



Ha'Kol

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



February 2021

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It's Campaign Kick Off Time in Knoxville

By Renee' Hyatt, 2021 KJA Vice President for Campaign

KJA Campaign 2021 will kick off on **Sunday, February 7**, and will continue full throttle for the entire month of February. A KJA board member or community volunteer will be calling you to take your pledge. *Please, please, please* answer your phone even if you don't recognize the calling number, especially on February 7, since your solicitor may be trying to contact you. And, yes, after you answer the call, please be generous with your pledge.

You may also make your pledge by clicking **DONATE** on the KJA website, www.jewishknoxville.org or **contacting the KJA office** directly at office@jewishknoxville.org any time before our official kickoff.

Our KJA Campaign 2021 goal is \$290,000. Your pledge will help support our organization as a whole. You also may designate funds to support one of more than 15 programs under KJA's wide umbrella.

I'm confident **we** can reach **our** goal when everyone in the community participates.

By all working together, we can make this happen!

Knoxville Jewish Alliance

Ha'Kol



What does your gift to the KJA Annual Campaign support?

The Knoxville Jewish Alliance Annual Campaign Helps Good Things Happen

Building Jewish Community

Summers at the pool. BBYO for our teens. Our monthly *Ha'Kol* newsletter. Family bowling days. Knoxville schmoozing. Young Jewish Adults of Knoxville (YJAK) events and outings...and so much more! The Knoxville Jewish Alliance builds and promotes opportunities for Jews in the greater Knoxville metro to gather. It brings us closer together and allows us to feel connected to a community.

Preserving Our History

KJA is home to the Jewish community of Knoxville's historic Archives, which maintains the records of individuals, families, culture and events. The Archives is not only a repository of materials, it is the keeper of the story of who we are, and who we have been, as a Jewish community.

Hillel at UTK

Hillel at UTK provides a "home away from home" for the University of Tennessee's Jewish students. During the isolation created by COVID-19, this program has been more important than ever. Students receive care packages to help them celebrate Shabbat, Passover and other holidays. They socialize through social media groups, Zoom sessions, and safely-distanced gatherings like Shabbat hot cocoa around a campfire, and tashlich by the river on Yom Kippur.

Fighting Anti-Semitism

KJA spearheads many local community initiatives to represent the Jewish voice in the fight against anti-Semitism. We hosted vigils, coordinated mass public media campaigns, represented Jewish students on campus when "The Rock" was defiled with anti-Semitic graffiti, and advocated in our public school systems to support high school students.

Ensuring Jewish Burial

KJA, in partnership with other area Jewish organizations, provides for Jewish burial rites and interment for Jews who cannot pay for end-of-life expenses.

PJ Library

This program brings Jewish holidays, values, and stories to our community's children. Each month, families receive a Jewish book, and can participate in programming for children and caregivers. With the restrictions imposed by COVID-19, PJ Library virtual programming, story reading, and other activities helped our children feel connected and provided activities for children in their homes.



KJA Archives Committee members



Hillel at UTK celebrates Shabbat in the Smokies in early 2020. Cultural programming entertains and educates.



Sustaining Memory of the Holocaust

KJA not only coordinates an annual community Yom HaShoah observance, but in 2020, was instrumental in installing a historical marker downtown near the East Tennessee History Center to honor local Holocaust hero Master Sergeant Roddie Edmonds, one of only five Americans to be honored by Yad Vashem in Israel as a Righteous Among the Nations.



Preschool at AJCC

The Preschool at the AJCC is one of the most highly-rated preschools in the area and one of the few area childcare programs that has an infant care program, which was added in 2019.

Preschool at AJCC provides a caring environment with Jewish values and cultural content for our youngest community members, from ages infants through pre-kindergarten. After closing for a few weeks at the beginning of the pandemic, the preschool reopened after extensive training on social distancing, sanitizing, and other measures to combat the spread of COVID-19. This allowed our families to work in our communities, knowing that their children were being nurtured and educated by childcare professionals.

Israel

KJA supports Israel and teaches our community about Israeli culture, art, history and society through different events, programs and initiatives. We work with Partnership2Gether Southeast Consortium. We look forward to future community trips to Israel. KJA sponsored a virtual tour of Jerusalem this year.

Seniors

Members of our community visit seniors in independent living, assisted living, and nursing home facilities. They bring challah on Shabbat and host holiday parties. During COVID-19, Jewish Family Services is hosting virtual coffee klatch meet-ups.

Combating Racism

The Community Relations Committee supports the civil rights of minorities in Knoxville. We participate in Martin Luther King, Jr. Day events and other community programs. KJA sponsored a workshop on “Being an Anti-Racist Jew” in which participants examined the intricate power systems of race and privilege in the U.S., and our individual and communal roles as Jews in challenging the structures and ideologies that uphold racism and white supremacy.

Promoting Jewish Culture and Identity

From lectures on Jewish history to Sundown in the Sukkah to exhibitions by Jewish artists to virtual meetings with Israeli authors, KJA programs help us engage in lifelong learning about Jewish life.

Jewish Summer Camp

Knoxville Jewish Alliance’s Arnstein Jewish Community Center 13-acre campus is home to a fun-filled Jewish summer camp. Children create lifelong memories, learn to swim, and generally have a blast. Despite this summer’s pandemic difficulties, Milton Collins Day Camp opened with social distancing measures and safety precautions and was able to provide our community’s children with a safe summer of fun.



Knoxville Jewish Alliance partners with Status Dough (Bearden and Downtown)

KJA CAMPAIGN KICKOFF FUNDRAISER

February 7-28, 15% of your order price will be donated to the KJA 2021 Annual Campaign when you mention "KJA"

Status Dough is now certified kosher dairy!

6535 Kingston Pike
418 S. Gay Street, Suite 101

Not valid when ordering through third party app or delivery service




STATUS • DOUGH

doughnuts & coffee



KJA volunteers typically participate in Knoxville’s MLK, Jr. Parade.

Proposed MASTER PLAN for the Knoxville Jewish Alliance Campus

By Bryan Goldberg and Jeff Becker

During a series of community meetings in 2018 and 2019 called “Sharing the Dream” and 18 smaller parlor “meet-up” meetings with 160 participants, a vision for the future of Knoxville Jewish community was formed. A main tenet of this vision was the concept of an AJCC Campus that involved expansion and renovation of the AJCC facility. Included in this campus concept were new buildings that could potentially house a day school, a community garden, synagogues, and green space areas. The Knoxville Jewish Day School (KJDS) was especially interested in a place on the campus to build a new facility to replace its rented space. In early 2019 a Task Force was formed out of the Community Wide Assembly to develop a Master Plan for the KJA/AJCC Campus with the following members (listed alphabetically): Jonathan Branton, Bryan Goldberg, Ed Hunter, Wes Johnson, Chip Rayman, and Pace Robinson — representing KJA/AJCC; Jeff Becker, Rob Blitt, Lou Gauci, Gloria Greenfield, and Manny Herz — representing the Knoxville Jewish Day School (KJDS).

The task force interviewed three highly-respected architectural firms that had experience in planning campus-like developments for churches and other entities. The firm of Brewer Ingram Fuller with head architects Lee Ingram and Thomas Ingram was chosen to develop a Master Plan for the KJA/AJCC Campus. The input to the firm involved an in-depth survey of the property, considerations of property set-backs and road access, and input from the task force and KJDS and KJA members in consideration of the needs for summer camp, AJCC expansion, location of a KJDS building, a community garden and other placements. After many months of back-and-forth discussions, a Master Plan was presented and is shown below. Please see the notations on page 5 for orientation.

We think this Master Plan is a great starting concept for a true campus for the Knoxville Jewish community. It is our hope that this plan forms a conceptual representation of what our community expressed a desire for these past three years. We both look forward to working with the overall community to translate what has been designed on paper, into shovels in the ground.



MASTER PLAN Orientation Guide

To orient:

North- top of drawing and Deane Hill Drive; **East** - right; **South** - bottom and railroad; **West** - left.

- **Orange Buildings** - Current AJCC/KJA buildings. A potential future addition to AJCC is penciled in with a new access road from Deane Hill Dr. to allow turn around for drop-off at AJCC and parking lot access. A space for a Community Garden is designated below the current AJCC building.
- **Baby pool** indicated in oval and main pool to right of baby pool with tennis courts in dark green.
- **Lot 1** - current parking lot.
- **Lot 2** - Set back space from Deane Hill Drive required by city and county ordinances.
- **Lot 3** - Open space on slope.
- **Lot 4** - Site for future building - Synagogue? Other?
- **Space in front of Lot 4 for future parking** and to the right of that is space of current and future fields for camp. A walking path is designed to loop around Lot 4 and continue into property.
- **Yellow building** - indicates possible placement of KJDS, with loop road property entrance across from Golf Club Road. (placement is required by city-county ordinance) for accessing KJDS (and Lot 4 in future). Access road has turnaround for fire trucks (required by city-county ordinance for schools). New sidewalks are placed to connect AJCC, KJDS, and parking lot 1.
- **Future Loop Drive on South or property** is shown only as a possible addition. Drainage easement to right of playing field is area not compatible for building.

Hillel at UTK Highlights

Introducing Our 2021 President

My name is Navit Nachmias. I am from Plymouth, MN. I come from a big family of seven kids and two dogs. Growing up I went to a Jewish day school. At home, I grew up speaking Hebrew with my family, as my dad is from Israel. When choosing a college, I wanted to go somewhere outside the Midwest, so I chose UTK. I am currently a junior majoring in anthropology with a forensics concentration and Spanish. I am active in Hillel at UTK and the Women's Ultimate Frisbee team. I am excited to serve as Hillel's President in 2021.



On Our Campus

Hillel at UTK was chosen as a Repair the World grant recipient through the Serve the Moment campaign. The grant provides funds for a student intern and programming to engage UTK students in partnerships for meaningful service and learning. Through campus and community partnerships, we will make an impact for Spring 2021. Follow us (@utkhillel on Instagram) to learn how we are making a difference through Tikkun VOLam!



Led by 2020 President, Paige Motley, and 2021 President, Navit Nachmias, Hillel at UTK is leading the charge for policy change for The

Rock to be a campus space of free expression and to eliminate messages aimed at vulnerable student populations. A student-led petition for policy change has generated more than 500 signatures in a short time. If you are a student or employee at UTK, please add your signature at change.org with Change The Rock Off Campus Policy. Todah rabah!



In Our Movement

Connections with the Hillel International movement are crucial to our successful organization. Hillel at UTK was highlighted in the 2020 College Guide "The Great Outdoors" for our February 2020 Shabbaton in the Smokies connecting nature to Judaism. In December,

Director Tara Bain usually spends a week at the Hillel International Global Assembly. This year being virtual, she spent two weeks learning with colleagues about student engagement, Jewish education, and best practices.



Volunteer Marty Iroff prepares to remove a wall in the KJA Staff Offices. New flooring and fixtures will provide more efficient workspaces.

YOUNG JEWISH ADULTS OF KNOXVILLE

YJAK VIRTUAL ESCAPE ROOM

JOIN YJAK FOR VIRTUAL ESCAPE ROOM EXPERIENCE
ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22 AT 7 PM!
LIMITED SLOTS SO YOU MUST RSVP!
RSVP TO PROGRAM@KNOXVILLEJEWISH.ORG



JFS Virtual Coffee Klatch Thursdays at 10 a.m.

RSVP to Laura Berry at LBerry@jewishknoxville.org for the
zoom log-in link

KJA Contributions

Received by December 31, 2020

Bill Brody Fund

In loving memory of Frank Wilson

- ★ Richard Hilliard

Dewey Reich Chesed

Shel Emet Fund

In memory of Henry Fribourg

- ★ Jeff and Charlene Gubitz

Ha'Kol Newsletter

In honor of Bryan Goldberg's

KJA Presidency

- ★ Sheryl Kartzmer and Alan Goldberg

JFS Emergency Fund

For food bank assistance

- ★ Mark Homer

Hillel at UTK

- ★ Dalia Faupel
- ★ Michael Dzik

KJA Programs

- ★ Sherri Quint

Knoxville Against Hate

- ★ Jeremy Mitchell

In honor of Jean Begue

- ★ Jason Begue

For installation of the Master Sergeant

Roddie Edmonds marker

- ★ Robert and Carole Martin

Preschool at AJCC

In honor of Kristen Cannon

- ★ Maureen Dunn McBride

KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Ha'Kol

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KJA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Joyce York, Editor and Graphic Designer
Bryan Goldberg, Publisher

In-Kind Donations to KJA

*Materials to recoat areas of
the AJCC Parking Lot*

- ★ Marty and Martha Iroff

Because of possible coronavirus –related postponements & cancellations, please double check any activity listed within *Ha’Kol* to ensure the event is still occurring.

