration forms through our website www.jewishknoxville.org. If you are a returning friend of camp, you may note that a few changes have been made for the upcoming summer in order to provide the BEST quality experience possible for you and your campers.

There are some minor differences between Milton Collins and Camp K'ton ton registration. Please contact us with any questions or for additional information. We welcome the chance to talk with you at any time about ways to enhance your child's camp experience. Camp K'ton ton Director, Brooke Seeliger and Sarah Price, Milton Collins Day Camp director, can be reached at (865) 690-6343 for additional information.

We can't wait to see you!

KJA Jewish Faculty Lecture Series Starts This Month

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

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

On December 23, Jewish Family Services held a Hanukkah party at Elmcroft Assisted Living. Twenty people were in attendance, including residents from Elmcroft, Atria Weston Place, Echo Ridge, and NHC Cavett Hill. We noshed on latkes, a menorah-shaped challah, lox, and sufganiyot. Everyone enjoyed listening to Susan Brown play the piano while her daughter Rachel sang.

Earlier in December, Judi Abrams and Nora Messing held their second annual Cookie Swap. Several of our community ladies were in attendance. Each person brought enough homemade cookies to share with their friends as well as making special cookie swap bags for Jewish Family Services to distribute to our long-term care residents. Our residents were thrilled to receive the delicious cookies.

Upcoming Friendshipper Programs

**Come have fun with us at these upcoming events!
Everyone Welcome**

Wednesday, February 4: Wendel Werner and the UT Singers will entertain us!

Wendel Werner has worked in many capacities. He served as the director for the Knoxville Children's Show Choir, the Athens Area Children's Choir, as well as the Knoxville Showstoppers. In 2001, Werner accepted the position of 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.

Wednesday, March 11: Purim fun with Joyce and Charlene!

Purim is one of the most joyous and fun holidays on the Jewish calendar. Join Joyce Traugot and Charlene Gubitz as we celebrate Purim – and of course we will have hamentaschen. Catered lunch at \$8.00 per person; no charge for program alone.

Program location: Rothchilds, 8807 Kingston Pike.

Friday, April 3: Maestro Lucas Richman will speak about the 2009-2010 season and the Knoxville Symphony music and wellness program. The KSO String Quartet will perform representative selections.

Catered lunch at \$8.00 per person; no charge for program alone.

Program location: Rothchilds, 8807 Kingston Pike.

Wednesday, April 22: Joan Cronan, Director of Women's Athletics at the University of Tennessee.

Joan Cronan is currently in her 24th year as Women's Athletics Director at Tennessee. UT's successes in both the athletic and academic realms speak volumes to her decision-making and leadership ability, as demonstrated by her recent recognition by her peers at the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators (NACWAA) with their 2005 Athletic Director of the Year award. Catered lunch at \$8.00 per person; no charge for program alone.

Program location: Rothchilds, 8807 Kingston Pike.

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

Friendshipper Book Group

Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the AJCC.

KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Ha' Kol

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Bernie Shorr entertains at the December Friendshipper program.

Suzy Snoops

Got good news? Please share it with our community. E-mail to hakol@jewishknoxville.org, fax to 694-4861, or mail to *Ha' Kol*, 6800 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919. Photos are also welcome.

