

Ha' Kol

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

# SHABBAT HINNUCH

# JOIN US IN A CELEBRATION OF JEWISH EDUCATION!

Saturday, May 9th @ 9:30 am Celebrate with Prayer and Dine with Friends. Watch our children, friends, and amazing volunteers lead in prayer.

> Brought to you by Heska Amuna Religious School and Adult Education



## **April 2020**

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### Heska Amuna HaShofar

Rabbi's Remarks	2
President's Remarks	3
Community Seder	.3
Counting the Omer	4
Religious School News	5

#### KJA Ha'Kol

Yom HaShoah Observation	.17
KJA Education Project	.18
Preschool Purim Fun	19
MCDC Registration	.20
Hillel @ UTK Shabbaton	.21

#### Temple Beth El Times

Rabbi's Message	12
President's Remarks	13
Sisterhood Goes Out	.13
Religious School News	14
TBE Auction Fundraiser	.15
Contributions	.16

#### **Community News**

KJCFF	.25
Jewish Congregation/OR	.26
Chabad of Knoxville	.28
Hadassah <i>Highlights</i>	.30
Knoxville Jewish Day School.	.34
Community Calendar	7
Happenings	8-9



# Q & A with *Minyann*aires Hal Manas, Judith Rosenberg, and Mary Linda Schwarzbart

By Rabbi Alon C. Ferency

Minyanim, shorter weekday worship services, are held in the Rabbi A. J. & Sylvia Robinson Chapel, Sundays at 9:30 a.m., Mondays and Thursdays at 7:00 a.m. (9:00 on civic holidays), and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

#### How long have you been attending *Minyan*?

**Hal:** I returned to the daily *Minyan* after my father's death in 1995. **Judith:** I started attending regularly to honor my father and say *kaddish* for him when he died in October 2018.

Mary Linda: When Arnold served as Heska Amuna president, in 1994.

#### Why do you attend *Minyan*?

**Judith:** I continue to attend to continue to honor my father's memory. *Kaddish* was very important to him, and it's something that I can carry forward now that he's not occupying his regular seat in the back anymore.

**Mary Linda:** I committed to attend on Thursdays and have continued to attend on Thursdays. I also attend anytime someone requests a *Minyan* for *shiva* or to say *kaddish*. Our community has always been present when we needed a *Minyan*; I support others who need a *Minyan*.

**Hal:** When I needed a *Minyan* to say *kaddish* it was often difficult to get enough people together so when my time was complete I decided to continue attending the *Minyanim* to help others who needed a *Minyan*.

#### What's your morning routine before, during, and after *Minyan*?

**Judith:** Before: I walk my dog and get ready for the work day. During: Do a little praying, catch up a little, serve as *gabbai* for the Torah service sometimes. After: I join the other *Minyannaires* for breakfast at Colonel's Deli when I can; other times I get into work early and start "catching the worms."

**Hal:** I get up early and get ready to go, but first I feed my dog and check my calendar. During *Minyan* I try to keep up and I try to read everything. This often necessitates reading in English, which is fine with me. After *Minyan* I enjoy breakfast with other members of the *Minyan* and the conversation that ensues.

#### What's the most important part of Minyan to you?

**Mary Linda:** That I am part of the number necessary for certain prayers and to read Torah. It is being a part of our Jewish community; being present. Starting the day quietly and with focus – most of us do not chat until after services, if possible. **Judith:** The concept of community. It's a beautiful idea to me, and something that makes Judaism special, that there are some prayers we may only pray in the presence of a community.

#### What's your favorite morning prayer?

**Hal:** I think it is possibly the *sh'ma* or the mourners' *kaddish* or the *amidah*. These are all parts of the service that give me some solitude. I enjoy the Psalms as well. During the *amidah* there is a paragraph that begins with "We proclaim that you are the Lord our God" and also the prayer at the end, "My God, Keep my tongue from evil, my lips from lies." Both of these prayers speak to me about the reason for prayer.

Mary Linda: Baruch She'amar, it speaks to the continual creation of our world.

#### Why would you recommend attending Minyan to someone else?

**Mary Linda:** Need a supportive community that requires nothing but being there? You may be the person who is the 10<sup>th</sup> to make a *Minyan* and allow us to say the mourners' *kaddish*, to read Torah, to say some of our prayers. And those who attend *Minyan* will support you. Encourage you. Help you if you need something. You have the opportunity to become part of very special group.

**Judith:** For me, it's a nice way to start one day a week. It doesn't take a long time, and it's an easy way to breathe for a few minutes and think about whatever needs a little extra thought.

Hal: I recommend *Minyan* to others because it is a good way to start the day. It is a lot like meditation in that respect.



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#### April 2020 7 Nissan - 6 Iyyar 5780

<b>NSIDE THIS ISSU</b>	Ε
Rabbi's Remarks	2
President's Remarks	3
Community Seder	.3
Counting the Omer	4
Religious School News	.5

#### **President's Thoughts**

#### By Markus Eisenbach, Co-President

This month we celebrate Pesach, without question the foundational holiday of the Jewish people. We are all familiar with the story of the Exodus, the retelling of the story at the Seder, and this story is central to our history. In a sense, the book of Genesis can be seen as a prologue that set the scene for the Exodus from Egypt and the remainder of the Torah after it explores the consequences of this singular event and the developing relationship of God with the people Israel. It can be argued that the remembrance of this event is what creates the Jewish people. While the observance of the various commandments and customs might have enabled us to survive as a group through the millennia, it is the remembrance of the Exodus that gives meaning to these



rules and customs. Commandments in the Torah are introduced with the reminder that God has liberated us from Egypt, most prominently in the Ten Commandments, and we are asked to remember multiple times that we were foreigners and to therefore treat foreigners with respect.

Thus, the message of freedom and liberation that is at the heart of Pesach is plain to see. This holiday celebrates our freedom and it has us reflect on the threats that this freedom has faced throughout our history. But it also encourages us to seek to expand freedom for those who cannot enjoy it yet.

With this message of the holiday, it is noteworthy that the main celebration, the Seder, is not a grand public liturgy as for the High Holy Days, but rather a smaller, more intimate, family centered, gathering of retelling the stories, reflecting on its messages and enjoying a festive meal. The focus on the family group reaches back to the biblical institution of the holiday and the Passover sacrifice and meal. We remember the creation of the larger community as a family event where children are explicitly expected to participate.

The message of freedom has to be taught in every generation and the Pesach holiday asks us to pass our values of freedom and human dignity to the next generation. It is the encouragement to ask questions and active discussions that keeps this holiday alive as one of the most engaging of our calendar and to explore the meaning and responsibilities that arise from our ancestors' experience of the Exodus and how we can draw guidance for our time.

One interesting change in the liturgy is that on Pesach we chant the prayer for rain (*Geshem*) that accompanied us through the winter to the summer prayer for dew (*Tal*). While this reflects the division between the wet and dry seasons in the land of Israel and the relation of the pilgrimage festivals to the agricultural calendar, we can find inspiration to appreciate our natural world at different scales. Rain is very noticeable, while it provides needed water, it can result in flooding and destruction. Dew on the other hand is very subtle, it accumulates only in tiny amounts without the force to cause destruction, yet its absence in an arid environment can be fatal for the vegetation there. We might see this as a metaphor for the freedom we celebrate at Pesach, we might hardly notice it when it is present, but its absence can have devastating consequences. So let this holiday be an inspiration to us to help to safeguard and expand freedom for all of our fellow humans.

With this my Co-President Jeannie Bobroff and I wish you a *chag Pesach sameach*!



#### First-Night Community Seder Wednesday, April 8

Although the deadline for reservations to our First-Night Community Seder has passed, if you are still interested in attending, please let us know as we will try the best we can to fulfill the words of our sages, "To all who are hungry, come eat."

#### Wednesday, April 8; 5 - 8 p.m.

\$50 adults; \$25 children 18 & under

#### Discounts:

Heska Amuna Synagogue Members: \$40 adults; children free
University affiliation: \$30

To inquire, please call our office at 522-0701.

#### **Counting More Than the Omer**

Torah offers us all a delightfully structured way to ponder our spiritual lives. This practice is noted to begin at Pesach with harvest offerings of an "omer" or barley and to end with loaves of bread at Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks. In addition to having a basis in agrarian occurrences, this time period, which is known as *Counting the Omer* or Sefirat Ha Omer, also offers an opportunity to delve into spiritual growth and our human-connectedness.

In addition to exploring the personal meaning of the sefirot, please help us recognize those in our congregation who make our community strong. Each week during the *Counting of the Omer* members of the Rabbi and Religious Services Committee will share a message about that week's sefirah - and we would like you to let us know who in our community comes to mind. For each of those you mention, we will add a puzzle piece to an image that will be in our foyer. Help us make our image whole! Though not required, if you would like to make a donation in memory or in honor of those whose names you share with us, those donations will be used to purchase additional large print siddurim and repair some of our ritual items.

The spiritual contemplation throughout this time offers something better than any page-a-day calendar on selfimprovement (which especially by this time of year are most often ignored). The sefirot or weekly attributes for *Counting the Omer* we will be exploring with you are:

- Week 1: Chesed love, kindness
- Week 2: Gevurah strength, justice, judgment, discipline
- Week 3: *Tiferet* harmony, balance, compassion
- Week 4: *Netzach* endurance
- Week 5: Hod humility, sincerity, acknowledgement
- Week 6: Yesod foundation, bonding, beginning
- Week 7: *Malchut* sovereignty, leadership

Within each week, each day offers a unique combination of sefirot. So, for example, during the first week, we can focus on "*Chesed*/love and kindness and how that impacts *Gevurah*/strength, justice, judgement, and discipline" one day and "Chesed and how that impacts *Tiferet*/harmony, balance, and compassion" another day.

Just as these weeks are important for assuring a good harvest, these weeks also offer each of us time to plant seeds of spiritual discovery and, along the way, acknowledge the importance of our personal commitments to each other, too. Join us in *Counting the Omer* this year!

#### **Purim Mitzvah Donors**

Richard & Jill Adlin Steven Beber & Sandy Parker Jeff & Nancy Becker Bernard & Anne Bendriem Bernie & Barbara Bernstein Ted & Wendy Besmann Ken & Susan Brown Michael Burnett Stuart & Jill Chasan Barry & Andrea Cone Harriet Cooper Ivan & Carole Cooper Helen & Jason Crowley Markus Eisenbach John & Mary Evars-Goan Alon & Karen Ferency Mitch & Margaret Goldman Wendy Good Janet Gurwitch Jeffrey & Shelley Hecht Gale & Peggy Hedrick Josh & Kim Hedrick Bradley & Meredith Holtz David, Amy, Sam, Atticus & Allie Hull Morris & Carol Ickowitz



A beautiful and thought-provoking "Omer Counter" created by Arnold Schwarzbart, of blessed memory. The relationship of the sefirot are carved on the left; on the right is the blessing one says to count the omer and combinations of sefirot for daily reflection.