FEBRUARY 2021

Knoxville Jewish Alliance 2021 Annual Campaign Month — www.jewishknoxville.org/donate

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 4p <i>Mincha</i> & Torah chat-HA 6p KJA Exec Comm	2 1p Torah Chat with Rabbi Boxt-TBE 8p Ma'ariv (Minyan)-HA	3 Noon Executive Mifgash Manhigim-TBE 4:30p Midwk Hebrew-TBE 6:30p Minyan service-HA 7p Board-HA 7p Talmud Study Group-HA	4 10a Jewish Family Services Virtual Coffee Klatch-Zoom 11a Torah Study/Adult Ed -TBE 2p <i>Mincha</i> (Minyan) & Talmud Chat w Rabbi-HA 8p Discussion Group-HA	5 5:81p Noon Mindfulness Practice w Rabbi-HA 6:30p Kabbalat Shabbat-HA 7p Shabbat Service-TBE	6 6:48p 10a Shabbat Service-HA 6p Havdalah Service-TBE
7 KJA Campaign Kickoff 9:30a Religious School-TBE 10a Religious School-HA 2p <i>Shtisel</i>: A Conversation with the Show Creator-Zoom 7p Confirmation Class-HA Deadline: (see page 9) PJ Library Art Competition	8 4p <i>Mincha</i> & Torah chat-HA	9 Noon UT Solomon Lecture 1--Zoom 1p Torah Chat with Rabbi Boxt-TBE 7p Healing Service w/ Rabbi Boxt & Steve Lewis -TBE 8p Ma'ariv (Minyan) -HA	10 4:30p Midwk Hebrew-TBE 6:30p Minyan service-HA 6:30p Board of Directors-TBE 7p Talmud Study Group-HA	11 10a Jewish Family Services Virtual Coffee Klatch-Zoom 11a Torah Study/Adult Ed -TBE 2p <i>Mincha</i> (Minyan) & Talmud Chat w Rabbi-HA 8p Discussion Group-HA	12 5:56p Noon Mindfulness Practice w Rabbi-HA 6:30p Kabbalat Shabbat-HA 7p Shabbat Service-TBE	13 6:54p 10a Shabbat Service-HA 6p Havdalah Service-TBE
14 9:30a Religious School-TBE 10a Religious School-HA Noon Confirmation class-TBE	15 4p <i>Mincha</i> & Torah chat-HA	16 1p Torah Chat with Rabbi Boxt-TBE 7:30p Hadassah Book Group-The Book of V-Zoom 8p Ma'ariv (Minyan)-HA 	17 4:30p Midwk Hebrew-TBE 6:30p Minyan service-HA 7p Talmud Study Group-HA 7p Hadassah Board-Zoom 7p UT Solomon lecture 2 -Zoom	18 10a Jewish Family Services Virtual Coffee Klatch-Zoom 11a Torah Study/Adult Ed -TBE 2p <i>Mincha</i> (Minyan) & Talmud Chat w Rabbi-HA 8p Discussion Group-HA	19 6:03p Noon Mindfulness Practice w Rabbi-HA 6:30p Kabbalat Shabbat-HA 7p Hadassah Shabbat Service-TBE	20 7:01p 10a Hadassah Shabbat Service-HA 6p Havdalah Service-TBE
21 9:30a Religious School-TBE 19a Adult Education class w/ Rabbi Boxt-TBE 10a Religious School Purim Celebration-HA 7p Confirmation Class-HA	22 4p <i>Mincha</i> & Torah chat-HA 7p KJA YJAK Virtual Escape Room Experience via Zoom	23 1p Torah Chat with Rabbi Boxt-TBE 7p KJCFF Board-Zoom 7p Healing Service w/ Rabbi Boxt & Steve Lewis -TBE 8p Ma'ariv (Minyan)-HA	24 4:30p Midwk Hebrew-TBE 6:30p Minyan service-HA 7p Talmud Study Group-HA	25 10a Jewish Family Services Virtual Coffee Klatch-Zoom 11a Torah Study/Adult Ed -TBE 2p <i>Mincha</i> (Minyan) & Talmud Chat w Rabbi-HA	26 6:10p Purim Noon Mindfulness Practice w/ Rabbi-HA 6:30p Kabbalat Shabbat-HA 7p Shabbat Service-TBE 	27 7:07p 10a Shabbat Service-HA 6p Havdalah Service-TBE
28 9:30a Religious School-TBE 10a Religious School-HA						

Celebrate Purim
Friday, February 26



K N O X V I L L E

The Karen and Pace Robinson Lecture in Modern Israel Presents

Shtisel, Meet the Show Creator

Sunday, Feb. 7 | 2:00 PM via Zoom

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
tiny.utk.edu/Shtisel3

 JUDAIC STUDIES

Abraham and Rebecca Solomon and Ida Schwartz Distinguished Lecture Series in Judaic Studies presents

Preserving Jewish Culture: Growing Spirituality in a Contemporary Jewish Agricultural Program

Arielle Agababa Levites, PhD, George Washington University

Tuesday, February 9, Noon-2 p.m. via Zoom

Sustainability and Spirituality in the Jewish Community Farming Movement

Adrienne Krone, PhD, Allegheny College

Wednesday, February 17 at 7 p.m. via Zoom

This year's lecture series will focus on the contemporary Jewish agricultural and farming movement. In recent years Jews have been engaged in a back to the soil movement which has been infused with Jewish spiritual renewal. The movement has resulted in goats and chickens replacing tennis courts at Jewish Community Centers, religious services held in the forest, and the creation of communal farms dedicated to everything from organic farming to revitalizing Yiddish. This series examines this emerging movement.



*Arielle Agababa
Levites, PhD*

Dr. Arielle Levites is the managing director of CASJE (Consortium for Applied Studies in Jewish Education). Her research focuses on contemporary American Jewish education. Her manuscript, *Raising Jewish Spirits: American Jews, Religious Emotion, and American Spirituality*, is under advance contract with Rutgers University Press. She has conducted applied studies on behalf of American Jewish educational enterprises, with a focus on young adults and teens. Her work has been recognized with awards from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, and the Network for Research in Jewish Education. She holds a BA from Brown University in Religious Studies, a MEd in Religious Education from the University of Pennsylvania, and a PhD from NYU in Education and Jewish Studies.



Dr. Adrienne Krone is an assistant professor of Religious Studies and Director of Jewish Life at Allegheny College. She has a bachelor of arts degree from Stony Brook University and both a masters of arts and doctoral degree on from Duke University. Areas of interest include history of religion in the U.S., Modern Judaism, religion and food.

*Adrienne Krone,
PhD*

H A P P E N I N G S

Suzy Snoops

Ha’Kol welcomes your good news. Please send information to jjork@jewishknoxville.org. You can also mail your news to Ha’Kol newsletter. c/o Knoxville Jewish Alliance, 6800 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville TN 37919

- ★ **Lou Gross** and **Marilyn Kallet** are excited to be new grandparents. Mazel tov to daughter Heather and husband, Mark Hanselman, on the birth of Jack Alexander Hanselman.
- ★ **Jeff Markman** becoming the third generation to join Markman’s Jeweler’s was a feature article in the December 30 *Shopper News*. Learn more at <https://www.knoxnews.com/story/shopper-news/bearden/2020/12/30/markmans-jewelers-going-strong-bearden-since-1976/>.
- ★ Good news abounds for former KJA staff. Mazel tov to former KJA employee **Jesse Feld** and wife **Anna**, who welcomed a son, Judah Benjamin Feld, on December 28. **Ron Gubitz**, son of **Jeff** and **Charlene Gubitz**, is now the Tulane Hillel director.
- ★ Mazel tov to **Sharon and Rich Berube** on the engagement of son **Bryan** to Priya Mohan, daughter of Madhan and Sasura Mohan and on son **Jason**'s engagement to Amanda Spero, daughter of Rhonda and Tony Spero.
- ★ Mazel tov **Rachel and David Ortiz**, on the birth of son, Ezra Abraham. Proud sisters are Eliana and Zahava. Grandparents are Michael Zemel and Siri Datar–Khalsa Zemel, Paula Carney, and David Ortiz, Sr.

Around the World in 8 days: Menorah From My Window

In an effort to connect our Knoxville Jewish community over Hannukah during the isolation of the pandemic, the Sharing the Dream initiative created a Facebook group, *Menorah from my Window*. A twist on the “view from my window” Facebook page which



gained popularity during the early months of the pandemic and the Jewish tradition of placing one’s menorah in a window or other location where its light can be seen, the idea was for Knoxville Jewish community members to share photographs of their menorahs so that we could collectively light candles together.

What started as a local effort to share a little light became a world-wide social media outreach that connected Jews around the world. It started with our community members snapping photographs of putting up Hannukah decorations and by the afternoon of the first night of Hannukah, pictures of lit menorahs began appearing from Israel, Berlin, Amsterdam and the United Kingdom. Then came photos from other places in the United States. Later that night, menorahs in California and Hawaii appeared and by the next morning the light of Hannukah was lit and posted from Australia.

By the eighth night of Hannukah, 1,500 people had joined our Knoxville Hannukah celebration. People posted the stories of their menorahs passed down for generations, sharing their sufganiot recipes, their photos with their families zooming in, and most of all, their gratitude that we had created this welcoming space for them to feel a part of a community during the pandemic.

Chattanooga Public Library Announces Holocaust Exhibit Postponement

The Chattanooga Public Library will postpone the travelling exhibition *Americans and the Holocaust*. Initially scheduled to open January 2021, the exhibit will now be coming to Chattanooga in January 2023. The tour is sponsored by the American Library Association and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The Chattanooga Public Library was chosen to be one of 50 host libraries of 250 that applied. Based on the special exhibition of the same name at the Museum in Washington, D.C., it is designed to examine the motives, pressures and fears that shaped Americans’ responses to Nazism, war and genocide in Europe during the 1930s and 1940s.

TEMPLE BETH EL TIMES



Shalom Y'all!

By Rabbi Erin Boxt

Have you ever woken up and immediately crawled right back into bed, under the covers? Perhaps you had a difficult night, a restless night, or maybe you experienced complicated dreams. When we close our eyes at night to sleep, our body takes the time to replenish its energy, repairing cells, tissues, and muscles. Deep sleep is restorative and is required so that we feel awake and refreshed the next day. It is during REM sleep (rapid eye movement) where dreaming occurs. Our brains process information during REM sleep, which is vital for learning and memory.

The Talmud refers to sleep as 1/60th of death. While our eyes are closed, our conscious powers become weakened and we lose control of many of our bodily faculties. However, this time is of vast importance for our soul. Our soul is rejuvenated; according to tradition, our souls are united with the Source (God) above and spiritually renewed and recharged. According to Kabbalistic thought, our soul's essential powers are strengthened while we sleep.

In his halachic work, *Mishneh Torah*, Rabbi Moses ben Maimon (Maimonides/RAMBAM) recommended people should get eight hours of sleep per night. Maimonides was not just a learned rabbi; he was also a medical doctor. He wrote, "A day and night together lasts 24 hours. It is sufficient that a person sleeps one third of that time, which is 8 hours. It should be at the end of the night so that there will be from the beginning of his sleep till sunrise eight hours. One will then be found to rise from his bed before sunrise." He continues with how a person should sleep (not on his front or his back, but rather on his side) and even writes about the danger of eating before sleeping. Maimonides recommends one wait 3-4 hours after eating before going to sleep.

The great teachers of the Mussar movement taught their disciples that there would be plenty of time to sleep in the grave. Instead, their students were encouraged to study Torah late into the night. As the morning service had to be recited early, it was difficult to find 8 hours to sleep. In a way, sleep was viewed as a luxury – reserved for Shabbat – the day of rest and leisure.

As with so many ideas or aspects of life, we find multiple ideas and explanations throughout Jewish history. While sleep is certainly physically and spiritually important, the study of Torah is also significantly important for all of us. Perhaps there is a compromise. After all, many of us often wish for more hours in every day! Regardless, for your health and safety, make sure to get enough sleep. Study Torah as well – and we can all celebrate on Shabbat with rest and joy!