- **Heather Hirschfeld**, associate professor, Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for the school year 2009-2010. Fellowship support will enable her to devote herself full-time to her book project entitled "Tragedies of Satisfaction: Drama, Reform, and Repentance in the Age of Shakespeare."
- Each year the UT College of Arts and Sciences recognizes a member of its senior faculty who has demonstrated outstanding service to the College of Arts and Sciences and to the University of Tennessee. This person is asked to serve as College Marshal and represents the College at Winter Convocation and at the fall and spring commencement ceremonies. This designation is the highest honor that the College bestows on a member of its faculty. This year's College Marshal is **Jeffrey M. Becker**, professor and head of the Department of Microbiology. During his more than 35 years at the university, he has served as the founding director of the Graduate Program in Cellular, Molecular, and Developmental Biology (1979 to 1995), the founding director of the UT-ORNL Graduate School in Genome Science and Technology (1998 to 2005), and head of the Department of Microbiology (2002 to present).
- **Norman E. Magden**, professor of art, is honored for outreach service as a board member and officer (in four cases as president of the board) of five major arts organizations in Knoxville and as the university representative on five important task forces, including the Arts, Culture, and Entertainment Master Plan Initiative for Greater Knoxville; the Museum District Task Force; the Nine Counties; One Vision; Arts and Culture Task Force; and the Public Art Committee of the City of Knoxville which he currently chairs. **Magden** is in the School of Art at UT.
- **Drs. Jeffrey Becker, Louis Gross and Daniel Simberloff** were elected as American Association of Advancement of Sciences Fellows. **Becker** was honored for "distinguished contribution to the field of biological sciences, particularly in elucidating peptide-cell interactions in fungi, and for distinguished service to science administration." **Gross**, a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and mathematics was honored for distinguished contributions in mathematical and computational ecology, and for contributions to quantitative education for life scientists. **Simberloff**, the Gore Hunger professor of environmental science, received the honor for distinguished contributions to the fields of ecology, biogeography and invasion biology. All are in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- **Bryna Oleshansky**, daughter of **David and Deborah Oleshansky**, was recently selected as a national top-25 junior female rower and attended the High Performance Camp for the United States Junior (U-19) Women's National Team Development Squad in Austin, Texas in December. The elite, invitation-only camp was an opportunity for coaches to work with rowers as they prepare for the US Rowing Selection Camp, scheduled in June. At that camp, rowers will compete for a position on the U.S. Junior Selection Team that will ultimately compete in France at the Junior World Championships in August.
- **Sheila and David Popkin** celebrated son **Lee's** marriage to **Carson Spencer**.
- **Annette Winston**, lecturer in the University of Tennessee School of Communication Studies, has been appointed by Knoxville Mayor, **Bill Haslam**, to a six-year term on the city's Industrial Development Board. City Council approved the appointment Dec. 2.

Tzedakah Box Coin Collections

By Ellen Kern

Each fall, around the High Holy Days, I collect the coins in our three tzedakah boxes around the house. During the year, quarters dimes, nickels and pennies get deposited weekly before Shabbat and at random times. After my mother died on Shabbat Shuvah, I thought about how she taught me about tzedakah through the little blue boxes of my childhood.

I remember needing at least 50 cents or a dollar for Sunday school collections as a child. Those cardboard boxes came in different shapes, colors and sizes. In my family, our 'piggy banks' sometimes sat next to the Tzedakah boxes so it was important to separate saving for ourselves from giving to others.

It seemed a fitting gesture to donate whatever had been accumulated in small change to the KJCFF fund we established together a few years ago. So in addition to other gifts of memory, I carried the collected coins to the KJA offices as a contribution to the Sylvia Greenberg Family of Funds. It didn't amount to much (about \$47) but I thought Mom would like for me to do that for her.

I suspect many of us have tzedakah box stories. *Ha' Kol* might someday run a series of these stories alongside collecting tzedakah box donations for the community. Coins do add up.



KJA Sympathy

The KJA board and staff express condolences to the family and friends of Bernard Simon, father of Susan Silber.

May his memory be for a blessing.

UJC Fact of the Week

During the Israel Defense Force's Operation Cast Lead, 20 OTZMA participants are volunteering at army bases in Israel's north. The OTZMA participants are packing equipment and organizing supplies. To learn more about OTZMA, which is funded by UJC and the Federations of North America, please visit www.otzma.org.



Shorrlines

By Eleanor Shorr, KJA Publications Chairperson

Our Jewish community recently enjoyed the opportunity to interact comfortably with our non-Jewish neighbors in warm acceptance of each other in harmony. We evidently have become very accepting of our differences within the limits of our celebrations and cultural events and enjoy a more widespread knowledge of who and what everyone is.

We had so many cultural events that appealed to our diverse audiences. Opera and Klezmer – Clayton Holiday Concert – Menorah Madness. It was a treat to be invited into neighbors' homes to feast our eyes on the beautiful holiday decorations that usually only were pictured in magazines. And in return, our many variations of menorahs received their own kudos and oohs and aahs. (Of course we always availed ourselves of the opportunity to offer a detailed explanation of the miracle of Hanukkah).