Marty & Martha Iroff Jeffrey & Lisa Jacobson Marian Jay Susan Koller Andrew & Dina Kramer Harvey & Marilyn Liberman Mark & Peggy Littmann Robert & Carole Martin Bryan, Jennye, Mary Ann Merrell & Judy Rattner Shuli & Gabriel Mesa Michael Messing & Joyce York Jeffrey & Anita Miller Steve & Evelyn Oberman Evan & Jenifer Ohriner Sharon Poore Stephen & Kim Rosen Mary Linda Schwarzbart Jeffry & Serina Scott Mark, Betty & Sarah Siegel Harold & Susan Silber Dahlia Smith Melissa Sturm Greg Weinstein Lindsay, Matt, & Margot Weiss-Hilton David & Jenny Wood

#### Heska Amuna Religious School Shabbat Hinnuch-A Celebration of Education

#### By Shuli Mesa, Heska Amuna Education Director

At the end of every school year, the Heska Amuna Religious School and friends lead Shabbat service. That is the weekend where we congratulate our confirmed teens, we celebrate our consecrated rising stars, and we connect with the shul as a whole unit. Smiles are shared in plenty and a beautiful time is had by all.

But...in all my years of celebrating Shabbat Hinnuch I never really knew what the word HINNUCH meant. When I would question friends, I was met with, "It's HARS Shabbat," or, "It's the education Shabbat."

The truth is that both answers are correct... but there is MORE to it than just that. The word Hinnuch **חינוך** does indeed mean EDUCATION but like all fabulous things in Judaism, IT is a mitzvah. THE MITZVAH OF CHINNUCH is the obligation to teach one's child Torah and mitzvah observance.

By now you know how important education is in Judaism. Our community has an entire day dedicated to it---The Global Day of Jewish Learning. We have nearly died while attempting to educate— Rabbi Shimeon bar Yohai hid in a cave for 12 years while teaching his son after the Romans had decreed such teachings were punishable by death. And, did you know that it was the Jews that began the first PUBLIC school?

"In the century before the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 CE, the leading sages of Israel established the world's first public school system. They could feel a diaspora coming, and they bunkered down for it by formalizing the process of Jewish education." Chabad.org

While you can imagine that it wasn't exactly the set up we are well-acquainted with today, the necessity to teach the next generation the Torah and mitzvot existed even then. We have since added decoding and reading Hebrew skills, the various tunes and choreography of prayer, and values-the crucial crux of Judaism.

So yes...yes, we celebrate education.

Yes, we celebrate another year of success.

Yes, we recognize those advancements.

And yes, we want you to join us!

Saturday, May 9 at Shabbat services which begin at 9:30 a.m., YOU are invited to join us in one of Judaism's greatest mitzvot and in celebration of education. Because every Jew needs to be an educated Jew...and why not celebrate that!





HARS



A hardy "todah rabah" to all who participated in our most-joyful Purim mitzvah this year.

From those who donated to this religious school fundraiser (page 6), baked hamantaschen and mandel bread, to those who delivered Purim treats, thank you from the bottom of our students' and teachers' hearts.



#### **Contributions by Caring People** Donations received through February 20, 2020

#### **Cemetery Fund**

In memory of Sybil Joffe Joyce & Harold Diftler In memory of Cindy Shepler Joyce & Harold Diftler

#### **Chesed Committee**

In Memory of Sybil Joffe Jennifer Joffe & Richard Mazie Lynn Podber Cheryl & Robert Beer Cynthia & Fred May

#### General Fund

In honor of Frank Lawhead's Bar Mitzvah Gilva Schmidt In honor of Jack Love's PhD Gilya Schmidt In memory of Mark Hahn Barbara & Bernie Bernstein In memory of Cindy Siegal Shepler Barbara & Bernie Bernstein In memory of Sybil Joffe Ianet Proffitt Julie Schaffer / Tutu Sisters Mark Harris Marilyn & Harvey Liberman **Richard Bernett** In Honor of Gilya Schmidt's Birthday Manny Herz

#### Gertrude Glazer & I.B. Cohen Fund

In memory of Sybil Joffe Arnold Cohen Helene Sinnreich

#### Kiddush Sponsorship

In celebration of their birthdays Wendy & Ted Besmann In celebration of KJA Shabbat The Knoxville Jewish Alliance

#### Thank You to Our Mishloach Manot Volunteers

Deliveries by: Jeff and Nancy Becker, Abraham Brietstein, Andrea Cone, Rabbi Ferency, Frank & Laura Floyd, Jeff Hecht, Lisa Jacobson, Sue Koller, Mary Ann Merrell, Sandy Parker, Judy Rattner, and Adam Rowe

And a special shout-out to our outstanding Prozdor Bakers: Samantha Abrams-Cohen, Elizabeth Floyd, Jonah Mesa, Avi Rowe, and Zack Scott

(You have no idea how hard these super teens worked!)

# Outside Beautification and Butterfly Fund

In memory of Yetta Burnett Michael Burnett Evelyn Burnett Silvey In honor of Gilya Schmidt Marilyn Burnett In memory of Sybil Joffe Marilyn Burnett

#### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

In memory of Sybil Joffe Jerry Joffe Evelyn & Steve Oberman

#### Yahrzeit

In memory of Doris Rothbart Judy & Abraham Brietstein In memory of Gerson Corkland Jill & Douglas Weinstein In memory of Isaac Corkland Jill & Douglas Weinstein In memory of Earl Mazur Jill & Douglas Weinstein In memory of Rose Levy Jill & Douglas Weinstein In memory of Mark Hahn Elise & Herbert Jacobs Gilya Schmidt In memory of Rita Solomon Alan Solomon In memory of Joseph Richer Mary Beth Leibowitz & Michael Eisenstadt In memory of Miriam Ring Susan Ring In memory of Isaac Cohen Sandy Parker & Steven Beber In memory of Abe Slovis Esther Webster In memory of Logan Brown Angie & Adam Brown



Samantha Abrams-Cohen and Elizabeth Floyd create recipes.



Rabbi Alon C. Ferency rabbi.ferency@heskaamuna.org

*Chair of the Board* Jeff Becker *hachair@heskaamuna.org* 

**Co-Presidents** Jeannie Bobroff & Markus Eisenbach hapresident@heskaamuna.org

Education Director Shuli Mesa education@heskaamuna.org

**Operations & Administration Director** Beverly Wilcox admin@heskaamuna.org

*Kitchen Director* Kimberly Ault *kitchendirector@heskaamuna.org* 

Women's League President Lisa Jacobson WomensLeague@heskaamuna.org

Heska Amuna Synagogue info@heskaamuna.org

#### **Permanent Schedule**

Friday Night Services	Varies
Saturday Morning Service	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Minyan	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Minyan	6:30 p.m.
Mon. & Thurs. Minyanim	7:00 a.m.

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

(865) 522-0701

**HESKA AMUNA SYNAGOGUE** is an affiliate of The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

APRIL 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Looking forw	C the	n der Sun	9:30-11a Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm 4p Religious School-HA 4:30-6p Midweek Hebrew-TBE 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30p KJDS Board mtg 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi- AJCC Orwitz Rm 7p Board mtg-HA 7p Talmud Study-HA	2 7a Morning Minyan-HA 11a Passover Seder w Special Friends-KJDS 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE 6:15p Conversational Hebrew-HA 7:30p Israeli dancing- AJCC Gym	3 7:42p Noon Mindfulness Practice-HA 4:30p JFS Shabbat Service-Sherrill Hills 5:45pPreK-2 grade ser- vice-TBE 6:15p Class dinner-TBE 6:30p Sunset Minyan & Oneg-HA 7p Shabbat Service led by 3-5 graders-TBE	4. 8:39p 9:30a-noon Shabbat Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR 10:15a Alternative Service-HA
5	6	7	8 Erev Passover	Passover	<b>10</b> Passover	<b>11</b> Passover
9:30a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Religious School-HA 9:30a Religious School-TBE 10a Adult Education-TBE 10a Hebrew class 3 levels-HA 10a Beyond Dispute-HA 10:30-noon Tai Chi-Orwitz Room 11a Seder to Slichot Music-HA 11a Yoga & Meditation-HA	7a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym 6p KJA Exec Comm- AJCC 7:15p KJA Board-AJCC	9:30a Tai Chi- JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing- AJCC Gym 6:30p Board of Directors Mifgash Manhigim-TBE	7:46p 9:30-11a Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm 5p First Night Seder-HA 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi- AJCC Orwitz Rm 7a Talmud Study-HA	Offices closed- 7a Morning Minyan-HA 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE	-HA, KJA, TBE 7:48p 6:30p Passover Yizkor Memorial Service-TBE 7p Shabbat Service-TBE	8:46p 9:30a-noon Shabbat Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR 7p Jewish Film Series: Seven Minutes in Heaven- JCOR
<b>12</b> Passover	13Passover	<b>14</b> Passover	15Passover	<b>16</b> Passover	17	18
8:45a Breakfast Club-JCOR 9:30a Morning Minyan-HA	7a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR	9:30a Tai Chi- JCOR	Offices closed—H	IA, KJA, TBE	7:30p Noon Mindfulness	8:39p 9:30a-noon Shabbat

12Passover	<b>13</b> Passover	<b>14</b> Passover	15Passover	<b>16</b> Passover	17	18
9:30a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR JCOR	9:30a Tai Chi- JCOR	Offices closed—I	7:30p Noon Mindfulness	<mark>8:39</mark> p 9:30a-noon Shabbat		
	6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC	JCC 6-9:30p Fencing-	9:30-11a Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm 4:30-6p Midweek Hebrew-TBE 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi- AJCC Orwitz Rm 7p Hadassah Board-AJCC	7a Morning Minyan-HA 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE 6:15p Conversational Hebrew-HA	Practice-HA 6p Tot Shabbat & Kids Kabbalat-HA 7p Shabbat Service-TBE	Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR 10:30a 13th Annual Auction Fund Raiser-TBE
19	20Yom HaShoah	21	22	23	24	25
9:30a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Religious School-HA 10a Hebrew class 3 levels-HA 10a Beyond Dispute-HA 10:30-noon Tai Chi-Orwitz Room 11a Seder to Slichot Music-HA 11a Yoga & Meditation-HA	7a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym	Gym 7:30p Hadassah	9:30-11a Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm 4p Religious School-HA Last Day Midweek Hebrew- TBE 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi- AJCC Orwitz Rm 7a Talmud Study-HA	7a Morning Minyan-HA 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE 6:15p Conversational Hebrew-HA 7:30p Israeli dancing- AJCC Gym	7:53p Noon Mindfulness Practice-HA 6p Shabbat Service-TBE	8:52p 9:30a-noon Condensed Shab- bat Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR 10:30a Shaughn May bar mitzvah- TBE
26	27	28	29	<b>30</b> 7a Morning Minyan-		
9:30a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Religious School-HA 10a Hebrew class 3 levels-HA 10a Beyond Dispute-HA 10:30-noon Tai Chi-Orwitz Room 11a Seder to Slichot Music-HA 11a Yoga & Meditation-HA 22 Community Yom HaShoah Observance-AJCC Caller Auditorium 2:30-4p Bourekas & Blintz-ME's Kitchen	7a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym	JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing-	Yom Ha'atzmaut 9:30-11a Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm 4p Religious School-HA 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi- AJCC Orwitz Rm 7a Talmud Study-HA	HA 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE 6p Sisterhood Goes OUT- TBE 6:15p Conversational Hebrew-HA 7:30p Israeli dancing- AJCC Gym	Out of an al of caut we recomme double ch community religious service has not beer	ion , nd that you eck any event or e to ensure it

#### HAPPY PASSOVER FROM THE EIGHT ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE YOU WITH HA'KOL

Heska Amuna Synagogue, Knoxville Jewish Alliance, Temple Beth El, Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge, Knoxville Jewish Day School, Knoxville Hadassah, Chabad of Knoxville, Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds as well as Hillel @ UTK, PJ Library, Judaic Studies at UT, BBYO, AEPi, AJCC Preschool, MCDC

# KNOXVILLE





Jewish youth volunteer at Second Harvest Food Bank on Presidents Day.