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19 Sh'vat-16 Adar 5781

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Blessing For The Mitzvah Of Putting On A Mask

Baruch ata, Adonai Eloheinu, בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
Melech ha-olam, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
v'tzivanu al shmirat hanefesh. וְצִוָּנוּ עַל שְׁמִירַת הַנֶּפֶשׁ

Blessed are You, Eternal our God,
Sovereign of the world,
who has sanctified us with commandments,
and commanded us to protect life.

TBE President's Remarks

By Kathy Young, TBE President

Hello, fellow TBE family. Won't you be my Valentine? Obviously, I don't mean that literally. But February is the month of love. So, who do I love? My family, of course. My TBE family. Your patience during these difficult times has been inspirational. We are a strong congregation, supporting each other during good times and bad. It is so important that we continue the love and support for each and every member. The Caring Committee is here for any of your needs. Please feel free to reach out to Deborah Roberts if you need assistance. Rabbi Erin Boxt and I are always available if you have any questions or concerns.

I look forward to the day when we are all together in person. May it be God's will that it is soon.



TBE to Study Reopening Options

By Kathy Young, President

I am guessing that people are tired of being cooped up and are wondering WHEN we will get back to some semblance of normalcy. What is happening behind the scenes at TBE in terms of reopening the building? The Executive Committee recently met with Jay Gellman, a Union for Reform Judaism representative, who was part of a committee instrumental in establishing policies and procedures for the reopening of his Temple in Florida. Gellman shared several outlines for us to review and tweak as appropriate for TBE.

I have asked Larry Tucker to reconvene his committee with fresh eyes. My hope is that we will have something to present to the general membership no later than the annual meeting in May — or sooner if possible.

If you are interested in working on this project, please contact Larry Tucker. I know he will welcome your input. In the meantime, please know that the reopening is being given the highest priority, with keeping everyone's health and safety first and foremost.



COVID-19 UPDATE

The Board of Directors of Temple Beth El appointed a committee at the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis to assess the possibility of reopening our building for services and social events. This committee, made up of Temple members, including a medical doctor, assess the data from the city, county, state and CDC. They look at the numbers on at least a daily basis. They have set up protocols for the use of the building and track anyone coming into the building for any reason.

The Board of Directors is anxious to reopen the building and bring the Temple Beth El family back to some sort of normalcy. We feel this must be done responsibly to keep everyone (clergy, staff, congregants and guests) safe. We want to assure everyone that we are taking the data very seriously and want to open as soon as the data shows that we are safe. Thank you all for your understanding.

Kathy Young,
President



Thank you to everyone who donated to our Sisterhood “Drive-Thru” donation collection for Second Harvest.

Per Second Harvest of East Tennessee, we gathered 200 pounds of food!

This collection will enable Second Harvest to provide more than 166 meals to those in need in our 18-county East Tennessee Service area.



Temple Beth El Religious School February 2021 Update

By Norma James, Religious School Director, normajames@tbeknox.org

February is here!

Are we closer to having Religious School in person? It will take a while for the dark days of winter to pass and for more of us to get our vaccinations. I would like to once again praise the fine work of our teachers. It is important to tell all of our students how proud we are of you. You are really hanging in there with your virtual religious school and your Hebrew lessons. We may not be together, but we can always share our love of our Jewish community and Judaism.

Explore the Internet for wonderful activities for your family.

Whenever I am looking for a video, song, or story for my virtual class, I search the Internet for possibilities. YouTube has so many of these videos that you can explore. There are also Jewish websites designed for young children and family education. Just take a look. Browse like you would anything else. There is so much out there. If you like Pinterest, that is a great site for craft ideas.



Chai Class

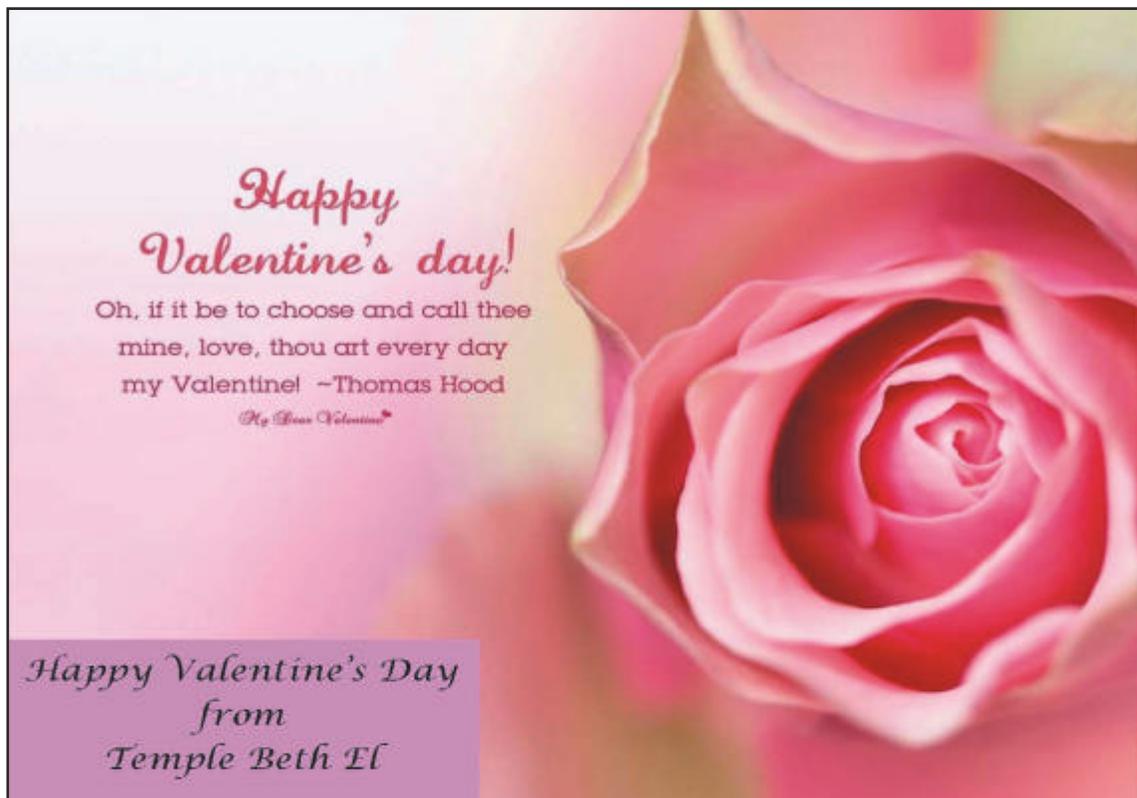
Purim? Of Course!

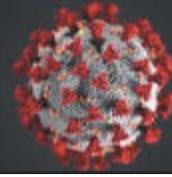
Our Purim celebration will look different this year. Ordinarily we would have our Purim Carnival on Sunday, February 21. If you remember, our Purim Carnival was on the very last day we had Religious School last year. Hard to believe that we are still dealing with a pandemic. At least we had a great event as our final get together. This year we will need to do some special planning to make Purim a special event. Our teachers will come up with some great ideas. Look for special emails about our plans.



Passover is just around the corner.

Wouldn't it be great if we could celebrate together? Last year we learned how to have Zoom seders that were lots of fun. Let's hope we can be together this March.





WELCOME 2021: A New Year's Poem in Memory of 2020's Year of COVID-19

By Rise Tucker December 20, 2020

*Welcome the New Year
Another trip around the sun
If ever a New Year was needed
It's 2021!*

*With Earth spinning on her axis
2020 brought despair
The deadly coronavirus
Spread through droplets in the air*

*Doctors and nurses stood vigil at bedside
Heads bowed in defeat, Oh, how hard they'd tried
To slay this Goliath—this demon unknown
They prayed silently lest their fears become known*

*Like sands through an hourglass
Loved-ones fell to the abyss
Deprived their final moments
Not allowed just one last kiss*

*With no silver bullet up to the task
Our only defense was to wear a face mask
That, and standing at a distance
Yet these simple defenses were met with re-
sistance*

*For along with fighting the stubborn virus
A more insidious foe lurked among us
And like the virus there was no quick fix
For the pernicious bug called Politics*

*With COVID on every voter's mind
Folks loudly raised their voices
Voting early in person or by mail they opined
Was a safer way to make their choices.*

*States capitulated to this demand
The votes were counted by machine and by hand
But on Election night folks went to bed
Not knowing for certain what the nation had said.*

*2020 was a year of self-examination
Protests formed all around the nation
Even COVID-19 could not make them pause
True Americans never abandon their cause*

*Division plagued our democracy
While COVID ruined our economy
Strange that the Dow somehow was stable
While millions struggled to put food on the table*

*But now, as December is slowly fading
A miracle—the arrival we've long been awaiting
A COVID vaccine – A shot in the arm!
Data showed it was safe,
could be used without harm*

*As we stand on the brink of 2021,
Ready for a new trip round the sun,
Let's give thanks to everyone
Who risked their lives to save someone*

*Doctors, nurses, first responders, and all
Essential businesses, large and small
Teachers and volunteers who answered the call
The scientists who worked to make sense of it all
And to God who would not let mankind fall.*

*And for those who caught COVID, got sick and died
Those who can't join us on this New Year ride
We will kiss them in our memory
Hug them in our hearts for eternity.*

*So let's raise our glasses and follow the sun
As it rises each morning a new day is begun
Let's catch a ride on the wings of a dove
And bring in the New Year
with peace, hope and love.*



Temple Beth El's Purim Carnival was one of the last events before the COVID-19 shutdown. Enjoy some smiling faces and look forward to seeing one another soon.



Above:
Sarah May and family

Left:
Michael Gamer
and Anna Friendt



Wilma Weinstein-Lomax is all smiles.

If you would like to connect with TBE on Zoom, here are the links to our services:

★ Kabbalat Shabbat Services on Friday evenings at 7 p.m.:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/835560058>
 Meeting ID: 835 560 058
 Password: 788114



★ Havdalah services on Saturday evenings at 6 p.m.:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/405314387>
 Meeting ID: 405 314 387
 Password: 178744

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

1. If you have a laptop, smartphone, or tablet, you can download the app in advance.
2. If not, no worries! There are other options! You are either able to call in using a landline/cell phone or video conference in via a computer/phone/iPad with a camera. Both options are listed below.

To call in:

1. Under, DIAL BY LOCATION, call the number below that says NEW YORK (meaning East Coast). You will then have to enter the Meeting ID
2. To video conference:
 1. Click link below that says JOIN ZOOM MEETING.
 2. Something will pop up to download ZOOM (allow it).
 3. Once downloaded, the meeting should open. Please make sure to check off "Use Computer Audio"

If you are able, please make sure to mute yourself so noise doesn't come through the speakers into the group.

On laptops/smartphones/tablets, there is a mute button. On the video conference, there is a mute button on the bottom left corner of the video screen. On landlines, there is not really a way to mute!

FACEBOOK INSTRUCTIONS

You do not need a Facebook account to watch/see our Facebook page, but you do need one to interact with the videos!

Temple Beth El New Member Spotlight

By Missy Noon, Membership Committee Chair

Lori Raskin moved to Knoxville eight months ago from Southern California where she had lived for 42 years. Lori has two sons. One son lives in Wisconsin and the other son and his family are here in Knoxville. Lori has four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Lori's passions include machine knitting, crocheting, and reading. She looks forward to meeting the members of our Jewish community

Gail and Nick Kunish live in Crossville along with their five dogs and two cats. One of their dogs is a trained therapy dog who travels with Gail to local schools and Head Start programs. Gail reads to the children while her dog visits with them.

Gail and Nick are originally from the Northeast but they enjoy the traditions and cooking of the South. Like many of us, they love to eat out but haven't been able to do much of that since the pandemic. In addition, they enjoy performances at the Cumberland County Playhouse. Gail and Nick have one son, Nicholas Drake, and a daughter-in-law, Michelle Marie. When COVID-19 tapers off, both look forward to getting involved in the Jewish community.



Gail and Nick Kunish

A Note From New TBE Member, Elizabeth (Beth) Pline

I am excited to join Temple Beth El. I came late to Judaism in 2013. I converted a year later and performed my Bas Mitzvah in December 2019. I am a student of the Mussar and just beginning a deeper study of the Torah. My father's family had a Jewish background when they came to the US from Spain (the Basque region) in the early 1800s. They were part of the first wave of settlers to homestead in Idaho. While my father did not practice Judaism, he and my mother attended one of the more liberal Christian churches – the United Church of Christ (better known as the UCC).