The secular New Year's Eve also brought with it more chances to interact in a truly American tradition. So we are not known for our ability or desire to chugalug and drink, but then we challenge anyone not to enjoy our kiddishes, sweet wine knowledge, and have a schnapps with us every now and then. We can whoop it up with the best of them.

Volunteering is a Family Affair

From children to seniors, all are benefiting from the volunteer efforts of an active area couple. Pat and Gene Rosenberg are dedicated volunteers whose efforts benefit both Jewish and area organizations.

The Rosenbergs moved to Knoxville in 1966 and immersed themselves in community service, working to help people from all walks of life, from young children to seniors.

Pat worked for 32 years for the State of Tennessee, working with the medical director and chief of staff at Lakeshore Mental Health Institute. She's served on the boards of Volunteers of America, Overlook Mental Health Center, and mentored two teenagers with Gene through Child and Family Services. She's also been very active in the Jewish community, serving on the Heska Amuna Synagogue board, as Sisterhood president and other offices, chaired numerous events and projects, and continues to work with Sisterhood's catering activities. Pat spent years working with the KJA's Jewish Family Services as an advocate for seniors. There, she established the mitzvah meals program, which brings food to the sick in the Jewish community. She and Gene both regularly serve the homeless at Volunteer Ministries.

Pat credits her parents for her activism, saying "My parents contributed to their little community. I always thought volunteering was just what you did."

Gene also was active in the community, serving as a Heska Amuna board member and as AJCC chairman. When he retired as a salesman, Gene became a full-time, tireless volunteer. He worked in fund raising and program planning for the American Cancer Society, served on the Volunteers of America board, and chaired the board of Knoxville's National Conference for Community and Justice and Project Change, a group dedicated to ending prejudice and racism.

"After I retired, I got involved. I never realized the need for volunteers is as great as it is," Gene said. He confessed to initially being "all over the place," but has since focused his activities on

With the love holiday of Valentine's Day and President's Day celebrations still to come and the short month of February leading to our Tennessee early spring, things are looking up all over. Maybe real change is coming. Chopped liver will be served side by side with barbecue - potato latkes and tamales - brisket and corn dogs - Mother's chicken soup and French onion soup - Knoxville is assimilating.

Speaking of change, the Jews have come out ahead on the national scene. Our congressmen have finally removed the pork from the automobile stimulus package. Thank God they didn't touch the corned beef or pastrami.

KJA Annual Campaign 2009 Starts February 1

Don't wait to be called!

Take action now by going to www.jewishknoxville.org or calling 690-6343.

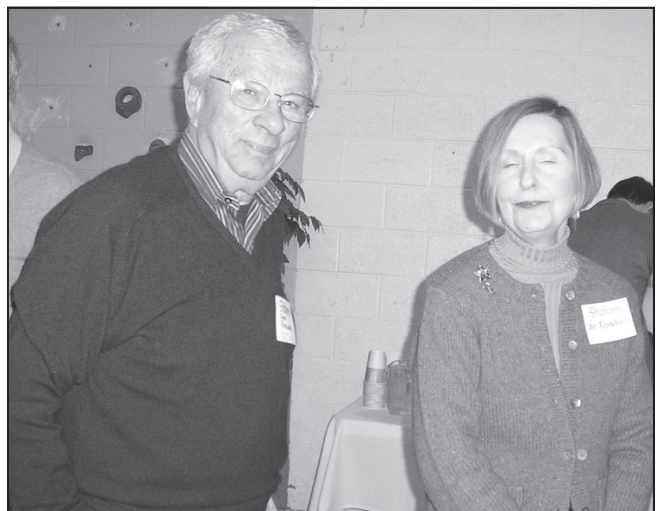
Our ability to build Jewish life in Knoxville while saving Jewish lives abroad depends on your participation.

See you at Mitzvah Day!

helping young people and serving seniors. Gene visits seniors for Jewish Family Services, reads with a youth at Richard Yoakley Alternative School, reads with children at a Project GRAD elementary school, and works with the Knoxville Jewish Day School.