### **Brian Salesky: From Chazanut to Knoxville Opera**

Born in Brooklyn and raised in Queens, Brian Salesky has warm memories of Shabbes dinners in Brooklyn with grandparents and attending the Orthodox shul with his grandfather. One of his earliest memories is being there when the legendary cantor *Moshe Koussevitzky* led services on Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. The music of the Russian and Polish chazzans continues to be a true love for Brian. At his bar mitzvah, Baruch ben Yosef (the great-grandson of a rabbi), served as cantor.

Brian's parents, both first generation Americans of Eastern European background, had a love of music and theatre, attending performances "of everything" with their son as often as possible. He recalls spending endless nights at "the old Met" and at age 12 being introduced backstage to the illustrious chazzan/opera star Richard Tucker who spoke to him about the significance of his upcoming bar mitzvah. Tucker, and his wife Sara, continued to be a major influence in Brian's life and career. They become friends, with Brian assisting him at home and backstage. The two appeared together on stage at "the new Met" in *Aida*, Brian in a walk-on role and Tucker as the warrior Radames. In the last year of Tucker's life,

stage at "the new Met" in *Aida*, Brian in a walk-on role and Tucker as the warrior Radames. In the last year of Tucker's life, Brian assisted him in preparing for two new Verdi operas that he would not live to perform.

His dreams and goals were to become a conductor and a producer. At the High School of Music and Art in Manhattan, he excelled in piano, timpani, and percussion. At Indiana University, he enrolled in an independent learning program, with a focus on performing arts production and management and earned Phi Beta Kappa honors.

Brian first conducted a Knoxville Opera (KO) production in 1999 (*Don Giovanni*) and became the company's executive director in 2005. Diana, his wife (a mezzosoprano, writer, and communications consultant), and his son Joseph arrived in 2008. After finding the company in deep debt in 2005, Brian's conservative fiscal practices have resulted in 15 years of debt-free operations. During his tenure, he has produced more than 45 operas and concerts and made over 1,000 presentations/concerts including Opera 101, abbreviated staged operas, and an African-American Voices Series in schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, Introduction and Leadership Knoxville, Cancer Support Community, Knoxville Opera Goes to Church, and 18 Rossini Festivals.

Being a member of our Knoxville Jewish community is important to Brian, as he has shared his love of opera with programs at Temple Beth El, Arnstein Jewish Community Center, and KJA Pacesetters, in addition to having been in the choir for High Holy Days at Heska Amuna.

Although this will be Brian's last year as KOC executive director, he will continue on as its artistic director at least through the 2021-2022 Season. For more information about Knoxville Opera, please visit *www.knoxvilleopera.com*.



# HAPPENINGS

If you own a local business and would like to include a welcome/baby gift in the basket please send an email to Sarah May at the address below.



#### COMMUNITY WELCOME BASKETS ARE HERE!

# For all new to Knoxville Jewish Families and new Jewish babies born in the community

If you know of a new family with children 0-12 who has recently moved into the community (within the last 6 months) or know of a new baby that has been born in the community (within the last 6 months), please contact:

Sarah May at pj@jewishknoxville.org The KJA, PJ Library & Greater Jewish Community of Knoxville would like to gift them with a welcome (baby) basket.

This program is made possible by a generous grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation

### **Suzy Snoops**

Ha'Kol welcomes your good news. Please send information to jyork@jewishknoxville.org or to the Ha'Kol newsletter, c/o Knoxville Jewish Alliance, 6800 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919.

- ★ Gary Sturm, Branch Manager for Mortgage Investor Services, achieved the Platinum Award for 2019 with \$35.1 million in closed loans at the Knoxville Mortgage Bankers Association Awards presentation.
- ★ Judy Teasley with Keller Williams Realty, former president of the Arnstein Jewish Community Center, again achieved multi million status as a real estate professional.
- Congratulations to these *Cityview Top Docs 2020* who were voted #1 by their peers: Jeffrey B. Hirsh, MD Cardiology Electrophysiology; Allan Morris Rosenbaum, MD Otolaryngology; Ray C. Pais, MD Pediatric Hematology/Oncology; and David G. Sandberg, DPM Podiatry.

# **Community Passover Greetings**

# Happy Passover to All

JOE & LEE MILLER BLOTNER, LISSA, SHELLY & ELIZABETH, & SETH

## HAPPY PASSOVER

from Mark Harris and Family Alan, Mary Jo, David, Daniel, Rachel & Jacob Harris; Robert, Marcy, Alex, & Noah Chatham; Kevin, Melissa, Madeline, and Ella Harris

# Happy Pesach

Jeff and Nancy Becker and our children and grandchildren: Jeffrey Cohen; Dan, Lora, Noah, and Benjamin Cohen-Vogel; Debbie, Jeff, Samantha, and Gabe Abrams-Cohen; Rachel, Micah, Sophie, and Reuben Becker-Klein; Ben, Amy, Harry, and Leo Willis-Becker; Sarah Becker and Aminata Dembele

Warm greetings and very best wishes to all our good friends in Knoxville

Peggy & Mark Littmann; Beth, James, Adele, & Liam McGinnis; and Owen & Machiko Littmann

May this festival of freedom bring Peace to your world, Happiness to your home, and Joy to your heart. Celebrating with you the many joys of Passover.

> Chip, Brenda, Seth, Jennifer, and Jackson Rayman

# Hag Sameach

Kim, Stephen, Nathan, Arielle, and Tifannie Rosen

#### HOLIDAY GREETINGS

PAM & ERNIE GROSS - NAOMI, SIERRA, PHOEBE & BRICE KING - ANNA, HAZEL, EDIE ADELE, & MATT MCDONALD - EVA & DAVID BARNETT

#### HAPPY PASSOVER TO ALL

Barbara Handler, Charles Handler, Meghan McDermott, Emmett Handler, Amy Handler, Phil Oppenheim, Oliver & Calliope Oppenheim MAY YOUR PASSOVER CELEBRATION BE FULL OF JOY AND TRADITION

Mary Linda Schwarzbart

### HAPPY PASSOVER Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds

TEMPLE BETH EL wishes a happy and healthy Passover to all



Hag Sameach v Kasher Gilva Schmidt

Gilya Schmidt & Family

HAPPY PASSOVER Reneé Hyatt, Noah, Jenny, and Paul Erwin

# **PASSOVER GREETINGS**

**Hag Sameach** 

The Liberman Family

Barbara & Bernie Bernstein

# Wishing

# everyone a

# **Happy Passover**

## Adam, Angie, Stephen, & Robin Brown

# HAPPY PASSOVER

from the board and staff of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance

HAPPY PASSOVER & BEST WISHES TO ALL HILLEL AT UTK

# HAVE A JOYOUS PASSOVER

Your friends at Heska Amuna Synagogue HAPPY PASSOVER TO ALL

Pessa, Marla, Bart, Joel, & Will Brody

### HAPPY Passover

Jill, Doug, Brian, and Andrew Weinstein

# TEMPLE BETH EL

## Shalom Y'all!

Bv Rabbi Erin Boxt

There is a tremendous amount of divisiveness present in the world. It is not just in the United States it's in the Middle East, in Europe.... Every time I open a newspaper or look online, I encounter it. When I open Facebook or Twitter or any other social media platform, it is there.

This month, we celebrate Passover. Everyone knows that we are supposed to eat *matzah* during Passover...but how many know why?

Exodus 12:15 teaches us, "Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread; on the very first day you shall remove leaven from your houses, for whoever eats leavened bread from the first day to the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel."

The Hebrew word for leaven is *chametz*. We are commanded not just to avoid eating leavened bread, but to rid this *chametz* from our homes. One Kabbalistic understanding is that *chametz* is bloated, signifying arrogance, while *matzah* is flat, signifying humility. When we search for and rid our homes of *chametz*, it is not just about ritual – there is also spiritual significance. As yeast (chametz) symbolizes arrogance as it is raised above the level of *matzah*, it also a catalyst that symbolizes the restless force of the evil inclination – yetzer ha-ra.

Don Isaac Abarbanel (commonly referred to as Abarbanel) was a Portuguese Jewish philosopher and bible commentator. He explained that *matzah* represented simplicity which is a desirable spiritual quality. "Freedom involves the rejection of the 'fleshpots of Egypt' (Exodus 16:13) and the removal of the restless yeast of the evil inclination. Not only are we removing *chametz* from our

**April 2020** 7 Nissan - 6 Iyyar 5780

#### **Temple Beth El Times**

Rabbi's Message	.12
President's Remarks	13
Sisterhood Goes Out	.13
Religious School News	.14
TBE Auction Fundraiser	.15
Contributions	.16

TBE Oneg Schedule for March		
April 3	Families of 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grades	
April 10	Norma & Wes James Julia Wood & Kevin James	
April 17	Lauren & Jesse Javors Heather & Geoffrey Laing	
April 24 Family of Shaughn May		

pantries, we are also removing *chametz* from our souls – allowing for our physical *and* spiritual renewal during Passover. Remember - if there is anything I can do for you, please know my door is always open. I look forward to working with all of you to make the Temple Beth El and the greater Knoxville Jewish community the most amazing family it can be!!

#### **Temple Beth El Welcomes More New Members and Families**

By Missy Noon, Membership Chairperson

Jackie Cohn is originally from Rockford, Illinois and has lived in Tennessee for the past 30 years. Jackie is a graduate of The University of Tennessee, Knoxville and is a teacher. She began her career in Knox County Schools, but is currently teaching in the Oak Ridge School District. Clara recently celebrated her 6th birthday and attends Tate's School of Discovery as a kindergartner. Both love hiking, cooking, and doing crafts. Clara especially loves attending Little Ninja classes and playing soccer.



New Members continues on page 18

Jackie and Clara Cohn

#### **TBE President's Remarks**

By Steve Lewis, TBE President

With all due apologies to T.S. Eliot, April is the *coolest* month. It's always a month filled with activities at TBE, and this year is no exception.

It begins with a jam-packed weekend. Friday April 3 will be a wonderful Shabbat highlighting many of our Religious School students. The Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade students will lead a 5:45 service; a Class dinner will follow at 6:00; then at 7:00 the Shabbat service will be led by the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders.

On Saturday evening April 4, Mark Baker and Tracey Hughes (two of our newest members) will start a lifelong journey together as they take their wedding vows at TBE. Welcome to the TBE family, and Mazal Toy! Sunday April 5 will include another wonderful Adult Ed class led by Rabbi Boxt.

The following week, Erev Pesach takes place on Thursday, April 9.