I am married to my high school sweetheart – we dated on and off for 21 years and married 27 years ago. We have one daughter who works in Las Vegas as a sound engineer and she also has a therapeutic practice where she helps victims of violence to heal using the creative arts. My husband, Tom Brown, retired from 20 years with the Orvis Company where he worked as the fly-fishing manager at the Roanoke, VA store.

I earned my bachelor's in organizational behavior degree from the University of Alabama on a swimming scholarship and completed my Master of Social Work at the University of Houston. For years, I worked as a clinical social worker, but then turned my attention to assisting non-profit health and human services and arts organizations to operate more effectively. Some of my clients included United Way of America, UW of Houston, UW of Charlotte, NC, and UW of Roanoke, VA. I also worked with Girl Scouts of the Virginia Skyline, Planned Parenthood of the Blue Ridge, the Roanoke Symphony and the Taubman Museum of Art. I retired in January 2020 after assisting the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine transition to become the ninth college at Virginia Tech.

I have had the wonderful experience of living in nine states in the U.S. I am the second of six children and I have 18 nieces and nephews, and another 18 great nieces and nephews. My siblings live in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. I was born in Moscow, ID, then I moved with my family moved to Seattle, WA, Eglin AFB in Pensacola, FL, Vandenberg AFB in Lompoc, CA and to Huntsville, AL in 1963. My family returned to Idaho in 1970 to live on the family farm and then we moved back to Huntsville, AL for my senior year of high school. As an adult I have lived and worked in Atlanta, Houston, Charlotte and Roanoke, VA. I have contracted to do work in Detroit, Washington DC, San Diego, CA, Madison, WI, Kansas City, MO, Oklahoma City, Baton Rouge, Calgary, Portland, Tampa, Miami, and Vancouver. When we retired, we purchased my husband's family home in Oak Ridge. We have spent the last year renovating the home from the studs up.

I am a weaver, a collector of tequilas, and a voracious reader. I look forward to becoming part of the Sisterhood and being through with COVID-19. I cannot wait until I have the opportunity to meet Temple Beth EL members and discover a new community of friends.



*Beth Pline
and Tom
Brown*



Contributions to the Funds of Temple Beth El

Donations listed were received as of December 18, 2020

CARING COMMITTEE FUND

In memory of Mandel E. Epstein

Marjorie Bornes and
Linda Weintraub

In memory of Stan Perlmutter

Paul Erwin and Renee' Hyatt

In memory of Stan Perlmutter

Susan Millis

*In honor of Ken Hirsh-wishing you a
speedy recovery*

Kathy Young

CEMETERY COMMITTEE FUND

In memory of Edith Hecht

Louis Hecht

DUES SUPPORT FUND

Lou Gross & Marilyn Kallet

ERMA GERSON COMMUNITY FUND

*In honor of Lou Gross & Marilyn Kallet's
grandbaby and Heather & Mark's baby,
Jack Hanselman*

Marc and Shelley Mangold

FRIBOURG-BRUNSCHWIG HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EDUCATION/OBSERVATION FUND

In memory of Henry Fribourg

Martha Barnwell

GENERAL FUND

Sharon Pryse

In memory of Ruth Brown

Leonard Brown

In memory of Ricka Goodfriend

Bob and Wendy Goodfriend

In memory of Maurice P. Greif

Ed Greif

In memory of Hilda Gross

Lou Gross & Marilyn Kallet

In memory of Ann Lieberman

Marcie Gross

In memory of Edith Hecht

Louis Hecht

*In memory of Ricka L. Goodfriend &
Shirlie Goodfriend*

Gary and Linda Johnson

*In appreciation of Norma James,
for all the joy she brings to TBE*

Marc and Shelley Mangold

In memory of Hilda Gross

Dan Smith

In memory of Becky Winston,

Henry Fribourg & Hilda Gross

Wilma Weinstein-Lomax

In memory of Meyer Weintraub

Ed and Linda Weintraub

In memory of Harold Winston

Larry and Barbara Winston

In memory of Hilda Gross

Kathy Young

LICHT YOUTH FUND

In honor of Genesis 12:3

James Murph

PRESERVATION FUND

In memory of Hilda Gross

Paul Erwin and Renee' Hyatt

In memory of Anna Gassel &

Hilda Gross

Liz Gassel and Michael Pardee

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Hilda Gross

Lou Gross and Marilyn Kallet

In memory of Hilda Gross

Meredith Jaffe

In memory of Gertrude Tucker

Larry and Rise Tucker

In memory of Stan Perlmutter

Kathy Young

TEMPLE BETH EL TIMES

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Temple Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday:

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday:

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Our Mission

To inspire individuals to know, live, and
shape our Jewish legacy.

In fulfilling our mission, we value our place in
the chain of traditions, the diversity of those
who seek to join us in our venture, and the
kindness essential to a sacred community.

www.tbeknox.org

SECURITY FUND

In memory of Emily W. Keisler

Chuck and Missy Noon

In memory of William Rockmaker

Steve Rockmaker

Happy Birthday to TBE Congregants

Mark Leitson, Carlie Boxt, Amelia Braude, Pat Rosenberg, Laurence Tucker,

Geoffrey Wolpert, Shaughn May, Pat Wolpert, Samuel Friedman,

Michael Pardee, Jonah Rosenberg, Jason Sandberg, Gary Sturm, Lorie Hirsh,

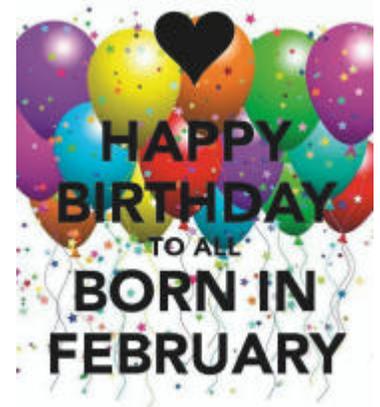
Meredith Markman, Robyn Pavan, Claire Rosenbaum, Owen Markman,

Renee Bailey, Michael Cole, Nancy Locklin-Sofer, Jason Fleischmann,

Allison Bengé, Lauren Bengé, Hayley Goldfeld, Steven Rockmaker,

Lydia Drew, Briana Rosenbaum, Wilma Weinstein-Lomax,

Robert Goodfriend, Kirk Parsons, Robert Shagan



Renewing Prayer

By Rabbi Alon C. Ferency

We find ourselves now in late winter, preparing for the early spring of the Covid pandemic. In this tragedy, too many have died, more were ill, and all sacrificed mightily. Yet, we can say confidently that humankind will survive this great tragedy, and that we've done so with strength and dignity. We will return and be revived stronger and better than ever. I'm amazed by the resilience shown by humanity. In congregation, community, and civic life, we've found new ways to engage. We call, email, use Zoom, WhatsApp, and FaceTime. We take walks, visit each other on porches, and have socially distanced meals. Social intercourse has changed, but not always frayed in the ways that we feared last spring. In some ways, we've even become stronger.



February 2021
19 Sh'vat-16 Adar 5781

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After nearly a year in various forms of quarantine, or sheltering at home, or peacetime restriction from seeing family, friends and loved ones, is the end near at hand? Will we once again be able to join each other in congregation and community, grief and celebration? Has the period of waiting drawn to an end? Not just yet. We still have a ways to go, in what may be the most treacherous, difficult time.

The end may be near; however, more is yet to come. Ancient military strategist and philosopher Sun Tzu cautioned against interfering with an army as it approaches home. They may be strained by trekking, in a state of desperation to get away from battle and combat, or perhaps distracted by the pleasures awaiting them in the relief and restoration of home. Close to home, as Sun noted, we can become not ourselves and incautious.

Likewise, today we can be proud and optimistic but never foolhardy. In Talmud we're told this cautionary tale:

"I was once on a journey when I noticed a little boy sitting at a crossroad. "By what road," I asked him, "do we go to the town?" "This one," he replied: "is short but long and that one is long but short." I proceeded along the short but long road. When I approached the town, I discovered that it was hedged in by gardens and orchards. Turning back, I said to him, "My son, did you not tell me that this road was short?" "And" he replied: "did I not also tell you: 'But long?'"

Have faith, don't give up hope and don't become sloppy: there are still risks ahead as we advance in vaccination and treatment. The path ahead is long, but short.

My Jewish-themed meditations on *Insight Timer* are found at <http://insig.ht/eclecticcleric>.

Chairman's Report

By Jeff Becker, Chair of Board of Trustees, Heska Amuna Synagogue

American *Hiloni* (The middle section of this article, in quotation marks and *italics*, were taken from an article published in *ejewishphilanthropy.com*, October 31, 2019, written by Rabbi James Greene, Assistant Executive Director, Springfield, MA, JCC)

During my post-graduate education (1970-1972) I lived in Rehovot, Israel, a small town south of Tel Aviv, while working at the renowned Weizmann Institute of Science. I returned to Rehovot for a sabbatical year (1977) and lived in Jerusalem during a second sabbatical in 1985-86. With Nancy, I led four "missions" to Israel with Jews of Knoxville. These experiences opened up a world of Judaism unknown to me from my background in the United States. I grew up in Orlando, Florida, where at that time there were three Synagogues: Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox. The only Jews I knew were those whose families associated with those congregations.

In Israel, only a minority of the Jewish population associate with those "streams" of Jewish observance. In fact, the majority of Israelis, during my years of living there and today, were *Hiloni*, or "secular" Jews. These Israeli Jews generally observed then, and today, all national holidays such as Israeli Independence Day and also many "religious" traditions: lighting Shabbat candles, holidays such as Purim and Hanukah, and Pesach (by having a Seder and vacationing in the Kinneret!). But the observances were cultural, that is, as part of the culture of Judaism developed for thousands of years, intensified by the State of Israel, and based on a kind-of tribalism, if you will. For many of the *Hiloni*, Judaism was about the culture of Judaism, based on the Torah and Jewish history, but not on the Rabbis, Talmud, and perhaps, the commandments of God.

"In the United States today, Jews are not joining religious institutions as shown by surveys and declines in affiliation rates, donations to Federations, and membership in JCCs. These trends are accompanied by a dramatic increase in "Jews of no religion" or "Jews of no denomination." In many ways, this mimics the Israeli Hiloni. However, Hiloni are now apparently attempting to reclaim Jewish identity, tradition, and values in a unique Israeli manner by studying Torah and Jewish texts and returning to communal associations. Will Jews in the United States follow the Israeli example? Is an American Hiloni emerging?"

"In a vision of American Hiloni communities, Jews on Jewish journeys will gather in both familiar and new ways. They may celebrate Shabbat with songs, food, rituals, and prayers more broadly defined. These communities may come together for holidays to connect with the values and traditions of the Jewish year cycle. They may come together for life-cycle events such as B'nai Mitzvah rituals. Perhaps some will make an entrance to Jewish community through an American Hiloni Community and eventually find themselves in a traditional Synagogue."

"Regardless of the consequences, we cannot demand that people fall in line with a system that they are unwilling to participate in. We cannot go back to a time where Jews affiliated to synagogues or institutions out of a sense of obligation. The larger social and societal structures at play cannot be ignored. Instead, we must start from a place of understanding this new reality. In the marketplace of ideas, good ones will rise to the surface. They will happen in Federations, in traditional synagogues, in JCCs, and in American Hiloni communities. This breakdown of defined roles has been difficult for many Jewish Institutions, but there is a potential it will make the community stronger and help us adapt to the changing nature of Jewish life."

Although this column is written in my role as the Board Chair of Heska Amuna Synagogue, a Conservative Judaism institution, my allegiance encompasses not only Heska Amuna, but also all Jews, Jewish culture, and all "things" Jewish. I think this is why we need to maintain the "Big Tent" of Jewish community. This inclusive community honors and accepts Jews of all affiliations and beliefs, be it Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstruction, Humanist, Non-affiliated, *Hiloni*, etc. We need to work together collectively and collaboratively, just as this *HaKol* publication represents all "streams" of Judaism in Knoxville and many supporting organizations such as Hadassah, the Knoxville Jewish Day School, and the Knoxville Jewish Family of Funds. The great strength and eternal survival of Judaism has been based partially on its ability to adapt to a changing social and religious environment. Our adaptability and inclusiveness will ensure our continuing role in providing meaning to all of our Jewish lives.