One project even brought him national acclaim. Several years ago, Gene helped create a "Traveling Trunk" to teach children about hate - and how they can stop it from spreading. The trunk contains a Ku Klux Klan robe, a pair of slave shackles, a piece of steel from the World Trade Center and other symbols of hatred. He's presented the program to thousands at schools, churches, and community centers throughout the U.S. The FBI presented him with an award in 2001 for his efforts.

Both Pat and Gene stress the need for community volunteers and the satisfaction found in helping others. Gene says "when you have an opportunity, pick something that is fun and gratifying to you. There are needs everywhere and a niche for everybody."



Gene and Pat Rosenberg

B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Program Local Friends, Global Possibilities

HOLD THE DATE:

B'nai Tzedek Fund Holders and Parents, PLEASE plan to join us for our NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, January 25, 2009 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Arnstein Jewish Community Center.

We will be joined by faculty members from the UT Business School who will help us understand the impact of the current economic situation on philanthropic giving.

NEEDED: SHABBAT DINNER HOSTS

If you would like to host a small and VERY appreciative group of young adults for Shabbat dinner, please contact Deborah Oleshansky, UT Hillel Director, at doleshansky@jewishknoxville.org or (865) 690-6343.

TEEN RETREAT

Open to All INTERESTED TEENS regardless of affiliation. Please see pages 4 and 12.

TRAVEL TO ISRAEL WITH YOUR FRIENDS

Tikkun Olam interviews for Summer 2009 are currently being scheduled for 9th and 10th graders. If you are interested in participating, please contact Deborah Oleshansky at doleshansky@jewishknoxville.org or (865) 690-6343.

For Jewish Grandparents with Interfaith Grandchildren

The Grandparents Circle is...

- A FREE six-session program to be held at the AJCC for Jewish grandparents whose children are intermarried that offers participants skills and techniques to share their Jewish heritages and nurture their interfaith grandchildren's Jewish identities.
- An Online Community (national listserve) that allows grandparents to share their experiences with others.
- Family Fun events surrounding the holidays that grandparents can invite their grandchildren to attend.

If you would like more information about the Grandparents Circle course, or you would like to sign-up for the free national listserve, contact Wilma Weinstein, (865) 690-6343 or wweinstein@jewishknoxville.org

The Knoxville Jewish Alliance is sponsoring the local Grandparents Circle.

The Grandparents Circle course will begin Sunday afternoon, March 1 at the AJCC. Please be sure to let us know if you are interested as class size is limited.

**All Are
Welcome**
(BIG TENT)
L.I.B.E.R.T.Y.

Hanukkah 2008 Fun, Family-Oriented

By Wilma Weinstein

This year, the Knoxville Jewish Alliance (KJA) partnering with the Jewish Outreach Institute (JOI) took the oil out of the Hanukkah story and into the supermarket! Eight Days of OilSM, Hanukkah Olive Oil tasting, is a *Public Space Judaism*SM opportunity for local Jewish organizations to share some gourmet olive oil with folks in their local communities who are going about their grocery and specialty shopping. It's also a chance to share information about the holiday of Hanukkah, and connect shoppers to upcoming events. KJA volunteers gave shoppers the opportunity to try three different olive oils at Earth Fare in Farragut on December 17 and 21, as well as receive information. Congratulations to Vickie Jordan who won a beautiful gift basket from Earth Fare. Ealla Sherwin guessed the correct number of oils in the jar. Many thanks to our volunteers who braved the rain on Dec. 17: Caren Gallager, Mark Frankel, and Melissa Schweitzer. Thanks also to Anna Iroff, Kathy Goldstein, Ric Pasi and Laura Berry who volunteered on Sunday, Dec. 21. Special thanks goes to Adria McLaughlin, community coordinator at Earth Fare.

Stephen Rosen, KJA president, reported, "This was excellent for community relations..." and "all of the volunteers had a marvelous time."

Knoxville's second annual "Menorah Madness", an exciting Hanukkah event with food, Knoxville's largest Lego menorah, crafts for kids, songs and candle lighting was held on Sunday, December 21 at the AJCC and celebrated the first night of Hanukkah. *The community event was chaired by Rebecca Merritt with assistance from Temple Beth El, Heska Amuna Synagogue and the Knoxville Jewish Day School.*

The Lego menorah was built at the event and candle lighting was at 5:30 p.m. Everyone enjoyed a falafel dinner, *sufganiot*, traditional Hanukkah donuts, and craft activities for the kids.