The weekend of April 17-19 will also be filled with exciting opportunities to worship, learn, and celebrate. On Friday night our ISJL Fellow, Rena Lubin, will present the "D'var" during Shabbat services to begin her weekend with us. On Saturday morning the 18<sup>th</sup> we will have one of our monthly *Tot Shabbat* services, which have become a most popular tradition among some of our youngest congregants and their parents.

That evening, we'll get together for our annual fundraiser, including our silent and live auctions, and this year, some of our bravest congregants will get up on stage and perform like the stars they are, in *TBE's Got Talent*. This event should be a blast!

Then on Sunday, April 19, Rena Lubin will lead a program for our Religious School. This is always a wonderful educational experience for our students. That same morning, a group of dedicated TBE'ers will get together for our annual Challah Bake for Knoshville. Our Challahs are always among the most popular items at this event, thanks to our talented and hard-working bakers.

Saturday, the April 26, we will commemorate Yom Hashoah at the AJCC, always a moving event.

During this month congregants will also be receiving information about our upcoming Annual Meeting, include the slate of Board members and officers. This will be your opportunity to learn about the individuals who have expressed their desire to fill these leadership positions.

All in all, I'm looking forward to a month filled with countless opportunities **To Be Engaged** in our *Chevrah Kedoshah*, our holy community. I hope you will take advantage of these opportunities to deepen your engagement with our TBE family.





### Temple Beth El Religious School April 2020 Update

By Norma James, TBE Education Director, normajames@tbeknox.org

#### Friday, April 3 is our Mega Shabbat Service!

- Our youngest students will be leading a short service at 5:45. This will be our PreK through 2<sup>nd</sup> graders taught by Rachel Maskin and Jeannine Mill with Madrichim Rueben and Ben Margulies. Rachel's students are Claire Rosenbaum, Danika Boxt, Meredith Markman, Lock Rogozinski, Eden Weckstein, Frankie May, Jack Hicks, Benjamin Nelson, Ella Olinzok, and Josh Wolitz. Jeannine's students are Hannah James, Clara Cohn, Caroline Hicks, Dinah Park, Isaac Drew, Ray Weckstein, Samuel Nelson, Sally Tumpson, Ely Sadovnik, Jack Shagan, and Owen Markman. I love this service because it is the very first time that many of our children have had an opportunity to present from the bima. This is a family service, but all of our congregation is invited.
- Our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades will lead our regular Shabbat service at 7:00. These classes are taught by Jessica Coles, Emily Schulman, and Justen Bain. Jessica and Emily's students are Maya Sadovnik, Harry Langer, Jeanna Weckstein, Michael Wolitz, Michael Fox, Karl James, Sophia Tumpson, Lucy Theriot, Zach Rosenbaum, Alex Pasternak, Jason Pasternak, and Elliot Park. Justen's students are Sammy Friedman, Luke Javors, Asher Park, and Eric Waldman. The is the first time that many of these children will be leading a regular Friday night service. Your attendance and support are very important for these students. The parents of the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades will host the oneg.
- Between these two services, Rabbi and Norma will host a family Shabbat dinner for the PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade families. Sharing a Shabbat dinner is a favorite event for our families.

**Religious School Passover Break is Sunday, April 12.** We will NOT have school that day. Enjoy the holiday with your families and friends.

**ISJL Fellow Rena Lubin returns to TBE for her spring visit April 17-19.** We had a wonderful time with Rena last fall. We cannot wait to see what great programs she will bring us this time. Rena will share a D'var at our Shabbat service Friday evening. We hope to have a morning program on Saturday because Rena will attend our TBE Auction on Saturday evening. Sunday will be a day of programming at Religious School designed by Rena and Norma. The ISJL Fellows program always brings us remarkable young adults who share their love of Judaism with our students. They service as role models for all of our students, but especially for our teens and younger teachers. Our ISJL Partnership would not be possible without the financial support of our Endowed Funds.



Rena Lubin

**Shaughn May becomes Bar Mitzvah Saturday, April 25 at 10:30.** It is time for our first May family read Torah! Shaughn is the son of our wonderful PJ Library director, Sarah May and her husband Brian. Shaughn has two brothers, Mikey and Frankie, and one sister, Emily. Shaughn has worked very

hard to prepare for his service. Ryan Gibbons has done most of the Hebrew training this year for Shaughn and has done a beautiful job! Norma and Rabbi will complete Shaughn's preparation. Shaughn will complete a Mitzvah project as part of becoming Bar Mitzvah. He will share a D'var that teaches all of us about the lessons of his Torah portion and how his Mitzvah Project connects to these lessons. I hope you will join the entire May family in this beautiful lifecycle simcha.

#### Yum! Hamentaschen Yields Baking Delights



Liz Gassel, Wilma Weinstein Lomax and Sarah Miller prepare hamenstaschen in the TBE kitchen.



Larry & Rise Tucker, Deborah Hicks, Sara Klugman, Linda Zaretzki and Lauren Bryant



Karen and Alan Smuckler, Liz Gassel, Deborah Hicks and Lauren Bryant



#### TEMPLE BETH EL'S ANNUAL AUCTION APRIL 18, 2020 FROM 6:00-9:00 P.M. \$50 MEMBERS + \$36 NON-MEMBERS + AGES 15+

Do you have your tickets for Temple Beth El's 13th Annual Auction? What are you waiting for?! This year's theme is TBE's Got Talent. Are you ready to show what you've got? Dust off your tap shoes and trombones, your stand up bass, or stand up act, and make tracks to TBE for what promises to be an entertaining and memorable evening on the stage!

You won't want to miss the silent and live auctions, featuring TBE's own auctioneer, Alan Smuckler. Past prizes have included beautiful art and Judaica, tickets to music and sporting events, restaurant gift cards, wine, and much, much more.

The success of TBE's auction relies on the generosity of our community, so please donate! All proceeds go to support TBE's Religious School, Temple security, and the TBE general fund. The evening will feature a delicious Mediterranean dinner catered by Knoxville's very own Yassin's Falafel House, accompanied by wine, and of course, homemade desserts. Don't miss TBE's biggest social event of the year!

#### **RSVP** and register today!

For easy online registration and payment, visit www.tbeknox.simpletix.com, or contact the Temple office at 865-524-3521.

#### If you've got talent, please contact

Rise and Larry Tucker at 865-312-5301.

For auction donations, please contact: Peter Covel at 413-441-7965.



#### **Contributions to the Funds of Temple Beth El**

Donations listed were received as of February 21, 2020

#### **CARING COMMITTEE FUND**

In memory of Robert Hyatt, Dennis Silver and Elise Goldberg-Hyatt By: Paul Erwin and Renee' Hyatt In memory of Jeanne Vogelfang By: Jill Vogelfang and Gerry Milligan

#### **ENDOWMENT FUND**

*In memory of Steve Gudis* By: Deborah Roberts & Don Mossman

#### ERMA GERSON COMMUNITY FUND

In memory of Isadore Misner and Erma & Jerome Gerson By: Martin Gerson & family

#### **GENERAL FUND**

In memory of Maxine Arbital By: Jeff and Susan Arbital In memory of Bertha & Zelik Oleinik By: Joe and Charlene Oleinik In memory of Mathis Bush By: Deborah Roberts & Don Mossman

#### HERMINA BEILER FLORAL FUND

In memory of Bernie Silverstein By: Debbie and Larry Silverstein In memory of James Lees By: Barbara and Larry Winston & Marilyn and Barry Wohl In honor of KJA Shabbat By: Knoxville Jewish Alliance

#### LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Lillian Leimsidor

By: Larry and Rise Tucker In memory of Moe Slovis By: Esther Webster LICHT YOUTH FUND In honor of Genesis 12:3 By: James Murph

#### PATIO AND GROUNDS FUND

In memory of Thomas Watson By: Jeff and Susan Arbital In memory of Louis Gassel By: Liz Gassel and Michael Pardee

**PRESERVATION FUND** *In memory of Dr. Arthur Pardee* By: Liz Gassel and Michael Pardee

#### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In memory of Johanne Gillman By: Harold and Shirley Freedman In honor of Joan Cohn, Amy Rosenberg and Bob & Elaine Freeman By: Harold and Shirley Freedman In memory of Helen Hyman By: Roy and Carol Loring In memory of Rose Friedman & Eleanor Radoff By: Fred and Ava Radoff

#### SECURITY FUND

In honor of the completion of Genesis 2020 By: Torah Study/Adult Education In memory of Evelyn Weiss By: Chuck and Missy Noon



Rabbi Erin Boxt rabbiboxt@tbeknox.org

Steve Lewis, President president@tbeknox.org

Norma James, Religious School Director normajames@tbeknox.org

Tina Fleeman Temple Beth El Office Staff secretary@tbeknox.org

**TBE Office Phone:** (865) 524-3521 **Fax:** (865) 525-6030

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

#### Temple Beth El Welcomes New Members continued

Residents of Colorado, Michael Gamer and Anna Friendt decided to retire to Tennessee in order to be closer to their daughters. After years of world travel, the emphasis is now on the Smokies and Southerneastern America. Both are avid bridge players and always looking for people to play with. Michael is a bicycle enthusiast and Anna does Jazzercise 6 times a week. We are happy to have found Temple Beth El and look forward to our membership.

Mark Baker and Tracey Hughes recently moved to Knoxville from Denver, Colorado. They are newly engaged with plans to be married at Temple Beth El officiated by Rabbi Erin Boxt on April 4.



Above: Anna Friendt and Michael Gamer Right: Mark Baker and Tracey Hughes



# Knoxville Jewish Alliance Ha'Kol

Everyone is invited to a

Community-Wide Yom HaShoah Holocaust Observance



Featuring Music of the Holocaust Performed by Tamara Freeman, PhD Holocaust musicologist and concert violist

### Sunday, April 26 — 7:00 p.m. Arnstein Jewish Community Center

This presentation features music especially created for youths ages 8-18, so families with children are welcome. Dr. Freeman sings and plays Holocaust songs on a 1935 Joseph Bausch viola, a relic of the Holocaust. Each piece expresses events of ghettos and concentration camps, as well as the composers' feelings of longing, suffering, and hope. The original owner of the viola perished in the Holocaust. Fortunately, her instrument lives on, musically honoring those whose lives were forever changed during WWII.

Please rsvp to office@jewishknoxville.org.

#### April 2020

### KJA Ha'Kol

Yom HaShoah Observation1	7
KJA Education Project1	8
Preschool Purim Fun1	9
MCDC Registration2	0
Hillel @ UTK Shabbaton2	1





#### 2020 University Swim Club SMOKIN' SALMON Swim Team registration is available online.

Visit https://jewishknoxville.org/ swim-team for more information and a link to the registration site.

Out of an abundance of caution, we recommend you double check any community event or religious service to ensure it has not been canceled.