To continue my *Ha'Kol* tradition, I present brief biographical sketches of two Heska Amuna Board of Trustees members chosen at random from our 19 board members. Marilyn Burnett is our Vice Chair of Membership and Beautification and Bernard Bendriem is a Member-At-Large (*bio on page 22*). They give generously of their time and effort to Heska Amuna.



Name: Marilyn Burnett

Born and Raised: Mascot, Tennessee

Years in Knoxville: Lifetime - 81 years

Current Family: Son, Lenny Burnett; Daughter in law, Karla Espinoza Burnett; Grandson, Adrian Burnett; Step Granddaughter, Soleil Brown

Education: High School and University of Tennessee

Vocation: Office Manager, Local Architectural Firm; Owner, Kosher Catering; Kitchen Supervisor, Heska Amuna Synagogue; Piano Teacher, small children

Volunteering: Local and Regional Officer, Women's League of Conservative Judaism; Heska Amuna Board Member,

Membership Vice Chair; Co-Chair Outside Beautification Committee; Jewish Cemetery Committee; Co-Chair, Arts in our Synagogue; Chesed Committee

Favorite Activities: Volunteering at the Synagogue and the Jewish community; spending time with my sister in our vegetable garden; spending time with my family

Reason for Serving on Heska Amuna Board: It was not an easy decision for me but with the encouragement of others, I realized I too can help make a difference at the Synagogue. I believe that we as board members working together can make a difference in the Synagogue and in the Jewish community. I like being a part of this effort.



Heska Amuna Religious School News Hanukkah Looked a Bit Different at HARS This Year

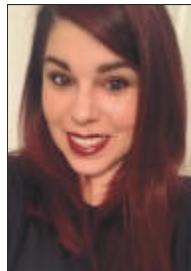
By Shuli Mesa, Heska Amuna Religious School Director

On Friday, December 11, Rachel Brown led us in a Shabbat Hanukkah Sing-Along. Since Shabbat had already begun, we could not take any pictures and we lit a virtual menorah. We also played silly games including a special Hanukkah mad lib, a word search, a scavenger hunt, and, of course, we did lots of singing and dancing.

During HARS Sunday School sessions Morah Barbara taught us a dreidel dance where we used our bodies to form the letters on the dreidel while Moreh Lev taught us a variety of fun Hanukkah songs to dance and spin to. Morah Vanessa played the virtual dreidel game and we had a virtual party with sufganiyot and latkes. In Morah Andrea's class, we froze dreidels to help us understand inner strength with Gevurah.

On Sunday, December 13, the third day of Hanukkah, HARS students woke up to a bag of special treats at their door!

While different isn't always easy, I think Hanukkah 2020 hit all the right notes and was definitely one for the books. Chag Urim Sameach! May the light guide us into a new tomorrow.



HARS
Dates to Notate

February 7	School	10:00-12:15
February 14	School	10:00-12:15
February 21	School-Purim Celebration	10:00-12:15
February 28	School	10:00-12:15



HARS presents:

Mishloach Manot

The mitzvah of giving Mishloach Manot (baskets of food, gifts, and of course, hamantaschen) during Purim is meant to increase love and friendship among neighbors. Let's pull together as a community and bring joy to each other during this special time of year.

ALL HESKA AMUNA MEMBER HOUSEHOLDS will receive a Mishloach Manot basket with a list of well wishers. These baskets will be hand delivered (Metro-Knoxville Area) or during an arranged pick-up time at the synagogue. Outside Metro arrangements are to be made by contacting purim@heskaamuna.org no later than February 17th, 2021.

Add your well wishes on any Mishloach Manot as follows:

\$18 For 1 Member's Mishloach Manot

\$10 For each additional Member's Mishloach Manot

\$90 To add your well wishes to ALL Heska Amuna Member's Mishloach Manot

For an additional \$25, an extra basket can be purchased

Non-Members can join in by purchasing a basket to be mailed for only \$35

To order your Mishloach Manot, view your personalized email and if you're not a Heska Amuna member contact purim@heskaamuna.org for more ordering information.

Hamantaschen will be prepared and individually packaged by Green's Kosher Bakery of Brooklyn.



Join **HAWL** Today!

2021
Has so much in store!

Contact Shuli Mesa @ shulime@gmail.com
about your membership today!



Adult Learning

By Abraham Brietstein

As of January, Heska Amuna began offering a weekly Torah Study after Shabbat services as part of a tribute to the late Lord Rabbi Jonathan Sacks based on his lectures, Covenant and Conversation. Many thanks to our Torah study guides, Serina Scott, Gina DiSalvo, Ben Sulman, Heather Hirschfeld, Kim Hedrick, Dahlia Smith, Sharon Poore and Betty Golub, who have volunteered to lead these sessions. Each session begins with a reading of the commentary by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks for the weekly Torah portion followed by a discussion.

The study sessions can be accessed with a link published in Heska Amuna's weekly Nu News and are open to all.

Heska Amuna was also pleased to offer a timely presentation on the Coronavirus vaccines on January 10 by Heska Amuna Board Chairman, Dr. Jeffrey Becker, Chancellor's Professor Emeritus, and former Department Chair for Microbiology. The presentation, via Zoom, was open to everyone in the Jewish community and helped address questions about the structure, efficacy and delivery of the various vaccines available to the public.



Rabbi Sacks



Jeff Becker

Continued from page 19

Heska Amuna Board Member Name: Bernard Bendriem

Born: Oran (Algeria)
Raised: Paris (France)
Years in Knoxville: 22

Current Family: Wife (Anne),
4 children (Raphael, Sonya,
Nathan and Samuel)

Education: High school (Paris),
Engineering school (Grenoble), Ph.D.
(Grenoble), Post doc (Houston TX,
Brookhaven National Lab, NY)

Vocation: Medical Imaging,
Jewish learning

Volunteering: HA (Past President,
board member), KJA (Treasurer, board
member), KJDS (board member)

Favorite Activities:

Time with family, traveling (when it was possible), personal Jewish learning, book club, movies, speaking about diversity (I had a unique life opportunity to have lived on three continents and to have travelled on all five)

Reason for Serving on Heska Amuna Board:

Preservation of Jewish traditions and transmission of Jewish values, support of Jewish school and Jewish learning, support for the state of Israel, help in building the next generation Jewish community.

Focus Groups at Heska Amuna

New chances to get together virtually or safely outdoors for our Synagogue community

A **Booth at the End discussion group** began January 7, facilitated by Mark and Peggy Littmann and Dahlia Smith. Every Thursday night at 8 p.m. we discuss a couple of episodes from *The Booth at the End*. Described as a psychological drama, each episode presents at least one moral struggle, along with twists, turns, unexpected consequences and decisions that seem irrevocable--but are they? How far will they go to get what they want; how far would you? We have had lively and provocative discussions.

Hiking/Walking Group The beautiful weather has been cooperating with us. We've been able to enjoy hiking and walking along some lovely trails that are not too far afield from Knoxville. We usually hike on Sunday afternoons and will continue as long as the weather cooperates. We've been to Haw Ridge, trails at the UT arboretum in Oak Ridge, trails in the Norris area, I.C. King park trails and trails at Concord Park. A favorite was the hike to the beautiful quarry lake in Oak Ridge. If anyone has suggestions for future walks or if you would like to join us, please contact Peggy Littmann at (865) 776-1013 or plittmann@comcast.net.

Those Synagogue Jews

Celebrating the 130th anniversary of
Heska Amuna Synagogue

by Mark Littmann

Starring

Wendy Besmann

Alon Ferency

Josh Hedrick

Martha Iroff

Peggy Littmann, Executive Producer



Everyone involved—actors, producers, writer, audience—had a great time with *Those Synagogue Jews*. The play offered often funny, often touching glimpses of Jewish life in the Knoxville area in the mid-1800s to 1990, as well as the history of Heska Amuna Synagogue. If you would like to see the play, please contact Peggy Littmann at plittmann@comcast.net.

There have been requests for a second production that would cover more stories and history of Heska Amuna with a focus on more recent times. If you have a story to share or an anecdote to relay about Jewish history in Knoxville, especially relating to Heska Amuna, please contact Peggy at plittmann@comcast.net or 865-776-1310. In a few months, we may have a sequel: *Those Synagogue Jews Again!*



(above, upper left, clockwise) Wendy Besmann portrayed Ester Sturm from Brooklyn who finds Pineville, NC more pleasant after meeting and marrying Louis Balloff.

Josh Hedrick plays a sheriff's deputy questioning Oscar Glazer about his "borrowed" business license.

Martha Iroff portrayed many characters, including new first-grader Babe Fay, who thought the praying children were crying, so she put her head on the desk and cried, too!

Rabbi Ferency notes that in the new synagogue "they drank their wine...on Temperance Ave."



Confirmation CORNER

Welcome to the first edition of the
CONFIRMATION CORNER.

For the next few months, our Confirmation Class will be introducing themselves to you. They have each taken this important step of continuing their Jewish education post B'nei Mitzvah. Under the guidance of Rachel Brown, the class is diving into this next step of ownership of their Judaism and making this commitment of continuing their Judaic growth. You will hear directly from them how Judaism has affected their lives. They will each choose a Confirmation project and present it during Shabbat Hinnuch on May 8th, 2021.

A special thank you to Rabbi Ferency for helping these budding students and a HUGE congratulations to:

Elizabeth Floyd

Jonah Mesa

Zachary Scott



HARS

HESKA AMUNA
SYNOGOGUE
where Judaism comes to life!

The Month of FEBRUARY



JEWISH DISABILITY AWARENESS AND INCLUSION MONTH

HARS-A Home for Everyone!



A unified effort among Jewish organizations worldwide to raise awareness and foster inclusion of people with disabilities and those who love them. A unified initiative to raise awareness and support efforts to foster inclusion of people with disabilities and their families in Jewish communities worldwide.

Contributions by Caring People

Donations received through December 31, 2020

Cemetery Fund

In memory of Bella Leeds
Joani & Gary Leeds
In memory of Ben Diftler
Joyce & Harold Diftler
In memory of Stanley Webster
Esther Webster

Chesed Committee

In memory of Marilyn Presser
Janet Gurwitch

Cohen-Presser Fund

In memory of Marilyn Presser
with all the love and respect from her
Swedish family
Eva & Franz Cohn & Family
In memory of Marilyn Presser
Barri Bernstein
Rosalie Nagler
Gilya Schmidt
Stella Iroff
Joyce & Harold Diftler
Susan Chernoff Huvard

Education Fund

In honor of Nancy Nagel
Jeremy Mitchell
In memory of Patricia Hilemon
Judy & Abraham Brietstein

Gertrude Glazer & IB Cohen Fund

In memory of Marilyn Presser
Arnold Cohen
In memory of Aaron Glazer,
Ida Glazer, Oscar Aaron Glazer,
Gertrude Cohen, Bella Leeds,
Bessie Hite & Louis Glazer
Arnold Cohen

General Fund

In honor of Peggy Littmann's
Hebrew Classes
Alice Farkas
In memory of Janette Kronenberg
Kanfer
Barbara & Bernie Bernstein
Rosalie Nagler
In appreciation of
Mindfulness Meditation class
Alice Farkas
Catherine Eisenberg
Judy Barnette
In memory of Mark Hahn
Susan & Tommy Hahn

In memory of Robert Hochdorf
& Helene Polin
Lee Miller Botner

Heska Amuna Building Fund

In memory of Natalie Robinson
Alan Solomon & Angela Cartwright
Bob & Carole Martin
Trudy Dreyer
Barri Bernstein
Conrad & Iris Koller

In Honor of Merrell Family & In Memory of Bryan

In memory of Bryan Merrell
Pris & Robert Siskin

Library Fund

In memory of Janette Kronenberg
Kanfer
Lynn & Scott Dryzer

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In thanks for those who prayed for
grandchildren's health & healing
Barbara, Jeff & Sagan Weinstein
Maya, Alex & Vera Coe

Yahrzeit

In memory of Calvin Hahn
Jan Hahn & Heather Obrien
In memory of Eugene Gross
Ernie & Pam Gross
In memory of Selma Vogel
Nancy & Jeff Becker
In memory of William Shaw
Genevieve Kramer
In memory of Jacqueline Russler
Nicole Russler
In memory of Meyer Miller
Anita & Jeff Miller
In memory of Edna Cohen
& Bernie Diamond
Marie & Charles Perelman
In memory of Harry Lieberman
Judy & Mike Levy
In memory of Samuel Forman
Marc Forman
In memory of Myra Weinstein
Barbara, Jeff & Sagan Weinstein
Maya, Alex & Vera Coe

**Make a donation to honor a loved
one, birth, wedding, birthday,
retirement, or anniversary!**
Call the Office at (865) 522-0701.