If you are an individual seeking a connection to the Jewish community, we welcome you, and we are here to help. Call us at 690-6343.



Melissa Schweitzer, Mark Frankel, and Caren Gallager helped host an Eight Days of Oil olive oil tasting at Earth Fare.



Rabbi Yossi Wilhelm of Chabad and children build a Lego menorah.

Eagle Scout Creates Jacob's Ladder

By Ray Pais

Check out the new stairs leading up to the soccer fields at the Arnstein Jewish Community Center. The old stairs were rusty, slippery when wet, becoming unstable, and were much too narrow for the amount of foot traffic when the soccer fields were in use.

As one parent put it, "They were an accident waiting to happen." High school junior Jacob Pais, a Temple Beth El member, was looking for a service project to earn the rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America. Jacob has been a AJCC member since he was just 6 months old, and recalls "I have benefited from many of the programs offered at the AJCC. I was eager to give something back." Jacob decided to replace the old stairs with new, wider, safer stairs.

After obtaining the appropriate approvals, Jacob had to draw up some plans for the new staircase. A local contractor, Mike Coleman, generously donated his time by reviewing the plans and offering advice as the project progressed. Many of the adult leaders of Boy Scout Troop #444 loaned Jacob the tools required for the project.

The Boy Scouts require that Jacob raise the money for his Eagle project. With the generosity of the Jewish community, this was the easiest part of the project. Jacob sent out a short letter to the families on the AJCC mailing list asking for donations, and in just a couple weeks raised twice as much as his fundraising goal. The extra funds remained with the AJCC.

According to Jacob, the actual construction of the new stairs "was tough but fun." Dozens of Boy Scouts from Troop #444 helped, as well as many of their parents. Members of the Jewish community, including Chuck Denny, also helped. As required for an Eagle project, Jacob was the "boss," leading the project. Jacob was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout on in December.

Jacob Pais cuts the ribbon on his new bridge for the AJCC.



Jacob Pais supervises while Boy Scout Troop #444 work on the bridge to the soccer fields at the AJCC.



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 Gerald and Anne Weinerman
 Valerie Widgren
 Rabbi Yossi and Miriam Esther
 Wilhelm
 Linda and Phil Zaretski
 Howard and Elizabeth Zoldessy
 Jeanne and Anthony Zucker
 4 - Anonymous Donors



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

Brietsteins Establish Two KJCF Funds

Abraham and Judy Brietstein were looking for a special way to honor Abraham's parents and his sister. All three have been tremendously influential in their lives. The Brietsteins not only wanted to honor their memory, but also wanted to make their memory a blessing not just for them, but for the whole community. With that in mind, they created the *Harry and Mollie Brietstein Memorial Fund* and the *Sharon Brietstein Memorial Fund*. The fund in honor of his parents is set up to support Jewish causes locally and around the world. And the fund in honor of his sister, Sharon, is to support mental health causes. The KJCF would like to thank the Brietsteins for their generous support of our community.

KJCF Funds are Not Invested With Madoff

East Tennessee Foundation, the community foundation that professionally manages the KJCF funds have offered the KJCF assurances that "no investment vehicle...has allocated capital directly to any investment funds managed or controlled by Bernard Madoff, nor has [it] entered into any direct transactions with Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC as counterparty." Because Madoff's schemes reportedly attracted capital from literally hundreds of sources, including at least one large commercial bank whose common stock is held in small amounts, it is impossible for ETF to unequivocally say that they won't incur losses arising from Madoff's Ponzi scheme. The good news, however, is that all investment managers are investigating their holdings to ensure there are no Madoff holdings and have found no material holdings.

New grants

A generous grant from the **Zelda and Max Morrison Cultural Enrichment Fund** helped support the "Day of Learning" hosted by the KJA.

The **Sam and Esther Rosen Friendship-pers' Fund** has provided support to ensure that transportation is available to and from Friendship events.