#### Help KJA Sponsor Holocaust Education for Knox County Schools

By Chip Rayman, KJA President

# So, you're Jewish and you think you know about the Holocaust. Well, think again. See how many questions you can answer below. *No Googling! The answers appear on p. 18.*

- (1) At the beginning of 1933, what percentage of the German population was Jewish?
- (2) What percentage of the German vote did Hitler receive in the election of March 1933?
- (3) Complete the first line of the poem by Martin Niemöller: *"First they came for the \_\_\_\_\_"*
- (4) How did Anne Frank die?
- (5) Why did the Nazis target Jehovah's Witnesses?
- (6) What percentage of African Germans did the Nazis forcibly sterilize?
- (7) What was the most popular kind of music enjoyed in the Warsaw Ghetto?
- (8) Whom did the Nazis identify for complete annihilation?
- (9) Approximately how many Nazi officers were shot for refusing to take part in mass-murders?
- (10) Which country was the first to forcibly sterilize people with disabilities



These questions were part of a workshop entitled, *Hidden Holocaust Histories: Memory, Misconceptions, & Mickey Mouse*" that Bren and I attended in Chattanooga. The program was presented by Dr. Danny Cohen through the Tennessee Holocaust Commission. Dr. Cohen is an associate professor of Instruction at Northwestern University in Chicago. He is a learning scientist, education designer, and fiction writer (human rights fiction for young adults). The Tennessee Holocaust Commission is chaired by Knoxville Jewish community's Larry Leibowitz.

There were more than 500 students from at least seven middle and high schools in Hamilton and Marion counties. The program went from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. This is a program for adults, too.

It was participatory and interactive. The students were attentive, engaged, interested and responded to the discussion. I want to bring Dr. Cohen to Knoxville in present this program to our middle and high school students this fall. I'll need some help from some funds. I'll need to get our Knox County Board of Education to buy in. I'll need at least seven area middle and high schools to participate. I'll need to convince those high school principals to allow attendance to be elective and permitted. I'll need teacher participation. School buses will be used to bring the students to the venue. I'll need a venue.

I'll need some help from you, too. Email me at chiprayman@gmail.com with your suggestions.

#### KJA Deli Day & Campaign Kick-Off a Delicious Success!





Left: Thank you to Marilyn Burnett, Pat Rosenberg, and Karla Espinoza who are all smiles at KJA Deli Day.

Above: Robin Brown is all smiles as she enjoys her lunch at the AJCC.





















Photography by Lev Comstock

# **SUMMER 2020**

KJA programming is open to everyone regardless of faith or affiliation.

#### EVERYONE is welcome here.



#### The Most Fun Under the Sun





Arnstein Jewish Community Center 6800 Deane Hill Drive Knoxville TN 37919 865.690.6343 www.jewishknoxville.org



# **JOIN US Fun for ALL AGES!**

- Milton Collins Day Camp K-6 Weekly themed camp programming features sports, arts, crafts, nature, music, drama, camping, swimming, field trips, and special guests MCDC Camp Director - Brian DeBolt MCDC Co-Director - Sarah Price camp@jewishknoxville.org
- Specialty Camps Cheer Camp Horseback Riding Karate with Mr. Rodney Robotics Camp Seeds of Abraham
- Teen Adventure Program (TAP) 7-9 grades

Focus is on developing teamwork and leadership through community service projects. Teens can earn service hours for school credit.

Counselor in Training (CIT) Grades 10+

Application process required. Leadership development training. camp@jewishknoxville.org

- AJCC Preschool Summer Programming 2 yrs. - Pre-K Contact: Kristen Cannon, Director kcannon@jewishknoxville.org
- SWIM TEAM Head Coach - Joe Peeden https://jewishknoxville.org/swim-team

#### Summer Pool Memberships



For information, contact office@jewishknoxville.org

# friendshippers

All are welcome to join us. You don't have to be 55 and up.

Out of an abundance of caution, the Friendshipper program is on hold. Please watch for programming undates.

Friendshippers is a program made possible through your contributions to the KJA Annual Campaign and the Sam & Esther Rosen Friendshipper Fund. Thank you!

#### **Jewish Family Services News**

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

On behalf of the KJA, Jewish Family Services has assisted the Family Promise program as a support congregation for nearly four years. Family Promise is an interfaith program that provides temporary housing, meals, and assistance to situationally homeless families in order to help them become self -sufficient.

Family Promise of Knoxville maintains a network of host and support congregations. The host congregations house the families for a week at a time on a rotating schedule with assistance by the support congregations. We are the support congregation for the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church (TVUUC).

We welcome more volunteers to assist with Family Promise. It is some of the least time-consuming, but most rewarding volunteer work you can do. Some of the volunteer opportunities include preparing meals (whether you want to make a whole meal or just one dish), eating dinner with the families currently in the program, and leading children's activities after dinner. TVUUC hosts the families four or five weeks a year. We are currently looking for volunteers for the upcoming host week of April 19.

If you are interested in volunteering for this host week or future ones, please contact IFS at 690-6343. You can read more about the local Family Promise program at www.familypromiseknoxville.org.



\$250.00 per swimmer (includes meet fees)

Ages: 5 - 18

# SwimTopia 😵

Register on-line at: www.universityswimclub.swimtopia.com





Knoxville Jewish Alliance Arnstein Jewish Community Center 6800 Deane Hill Drive Knoxville TN 37919 865.690.6343 www.jewishknoxville.org

Knoxville



Coach: Joe Peeden





#### Support YOUR Knoxville Jewish Community

 become an AJCC member
 make a donation to the Knoxville Jewish Alliance
 volunteer to help with

volunteer to help with a project or an event



# Hile

#### Your 2020 KJA Campaign Contribution Funds Hillel at UTK

Hillel at UTK provides a "home away from home" for its Jewish students and they, in turn, provide student-led leadership for campus activities. Hillel students appreciate the hospitality shown by area congregations during Shabbat and other services. Your contributions to the KJA Annual Campaign makes this program possible.

Learn more! Contact Tara Bain, Hillel at UTK Director, at utkhillel@jewishknoxville.org

www.jewishknoxville.org

### **Collection Boxes at the AJCC Help Community Perform Mitzvahs**

**It's easy to perform this mitzvah.** Got a meeting at the AJCC? Lots of folks will need a helping hand when dealing with economic and health issues? Drop off needed items at the AJCC!

#### Bin Upstairs Across From KJA Office

#### **Area Veterans**

- Slippers
- Chapstick
- Shaving Cream
- Combs
- Reading Glasses
- Gloves
- Warm hats



#### Bins Downstairs in the AJCC Gym

#### AJCC Preschool Consignment Sale

- Gently-used Children's Clothing (infant through young adult sizes)
- Children's toys, books, and games
- Infant items
- Sports equipment

#### Second Harvest Food Bank

 Non-perishable food items canned and boxed goods, tuna, peanut butter, cereals. *No glass packaging, please.*



• Donate healthy low sodium (for example) and & pull-tab cans whenever possible.

Please shop, contact, and thank the advertisers that support YOUR *Ha'Kol* community newsletter.

You'll find them on pages 38-39 in each issue of *Ha'Kol.* 

Want to join them? Contact the KJA office at 690-6343.



We look forward to seeing your kids at Milton Collins Day Cam<u>p!</u>

Day camp for ages kindergarten-teens See page 20 for registration info!



#### Smokies Shabbaton Weekend Inspires Hillel at UTK Students

By Tara Bain, Hillel at UTK Director

Hillel at UTK students sprung into the new semester through spiritual, cultural, and Israel connections. Through a Hillel International's Israel Action Program grant, Hillel at UTK headed to the Great Smoky Mountains for an Israel-focused Shabbaton.

Seven undergraduate students began the Shabbaton in the Smokies: Connecting with Israel and Tennessee retreat by sharing their personal connections to Israel. Navit Nachmias, a sophomore from Minnesota and Hillel at UTK vice president, shared how she has a deep connection to Israel. "Israel has always been a big part of my life. More than just being the Jewish homeland, Israel has always been like a second home for me. My dad's side of the family lives in Israel, so as a child going to Israel meant seeing family and it left the impression of home."

After this in-depth discussion, students then spent two days creating mosaics to represent this personal connection. To continue their Israel journey, they played Israeli bingo and Kahoot!, which tested their historical, geographical, and cultural knowledge. In addition, they gathered in the kitchen to prepare meals to include Israeli dishes, such as shakshuka and falafel. Students found a spiritual connection to Judaism and nature as well during a Shabbat morning hike on Rainbow Falls Trail. They experienced this connection through intermittent prayer and by using their senses as they explored the snow-covered forest and rushing



Students at Shabbaton in the Smokies: Connecting with Israel and Tennessee (L to R): Andrew Weinstein (Knoxville), Paige Motley (Maryland), Navit Nachmias (Minnesota), Sebastian Altman (Texas), Gabriella Cassius (Memphis), Troy Lurie (Memphis), and Josh Crowley (Franklin).

streams. As the hike concluded, Gabriella Cassius, a freshman from Memphis, noted that our connections crossed many paths this Shabbat but headed in a significant direction. She said there seemed to be a theme for us this weekend of things that have been devastating and how we remain hopeful. She gave examples of how they broke tiles to create beautiful mosaics and saw the remaining burnt trees from the devastating fires with new saplings growing around them. Under a star-filled sky, students gathered for an intimate Havdalah service led by Rabbi Alon Ferency. Andrew Weinstein, a sophomore from Knoxville, summed up his experience. "Shabbaton in the Smokies was a great experience for me because it gave me a chance to relax while creating and fostering friendships with my fellow Jewish students."

#### Attention area high school juniors and seniors!

Hillel at UTK invites you to join us at the Campus House of Prayer on Lake Avenue for our **Shabbat dinner on Friday. April 3**. It will be a great time to learn about Jewish life on a college campus and what you have to look forward to!



To the Jewish community: As each of you retell the story of Exodus at your seder table, may you all find inspiration and connection to Israel (and each other) just as Hillel at UTK did at the Shabbaton – *chag Pesach sameach*!



#### Ha'Kol Newsletters Available on KJA Website

Need a back issue? Want to show an out-of-town friend or relative a story? You can find *Ha'Kol* online at

https://jewishknoxville.org/hakol

### **KJA** Contributions

As of January 14, 2020

**Arnstein Jewish Community Center** In memory of Mark Hahn Leslie and Peter Rosen Judith Brown

**AJCC Preschool Fund** In honor of the birth of Ava Iroff-Bailev Michael Messing and Joyce York

**Bill Brody Fund** In memory of Frank Wilson Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hillard

**Giving Tuesday Campaign** Ralph Lydic and Helen Bagdayan Mark Harris

Alexandra and Bryan Cohen Alan Solomon and Andrea Cartwright Sherri Quint Gloria Greenfield and Stuart Brotman Jon Shefner and Karen Holst

**Jewish Family Services Fund** Richard and Jacki Imbrey

**Knoxville Jewish Alliance** Jonathan Branton UT Community Chest Robert Blitt and Stephanie Kodish

PJ Library Mark and Peggy Littmann

Donations to KJA funds can be made to celebrate lifecycle events, remember or honor someone, or to support programs of interest.

To find a fund or cause that you want to support, contact the KJA office at (865) 690-6343; email office@jewishknoxville.org; or visit www.iewishknoxville.org today and make a donation in honor or memory of a friend or family member, or to support a cause dear to you.

Please bring non-perishable foods for the Second Harvest Food Bank when you visit the Arnstein Jewish Community Center, Temple Beth El, or Heska Amuna Synagogue.



Thank you!