Heska Amuna Synagogue *HaShofar*

Rabbi Alon C. Ferency

rabbi.ferency@heskaamuna.org

Chair of the Board

Jeff Becker
hachair@heskaamuna.org

President

Markus Eisenbach
hapresident@heskaamuna.org

Education Director

Shuli Mesa
education@heskaamuna.org

Operations & Administration Director

Beverly Wilcox
admin@heskaamuna.org

Women's League Co-Presidents

Anna Iroff-Bailey & Rosalie Nagler
WomensLeague@heskaamuna.org

Heska Amuna Synagogue

info@heskaamuna.org

Virtual Services

Friday Night Services.....6:30 p.m.
Saturday Morning Services.....10:00 a.m.

Minyanim

Monday.....4 p.m.
Tuesday.....8 p.m.
Wednesday.....6:30 p.m.
Thursday.....2 p.m.

For Zoom links, see *Nu News* or contact
the Heska Amuna Synagogue office at
(865) 522-0701

*Minyanim for members can be
arranged by contacting the President
one week before.*

For a list of Heska Amuna's services,
events, and information, please visit
www.heskaamuna.org

HESKA AMUNA SYNAGOGUE

is an affiliate of The United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism.



K J C F F

Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds

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

In a Time of Crisis, KJCCF Reversed the Engines of Philanthropy

As the impact of Covid-19 was being felt in early 2020, KJCCF sprang into action. The board realized that this was a singular situation that could require a significant community response. As a foundation-like entity, we are usually focused on gathering funds now with the purpose of building community in the future. However, in times of crisis, NOW has a bigger meaning. Since it always seems to take longer for things to arrive in Knoxville, the leadership wanted to be ahead of the trend. The board approved "pre-emptive" grants to the Knoxville Jewish Alliance to provide funds to community members when and if needed. The Landsberger, Siegel and Jewish Family Service funds stood ready to fund the needs of preschool families, seniors and those in financial need. KJCCF also solicited matching "side grants" from fundholders who would provide back-up support if the first wave of funding became exhausted. As *Ha'Kol* goes to print, we have seen only limited requests. Let's hope that in 2021, KJCCF can go back to focusing on *raising* funds for the future of our Jewish community. If you have interest in priming the engines of philanthropy, contact Stephen or Laura.

KJCCF Mourns the Loss of Our Friend Marilyn Cohen-Presser

KJCCF lost a friend in Marilyn Cohen-Presser who passed away in December. When we are able to hold in person services at Heska Amuna Synagogue again, we will miss seeing Marilyn in her usual seat. The Knoxville Jewish community was central to Marilyn's life. Many years ago, she and her husband, Jos Presser, donated funds to Heska Amuna to create a donor wall and to be used for physical improvements. These funds were later transferred to KJCCF, becoming the Cohen-Presser Designated Fund. Marilyn was a fixture of the Knoxville Jewish community; through this fund, we will continue to feel Marilyn's presence in perpetuity.

How to Request Assistance from JFS

Usually we use this space to define a charitable term, but during this difficult time, we wanted to explain how to ask for assistance from Jewish Family Services. All inquiries are confidential. If you find yourself in need of emergency financial assistance for things such as rent or utilities, please call JFS Director, Laura Berry, at 865-690-6343 ext. 18 or email her at L.Berry@jewishknoxville.org to schedule an appointment.

Knoxville Needs a Fund For.....What You Want

This column usually pitches an idea for a new fund in KJCCF. We identify a problem, give some thought as to how the need can be met, and sometimes attach a price tag. The hope is that someone in the community will say "waiter, one check and it's on me." But what about the people who like the idea and want to run with it? There are people in our community who can be leaders but aren't capable of meeting the total financial need of a project. Philanthropic work takes TIME...Time, Intellect, Money and Energy. If you would be willing to make the first gift and then invest your time, energy and intellect to multiply your efforts, let's talk. You can work on one of our ideas or one of yours. You don't have to do it all and you never know who might follow your lead to help secure the future of our community. If you want to volunteer your TIME on a KJCCF effort, contact Stephen or Laura.

Donations

Cohen-Presser Designated Fund

In memory of Marilyn Presser
Jack & Judith Benhayon, Harold & Joyce Diftler, Trudy Dreyer, Scott Hahn, Mark Harris, Susan Chernoff Huvar, Stella Iroff, Genevieve Kramer, Lee Miller-Blotner, Stephen & Rosalie Nagler, Nicole Russler, Gilya Schmidt

Fribourg-Brunschwig Holocaust Memorial Education Fund

In memory of Henry Fribourg
Nicole Russler

Dewey Reich Chesed Shel Emet Fund

In memory of Henry Fribourg
Jeff & Charlene Gubitz

Mark and Carol Harris Family Fund

In memory of my sister Carol Ann Harris who I loved very much
Susan Stern

Heska Amuna Cemetery Fund

In memory of Ben Diftler
Harold & Joyce Diftler

Heska Amuna Educational Enrichment Fund

In memory of Patricia Hilemon Patty, sister of Pam Gross
Abraham & Judy Brietstein

Heska Amuna Educators Supplement Fund

Jeremy Mitchell

KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephen Rosen, President; Jacki Imbrey, Secretary/Treasurer; Abraham Brietstein, Past President; Jeff Becker; Bernard Bernstein; Arnold Cohen; Robert Goodfriend; Scott Hahn, Richard Jacobstein; Carole Martin; Rosalie Nagler; Jenifer Ohriner; Howard Pollock; Pace Robinson; Bernard Rosenblatt; Laura Berry, Administrative Director

The KJCCF encourages you to help insure the healthy future of our Knoxville Jewish community by including a commitment to the KJCCF in your financial and estate planning.

To learn more about KJCCF philanthropic opportunities, call 690-6343 or visit www.jewishknoxville.org/kjccf



The Communications Corner

By Ronnie Bogard

How do miracles happen? It was miraculous that a small ragged army led by Judah Macabee was able to defeat a large Syrian army and save our religion. It was miraculous hundreds of years later when in 1948 a small army defeated attacking Arab nations unhappy with the establishment of the State of Israel, saving Israel from extinction. There were many factors that went into those miracles, including ingenuity and lots of prayers. In December we brought into focus miracles large and small. We don't know if the story about the oil lasting eight days is historically accurate, but the symbolism in our lighting of the candles is universal and timeless. We all need miracles to get us through the difficult challenges that life presents.

Isn't it miraculous that scientists have developed yet another vaccine that will end a terrible plague that has come upon us? Delivery and injection of the vaccine to those with highest exposure potential began during our Chanukah holiday. The work of scientists has created many miracles for us both saving and changing lives. The vaccine for the novel Coronavirus does both. The vaccine just given approval uses synthetic messenger RNA, a replica of genetic code that tells cells how to build proteins. The vaccine causes your cells to produce proteins usually found in the virus that causes COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2), which then stimulates the immune system. This provides protection against infection without actually having the disease. Developing this vaccine in such a short period of time was a miracle in itself. Fortunately there was decades of work on mRNA since the 1990s, but scientists had not been able to prevent rapid degradation after injection. Once that problem was solved, it opened the gateway to amazing results in the recent clinical trials. Many of those working on this vaccine are Jewish scientists, and we are proud.

We send desperate prayers to God to protect our lives and those of family and friends. Perhaps God responds by giving our scientists the wisdom, patience, and ingenuity to create our vaccines. We have come to take our scientific advances for granted. Let's not take it for granted. Let's support science and scientists by believing in science. Let's encourage our children and grandchildren to understand science so they will believe in it when they grow up. Let's teach the next generation that just because they might not understand the science, doesn't mean it isn't true. And for the scientists — keep on creating, keep on teaching us at a level we can understand, and don't give up on us.

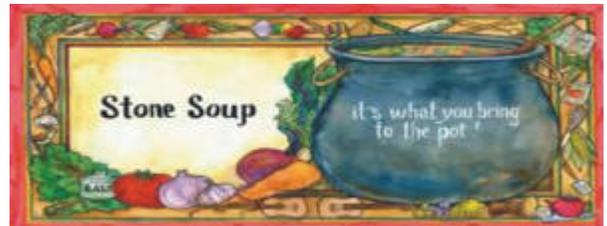
You don't have to be a scientist to do God's work. There are many ways to contribute to the good of the people. I appreciate all of you at JCOR for using the gifts God gave you to make minor miracles in other people's lives. You made and delivered potato latkes, goodie bags, sent us cards, made us laugh, sympathized with our sadness, forgave us our imperfections, and called us to see how we were doing. I am proud to know you, and I appreciate your hard work throughout the pandemic. A special thank you to our JCOR Board, led by President Hilary Shreter. It has been a difficult path to keep our schul active and healthy in a virtual environment. May we continue to have the strength to help others so we can all recognize God's work.

**Virtual Sisterhood
FRIDAY NIGHT
SHABBAT**
Every Other Friday
Night
at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for
Shabbat.



Contact Penny Lukin at
plukin@comcast.net or 865-671-0780
for information.



JCOR partners with ORUUC to feed the hungry!

Monthly "stone soup" meal and food baskets
on the last Friday of every month at ORUUC.

Please make your check payable to *ORUUC*
and send to Ronnie Bogard.

The JCOR Services schedule is available in the *JCOR E-News*.



JCOR Members Enjoy Hiking Haw Ridge

JCOR Hikers went to Haw Ridge Park and followed the East Shore trail to the Silo trail. Pictured is an old silo from an abandoned farm. TVA owned the land until 1972 when it was given to the City of Oak Ridge to manage for recreation. It is now a park full of hiking and mountain biking trails.



JCOR Israeli Dancers were able to enjoy dancing safely in the Winter at the Civic Center.

Donations to JCOR

Yahrzeits:

- ★ Milton & Ethel Bloom *from Bruce Tomkins*
- ★ Leonard & David Volkin; Sidney Fine; Ruth Roffman *from Karen Brunner*
- ★ Martin Katzman *from Arlene Katzman*
- ★ Simon Braunstein *from Catherine Braunstein*
- ★ Shmuel Levitin *from Avigail & Victor Rashkovsky*
- ★ Genia Ryczke & Nathan Laznowski *from Louis & Joy Kimmelman*
- ★ George Berger *from Stephen Berger*
- ★ Rose Feldman & Leonard Polonsky *from Alice Feldman & Al Good*
- ★ George Schwartz *from Shirley Schwartz*
- ★ Frances Bogard & Rose Kravit *from Jim & Ronnie Bogard*

In Memory of:

- ★ Jesse Wright *from Deborah Bowman*
- ★ David Goldenberg *from Fink, Goldenberg, Mayim, and Barany Families*

In Honor of:

- ★ Sylvia Goldenberg *from - Fink, Goldenberg, Mayim, and Barany Families*

Rose Holz 100th Birthday:

- ★ Alice Feldman/Al Good
- ★ Leon & Vera Maya
- ★ Alan Landay
- ★ Jay and Barbara Landay
- ★ Florence Gail Moore
- ★ Elena Bamberger
- ★ Becky & George Charles
- ★ Bruce Tomkins
- ★ Bonnie Carroll
- ★ Hilary Shreter
- ★ Rita Hohenbrink
- ★ Sig & Brenda Mosko
- ★ Janet Levy
- ★ Mark & Shelby Kaye
- ★ Melvin Sturm
- ★ Zane & Linda Bell
- ★ Moshe & Yardena Yair
- ★ Penny Lukin
- ★ Dennis & Rebecca Badorina
- ★ Larry & Blanche Dresner
- ★ Ron & Rhonda Sternfels
- ★ Jennifer & George Holz
- ★ Deborah Bowman
- ★ Victor & Avigail Rashkovsky
- ★ Barbara and Jim Handler
- ★ Eli and Anne Greenbaum
- ★ John & Bonnie Dings
- ★ Jim & Ronnie Bogard
- ★ Jane Vercruysse
- ★ Art Dworkin
- ★ Barbara Landau
- ★ Chana Solomon-Schwartz
- ★ Pam & Richard Squires

Donations:

- ★ Tracey Cato
- ★ Tracey Cato
- ★ Hilary Shreter

JEWISH CONGREGATION OF OAK RIDGE

Rabbi Victor Rashkovsky—vicrash@yahoo.com
 Hilary Shreter, President—hshreter@gmail.com
 Becky Charles, Sisterhood President—gchar2@aol.com

101 W. Madison Lane, Oak Ridge, TN 37830
 (Mail) P.O. Box 5434, Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Saturday morning services are virtual on every other Saturday at 10:00 a.m. For more information, contact Rabbi Rashkovsky at vicrash@yahoo.com.

www.jcortn.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JewishOakRidge/>



CHABAD OF KNOXVILLE



ב"ה

Jewish Community Celebrates Chanukah with Car Parade

COVID-19 event creativity 2020 brought a Car Menorah Parade beginning in downtown Knoxville and ending with a Giant Menorah Lighting in West Knoxville! There's a world-wide pandemic which means we can't congregate...yet it's Chanukah? Strap a light-up menorah to the roof of your car, decorate with markers, lights, signs and what not, hand out Chanukah boxes to go filled with homemade donuts, latkes, crafts, treats and inspirational Chanukah reading materials, and then just drive, beep and wave – spreading light throughout the city of Knoxville – because only light can DRIVE out darkness.