The **Bernard E. and Barbara W. Bernstein Charitable Fund** awarded generous grants to the Knoxville Jewish Alliance, the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, and the Knoxville Museum of Art.

Nancy and Jeff Becker Community Enrichment Fund continued to support the B'nai Tzedek Funds with matching start-up grants, as well as made grants to the KJA for the Jewish enrichment of the preschool, and to Second Harvest to purchase food.

Donations

B'nai Tzedek General Fund

- Mary Linda and Arnold Schwarzbart in memory of Melvin Goldberger

B'nai Tzedek Fund of Harris Bailey

- Harris Bailey

B'nai Tzedek Fund of Noah Erwin

- Marc and Shelley Mangold in honor of his bar mitzvah

B'nai Tzedek Fund of David Floyd

- Dr. and Mrs. Scott Dryzer

B'nai Tzedek Fund of Zack Messing

- Dr. and Mrs. Scott Dryzer

B'nai Tzedek Fund of Rae Oleshansky

- Gilya Schmidt in honor of Rae's Bat Mitzvah

Harry and Mollie Brietstein Memorial Fund

- Matthew Katz and Autumn Brietstein
- Abraham and Judy Brietstein

Sharon Brietstein Memorial Fund

- Matthew Katz and Autumn Brietstein
- Abraham and Judy Brietstein

William "Bill" Brody Fund

- Frank Wilson

Gordon Brown Youth Recreation Fund

- Adam Brown

Sylvia Greenberg Family Fund

- Ellen Kern

Heska Amuna Cemetery Fund

- Mary Linda and Arnold Schwarzbart in memory of Meyer Miller

Ted and Dolly Reback Knoxville Youth Fund

- Richard and Kathryn Reback

KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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

Mazel Tov!

Heska Amuna Synagogue

Happy Anniversary!

Pat & Gene Rosenberg
Anita Kay & Joe Sitver
Joyce & Harold Diftler
Marion & Joe Goodstein



All members whose birthday or anniversary occurs in January are invited to receive a blessing at kiddush on Shabbat morning February 21.

Happy Birthday!

• Leo Adams • Bernie Bernstein • Pat Rosenberg • David Dobbs • Jerry Solomon • Joni Hirschhaut • Josh Gettinger • Marty Iroff • Joani Leeds • Wendy Besmann • Amy Hull • Annette Winston • Dina Kramer • Leon Hasden • Ted Besmann • David Oleshansky • Nora Messing • Gary Leeds • Tommy Hahn • Carol Harris • Jan Fay • Rabbi Schwartz • Rich Berube • Terry Haywood • Monte Millen • Lindsay Parizman • Bella Leeds • Marilyn Presser

TEMPLE BETH EL

Happy Birthday!

• Mrs. Katherine Habgood • Mrs. Elizabeth Newton • Isaac Shefner • Mr. Samuel Speed • Rabbi Beth Schwartz • Mr. Jeff Goodman • Mr. Don Marshall • Mr. Boris Budik • Mrs. Valerie Frankel • Mrs. Abbie Smith • Ms. Joyce Traugot • Mrs. Bella Budik • Ms. Beverly Schultz • Ms. Karen Koplan • Mr. Michael Pardee • Jason Sandberg • Mr. Gary Sturm • Mrs. Lorie Hirsh • Mrs. Robyn Pavan • Mr. Robert Brody • Dr. Anthony Meyers • Mr. Travis Smuckler • Ms. Melissa Treece • Mr. Michael Cole • Mrs. Charlotte Eisen • Ms. Amanda Goodman • Dr. Nancy Locklin • Jason Fleischman • Haley Gassel • Ms. Hayley Goldfeld • Mrs. Wilma Weinstein • Mr. Robert Goodfriend • Kirk Parsons • Mr. Robert Shagan • Mr. Robert Zivi • Ms. Melissa Brody



Happy Anniversary!