#### **ANSWERS TO HOLOCAUST QUIZ ON PAGE 18:**

- (1) less than 1%
- (2) 44%
- (3) Socialists
- (4) Disease, most likely typhus
- (5) Unwilling to accept the authority of the state
- (6) Most of the German African Americans
- (7) Secular, modern music like the Tango
- (8) Jews, Roma, mentally and physically disabled, sterilization of those of part African descent
- (9) No evidence that Nazis were punished for refusing to take part in mass murder
- (10) United States and Great Britain

KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY Ha' Kol

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Michael Zemel	Chair, Chabad

#### **BOARD MEMBERS AT-LARGE**

Brad Holtz, Rachel Milford, Britt Sturm, Michael Zemel

HA'KOL PUBLICATION STAFF Joyce York, Editor and Graphic Designer Chip Rayman, Publisher

**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

#### **KJCFF Provides Opportunities for Our Future**

David Brooks recently wrote on the success of the Scandinavian education process which is based on the German concept of *bildung*. *Bildung* is way too complicated to define here, but in an overly simplistic way, think of it as maturation with a purpose. Here is a copy and steal from the article:

"That which a person did not burn for in his young days, he will not easily work for as a man," Christopher Arndt Bruun wrote. The idea was to create in the mind of the student a sense of wider circles of belonging -- from family to town to nation -- and an eagerness to assume shared responsibility for the whole."

Most of the time in the endowment world we are thinking about securing the *supply* of Jewish goods and services. Endowing a professorship at UT meant that we would have a professional in Judaic Studies to educate us forever. A capital fund for a congregation meant we would have a place to gather and worship as a community. These are absolute necessities for the life of a healthy Jewish community. But what if we make sure these goods and services are there but one day no one cares? *Bildung* is the answer! We can endow a future *demand* for Jewish opportunity by investing in our children today. In a past *Ha'Kol*, we shared with you what the Reback Fund does for BBYO. In this issue look at what KJA is doing for our future and where there is an opportunity for you to participate.

#### KJCFF Welcomes the Preschool at AJCC Capital Fund

The KJCFF is proud to announce and welcome the Preschool at AJCC Capital Fund. Following on the dramatic success of funding and naming the playground renovation for Logan Brown, KJA has created a permanent fund for preschool capital projects. If you want to invest in the future of Jewish Knoxville, there is no greater leverage than to literally "get in on the ground floor." KJA runs a first class, three star program under the direction of Kristen Cannon. If you have questions about this opportunity, feel free to contact Kristen, VP of Children and Youth Martha Iroff, or KJA President Chip Rayman.

If you would like to see your name in lights in the next "Fund of the Month," contact Stephen or Laura.

#### Knoxville Jewish Community Needs a Fund for Milton Collins Day Camp and Seeds of Abraham

Most major Jewish foundations have some kind of initiative to fund Jewish camping experiences. Alumni surveys show that people who attend Jewish camps have a higher level of Jewish activity later in life. Usually, the results are multiple standard deviations from the norm. In Knoxville, we could use a fund to endow that experience for our Milton Collins Day Camp. MCDC traces its roots to the beginning days of the JCC and was Knoxville's first accredited day camp. Recently, KJA added the Seeds of Abraham specialty camp that brings together Jewish, Christian and Muslim kids for a multi-faith immersion in fun! How much money has gone into fighting real and perceived Muslim-based anti-Semitism? What if we spent more dollars bringing our communities' children together? This program is successful and scalable, but there is a need for scholarship funds. If you have interest, please contact Chip Rayman, Stephen, or Laura. Estimated annual opportunity \$2,500-5,000. Estimated Fund size need \$62,000-125,000.

#### **Charitable Term of the Month**

**SPENDING RATE.** The majority of funds held by KJCFF are meant to last in perpetuity. To preserve the principal of the funds, we use a 4.5% spending rate. This is calculated on a 12 quarter rolling average of the fund balance so that we can take into account the ups and downs of the stock market.

#### Donations

Miles & Zelda Siegel Fund for Knoxville's Jewish Elderly In Memory of Cindy Siegel Shepler Arnold Cohen

Sternfels Family Knoxville Jewish Day School Tuition Aid Fund Kim and Stephen Rosen

#### **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; Bryan Merrell, Rosalie Nagler; Jenifer Ohriner; Howard Pollock; Pace Robinson; Bernard Rosenblatt. Laura Berry, Administrative Director

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

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



#### From the Communications Corner

By Ronnie Bogard, JCOR President

Several notable conversations drew my attention to religion. The first was whether we should lean our seats back when flying in an airplane. There was a significant ballyhoo involving two strangers and a flight attendant. The attendant's attempts at mediation got her fired. On social media the fight continued with opinions on both sides heated and unfriendly. The opinion I heard in support of the seat-go-backer was that by paying for a ticket on the plane we are entitled to lean our seats back, and besides, the seats were manufactured that way. This perspective is based on the idea that if we have a legal right to do it, then why wouldn't we? The seat-go-backer felt she needed to record the incident so we could all see how badly she was victimized. With that attitude it is no wonder the stewardess offered the back-seat-banger some hard liquor and told him to relax for the rest of the flight. I thought I should defer to a Higher Power in order to decide which side to sit on.

Judaism teaches us that we have to consider the rights of others. We stand out of respect when reading the 10 commandments from the Torah. They are God's gift to us, and if we follow them they should keep us on the right path. Unfortunately there is a lot of disagreement about how to follow those basic 10 precepts- not to mention the hundreds of other "mitzvot." We need look no further than the great sage Hillel who said "*What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. That is the whole Torah; the rest is the explanation of this—go and study it.*" We can get lost in the study of Torah and mince over words that might mean this or that. It has serious impacts when we get it wrong. Our behavior should always pass the "Hillel" test. The Hillel test has as its basis the 5 words found in Leviticus 19:18- "Love thy neighbor as thy self."

In the case of the tight space, you *can't* just lean back and not worry about your neighbor behind you. If it is a stranger, then it is even more important to be considerate - that too is in the Torah. There are no good excuses for being unkind or inconsiderate or thinking that if a behavior is not illegal, then it must be acceptable. For this specific example, a confined space where there is no escape, then best behavior from everyone is necessary. The seatbanger could have responded differently as well- I think crying loudly for the rest of the trip might have been in order.

We are a religion of laws, and a country of laws- but there cannot be a law for every situation. Some things we can figure out for ourselves but apparently not based on an incident involving a ORNL scientist who went to a Knoxville gym . It didn't matter his education, or his intelligence, or his accomplishments, or how good he was in his heart. He was berated because of his brown skin color and religion. This should sound painfully familiar to us or to any other minority. He decided to bring this hateful interaction to the attention of management and didn't receive a caring response. Believe it or not, there were many supporters of the individual who spouted hate. Supporters commented that it was no big deal, that there is no law against offensive or bigoted speech, and that everyone should just "get over it."

What part of religion are people following? There is a saying comparable to Hillel's in every major religion. Even atheists have a humanitarian creed. I would be willing to throw all the religions into the sea if it would bring about just one unified belief like Hillel's - and if people would have the sense to follow it. Take what you want from the Bible, but missing the essence of it— good decent behavior— trivializes it. Let's advocate for the good treatment of others- as a priority. Let that be our take-away each Shabbat. Let's practice it, every day, one person at a time.



IN THE PASSOVER TRADITION



Adults \$36.00 Children \$18.00 Family \$108.00 Since this is also a JCOR fundraiser, any additional contributions are accepted and



appreciated The sitting is limited, so send reservations ASAP to: JCOR, PO Box 5434, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5434 Checks should be made out to *JCOR Possorer Seder* All reservations (with checks!) must be received by March 31, 2020

> Please contact Rabbi Victor Rashkovsky for questions or financial concerns - (865)483-8357



Join us for Sisterhood Shabbat on Friday, April 17 6:30 p.m.

*Potluck Vegetarian Dinner following the service.* 



### Holocaust Remembrance Service 75 years since Liberation

Jointly Sponsored by Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge (JCOR) Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church (ORUUC)

### Sunday, April 26, 2020 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

in the JCOR Sanctuary 101 W. Madison Lane Program includes Candle lighting ceremony Readings, Song, and Prayers **Closing Speaker, Benno Kimmelman** 



Holocaust Memorial Candles will be available to attendees for pick-up at the service Candles donated by JCOR Men's Club



# YIZKOR SERVICE

Thursday, April 16 11:00 a.m. JCOR

### JCOR BOOK CLUB

The Dovekeepers by Alice Hoffman

Wednesday, April 22 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m JCOR Dessert and Coffee



### **JCOR Hosts and Hostesses**

April 4	Carol & Jonas Kover, Debbie Bowman
April 11	Tracey Cato, Bruce Tomkins
April 18	Reeva Abraham, Ronnie & Jim Bogard
April 25	Linda & Zane Bell, Becky & George Charles
May 2	Catherine Braunstein, Jeannette Gilbert
May 9	Hilary Shreter, Monty Lewis
May 16	Alice Feldman & Albert Good, Brenda & Sig Mosko
May 23	Edith & Mel Halbert, Elena Bamberger
May 30	Peggy and Randy Laxton, Gery & Vicki Osowiecki

#### JEWISH CONGREGATION OF OAK RIDGE

- Rabbi Victor Rashkovsky—vicrash@yahoo.com
- Ronnie Bogard, President—rhondabogard@comcast.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

JCOR's Saturday morning service begins at 9:30 a.m. For the Friday evening service schedule, please contact JCOR at *office@jcor.info* or call (865) 483-3581.

www.jcortn.org Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/JewishOakRidge/



# CHABAD OF KNOXVILLE



ב"ה

# The Secret Behind Selfless Love & Care Emanating from Chabad Shluchim

By Miriam Esther

Ahavat Yisroel, selfless love and care for others. This was the theme of the Chabad Women's Convention. A weekend spent reuniting and inspiring each other to re-focus on the Rebbe's message. It's not about the big buildings, the attendance at programs, the Rebbe wasn't looking to build an empire; but to reach every single Jew and remind them of their value and importance to the Jewish community.

At the Grand banquet we heard stories from all corners of the world. Mirroring the Rebbe's love and care, we heard stories of Chabad couples rescuing, comforting and protecting others they had recently, or in some cases never, met.

The Shlucha to Beijing, Dini Freundlich, shared about a daring mission she undertook to save a Jewish girl who was set to be married, against her will, to a local, a victim of human trafficking. The Chabad couple was alerted to this situa-

tion by a community member who had left Beijing 12 years earlier, but had learned during his interaction with Chabad of Beijing the value of caring for others. Stopping everything, taking a high speed train to a far away city in China, Dini took her love of every human, imbued into the DNA of every Chabad Chassid by the Rebbe, with her as she set out to care for a Jewish girl she had never met. And through many prayers, tears and divine intervention helped her out of her predicament. Although Passover was soon approaching, Dini flew home with her, to help this traumatized young woman successfully reunite with her loving family.

When Maya was lost and feared for her life in the Mexican jungle, she had enough battery for a single call. Whom did she call? Mushky Hecht from Chabad of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. She had recently met Mushky and her family during her one week stay in Puerto Vallarta before she set out to explore the Mexican Jungle. Defying odds, begging and encouraging the rescue team to pursue the rescue when they were ready to

give up, fighting for Maya like she would her own family member, Mushky successfully brought Maya home!