The Epic Car Menorah Parade culminated with the lighting of our Menorah of Heroism. Lit by three of our local heroes. Bradley Holtz lit on behalf of his wife, **Meredith Holtz**, and nurses around the US and the world who continue to go above and beyond to care for their patients including COVID patients, **Dr. Mitch Weiss** on behalf of doctors around the world who went right into the line of fire to care for those who had fallen ill, and **Bekka Blanchard**, representing the dedication of teachers who continue to teach our youth despite unprecedented difficulties.

Thank you to the many community partners that made it possible for us to LIGHT UP KNOXVILLE! Thank you to Regal and Knoxville Wholesale Furniture for hosting us, Trader Joe's for sponsoring the latkes, Andrea and Barry Cone for setting up and controlling the sound system, Jonathan Branton for helping to build the additional car top menorahs, Ilanit, Liat, Roni, and Yasmin Ben Ishai and family for helping prepare the Chanukah to-go boxes, Avi Udi for helping to set up the giant Menorah, Lev Comstock for taking photos of this extraordinary event and the Knox Co. Sheriff's Office for accompanying our parade.



Bekka Blanchard represented our teacher heroes as she lights a candle on the giant menorah.



JAHRZEIT

Heska Amuna Synagogue

February 6

Louis Balloff ♦ Joseph Billig ♦ Rose Bloom ♦ William Brotman ♦ Harold Brown ♦ Ethel Brown ♦ Logan Brown ♦ Yetta Burnett ♦ Isaac Cohen ♦ Abraham Fay ♦ Jack Feld ♦ Max Finkelstein ♦ Verne Gilbert ♦ Chaya Goodstein ♦ Louis Joffe ♦ Isadore Kleg ♦ Frances Klein ♦ David Rabin ♦ Myer Sachs ♦ Mollie Saroff ♦ Harry Ziskind

February 13

Monte Abrams ♦ Ida Brown ♦ Isaac Corkland ♦ Gertrude Danziger ♦ Herbert Davis ♦ Rose Delinsky ♦ Albert Fadem ♦ Elizabeth Farkas ♦ Samuel Green ♦ Leonard Handler ♦ Carole Kramer ♦ Rose Leeds ♦ Alfred Levin ♦ Florence Lieberman ♦ Barnett Mackta ♦ Esther Mann ♦ Clarence Mann ♦ Robert Moore ♦ Harry Moskowitz ♦ Nathan Oleshansky ♦ Kenny Palmer ♦ Isadore Presser ♦ Miriam Ring ♦ Max Robinson ♦ Doris Rothbart ♦ Randy Schwartz ♦ Morris Shagan ♦ Roslyn Shamitz ♦ Marilyn Shorr ♦ Abe Slovis ♦ Roberta Smith ♦ John Walton ♦ Ethel Wittenberg ♦ Gertrude Wolf ♦ Jeanette Ziskind

February 20

Maida Bendes ♦ Molly Botnick ♦ Gerson Corkland ♦ Lillian Ellin ♦ Joseph Gluck ♦ Helen Gries ♦ Marvin Hecht ♦ Ronald Lawhead ♦ Zelda Levin ♦ David Levine ♦ Herman Linke ♦ Rita Nichols ♦ Paula Rader ♦ Ruben Robinson ♦ Ethel Rywell ♦ Nathan Samet ♦ Toby Slabosky ♦ Anna Snyder ♦ Rita Solomon ♦ Norman Wolf

February 27

John Abrams ♦ Sarah Berry ♦ Hattye Bobroff ♦ Pauline Botnick ♦ Edith Brotman ♦ Lucille Bruskin ♦ Max Burnett ♦ Rudolph Deitch ♦ Geraldine Diftler ♦ Samuel Fayonsky ♦ Sol Foster ♦ Debby Freeman ♦ Mary Ginsburg ♦ Pearl Goodstein ♦ Annie Green ♦ Benjamin Homer ♦ Ruth Kaplan ♦ Shirley Ann Katz ♦ Esther Kisilinsky ♦ Louis Klinkowstein ♦ Bessie Liberman ♦ Edwin Markoff ♦ Ida Nius ♦ Elsie Rattner ♦ Morris Rattner ♦ Sam Rosenblatt ♦ Barney Schiff ♦ Elsie Shorr ♦ Esther Strauss ♦ Razelle Toronto ♦ Rae Weisberg ♦ Herman Werner ♦ Aaron Wise ♦ Leah Wise ♦ Mayer Zucker

JAHRZEIT

TEMPLE BETH EL

February 5

David Bessel ♦ Clarence Cole ♦ Gustave Dreyfuss ♦ Julius Glassman ♦ Robert Hyatt ♦ Paul Lee ♦ Harry Marshall ♦ Michael Massing ♦ Bobby Mintz ♦ Morris Reich ♦ Selah Rose Ringuette ♦ Dennis Silver ♦ Bernard Silverstein ♦ Oscar Sisman ♦ Fannie Spiro ♦ Carolyn S. Ziegler

February 12

Mathis Bush ♦ Isaac Cohen ♦ George Gudis ♦ Helen Hyman ♦ Rose Imbrey ♦ James H Lees ♦ Yetti Liebman ♦ Lela Lippner ♦ Ellen Markel ♦ Harold Markman ♦ Bertha Oleinik ♦ Doris Plachter ♦ Sam Pollack ♦ Inez Rayman ♦ Bettie Bloom Reich ♦ Phillip Herbert Robinson ♦ Morris Leonard Shagan ♦ Abe Slovis ♦ Frances Sturm ♦ Francis Swersky ♦ Joan Berna Tumpson-Rivlin ♦ Samuel A. Wender ♦ Louis Murray Wertheim

February 19

Della Mae Childress ♦ Herbert Davis ♦ Rabbi Matthew Derby ♦ Gussie Dresner ♦ Deborah Rabin Freeman ♦ Yvonne Fribourg ♦ Rose Friedman ♦ Jacob Joseph Gelber ♦ Erma Gerson ♦ Riva Golden ♦ Diana Harris ♦ Ira M. Jacobs ♦ Bertram H. Joseph, Jr. ♦ Hyman Kligman ♦ Yetta M. Konigsberg ♦ Mariya Luchanskaya ♦ Blume bat Maekeh ♦ Sylvia Miller ♦ Isadore Misner ♦ Dorothy Scott Moiger ♦ Harry I. Moskowitz ♦ Roy Mostov ♦ Kenneth Palmer ♦ Eleanor Radoff ♦ Henrietta H. Samuel ♦ Randall Schwartz ♦ Anne Simon

February 26

Lalla Block Aronstein ♦ Abram Badalov ♦ Jack Balaban ♦ Daniel Davis ♦ Benjamin Epstein ♦ Jeffrey R Epstein ♦ Leopold Fleischmann ♦ Jerome S. Gerson ♦ Johanne Gillman ♦ Rose Greenberg ♦ Isaac Gutman ♦ Lucas Helm ♦ Samuel G. Herrmann ♦ Blanche K. Jacobs ♦ Edward H. Jacobs ♦ Gussie Kligman ♦ Sarah Nechamkin ♦ Zelik Oleinik ♦ Arthur B. Pardee ♦ Jerry Spritz ♦ Annie Rebecca Striner

Hadassah HIGHLIGHTS

HADASSAH
THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST
ORGANIZATION OF
AMERICA, INC.

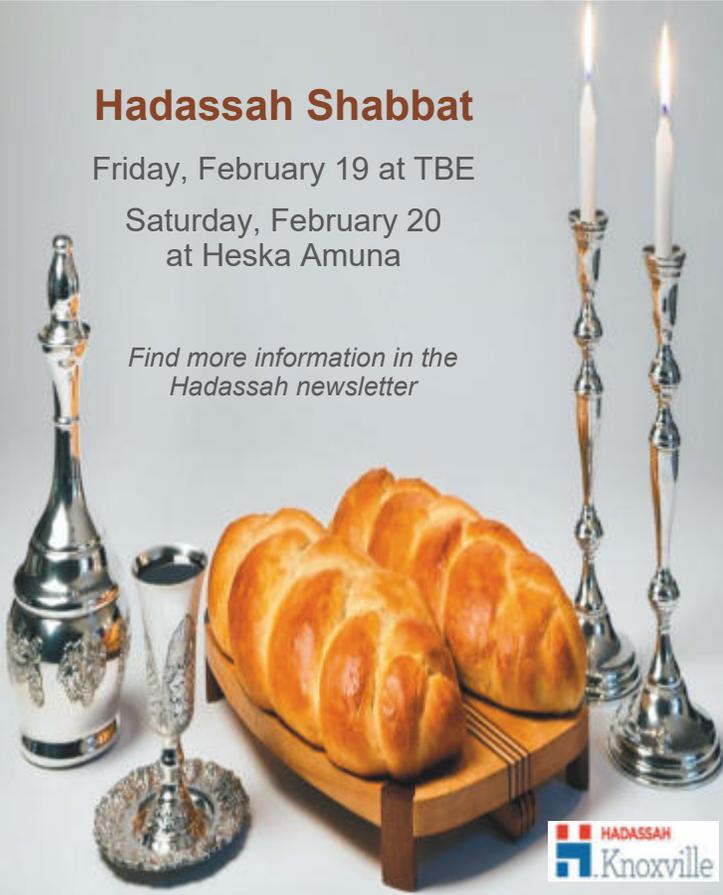
HADASSAH
Knoxville

Hadassah Shabbat

Friday, February 19 at TBE

Saturday, February 20
at Heska Amuna

*Find more information in the
Hadassah newsletter*



Let's try this again,
HADASSAH

CREATE A SAFE SPACE

**WE INVITE YOU TO CREATE AND PAINT
A BEAUTIFUL BACKYARD PIECE OF ART**

Sunday, March 7

RSVP to hadassahknoxvilleac@gmail.com

FROM THIS TO



TO THIS and more...

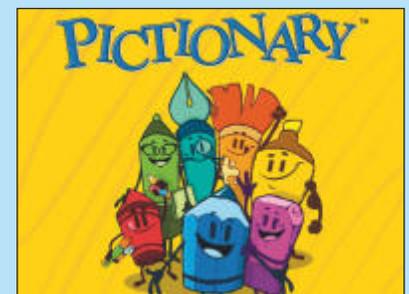


Hadassah Draws a Crowd — Literally

On Saturday, December 26, when many were recanting stories of the holidays- Hadassah broke out the games. While Zoom has its limitations, this was a perfect opportunity to connect and laugh and laugh. We began the night with a Havdalah service that Jonah Mesa put together with the vocals of Kippalive for the Southern Region. Then, we spoke about the best gifts we have ever given and received. I must confess, I was surprised with how beautiful these answers but shouldn't have been. Most of the answers were not of material things but of times given or dedicating themselves to a friend or loved one.

We then dove into the games. First up was Pictionary. We broke out into two teams. Each team chose an illustrator to draw on the white board and I would privately chat them the possible 5 words they had 3 minutes to draw. Each word group had a theme and the team would randomly choose a number corresponding to the word grouping. We played two rounds and wouldn't you know it—it was a tie. The teams had so much fun that it almost felt like we were in person. The next game was Follow the Leader. One person would go into the waiting room while the group chose a leader. Once returning, they had to guess the leader. We played two rounds before we ran out of time.