Buzz & Sondra Brody
Honerlin & Robert Del Moro
Brett & Bonnie Kolnick
Allan & Valerie Rosenbaum
Jeff & Teresa Goodman
Hal & Amy Rosenberg
Melissa & Ron Feinbaum

Support Heska Amuna and Temple Beth El 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. Meadcrest 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

February 6

Paul Lee
Bernard Silverstein
Morris Reich
Bobby Mintz
George Marshal
Julius Glassman
Clarence Cole
Phillip Herbert Robinson
George Haberman

February 13

Rachel Schnitman
Frances Sturm
Abe Slovis
Leonard Davis
Jacob Farowich
George Gudis
Martin Traugot
Sam Pollack
Rae Korkin
Anne Simon
Rose Werner
Rose Friedman

February 20

Carolyn Weinberger
Robert Hyatt
Simon Korkin
Ben Lang
Bertram H. Joseph Jr.
Yetta M. Konigsberg
Deborah Rabin Freeman
Isadore Misner
Henrietta H. Samuel
Rabbi Matthew Derby
Herbert Davis
Hyman Kligman
Yvonne Fribourg
Erma Gerson
Richard E Carter
Riva Golden
Sandra Hawkins

February 27

Rose Greenberg
Jack Balaban
Annie Rebecca Striner
Daniel Davis
Jerome S. Gerson
Leopold Fleischmann
Blanche K. Jacobs
Samuel G. Herrman
Gussie Kligman
Jerry Spritz
Isaac Gutman
Edward H. Jacobs
Lalla Block Arnstein
Fannie Fisher Harris
Catherine R Carter
Edwin Deitch
Penelope Blackwell
Harry Ruben

Heska Amuna Synagogue

February 7

Joseph Busch
Lillian Klein
Alexander Licht
Rose Shapiro
Jacob Goodstein
Anne Dolinka
Lillian Morrison
Hilda Presser
Lena Rosenfield
Sarah Rubenstein
Charles Silverman
Harry Strauss
Helen Hahn

February 14

Milton Finkelstein
Rose Imbrey
Phillip Pensak
Lela Lippner
Dora Smith
Fran Sturm
Joseph Richer
Mary Bernard
Daniel Garland
John Gitman
Clarice Weinstein
Myer Sachs
Louis Tischler
Max Finkelstein
Louis Balloff
Isadore Kleg
Sam Piatas

February 21

Ethel Brown
Saul Cohen
Chaya Goodstein
Frances Klein
Mollie Saroff
Harry Ziskind
Harold Brown
Louis Joffe
Hertha Lindheim
Joseph Billig
Abraham Fay
Jack Feld
David Rabin
Ida Brown
Albert Fadem
Clarence Mann
Caryl Schweitzer
Herbert Davis
Samuel Green
Alfred Levin
Barnett Mackta
Isadore Presser
Randy Schwartz

February 28

Howard Blumenthal
Esther Mann

February 28

Marilyn Shorr
Isaac Corkland
Gertrude Danziger
Rose Delinsky
Elizabeth Farkas
Rose Leeds
Nathan Oleshansky
Miriam Ring
Abe Slovis
John Walton
Robert Moore
Max Robinson
Doris Rothbart
Morris Shagan
Harold Adams
Florence Lieberman
Harry Moskowitz
Molly Botnick
Gerson Corkland
Herbert Himes
Ethel Rywell
Anna Snyder
Zelda Levin
Celia Polasky
Rita Solomon
Joseph Gluck
David Levine

ADS

ADS

Ha' Kol is a joint community project

The Jewish Community Archives of
Knoxville and East Tennessee



The Way We Were

Penny postcard announcing a Jewish Community Center New Year's Eve party – perhaps from the 1930s? Does anyone remember when this party was held? Does anyone remember Norman Weisman? We know someone with that name played basketball on the very first JCC basketball team in 1931 (where he was identified in the AJCC's 50th Anniversary Booklet (1979) as "Norman Weisman of Indianapolis"), and we know that, according to the Jewish Community Center's Silver Anniversary booklet (1954), he was the Center's first paid director, hired during the 1935-1936 tenure of Max Friedman as president. The booklet does not tell us how long Norman stayed (though Nathan Rothberg was director from 1940-1942).

Can you help enhance our knowledge of The Way We Were? Please contact Nicki Russler, KJA Archivist, at russler@jewishknoxville.org or (865) 690-6343.