Why? Why would a Chabad Shlucha put herself out like this for almost strangers? Because this is our Rebbe's legacy. To shift our mindset and to help us value each individual as an entire world, each individual as a precious diamond.



Chanie (and Chayale) met new and old friends from around the world at a 3-day girls overnight camp during the conference.



Miriam Esther along with other family members enjoy the Grand Banquet at the International Chabad Women's Conference.

#### COMMUNITY PESACH SEDER

Enjoy a traditional Pesach Seder with new meaning and insight

**Experience** a meaningful Seder with traditional songs, stories, and an interactive telling of the Exodus from Egypt. Relive the triumph of Passover and experience the exodus in the Chabad tradition of joy. Enjoy a tasty meal, hand-baked Shmura Matzah and a welcoming atmosphere. Meet new friends. Celebrate the freedom of being Jewish, and tap into the mystical and spiritual dimensions of this special time...

#### Special program for children

The First Night of Passover Wednesday, April 8, 2020 / 7:15PM

At Chalet at Chabad 7148 Wellington Drive

Couvert: Adults \$40.00, Children \$20.00 (under 4 is free) \$540 Partner | \$360 Sponsor | \$180 Supporter No one will be turned away due to lack of funds

#### RSVP by Friday, April 3, 2020 www.chabadknoxville.org/seder2020

For reservations or information, please call Rabbi Yossi or Miriam Esther Wilhelm at 865.588.8584 or Rabbi@ChabadKnoxville.org

# **Y**AHRZEITS

# Heska Amuna Synagogue

#### **April 4**

Ben Bernstein ♦ Julius Binder ♦ Molly Chazen ♦ Israel Cohen ♦ Pearl Collins ♦ Celia Danenberg ♦ Bessie Green ♦ Dale Hasden ♦ Esther Kimerling ♦ David Krauss ♦ Samuel Levy ♦ Yetta Rosenfield ♦ Gertrude Roth ♦ Abraham Scott ♦ Isadore Wender

#### April 11

Luna Anidjar 🔶 Barbara Balloff Heilman 🔶 Rose Belaief 🔶 Sylvia Blumenthal 🔶 Harry Brietstein 🄶 Samuel Brody 🄶 Harry Cohen 🄶 Abe Emelfarb 🌢 Infant Euster 🔶 Israel Farkas 🔶 Isadore Ginsburg 🔶 Martin Ginsburg 🔶 Charles Goldstein 🌢 Isaac Greenwald 🌢 Arthur Hahn 🌢 David Hecht 🌢 Minnie Isaacs 🌢 Arthur Jay 🌢 Gustav Levi 🌢 Yetta Licht 🄶 Hinda Schwartz 🌢 Pesach Slabosky 🌢 Norbert Slovis 🔶 Phillip Slusher 🔶 Don Wittenberg

#### April 18

Lawrence Abrams ♦ Peggy Ades ♦ Michael Belaief ♦ Mickey Billig ♦ Bennie Deitch ♦ Ilene Edelman ♦ Louis Ettin ♦ Isadore Finkelstein ♦ Max Kronrad ♦ Bernard Landis ♦ Golda Margolies ♦ Mary Ruth Martindale ♦ Nathan Millen ♦ I.W. Millen ♦ Esther Panitz ♦ Jacob Sandweiss ♦ Bessie Silverman ♦ Joseph Strauss ♦ Louis Sturm

#### April 25

Joseph Ades & Gary Anderson & Shirley Chasan & Molly Fayonsky & Claire Gettinger & Mindy Goldberg & Pyna Greenbaum & Marilyn Greenfield & Bert Gurwitch & Nathan Handler & Gussie Joffe & Charlotte Kayser & Sarah Lipshin & Celia Lipson & Ada Manas & Margaret Miner & Allen Rosen & Esther M. Rosen & Mildred Rosenblatt & Rose Rosenthal & Morris Ross & Rose Shagan & Rose Sherman & Tillie Slovis & Sharon Snyder-Christian

# **Y**AHRZEITS

# TEMPLE BETH EL

#### **April 3**

Pearl Ades ♦ Gordon Brown ♦ Sam Chandler ♦ Karina Danielle Dunn ♦ Stuart Bowen Elston ♦ Irwin Freedman ♦ Peter P. Holz ♦ Edith Ivins ♦ Sarah Hannah Licht ♦ Jack Rosenberg ♦ Victor Thomas ♦ Stanley Vogelfang

#### April 10

Harry Karl Blatt 🔶 Irene Blatt 🔶 Sesto Del Moro 🔶 Dinah Feldman 🌢 David Fleischman 🔶 Freida Freedman 🔶 Sarah Goldfarb 🌢 Morris Goodfriend 🔶 Walter McCoy James 🔶 Dr. Marvin Kaplan 🔶 Charlotte Kayser 🌢 Julian Lewis 🌢 Rebecca Mendelowitz 🌢 Mrs. Jean H. Millis 🌢 Arthur Pais 🌢 Donald Pardee 🌢 Mitchell Plachter 🔶 Allen Scheff 🌢 Morris Siegel 🌢 Gladys Steinberg 🌢 Simon Sunshine 🔶 Sydney Tessler

#### April 17

Infant Altshuler ♦ Samuel Arbital ♦ Arthur Bates ♦ Bill Cramer ♦ Rosa Deitch ♦ Blanche Farmer ♦ Michael J. Fox ♦ Sam Ginsberg ♦ David Burnett Johnson ♦ Golda Margolies ♦ Evelyn Dresner Nash ♦ Lucien Oury ♦ Dorothy Salus ♦ Stan Sherman ♦ Tillie Slovis ♦ Mildred Wohl

#### April 24

Gregg Arthur Bissom ♦ Ruth Block ♦ Samuel Haber Brody ♦ William Derrington ♦ Sylvain RC Fribourg ♦ Seymour Gassel ♦ Trena Goldberg ♦ Harvey Golden ♦ Mayme Goodfriend ♦ Bessie Green ♦ Richard Johnson ♦ Sidney Katz ♦ Rita Kelleher ♦ Allen Kravitz ♦ Arthur Marchand ♦ Joan B. Porter ♦ Bertram Raskin ♦ Louis Sackron ♦ Louis H. Sturm

# Hadassah HIGHLIGHTS

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

# , Knoxville

# HADASSAH Knoxville

### 2020 Membership Directory Shopping Guide & Datebook



#### New Release! Volume 75: 2020 Hadassah Knoxville Membership Directory, Shopping Guide and Datebook

We would like to thank our generous advertisers and donors for supporting this project along with the directory committee for executing this important fundraiser for Hadassah. Kudos to the team who made this possible.

- Graphic Designer: Matt Whitacre
- Solicitors: Marian Jay, Peggy Littmann, Mary Linda Schwarzbart, Laura Floyd, Andrea Cone, Mary Evars-Goan, and Jill Weinstein
- Treasurer: Jenny Pfeffer and Laura Floyd
- Records Administrator: Barbara Mintz
- Proofreaders: Linda Mongeon, Joyce York, and Jill Weinstein
- Cover Artist: Linda Zaretzki

If you would like to purchase an advertisement, memorial or professional listing for the 2021 Hadassah directory, please contact Jill Weinstein, Directory Chair, at *jkweinstein5@gmail.com.* Please send contact updates to Barbara Mintz – barbara@bmintz.com.

Out of an abundance of caution, we recommend that you double check any community event or religious service to ensure it has not been canceled.

### Make a Mug Workshop = Lots of Fun!

By Andrea Cone

We created and schmoozed with our Hadassah friends and guests as each one of us designed a mug out of clay to enjoy coffee, tea, or whatever. It was fun to get our hands all dirty. Now we have a fine piece of art we created.



Our creations awaiting the kiln.

Thank you to Karen Ferency for organizing this Hadassah program and arranging Kelly Sullivan as our instructor at Th

Sullivan as our instructor at The Knoxville Arts & Fine Craft Center. At our "Make A Mug Workshop" we welcomed **Bella Sewall Wolitz** as a Lifetime member of Hadassah. Bella is excited to be part of Hadassah Knoxville as we continue to grow our community with meaningful and impactful programs, activities and events.

We look forward to hearing more about how Bella will use the mug she created.



#### Bella Sewall Wolitz



Join us as we take a walk with our sisters AND our daughters; every step counts. Sunday,April 19th 2:00pm@IAMS RSVP by April 16th to shulime@gmail.com



#### Souper Sunday Super!

Hadassah long-time members, associates, new Hadassah members, prospective members, and guests were treated to a wonderful evening at the lovely home of Mary Evars-Goan and John Goan.

The Souper-Duper dinner party took place on Sunday, March 1. Everyone was treated to four choices of Mary's homemade soups, plus appetizers, salads, desserts and an open bar. Board members contributed many mouth-watering culinary selections. The atmosphere was warm and inviting, and it was a great program and a fabulous end to a very busy Hadassah weekend. We thank Mary and John for their gracious and generous hospitality.





Meet Hadassah's new National President, Rhoda Smolow

Plug into our vision of the future

Connect with new friends/Plug into your Hadassah sisters

Amp up your leadership skills

Be energized by Hadassah's medical innovations and achievements

Get empowered for activism and advocacy in 2020

Get recharged by the story of a Grateful Patient-Illana Weismark

Powerup with new computer skills

Don't miss out on this electric Opportunity!!

Register now to receive the early bird pricing!! (Deadline for registration is Monday, April 27)

For further information contact your region representative: Hadassah Southern: Susan Smolinksy | hahtool@cox.net | 225-252-1652 or Hadassah Knoxville President Andrea Cone 301-335-2355



#### Coming Soon:

- Dinner & a Movie April 23
- Shabark in the Park
- Breakout Games

#### Contact Abby at 865-310-8323 or Abby@Niad.net for information.

Get involved with EVOLVE, Hadassah's young women's network. Evolve is an exciting initiative created by Hadassah to engage the next generation through customizable events to discover how Hadassah empowers its members and supporters to make a difference by providing opportunities for education, advocacy, philanthropy, personal growth and Jewish continuity.

#### Susannah's House Luncheon February 12, 2020

Thank you to Hadassah for supporting Susannah's House. Susannah's House is a very successful recovery program for mothers struggling with substance abuse. Volunteers Debra Austrin, Nancy Becker, Alice Farkas, Anita Kay, and Peggy Littmann cooked a delicious luncheon that was served on February 12 for about 50 women, children, and staff.

We had a great time mixing giant vats of brownies, rice, ginger chicken and corn casserole for the folks at Susannah's House.

Contact Peggy Littmann plittmann@comcast.net, or 865-776-1013 with questions or offers to help and I will gladly get back to you.



Anita Kay, Alice Farkas, and Peggy Littmann load up delicious items for lunch.

#### Hadassah National News

#### **Our New President**

In July 2019 Hadassah, The Women's

Zionist Organization of America (HWZOA) elected Rhoda Smolow of Great Neck, NY as our 27th National



President. Rhoda Smolow

In January 2020, during the Hadassah National Assembly Meeting in Orlando, Rhoda was officially installed. Rhoda said she roots her vision for Hadassah in "pride, passion and purpose."