While the virtual world seems to be limitless in terms of informational access, it sometimes falls short on connectivity. We live in a world of being perpetual audience members but Hadassah found a way to break through...with a little drawing.



HAPPY HANUKKAH



WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF daughters Lily and Esther and husband Joe, Anita Kay brought to our Hadassah community a fabulous Hanukkah Cooking Demo. We had an audience of all ages cooking along or observing. Some of us were taking it all in to make at a later time.

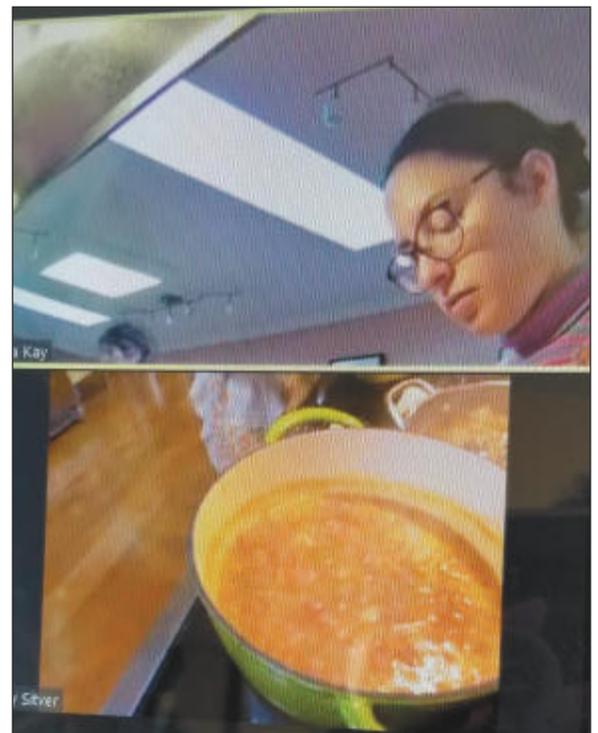
Anita prepared yummy Homemade Applesauce, *Classic Potato Latkes*, and delicious *Tomato Barley* vegetarian soup.

We could smell the recipes as we watched her cook away. If you missed the demonstration or need to refresh your memory, the demo was recorded and will be published in our Hadassah Knoxville newsletter at

<https://pub.phantomlynx.com/tile?q=v4lk3> — along with the recipes.

When you all are cooking away, PLEASE SEND Andrea Cone a picture of your creations for *Ha'Kol* and our newsletter. If you have other cooking ideas, let her know at hadassahknoxvilleac@gmail.com.

Thank you so much to Anita and her wonderful family for making another memorable Hadassah Knoxville program.



Hadassah Member Benefits

- Hadassah Knoxville Newsletters bi-weekly
- HADASSAH KNOXVILLE (cover by local artist) Membership Directory Shopping Guide & Datebook
- Subscription to *Hadassah Magazine*: print and digital
- Connecting people with shared values in Knoxville and across the country
- Empowering women by joining to influence positive change
- Access to webinars/podcasts/videos
- Receive national communications
- Invitations to national as well as regional events
- Offers to exclusive group travel to Israel via missions
- Opportunity to participate in advocacy initiatives
- Access to Health & Wellness programs and resources
- Privilege to support the organization through a variety of giving opportunities



As a Hadassah member, let us know if you are not getting the new formatted newsletter:

Contact Andrea Cone at hadassahknoxvilleac@gmail.com



What does Hadassah Hospital do when faced with a crisis?

What we do every day.
We treat with compassion.
We heal with state-of-the-art medicine.
We research with a warrior mindset.

For over 100 years Hadassah's hospitals have defined modern healthcare in Israel, most recently serving as a global model in the fight against COVID-19. Together, we are healing the world.

It's about compassion.
It's about healing.
It's about life.

Please join us in our 360-degree vision of healing the world today.

360° of HEALING

HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION
The Full Circle Campaign

HADASSAH.ORG/360DEGREES 800.928.0685



HADASSAH THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC.

The solicitation disclosure on page 45 is incorporated in this advertisement.
A copy of Hadassah's latest Financial Report is available by writing to the Hadassah Finance Dept., 40 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005.

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Celebrate Motherhood with a Hadassah Layette

By Batya Boxt

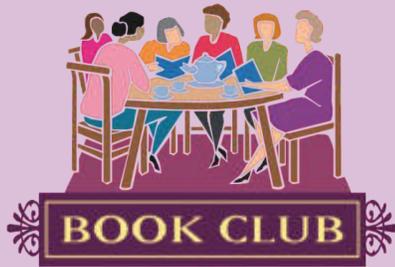
Hadassah sends layettes to women who have a new baby or grandbaby. A layette is a card from all of us congratulating them on the new baby!

When I receive information about a future Hadassah member's arrival, I will email all of you. If you are interested in having your name included on the layette, please email me back and let me know.

If you don't have a layette account, please send me a check to set that up. I'd recommend \$25 to start. If you need to replenish your account, please send that check to me as well. So that my address isn't distributed publicly, please email me to request my address. Let me know how much money you'd like to donate to the layette and I'll deduct that amount from your layette account. When the account is low (around \$5), I'll email you so you can refill it.

Please contact me at batyabox@gmail.com.



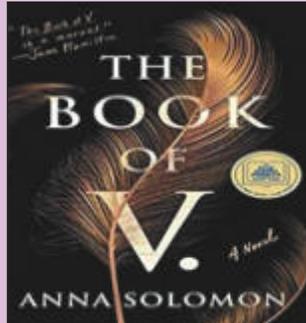


Hadassah Book Club News

All Jewish women of the greater Knoxville area (and friends) are welcome to join us

We welcome you to participate in our **Tuesday, February 16** Hadassah Book Club meeting. We will start at **7:30 p.m.** and anticipate using Zoom. We will discuss ***The Book of V*** by Anna Solomon.

This novel intertwines the lives of three women across three centuries as their stories of sex, power, and desire finally converge in the present day. The three characters' riveting stories overlap and ultimately collide, illuminating how women's lives have and have not changed over thousands of years. One character is a mother and wife in 2016 while another lived in ancient Persia so the timeline is rather extensive.



- **March** *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes
- **April:** *Other People's Pets* by R.L. Maize
- **May:** *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummings

Please contact Barbara Mintz at Barbara@bmintz.com if you have questions or want to be added to the Zoom registration list. Also let her know if you have changes in your email address or want to be removed from the master mailing list.

An RSVP is helpful as we continue to use Zoom.

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Hadassah Highlights

Knoxville Chapter of Hadassah

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Chanukah. Oh Chanukah. Come Light the Menorah, Let's have a Party.... Have a Party??? It's COVID-19!

Each year we look forward to celebrating Chanukah with our Special Friends. This year that seemed impossible but it turns out that with our KJDS hallmark traits of creativity, perseverance and problem solving mindset we were able to celebrate Chanukah with our special friends via zoom. Bags with Chanukah snacks, a craft, a song sheet and a dreidel game were prepared for all. We sang together, played a "guess who" game looking at pictures of our Special Friends, and lit the Menorah together. Students and Special Friends were delighted to spend time catching up in breakout rooms, as they made a Star of David craft and played a game of dreidel. We have all missed each other so much and were so happy to re-connect.

Chanukah joy at KJDS stems from a depth of knowledge and understanding of the Holiday. K-1 students love simulating the Jewish children who would hide in caves and study Torah, taking out their tops (aka dreidels) when the Greek soldiers arrived. They'd convince the Greek soldiers that they were just playing a game, and then once in the clear the Torah scrolls would come out again. They also loved playing Chanukah games in Hebrew as they built their Chanukah Hebrew vocabulary! 2-3 students enjoyed a Hebrew book about Binah and her love of Jelly donuts. They surveyed their teachers and friends (in Hebrew) to discover their favorite donut flavors. Chocolate-filled or -topped Sufganiyot were definitely the winners in this class. Our 2nd and 3rd grade students were able to discuss their survey results (in Hebrew) and compare their donut preferences to a friend's as a culmination of their Chanukah Hebrew language unit.

Our 4-5 students delved into the characteristics of a Macabbee and thought about how those characteristics would translate today. Working from Hebrew sources that Morah Dana culled for them, students researched a modern day Macabbee and prepared a multimedia presentation (in Hebrew) of their "Macabbee". Esther Arditi, Chana Senesh, Maimonides, and Ben Gurion were some of the figures the students studied!

Integrating Chanukah traditions to other areas of learning is always a KJDS highlight. K-1 students read 8 Chanukah books with Mrs. Lusk. They inferred, compared, made personal connections, wrote rhymes and drew illustrations of the stories they read. Older students created electrical circuits using conductive tape, batteries and light bulbs to light a paper Menorah and enjoyed printing a 3-D dreidel on our 3-D printer.

*Right:
Making a Hanukkah
circuit*

Enjoying donuts



*Above: Learning Hanukkah vocabulary
and lighting menorahs*



To Our Beloved Knoxville Jewish Community,

I am thrilled to announce that we have purchased a fantastic new property! The KJDS staff and its board of directors continually work to improve our operations, plan for our future and growth, and build a best-in-class educational experience for our students. We knew we were outgrowing our leased location, and our plans and vision included a move.

Our new home is fully fenced and includes well-developed outdoor areas — two playgrounds, a soccer field, a basketball/volleyball/ tennis court, and a nature area suitable for outdoor classrooms and exploration. It also features over 17,000 square feet of indoor space for both our staff and students, allowing us plenty of room for growth. The property is located on Gleason Drive just a few hundred yards from our original location.

We remain enthusiastic supporters of the KJA campus concept and look forward to seeing the master plan implemented. The KJDS Board of Directors and its staff put forward an enormous amount of effort to carefully scrutinize and analyze every aspect of a potential purchase before moving ahead with negotiations. An offer was ultimately accepted with all due diligence. The transaction closed on December 15. This is excellent news for our school as we continue to grow KJDS as an asset for our Jewish community. It also better positions us to become a greater resource for the Knoxville community at large.

With the steady increase of applications coming in, this new facility will give us the opportunity to bring the magic of KJDS to more children. I'm excited to see the large classrooms and beautiful outdoor grounds become the hub of creativity, innovation and learning.

We can't wait to welcome you into our new home!

Please continue to watch for more announcements and opportunities to connect with KJDS, as health and safety allow, so we can extend invitations and hold events.

— **Miriam Esther Wilhelm, Head of School**

Alumni Spotlight

Sarah Thrives at UTK

Sarah, a KJDS alumna, is an exceptional student and wonderful asset to the community! She is currently a sophomore at UTK, where she is in an honors program, majoring in biochemistry & cellular and molecular biology and minoring in public health.

Prior to starting UTK, Sarah attended Knoxville Catholic High School where she graduated in the top 5% of her class. During her time there she was a member of National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Mathematical Honor Society, and the Spanish National Honor Society. She also was awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award in 10th grade and a National Spanish Exam Award during her first two years of high school. Sarah was also a member of the robotics team and CTeen.

Sarah has always valued giving back to her community. She often volunteered at the FISH Pantry and the PALS camp throughout high school and during vacations.

Sarah has been interested in the field of medicine for a long time. Since her junior year of high school, she has shadowed doctors in multiple settings and learned about different specialties within the field. In addition to shadowing and volunteering, she is a member of a disability advocacy program, two pre-health organizations, Alpha Epsilon Delta (AED) and Remote Area Medical (RAM), and she works at a research lab on campus. Sarah is currently on the pre-medicine track and plans to attend medical school. She has grown to love the field of physical medicine and rehabilitation. We are so proud of all that Sarah has accomplished!



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The Jewish Community Archives of Knoxville and East Tennessee

The Way We Were in 1972

Heska Amuna Synagogue Purim Event

Helping Heska Amuna congregation celebrate Purim in 1972 were, left to right: Diane **Renert**, Jill **Karp**, unknown, Michelle **Pollio**, Miriam **Moses**, Debbie **Renert**.

Michelle's parents Howard and Marilyn **Pollio** continue to live in Knoxville. Jill's brother Steve lives in Knoxville.

If you can identify the child we haven't, please contact the Archives!

Thanks to Lee **Miller-Blotner** and her daughters Shelly and Lissa for their help in identification and to Pessa **Brody** for help with family members.



THE KJA ARCHIVES NEEDS YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

Send your photos of "The Way We Were" (identifying who, what, when, where) to archives@jewishknoxville.org, or contact the archivist at (865) 690-6343.