#### **Never Again**

On January 27, 2020, the US House of Representatives voted to pass the Never Again Education Act, bringing America closer than ever to ensuring we will never forget the tragedy of the Holocaust, that students will learn its universal lessons of tolerance, and that educators will be better prepared to teach this absolutely critical subject matter accurately and confidently. This is a major achievement that would not have been possible without the commitment of Hadassah members and our growing stature in Washington, DC.

The House vote gives the bill momentum in the Senate, but that momentum needs our continued support in order to pass. Encourage your members to contact their elected officials.



Never Again Education Act



#### Hadassah Book Club News

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

Hope to see everyone for our **Tuesday, April 21** Hadassah Book Club meeting. We will meet at **7:30 p.m.**, in the coffee shop area of the Barnes and Noble Book Store on Kingston Pike. We will discuss *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver.



• **June 16**: *The Hired Girl* by Laura Amy Schiltz

**Questions?** Please check the Hadassah webpage at *https://jewishknoxville.org/hadassah* or contact Barbara Mintz at barbara@bmintz.com or (865) 363-4149

# 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 of all us congratu-

lating 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 *batyaboxt@gmail.com*.



Barbara



### Knoxville Chapter of Hadassah

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Andrea Cone President hadassahknoxvilleac@gmail.com Laura Floyd Treasurer floydfam@knology.net V.P. Programming Shuli Mesa shulime@gmail.com Revital Ganzi V.P. Education revitalganzi@gmail.com Harriet Glasman **Recording Secretary** harrietglasman@gmail.com Mary Ann Merrell Corresponding Secretary mamerrell@vahoo.com Laura Floyd Advisor floydfam@knology.net

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# Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School

### **KJDS Math Strategies**

K-First Grade teachers Brooke Haskins and Katie Lusk traveled to New Orleans to attend a two-day workshop presented by Sarah Schaefer, founder of *Mathodology*, and Susan Resnick, associate instructor. This two day workshop, Three-Dimensions to Differentiating Mathematics Lessons, focused on how to break down math instruction during and after lessons to support both struggling and advanced learners. Developing these effective instructional strategies allows teachers to fill in gaps and enrich thinking. Some of the workshop's key highlights included understanding the reasons students may have difficulties with mathematics, developing effective instructional strategies to engage all students during lessons, understanding the difference between intervention/differentiation/ remediation, unpacking the spiral progressions for whole number operations, fractions, and word problems, and finally, collaborating with teachers from all over the country.

One workshop component highlighted the importance of using at least two of three key dimensions when presenting a lesson: concrete, pictorial, and abstract, also known as the CPA Approach. This teaching approach develops a deep and sustainable understanding of math in students. CPA was developed by American psychologist Jerome Bruner. It is an essential technique within the Singapore method of teaching math for mastery, which teachers at KJDS implement on a daily basis. The CPA approach builds on children's existing knowledge by introducing abstract concepts in a concrete and tangible way. It involves moving from concrete materials, to pictorial representations, to abstract symbols and problems.

- *Concrete* is the doing stage. During this stage, students use concrete objects to model problems. Unlike traditional math teaching methods where teachers demonstrate how to solve a problem, the CPA approach brings concepts to life by allowing students to experience and handle physical objects
- Pictorial is the seeing stage where visual representations of concrete objects are used to model problems. This stage encourages students to make a mental connection between the physical object they just handled and the abstract pictures di





(Top) Mrs. Haskins and (bottom) Mrs. Lusk are using their new teaching strategies in our math classes.

physical object they just handled and the abstract pictures, diagrams, or models that represent the objects from the problem.

• *Abstract* is the symbolic stage, where students use abstract symbols to model problems. Students will not progress to this stage until they have demonstrated a solid understanding of the concrete and pictorial stages of the problem.

When teaching lessons, teachers should go back and forth to reinforce each stage, depending on student learning. It is good practice to use at least two of these stages or dimensions when students are problem solving. If the student has chosen the pictorial dimension to solve, the teacher should reinforce the concept using either the concrete or abstract dimensions. When a student can solve a problem solely using the abstract dimension, you know that mastery has been achieved. Not only did the *Mathodology* workshop further develop our understanding of the Singapore Method, it also validated that as a learning community, KJDS is attempting to support the needs of every student!

#### "Community" Drives Alumni Day

The strong sense of KJDS community is evident in our alumni who look forward to returning year after year on Alumni Day. All of the KJDS values are evident in Alumni Day activities. #Joy and laughter on the bus and throughout their trip to Laser Tag and Main Event. Most heartwarming was watching the inclusion of all participants and how they looked out for each other. Remaking photos and reminiscing as a #Community had us reliving some awesome KJDS memories.

Alumni and current students look forward to playing together during recess strengthening our alumni role in our #Community. But Community doesn't stop there at KJDS. #Exploration and expanded community were on hand on our trip to Sherrill Hills. A group of alumni joined residents in playing Bean Bag Baseball – the kids are hooked, and others crafted wool ball coasters for the residents. What an enjoyable, fun and meaningful way to spend time together and reconnect.



# STANFORD EISENBERG KNOXVILLE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL





EXPERIENCE our dynamic community where learning is a passion and each day is infused with a spirit of JOY.

# JOY. COMMUNITY. EXPLORATION.

CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Admissions decisions are made on a rolling basis. KJDS reviews completed applications and will notify applicants of their decision as space remains available. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT KJDS or to schedule a visit, please contact: Jenny Wood, Director of Admission jwood@kjds.org • 865.560.9922 WWW.KJDS.ORG

> During KJDS Alumni Day, alumni enjoy playing laser tag at Main Event, followed by spending time playing games and making crafts with seniors at Sherrill Hills Retirement Community.



#### What (Grand)Parents Are Saying

*Jeff and Nancy Becker, Board Member/Grandparents' perspective* 

About 40 years ago we were included in a small group of parents that attempted to start a Jewish Day School. After much work, we concluded that we did not have the critical mass of students to start a school. We were resigned to the fact that Knoxville, Tennessee, would never establish a Jewish Day School. Fortunately, for our grandchildren and the Knoxville Jewish Community, we have KJDS, a thriving Jewish Day School now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year!

KJDS is an amazing, first-class school. We've watched it grow as Board members and as grandparents of two KJDS students. With outstanding secular studies supplemented by Hebrew and Jewish studies, KJDS emphasizes how to analyze and question and, importantly, how to treat others. Our granddaughter, Samantha, put it well when posed with the question of what was the difference between KJDS and

Cedar Bluff Middle School: " KJDS taught me how to think; Middle School concentrated on how to take tests."

Because of the small class sizes, each child gets individual attention. The teachers are fabulous --- experienced, caring, informed, and inspiring. Many extremely innovative programs are carried out daily such as advanced tools for learning mathematics and developing communication skills.

We are tremendously gratified by the contribution made by KJDS to the Knoxville Jewish Community. KJDS students reach out to the community by providing Jewish Knoxville an opportunity to be "special friends" to individual students, entertaining the community with the annual play at Pellissippi State College, visiting assisted-living facilities, and participating in a project to build a structure out of over



Nancy and Jeff with Samantha and Gabe. Their dream of a Jewish school in Knoxville become a reality at KJDS.



*KJDS took scenes from the Lion King Jr. to two local assisted living facilities. The residents and students enjoyed the interaction.* 

2,000 cans that is displayed in the downtown convention center and that requires the students to make calls, write letters, secure donations, and work with architects.

The KJDS Mission Statement says it all: "The Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School is a vibrant community school filled with joy, rooted in core Jewish values, and devoted to academic excellence. Serving the entire Knoxville community, our families are diverse in their beliefs, affiliations and observances; we work together to create a welcoming community based upon mutual respect and shared values."



### Where Are They Now.... Yuval Koenig

Yuval Koenig, a KJDS graduate, is currently a stellar senior at Bearden High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society and an extremely talented dancer! Yuval is also very connected to her Jewish roots.

Yuval has been studying dance for 10 years at Studio Arts for Dancers. For the past four years she has been part of the prestigious nonprofit dance company, Go Contemporary Dance Works, where she studies and performs jazz, ballet, and modern dance.

Yuval is a very active member of the international Jewish youth organization, BBYO. During her freshman year she served as Sh'licha. In



this position she helped build fun and engaging programs that incorporate Jewish learning and values. Yuval has also served as a BBYO member recruiter for three years and she has successfully planned numerous local and international programs and fundraisers. Last summer, Yuval was fortunate enough to be chosen to attend ILSI- International Leadership Seminar Israel- a trip that consisted of 3 weeks in Israel with over 100 teens from all over the world!

In addition to Yuval's outstanding academic achievements, dance and connection to her Jewish roots, she has completed over 30 volunteer hours with Key Club, volunteered at Camp Webb, served as the secretary for the homecoming Committee and been a member of the Student Government Association.

We are so proud of you Yuval!

#### **Book Boxes**

By Avishai Ferency, 1st Grade

A book box is a box with 10 books, a poetry book, and a strategy card. The strategy card helps you with words that you don't know. Every day you do one poem. That means you copy a poem and then read it to 3 people.

After you complete the poetry activity, you get your book box and strategy card and read, using the strategy card. You can pick any book you wish from the book box. Almost every week you make

Avishai with his "Book Box."

a new book box by choosing 5 books from the KJDS library. Ms. Jan, one of our library volunteers, chooses the rest. She picks books that are on our reading level so that they aren't too hard to read or understand. Using book boxes is fun. It helps us read because we practice with books we like, and we get more fluent and get more familiar with words.

# Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School

#### **KJDS Staff and Board**

Miriam Esther Wilhelm Head of School

> Louise Lindsay Innovation Coach

Ann Ely **Director of Operations** 

Jenny Parker Wood Director of Admissions

Brooke Haskins Katie Lusk **K-1st Grade Teachers** 

K-1st Grade Teachers

Rebecca Blanchard 2-3rd Grade Teacher

Fran Julien
4-5th Grade Teacher

Revital Ganzi-Sagiv Hebrew Instruction Consultant

> Dana Maman Hebrew Teacher

Julia Stark Drama Teacher

> Chris Quinn **PE Coach**

Lev Gross Comstock Music Teacher

> Amy Broady Art Teacher

#### **Board of Directors**

Gloria Z. Greenfield, President Dr. Michael Zemel, Vice President Judith Rosenberg, Immediate Past President Dr. Michael Zemel, Treasurer Dr. Jeff Becker, Secretary

Nancy Becker, Bernard Bendriem, Odysseus Bostick, Judy Brietstein, David Hull, Anna Iroff-Bailey, Ellen Markman, Sandy Parker, Susan Silber, Tamara Sturm, Rabbi Yossi Wilhelm



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# The Jewish Community Archives of Knoxville and East Tennessee

#### The Way We Were Hebrew Map of the United States



The 2019 issue of The American Jewish Archives Journal has the eastern portion of this map on its cover (published by Kiryat Sefer, Ltd., no date specified). Fascinated KJA Archives committee members requested we share it as a feature here. The map can be viewed more easily by reading Ha'Kol online and enlarging the size or coming to the Archives. The KJA Archives has most issues of the AJA Journal for the past 30 years.

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.

Courtesy of The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives